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Monday, December 9, 2002
Agrahayana 18, 1924 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eleventh Session

(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA

Monday, December 9, 2002/Agrahayana 18, 1924 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at two minutes past Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

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

Shri Sudarshan Das was a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha from 1985 to 1989 representing Karimganj parliamentary constituency of Assam.

Earlier, Shri Sudarshan Das was a Member of Assam Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1978.

Shri Sudarshan Das was an active political and social workers. He was President, District Scheduled Castes Students' Federation, Sylhet from 1941 to 1947 and Karimganj District Scheduled Castes Association from 1960 to 1974. He served as a member of the Karimganj Scheduled Castes Development Board from 1960 to 1971 and later as its Chairman from 1972 to 1974.

Shri Sudarshan Das was a veteran freedom fighter. He participated in Quit India Movement, 1942 and was interned for more than one year.

Shri Sudarshan Das took keen interest in the promotion of education. He was the founder President of Banamali L.P. School and Banamali Sanskritik Sangha, Karimganj. He also served as a member of the Governing Body, Karimganj College.

Shri Sudarshan Das was a person with a religious bent of mind. He was associated with Sri Bijoy Krishna Sadhu Ashrams and was Secretary, Durganagar Ashram, Karimganj district since 1962.

Shri Sudarshan Das passed away on 8th November, 2002 at Karimganj, Assam at the age of 78.

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

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

11.06 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers of Bihar have come to Delhi to stage a march to Parliament for seeking a permanent solution to the problems of flood and drought. The Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources is sitting here. I would like to urge upon him through you, Sir, that he should meet the farmers and pay attention to their problems.

MR. SPEAKER : You can ask your question during the Zero Hour.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : All right, Sir.

11.08 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Development of Tourism

*263. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of assistance/grant-in-aid provided for the development of tourism in the States during the last four years, till-date, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of new schemes launched in the country and the success achieved by the Government during the said period; and

(c) the details of earnings including foreign exchange during the said period, State-wise ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance every year to the State Governments/UT Administrations for the projects identified in consultation with them. During the last four years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 an amount of Rs. 324.50 crores was sanctioned and an amount of Rs. 162.78 crores has been released to the State Governments/UT Administrations in the country. Details are given in the Annexure. A total of 1308 projects were sanctioned. Out of which 399 projects have been completed.

(b) Department of Tourism has introduced new schemes (i) Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits (ii) Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development (iii) Large Revenue Generating Projects and (iv) Capacity Building for Service Providers in the current financial year. During the current year, Department of Tourism has proposed to develop six tourist circuits on annual basis in the country and one destination in each State/UT.

(c) Department of Tourism estimates foreign exchange earnings only on a national basis. The details of the foreign exchange earnings through tourism during the last four years is as follows :–

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings
1998	12150
1999	12951
2000	14238
2001	14344
2002 (Jan-Nov)	11968 (Eastimated)

Annexure

State-wise Central Financial Assistance Sanctioned/Released for Tourism Projects including Fairs and Festivals during 1998-99 to 2001-2002

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	274.08	155.00	222.22	139.60	299.50	206.50	167.85	91.66
2.	Assam	457.95	146.10	357.35	109.10	338.35	136.90	397.50	196.70
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	208.71	98.30	233.24	120.70	49.75	17.50	321.90	202.20
4.	Bihar	263.07	122.00	89.71	29.00	324.48	99.22	1.35	1.35
5.	Chattisgarh	0	0	0	0	120.28	37.25	35.00	19.50
6.	Goa	324.98	213.30	279.82	95.36	93.30	29.90	93.73	49.85
7.	Gujarat	439.57	200.30	327.64	150.90	469.20	148.10	305.50	100.30
8.	Haryana	348.15	205.50	238.33	156.00	123.31	66.94	125.44	68.14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	315.50	183.10	691.79	472.70	397.29	237.40	157.64	78.88
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	192.85	118.50	311.43	226.00	474.93	294.80	65.50	55.95
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	206.49	86.56	80.00	24.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Karnataka	397.48	226.60	890.70	494.20	489.30	245.40	254.76	138.00
13.	Kerala	668.20	435.50	772.28	357.10	717.60	329.50	680.08	284.20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	484.01	274.00	435.85	185.10	262.33	86.24	256.37	104.00
15.	Maharashtra	483.77	315.60	1033.90	379.40	282.69	97.40	1128.20	306.90
16.	Manipur	140.49	41.40	229.00	70.10	782.77	234.90	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	120.48	37.50	80.72	22.51	105.59	46.10	87.87	36.95
18.	Mizoram	203.34	188.30	297.23	280.70	311.19	259.70	73.25	44.20
19.	Nagaland	230.24	159.70	281.80	279.4	156.53	95.95	41.54	22.70
20.	Orissa	178.60	56 30	305.43	136.60	156.94	47.07	38.05	27.12
21.	Punjab	241.29	232.90	175.00	56.43	203.50	61.33	17.50	12.34
22.	Rajasthan	436.28	237.20	131.22	58.34	454.96	150.30	5.00	2.50
23.	Sikkim	147.03	102.10	127.93	79.34	368.62	267.60	108.83	62.29
24.	Tamil Nadu	316.20	218.80	531.95	208.60	122.83	36.85	533.67	139.60
25.	Tripura	169.21	127.30	340.76	212.80	333.23	151.60	114.40	55.55
26.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	70.19	29.78	65.51	40.79
27.	Uttar Pradesh	789.65	533.70	749.57	287.10	423.74	171.20	55.74	44.87
28.	West Bengal	211.13	132.60	194.01	76.56	432.99	295.90	229.85	98.63
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	162.50	62.00	32.37	16.18	1.78	0.89	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	52.29	52.29	68.44	22.31	22.13	16.14	8.00	7.12
31.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	20.00	6.00	30.00	9.00	8.00	2.40	3.70	1.85
32.	Delhi	223.88	128.50	24.50	12.20	17.70	9.99	55.01	37.30
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.00	1.50
34.	Lakshadweep	29.00	13.80	0	0	0	0	17.00	5.10
35.	Pondicherry	15.00	12.00	163.89	73.73	26.18	9.09	78.61	55.98
	Total	8544.93	5036.69	9648.08	4817.06	8647.67	4006.40	5609.35	2418.02

[Translation]

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a lot more needs to be done in the field of tourism. In comparison to other countries whatever has been done in India, is grossly inadequate. It is a subject of interest to Hon'ble Jagmohanji who is known for the commendable work he did for the renovation of the Vaishno Devi Temple when he was in Jammu and Kashmir. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister about the schemes to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan particularly in Madhya Pradesh in order to bring India to international standards in the field of tourism.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, so far as the Tenth Five Year Plan is concerned, we have given a big boost to tourism. As I explained to the august House the other day, we are, this time, having a large number of hubs, cultural hubs-cum-tourism-cum-civic governance hubs. At least one such hub is being given in every State. In fact, Madhya Pradesh should consider itself fortunate that three hubs have been given there. One is around Bheembatka, Bhopal-Sanchi; second is around Khajuraho; and third is around Gwalior. These are all historic places and a lot of money has been invested in that. We are doing that. Already, schemes are on.

Apart from that, three big Jain museums are being set up in this State at the cost of Rs. 2 crore each – one in Khajuraho, one in Shivpuri and one in Chanderi. So, Rs. 6 crore will be spent on these Jain monuments at Chanderi, Khajuraho and Shivpuri. Apart from that, a lot of work is being done in Shivpuri because of its forest. Town Hall has been conserved. A lot of monuments have been declared as protected monuments, including a part of the fort where the work is going on. So, Madhya Pradesh has been given the maximum attention in view of its historical importance and in view of its cultural importance.

I would like to say that Rs. 2,900 crore have been earmarked in the Tenth Five Year Plan. Apart from these cultural hubs like the one I have mentioned in Madhya Pradesh, there are other places, like, in Maharashtra, Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta Caves and in Haryana, Kurukshetra and so on, where we are going to have a big function on 11th. Then, there are going to be big tourist circuits which are being planned and which have actually been now under execution for some time. All these projects will make a big dent in cultural tourism. That is my view, and in every State, we have started the work.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has genrally been seen that wherever the work of tourism development is going on – for example the historical fort of Gwalior where some people have been living for years in its vicinity, people living there fear that for developing tourist area this fort will be utilised and made a tourist place by declaring it a monument. Will the Minister make any arrangement for such people as they have been residing there for many years ? If the Minister is talking of their removal, will he give them some plots or make some arragements for their rehabilitation by ensuring beautification of the area ? Is there any such scheme for that place and other places also ?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Yes, Sir. The basic idea, as I mentioned, of our hub in that we should have clean civic governance. One of the reasons why our tourism has not picked up during the last 50 years is that we have neglected this aspect that around our monuments, there are beggars, dirt, insanitation, slums, stalls and leaky shops. All those things are illegal and unauthorised. I will definitely take care of those old structures, and those people will be resettled. In fact, nowhere I have done any removal without resettlement. So, resettlement will be there, but those people who are still continuing to put up structures will be dealt with differently because some end has to be put on it.

In Gwalior Fort, I have myself visited that place, there are a large number of illegal constructions even now going on. Even the passages are being occupied. Even the ancient monuments have been encroached upon. All those things will be cleared in the programme which we have already undertaken. In some places, it has already been done. More than Rs. 8 crore is being spent in that region. We will not allow that money to be wasted. If the slums continue, who will come there ? Therefore, they will be resettled, but the new encroachers will not be allowed at any cost. I have made it clear to the Chief Ministers of all the State Governments that the Central Government is not going to give assistance in any area where they allow illegal construction. If the encroachments are not removed, then we will not give any assistance under the Central programme.

I have showed the model of this Ajanta where we have resettled, and also the model of Kurukshetra, the Thaneswar Fort, where the people, who were there, have been resettled. They have been put in a proper place, and they are very happy. They will be able to expand their work in new places.

[Translation]

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I come from Jaisalmer and Barmer area. As you know

that in Jaisalmer, there is a about eight hundred years old Sonar Fort which is considered by some people the Eighth Wonder of the World. Apart from it there are havelis and there are also Wood Fossils which are about four thousands year old. There are natural Sand dunes offered but it is regretted that the matching infrastructure is not coming up there. For this the Government of Rajasthan had sent some proposals but they have been kept in cold storage. I have raised this issue time and again and you had promised to do something. You are taking interest in tourism and also have a knowledge about it. It is my request that you do something to give a boost to the tourism as every third of the tourists visiting India does come to Jaipur and more than half of them visit Jaisalmer but the last two-three years have shown a decline in the number of tourists. The reason of the decline is absence of other facilities. There are few good hotels there. There had been a regular flight of Indian Airlines to Jaisalmer but regretably it has been discontinued this year. It has not been revived even after making announcement in this regard twice as some vested interests were involved. The hoteliers of Jodhpur do not reconcile themselves to a direct flight to Jaisalmer. I do not want to take much time of the House and would like to say only that give a boost to tourism keeping in view the package demanded by Rajasthan Government. Please also announce the steps you are taking to boost tourism.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, as the hon. Member is aware that I, myself, had visited Jaisalmer and the entire scene has been reviewed. A detailed programme has been drawn up by the Central Government. The State Government has been consulted. When I went there, the State Minister for Tourism, along with other Ministers and officials were there with me. I had taken the planners also with me. We have drawn up a big programme for saving this fort. Otherwise, the way things are going on there for the last 30 to 40 years, I have no doubt, the fort would collapse because of drainage and other problems. A very ambitious scheme, which will cost more than Rs. 5 crore, has been drawn up. It would not only help protect the fort but would also ensure that the fort remains there and the unique features of the fort are brought out.

The major problem, – I must share with you, and you, as a Member of Parliament from that area would probably agree – is that of encroachment inside the fort. People have buildings inside the fort. All types of stalls and constructions are there inside the fort. If these things remain there, then there is no way of saving this fort. It is because the basic architectural features can only be maintained when the original plan would be restored and the original plan restoration requires discipline which I did not find in that area. I have made this point clear to the State Minister of Tourism and also to the officials. They have agreed with me and said that they would find some other place for them. There are a number of beautiful Jain temples around that area. They are all sanctioned schemes. Work has been going on there. They would add to the attraction of Jaisalmer and many other adjoining areas. The towns of Jodhpur to Jaisalmer and Jaipur to Jaisalmer are being connected and Jaisalmer would be a beautiful town in times to come. But my only one request is about the removal of encroachment.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, that is the only living fort in the world. Around 5,000 people live inside the fort. It is not possible for the State Government to rehabilitate them. You should give some package so that they could be shifted from the fort to some other place. The State Government cannot do it.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : There will be resettlement.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Through you, I would like to put a question to the hon. Minister about tourism in Kerala.

Sir, in the world map of tourism, the State of Kerala has achieved a very high position. 'Destination Kerala' is very popular both amongst international as well as domestic tourists, particularly because of the high civic sense of the people and also because of the picturesque natural surroundings including backwaters and the cutlural heritage of the State.

Sir, in the Statement prestented by the hon. Minister it has been stated that the Department of Tourism has introduced new schemes. My specific question is this. What new schemes have been proposed for the State of Kerala ? Is there any proposal for introduction of 'Steam Train Heritage' not only in Kerala but also at the national level ?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, everybody knows that Kerala has a lot of potential for tourism and it has done extremely

well. I have made four visits of Kerala. Fort Cochin area is being developed as a hub. Work is going on there and a lot of improvement has taken place. The State Minister of Tourism was with me. A number of schemes have been sanctioned not only for backwater development in Kerala but also for development of Health Tourism, Yoga Tourism etc. This work is going on.

Sir, in regard to the 'Steam Train' project, I would like to say that it is there. We have had an exhibition on 'Steam Engine Tourism' in Hotel Ashoka the other day. We are encouraging it and we would try to introduce it as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Jagmohan has just talked about encouraging tourism in the Tenth Plan. But with a view to giving utmost importance to tourism it is essential that it should be viewed as a business. Inspite of being so the estimate comes to approximately Rs. 8647 crores during the year 2000-2001 and evidently Rs. 4000 crores i.e. fifty per cent have been utilised. Similarly Rs. 2418 crores out of Rs. 7609 crores have been allocated during the last ten months. Will you release the rest of the amount in the remaining three months. On the one hand, Rajasthan is considered number one in tourism. We talk of encouraging tourism and only Rs. two and half crores have been utilised out of the total amount of Rs. 150 crores allocated for Rajasthan. What are the reasons for it ? On the other hand is the hotel industry. The Government talk of providing subsidy for ten years to those who are opening hotels but they do not get it. How tourism will get a boost ? What plans do you have for tourism. Whether the State Government is not cooperating with you as a result of which the money has not been utilised ?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : This is a very important question in my view. The hon. Member has read out the figures of last few years but not of the current year. Our grievance is that even though a lot of money has been sanctioned by the Central Government and a lot of projects have been sanctioned by the Central Government, unfortunately the State Governments have not been able to utilise those sanctions and implement those projects.

I would take you into confidence on the figures that I have got. These speak about the culture of governance in this country. Out of the 345 projects sanctioned in the Seventh Five-Year Plan, from 1987 to 1992, 70 still remain incomplete. The fate of such projects in the Eighth Five Year Plan, from 1992 to 1997, was no different. As many as 538 projects out of the 595 sanctioned have not so far been implemented. The Ninth Five-Year Plan, from 1997 to 2002, has witnessed an equally dismal performance. Of the 1365 projects sanctioned, as many as 1160 projects have yet to be executed. This is the performance of the executing agencies in the State Governments.

So far as the current year is concerned, all those projects are personally being handled by us. We ourselves are executing these projects in consultation with the State Governments, appointing the State agencies, and producing results in the field. One hundred per cent expenditure has already been, more or less, incurred or committed. We are asking the Ministry of Finance to provide more funds for this. Although this year we had got a budget allocation that is one and half times more when compared to the last year, even this has been exhausted. We are asking for more, and they are sympathetically considering it because of our performance.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : India is a country full of variety. We have magnificent mountains; we have beautiful beaches; we have enchanting deserts; we have forts, temples, mosques and churches. We have different varities of dances and different varieties of music. What we find in India is different from what we find in other countries. So, the tourists would like to come to India not to see the same things that they see in the Western Hemisphere of the world but something different, something original.

However, in spite of the fact that this kind of wealth is there with us, we do not have enough roads; we do not have hotels; we do not have accommodation facilities; and we do not have transport facilities. The places which the tourists can visit are not maintained clean. It is because of this that the tourists are not attracted to India. If we come to the conculsion that it is because of the beggars that the tourists are not coming, our approach is incorrect. What is not available is a professional attitude; what is not available is a vision; what is not available is a plan; what is not available is the realisation that tourism is going to

become a very important activity in India and in the world in the future.

Will the Government prepare a comprehensive tourism plan and see that that plan is implemented through the efforts of the Union Government and the State Governments; will they find enough funds for this purpose; and will they have a professional approach to tourism in India ?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, this is a question which has to be answered by the hon. Member because it is they who have been in power for the last so many years. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : That is just shifting the responsibility of answering.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I am not apportioning any blame. That is a different point.

I have already indicated that a different vision has been brought about; a different approach and a different criterion has been aodopted; and a different culture of Governance has been established. A new style of Governance is there now and the results are there, for the last one year, for everybody to see. That is there.

In regard to the first question raised by the hon. Member, it is not only the beggars that I have mentioned, I spoke about the general conditions. Most of us agree that tourism will be a civilisational issue. The way we behave, the way the man is received by the taxiwallahs, the way the man is received at the airport, these are civilisational issues which I am not undermining.

One of the key issues which I have looked at in the new projects is that every project should ensure that a tourist should get physically refreshed when he goes to these places; he should get mentally rejuvenated when he goes there; he should get culturally enriched because of the great variety of culture that we have; and then he should also be spiritually elevated because of the sense of civilisational value which we really had in the past. Then, when he goes back to his country, he should take India within him, he should get an emotional attachment with this. Therefore, this new vision is there, the new style of Governance is there, the new style of result-orientation is there. The results are there for everybody to see. In all these States, projects are going on.

Go to Kurukshetra and find out how the new project Geeta for the Modern Man, is being executed. The hon. Member said that India should say something different. This is something different happening on the ground. I will request you to go there one day. The day after tomorrow, on the 11th itself, the hon. Vice-President is going there to inaugurate this. The project is there. Jyoti Sarovar is there. Therefore, we have adopted a new line, we have brought a new vision, and the results of that are there on the ground. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I invite all the hon. Members to Kurukshetra. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Sir, there are a few cities in the world through which either a sea or a river flows. Kolkata is one such city through which the river Ganga flows. West Bengal is a State in which the 'Queen of Hills' Darjeeling is situated. Srinagar route through Kashmir is now totally blocked due to terrorist activities and due to other reasons. Darjeeling, known as the Queen of Hills, with best of its beauty and Sandakphu at 12000 feet high, has no place in the tourist map of the world.

Similarly, the condition of the river Ganga is very bad. So, if any proposal is put before you for beautification and development of the banks of river Ganga in Kolkata city – as has been done in Mumbai where the Marine Drive has been developed into a beautiful necklace called Queen's Necklace which has become a tourist attraction all over the world – proposals for beautification of river Ganges which is now under consideration with the Calcutta Port Trust and the Ministry of Shipping, will the Minister consider it and inform us ?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : This is another very important question. In Kolkata, we have also started a number of schemes. I share the anxiety of the hon. Member over the condition prevailing around the rivers Hooghly and Ganga, particularly because the Hooghly is cutting the Dakshineshwar Temple famous for the Vivekananda temple. We have drawn a scheme. We had asked the Ministry of Shipping to foot the bill of Rs. 90 lakh to save that temple. The Ministry of Shipping had it own technical objections and problems. So, we have adopted the scheme

and we are sanctioning that money somehow, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment, to introduce that project. That thing will go on. If you put up any proposal, we will definitely give our consideration to it.

We have one very big project on Vivekananda *Yatra,* and we will cover all those places where Vivekanandaji went.

Sir, an hon. lady Member asked about Kerala. I want to say that in Kerala also we have drawn a very big scheme from Kaladi to Kashmir.

So, all these three *Yatras* – *Yatras* which Shankaracharya took; all the I Yatras which Vivkanadaji took; and all the areas which Gandhiji covered from Porbandhar to Rajghat – are being planned in a very big way. I am sure that this will change the face of India. This is a project of great cultural regeneration.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Are you going to cover the birth place of Swami Vivekananda ? Youths visit this place in a big way. Swami Vivekananda was born in Kolkata.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Yes, we are going to cover the birth place of Swami Vivekananda aslo in our project. All these temples are being protected. We are spending a lot of money on all these projects.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Q.No. 264 – Shri Jaswant Singh Bishnoi

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at least the Members who are elected from the tourist places, should be allowed to raise questions. . .*(Interruptions)* How many times we get an opportunity to raise a question. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can have a discussion on this subject by way of some other parliamentary devices other than question hour. At that time, I will allow you to raise a question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Khajuraho is an important tourist place of India. We would have liked to raise some questions about the present condition of Khajuraho. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, we have already spent half an hour on this question.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at least the Members who are elected from the tourist places, should be allowed to raise a question. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You know that we have already spent half an hour on this question. No further time could be given to this question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I admit it but we know the ground reality of the place. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to raise this question by way of Half-an-Hour Discussion or some other medium, I am prepared to give you the permission.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You should give a notice in this regard. At that time, I will give you the permission.

Farmers Facing Economic Recession

*264. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian farmers are reeling under economic recession after the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement;

(b) if so, whether Indian farmers are not getting even remunerative prices of their produce after the WTO agreement;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have conducted any survey of the economic conditions of the Indian farmers during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The WTO agreement came into force on 1.1.95. the growth rate of agricultural sector, the annual import of agriculture products, export of agri products, trade balance and terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sectors since 1990-91 has been as follows :-

Year	Annual Growth rate of GDP at factor cost in Agriculture (at 1993-94 price)%	Agriculture imports (Rs. Crore)	Agriculture export (Rs. Crore)	Agri trade Balance (4-3)	Index of Terms of Trade (ITT)
1990-91	4.43	1205.86	6012.76	4806.9	101.9
1991-92	-1.85	1478.27	7838.13	6359.86	105.6
1992-93	6.22	2876.25	9040.30	6164.05	103.9
1993-94	4.10	2327.33	12586.55	10259.22	103.6
1994-95	5.08	5937.21	13222.76	7285.55	106.6
1995-96	-1.13	5890.10	20397.74	14507.64	105.3
1996-97	10.10	6612.60	24161.29	17548.69	103.1
1997-98	-2.82	8784.19	24843.45	16059.26	105.6
1998-99	6.87	14566.48	25510.64	10944.16	105.2
1999-00	1.04	16066.73	25313.66	9246.93	104.2
2000-01	-0.42 *	12086.23	28657.37	16571.14	101.2 +
2001-02	5.93 **	16252.23 +	29485.85 +	13233.62	NA

*Quick Estimates.

**Advance Estimates

NA – Not Available.

+Provisional

As can be seen from the above table, after the WTO Agreement the trend of agricultural growth has not changed significantly. Similarly, the export-import trend in agricultural products has also not shown any material change in the post WTO period at the macro level. Moreover, the terms of trade between agriculture and non-agricultural sector have remained favourable to agriculture during the decade of nineties.

No survey to assess the economic conditions of the farmers has been conducted in the last three years. However, a major study titled, "State of Indian Farmers – A Millennium Study" has been initiated by the Government to assess the impact of various public policies and other measures on the farmers of the country in last 50 years.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is an agriculture based country. The farmers of the country are bearing the brunt of economic recession for the last several years. Farmers are committing suicide in

one or other State day after day. I had asked a question from the Minister of Agriculture whether the Indian farmers are reeling under economic recession after the World Trade Organization agreement signed; whether the Union Government have conducted any survey in this regard; if so, the present economic conditions of the Indian farmer? At the same time, I would like to ask another specific question as to what are the names of the countries which have clamped ban on the import of the Indian agricultural produces ? The names of the countries which are importing milk, butter etc. from India alongwith the names of the countries which have banned their imports and whether the Government of India have taken action against them under WTO agreement ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Hon. Member has asked a question whether farmers are facing problems after the World Trade Organisation agreement has come into force. We accept it that the farmers are facing problems. Eight hours long discussion has been held on this issue. The discussion would continue on this issue even afternoon and the same questions would also be raised. But it is not true that farmers are facing problems only after WTO agreement came into force. As per the data available or even in my reply I have told that sometimes in some respect of their problems have increased and in other respect, they have even decreased too. At one point of time agricultural growth has increased and sometimes it has come down too. It has happened both during pre and past WTO agreement periods. However, sufficient time is required so that I can provide the data regarding the items such as milk and butter being exported or imported.

I would like to say that many countries are the members of WTO. Under WTO agreement, we can import certain goods from a few countries. But there is no such blanket ban on the import or export of goods from any particular country.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since WTO agreement came into force, we have got information through newspapers or other sources that the Government of India propose to reduce the subsidy being provided to the farmers whereas there is a provision in the WTO agreement that the subsidy being provided to the farmers would be increased and it would not be cut down.

Sir, I, through you, would like to know from the hon. Minister whether after World Trade Organisation Agreement the Government is considering to increase the subsidy being provided to the farmers and if so, whether the subsidy is being increased ? The hon. Minister had announced in the last budget that export would be made from 20 agricultural zones; whether the Government of India have given a thought to export of agricultural produces from agricultural zones ? By when this would be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise the question during the discussion scheduled to be held today. There are other important question also. I request all the hon. Members that they can raise the questions later on. I am allowing only that hon. Members whose question is enlisted.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The WTO agreement came into force in 995. According to this agreement, the developed countries had to reduce the subsidy and there were separate provisions for the developing countries. So far as India is concerned, we can provide ten per cent of our total agricultural production as subsidy but we are not providing even this much subsidy. The problem before us is not whether to decrease or increase the subsidy under WTO agreement. Our problem is that keeping in view the resources we have to decide as to how we can provide subsidy as well extend assistance to the farmers.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : My first question was whether milk is being imported or not. It has not been replied to. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Methodological issues of M.S.P.

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*265. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a national seminar on 'Methodological issues' in the fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) was held at New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of experts participated in the seminar and outcome of the discussions held in the seminar;

(c) whether the existing methodology for fixing the MSP has been criticized by the experts;

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

(e) the recommendations accepted by the Government and the extent to which these recommendations would be helpful in finalizing the long term policy on fixation of foodgrain prices ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A National Seminar on 'Methodological issues in fixation of Minimum Support Prices (MSP)' was held on November 6 and 7, 2002 at New Delhi. Participants of the National Seminar included Hon'ble Members of Parliament, officials from the Central and State Governments, academicians, farmers and farmer's associations. The list of Participants is given in Annexure I. The discussions in the Seminar covered: (i) Criteria for Determination of Minimum Support Prices; (ii) Rationale for Using Existing Cost Concepts in Determining MSP; (iii) Quality of Data on Cost of Cultivation and (iv) Crop Specific Problems of Farmers in different Regions.

(c) to (e) The Seminar provided a platform for a free and frank exchange of views on different facets of price policy for agricultural commodities. The participants underlined the need to give appropriate signals through agricultural policy for sustainable use of land, water and other natural resources. Emphasis has also been laid on the need to bring about improvement in both the quality of data on costs of cultivation and the methods followed in imputing the value of (a) family labour (b) rental value of land and (c) interest on capital. The main conclusions of the Seminar are given in Annexure II. The suggestions made by the participants have been noted. These would be helpful to the Government in policy formulation and decisions pertaining to agricultural costs and prices. The conclusions/suggestions that emerged from the seminar would also be of considerable value to the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices while recommending the minimum support prices of foodgrains and other agricultural commodities.

Annexure-I

List of Participants in 'National Seminar on Methodological Issues in the Fixation of Minimum Support Prices' held on 6-7 November, 2002 at Scope Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi.

Shri Ajit Singh — Chairman
Union Minister for Agriculture.

Members of Parliament

Col. (Rtd.) Sona Ram Chaudhary, M.P.,
181, Ajit Colony, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, M.P.,
8, Talkatora Road, New Delhi.

Dr. Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan, M.P.,
Jaya Madhan 4, Sathiyamoorthy Street,
Sivaganga-630 561, Tamil Nadu.

Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, M.P.,
H.No. 8-2-680, Road No. 12,
Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

Farmers and their Organisations :

Shri Yudhvir Singh
General Secretary, RLD,
Village and Post Mahipalpur, New Delhi.

Shri Ajmer Singh Lakhowal
Village and P.O. Lakhiwal
Distt. – Ludhiana, Punjab.

Shri Vijay Jawandhia,
Vardha, Maharashtra.

Shri Dhan Singh Sahrawat
97, Nardane, Talluk Male Gaon,
Distt. Nasik, Maharashtra.

Shri Krishna Ram Sidhu
R/o Shri Veer Tejaji Jat Vishram Grih,
Bhagat Singh Colony, Nokha, Bikaner, Rajasthan.

Shri Harkesh Malik
Village and Post Khurana,
Teh. and Distt. Kaithal, Haryana.

Shri Rohtas Rathee,
Village and Post – Behlba,
The, Meham, Distt. Rohtak, Haryana.

Dr. Sarla Malik, Professor,
M.D. University, Rohtak, Haryana.

Shri Jatinder Huda,
Rohtak, Haryana.

Shri Ram Kishan Mahlawal,
Village and P.O. Bawal,
Distt. Riwari, Haryana.

Shri Sunda Ram Verma "Kumavat"
Village-Danta, Distt. Sikkar, Rajasthan.

Shri G.N. Raju Yadav,
Guduru Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri K. Chander Sekhar Rao, Podoropulu,
Krishna Distt., Andhra Pradesh.

Shri R.V.K. Manohar, Pedamaddali,
Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Rama Krishna Raju Yadav,
Guduru Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh.

Sardar Darshan Singh Tabiba,
Village Hiyatpura, P.O. Machhiwara,
Distt. Ludhiana, Punjab.

Shri Randhir Singh Sheokand,
Village-Jajanpur, Distt. Kaithal, Haryana.

Shri Haricharan Das,
Fish Breeding Centre,
Village-Vidyasagar Palli, Agartala, Tripura.

Shri Udayonand Das,
Tripura West, Tripura.

Shri Bahadur Singh Verma,
Village Kailar (Saproon),
Tehsil-Solan, Solan, Himachal Pradesh.

Dr. M. Sitarama Swamy, President,
Federation of Farmers Association,
Flat No. 209, Vijaya Towers, Shanthi Nagar,
Hyderabad-500 028, Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Sharanjit Singh,
General Secretary,
Bhartiya Kisan Union, Ludhiana, Punajb.

Shri Manjeet Singh Kadian,
General Secretary,
Bhartiya Kisan Union, Ludhiana, Punjab.

Shri Vithoba Lacchiram Dyandyan,
J.D. Steel, Stana Naka, Malegaon,
Distt. Nasik, Pin-423203, Maharashtra,

Shri Ummed Ram Chaudhary,
Teh. Osian, Distt. Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

Shri Roop Kishore,
Distt. Barmer, B.K.U., Rajasthan.

Shri Kishan Lal Mahiya,
Patel Nagar, Distt. Bikaner, Rajasthan.

Shri Mukesh Kumar Sharma,
Dholpur, Rajasthan.

Shri Pawan Kumar Sharma,
Office Incharge, NGO – E.R.D.S.,
Bharatpur, Rajasthan.

Shri Jagdish Singh,
Village and P.O. Badhana, Distt. Jind, Haryana.

Shri Om Pal Singh,
Village and P.O. Jajanpur, Distt. Kaithal, Haryana.

Shri Pramod Kumar,
Village Bhagwangarh Distt. Yamuna Nagar, Haryana.

Experts : Academic/Research Institutions :

Prof. Y.K. Alagh,
45, Surdhara Bunglows, Near Goyal Intercity,
Thaltej, Ahmedabad (Gujarat).

Dr. Bant Singh
Farm Economist, Department of Economics,
Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana, (Punjab).

Dr. K.K. Jain
Farm Economist (Quantitative Methods)
Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana, Punjab.

Dr. B.R. Garg
Farm Economist, Department of Economics and Sociology,
Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana, Punjab.

Dr. S.S. Acharya,
Director, Institute of Development Studies,
8B, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur-302004.

Dr. Mrithunjaya,
Director,
NCAP, Pusa Campus, New Delhi.

Prof. G.S. Bhalla,
National Media Centre, 40, Shanker Chowk,
Gurgaon, Haryana.

Prof. Abhijit Sen,
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Dr. Ramesh Chand
Principal Scientist,
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Prof. S. Bisalaih,
Chairman,
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Bangalore-560 001.

Dr. M.S. Bhatia,
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Prof. V.S. Vyas,
Professor Emiretus,
Institute for Development Studies,
8-B, Jhalana Institutional Area Jaipur-302004.

Prof. G.K. Chadha
Vice-Chancellor,
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067.

Dr. B.K. Thapliyal
Director (CAS) NIRD, Rajendra Nagar,
Hydreabad-500030 (A.P.)

Dr. P.C. Bansil Director,
Techno-Economic Research Institute,
J-7, Saket, New Delhi-110017.

Dr. P. Kumar, Director,
IARI, Pusa, New Delhi-110001.

Dr. S.B.L. Gupta
House No. 802, Sector-21 A,
Faridabad-121001, Haryana.

Dr. J.P. Singh
Agro-Economic Research Centre,
Delhi Univesity, Delhi-110007.

Prof. S. Surya Prakash, Hon. Director,
Cost of Cultivation Scheme,
University of Agrilculture Science,
GKVK, Bangalore-560065.

Dr. S.S. Sirohi
State Planning Institute, Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Old Hyderabad, Lucknow-226007, Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Ajay Kumar
State Planning Institute, Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Old Hyderabad, Lucknow-226007, Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Sudhir
State Planning Institute, Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Old Hyderabad, Lucknow-226007, Uttar Pradesh.

Dr. Prabhat Kumar
P.S. to the Union Minister of Agriculture,
Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Dr. Sudhir Kumar, Associate Professor,
State Planning Institute, Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Old Hyderabad, Lucknow-226007 Uttar Pradesh.

Dr. H.V.L. Bathla
Madras Institute of Development Studies,
Second Main Road, Adiyar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Shri Kanti Lal,
Gopal Colony, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh.

Dr. Shyam Bhaskar
National Secretary, Kisan Morcha,
11-Ashoka Road, New Delhi-11001.

Dr. Budhajirao Raghunathrao, Member,
State Agriculture Prices Commission, (Maharashtra)
2, Chetanaya Apartments, Pune-411037.

Dr. Sivaji, Ex-M.P.
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Secretary Agriculture : States

Shri D.N. Bhagat
Addl. Director of Agriculture,
Government of Bihar, Patna-800015.

Dr. A.J.V. Prasad, IAS
Secretary Agriculture, Government of Chhattisgarh,
DKS Bhawan, Raipur-492001.

Shri S.M. Hooda
Addl. Director, Government of Haryana,
New Secretariat, Chandigarh-160001.

Shri G. Prakash
Director of Agriculture,
Government of Karnataka, Bangalore-560001.

Shri Hardeep Kumar
Director Agriculture, Government of Haryana,
New Secretariat, Chandigarh-160001.

Shri R.K. Meshram
Joint Director, Government of Maharashtra,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032.

Shri A.D. Mujumdar
Jt. Director Agristatistics, Department of Agriculture,
Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal-462004,
Madhya Pradesh.

Dr. R.K. Ram Pal
Director Agriculture, Department of Agriculture,
Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh-160001.

Shri Jogi Jagdeep Singh
Joint Director Agriculture, Department of Agriculture,
Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh-160001.

Shri P.R.P. Merizhiappan
Joint Director Agriculture (Cereals) Government of Tamil Nadu
Secretariat, St. Fort, Chennai-600009.

Shri V.K. Singh
Joint Director Agriculture, Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Lucknow-226001.

Shri R.K. Das
Department of Agriculture, Government of Uttar pradesh,
Lucknow-226001.

Shri Jai Kumar Jain
Department of Agriculture,
Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow-226001.

Central Ministries :
(Department of Agriculture and Co-operation)

Shri J.N.L. Srivastava
Secretary (A and C)
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shri A.K. Rastogi
Special Secretary,
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, Bhavan.

Shri B.S., Minhas
Addl. Secretary,
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Dr. C.R. Hazra
Agriculture Commissioner,
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shri P.D. Sudhakar
J.S. (Crops and TMOP),
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shri Satish Chander
J.S. (Admnistration),
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Directorate of Economics and Statistics :

Shri M.M. Nampoothiri
Economic and Stastical Adviser,
Directorate of Economics and Statistics,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Dr. J.R. Rao
Adviser,
Dte. of Economics and Statistics,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shri A.K. Vishandass
Addl. Statistical Adviser,
Dte. of Economics and Statistics,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shri B.K. Behra
Asstt. Economics Adviser,
Dte of Economics and Statistics,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research :

Dr. J.S. Samra
DDG (NRM),
ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, aod and lic Distribution :

Dr. K.M. Raipuria
Economic Adviser,
Deptt. of Consumer Affairs,
305, A-Wing, Shastri Bhavan

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

Dr. T. Haque, Chairman

Shri M. Raghupathy, Member (Non-official)

Shri S.K. Roy, Member-Secretary

Shri S.C. Gautam, Adviser

Shri J. Das, Director

Shri V.I. Velayudhan, Director,

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Shri Vinod Kumar
Cameraman, ANI Films

Shri Vikas Dwivedi
Correspondent, Amar Ujala

Shri Sameer Mohindru
Reporter, PTI

Shri K.S. Naresh
Reporter, Rastriya Samachar

Shri Birendra Kumar
Special Correspondent, UNI-Varta (Ag. R.D.)

Annexure-II

Main Conclusions of the National Seminar on Methodological Issues in the Fixation of Minimum Support Prices Held on November 6-7, 2002, New Delhi.

1) The Ministry of Agriculture should be the main player in all policy initiatives/decisions that affect the agricultural sector either directly or indirectly.

2) The CACP should play a strategic role in suggesting appropriate policy changes in a holistic manner for the agricultural sector as a whole and not just be confined to make crop specific recommendations.

3) The CACP should act as a 'think tank' for the Ministry of Agriculture. It should work like a Tariff Commission and suggest reforms in taxes, subsidy, credit, marketing etc., especially in order to promote market led diversified agriculture in the wake of globalization.

4) Minimum Support prices should be more in the nature of a floor price. However, MSP should cover at least the operational expenses plus the cost of family labour.

5) The main objectives of MSP should be the following :

(i) to protect the farmers from facing undue hardship due to price fluctuation in the market and ensure price stablility;

(ii) to ensure food security at both macro and micro levels;

(iii) to ensure fair and equitable agricultural terms of trade;

(iv) to provide signals for markets and market led agricultural diversification.

6) Region specific MSP would be undesirable and also difficult to implement.

7) MSPs cannot be mechanically linked with either costs of production or market prices. Sound, albeit holistic economic analysis and professional judgement of CACP would be extremely important, in fixing MSPs.

8) MSP should be delcared in time i.e. before the sowing season.

9) Agricultural Price Policy should give appropriate signals for sustainable use of land, water and other natural resources.

10) There should be efforts to improve the quality of data on costs of cultivation. Data should be realistic and acceptable to the farming community.

11) There should be re-examination of the methods followed in imputing the value of (a) family labour (b) rental value of land and (c) interest on capital.

12) The CACP should examine whether transportation costs, marketing costs and processing costs be considered for the purpose of fixing MSP of various crops.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : The Minister did not expect that this Question would come up in the House.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : No, I am fully prepared to answer it. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am thankful to the hon. Members.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : May I ask my first Supplementary ? After going through the recommendations made by the Seminar of 6th and 7th November, I would like to know whether the Minister of Agriculture will personally take into consideration points 4th and 11th in particular of those recommendations.

I will read those points for the House.

"4. Minimum Support Price should be more in the nature of a floor price. However, MSP should cover at least the operation expenses plus the cost of family labour.

11. There should be re-examination of the methods followed in imputing the value of (a) family labour (b) rental value of land and (c) interest on capital."

I would like to know wehther the Minister himself agrees with it and if so, how serious he is to take them into consideration before announcement of the next policy this year.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently a lot of questions have been raised about the efficacy of MSP and about the way it is to be calculated, whether it should be market-price oriented or cost-oriented. So, we had called a Seminar where experts from various fields had come. There were representatives of agriculturists' associations, Finance Ministry officials and Vice Chancellors. Professor Alagh and Prof. Chadha were also there. They had expressed their opinions on many issues.

We are proposing to set up an Expert Committee to look at all the suggestions. We, now, have views from different sections and we will see what can be done and how we can make MSP more effective. The issues raised by Shrimati Rau, were also raised by many people in this seminar. A question was also asked as to whether the MSP should be regional or there should be one MSP throughout the country. The idea behind the Seminar was to get views from different sections of society and from different regions. We propose to set up an Expert Committee to see what can be done about these recommendations.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : While taking into consideration all the factors by CACP, I would like to know whether they will compare those factors, as they are compared for a product in the industrial sector, for agricultural products also.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : MSP today is based on the cost of production and all the factors are included in this cost of production. Whatever items are consumed in the agricultural production are taken into account. It is not based on how the WPI in the industrial sector is increasing or what is happening in that area.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have organised a seminar in regard to minimum support price. I would like to thank you for that but have you seen the details that only for hon. M.Ps. have attended the seminar ? Whether you have not invited all MPs in the seminar ? If not, then please invite all the MPs in future. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Agriculture whether he has considered about the minimum support price he would like to give to the farmers or it is the recommendations of the seminar. Whether it was considered in the seminar that India is a large country and all people whether they belong to Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala or Maharashtra, do cultivation and there is rise and fall in the cost of production. Have you decided to conduct any survey in this regard and if it has been decided that a speical committee will be constituted, whether representatives of farmers may be included in it ? If not, tell them that the production cost will remain low in those areas where canal system is used for irrigation as compared to those where cultivation is done by using diesel or petrol pumps. Similarly, the production cost in areas, close to fertiliser factory will be lower than the areas situated far from the factory. There should be a representative of farmers to consider these issues and the committee will also have M.Ps. belonging to the farmer community. I would like to know as to what would be the constitution of the Committee to decide this ?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : We have invited several MPs. in the seminar. Hon. Rajo Singh always takes interest in matters relating to agriculture and if he had not been invited this time, we will try that in future he is invited in such seminars. Besides, he said that the representatives of farmers may be included in Expert Committee. I would like to inform you that representatives of several farmers organisations had been invited in this seminar. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Please note that not a single organisation from Bihar has been invited. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I was invited and I participated in the seminar.

MR. SPEAKER : People belonging to Bihar may also be invited.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : There is a consultative Committee on Agriculture. Besides, there is Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture also to discuss the matter relating to agriculture. We would try that the representatives of farmers may be included in the Expert Committee and a decision will be taken only after discussing the matter with M.Ps. Consultative Committee and representative of farmers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to move on to the next question because discussion on the farmers' problems is already under way in this House. At that time, you may raise this issue.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Please allow me to ask a question.

MR. SPEAKER : If I permit you, I will have to permit many other Members also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No. 266. Shri Naresh Puglia. I think Shri Naresh Puglia is not present in the House. I have received a request by the hon. Minister saying that he would be happy if this question is taken up. Shri Mohan Rawale may please announce the question number.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Q. No. 266.

Financial Assistance to Development of Museums

*266. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (on behalf of SHRI NARESH PUGLIA) : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Culture provides financial assistance for professional development of museums under the scheme for 'Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums';

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the details of financial assistance provided under this scheme for professional development of museums in the country including Maharashtra during each of the last three years; and

(d) the names and location of local/regional museums alongwith the controlling Organisation/Institution which were granted financial assistance in the country particularly in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the said scheme, financial assistance is given to existing museums at the regional, State and local level for professional development of museums. Financial assistance is given for the purposes of (i) renovation/ repairs/modernisation/extension of galleries; (ii) Publication; (iii) Conservation Laboratory/Conservation Project; (iv) Museum Library; (v) Equipment; and (vi) Documentation. A maximum of and upto 80% of the estimated cost of the Project is provided by the Central Government and a minimum of 20% and balance, if any, has to be met by the grantee. The grantee organisation should have been in existence for at least three years for being eligible for receipt of grant and should be able to maintain the museum and bear all recurring costs. The share of the Central Government is released in two instalments in the ratio of 3:1. The second instalements is released only after the grantee has fully utilised the first instalment released as well as its full matching share, for which the organisation has to furnish a Utilisation Certificate and Audited Statement of Accounts certified by a Chartered Acountant.

Applications are invited every year through advertisements in National and Regional Newspapers. Applications are required to be forwarded by the concerned State Governments along with their recommendations. The applications are placed before an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Department of Culture for its recommendations for sanction of grant.

(c) and (d) The details are given at Annexure.

Annexure

Details of Museums of the Country including Maharashtra provided Financial Assistance during the last three years under the Scheme of 'Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums'

1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name and location of the organisation	State	Amount released (in Rupees)	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Majuli Island Protection and Development Council, Guwahati.	Assam	7,50,000/-	NGO*
2.	Geological Museum Complex, D/O of Geology, Patna	Bihar	6,48,000/-	University
3.	Sootradhar, Patna	Bihar	1,05,000/-	NGO
4.	INTACH, New Delhi	Delhi	63,590/-	NGO
5.	Srinivas Malliah Memorial Theatre Crafts Trust, New Delhi	Delhi	4,31,250/-	NGO
6.	Bhogilal Leherchand Instt. of Indology, Delhi	Delhi	1,12,500/-	NGO

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Museum of Christian Art, Paco Patriarchal, Panaji	Goa	1,80,000/-	NGO
8.	Fate Singh Museum Trust, Vadodara	Gujarat	4,77,500/-	NGO
9.	Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1,00,000/-	NGO
10.	Shreyas Folk Museum, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	25,000/-	NGO
11.	Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery, Baroda	Gujarat	5,00,000/-	State Government
12.	D/o of Fine Arts, Kurukshetra University.	Haryana	5,00,000/-	University
13.	Men-Tsee-Khang, Dharamshala	Himachal Pradesh	50,000/-	NGO
14.	Roerich Trust, Kullu, Nagar	Himachal Pradesh	2,25,000/-	NGO
15.	Amar Mahal Museum, Jammu Tawi	Jammu	1,50,000/-	NGO
16.	Basaveshwar Vidya Vardhak Sangha, Bagalkot,	Karnataka	75,000/-	NGO
17.	Government Museum, Basavakalyan	Karnataka	3,06,250/-	State Government
18.	Government Museum, Gadag	Karnataka	2,50,000/-	State Government
19.	Janpada Academy, Bangalore	Karnataka	50,000/-	NGO
20.	Kerala Kala Mandalam, Trissur	Kerala	9,25,000/-	NGO
21.	The Grenadiers Museum, Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	50,000/-	NGO
22.	Birla Museum, Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	37,500/-	NGO
23.	Central Museum, Nagpur	Maharashtra	6,75,000/-	State Government
24.	Regional Museum, Nasik	Maharashtra	2,25,000/-	State Government
25.	Sri Bhavani Museum and Library Aundh	Maharashtra	2,56,000/-	State Government
26.	Kolhapur Museum, Kolhapur	Maharashtra	1,25,000/-	State Government
27.	Indian Instt. of Research in Numismatic Studies, Nasik	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-	NGO
28.	Marine Museum, Imphal	Maharashtra	1,50,000/-	NGO
29.	Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum, Pune	Maharashtra	6,75,000/-	NGO
30.	Mutua Museum, Imphal	Manipur	1,25,000/-	NGO
31.	Zougan Art and Cultural Development Association, Churachandpur	Manipur	1,00,000/-	NGO
32.	Manipur State Museum, Imphal	Manipur	5,00,000/-	State Government
33.	Peoples' Museum, Kakching	Manipur	1,25,000/-	NGO
34.	Tribal Research Instt., Aizwal	Mizoram	2,52,500/-	NGO
35.	State Museum, Kohima	Nagaland	9,25,000/-	State Government
36.	Tribal Art and Textile Museum, Dimapur	Nagaland	7,00,000/-	NGO

1	2	3	4	5
37.	Tribal Art and Textile Museum Society, Dimapur	Nagaland	5,52,500/-	NGO
38.	Anchalika Kunjeswary Sanskrutika Sansad Sevanchal, Kanas, Puri	Orissa	12,500/-	NGO
39.	Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	81,250/-	Sate Government
40.	Folk and Tribal Art Museum, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	3,12,500/-	NGO
41.	The Indian Academy of Fine Arts, Amritsar	Punjab	3,50,000/-	State Government
42.	Podar Museum, Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	7,50,000/-	NGO
43.	Tripura Government Museum, Agartala	Tripura	3,52,500/-	State Government
44.	State Museum, Mathura	Uttar Pradesh	2,97,500/-	State Government
45.	Maharaja Banaras Vidya Mandir Trust, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	3,37,920/-	NGO
46.	Rajya Sangrahalaya, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1,00,000/-	State Government
47.	Bundelkhand Sangrahalaya Samiti, Orai	Uttar Pradesh	12,500/-	NGO
48.	Lok Kala Sangrahalaya, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	60,000/-	NGO
49.	Uttaranchal Lok Kala Avn Sahitya Sanrakshan Samiti, Almora,	Uttaranchal	50,000/-	NGO
50	Maharaja Banaras Vidya Mandir Trust, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	50,000/-	NGO
51.	Zilla Sangrahashala, Haripada Sahitya Academi, Purulia	West Bengal	50,000/-	NGO
52.	Prakriti Bhavan Art Gallery, Kolkata	West Bengal	2,25,000/-	NGO
53.	Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Barrackpore	West Bengal	42,500/-	NGO
54.	Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia	West Bengal	1,48,750/-	NGO
55.	Ram Mohan College, Kolkata	West Bengal	50,000/-	University
56.	Museum of National Heritage, Hoogly,	West Bengal	12,500/-	NGO
57.	Shri Kanchi Kamakothi Peetham Charitable Trust Enathur	Tamilnadu	3,75,000/-	NGO
		Total	1,52,68,010/-	

*NGO : Non Governmental Organisations that include voluntary institutions, society and trusts, registered under the Indian Societies Act, 1860 (XXI) or a public trust under any law for the time being in force.

2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name and location of the Organisation	State	Amount released (in Rupees)	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Museum, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	1,90,000/-	State Government

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Itafort Archaeological Site Museum, Itanagar,	Arunachal Pradesh	80,000/-	State Government
3.	Assam State Museum, Guwahati	Assam	6,40,000/-	State Government
4.	Patna Museum, Patna	Bihar	2,52,500/-	State Government
5.	Heritage Hall, Tribal Culture Centre, Jamshedpur	Bihar	44,950/-	NGO
6.	Sitaram Upadhyaya Museum, Buxar	Bihar	12,500/-	State Government
7.	Tathagat Siksha Pratishthan, Siwan	Bihar	25,000/-	NGO
8.	Government Museum and Art Gallery, Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1,80,000/-	State Government
9.	Sanskriti Pratishthan, New Delhi	Delhi	2,75,000/-	NGO
10.	Indian Archaeological Soceity	Delhi	6,25,000/-	NGO
11.	Ghalib Academy, New Delhi	Delhi	7,500/-	NGO
12.	Srinivas Malliah Memorial Theatre Craft Trust	Delhi	50,000/-	NGO
13.	Maharaja Fatesingh Museum Trust, Vadodara	Gujarat	2,42,500/-	NGO
14.	Shri Girdharbhai Sangrahalaya, Amreli	Gujarat,	18,600-	NGO
15.	Shreyas Folk Museum, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1,74,000/-	NGO
16.	Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery, Baroda, Gujarat	Gujarat	11,90,000/-	State Government
17.	Himachal Pradesh State Museum, Simla, Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	4,58,750/-	State Government
18.	Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra	Haryana	2,87,500/-	University
19.	Keladi Museum and Historical Research Bureau, Keladi, Shimoga	Karnataka	25,000/-	NGO
20.	Department of Archaeology and Museums, Mysore	Karnataka	1,90,000/-	State Government
21.	International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	50,000/-	NGO
22.	Zila Puratatva Sangh Sangrahalaya, Khargaon,	Madhya Pradesh	1,80,000/-	NGO
23.	State Museum, Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	1,90,000/-	State Government
24.	Indian Institute of Research and Numismatic Studies, Nasik	Maharashtra	1,20,000/-	NGO
25.	Central Museum, Nagpur	Maharashtra	11,90,000/-	State Government
26.	Ahmednagar Historical Museum and Research Bureau, Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	50,000/-	NGO
27.	The Asiatic Society of Bombay, Mumbai	Maharashtra	80,000/-	NGO
28.	Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Mumbai	Maharashtra	8,15,000/-	State Government

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Manipur University Museum, Imphal	Manipur	1,00,000/-	University
30.	Mutua Museum, Imphal	Manipur	62,500/-	NGO
31.	Peoples' Museum, Kakching	Manipur	75,000/-	NGO
32.	Meghalaya State Museum, Shillong	Meghalaya	1,90,000/-	State Government
33.	Tribal Research Institute Chanmari	Mizoram	72,500/-	NGO
34.	Local Museum, Association of Tribal Welfare Development, Dimapur	Nalagand	50,000/-	NGO
35.	Ganjam Lok Kala Museum, Chartarpur, Ganjam	Orissa	75,000/-	NGO
36.	Orissa State Museum, Bhuvaneswar	Orissa	1,90,000/-	State Government
37.	Maharaja Ranjit Singh War Museum Society, Ludhiana	Punjab	7,51,250/-	NGO
38.	Government Central Museum, (Albert Hall), Jaipur	Rajasthan	21,65,000/-	State Government
39.	Government Weapons Museum, Jaipur	Rajasthan	1,47,500/-	State Government
40.	Government Museum, Sikar	Rajasthan	1,43,750/-	State Government
41.	Government Museum, Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	3,12,500/-	State Government
42.	West Zone Culture Centre, (Haveli Museum), Udaipur	Rajasthan	8,625/-	Government
43.	State Museum, Egmore, Chennai.	Tamil Nadu	1,90,000/-	State Government
44.	Uttaranchal Lok Kala Evam Sahitya Sanrakshan Samiti, Almora	Uttaranchal	75,000/-	NGO
45.	Deptt. of Ancient Indian History and Archaeology, University of Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	37,500/-	University
46.	Government Museum, Mathura,	Uttar Pradesh	4,15,000/-	State Government
47.	Bal Sangrahalaya, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	45,000/-	NGO
48.	D.N. Majumdar Lokjivan and Sanskrit Sangrahalaya, Lucknow.	Uttar Pradesh	15,000/-	NGO
49.	Bundelkhand Sangrahalaya Samiti, Orai	Uttar Pradesh	25,000/-	NGO
50.	Vrindavan Research Institute, Vrindavan	Uttar Pradesh	2,30,000/-	NGO
51.	Rajkiya Sangrahalaya, Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	1,79,246/-	State Government
52.	Jnana Pravaha Centre for Cultural Studies, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	2,50,000/-	NGO
53.	Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia	West Bengal	50,000/-	NGO
54.	Nabadwip Puratattva Parishad, Nadia	West Bengal	22,500/-	NGO
55.	Prakriti Bhavan Art Gallery, Kolkata	West Bengal	1,12,500/-	NGO
		Total	1,36,34,171/-	

2001-02

Sl. No.	Name and location of the Organisation	State	Amount released (in Rupees)	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	2,40,000/-	University
2.	Ananda Buddha Vihara Trust, Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000/-	NGO
3.	A.P. State Museum, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	7,50,000/-	State Government
4.	Majuli Island Protection and Development Council, Majuli, Guwahati	Assam	4,50,000/-	NGO
5.	Tathagat Siksha Pratisthan, Siwan	Bihar	1,00,000/-	NGO
6.	Sootradhar, Patna	Bihar	25,000/-	NGO
7.	Patna Museum, Patna	Bihar	5,00,000/-	State Government
8.	Deep Narayan Singh Museum, Hajipur	Bihar	6,625/-	State Government
9.	Ghalib Academy, Nizamuddin	Delhi	7,500/-	NGO
10.	INTACH, New Delhi	Delhi	50,000/-	NGO
11.	Srinivas Malliah Memorial Theatre Crafts Trust, New Delhi	Delhi	3,52,500/-	NGO
12.	Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, New Delhi	Delhi	3,00,000/-	NGO
13.	Sanskriti Pratishthan, New Delhi	Delhi	3,25,000/-	NGO
14.	Museum of Christian Art, Panaji	Goa	20,000/-	NGO
15.	Directorate of Museum, EDC Complex, Panaji	Goa	3,30,000/-	State Government
16.	Laxminathji Trust, Rajpipla	Gujarat	1,87,500/-	NGO
17.	Shreyas Folk Museum, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1,75,000/-	NGO
18.	Kachchh Museum, Bhuj	Gujarat	2,50,000/-	State Government
19.	Darbar Hall Museum, Junagadh	Gujarat	7,25,000/-	State Government
20.	Watson Museum, Rajkot	Gujarat	10,37,0001-	State Government
21.	Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya	Gujarat	60,000/-	
22.	Junagadh Museum, Junagadh	Gujarat	14,75,000/-	State Government
23.	Gujarat State Cultural Museum, C/o Smruti Mandir Charitable Trust, Morbi	Gujarat	50,000/-	NGO
24.	State Council for Child Welfare, Sirsa	Haryana	2,70,000/-	NGO
25.	Himachal Culture-N-Art Association, Manali	Himachal Pradesh	3,20,000/-	NGO

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Bhurisingh Museum, Chamba	Himachal Pradesh	3,25,000/-	State Government
27.	IRMT, Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	1,00,00,000/-	NGO
28.	Himachal Pradesh State Museum, Simla	Himachal Pradesh	1,30,000/-	State Government
29.	Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust, Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir	10,50,000/-	NGO
30.	Ranchi Museum, Ranchi	Jharkhand	6,250/-	State Government
31.	Sri Jayachamarajendra Art Gallery, Mysore	Karnataka	5,00,000/-	NGO
32.	Karnataka Government Museum, Mysore	Karnataka	7,50,000/-	State Government
33.	Janapada Academy, Bangalore	Karnataka	1,00,000/-	NGO
34.	Keladi Museum and Historical Research Bureau, Keladi Shimoga	Karnataka	1,50,000/-	NGO
35.	Folklore Museum, Trivandrum	Kerala	81,250/-	State Government
36.	Pazassi Raja Museum, Kozhikode	Kerala	1,62,500/-	State Government
37.	Archaeological Museum, Trissur	Kerala	1,00,000/-	State Government
38.	Krishnapuram Palace and Museum, Trivandrum	Kerala	1,37,500/-	State Government
39.	Rani Damyanti Museum, Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	3,00,000/-	NGO
40.	Wakankar Puratatva Sangrahalaya and Kala Deergja, Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	81,500/-	NGO
41.	Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies, Nasik	Maharashtra	5,67,500/-	NGO
42.	Marine Museum, Raigarh District	Maharashtra	90,000/-	NGO
43.	Mani Bhavan Gandhi Sangrahalaya, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-	NGO
44.	Mutua Museum, Imphal	Manipur	25,000/-	NGO
45.	Meghalaya State Museum,	Meghalaya	2,70,000/-	State Government
46.	State Museum, Kohima	Nagaland	3,50,000/-	State Government
47.	Association of Tribal Welfare Development, Dimapur	Nagaland	30,000/-	NGO
48.	Chakhesang Zuva Cultural Club, Dimapur	Nagaland	1,00,000/-	NGO
49.	Anchallika Kunjeswary Sanskrutika Sansad (AKSS), Kanas, Puri	Orissa	6,250/-	NGO
50.	Ganjam Lok Kala Museum, Ganjam	Orissa	37,500/-	NGO
51.	Maharaja Ranjit Singh War Museum Society, Ludhiana	Punjab	2,30,000/-	NGO
52.	Indian Academy of Fine Arts, Amritsar	Punjab	2,10,000/-	State Government
53.	Jaigarh Public Charitable Trust, Amber, Jaipur	Rajasthan	87,500/-	NGO

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Rajasthan Kala Kendra, Jaipur	Rajasthan	37,500/-	NGO
55.	S.R.C. Museum of Indology, Jaipur	Rajasthan	2,06,250/-	NGO
56.	Government Central Museum, Albert Hall, Jaipur	Rajasthan	1,25,000/-	State Government
57.	Sri Sanjay Sharma Museum and Research Institute, Jaipur	Rajasthan	2,89,000/-	NGO
58.	Ramanujan Museum, University of Madras	Tamil Nadu	6,90,000/-	University
59.	Art Gallery, Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu	3,00,000/-	NGO
60.	Bal Sangrahalya, Children Museum, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	5,000/-	NGO
61.	Bundelkand Sangrahalaya Samiti, Orai	Uttar Pradesh	37,500/-	NGO
62.	State Museum, Mathura	Uttar Pradesh	1,70,000/-	State Government
63.	Jnana Pravaha, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	2,50,000/-	NGO
64.	State Museum, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	11,90,000/-	State Government
65.	Vrindavan Research Institute, Vrindavan	Uttar Pradesh	70,000/-	NGO
66.	Shri Shri Narhari Sewa Sansthan, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	2,50,000/-	NGO
67.	INTACH (Darjeeling), Darjeeling	West Bengal	15,000/-	NGO
68.	Ramkrishna Mission Ashram, Narendrapur	West Bengal	2,00,000/-	NGO
69.	Folk and Tribal Cultural Centre, Dhakuria, Kolkata	West Bengal	1,65,000/-	NGO
70.	Rammohan College, Kolkata	West Bengal	25,000/-	University
71.	Murshidabad District Museum, Jiaganj	West Bengal	2,50,000/-	State Government
72.	Museum of National Heritage, Bhadrakali, Hoogly	West Bengal	25,000/-	NGO
		Total	2,88,84,125/-	

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, can this be quoted as a precedent ? A Member can very well entrust another Member to put this Question.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Is it there in the rules ?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it is in the rules. Since it is an important Question, I thought that this must come before the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, by raising this question in the house, you have offered a birthday gift to hon. Rawaleji on his birdthay.

[English]

Incidentally, today is the birthday of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi also. We all congratulate her on her birthday.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I congratulate Soniaji and Rawaleji on their birthday.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I congratulate Soniaji, the Leader of the Opposition, on her birthday and wish that she may remain healthy, blessed with long life and have bright political career.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as hon. Shivraj Patil has just said that realisation should be there. Maharashtra have many beaches, forts and religious places. The Ministry of Tourism is going to develop those religious places. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the names of such religious places which are being developed along with the names of other religious places suggested by the Government of Maharashtra which are required to be developed ?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, the Question is about museums. Let me explain about the museums, if you like, and then I will come to your point.

As far as museums are concerned, we have sanctioned Rs. 3 crore for various museums. These museums are not Central Government museums but are museums run by the State Governments or private trusts or some registered societies or NGOs which qualify some conditions. Apart from that, this Question is particularly about Maharashtra.

In Maharashtra, there is one very novel museum, that is, Raja Kelkar Museum. This is a single man's effort which has produced such a museum. I have myself gone and seen it at the invitation of the trustees. There are 19,000 art pieces which a single individual has collected and out of these, only 2000 pieces are exhibited. The rest are not exhibited. Now, the proposal is that a new museum should be built where Raja Kelkar's art pieces would be exhibited. That scheme has been finalised. The State Government has agreed to give the land. Money was not available. I have agreed to provide Rs. 2 crore for this from the Central Exchequer. I am persuading the State Government to give Rs. 1 crore over and above the land that they have contributed. An amount of Rs. 1 crore will be contributed by the Museum Society and Rs. 1 crore will be raised as institutional finance. With this Rs. 5 crore, a new museum will be put up. The land allotted on the Pune-Mumbai Highway will become a big tourist attraction also. Therefore, we are investing Rs. 2 crore. I have called a meeting of all the concerned on 18th December and we will finalise the programme at that time.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : About other projects on forts, religious places and other things of Maharashtra, we consider only important places of cultural significance. We have ancient forts in Maharashtra. As we know, Chhatrapati Shivaji has built as many as 1000 forts and out of that, Sindhudurg is being planned. An amount of Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned by me for that island. That fort is being renovated and resurrected virtually. There are marine forts for which I have drawn up a scheme and we will take care of those things. This will become a big attraction for coastal tourism in that area.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : The Government should pay attention to preserve the articles kept in the museum. As far as Raja Kelkar Museum is concerned, if you go to Mumbai you will see many more articles in the museum. Chhatrapati Shivaji has built many forts in Maharashtra for which he is called 'Rajpurush'. There are several beaches in Maharashtra also. The beach near the shore of Konkan is very popular. Besides, there is Ganpati Phuleji fort also. I would like to know what steps are being taken by the Government to develop these forts and beaches so that more and more tourist may visit there.

MR. SPEAKER : Mohan Rawaleji, the question is particularly about museums.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I am asking it in view of the answer just given by the hon. Minister. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I will solve this problem by linking the two. As he is mentioning, we have sanctioned a very big project, like Palace on Wheels which is famous in Rajasthan, for Maharashtra. We have sanctioned a project of Rs. 37 crore for Maharashtra for rail only. It will touch almost all the important places of Maharashtra, including Pune and Kelkar Museum. Out of this, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 8.5 crore; the State Government has been contributed Rs. 8.5 crore; and the rest has come from the institutional finance and the Railways. The project will link all the important places of Maharashtra and one can have a one-week tour as is the case with Rajasthan. This will be a big boost to tourism

in Maharashtra. Maharashtra, in fact, is getting a very big share of tourism projects. Apart from this railways project, we have got many other projects for Ajanta, Ellora, and Elephanta caves and Daulatabad.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, the hon. Minister is talking about money for creating new museums and infrastructure. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what he is doing to ensure that the existing museums are maintained in a proper way. I do not want to mention names. I have been in a museum in one State Capital where I actually saw the staff making tea with a *sigri* inside the museum premises in a corner. When I objected to this, I was told that it was not my business and that I should leave it to them. What I mean is that many ancient precious things exit in the museums. But temperature, heat etc., as you are aware , is enough to destroy what is there.

Secondly, older museums have, in their godowns, huge quantities of very precious stuff dumped because of lack of expansion and lack of space. Where such quantities exist, would the hon. Minister consider shifting them to other museums or to other places, where museums could be created rather than allow them to be dumped and ruined in underground wet basements, where there is absolutely no protection and no place to keep these precious materials ?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : As far as the old museums are concerned, this scheme which I have referred to refers only to the old schemes. An amount of Rs. 3 crore has been sanctioned this year only for the old schemes which are recommended by the State Governments, Registered Societies etc., for which there is an Expert Committee which we have set up. I have given all the details in the list for the last three years. All the old museums are being renovated and upgraded. We give money for equipment, for renovation of buildings, improvements etc.

So far as the management is concerned, in India we have this culture. But we are continuously reminding the State Governments to ensure that the museums are well maintained. So far as the new museums which are required to be built because of some old and very precious things being dumped somewhere is concerned, I would like to say that this is precisely the reason why I have personally sanctioned three great projects. I have personally gone to the spot and seen in Shivpuri the types of things which you have mentioned. Very valuable art piecies are lying on the ground or they are dumped in the store. I have sanctioned Rs. 2 crore worth of project in Shivpuri; Rs. 2 crore worth of project in Chanderi; and Rs. 2 crore worth of project in Khajuraho. They are going to be built to keep all the old treasures. We are also trying to get a whole inventory done of all such things. We will continuously build it. If you have got any suggestion about any particular area, please bring it to our notice. We will put it in our next year's Budget. For this year, we have sanctioned quite a number of projects liberally. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, Rs. 2 crore will not do. You have to increase the Budget.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I am not claiming that it will solve all the problems.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, to construct and maintain new museums, to preserve our culture and everything, more money is required. Our present Budget is very meagre when compared with some other developing countries. The developed countries and even some of the developing countries are providing a lot of money to preserve their heritage, culture and to keep their museums very attractive. They are allocating a lot of money in their Budget. In India, we are providing very meagre Budget for this purpose. My feeling is that from next year onwards, we have to increase the Budget. Then, the Government can provide assistance to all the States. Mr. Minister, with this meagre money, you cannot improve any museums. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would increase the Budget from next year onwards.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Well, what the hon. Member has mentioned goes without saying that more money is required. But we are making efforts in this regard. In the last Budget, we have provided it. In the Ninth Five Year Plan, a Budget of about Rs. 6 crore was provided. This time, it is about Rs. 11 to Rs. 12 crore.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : For a great country like India, Rs. six crore is very meagre.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : This is only from the Central Budget. I am not saying that this is enough. I would like to take him along with me to Finance Minister.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Even from the point of view of providing it from the Central Budget, it is very meagre. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think this is enough.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Minister, we are strengthening your hands.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

As the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, the hon. Tourism Minister had done a wonderful job of improving Vaishno Devi and Jammu. Now, he is doing a good job of improving religious tourism in Hardwar and Kurukshetra. But in the case of Amritsar, which is the religious centre of the Sikhs, nothing has been done.

The International Airport is in decay. Local flights to Amritsar have been suspended from Delhi. Traffic, sanitation and sewage system has fallen. It has become a world tourist destination centre. President Bush, Mr. Blair and His Holiness the Pope say that they want to visit the Golden Temple. During the infamous Operation Blue Star,*

Will the hon. Minister tell us what he is doing to improve Amritsar as a world tourist destination centre, to open up of Wagah border for tourism to the Islamic world, to Arabia, to the Gulf countries and Central Asia ?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : So far as Amritsar is concerned, in reply to the first Question, I said that we are creating one big hub of culture, tourism and clean civic governance in every State. In Punjab, Amritsar has been selected and that the effort is going on.

I would like to inform the hon. Member that a Panorama for Maharaja Ranjit Singh, a sort of a Science Centre in that area has been sanctioned. They are on the job. We will ensure that Amritsar becomes a very attractive place. We will ensure that more and more tourists come, more and more cultural tourism gets enhanced.

Further, around the *Darbar Saheb,* a lot of work has already been done on the three sides. On the remaining side, the work will be done. I would definitely take your suggestion and view when I go there next time.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many antiques and precious idols lying scattered in our country. Whether the Government have any plan to enlist them and to keep them in museum for commercial use ? Many articles belong to the lives of our many national figures like Chhatrapati Shivaji, Maharana Pratap, Sardar Bhagat Singh and Madan Lal Dhingra are kept abroad. Through you, I would like to know from the Government whether such articles will be brought back to the country and will be made available for public to see them by keeping them in museum ?

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : As I have said, about the scattered pieces found elsewhere, everywhere, it is the local museum that is being made. In the Archaeological Survey of India, we have got a scheme. Wherever excavations take place, wherever *murtis* are found or they are lying scattered, we build local museums. A large number of local museums are being built in this area.

So far as the valuable things which have gone out in those areas are concerned, we will have to take up through the External Affairs Ministry. I will take it up with them.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many places in Devdeh, the matrilineal place of Gautam Budha in my Parliamentary constitutency area have been marked. Whether the hon. Minister will get that places excavated. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Chanderi is an ancient and historical place in my parliamentary constituency area. Several schemes

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

regarding its development have been handed over to the hon. Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Will you be quick ? Otherwise, Zero Hour's time will come.

[Translation]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are their views in this regard ? As far as the matter of museum is concerned, an audit body may be constituted which will provide complete record thereof to the hon. Minister so that he may know how they are being maintained.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, as far as the Chanderi project is concerned, I have already sanctioned money for the museum about which I have mentioned in my reply earlier. So far as the suggestion that we should have a register for accountancy is concerned, we will definitely consider this suggestion. About other projects of Chanderi, the hon. Member is in continuous touch with me. We are also planning to visit the area and we will definitely to whatever we can do.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Waste Treatment Plants

*262. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have allocated funds for the construction of waste treatment plants in the country including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of funds made available for the job alongwith the number of such plants to be constructed, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the amount likely to be spent thereon; and

(d) the time by which each of the plants is likely to become operational ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Funds have been provided by Union Government for construction of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in the country for treatment of industrial waste water. State-wise details of such Plants are given below :

Sl. No.	State	No. of CETPs	Funds sanctioned (Rupees in lakhs)	No. of CETPs commissioned	No. of CETPs under construction
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	132.000	3	0
2.	Delhi	15	2300.000	3	12
3.	Gujarat	12	1324.590	9	3
4.	Haryana	1	11.890	1	0
5.	Karnataka	4	109.050	3	1
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3	96.000	1	2
7.	Maharashtra	9	276.935	6	3
8.	Punjab	1	30.000	0	1
9.	Rajasthan	2	100.000	2	0
10.	Tamil Nadu	39	1842.890	32	7
11.	Uttar Pradesh	2	95.750	2	0
	Total	91	6319.105	62	29

Out of the above 91 CETP's, 62 Plants have been commissioned, 21 Plants are likely to be completed in one year and the remaining 8 Plants are expected to be completed within a period of two years.

In addition, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) under Ganga Action Plan, National River Conservation Plan and Yamuna Action Plan have also been sanctioned. State-wise details are as follows :

Sl. No.	State	No. of STPs	Funds sanctioned (Rupees in lakhs)	No. of STPs commissioned	No. of STPs under Construction
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	242.72	–	5
2.	Bihar	7	1901.62	5	2
3.	Delhi	2	1344.40	2	–
4.	Gujarat	2	6597.24	–	2
5.	Goa	2	1175.57	–	2
6.	Haryana	17	11066.93	11	6
7.	Karnataka	8	750.35	–	8
8.	Madhya Pradesh	8	107.77	–	8
9.	Maharashtra	6	3417.21	–	6
10.	Punjab	5	10011.66	–	5
11.	Orissa	1	350.65	–	1
12.	Tamil Nadu	7	17883.77	–	7
13.	Uttar Pradesh	28	20945.28	25	3
14.	Uttaranchal	5	900.26	3	2
15.	West Bengal	26	12239.01	15	11
	Total	129	88934.44	61	68

Out of the above 129 STPs, 61 STPs have been commissioned and the remaining 68 STPs are in different stages of implementation and are targetted for completion by December, 2005.

Cultivable Land becoming Infertile

*267. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cultivable land has rapidly become infertile in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to check this trend; and

(c) the schemes launched in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh in this context alongwith the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) Intensive cropping with high inputs, high yielding varieties, and soil erosion tend to cause decline in soil fertility in cultivable land, particularly in respect of secondary and micro nutrient elements due to their removal at a rate more than their replenishment.

According to an estimate, 1736.40 lakh ha. area is facing problem of soil erosion and land degradation in the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is advocating soil and water conservation and soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conj inctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to restore soil fertility. Government is providing assistance for strengthening of soil testing laboratories under the scheme of 'balanced and integrated use of fertilizer' which is presently being substumed under macro nagement. Goverment is also providing assistance for setting up compost plants and bio-fertilizer units under national project on development and use of bio-fertilizers.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing various land based programmes (i) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP and FPR) and (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS), to minimize land degradation which ultimately results in enhanced fertility in the agricultural land of the country. The progress made under these schemes in the State of Madhya Pradesh is as under :-

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Area Treated ('000 ha.)	Expenditure (Lakh)
1.	NWDPRA	994	21212.87
2.	RVP and FPR	1054	19454.55
3.	RAS	0.09	183.53

Statement

Extent of various types of degraded Lands in the Country

(Area in Lakh Hectare)

S. No.	State/UT	Water erosion	Wind erosion	Ravines	Salt Affected	Water Logging	Shifting cultivation	Degraded forests	Special problems	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	103.54	–	–	2.40	3.39	1.50	11.48	–	122.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.58	–	–	–	–	2.10	22.86	–	26.54
3.	Assam	13.34	–	1.93	–	4.50	1.39	8.83	–	29.99
4.	Bihar	32.39	–	6.00	0.04	7.07	0.85	10.21	9.00	65.52
5.	Goa	1.35	–	–	–	–	–	0.65	–	2.00
6.	Gujarat	94.62	7.04	4.00	10.42	4.84	–	4.84	0.10	125.86
7.	Haryana	15.35	14.00	–	5.26	6.20	–	0.56	0.25	41.62
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.75	–	–	–	–	–	8.39	–	19.14
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.73	–	–	–	0.10	–	2.10	–	8.93
10.	Karnataka	102.25	–	–	4.04	0.10	–	7.64	–	114.03
11.	Kerala	15.77	–	–	1.17	0.61	–	1.80	–	19.35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	155.10	–	6.83	2.42	0.57	1.25	41.00	–	207.17
13.	Maharashtra	175.89	–	0.20	5.34	1.11	–	15.92	–	198.46
14.	Manipur	2.94	–	–	–	–	3.60	0.80	–	7.34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15.	Meghalaya	5.48	–	–	–	–	2.65	2.89	–	11.02
16.	Mizoram	2.87	–	–	–	–	1.89	1.34	–	6.10
17.	Nagaland	2.77	–	–	–	–	6.33	1.28	–	10.38
18.	Orissa	27.71	–	1.13	4.04	0.60	26.48	18.07	2.95	78.03
19.	Punjab	9.14	–	1.20	7.18	10.90	–	0.93	–	32.30
20.	Rajasthan	188.41	156.92	4.52	10.00	3.48	–	10.61	–	373.94
21.	Sikkim	2.58	–	–	–	–	–	0.45	–	3.03
22.	Tamil Nadu	32.42	–	0.60	1.04	0.18	–	3.98	–	38.22
23.	Tripura	0.45	–	–	–	–	1.12	1.22	–	2.79
24.	Uttar Pradesh	58.98	–	12.30	12.95	19.80	–	12.12	15.00	131.15
25.	West Bengal	7.64	–	1.04	9.86	21.80	–	2.69	–	43.03
26.	U.Ts.	1.21	–	–	–	0.01	–	2.28		3.50
	Total (a) lakh ha.	1071.26	177.96	39.75	76.16	85.26	49.16	194.94	27.30	1721.75
	(b) m. ha	107.2	17.8	3.97	7.6	8.5	4.92	19.5	2.73	172.18

Coastal Sands – No Statewise data 14.65

GRAND TOTAL 1736.40

OR 173.6 million hectare

(*) – Includes area of three new States viz. Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal

[English]

Perspective Plan for Tourism

*268. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to provide a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs to each State for 20 years perspective Plan for tourism;

(b) if so, whether many States have spent a huge amount in formulation of the said plan and have demanded for more assistance;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to enhance the financial assistance to these States for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the States which have since finalised project reports on micro and macro plans in regard to coastal tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism, Government of India had requested all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in October 2000 to commission 20 year Perspective Plans for which it had been decided to provide a Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs to each State/UT.

(b) Only the Government of West Bengal took the initiative to commission such a Plan under the scheme of the Department of Tourism, Government of India with a sanction of Rs. 10.00 lakhs.

(c) Government do not propose to increase the limit.

(d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh on its own has got a project report done for micro and macro plans on coastal tourism.

[Translation]

Waiving of Loans of Farmers

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to postpone the recovery of loans and interest thereon from the farmers in the wake of drought situation in the country during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the period for which the recovery of the loans has been postponed;

(c) the reasons for postponement of recovery of said loans and interest thereon instead of waiving of said loans;

(d) whether the Government propose to fix a period of ten years for recovery of the said loans; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has instructed all the banks not to recover the principal and interest amount of Kharif loan during the current financial year. The principal amount should be converted into term loan and recovered over a period of five years in respect of small and marginal farmers and four years in case of other farmers.

(c) In the event of natural calamities and the failure of crops, immediate relief that the farmers need is postponement of recovery because of impairment of their repaying capacity. Reserve bank of India has, therefore, in consultation with the Government of India issued standing instructions for the banks to postpone the recovery and for conversion/rephasement of loans for longer period. Further, to enable the farmers to sow the next crop, fresh loans are provided.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Factories Polluting Ganga

*270. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

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

(a) the name of industrial units on and around and river Ganges which have not so far installed pollution treatment plants, location-wise;

(b) whether certain companies/factories particularly Vam Orgic Factory has been causing pollution in the Ganga river for the last twenty five years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of officers held responsible for negligence in this regard alongwith the punishment meted out to them; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) A total of 187 units have been identified as grossly polluting industries around the river Ganga. Of these, 133 units have installed Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) and the remaining 54 units are closed. Out of 133 units, where ETPs are in operation, 8 units are not achieving the prescribed discharge standards due to inadequacies in design and operation of treatment plants. The names and location of these units are given below :

Sl.No.	Name and location of the Industry
1	2
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Kisan Cooperative Sugar Mill, Farrukhabad
2.	Government Opium and Alkaloid Factory, Ghazipur
3.	M/s Nuwell Calcutta Pvt. Ltd., Ramnagar
4.	M/s Kisan Sahakari Chini Mill, (Distillary Division), Farukhabad)
Bihar	
5.	Bata India Limited, Mokamah

1	2
6.	M/s Locomotive Workshop, Eastern Railway, Jamalpur
West Bengal	
7.	Jayshree Textile Ind., Rishra, District Hooghly
8.	Indian Oil Corporation, District Midnapur

The above units have been directed to ensure effective operation of their effluent treatment plants to meet the prescribed discharge standards. Under the directions of the Central Pollution Control Board, M/s Vam Organics have installed primary and secondary effluent treatment plants. The industry is using part of the treated effluent for Irrigation. The remaining effluent is stored in lined lagoons and discharged into the Bagad nallah during rainy season.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Condition of Marginal and Medium Farmers

*271. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any specific schemes to improve the condition of marginal and medium farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the condition of the marginal farmers has not improved despite the efforts of the Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing various schemes for increasing the production and productivity of agricultural output and they are meant for all categories of farmers. These schemes provide assistance in various components and some of the components give special consideration to certain category of farmers such as small and marginal farmers.

The Government also implements schemes for price and market support which, inter alia, helps in strengthening the farm income and economic conditions of the farmers. These schemes cover all categories of farmers including small and marginal farmers.

Package for Foreign Tourists

*272. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to prepare a package to attract foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Development of tour packages is primarily undertaken by the Tour Operators and State Tourism Development Corporations. The Government provides support to the travel industry by promoting these packages in tourism generating markets.

[English]

Recommendations of Kelkar Committee

*273. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations of Kelkar Committee in regard to agriculture sector and agricultural income;

(b) whether his Ministry has examined these recommendations;

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

(d) the reaction of this Ministry and action taken on the recommendations of Kelkar Committee on agriculture sector; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e) According to information supplied by the Ministry of Finance, the position regarding the recommendations of Kelkar Committee on agriculture sector and agriculture income is as follows :–

The Kelkar Committee has not submitted any report yet. It has presented a consultation paper on 2nd

November, 2002, which has been made public for wider discussion and comments. The recommendations relating to agricultural sector and agricultural income is that it has been recommended that fo taxation of agricultural income, a tax rental arrangement may be designed so that States can pass a resolution under Article 252 of the Constitution authorizing the Central Government to impose income tax on agricultural income. All taxes collected by the Centre (net of collection costs) may be assigned to the States. Separate tax return forms for agricultural income may be devised.

Land under Irrigation

*274. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring more land under irrigation in the water scarce districts of various States including West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) and (b) Irrigation development is a continuous process and is taking place through construction of major, medium and minor irrigation projects/schemes all over the country including water scarce areas of various States. Irrigation being a State subject, all types of irrigation projects/schemes are conceived, planned, investigated and executed by the respective State Governments from their plan allocations and according to their own priroities.

Proposals for 49 new major and medium irrigation projects for providing irrigation to additional areas including some drought prone areas have been submitted by various States to Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal. Out of these, 26 projects (18 major and 8 medium) are under different stages of appraisal and remaining 23 projects (20 major and 3 medium) have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of a few observations. These project-proposals include proposal on modernisation of Kangsabati Reservoir (Phase-I) in West Bengal. State-wise details of the new projects are given at Statement enclosed.

With a view to bring additional areas (including drought prone areas) under irrigation, the Central Government is providing Central Loan Assistances (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) to the State Governments for expeditious completion of identified ongoing major and medium irrigation/multipurpose projects. Under the programme, the drought prone Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts of Orissa as speical category areas are entitled to get CLA in the ratio of 1:3 (Centre : State) for major, medium as well as minor irrigation projects/schemes.

The Union Government is also contemplating the launching of "Pradhan Mantri Grameen Jal Samvardhan Yojana (PMGJSY)" aimed at addressing the needs of water harvesting, water consveration, ground water rechrage and minor irrigation at the village level, with the objective of drought proofing in water scarce areas.

Statement

New Projects benefitting Drought Prone Areas

S. No.	Name of Projects	Name of State	Districts to be benefitted	Benefits (000'ha.)	Estimated cost (Rs. crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboob Nagar	10.926	134.30
2.	Kalwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboob Nagar	20.234	380.00
3.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur Krishna, Prakasham, West Godavari	575	506.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Krishna Delta System Modernisation ERM	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur Krishna, Prakasham, West Godavari	575	659.16
5.	Bhima Lift Irrigation	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboob Nagar	83.78	744.00
6.	Sriramsagar Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal, Nalgonda, Khammam, Adilabad	253.4	697.70
7.	Flood Flow Canal from SRSP	Andhra Pradesh	Karimnagar, Warnagal, Nalgonda	102	1331.00
8.	Jurala (Masonry Dam)	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboob Nagar	47.84	544.82
9.	Valligallu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	9.715	143.67
10.	Kadwan Reservoir Project	Bihar	Palamu and Rohtas	221.27	1111.14
11.	Tilaiya Dhadhar	Bihar	Nawadah/Gaya	38.99	220.11
12.	Modernisation of Machu-I-ERM	Gujarat	Rajkot	2.14	8.12
13.	Kanhar Resrevoir Project	Jharkhand	Palamu	57.67 and 300 MW	1015.76
14.	North Koel Reservior	Jharkhand	Palamu, Aurangabad and Gaya	104.5	836.11
15.	Kandi Canal Project	Jammu and Kashmir (Kashmir Region)	Doda	3.023	37.31
16.	Singatalur Lift Irrigation Scheme	Karnataka	Godage, Billary	16.188	123.00
17.	Markandeya	Karnataka	Beglaum	19.105	209.85
18.	Hippargi Irrigation Project	Karnataka	Bijapur	59.69	186.70
19.	Upper Tunga Project	Karnataka	Shimoga, Dharwad, Chitradurga	80.494	1052.33
20.	Basapur Lift Irrigation Scheme	Karnataka	Dharwad	2.267	9.36
21.	Upper Narmada Project	Madhya Pradesh	Mandla and Shahdol	18.61	211.92
22.	Mahan (Masonry Dam)	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi	19.84	146.51
23.	Rajghat Canal	Madhya Pradesh	Datia, Bhind, Gwalior, Guna, Shivpuri and Tikamgarh	121.45	309.21
24.	Gunjawani	Maharashtra	Pune	20.325	86.77
25.	Bhama Askhed	Maharashtra	Pune	29.465	458.20
26.	Urmodi River Basin	Maharashtra	Satara	43.87	212.08

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Nira Deoghar	Maharashtra	Pune	21.7	448.55
28.	Wang Irrigation	Maharashtra	Uttarmand Wang	11.00	–
29.	Warna Irrigation	Maharashtra	Sangli and Kolhapur	113.92	337.81
30.	Punad Irrigation	Maharashtra	Nasik	10.85	29.22
31.	Sangola Branch Canal	Maharashtra	Solapur	9.22	37.01
32.	Andhra Khore	Maharashtra	Pune	12.461	44.37
33.	Wakod	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	2.214	34.36
34.	Northmand	Maharashtra	Satara	4.8	93.00
35.	Morna Gureghar	Maharashtra	Satara	5.32	101.50
36	Wang	Maharashtra	Satara	6.2	134.39
37.	Nagiwadi	Maharashtra	Satara	1.56	51.47
38.	Raigavan	Maharashtra	Osmanabad	1.7	9.51
39.	Upper Indravati Ext. Project	Orissa	Kalahandi	41.794	136.67
40.	Ret Earthern Dam with Ogee type spillway, canal system on both sides of the bank	Orissa	Kalahandi	9.775	86.14
41.	Utilisation of Yamuna water in Jhunjhunu and Churu Districts	Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu and Churu	256.57	1067.00
42.	Indira Gandhi Nahar, Stage-I	Rajasthan	Sriganganagar, Bikaner and Jaisalmer	32.6	121.92
43.	Kanhar Irrigation	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	33.12	341.45
44.	Bansagar Canal	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad and Mirzapur	150.13	956.43
45.	Raising of Meja Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad and Mirzapur	17.88	65.00
46.	Maudaha Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Hamirpur	17.7	125.16
47.	Lining of Chhanel in Bundelkhand	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad, Banda, Jhansi Lalitpur, Mizapur and Varanasi	23.78	57.37
48.	Increasing capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	34.605	60.53
49.	Mod. of Kangsabati Reservior Ph.I	West Bengal	Bankura, Midnapur and Hoogli	355.48	471.90

Lifting of Farm Subsidies by Developed Countries

*275. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India in the recent Earth Summit at Johannesburg demanded that the developed countries should lift farm subsidies; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the developed nations thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) During the discussions on agriculture in the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, issues related to the impact of trade policies that support micro enterprises, value added agricultural products and re-direction of agricultural subsidies to poverty and hunger eradication were discussed. Bracketed text on achieving improvements in market access, phasing out of export subsidies and reduction of trade distorting practices in agriculture were considered together with other trade related issues. However, due to their domestic compulsions, developed countries did not agree to lift farm subsidies and thus it did not find place' in the agreed texts of political Declaration and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

[Translation]

Pending Irrigation Schemes

*276. SHRI RAM RATI BIND : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects/schemes pending with the Union Government for augmenting irrigation facilities in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the time by which the pending projects/schemes are likely to be cleared, State-wise;

(c) the allocations made during the last two years and thereafter for augmenting irrigation facilities;

(d) whether the Government propose to implement any new irrigation projects/schemes for small and marginal farmers in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken for their implementation; and

(f) the details of the places where there projects/ schemes are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (f) At present out of 172 irrgiation project proposals (89 major and 83 medium) received from various States, 89 projects (41 major and 48 medium) are under different stages of appraisal and remaining 83 projects (48 major and 35 medium) have been techno-economically accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to compliance of observations. The details of such projects/schemes in the country and in Uttar Pradesh are at Statement I and II respectively. No time frame for clearance of projects/schemes can be fixed as the appraisal/clearance of the projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Authorities arrange the compliance to the observations of Central Appraising Agencies. The actual expenditure project- wise for projects in Uttar Pradesh for the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 and outlay for the year 2002-03 is at Statement-III.

A new Centrally sponsored scheme of "on-Farm water management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" has been launched during 2001-02 for implementation in all the districts in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh. Besides, 35 districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and 9 districts of West Bengal have also been included in the Scheme. The Project has been formulated to increase the production and productivity of not only Kharif and Rabi/summer rice but it will also facilitate the farmers to adopt and diversify agricultural activites such as growing vegetables, fodder crops, oil seeds, pulses, etc. The primary focus of the scheme is on the exploitation of ground/surface water and efficient utilization for increasing productivity in the Eastern Region resulting ultimately in fetching higher income and reduction in poverty of the farmers of the Region. The scheme is for individual/group of farmers of the 10 States as detailed in Statement-IV with preference to small and marginal farmers.

Statement-I

State wise details of Pending Projects as on 30.11.2002

Sl.No.	States	Major					Medium					Total				
		A	B	C	D	Total	A	B	C	D	Total	A	B	C	D	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	7	–	–	10	6	9	–	1	16	9	16	–	1	26
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3.	Assam	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4.	Bihar	2	2	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	04
5.	Chattisgarh	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	01
6.	Goa, Daman, Diu	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
7.	Gujarat	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	02
8.	Haryana	–	2	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	1	1	2	–	–	03
9.	Himachal Pradesh	–	1	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	02
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	–	–	–	1	8	2	–	–	10	9	2	–	–	11
11.	Jharkhand	3	4	–	–	7	–	–	–	–	–	3	4	–	–	07
12.	Karnataka	1	2	1	–	4	1	–	–	–	1	2	2	1	–	05
13.	Kerala	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	02
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3	3	–	1	7	–	–	–	–	–	3	3	–	1	07
15.	Maharashtra	8	5	–	1	14	24	7	–	–	31	32	12	–	1	45
16.	Manipur	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	1	–	1	02
17.	Meghalaya	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18.	Nagaland	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	02
19.	Orissa	3	6	–	–	9	1	10	–	–	11	4	16	–	–	20
20.	Punjab	4	–	–	1	5	2	1	–	–	3	6	1	–	1	08
21.	Rajasthan	3	2	–	–	5	1	2	–	–	3	4	4	–	–	08
22.	Sikkim	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23.	Tamil Nadu	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	1	–	1	1	–	02
24.	Tripura	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25.	Uttar Pradesh	5	6	–	1	12	1	–	–	–	1	6	6	–	1	13
26.	Uttaranchal	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	01
27.	West Bengal	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	01
	Grand Total	39	44	2	4	89	47	33	1	2	83	86	77	3	6	172

A – Project under various Stages of Appraisal.

B – Accepted by the Advisory Committee of MOWR Subject to Certain Observations.

C – Deferred by Advisory Committee of MOWR.

D – Recommended to Planning Commission for Investment Clearance.

Statement-II

Details of Irrigation Projects of Uttar Pradesh Pending for Clearance as on 30.11.2002

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefitted	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th.Ha.)	Estimated cost (Rs. crore)	CAT – EGO – RY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Improving Water Management on Existing Sarda Canal System – ERM*	Major	Sarda/Ganga	Bareilly, Pilibhit, Nainital, Hardoi, Shahjahanpur Sitapur, Lucknow, Unnao and Rai Bareilly	7/2001	65.544	102.41	A
2.	Kanhar Irrigation	Major	Sone/Ganga	Mirzapur	6/99	33.12	341.45	A
3.	Kachnoda Dam	Major	Jamni/Betwa	Lalitpur	11/2000	13.55	70.45	A
4.	Bansagar Canal	Major	Ganga	Allahabad and Mirzapur	2/02	150.13	956.43	A
5.	Modernisation of Lachura Dam-ERM	Major	Dhasan/Yamuna	Jhansi	4/2002	14.575	98.05	A
6.	Uttar Pradesh Water Restructuring Project*	Major	Ghaggar/Gomti Basins	Pratapgarh, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Bahraich	4/2001	300.00	663.41 (Provisional)	D
7.	Raising of Meja Dam – ERM	Major	Tons/Ganga	Allahabad and Mirzapur	3/92	17.88	65.0	B
8.	Maudaha Dam	Major	Betwa/Yamuna/ Ganga	Hamirpur	3/90	17.70	125.16	B
9.	Chittaurgarh	Major	Bhabhra Nallah/ Ghaghra/Ganga	Gonda	10/93	11.88	36.70	B
10.	Lining of Channel in Bundelkhand-ERM	Major	Ganga	Allahabad, Banda, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Mirzapur and Varanasi	5/92	23.78	57.37	B
11.	Modernisation of Agra Canal – ERM	Major	Yamuna	Mathura, Agra in Uttar Pradesh and Faridabad in Haryana	8/98	50.00	74.16	B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12.	Incrasing Capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal – ERM	Major	Ganga	Varanasi	8/97	34.605	60.53	B
13.	Bhaunrat Cum Utari Dam	Medium	Jamni/Betwa	Lalitpur	9/2001	7.905	52.10	A

A – Project under various Stages of Appraisal.

B – Accepted by the Advisory Committee of MOWR Subject to Certain Observations.

C – Deferred by Advisory Committee of MOWR.

D – Recommended to Planning Commission for Investment Clearance.

Statement-III

Details of Irrigation Projects of Uttar Pradesh under Implementation

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Major/ Medium/ ERM	Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. crore)	Cummulative Expend. Upto 3/2002 (Rs. crore)	Outlay for 2002-03 (Rs. crore)	Utlimate Irrigation Potential (Thousand hectare)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ongoing Projects of X Plan						
1.	Bansagar Canal Project (Uttar Pradesh)	Major	691.35	181.74	71.50	150.13
2.	Kanhar Irrigation	Major	341.45	57.57	12.50	33.12
3.	Modrn. of Agra Canal	ERM	89.84	14.24	7.15	64.00
4.	Lining of channels in Bundelkhand and Bagelkhand	ERM	97.00	7.50	2.00	24.48
5.	Mod. of Deokali Pump Canal	ERM	12.09	4.89	6.25	20.12
New Project of X Plan						
6.	WRCP Ph.I	Major	750.23	0.00	62.50	–
7.	National Water Management Project Ph.II	Major	279.90	0.00	0.00	–
8.	Drainage scheme for 20 districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh	Major	399.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Kachanaudha Dam	Major	70.45	0.00	0.01	13.55
10.	Bharot Uttari Dam	Major	52.10	0.00	0.01	12.80
11.	Madhya Ganga Canal Ph.II	Major	1645.31	0.33	N.A.	150.34
12.	Badaun Irrigation Scheme	Major	270.00	0.00	N.A.	36.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Increasing capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal	Major	60.045	0.01	0.01	22.69
14.	Modernistion of Augasi Pump Canal	Major	21.04	0.01	0.01	12.69
15.	Hathnikhund Link Chenal Ph. II	Major	159.00	0.00	0.01	112.00
16.	Sarda Sahayak Ph. II	Major	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Mod. Restoration existing capacity of 17 nos. canal system	ERM	762.06	4.90	14.06	407.95

Statement-IV

States/Districts covered under the Scheme 'On-Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India

Sl.No.	State	Districts
1	2	3
1.	Assam	All districts
2.	Bihar	All districts
3.	Jharkhand	All districts
4.	Orissa	All districts
5.	Chhattisgarh	All districts
6.	Eastern Uttar Pradesh	35 districts (Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, Deoria, Kushinagar, Basti, Siddarthnagar, Sant Kabirnagar, Azamgarh, Mau, Balia, Chanduli Varanasi, Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Mirzapur, Sonebhadra, Sant Rabidasnagar, Faizabad, Ambedkarnagar, Sultanpur, Barabaki, Balrampur, Srawasti, Gonda, Bahraich, Lucknow, Unnao, Raibareily, Sitapur, Hardoi, Lakhimpur Kheri, Fatehpur, Allahabad, Kaushambi and Pratapgarh districts)
7.	West Bengal	9 districts (Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, West Dinajpur, Malda, Purulia, Birbhum, West Midnapore and Bankura districts)
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	All districts
9.	Manipur	All districts
10.	Mizoram	All districts

Encroachments on Forest Land

*277. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

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

(a) whether the Union Government alongwith the State Governments are taking action for removing the encroachments on forest land;

(b) if so, the area thus cleared during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(c) the area of forest land under encroachment at present, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government are aware that some of the forest officials in league with land mafias are indulging in encroachment;

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken against the corrupt officials during the last three years, State-wise;

(f) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn towards encroachments on forest land made by the land mafias as reported in *Rashtriya Sahara* dated August 16, 2002;

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

(h) the concrete action plan prepared by the Government to check the encroachments on forest land and also for vacation of the encroached forest land ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The Union Government have issued directions to the various State/Union Territory Governments on 3-5-2002, to evict the encroachers from the forest lands in a time-bound manner. The State Governments are responsible for the operational aspects of the removal of encroachments. Recently, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have informed that they have already initiated eviction process. According to the information received from the various States, the forest area under encroachement is around 13.5 lakh ha. at present. The State-wise data is enclosed as Statement.

(d) No Sir. There is no report that the forest officials are indulging in encroachement on forest lands in the country.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) to (h) The Central Government is aware of the news item published in *Rashtriya Sahara* dated August 16, 2002. The report speaks of the problem of encroachement on forest lands and the report of the Central Empowered Committee submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Central Government have devised a three tier mechanism to deal with encroachment problem and issued directions to various State/UT Governments to constitute a Cell at the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the respective States/UTs, to plan and monitor the eviction of encroachments on forest lands on a continuous basis. Also, the States/UTs have been directed to form a Committee at the forest Circle level under the chairmanship of the Conservator of Forests comprising District Collector, Suprintendent of Police as members to assist the Divisional Forest Officer in eviction of the encroachers. Further, the directions have been issued to the States/UTs to constitute a Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, which may meet biannually to take stock of the situation and while monitoring forest encroachments, should also fix the responsibility of the field formations for their failures to prevent/evict encroachments on the forest lands. The Union Government is committed to remove the encroachments on forest land and the action in the field has to be taken by the State/UT Governments.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	Area under encroachment in sq.km.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3413.22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.38
3.	Assam	2547.11
4.	Bihar	21.77
5.	Chhattisgarh	1504.95
6.	Delhi	NA
7.	Goa	10.12
8.	Gujarat	54.84
9.	Haryana	8.52
10.	Himachal Pradesh	14.93
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	154.06
12.	Jharkhand	339.05
13.	Karnataka	1090.00
14.	Kerala	459.70
15.	Madhya Pradesh	728.11
16.	Maharashtra	936.10
17.	Manipur	0.003
18.	Meghalaya	154.64
19.	Mizoram	0.13
20.	Nagaland	0.00
21.	Orissa	756.96
22.	Punjab	44.09
23.	Rajasthan	175.84
24.	Sikkim	120.00
25.	Tamilnadu	182.83
26.	Tripura	419.27

1	2	3
27.	Uttaranchal	104.00
28.	Uttar Pradesh	252.10
29.	West Bengal	NA
30.	A and N Islands	36.85
31.	Chandigarh	NA
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NA
33.	Daman and Diu	NA
34.	Lakshadweep	NA
35.	Pondicherry	NA
	Total	13569.57

NA – Not Available.

[English]

Use of Regional Languages in Announcements

*278. SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the announcements at all Airport terminals regarding the arrival and departures of Airport and the safety measures by the Cabin Crew inside the Aircraft are made only in English and Hindi;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce announcements in regional languages particularly in Tamil;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Announcements by the airline staff at the airport and inflight announcements by the Cabin Crew are made in English and Hindi. However, the announcements at the airports are also made by the airlines in the local language of the State in which the airport is located, if it is not a Hindi speaking State. However, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for making announcements in regional languages by Cabin Crew inside the aircraft in view of practical difficulties.

(d) It is not practicable to deploy, in all flights, Cabin Crew who are proficient in various regional languages.

Protection of Taj Mahal

*279. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

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

(a) the amount sanctioned to the Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Taj Protection Mission Scheme so far;

(b) the specific steps taken for the proper protection of Taj Mahal;

(c) whether any authority has been set up for the said scheme under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

(d) if so, the details indicating the number of schemes implemented under the said Act for protection of Taj alongwith the extent to which these schemes have proved to be effective to check pollution; and

(e) the details of expenditure incurred on the said authority and each of the schemes during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) The Union Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 124.59 crores so far to Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Taj Protection Mission Scheme. Central Government has constituted the Taj Trapezium Zone Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. For the proper protection of Taj Mahal, schemes have been sanctioned for improvement of water supply, drainage, sewerage, solid waste management, electricity supply, parking, construction of bye-pass and improvement of Master Plan roads, plantation and setting up of ambient air monitoring stations. As a result of the implementation of various schemes, the air quality of Agra City has improved. The annual average level of Sulphur Dioxide has come down from 21 $\mu g/m^3$ in 1991 to 15 $\mu g/m^3$ in 2001, the Nitrogen Oxide level from 12 $\mu g/m^3$ in 1991 to 10 $\mu g/m^3$ in 2001 and the SPM level has generally remained unchanged. As reported by the Government of Uttar

Pradesh, the total expenditure upto October, 2002 on various schemes is Rs. 259.20 crores, which includes the amount sanctioned by the Union Government.

Corruption in ITDC Hotels

*280. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether income of Hotels including ITDC hotels has fallen by 25 percent during 2001-2002 causing a loss of Rs. nine crore;

(b) if so, whether it is due to rampant corruption in the Hotel Management;

(c) if so, whether the Government have inquired into the mismanagement and corruption in Hotel Ashok and other ITDC's Hotels; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Hotel Industry in India has suffered during 2001-2002 on account of September 11 incident, adverse international security scenario and travel advisories, and decline in tourist inflows.

(b) No, Sir. The decline in the performance was mainly due to the unconducive tourism scenario which adversely affected the performance of hotels including ITDC hotels.

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

Sea Erosion

*281. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coastal States facing the threat of sea erosion;

(b) whether the Government are aware that 580 KM long sea coast line of Kerala is under threat of sea erosion and over 100 KM long stretch has been severely affected by erosion during the monsoon seasons endangering lives and causing damage to crops and dwelling units; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (c) As reported by the respective coastal States/UTs, the coastal States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and UTs of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry are facing problem of sea erosion.

As per National Hydrographic Office, the coastline of Kerala is 569.70 km. As reported by Kerala Government, about 480 km. of coastline of Kerala is assessed to be vulnerable to sea erosion by the studies conducted during the late eighties, out of which 368 km. of coastline has been protected up to March, 2000.

Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding executing and operating flood control schemes including erosion primarily rests with the concerned State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

However, at present, there are two schemes under consideration of the Govenment of India to arrange financial assistance for maritime States/UTs. for protection of vulnerable coastal areas from sea erosion namely, National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) and a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

The revised proposal amounting to Rs. 267.50 crore which was received from Government of Kerala for inclusion in NCPP was examined in CWC and comments have been sent to the State Government in June 2002, reply to which is awaited. Further, a scheme amounting to Rs. 3.00 crore was received from the State Government, which is under examination for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Work on Tihu Gandhi Bhavan

2857. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on the Tihu Gandhi Bhavan (Assam) has been on a stand still for non-payment of the second instalment of grant for construction of the Bhavan;

(b) if so. the reasons for the delay;

(c) by when this instalment is likely to be released; and

(d) the number of other such projects pending with the Ministry for over six months for release of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Out of the total cost of construction of Rs. 25,24,493/-, an amount of Rs. 12,62,466/- has been sanctioned to Tihu Gandhi Bhavan under the Scheme of Building Grant to Cultural Organisations. The first instalment of Rs. 3,78,674/- has already been released. For claiming the 2nd instalment of grant, as per the stipulations of the scheme, the organisation is required to spend :

- the full amount released as the first instalment;
- an amount equal to the first instalment from its own resources; and
- a further amount equal to 40% of the grant;

and submit Utilisation Certificate and Statement of Accounts certified by a Chartered Accountant. These documents are yet to be received.

(d) There is no case wherein release is pending for over six months where the conditions stipulated have been fulfilled.

Sale of Silt Strip in Andhra Pradesh

2858.SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the silt strip over an extensive area of the Krishna river in Andhra Pradesh is being sold for commercial pulp;

(b) whether as a result thereof Environment Scientists apprehend serious obstruction in the natural water flow of the Krishna river; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (c) River reaches within the States are managed by the respective State Governments. According to Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Department, they have no such proposal.

[Translation]

Drought Hit Revenue Districts

2859.SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :
SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH :
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH BARWALA :
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of revenue districts in the country which have been delcared as drought hit by the Government; and

(b) the number of districts where 'cement industry' and 'pharmceutical industry' are in existence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) In terms of the provisions of Land Revenue Acts or Relief Codes, etc., the respective State Governments are required to declare drought when the conditions laid in that behalf in the relevant Act/Code are met.

(b) Information on the above subject is not maintained in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Priority Status of Wildlife and Forests

2860.SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare the wildlife and forests as areas of priority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government are likely to take a final decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Wild Life Conservation Strategy 2002 adopted by the Indian Board for Wild Life in its XXI meeting held in January, 2002 declared wildlife and forests as priority sector.

(c) All State Governments have been requested to take necessary action for implementing the Wild Life Conservation Strategy 2002.

[English]

Ailing Coconut Cultivation

2861. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala regarding assistance for protecting the ailing coconut cultivation in the State recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Recently, a Project for "Enhancing Productivity of Coconut Holdings in Root Wilt Diseased Areas of Kerala" has been received from Government of Kerala with a total cost of Rs. 576.14 crores for a period of five years, which includes adoption of scientific crop management; removal of diseased trees in the border districts of Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur; supply of seedlings for replanting and creation of awareness etc. The project stipulates Government of India's share of Rs. 181.70 crores.

The project has been examined in Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. Coconut Development Board, since its inception, has spent Rs. 110.94 crores in Kerala for similar programmes. The problem of root wilt disease with 80 lakh disease advanced coconut palms spread over eight district of Kerala and requiring such a high investment within a time frame cannot be tackled with meagre financial allocation available with Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. Government of Kerala, therefore, alongwith detailed comments on the project, has been advised to redesign the project for posing to Planning Commission or external funding agency for which a full fledged project may be required giving detailed justification for strategies and components proposed to be implemented, the time frame, milestones for each activity alongwith Techno-economic viability etc. The State Government has been, accordingly, requested to revise the project.

Major and Medium Irrigation Projects of West Bengal

2862. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of major/medium irrigation projects sanctioned to West Bengal under Fast track Programme during the current financial year;

(b) the present status of each project under the said programme and the amount allocated; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) None, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Pradhan Mantri Shramik Aawas Yojana

2863. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to start a scheme named Pradhan Mantri Shramik Aawas Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be started;

(d) the quantum of funds allocated for the scheme; and

(e) the number of houses targeted to be constructed for the Labourers during the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) The Central Board of Trustees (Employees' Provident Fund), which is a tripartite body in its 158th meeting held on 2.10.2002 has, in principle, approved the launching of a Housing Scheme for subscribers of Employees' Provident Fund. A committee has been constituted consisting of representatives of employers, employees and senior officials of Employees'

Provident Fund Organisation under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Gopalan, former Labour Secretary, Government of India. The Committee is studying the feasibility aspects of the implementation of the scheme.

[English]

Number of Operational Aircrafts

2864.SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) number of Aircrafts owned and in operation in respect of Indian Airlines, Air India and other Private operators;

(b) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India are making profit at present; and

(c) if not, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Indian Airlines has a fleet of 54 aircraft in operation, out of which 46 are owned and 8 are on operating lease. Air India has a fleet of 30 aircraft, out of which 8 are on dry lease. All the aircraft are in operation. Jet Airways owns 40 aircraft, of which 39 are in operation. There are 10 aircraft owned by Sahara Airlines, all of which are in operation.

(b) and (c) During the year 2001-02, Air India made a profit of Rs. 15.44 crores. However, Indian Airlines is not making profit at present. Some of the remedial steps taken by Indian Airlines in improving its financial and operating performance are :-

(i) Comprehensive budgetary control system; (ii) Cost benefit analysis; (iii) Introduction of "Flexi Fare Policy," (iv) Fare increase; (v) Better fleet and other resource utilisation; (vi) Improvement in quality of products/consumer services; (vii) Marketing initiatives; and (viii) Cost Control and economy measures.

Sethu Samudram Project

2865.SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Environment and Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has been conducting any study regarding Sethu Samudram Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) With regard to the Sethu Samudram Project, the Tuticorin Port Trust has assigned to the National Environment Engineering Reserch Institute (NEERI), Nagpur a study on techno-economic viability and Environment Impact Assessment. The study is in progress.

Agricultural Labourers

2866.SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agricultural labourers in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Uttranchal indicating the percentage of their population out of the total population in their respective State, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government for their welfare at Central and State level; and

(c) the extent of achievement made during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) As per 2001 Census, the number of agricultural labourers in the country is 107,628,287 (Provisional) which is 10.5% of the total population. The number of agricultural labourers in Andhra Pradesh is 13,818,754 (18.16%) and in Uttranchal 258,752 (3.05%).

(b) and (c) The Government have launched Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001 through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in identified 50 districts to cover 10 lakh agricultural workers during the first phase of three years. According to the reports received from LIC, the number of agricultural workers covered as on 31.10.2002 in Andhra Pradesh and Uttranchal is 16371 and 398 respectively. The Janshree Bima Yojana is in operation since 2000 to provide life insurance protection to the persons including agricultural labourers who are

below and marginally above poverty line. Further, agricultural labourers can avail of benefits under various poverty alleviation/employment oriented schemes being implemented by the Central and State Governments. Some of such schemes being implemented by the Central Government are Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, etc.

Grameena Jalasamvardhane Scheme in Karnataka

2867.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government propose to spend Rs. 1,200 crore in Karnataka on the Grameena Jalasamvardhane Scheme launched by the Prime Minister on Independence Day;

(b) if so, the total amount earmarked for South Zone;

(c) whether some scheme were discussed during the meeting of the All India Irrigation Ministers in the recent past;

(d) if so, whether the Governmnet of Karnataka has urged the Union Government for financial asssitance for irrigation projects under Accelerated Benefit Programme; and

(e) if so, the schemes that are being financed by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) and (b) The Prime Minister in his address to the Nation on Independence Day – 2002 has stated that a scheme viz. "Pradhan Mantri Grammen Jal Samvardhan Yojna" would be unveiled shortly. The scheme is under formulation and details are being worked out.

(c) In the last meeting of the Irrigation and Water Resources Ministers of all States and Union Territories held on 24th September, 2001 the draft National Water Policy was discussed and finalised.

(d) and (e) Government of India is providing financial assistance to Government of Karnataka under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for the schemes, namely Upper Krishna Stage-I; Upper Krishna Stage-II; Malprabha; Ghataprabha; Gandorinala, Hirehalla, Karanja and Maskinala. Accordingly, Central Loan Assistance (CLA) amounting to Rs. 185 crore has been released to the Government of Karnataka so far during the year 2002-2003.

Monuments in Orissa

2868.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the preservation of monuments; in Orissa, for last three years year – iwse, monument-wise; and

(b) the central allocation made for the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has 73 centrally protected monuments in Orissa. Besides maintenance, the expenditure incurred on the structural conservation, chemical preservation and environmental development of the protected monuments during the last three years, year-wise and monument-wise is as per the Statement enclosed.

(b) The allocation for the current year for maintenance and conservation is Rs. 92 lakhs.

Statement

"Monuments in Orissa" Expenditure on Structural Conservation, Chemical Preservation and Environmental Development

S.No.	Name of Monument	Locality	District	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Rock Cut Vishnu	Rasol	Angul	38,122	4,057	

1	2	3	4	5	6	
2.	Bringeswar Mahadev Temple	Bajrakote	Angul	1,72,799	1,44,947	5,29,485
3.	64 Yogini Temple	Ranipur	Bolangir	54,046	13,960	
4.	Nilamadav and Siddheswar Temple	Gandhradi	Boudh	76,374	18,035	
5.	Pachim Somnath Temple	Boudh	Boudh	34,609		
6.	Kodareswar Temple	Chouddwar	Cuttack			
7.	Barabati Fort	Cuttack	Cuttack	5,15,779	1,83,360	
8.	Buddhist Site	Lalitgiri	Cuttack	35,756	51,638	
9.	Panchapandaav Temple	Ganeswarpur	Cuttack	34,006	52,401	
10.	Mahimani Temple	Ragadi	Cuttack	5,390	1,84,708	
11.	Singhanath Temple	Gopinathur	Cuttack	32,901	33,043	
12.	Ancient Site	Baneswarnast	Cuttack	46,576		
13.	Group of Temples	Mahendragiri	Gajapati		4,300	
14.	Ashokan Rock Edict	Jaugada	Ganjam	33,729		
15.	Mahadev Temple	Bhawanipur	Jagatsinghpur	42,449		
16.	Group of Temples	Jajpur	Jajpur	1,67,993	46,541	
17.	Buddist Site	Ratnagiri	Jajpur	96,793	11,01,134	2,26,000
18.	Buddhist Site	Udaigiri	Jajpur	3,71,912		3,27,010
19.	Asuragarh Fort	Asuragarh	Dalahandi	47,081		
20.	Rock Paintings	Sitabhanji	Keonjhar	82,240		
21.	Jain Caves at Khandagiri and Udaigiri	Bhubaneswar	Khureda	2,73,416		
22.	Mukteswar Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	3,37,748	1,59,162	3,84,139
23.	Dakshya Prajapti Temple	Banapur	Khurda	49,149	39,115	
24.	Bakresware Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda			3,68,865
25.	Lord Lingaraj Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	3,41,873	1,11,367	4,12,727
26.	Jambeswar Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	65,000		
27.	Rameswar Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	77,588	8,926	
28.	Raja Rani Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	1,10,485	1,67,596	4,67,049
29.	Ashokan Rock Edict	Dhauli	Khurda	8,57,145	2,53,881	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Papanasini Tank	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	30,000	1,34,228	
31.	Navakishore Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda			
32.	Ancient Site	Hasripurgarh	Mayurbhanj	2,06,856	10,973	
33.	Lord Jagannath Temple	Puri	Puri	8,71,967	8,67,041	20,76,521
34.	Sun Temple	Konark	Puri	9,18,171	20,68,450	12,51,025
35.	Varahi Temple	Chourasi	Puri	2,154	70,582	
36.	Vaital Deul	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	69,315	4,973	
37.	Ancient Siote	Kirepur	Khurda	54,850		
38.	Group of Temple	Choulwar	Cuttack	1,05,430		
39.	Magheswar Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	37,649		2,28,000
40.	Sahastraling Tank	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	17,348		
41.	Sari Deul	Bhubaneswar	Khurda	1,02,277		
42.	Chitrakerni Temple	Bhubaneswar	Khurda			5,58,563s

Procurement of Cotton

2869.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has formulated a strategy for large-scale procurement of cotton in Vidarbha region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CCI has received any suggestions from Government of Maharashtra in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the CCI thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has been permitted to procure cotton in Maharashtra including Vidarbha region during 2002-03 cotton season. Further the CCI has already opened two branch offices in the State i.e. one in Akola (in Vidarbha region) and one in Aurangabad and has already commenced procurement of kapas of H4, LRA and Y-1 varieties in Maharashtra from 9th November, 2002. The Corporation has also opened 18 centres under branch offices Akola and Aurungabad for undertaking commercial operation.

(c) and (d) CCI has not received any specific suggestion from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard. However, the Government of Maharashtra has partially liberalized its Monopoly Procurement Scheme of Cotton by allowing agencies like spinning mills, private textile mills, ginning and pressing units and C.C.I. to purchase cotton in Maharashtra in 2002-03 season.

(e) The CCI has undertaken procurement of 25,059 quintals of kapas as on 2nd December, 2002.

Renovation of Prohm Temples

2870.SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has signed an agreement with Cambodia for restoration of Prohm Temples, part of the 1000 year old legacy of Angkor Vat;

(b) whether the restoration work has been assigned to Archaeological Survey of India (ASI); and

(c) if so, the details of the restoration project and the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) (a) and (b) The Royal Government of Cambodia has signed an agreement with the Republic of India under which the conservation and restoration of the TA Prohm Group of Temples in Siem Reap Cambodia is to be taken up by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) As per the Preliminary Project Report the tentative cost of the project is Rs. 19.57 crores spread over 6 phases of two working seasons of six months each.

Setting up of Steel Industry at Dagaon

2871.SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to set up a Steel Industry at Dagaon, near Guwahati in Assam under Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (c) Government has no plan to set up a steel plant at Dagaon in Assam. However, SAIL has plans to set up a Hot Dip Galvanizing Line (HDGL) plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 42.85 Crore at Dagaon. SAIL proposes to form a Joint Venture for completion of the HDGL project. The project will be completed in one year after formation of the Joint Venture Company.

Promotion and Development of Agricultural Forestry

2872.DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop agricultural forestry in different parts of the country particularly in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government of India is promoting agricultural forestry as one of the component of different measures for diversification of farming system through watershed development programmes in the rainfed, desert and drought prone areas of the country including Rajasthan. The major Watershed Programmes being implemented by various Ministries covering all the States are as follows :-

I. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA).
2. Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA).
3. Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP and FPR).

II. Ministry of Rural Development

1. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
2. Desert Development programme(DDP)
3. Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP).

III. Ministry of Environment and Forests

1. National Afforestation Programme (NAP).

State-wise physical and financial achievements of various programmes of Ministry of Agriculture (since inception upto IX Plan) are given in Statement-I. Besides, Department of Land Resources is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Technology Development Extension and Training (TDET) since 1993-94. Details of Agro-forestry Projects sanctioned under the Scheme in the State of Rajasthan is in the Statement-II.

(c) Does not arise

Statement-I

Statewise physical and fianncial achievement of Watershed Development Programmes of Ministry of Agriculture since inception to end of IX Plan

Phy. Area in 000' ha; Fin in Rs. Lakhs

S.N.	State/U.T.	Physical and Financial achievement of various schemes							
		NWDPRA		RVP and FPR		WDPSCA		Total	
		Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	295.000	7810.970	271.130	7241.900	0.000	0.000	566.130	15052.870
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.000	266.990	0.000	0.000	19.900	1245.605	24.900	1512.595
3.	Assam	87.000	2098.180	19.190	494.120	13.900	1075.176	120.090	3667.476
4.	Bihar	34.000	863.720	163.550	4108.740	0.000	0.000	197.550	4972.460
5.	Chhattisgarh	40.000	1399.890	5.550	281.580	0.000	0.000	45.550	1681.470
6.	Gujarat	543.000	11519.560	127.140	4529.700	0.000	0.000	670.140	16049.260
7.	Haryana	43.000	1021.230	63.860	1774.030	0.000	0.000	106.860	2795.260
8.	Himachal Pradesh	55.000	2129.450	295.660	11227.750	0.000	0.000	350.660	13357.200
9.	Jharkhand	0.000	49.310	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	49.310
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.000	482.980	67.850	4027.560	0.000	0.000	85.850	4510.540
11.	Karnataka	766.000	19508.610	592.320	11166.980	0.000	0.000	1358.320	30675.590
12.	Kerala	158.000	5561.620	30.700	1974.660	0.000	0.000	188.700	7536.280
13.	Madhya Pradesh	994.000	21212.870	1053.830	19454.550	0.000	0.000	2047.830	40667.420
14.	Maharashtra	1161.000	25458.110	233.720	8212.670	0.00	0.000	1394.720	33670.780
15.	Manipur	25.000	1168.900	0.000	0.000	51.300	2653.380	76.300	3822.280
16.	Meghalaya	18.000	948.560	0.000	0.000	25.600	1791.727	43.600	2740.287
17.	Mizoram	62.000	3064.400	0.830	107.030	66.000	3901.490	128.830	7072.920
18.	Nagaland	53.000	2891.900	0.000	0.000	60.200	4511.650	113.200	7403.550
19.	Orissa	378.000	9770.160	247.560	4007.560	0.000	0.000	625.560	13777.720
20.	Punjab	22.000	673.800	34.040	394.690	0.000	0.000	56.040	1068.490
21.	Rajasthan	1030.000	32501.050	681.220	19276.570	0.000	0.000	1711.220	51777.620
22.	Sikkim	26.000	1258.580	24.550	1289.090	0.000	0.000	50.550	2547.670
23.	Tamil Nadu	399.000	11241.020	132.940	6824.470	0.000	0.000	531.940	18065.490
24.	Tripura	38.000	1523.850	10.190	405.290	20.800	1447.890	68.990	3377.030

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Uttar Pradesh	544.000	17814.060	626.450	17643.660	0.000	0.000	1170.450	35457.720
26.	Uttaranchal	21.000	1196.030	172.120	8099.330	0.000	0.000	293.120	9295.410
27.	West Bengal	143.000	3967.470	137.760	3344.100	0.000	0.000	280.760	7311.570
28.	Delhi	0.000	0.000	2.410	48.470	0.000	0.000	2.410	48.470
29.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	1.740	95.270	0.000	0.000	1.740	95.270
30.	DVC	0.000	0.000	490.000	15193.760	0.000	0.000	490.000	15193.760
31.	Goa	6.000	136.080	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.000	136.080
32.	A and N Islands	5.000	231.300	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	5.000	231.300
33.	D and N Haveli	0.000	3.170	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.170
34.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
35.	Additional Expenditure	0.000	0.000	0.000	103.880	0.000	0.000	0.000	103.880
36.	Hd. Quarters	0.000	0.000	0.000	293.380	0.000	0.000	0.000	293.380
	Total	6979.000	187773.820	5486.310	151620.840	257.700	16626.918	12723.010	356021.578

NWDPRA = National Waterhsed Development Project for Rainfed areas.

RVP and FPR = Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers.

WDPSCA = Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.

Statement-II

Details of the projects sanctioned under the Technology Development Extension and Training (TDET) Scheme in the State of Rajasthan

(Area in ha.; Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Project Title	Implementing Agency	Area	Total cost*	Fund released
1.	Operational Research Project on Agro Forestry to improve productivity of degraded lands in arid zone	Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur	150	(21.45)	7.175
2.	Rehabilitation of degraded wastelands in arid zone	Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur	150	24.30 (15.90)	5.4075
3	Management of salt affected Wastelands using sustainable agro-forestry model	Hanumangarh Agricultural Research Station, Rajendra Agricultural University, Bikaner, Rajasthan	75	9.837 (6.687)	2.209

*DoLR's share.

Unclaimed/Unpaid Amount of EPF

2873.PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Provident Fund Scheme is operating across the country as a Social security measures;

(b) if so, whether any unclaimed/unpaid amount is lying with the EPF Organization;

(c) if so, the details of such amount indicating the time since when it is lying unclaimed/unpaid year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) and (d) According to the Employees Provident Fund Organization, the balance lying unpaid in unclaimed deposit amount was as follows :

As on 31.3.1999 Rs. 108.87 crore

As on 31.3.2000 Rs. 207.18 crore

As on 31.3.2001 Rs. 351.62 crore

Region-wise figures of the balance lying unpaid in unclaimed deposit account are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Region-wise figure of the balance lying unpaid in unclaimed deposit account

Region	Balance as on 31.03.2001 (Rs. in crore)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	145.06
Assam	0.43
Bihar	0.11
Delhi	6.66
Gujarat	11.95
Haryana	6.19
Himachal Pradesh	Nil
Karnataka	11.48
Kerala	0.18
Madhya Pradesh	0.3
Maharashtra	18.88
Orissa	0.12
Punjab	13.7
Rajasthan	1.2
Tamil Nadu	38.62
Uttar Pradesh	13.4
West Bengal	83.34
Total	351.62

Oil Seed Production

2874.SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the oilseeds production has fallen short of annual target in 2001-2002;

(b) if so, whether in view of massive buffer stocks of wheat and rice, whether the Government can contemplate crop diversification by moving to oilseeds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The production of oilseeds has fallen short of the target in 2001-02 due to the drought conditions in the major oilseeds growing States.

(b) and (c) As a part of national policy, the Government has been emphasizing crop diversification in favour of oilseeds keeping in view the soil health problems being encountered by growing exhaustive crops like cereals after cereals and to conserve the natural resources with sustainability in agriculture.

[Translation]

Appointment on False Grounds

2875. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint relating to appointments made on false compassionate grounds in Indian Airlines and Alliance Air;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) names, age and qualification of those recruited as Traffic Assistant;

(d) whether several irregularities have been made neglecting the criteria of age, post, eligibility conditions alongwith false compassionate grounds in these appointments;

(e) whether an enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(f) if so, the findings thereof; and

(g) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons held guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSAO NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) A list of Traffic Assistants appointed on compassionate Grounds during the last three years alongwith their qualifications and age is enclosed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

Statement

List of Traffic Assistants Appointed during 1999 Till June 2002 on Compassionate Ground

Sl. No.	Name (S/Shri)	Age	Qualifications	Grounds
1	2	3	4	5
1999				
1.	Ms. N.P. Gholkar	19 years	1 Year B.Com.	Father's death
2.	B.G. Sawant	21 years	SSC, Diploma in Industrial Electronics	Voluntary Retirement of father on medical grounds
3.	Ms. H.L. Bahadur	18 years	S.S.C.	Father's death
4.	Ms. S.R. Rao	19 years	1 year B.Sc.	Father's death
5.	A.K. Jamra	22 years	H.S.C.	Father's death
6.	Ms. Vijaylakshmi	35 years, 11 months	B.A.	Husband's death
7.	V. Vats	23 years	12th. Diploma in System	Father's death
8.	Ms. Anita Thapar	32 years	B.A. Bed, PGD-Advt.	Father's death
9.	Ms. Renu Jain	32 years	M.Sc. (Bot.), Phd.	Husband's death
10.	A.K. Tripathi	18 years	12th	Father's death
2000				
11.	Gurwinder Singh	19 years, 9 months	AISSCE	Father's death
12.	D.C. Williams	22 years, 1 month	H.S.	Father's death

1	2	3	4	5
13.	F.P. Guzdar	21 years	H.S.C.	Father's death
14.	D.M. Sonawale	21 years	H.S.C.	Father's death
15.	Ms. Neeti Sohanpal	35 years	B.Sc.	Husband's death
16.	Paurav Harti	21 years	12th	Voluntary Retirement of Father on medical grounds
2001				
17.	Dhan Bahadur	20 years	Higher Secondary	Father's death
18.	Ms. D.V. Gurav	19 years	H.S.C.	Father's death
19.	P.G. Bansode	33 years	II year B.Com.	Brother's death
20.	G.V. Guthe	24 years	B.Sc.	Father's death
21.	Ms. L.A. Thomas	21 years	H.S.C.	Father's death
22.	Ms. Lovelina Kujur	19 years	10th	Father's death
23.	S.R. Vincent	32 years	B.A.(P)	Father's death
24.	H. Wadhawan	24 years	B.Com (H), L.L.B.	Father's death
25.	Smt. Rajni Jandyal	35 years	10th	Husband's death
26.	Arun Verma	26 years	12th	Father's death
27.	N.D. Sharma	25 years	12th	Father's death
28.	Saurav Mahajan	25 years	B.Com (P)	Father's death
2002				
29.	Pinaki Chatterjee	29 years 1 month	Higher Secondary	Father's death
30.	P.B. Malakar	22 years	B.Sc.	Father's death

[English]

Increasing Cost of Production

2876. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether costs of agricultural production are increasing due to MNCs selling expensive and unreliable seeds to farmers;

(b) whether the hybrids and genetically engineered seeds need costly pesticides and herbicides adding to the costs of farming through royalty payments and technology fees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the farmers are demanding higher MSP in agriculture i.e. equivalent to minimum wages in other sectors;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government to lower the costs of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The cost of production of agricultural commodities depends on a large number of factors such as human labour, seeds, fertilizer, irrigation fee, insecticides, rental value of land etc. Increase in the cost of production is due to combined effects of prices of various inputs. Farmers tend to buy expensive seeds only if they expect communsurate benefits.

(d) to (f) The Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for agricultural commodities fixed by the Government have been increasing over the years. The MSPs take into account important factors like cost of production, changes in input prices, input-output price parity, terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sectors. The cost of cultivation/cost of production is the most important factor in the fixation of MSPs of which cost on account of human labour constitutes a large part. The increase in the Minimum Statutory wage rates for agricultural labour are duly taken into account in the fixation of MSPs. Further, Government implements various programmes and schemes to increase the production and productivity of agriculture, which, in turn will lower the cost of production.

AI Hub in Chennai

2877. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal is under the consideration of Government to create AI hub in Chennai to cater to the need of South East Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which AI hub in Chennai is likely to be created;

(d) the steps being taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) Hub means provision of more flights to various destinations with convenient connecting timings. Air India currently has ten flights per week with A310 aircraft from Chennai to points in South East Asia. With effect from Summer 2003, Air India is planning to have daily departures with standardised timings from Chennai to Singapore.

[Translation]

Review of Pay Scales of Research Schoolars

2878. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the revision of the pay scales of the research scholars working in various institutes under project of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has been done at par with the research scholars working in the University Grants Commssion (UGC) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR);

(b) if so, whether the pay scales of research scholars in various institutes of ICAR are going to be brought at par with those of the research scholars of UGC and CSIR;

(c) if so, by when these pay scales are likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) ICAR broadly follows the fellowship rates prescribed by Department of Science and Technology. DST has since revised the fellowship rates w.e.f. 1.4.2002 vide their OM No.20020/11/97-11-0 dated 2.8.2002. The same is also under consideration of ICAR.

[English]

Diversion of Forest Land

2879. SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed for diversion of forest land for other developmental activities;

(b) whether the Government have received any proposals/requests from certain States including Karnataka to divert forest land for other developmental works

particularly for the purpose of disposal of hazardous waste;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government on each such proposal/request ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, diversion of any forest land for non-forestry purpose requires prior permission of the Central Government. Every proposal requiring forest land for non-forestry purposes is considered on merit and in case the diversion is necessary and unavoidable, permission is accorded with suitable conditions having regard to environmental security of the area.

More than 4900 proposals have been submitted by various State Governments including Karnataka during the period from 1998 to 31.10.2002 under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for approval. A brief abstract of this information indicating their present status, State-wise is enclosed as Statement.

A proposal for diversion of 50.00 ha. of forest land for disposal of Hazardous Wastes in favour of Karnataka State Pollution Control Board in District Kolar, Karnataka has been approved in-principle on 22.10.2002.

Statement

Diversion of Forest Land

S. No.	State	No. of proposals received	Approved	Rejected	Rejected for want of information	Returned/ withdrawn by the State Government	Under process by Ministry	Additional information awaited from the States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Assam	90	63	14	0	10	0	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	69	47	1	0	0	10	11
3.	Andhra Pradesh	128	79	25	4	7	4	9
4.	Andaman and Nicobar	27	18	5	0	1	0	3
5.	Bihar	18	11	1	2	3	1	0
6.	Chandigarh	18	14	0	0	0	0	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	83	42	3	1	4	19	14
8.	Dadra and Nagar	140	86	9	3	12	12	18
9.	Daman and Diu	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
10.	Delhi	6	3	2	0	1	0	0
11.	Goa	30	10	2	0	0	2	16
12.	Gujarat	416	316	30	15	25	6	24
13.	Haryana	235	184	19	0	0	2	30
14.	Himachal Pradesh	307	170	57	1	12	8	59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	Jharkhand	85	46	2	27	1	3	6
16.	Karnataka	166	91	22	12	7	12	22
17.	Kerala	43	30	2	2	2	3	4
18.	Manipur	5	4	0	0	1	0	0
19.	Meghalaya	49	44	2	0	1	2	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	201	100	52	6	10	12	21
21.	Mizoram	15	13	0	0	0	0	2
22.	Maharashtra	474	296	65	10	16	45	42
23.	Punjab	540	371	47	1	6	7	108
24.	Orissa	141	87	6	12	12	12	12
25.	Sikkim	45	43	0	0	0	0	2
26.	Rajasthan	168	102	15	20	12	5	14
27.	Tamil Nadu	81	66	4	2	0	4	5
28.	Tripura	120	113	2	2	1	1	1
29.	West Bengal	14	7	3	0	2	0	2
30.	Uttar Pradesh	145	111	7	14	8	3	2
31.	Uttaranchal	1064	887	51	12	49	8	57
	Total	4924	3454	448	146	203	181	492

Travel Advisories to Tourists by Foreign Countries

2880.SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether American and British travel advisories have advised their citizens not to visit Pushkar in Rajasthan during the annual cattle festival due to threat of terrorism;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to instil confidence in tourists destined for India;

(c) whether the US Ambassadors in Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore wanted these countries to be excluded from the purview of US warnings;

(d) if so, whether India would pursue the matter with the US Embassy; and

(e) if so, the details and the decisions arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India through Indian Missions, Posts and Indiatourism Offices abroad have been regularly publicizing that it is safe for tourists to travel to India.

(c) The Government is not aware of the situation in this regard.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Cultivation of Red Sanders

2881.SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage the cultivation of "Red Sanders" in suitable forest areas in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any subsidy is likely to be given to farmers and growers of Red Sanders;

(d) if so. the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have not properly focused on the cultivation of Red Sanders under social forestry; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Red Sanders seedlings are being supplied to public free of cost under Social Forestry Programme to encourage cultivation in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Red Sanders plantations have been raised from 1951-1952 to 1997-98 over an area of 4099 hectare in the forest areas of Cuddapah and Chittoor Districts of Andhra Pradesh under various Government schemes.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Agricultural Marketing Reforms

2882.SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has accepted the recommendation made by the Inter-Ministerial task force on agricultural marketing reforms;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations that have been accepted along with the time by which these would be implemented;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to pursuade the States to amend their respective Agricultural Produce and Marketing Regulation Acts in order to encourage the private sector to make massive investments required for the development and establishment of the integrated facilities and support services which in turn promote marketing of agricultural produce;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to permit private corporates and cooperative entities to undertake direct marketing of agricultural commodities from the producing areas to farmers fields without the necessity of going through licensed traders and regulated markets;

(e) whether the Government purposes to introduce any legal reforms to facilitate the introduction of a negotiable 'warehouse receipts system' for agricultural commodities; and

(f) if so, the measures being envisaged to put the said system into operation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) Recommendations of the inter-Minister Task Force on Agricultural Marketing Reforms were discussed with the Ministers dealing with the subject of Agricultural Marketing of all State Governments and Union Territory Administration and the representative of the concerned Departments/ Agencies of the Central Government at a National Conference held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 27.09.02. There was a consensus among all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on the need to introduce reforms in the Agricultural Marketing sector. Since the subject of the agricultural marketing fell within the purview of State Governments, they were advised to go ahead with the implementations of the reforms measures as suited to them.

With a view to evolve an action plan for the implementation of the reforms, and to give effect to the recommendations made by the Task Force in this regard, a Standing Committee of State Ministers has been set up on 13.11.2002 under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of State (Agriculture).

A Central Sector Scheme for the Development/ Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure has been formulated to attract investment from private and cooperative sectors in market infrastructure development projects including infrastructure for direct marketing of agricultural commodities from producers to consumers/ processing units/bulk buyers etc. Planning Commission has given 'in principle' approval to the scheme for implementation during Xth Plan period.

(e) and (f) Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Agricultural Marketing Reforms has recommended that warehousing receipt may be made a negotiable instrument. Central Warehousing Corporation has constituted a Committee to, inter-alia, work on this warehousing system for recommending steps to be taken for marking warehouse receipt a negotiable instrument. The report of the Committee is awaited.

Construction of Road at Biju Patnaik Airport

2883.DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned funds of around Rs. 20 crore for construction of an alternative road, at the Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneshwar; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in constructing the same causing a delay in extending the run way ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) No fund has been sanctioned for construction of an alternative road at Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneshwar. Since the road belongs to the State Government of Orissa, they have to take action in the matter.

Minimum Support Price for Sugarcane

2884.SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to refusal to raise the minimum support price for sugarcane, the irritated farmers have been forced to burn down standing cane crops;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any assessment of the loss of such crops; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to promote cane growing and the production and export of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that the complaints relating to burning of sugarcane in the districts of Meerut, Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur came to their light. The Regional Officers, after enquiry, found that there has been no such incidents in Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur. However, there has been token burning of cane in two villages of district Meerut.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to promote export of Sugar :–

(i) With effect from 01.04.2001, the Government has lifted the quantitative ceiling on export and has dispensed with the requirement of registration-cum-allocation certificates from Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

(ii) The sugar factories exporting sugar have been given exemption from compulsory levy on the quantity of sugar exported.

(iii) Adjustment of the exported quantity of sugar in the free-sale stocks of the sugar factories is being made at the end of 18 months from the date of export.

(iv) Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) benefit @ 4% on the f.o.b. value of exports has been allowed to exporters.

(v) The Government has amended the Sugar Development Fund (SDF), 1982 and SDF Rules, 1982 enabling it to reimburse the internal transport and freight charges on export shipment of sugar. A notification to this effect has been issued on 21.06.2002.

Difference in Airfare

2885.DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of air travel from Delhi to Singapore, Hong Kong and other foreign destinations is cheaper than travelling between Delhi to Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the reasons for difference in airfares; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to reduce cost of domestic air travel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVAITION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The published fares on international routes are fixed through IATA's machinery and subsequently put up to the respective Governments for approval. However, the actual fares quoted in the market are usually lower than International Air Transport Association (IATA) fares.

Fares on International sectors vary from sector to sector and depend upon seasonality and competition. Cost structure of Delhi-Trivendrum is affected by domestic Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices which is higher by approximately 50% compared to ATF on international flights from India to other countries.

(c) There is no proposal to reduce the domestic fares across the board. Airline operators, however, introduce promotional fares from time to time on some domestic sectors, which are lower than the normal fares.

Remains of Shiva Temples in Surguja

2886.SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ruins of numerous Shiva temples have been discovered in Surguja, Meheshpur;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the ASI for conservation of the remains;

(c) whether the Ramgarh hills in Surguja district are one of the largest archaeological sites of the World; and

(d) the steps taken by the ASI to extensively excavate the said site ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ruins of the Shiva, Vaishnava and Jain temples have been noticed at Maheshpur, Distt. Surguja and the Department of Archaeology and Culture, Government of Chhattisgarh, is taking steps for the protection of the remains.

(c) It is not true that the Ramgarh Hill is one of the largest archaeological sites in the world. However, there are many natural caves two of which namely, Sitabangra and Jogimara, are the protected monuments of the Archaeological Survey of India.

(d) However, there is no proposal for the present for undertaking excavation at the site.

Hampi Utsav

2887.SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to celebrate the Hampi Utsav as an International festival to attract tourists; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The State Tourism Department of Karnataka has reported that the State Government proposes to celebrate Hampi Utsav as an International Festival.

(b) Government of Karnataka has not submitted the proposal to the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

[Translation]

Agitation before Bokaro Administrative Building for Employment

2888.SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of agitation by the displaced persons before Bokaro Administrative Building since September 25, 2002 for employment;

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

(c) the justification of keeping them waiting since 1991 after all formalities were completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Visthapit Yuva Chhatra Sangh (DYSU), which claims to be belonging to the group fo those displaced persons who were left in the panel for recruitment to the post of Khalasi prepared in the year 1991, is staging a dharma outside Bokaro Administrative Building demanding employment in the company.

(b) In 1995, a group of displaced persons raised a dispute before the Hon'ble Patna High Court, Ranchi Bench, by way of a Writ petition (No. CWJC-2459 of

1995(R). The writ was disposed of vide judgement dated 26.6.1996, holding the panel prepared in 1991 as invalid and inoperative. Subsequently, in LPA 161 and 162 of 1996(R), the Hon'ble High Court, vide order dated 7.4.98, directed Bokaro Steel Plant to hold fresh interview of the candidates who raised the dispute, including the persons left in the aforesaid panel prepared in 1991, after verification of bonafide of their status as displaced persons through Director, Project Land and Rehabilitation (DPLR), Bokaro.

(c) Due to perpetual litigations recruitment could not take place. But after pronouncement of verdicts dated 7.4.98 in LPA No. 161 and 162 and order dated 1.8.2000 in MJC No. 139 of 1999(R), recruitment as per directives of Hon'ble High Court is being done against the requirement of the company. In pursuance of directions of the Hon'ble High Court, 51 displaced candidates have been interviewed and those found suitable have been recruited in the first spell.

[English

Huge Stock in FCI Godowns

2889. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to have small organizations to stock foodgrains instead of having Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, whether the Shankarlal Guru Committee have recommended for the establishment of small, medium and large traders;

(c) if so, the details of recommendations of Shankarlal Guru Committee; and

(d) if so, the action taken on the recommendation of Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) to (d) In the Report of the Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of Agricultural Marketing set up by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of Shri Shankerlal Guru no such recommendation about establishment of small, medium and large traders has been made.

[Translation]

Monitoring of PMRY

2890. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the concern expressed in the workshop of the India Habitat Centre organized in October this year that the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana are not reaching to the common people;

(b) if so, the details of the implementation work, monitoring of PMRY and the persons benefited thereunder during the last three years and thereafter, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the new efforts made by the Government to ensure that the benefits of this scheme reach to the common man in a more effective way ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some of the parameters of the PMRY Scheme with respect to age, educational qualification, activities covered, annual family income, residency criteria for the married women, collateral for projects under industry sector etc. have been made liberal so that the benefits of the Scheme reach to the common man in a more effective way.

[English]

Emergency Checks for Boeing

2891. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "US Checks entire Boeing fleet" and "Aussie Airlines ground Boeings" appearing in the 'Asian age' dated September 15, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have also conducted similar emergency checks on all the Boeings in operation in the country;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) declared airworthiness directive issued by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on 13th September, 2002 mandatory for compliance of all Boeing Operators which include Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines and Blue Dart Aviation. Jet Airways identified two Boeing 737 whose Flight Control Modules (FCMs) were affected and the same were replaced on September 14, 2002. All other operators have confirmed that the FCMs of their respective Boeing 737 services aircraft are not affected.

Protection of Historical Monuments in Gujarat

2892.SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken steps for protection of historical monuments located in Gujarat especially in Saurashtra-Kutch region of the State;

(b) if so, the names of those ancient monuments located in Gujarat for which grant is being provided; and

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred on maintenance of these monuments during the last two years project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of project-wise/monument-wise expenditure incurred on the ancient monuments/sites located in Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat State, during the last two years in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing the details of Expenditure incurred during the last two years i.e. 2000-01 and 2001-02 on Maintenance of Monuments of Spurashtra-Kutch Region of Gujarat State

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Monument	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4
I.	**Amreli District**		
1.	Gohilvad Timbo at Amreli		0.01
2.	Fresco on the wall of Kashi Vishwanath Temple at Padasinga		01.23
II.	**Bhavnagar District**		
3.	Caves at Talaja	02.06	0.35
4.	Darbargarh, Sihor	0.95	0.36
5.	Ancient Site, Valbhipur		0.26
III.	**Jamnagar District**		
6.	Group of Dwarkadhish Temples at Dwarka	03.97	03.57
7.	Gokeshwar Mahadev Temple, Lowrali	03.03	01.43

1	2	3	4
8.	Rukmani Temple, Dwarka	0.02	0.73
9.	Kankeshwar Mahadev Temple, Vasai	02.62	0.81
10.	Junagadi Temple, Vasai	0.04	0.95
11.	Ramlaxman Temple, Baradi	01.64	02.51
12.	Magderu Temple, Dhrasanvel	03.03	0.53
13.	Guhadilya Temple, Varwala	0.29	
14.	Gop (Sun) Temple, Zinawali, Gop	0.01	
15.	Durvasa Rishi Ashram, Pindera	01.25	0.59
16.	Kalikamata Temple, Dhrewad		0.04
17.	Jami, Raveli, Rahmat Bibi's Mosque, Mangrol	0.02	0.14
18.	Buddhist Caves at Junagadh	0.74	0.38
19.	Khapra Kodia Caves, Junagadh	0.06	01.74
20.	Baba Pyare Caves at Junagadh	0.06	0.19
21.	Ashokan Rock Edict, Junagadh	01.24	0.52
22.	Ancient mounet (Buddhist) site, Intwa	0.20	0.13
23.	Ranchhod Raiji Temple at Mul Dwarka		0.07
IV.	**Kachchh District**		
24.	Shiva Temple, Kotai	0.97	01.39
25.	Raolakha Chhatri, Bhuj	02.02	02.29
26.	Excavated Site, Surkotada	0.12	0.33
27.	Excavated Site, Dholavira	05.19	04.25
V.	**Porbandar District**		
28.	House where Mahatma Gandhi was born, Porbandar	0.57	0.62
29.	Old Paraswanath Temple at Miyani		01.04
VI.	**Rajkot District**		
30.	Caves at Dhank		0.01
VII.	**Surendra Nagar District**		
31.	Navlakha Temple, Sejakpur	01.25	01.85
32.	Sun Temple at Than Earthquake Affected Monuments Kachchh District		0.24
33.	Rao Lakha Chhatri, Bhuj	01.07	03.35
34.	Sun Temple, Thangadh, Distt. Surendranagar	0.22	0.65
	Total	32.58	32.56

F.A.O. Report on State of Food Insecurity

2893.SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in its report on State of Food Insecurity warned that there are now 799 million people in the developing countries suffering from under-nourishment and majority of them live in India;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to face this challenge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) In a publication issued by FAO in 2002 entitled 'The State of Food Insecurity in the World', FAO have reported that the number of under-nourished people in the world is 840 million out of whom, 799 million live in developing countries. This assessment is based on data for the years 1998 to 2000. The number of under nourished people in India has been estimated at 233.3 million.

(c) Ensuring Food Security in the country has been a major concern of Government since independence. The main constituents of basic food security-system in India are policies relating to promotion of domestic food-grains production, minimum support prices to farmers, procurement and storage, public distribution system and maintenance of buffer stock etc. To reach food-grains to the poor a targeted public Distribution System has been introduced. Besides, schemes like Antyodaya Anna Yojana, etc. seek to provide free food-grains to destitutes not receiving old age pension. Mid day meal scheme, Annapurna scheme, Food for work programmes, etc. also seek provision of food to the poorer sections lacking purchasing power. It must be added that with a phenomenal improvement in food production and a comfortable foodgrains stock, the major challenge is now to ensure that poorer sections get access to these food-grains.

[Translation]

Assistance to NGOs for Medicinal Plants

2894.SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided any assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for promotion of nurseries of medicinal plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, organisation-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Medicinal Plants Board under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has sanctioned a project to one Non-Government Organisation, viz Dabur Research Foundation, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002 entitled "Field Plantation and Nursery Development of Quality Planting of Bhoomi Amlki, Aonla, Beal in Uttar Pradesh." for nursery development in Uttar Pradesh. An amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for the project and a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been released to the organization during 2001-2002.

[English]

Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

2895.SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) has applied for licence for mining in Bellary;

(b) if so, when the said company applied for licence;

(c) whether Bellary has rich iron ore reserves;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. KIOCL has applied for licence to mine in Bellary-Hospet area.

(b) Application for grant of licence was submitted by KIOCL on 9.3.2000.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Government of Karnataka has not yet taken a decision in the matter.

[Translation]

Crop Insurance Scheme

2896. YOGI ADITYA NATH :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Crop Insurance Scheme to compensate the damage caued to the crops of the farmers by the wild animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No. Sir. However, the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) providing comprehensive risks coverage to yield losses arising due to non-preventable risks (i.e. all natural risks non-preventable in nature) is in operation in the country from Rabi 1999-2000 season. Since, losses to agricultural crops due to wild animals are preventable in nature, therefore, it is not covered under the existing scheme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Development of Tour Packages

2897. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA :
DR. S. VENUGOPAL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide any assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for developing new tour packages from Vijayawada to Visakhapatnam and Araku Valley and Vijayawada to Shirdi to attract more tourists; and

(b) if so. the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Development of tour packages is primarily undertaken by the tour operators and State Tourism Development Corporations. The Government provides assistance to travel industry by promoting these packages in tourism generating markets.

Indravati River Project

2898. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the time since when Indravati River Project in Orissa was started along with its initial cost;

(b) the details of sources through which the funds are proposed to be mobilised and the time by which it is likely to be completed.

(c) whether all the canal works of the project has been completed;

(d) if so, the areas of land irrigated as a result thereof; and

(e) the present status of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESORUCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) There is no project by name Indravati River Project in Orissa. However, there is one project by name Upper Indravati Project in Orissa which was started in 1978-1980 Annual Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 77.66 crore as approved by the Planning Commission in 1978.

(b) Besides the funds being provided by the State Government, the project is receiving Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and is likely to be completed in 2006-07.

(c) The status of the canal works of the project is as under :–

Name of the Project	Length of the canal (Kilometre)	Achievement (Kilometre)
Upper Indravati		
(a) Left Main Canal	52	52
(b) Right Main Canal	84	80
(c) Lift Main Canal	45	Nil

(d) An irrigation potential of 74.6 Thousand hectare has been created upto 01.04.2002.

(e) The latest estimated cost of the Project is Rs. 718.70 crore and an expenditure of Rs. 408.10 crore has been incurred upto March, 2002.

Illegal Trade in Wildlife

2899.SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Railways are bringing in thousands of illegal wild birds to the cities for sale;

(b) if so. the number of cases of confiscation that have taken place of wild birds brought into Delhi/Mumbai by the Railways: and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There are no such reports with the Government. However, 3 cases of confiscation have been reported from Mumbai during last three years.

(c) The steps taken in this regard include :

(i) Ministry of Railway has been requested to not to accept any wild animal/bird or their products for transportation without a no objection certificate from the designated officers for the purpose.

(ii) Ministry of Railway has instructed all its Zonal Offices to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Transport of Animals (Amendment) Rules, 2001.

(iii) Strict vigil is maintained by the officials of State Wildlife Wing and Regional offices of the Ministry of Environment and Forests along with police and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), at sensitive spots including railway stations against illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

Award of Aviation Project

2900.SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above which have been awarded by the Central Government for various aviation (AAI) related activities during the last two years, Project-wise, Year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the Central Government have strictly followed the rules and regulations in awarding these contracts/projects;

(c) if so, the details of norms prescribed by the Central Government for awarding projects relating to Airports Authority of India; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) No project costing Rs. 100 crore and above was awarded during last two years.

[Translation]

Declaration of Support Price for Linseed

2901.SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from the Govenment of Madhya Pradesh for declaring the support price of linseed till date and the proposal-wise dates on which those proposals have been received.

(b) the reasons for not declaring the support price of linseed by the Central Government and its impact on the linseed growing farmers;

(c) whether the Agriculture Cost and Price Commission had sought a detailed proposal from the Madhya Pradesh Government in this regard and the same has been received by the Commission;

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

(e) the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) A proposal was received from the State

Government of Madhya Pradesh for fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP) of linseed in July, 1999. Since the production of linseed is localized in nature and MSPs are fixed for commodities having all India importance in terms of area and production it could not be covered under the scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Shortage of Fodder

2902.KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether animals are not getting fodder due to drought situation in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the number of animals died as a result thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the requirement of the fodder in the country at present;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no report from the affected States in this regard.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details of the requirement of the fodder in the country is given in the Statement enclosed.

(e) Government takes a number of remedial actions like release to funds from the CRF/NCCF, facilitation of free transport of fodder by Railways, Relief to cattle camps, collection and dissemination of information on availability and requirement of fodder, distribution of fodder seeds minikits, liaison with cattle feed manufacturers, NDDB, State Governments etc.

Besides, Goernment of India has revived two components of the old Centrally Sponsored Scheme– "Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development" Establishment of Fodder Bank and Enrichment of Straw/ cellulosic waste to facilitate the release to the State Governments to initigate the fodder scarcity. Departmental farms have been instructed to produce more fodder and supply to the farmers on cost basis.

Statement

The Requirement of Fodder in the Country State-wise

State	Requirement (000 tonnes)	
	Dry Fodder	Green Fodder
Andhra Pradesh	38042	16521
Assam	12920	6461
Bihar	55831	27916
Gujarat	21849	10924
Haryana	10441	5221
Himachal Pradesh	5900	2950
Jammu and Kashmir	7784	3892
Karnataka	27118	13559
Kerala	8248	4124
Madhya Pradesh	57561	28781
Maharashtra	38051	19025
Manipur	2756	1378
Meghalaya	1629	815
Nagaland	577	288
Orissa	19137	24569
Punjab	23235	12345
Rajasthan	25838	12919
Sikkim	403	201
Tamil Nadu	16055	8028
Tripura	1104	552
Uttar Pradesh	93604	46802
West Bengal	29082	14541

[English]

Amendment in Industrial Disputes Act

2903. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring changes in the Industrial Disputes Act relating to compensation to be paid to workers in the case of retrenchment or closure of an industrial unit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when these changes are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The amendment proposals to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are under consideration of the Government. However, given the procedure involved, it is not possible to specify the time limit.

[Translation]

Unemployed Handicapped Persons

2904. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handicapped persons are not getting employment despite reservation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of unemployed handicapped persons registered in different employment exchanges in the country particularly in Maharashtra as on date;

(d) the number of handicapped persons who have been provided employment in the country during the last three years' year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up reserve quota for the handicapped persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The provisions of reservation contained in Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full participation) Act, 1995 are being implemented by the Central Government Establishments and PSUs as a continuing process. The reservation of posts is confined to Government departments and public sector, where the scope for employment growth is limited.

(c) and (d) The number of handicapped job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register to Employment Exchanges in Maharashtra and in the country as on 31.12.2001 (latest available) was of the order of 39 thousand and 5 lakh respectively. State-wise details of the handicapped person having been provided employment through employment exchanges during 1999, 2000 and 2001 (latest available) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(e) Apart from the legislative provisions, the following steps have been taken by the Government to promote employment of persons with disabilities :-

- Special Recruitment Drives for persons with disabilities from time to time; and
- Identification of more posts suitable for persons with disabilities.

Statement

Number of Physically Handicapped Persons Placed in Employment through Employment Exchanges each Year during 1999-2001

Number placed (in Actual Number)

S. No.	State/Union Territories	1999	2000	2001
1	2	3	4	5
(A)	**States**			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90	39	25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	–	–	–
3.	Assam	8	4	18
4.	Bihar**	1	1	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	–	–	–

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Delhi	19	9	5
7.	Goa	8	1	3
8.	Gujarat	380	399	473
9.	Haryana	28	10	11
10.	Himachal Pradesh	23	49	52
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	–	–	–
12.	Jharkhand	–	–	1
13.	Karnataka	376	260	89
14.	Kerala	1542	1030	1223
15.	Madhya Pradesh	43	20	7
16.	Maharashtra	183	175	158
17.	Manipur	1	–	–
18.	Meghalaya	2	4	1
19.	Mizoram	–	–	–
20.	Nagaland	–	–	–
21.	Orissa	66	19	25
22.	Punjab	47	62	41
23.	Rajasthan	138	99	149
24.	Sikkim*			
25.	Tamilnadu	1051	911	1057
26.	Tripura	55	28	7
27.	Uttaranchal			1
28.	Uttar Pradesh@	22	32	15
29	West Bengal	128	110	110
(B)	**Union Territories**			
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	–	–	–
31.	Chandigarh	4	6	13
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	–	–	–
33.	Daman and Diu	–	–	–
34.	Lakshadweep	–	–	–
35.	Pondicherry	–	–	–
	Total	4205	3268	3491

Note : ** Includes information in respect of Jharkhand also

$ Includes information in respect of Chhattisgarh also

@ Includes information in respect of Uttaranchal also

* No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

[English]

Implementation of National River Conservation Programme

2905. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain projects under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP) are yet to be implemented in many States;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the State Governments which failed to implement the projects under the programme launched way back in 1995; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Statewise details of projects sanctioned under the National River Conservation Plan and the status of implementation are given in the Statement enclosed. All these projects are targeted for completion by December, 2005.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement

Statewise Completed/Sanctioned Schemes

Plan/State	I and D		STP		LCS		CRE		RFD		OTH		Total	
	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted	Sanc-tioned	Com-pleted
National River Conservation Plan														
1. Andhra Pradesh	4	0	5	0	4	1	2	1	4	4	0	0	19	6
2. Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	7	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	13	0
3. Gujarat	5	3	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	9	4
4. Karnataka	7	1	8	0	8	2	5	1	2	1	0	0	30	5
5. Maharashtra	4	0	6	0	2	1	1	1	2	1	6	1	21	4
6. Madhya Pradesh	10	1	7	2	11	9	9	8	11	9	7	5	55	34
7. Orissa	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
8. Punjab	18	7	6	0	4	0	3	3	0	0	8	0	39	10
9. Rajasthan	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	7	0
10. Tamilnadu	26	2	8	0	5	5	5	3	5	4	1	0	50	14
11. Goa	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
12. Delhi	0	0	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	7	5
13. Uttar Pradesh	69	45	17	14	25	16	13	10	4	3	29	17	157	105
14. Haryana	30	26	17	12	12	11	7	6	1	1	13	4	80	60
15. Bihar	0	0	0	0	8	0	2	0	11	0	0	0	21	0
16. West Bengal	33	0	10	0	4	0	7	0	19	0	1	0	74	0
17. Uttranchal	8	2	2	0	10	0	0	0	6	4	0	0	26	6
Sub Total :	217	87	94	30	107	46	62	36	70	27	66	27	616	253

I and D – Interception and Diversion
STP – Sewage Treatment Plant
LCS – Low Cost Sanitation
CRE – Crematoria
RFD – River Front Development
OTH – Others

Technolgoy Mission on Coconut

2906. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM :
SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether this Ministry have given approval for the proposed Technology Mission on Coconut;

(b) if so, the salient features of the project;

(c) whether it is true that the project does not cover replacement of diseased trees with disease resistant new trees;

(d) whether the Government received any suggestion on the above matter from the Government of Kerala;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(f) the details of amount released to the Coconut Board for the implementation of Technology Mission on Coconut to Kerala State during the period of 2001-02 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government of India sanctioned Central Sector Scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut during 2001-2002 as part of the IX Plan. The scheme address issues relating to technology development, demonstrations and adoption in the field of the insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The scheme has focus on convergence and synergy among numerous ongoing programmes in the field of coconut development in order to bring in horizontal and vertical integration of these programmes to ensure adequate, appropriate, timely and concurrent attention to all the links in the production, processing, product diversification etc. Through the programmes of the mission, market potential of coconut products have been enhanced which has helped in improving the prices of coconut.

(c) One of the main component of the scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut is development, demonstration and adoption of technologies for management of insect pest and diseases, which includes technologies for management of root wilt disease. Eradication of root wilt affected palms and replanting with disease resistant seedlings are part of the package of technology for management of root wilt disease.

(d) and (e) The Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal to Coconut Development Board for containing root wilt disease in the border districts of Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur at a total cost of Rs. 103.52 crores to consider under the Technology Mission on Coconut. This include Rs. 38.27 crores for cutting and removal of 15.31 lakh disease affected palms. The include Rs. 38.27 crores for cutting and removal of 15.31 lakh disease affected palms. The project was considered by the Project Approval Committee of Coconut Development Board in its meeting held on 25.10.2002 and approved the project in principle with some suggestions for modifications. Government of Kerala has been requested to submit the modified projects.

(f) Government of India released an amount of Rs. 400.00 lakhs to Coconut Development Board during the year 2001-2002 for implementing the Scheme on Technology Mission on Coconut, covering all the coconut growing States in the country.

Setting up of Fishing Harbours in Kerala

2907. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received from Government of Kerala for setting up of Fishing Harbours which are pending with the Union Government;

(b) the estimate of each of the projects;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has posed 3 (three) project proposals for setting up of fishing harbours at

Thalai, Koyilandi and Beypore Stage-II along the Kerala coast. In addition, the State Government has also intimated their intention to have fishing harbours constructed at 14 (fourteen) other sites. The details of locations of the proposed fishing harbours and the estimated cost of each as indicated by the State Government are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) The State Government is yet to confirm the techno economic viability, availability of necessary land, adequate budgetary provision in the State Budget and completion of environmental clearance in respect of the three projects. Detailed project proposals have not been submitted by the State Government in respect of the remaining.

Statement

Setting up of Fishing Harbours in Kerala

S. No.	Location of the proposed fishing harbour	District	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Thottappally	Alappuzha	16.30
2.	Koyilandi	Kozhikkode	23.00
3.	Thalai	Kannur	19.70
4.	Kasaragode	Kasaragode	20.00
5.	Arthungal	Alappuzha	15.00
6.	Chettuvai	Thrissur	15.00
7.	Cheruvathoor-Neeleswaram	Kasaragode	20.00
8.	Varkala-Chilakkur	Thiruvananthapuram	5.00
9.	Chethi	Alappuzha	5.00
10.	Andakaranazhy	Alappuzha	5.00
11.	Chellanam	Ernakulam	5.00
12.	Parappanangadi	Malappuram	5.00
13.	Vadakara	Kozhikode	5.00
14.	Korappuzha	Kozhikode	5.00
15.	Thanoor	Malappuram	5.00
16.	Manjeswaram	Kasaragode	5.00
17.	Beypore Stage-II	Kozhikode	4.71

Committee for Management of Airports

2908. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee on the management of airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee and Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Committee have been fully implemented and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when all the recommendations of the Committee are likely to be imlemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) In December, 1999 a High Level Inquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.C. Jain was constituted to look into the escalator accident, which happened at Indira Gandhi International Airport. This Committee was also asked to look into the aspects relating to Management of Airports. The Committee submitted its report on 14.07.2000. The report has made several observations/recommendations on diverse issues including corporate affairs of AAI, Aviation safety and security, customs, cargo, immigration and airport facilities, coordination, etc. The report wast sent to Airports Authority of India, Director General of Civil Aviation, Commissioner of Security (Civil Aviation), Ministry of Home Affairs, Customs, Immirgration Department etc. for implementing the recommendations, wherever feasible. In so far as matters relating to the Airports Authority of India were concerned, a Sub-Committee was constituted to look into major recommendations and take necessary steps to

implement them. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has also reviewed the implementation of the recommendations, from time to time.

[Translation]

Contract Labour

2909. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a provision of regularising contract labourers and casual labourers and employees working in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for several years in the light of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolishment) Act, 1970 and Central Rules, 1971;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central and State Advisory Boards have been constituted for this purpose;

(d) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the actual number of contract and casual labourers and employees working in PSUs in each State of the country, particularly in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central and State Advisory Boards are constituted under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 to advise the Central/State Governments on such matters arising out of the administration of the Act as may be referred to these Boards and to carry out other functions assigned to them under the Act.

(d) to (f) No survey has been conducted to ascertain the actual number of contract and casual labourers and employees working in the PSUs in each State of the country. However, 7,09,030 contract labourers were covered by the licences issued to the contractors under the Central sphere, during 2001-02.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism in Gujarat

2910. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes formulated by the Government for promotion of tourism in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the plans drawn up to focus tourism potentiality of Gujarat at International level;

(c) the funds earmarked/released for the purpose during the said period; and

(d) the funds utilised by the State Government out of the funds allocated ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Development and promotion of places of tourist interest/spots is the reponsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned. Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for the identified tourism projects in consultation with them. During the last three years 42 projects were sanctioned for Rs. 11.00 crores in Gujarat.

(b) The Department of Tourism Government of India through its overseas and domestic offices is promoting places of tourist interest of India including the State of Gujarat through advertising in print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, dissemination of information through brochures, CD Roms, inviting of media personalities under the hospitality programme, web marketing, organisation of workshops and seminars, etc.

(c) During the last three years of the Rs. 11.00 crores sanctioned Rs. 3.99 crores were released.

(d) Execution and maintenance of the project is the responsibility of the State Government. Government of Gujarat has informed that Rs. 2.25 crores have been utilised by them during the last three years.

Hyderabad-London Flight

2911. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether British Airways is contemplating to operate direct flights from Hyderabad to London in near future;

(b) the number of flights British Airways is operating from India at present with its point of origin;

(c) other details in this regard;

(d) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested to introduce/restore flights from Hyderabad to various destinations in the Gulf region; and

(e) if so, the details of such requests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) British Airways is presently operating a total of 18 services/week from Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai to London deploying a total of 5898 seats. Hyderabad is not presently available as a point of call to the British Airways.

(d) and (e) Requests have been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh from time to time for introduction/restoration of flights from Hyderabad to various destinations in Gulf such as Dubai, Riyadh, Dammam, Muscat, Baharin, Kuwait etc.

Permission for Genetically Modified Seeds

2912. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to permit genetically modified seeds of different crops for the use of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether genetically modified agricultural products are coming into India, although they are banned in advanced countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such entries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The import of genetically engineered products including agricultural products is regulated under Rule 11 of the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of Ministry of Environment and Forests has, in its meeting held on 26.3.2002, granted approval for release into environment of three transgenic Bt cotton hybrid varieties developed by Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of Ministry of Environment and Forests has not permitted entry of genetically modifed food products in the country.

Payment of Compensation to Accidents Victims in Agriculture

2913. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Central or State scheme for insurance or payment of compensation to the victims of accidents in the agriculture sector is in operation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such victims compensated during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of Andhra Pradesh, have informed that they do not have any Scheme for insurance and payment of compensation to the victims of accidents in the agriculture sector. The Dangerous Machines (Regulation) Act, 1983,

a Central Act, has a provision that the employer shall be liable to pay compensation to the victim of the accident while operating power thresher.

(c) No accident on power thresher has been reported in Andhra Pradesh during the period.

[Translation]

Conservation of River's Water

2914.SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for conservation of river's water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the provisions made by the Government for optimum utilisation of storage water ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) and (b) No new scheme has been formulated for conservation of river's water. However, to conserve river water, storage of 177 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created by construction of dams. Additional storage of 207 BCM is contemplated to be created through schemes under construction/ consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Tours

2915.SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of officers of the Ministry who have made foreign tours for official purposes during the last three years, till date, year-wise;

(b) the objective of foreign tours made by the said officers alongwith the total amount spent on such visits;

(c) the norms for selecting such officers; tour-wise;

(d) whether any complaint has been received with regard to not following proper norms/guidelines in selecting officers for foreign tours;

(e) if so, the details of such complaints; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for adopting a transparent system on this issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Cases of foreign deputation are processed as per the guidelines/norms of Government of India.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Air Accident due to Human Error

2916.SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of air-crashes and mishaps that occurred due to error of pilots during the last five years;

(b) the action taken by the DGCA against the erring pilots;

(c) whether there are separate penal procedure for convicting private pilot licence holders and commercial pilot licence holders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rationale thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Pilot error was found to be one of the causative factors in twelve accidents to Indian Civil Registered aircraft during the last five years. In nine of these accidents, the concerned pilot had died. Of the remaining three pilots, one was given corrective training, the Airlines Transport Pilot Licence of the second was cancelled while the licence of the third pilot was suspended for six weeks.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Award of Ground Catering Contract

2917.SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently the Ground Catering Contract at CSI Airport, Mumbai has been awarded due to a single party on monopoly basis without following guidelines regarding competitive bidding;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this resulted in heavy losses to AI Ltd. due to absence of favourable rate negotiations with multiple parties;

(d) if so, the details thereof: and

(e) the details of losses of AAI towards Lease rent in the above case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Production of Mustard

2918.SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Logon ko Jabran Tambaku Khilane ka Intjam Kar rahi hai sarkar" appearing in 'Reshtriya Sahara', New Delhi dated November 7, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the reason for promoting production of mustard from abroad in India by the Government of India; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to ban the commercial production of genetically engineered mustard in the country till its tests are conducted and their results are achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. A news item has appeared as referred to.

(b) and (c) Environmental release of any such material as mentioned in the news item referred to, has been neither recommended nor effected as yet. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forest is the nodal agency for such clearance. The proposal for permission for commercial release and marketing of transgenic mustard and seed production of transgenic mustard has not been cleared yet by the GEAC.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise, Sir.

Welfare Schemes for Farmers

2919.SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of welfare activities/programmes being run by his Ministry under the "Wasteland Development and Forestry Schemes" launched under the welfare schemes for the farmers and the formulate adopted for providing loans and other financial assistance by the Government under it and the contributions of the State Governments in this regard; and

(b) the details of welfare schemes under the "wasteland development and forestry schemes" being run in Rajasthan directly by his Ministry or by the Government of Rajasthan or other voluntary organizations during the last four years since 1998 and funds provided by the Government as loans or financial assistance in this regard, year-wise, scheme-wise and agency-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing following land based programmes in the country for the development of degraded lands/wastelands :

1. National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas. (Subsumed under Macro Management Mode of implementation through work plans)

2. Soil Consveration for Enhancing Productivity of degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP and FPR) (Subsumed under Macro Management Mode of implementation through work plans)

3. (a) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.

In addition, the Department of Land Resources of Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Environment and Forests have also been implementing some schemes for the development of wastelands/forest areas in the country including Rajasthan. These are :

1. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme.

2. Drought Prone Area Programme.

3. Desert Development Programme.

4. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme.

5. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project.

6. Non-Timber Forest Produce.

7. Grant in Aid of N.G.Os/VAs

Major activities undertaken in the above schemes are afforestation, agro-forestry, horticulture, pasture development, silvi-pasture and oil and water conservation works like construction of check dams and water harvesting structures etc. with due support of drainage line treatment measures and sediment monitoring stations.

These activities generate employment for the farmers, apart from providing them smallwood, fuelwood, fodder, fruits and grasses etc.

A Statement showing schemes for the development of degraded land/wasteland/forest areas being implemented in Rajasthan by different Ministries of Government of India and scheme-wise and year-wise financial assistance released under the schemes since 1998 including financing pattern is enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing schemes for the development of degraded land/wasteland being implemented in Rajasthan by different Ministries of Government of India and scheme-wise and year-wise financial assistance released since 1998

(Rs. in lakh)

Ministry/ Department	Name of Scheme	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	Financing pattern (Central/ State Share)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	1. National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.	3829.510	3932.710	3895.820	3692.540	91:10
	2. Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP and FPR)	1287.20	1695.72	1558.13	1324.67	90.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B. Department of Land Resources.	3. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme	74.47	432.85	831.28	1040.72	90:10
	4. Drought Prone Area Programme	173.00	386.00	981.00	1195.00	75:25
	5. Desert Development Progarmme	5064.00	3901.00	7854.00	8164.00	75:25
C. Ministry of Environment and Forests	6. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme	253.39	376.57	432.67	291.34	100.00
	7. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project	263.35	160.00	7.18	61.79	50.00
	8. Non-Timber Forest Produce	130.40	116.21	139.40	234.40	50:00
	9. Grant in Aid to N.G.Os/VAs	–	–	2.50	7.00	100.00

[English]

Loss of Crop in North-Western States

2920. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether delayed monsoon this year has caused loss of kharif crop in the North-Western States;

(b) if so, whether these States have opted National Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons for not opting said scheme;

(d) whether central team has confirmed about severe drought in Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the action taken to assist for the loss of livelihood, cattle etc.; and

(f) the long term remedies explored to mitigate the drought ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (f) It is estimated that due to the current drought, the loss of foodgrains production during Kharif was of an order of 18.72%. Out of the drought affected States, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan have not so far opted for the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

Central Teams visited drought affected areas in Andhra Pradesh including Anantapur for assessment of the situation. The Teams made over-all assessment for the State as a whole and not for individual Districts, which is the responsibility of the State Government. For the State of Andhra Pradesh, apart from release of the second instalment of the Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 81.885 crore, 3 lakh MTs of Rice has also been allocated for relief work.

Development of Tourism in Orissa

2921. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of existing/proposed projects for development of tourism in Orissa, particularly in the KBK districts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including implementation and operationalisation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) During the 9th Plan, 62 tourism projects were sanctioned in the State of Orissa under the scheme of Central financial assistance. Under this scheme, the State is treated as a unit and hence District-wise details are not maintained in the Department of Tourism.

(b) Details of 9th Plan projects completed, dropped and under implementation in Orissa are as under implementation in Orissa are as under :-

Projects Sanctioned	Projects Completed	Projects Dropped	Projects under implementation
62	13	07	42

(c) Does not arise.

Donation to National Cultural Fund

2922. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) since its inception in 1996, the total amount of donations received worldwide, by the National Culture Fund and the amount sanctioned by the Government;

(b) the details of spending the money of the NCF and schemes adopted by it since 1996;

(c) whether after signing the Memorandum of Understanding between NCF, Indian Hotels Company Ltd. and the ASI in 2001 any conceptual plan been drawn to preserve and beautify Taj Mahal at Agra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; of such a plan ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) The total amount of donations received by the National Culture Fund since its inception in 1996 till 31st March, 2002 has been Rs. 1,90,98,483.72. The amount sanctioned by the Government till 31st March is Rs. 6.01 crores for the Corpus Fund.

(b) The statement showing the schemes adopted since 1996, donations received, amount spent as well as the balance till 31st March 2002 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) A conceptual plan has been drawn to provide a visitors facilitation centre to the north-east and north-west corner of the forecourt of the Taj Mahal. A detailed conservation plan has been finalized to take up requisite repairs to the monument. Other programmes envisaged included providing of appropriate signage, visitors movement plan, refurbishing of msueum, providing handicapped firendly access and tourist amenities e.g. toilet, drinking water and coffee shop etc.

Statement

S.No.	Project	Donations upto 31.03.2002 (Rupees)	Expenditure upto 31.03.2002 (Rupees)	Balance as on 31.03.2002 (Rupees)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Children's Academy, Durgapur	2,18,168.00	26,570.00	1,91,598.00
2.	Humayun's Tomb, Delhi	30,45,940.00	9,97,803.00	20,48,137.00
3.	Indian Oil Corporation	26,00,00,000.00	26,00,00,000.00 (Transferred to Indian Oil Foundation for the Corpus Fund)	-
4.	Jantar Mantar, Delhi	1016.65	-	1016.65
5.	Jana Pravah, Varanasi	7972000.00	7934465.00	37535.00
6.	Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad, Bangalore	1000.00	-	1000.00

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Kishkindha Trust, Anegundi, Karnataka	80,069.00	76,418.00	3,651.00
8.	Pardeshi Synagogue Clock Tower, Cochin	8,75,557.00	–	8,75,557.00
9.	Rama Krishna Mission, Kolkata	2,37,001.00	–	2,37,001.00
10.	Ramana Maharishi Centre for Learning, Bangalore	81,974.00	75,000.00	6,974.00
11.	Shaniwarwada, Pune	48,20,715.38	36,15,389.76	12,05,325.62

Airports of International Standard

2923. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether two types of Airports i.e. International Airports and those of International Standard exist in India;

(b) if so, the difference between the two categories;

(c) whether any action have been taken to upgrade Airports with International Standards to International level;

(d) if so, the details of the plan of modernisation alongwith the current status and amount spent on each project;

(e) whether the Government are considering to create a separate wing for modernisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to train the manpower for modernisation and proper upkeep of the Airports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Implementation of National Wildlife Action Plan

2924. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the increasing incidents of man-animal conflicts are causing serious concern among environmentalists and conservationalists in the country;

(b) if so, whether wildlife experts have suggested in a recent workshop in Mumbai for implementation of National Wildlife Action Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is committed to implement the National Wild Life Action Plan (2002-2016).

Per-Capita Water Availability in Cauvery Basin

2925. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) has assessed the annual per-capita water availability of Cauvery basin as less than 1000 cubic metre as against the national average of 1820 cubic meter;

(b) if so, whether the Government treats Cauvery basin as water scarcity region; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Water bring a State subject, water conservation and management is the responsibility of concerned State Government. The Government of India assists the State Governments by providing financial assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for

rural drinking water and under Command Area Development Programme to increase efficiency in utilisation of irrigation water.

As a long-term maasure, under the peninsular component of National Perspective Plan for water resources development, inter-linking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Vaigai, besides Natravati-Hemavathy link and under Himalayan component of the plan, linking of tributaries of Brahmaputra with Ganga at Farrakka and Mahanadi is envisaged.

National Water Policy

2926. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed in the National Water Policy for creation of a grid system for major rivers to tackle frequent drought and floods in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The National Water Policy provides that water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from other areas including transfers from one river basin to another, based on a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of the areas/basins. The National Water Policy also stipulates that in planning water resource development projects, the needs of drought-prone areas should be given priority and in highly flood prone areas, flood control should be given overriding consideration in reservoir regulation policy even at the cost of sacrificing some irrigation or power benefits.

Making Aircraft Hijack Proof

2927. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Federal Aviation Administration has issued directives to all global carriers to strengthen the plane's cockpit doors making it impossible for passengers to open them and thereby making the aircraft hijack-proof;

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

(c) by when the work for making the Air-India/Indian Airlines' planes hijack-proof is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has mandated the requirements issued by the FAA applicable to airplanes having a door between the passenger and pilot compartment and engaged in Scheduled Air Transport services (passenger) or all cargo operations where provision is also available to carry passengers.

(c) DGCA has directed Indian Airlines and Air India to comply with the modifications on affected aircraft by 9th April, 2003.

Jute Monopoly

2928. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments particularly Andhra Pradesh have requested the Union Government to extend the present 100 percent jute monopoly in force since 1987 for packing of foodgrains and sugar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) On the basis of the information furnished by Ministry of Textiles (who are administering this subject), the State Governments of West Bengal and Assam represented for extension of 100% norms of compulsory packaging in jute bags for foodgrains and sugar under the Jute Packaging Material (JPM) Act, 1987. However, no such representation was received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. Rather, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh represented for dilution/repeal of the norms of compulsory packaging under the Jute Packaging Material (JPM) Act, 1987.

Promotion of SFSOs

2929.SHRI RAJKUMAR WANGCHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Forest Service Officers (SFSOs) are promoted to the joint cadre of AGMU comprising States of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Goa, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Dadra Nagar Haveli, to the All India Forest Service in the ratio of 33% of its strength, on the basis of seniority-cum-merit;

(b) if so, whether some SFS Officers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been inducted into the joint cadre of AGMU of these States since 2000 and this causing severe heart burning and cumulative adverse future seniority of similarly placed SFS Officers of other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to rectify the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Under the Indian Forest Sevice (Recruitment) rules, 1966, the posts to be filled up by promotion from the State Forest Service shall not at any time exceed $33^{1}/_{3}$ per cent of the number of the number of posts authorised for Senior Duty Posts, Central Deputation Reserve, State Deputation Reserve, and Training Reserve. In the AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territories) Joint Cadre, 46 posts are in the promotion quota. The appointments to these posts are made on the basis of selection from amongst the substantive numbers of the State Forest Service in the constituent units, on a proportionate basis notionally allocated by the Joint Cadre Authority for AGMUT Cadre.

(b) to (d) In UT segment 14 of the 16 posts in the promotion quota, notionally allocated by the Joint Cadre Authority have been filled by inducting members of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest Service, being the only State Forest Service in the segment.

Procurement of Copra by NAFED

2930.SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for copra for the 2002 season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NAFED has started procurement of copra in this season on the new MSP;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milling and Ball Copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Rs. 3300 and Rs. 3550 per quintal respectively for 2002 season.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has started procurement of copra under price support scheme (PSS) in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Goa and has procured a total quantity of 6209 quintals of copra as on 27.11.2002.

[Translation]

Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited

2931.SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees and officers working in Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL), Bhilai during 1998;

(b) the number of employees working after availing of Voluntary Retirement Scheme at present;

(c) whether the Government have given any assistance to HSCL for its revival during 1998-2002;

(d) if so, the assistance provided to HSCL during the said period; and

(e) the details of orders given to HSCL by Bhilai Steel Plant during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) The

manpower position in Bhilai unit of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL) as on 1.4.98 and 1.4.99 is given below :

	1.4.98	1.4.99
Executives	254	235
Others	3550	3516
Total	3804	3751

(b) After availing of Voluntary Retirement Scheme, 986 employees are working in Bhilai unit of HSCL at present.

(c) Government has sanctioned two revival packages to HSCL, first in July, 1999 and second in March, 2002.

(d) The salient features of first Financial Restructuring package approved in July, 1999 are given below :

(i) Conversion of plan loans as on 31.3.1999 into equity : Rs. 97.10 crores.

(ii) Grant of moratorium on repayment and interest holiday on all loan (Government of India) upto 31.3.1999 for 10 years.

(iii) Waiver of interest accrued and outstanding on all Government. of India loans as on 31.3.1999 amounting of Rs. 975.17 crores.

(iv) Rs. 79.33 crores non-plan loan during 1999-00 with moratorium on repayment and interest holiday for 5 years subject to review at the end of 5 years.

(v) Exemption from payment of corporate tax in 1999-00 on account of windfall profit due to waiver of interest on loans.

(vi) Continuance of Government guarantee for Rs. 12 crores cash credit and Rs. 80 crores bank guarantee facilities, with waiver of guarantee commission of 1%.

(vii) The restructuring package also envisaged separation of 6000 employees in three years at the rate of 2000 employees per year starting from 1999-2000 onwards. For this purpose, Government provided guarantee in favour of HSCL to enable it to raise Rs. 318 crores from bank with full interest subsidy.

Government sanctioned second revival package for HSCL in March, 2002 with the following proposals :

(a) Grant of non-plan loan of Rs. 89.44 crores to enable HSCL to pay outstanding dues of its employees.

(b) Increase in Government of India guarantee by Rs. 250 crores to facilitate HSCL to raise further loans from banks for separate of around 5000 employees under VRS, along with provision for interest subsidy.

(e) Value of orders awarded to HSCL by Bhilai Steel Plant during the period 1998 to 2002 are give below :

(Rs. in crores)

1998-99	21.10
1999-00	18.93
2000-01	17.39
2001-02	25.10
2002-03	19.74 (upto Nov. 02)
Total	102.26

[English]

W.T.O. Conference

2932. SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 5th Ministerial Conference of WTO is proposed to be held at Cancun in Mexico in 2003 in orders to revise the Marrakesh Agreement;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers in order to get the State's views on the modification needed in the agreement;

(c) if so, the details thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The 5th Ministerial Conference of WTO is proposed to be held at Cancun in Mexico in 2003 to take stock of progress in the negotiations, provide any necessary political guidance and taken decision as required. The aim of the negotiations is to maintain the process of liberalization of trade policies and to ensure that the multilateral trading system established by the Marrakesh Agreement plays its full part in promoting recovery, growth and development.

(b) to (d) The consultations with all the stakeholders including the State Governments is an on going process and the Government is engaged in it on a continuing basis.

[Translation]

Scheme to Combat Drought by ICAR

2933.SHRI RAM CHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have formulated a scheme to combat drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the contingency plan formulated by the ICAR for Rabi season; and

(d) the date on which it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three kinds of strategies to combat drought have been formulated. The short term strategies are proposed to moderate the impact of present drought through (i) ensuring availability of quality fodder to animals for the period from September 2002 to June 2003; (iii) judicious use of surface and groundwater for drinking and irrigation; (iii) livestock management including establishment of cattle camps; (iv) cropping sequences and agronomic practices for drought affected areas and (v) promotion of subsidiary income and employment generating activities such as mushroom cultivation, bee keeping, sericulture, raising nursery of horticultural species and post harvest handling of products of perennial vegetation naturally existing in drought prone areas.

To negate the impact of such droughts in future, a long term strategy has also been prepared. Various components of this strategy are (i) increasing availability of good quality water in drought prone areas through inter-river, inter-basin and inter-lake connections. (ii) ensuring availability of quality fodder through establishment of perennial top feed fooder resources on all kinds of waste/abandoned lands and on field boundaries, (iii) creation of fodder banks by transporting baled, densified and fortified residues of crops like rice, wheat, maize, mustard etc. from States like Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh were such residues particularly rice are burnt, (iv) livestock strategy focusing on upgradation of indigenous livestock, establishment of permanent sites for cattle camps, proper redressal of drought related animal health problems. (v) exploitation of under-exploited/under utilized plant resources such as edible cactus, Valayati babul etc. and (vi) creation of alternative income and employment generating opportunities in drought prone areas.

To address the above mentioned drought management framework, following policy issues have been proposed for implementation. (i) implementation of land use policy focusing on efficient crop zone concept, (ii) declaration of water as national asset and legal provision for its over and unscientific exploitation for domestic, agricultural and industrial use, (iii) creation of fodder and seed banks in drought prone areas, (iv) State level policy for livestock distribution, management and improvement and (v) policy framework for effective and workable collaboration amongst Research-Development-NGOs-Industry-Farmer.

(c) Specific contingency plan for rabi season has also been prepared. Salient features of this rabi contingent plan are listed below :

1. Contingent crops/cropping sequences/agronomic practices

   - Cultivation of toria, taramira and/or agarni variety of mustard as catch crops after the receipt of late September rains.

- Mixed sowing of wheat + gram, barley plus gram and strip planting of wheat, mustard and gram in 4:4:4 rows geometry.
- Large scale resorting to zero tillage wheat cultivation in Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh. Resorting to bed planting furrow irrigated practices to save on limited irrigation water.
- Cultivation of less water requiring crops and cropping sequences as per contingency plans of respective States. For example, wheat varieties WH 157, WH 283 and Kundan can be cultivated with limited water.
- Resorting to application of locally available mulches for moisture conservation in rainfed regions.

2. Ensuring availability of quality fodder to animals for the period from September 2002 to June 2003 through
   - Cultivation of short duration and less water requiring fodder crops like dual purpose barley and oats. Promotion of barseem, lucern, Chinese cabbage, gobhi sarson etc. as fodder crops in assured irrigated parts of drought prone States.
   - Stopping burning of paddy residue in Punjab, Hayana, Western Uttar Pradesh and its transportation to drought affected areas particularly Rajasthan after proper bailing, densification and fortification etc.
   - Promoting use of sugarcane tops, its bi-products such as baggase, molasses, press mud etc. as survival feeding.
   - Preparation of urea molasses mineral blocks, feeding tree leaves and pods etc. as a source of supplementary ration.
3. Judicious use of surface and ground water
   - Resorting to drip and sprinkler irrigation practices wherever possible and feasiable.
   - Efficient use of poor quality ground water through mixed/alternate use, cultivation of salt tolerant varieties like CS 52 (mustard) and CSG 8962 (gram), application of gypsum, growing of salt tolerant crops such as Isabgol.
4. Livestock Strategy
   - Establishment of cattle camps in assured irrigation part of the drought prone areas.
   - Resorting to alternate day watering to camel, sheep and goats and avoiding long distance grazing.
   - Animal health check-up in cattle camps and following recommended vaccination schedule.

(d) The contingency Plan for rabi was announced in September 2002 during Rabi Meeting held in Vigyan Bhawan. Five hundred copies of the ICAR publication "Drought Management Strategies" were distributed to officials of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and representatives of all the States and Union Territories. Depending upon local conditions and prevailing drought situations, comprehensive contingent plans have been prepared by all the State Agricultural Universities. These contingent plans are being announced through press/ media and by organizing farmers meetings in all the drought prone areas in the country.

Production Cost of Agriculture Produce

2934. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any study to assess the cost of production of wheat, rice, sugarcane and cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the average cost of production of each of these products during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(c) the minimum and maximum cost of production of the above mentioned products during the said period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Under the Comprehensive Scheme for studying the Cost of Cultivation/Production of Principal Crops in

India, the Union Government collects data on cost of cultivation/production in respect of 29 crops from 16 major States. The cost estimates generated under the scheme are furnished to the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) on a regular basis. A statement showing the cost of production per quintal of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton crops in respect of the major States for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is enclosed.

Statement

Cost of Production of Paddy, Cotton, Wheat and Sugarcane in Respect of Major States of India for the period 2000-2001 and 2001-2002

Crop	State	Cost of production (Rs./Quintal)	
		2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4
Paddy	Andhra Pradesh	471.08	490.86
	Assam	469.97	486.62
	Bihar	448.46	450.7
	Haryana	517.19	553.51
	Kerala	705.08	746.69
	Madhya Pradesh	456.08	506.29
	Punjab	384.64	421.12
	Tamil Nadu	N.A.	505.57
	Uttar Pradesh	387.47	406.5
	West Bengal	452.01	500.21
Cotton	Gujarat	1620.09	1579.56
	Haryana	1800.7	2157.75
	Punjab	1812.36	2287.6
	Tamil Nadu	N.A.	2116.23
Wheat	Bihar	503.49	530.84
	Hayarna	417.52	441.01
	Himachal Pradesh	580.75	726.76
	Madhya Pradesh	536.4	568.3
	Punjab	423.34	453.97
	Rajasthan	454.09	509.12
	Uttar Pradesh	427.23	453.28
Sugarcane	Uttar Pradesh	50.19	53.54
	Maharashtra	49.54	55.02
	Haryana	56.52	58.93
	Karnataka	43.75	42.35
	Andhra Pradesh	57.57	62.55
	Tamil Nadu	41.74	47.14

N.A. – Not Available

Note :- The figures relate the C2 cost as projected by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices on the basis of the cost of cultivation/production data furnished to them by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics. C2 Cost covers all actual expenses in cash and kind incurred in production by owner, interest on value of owned capital assets (excluding land), rental value of owned land (net of land revenue), and rent paid for leased-in land, and imputed value of family labour.

[English]

Welfare of Animals and Birds

2935. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Special Trust to mobilise resources exclusively for the welfare of animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount earmarked for the purpose;

(c) whether any syllabus has been prepared on the subject 'how to manage zoological parks and care of birds'; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The measure is proposed to augment the resource base through donations, contributions and bequests to be deployed for animal

welfare activities. The process of formation of Trust is on.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have prescribed standard and norms on various aspects of zoo management. The Wildlife Institute of India has framed the syllabus for training of senior and middle level zoo managers on management of animals and zoos in the country. So far six courses each for the Senior and middle level officers have been held and 103 senior level managers and 111 middle level managers have been trained by the Institute.

Further zoos have also developed training syllabus to impart training to the zoo keepers in management and welfare of animals. So far 437 zookeepers have received such training.

[Translation]

Promotion of Horticulture

2936.SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced special financial assistance to promote Horticulture industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government is providing financial assistance to promote hoticulture in the country through the following schemes :

(i) National Horticulture Board Programmes.

(ii) Coconut Development Board Programmes for Integrated Development of Coconut Industry.

(iii) Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim.

(iv) Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal/ Hilly Areas.

Besides assistance is being provided for various activities including development of horticulture under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan.

[English]

Youth Employment Summit

2937.DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether any global conference of the Youth Employment Summit is proposed to be held in India in 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective plans and programmes of the Government for employment generation among the youth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Labour to host any global conference of the youth Employment Summit in India in 2003.

(c) Employment generation is a part of the Five Year Plan. The approach to the 10th Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal wtih the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.

Discrimination in Providing Assistance for Drought

2938.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from certain States of discrimination in providing assistance for drought;

(b) the names of the States which have complained of such discrimination and the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) to (c) In addition to release of Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) is considered for natural calamities (including droughts) of severs nature, in accordance with the prescribed procedure. This has been followed while determining assistance from NCCF to the States for current year's drought. No specific complaints have so far been received from the drought affected States in this regard.

Transportation of Cattle

2939. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a huge transportation of cattle from Orissa to West Bengal;

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

(c) whether this transportation is violating any law;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Government has no such information. However, there are transportation rules ensuring proper care of animals while they are in transit.

[Translation]

Fixation of MSP for Fruit and Vegetable

2940. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIK RAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the State producing maximum fruits and vegetables in the country;

(b) the production of fruits and vegetables during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of per capita availability of fruits and vegetables in the country;

(d) whether there has been enormous increase in the prices of fruits and vegetables;

(e) if so, whether the Government have fixed Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of fruits and vegetables especially of potatoes and onion;

(f) the name of the State which has asked for financial assistance for becoming self reliant in production of fruits and vegetables; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to increase production of fruits and vegetables ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Maharashtra is the largest producer of fruits and West Bengal is the largest producer of vegetables in the country.

(b) The State-wise details of production of fruits and vegetables during each of the last three years is given in the statement in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The per capita availability of fruits and vegetables in the country is estimated to be 85 grams/day and 175 grams/day respectively.

(d) and (e) The price trend of fruits and vegetables in Metropolitan Cities/Markets during last three years does not show enormous increase in the price of fruits and vegetables. The Government has not fixed any Minimum Support Price for fruits and vegetables including potato and onion.

(f) and (g) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/ Complementation of State Efforts through work Plan assistance is being extended to the farmers for various activities including development of fruits and vegetable. The scheme is being implemented in all States and UTs. The Scheme provides flexibility to the State Governments to priorities their activities as per their felt needs. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for activities like supply of good quality planting material through nurseries, establishment of seed villages, coverage of area with improved varieties, technology dissemination through training of farmers, creation of infrastructural factilities like disease forecasting units, plant health clinics, leaf/tissue analysis labs, on farm handling of produce and mechanization.

Statement

State-wise Production of Fruits and Vegetables in the Country

(Production : 000' MT)

S.No.	States/UTs	Fruits			Vegetables		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4589.6	5175.4	5003.4	3541.2	2839.1	3147.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	91.6	93.1	123.1	80.9	80.9	83.7
3.	Assam	1249.4	1247.1	1293.8	2834.8	3089.4	2693.1
4.	Bihar	3797.2	3870.7	3237.5	9418.4	9548.8	10219.7
5.	Jharkhand	–	–	265.1	–	–	2109.5
6.	Goa	98.9	99.0	71.5	70.0	70.0	76.0
7.	Gujarat	2293.5	2376.0	2268.2	3255.0	2647.0	3070.8
8.	Haryana	192.4	212.0	232.0	1850.0	2094.5	2191.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	448.1	87.5	438.3	606.4	660.9	734.2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	881.1	1021.0	837.3	606.9	584.4	757.9
11.	Karnataka	5446.3	5456.1	4819.5	4944.9	6796.9	5763.0
12.	Kerala	1621.2	1184.4	1772.6	2857.2	2857.1	2530.9
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1374.4	1536.1	1740.4	3276.2	3632.0	3501.9
14.	Chhattisgarh	–	–	154.3	–	–	1146.3
15.	Maharashtra	7521.7	8688.5	8680.8	4479.5	4828.6	5142.0
16.	Manipur	115.3	118.1	118.7	45.0	53.1	67.4
17.	Meghalaya	186.4	223.3	186.9	308.7	252.9	303.6
18.	Mizoram	76.8	40.7	66.7	62.4	56.3	47.3
19.	Nagaland	152.0	232.3	290.4	313.3	235.7	253.6
20.	Orissa	1718.4	1202.9	1284.4	10087.1	9096.0	8089.1
21.	Punjab	844.7	418.6	479.7	1906.3	2285.	2310.0
22.	Rajasthan	310.3	339.3	339.3	396.1	472.6	386.4
23.	Sikkim	8.3	8.6	10.0	42.2	43.0	59.7
24.	Tamil Nadu	5447.6	5939.6	6237.7	5704.8	5660.3	6011.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Tripura	372.1	372.1	450.8	232.8	232.8	328.1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3097.8	3210.5	2713.0	12680.6	13842.4	13030.4
27.	Uttaranchal	520.4	475.5	541.0	840.7	733.2	1138.1
28	West bengal	1536.0	1816.1	1656.5	16367.4	17413.8	17779.4
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.7	16.7	16.7	15.8	15.8	15.8
30.	Chandigarh	1.2	1.9	1.1	11.5	1.2	1.7
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.1	7.1	7.1	13.5	13.5	13.5
32.	Daman and Diu	3.4	3.4	3.4	1.0	1.1	1.1
33.	Delhi	1.0	0.1	1.0	651.9	651.9	862.7
34.	Lakshadweep	0.7	1.3	1.1	–	0.2	0.2
35.	Pondicherry	20.8	20.1	26.7	33.5	32.6	54.2
	Total	44042.4	45495.9	45370.0	87536.0	90823.0	93921.5

[English]

Development of Bagdogra Airport

2941.SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bagdogra airport, which is serving tourists visiting States of Sikkim and backward districts of North Bengal and five districts of North Bihar lags in development vis-a-vis other domestic airports;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to develop it fully ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bagdogra Airport belongs to Ministry of Defence, where Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave. AAI has recently constructed a New Terminal Building with most modern passenger facilities to cater to 500 passengers at a time, at an estimated cost of Rs. 12.55 Crores. Custom and Immigration facilities are also available to handle limited International flights. The Work for constructions New approach Road and car park area for parking 200 cars at a time is in progress, at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.89 Crores.

Boost of Fishery Industry

2942.SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fishery Survey of India is considering to map out new grounds for non-shrimp fishery resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be adopted to give boost to the Fishery Industry as well as fishermen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Fishery Survey of India plans to acquire more vessel and after acquiring these vessles, it will be able to conduct exploratory survey for non-shrimp resources such as deep sea demersal fin-fish resources, off-shore pelagic fishes and neritic tunas and oceanic tuna and tuna like fishes.

(c) During the Tenth Five Year Plan under Macro Management scheme, namely, Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations the following sub-schemes have been proposed to be implemented which will give a boost to the fishery industry as well as to fishermen :

(i) Introduction of Intermediate Craft of improved design.

(ii) Resource specific Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.

(iii) Motorisation of Traditional Crafts.

(iv) Subsidy on Keosene and Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD.

(v) Safety of Fishermen at sea.

(vi) Development of Fishing Harbour.

(vii) Strengthening of Post Harvest Infrastructure.

Stock Piling

2943. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to check stock piling of foograins to safeguard the interests of farmers;

(b) whether the Governmnet propose to introduce "crop rotation" in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) As a part of national policy, the Government has been emphasizing crop diversifiction, which includes appropriate crop rotation, keeping in view the soil health problems being encountered by growing exhaustive crops like cereals followed by cereals. This is intended to conserve the natural resources with sustainability in agriculture.

Besides above, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India have taken various measures to boost export of foodgrains from the Central Pool. These are :

(i) Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) on export of rice, wheat and wheat products have been removed subject to the condition that the stocks in the Central Pool would not be lower than 243 lakh MTs (143 lakh MTs of wheat and 100 lakh MTs of rice) at any point of time.

(ii) There are no procedural restrictions like registration with APEDA in case of export of wheat, wheat products and non-basmati rice.

(iii) Exporters have been allowed to lift stocks from the depots of FCI according to their choice.

(iv) An empowered Standing Committee on Exports has been set up to take expeditious decisions on matters relating to export of foodgrains regularly.

(v) In order to offer a stable price regime, the Government has decided to fix the offer price of export of wheat and rice from the Central Pool for a period of 3 months, with an additional month given for lifting of stocks, and to announce the prices 45 days in advance before the commencement of the concerned quarter.

(vi) WTO compatible post-delivery expenses and other related expense are being allowed to the exporters.

Increase in International Flights from Amritsar

2944. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the international flights from Amritsgar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Turkmenistan Airlines and Uzbekistan Airlines are operating six and seven services per week respectively from Amritsar to their respective countries. Besides Indian Airlines is also connecting Amritsar with Sharjah twice a week. At present, there is no proposal to increase international operations from Amritsar.

[Translation]

Traditional Methods for Water Resources

2945.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to implement the traditional methods to overcome the shortage of water in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The traditional methods of rain water harvesting are being emphasized for implementation in an integrated manner. Tanks, Ponds and roof-top rain water collection systems are some of the means of rain water harvesting. Rehabilitation of existing tanks is also being implemented in the States of Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry and Rajasthan. Adoption of these methods throughout the country is likely to contribute significantly to overcome the shortage of water. Water, being a State subject, the water resources projects including those for implementing traditional methods of rain water harvesting are formulated, planned, implemented and funded by the respective State Governments as per their priorities and from their own resources.

[English]

Effect on Travel Agencies due to Recession

2946.SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether continuing recession in the travel trade sector would eventually snow-ball into the elimination of small and medium travel agents;

(b) if so, whether the small and medium travel agencies are be set with problems like drop in airline ticket commissions, airlines giving perference to consolidators, rise in bank guarantee and TDS problems;

(c) if so, whether the Travel Agents Association of India has met recently at Kochi and sent any representation to the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The recession in the travel trade due to decline in tourist arrivals has affected the industry globally. However, in case of India, there is a turn around in the situation with over 16% growth in foreign tourist arrivals during October and November this year as compared to the same period last year and this augers well for the Indian tourism industry including small and medium organisations in the sector. Also, there has been a rise in domestic tourism by 32%, which has helped in sustaining the travel trade sector.

(c) and (d) The Annual Convention of the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) was held in Kochi from 20th to 23rd September, 2002. However, no representation has been received from TAAI in this regard.

Insured Persons in ESI

2947.SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI V. VETRISELVAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of insured persons under ESI cover at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the ratio of hospitals for the insured persons in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the hospitals are less in number than requirement;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to fulfil the need of hospitals to provide adequate Medicare to the insured persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) State-wise information is enclosed.

(b) At present there are 140 ESI Hospitals in the country for 80,03,800 insured persons. In Tamil Nadu there are 9 ESI Hospitals having 1955 beds for 11,41,850 insured persons whereas in Maharashtra there are 13 ESI Hospitals having 3600 beds for 11,67,150 insured persons.

(c) to (e) As per policy of ESI Corporation 4 beds are provided for 1000 Insured Persons family units and minimum a 50 – bedded hospital is established wherever a minimum of 25000 Insured Persons family units are available. As per policy of the Corporation tie up arrangements are made with other Government/private hospitals to provide indoor treatment to the beneficiaries, wherever no ESI Hospitals are available.

Statement

State-wise information on the number of insured persons under ESI cover

State/Area	No. of Insured Persons
1	2
Andhra Pradesh and Yanam	552100
Assam and Meghalaya	35300
Bihar	37100
Chandigarh	32100
Chattisgarh	35750
Delhi	565950
Goa	80950
Gujarat	
(i) Ahmedabad	277450
(ii) Surat	108250
(iii) Baroda	130850
Haryana	390500
Himachal Pradesh	45600
Jammu and Kashmir	17400
Jharkhand	69200
Karnataka	
(i) Bangalore	629150
(ii) Hubli Area	91400
Kerala and Mahe	381900
Madhya Pradesh	255400
Maharashtra	
(i) Lower Parel	280300
(ii) Thane	226750
(iii) Marol	238650
(iv) Nagpur Area	86250
(v) Pune Area	335200
Orissa	129900
Pondicherry	53800
Punjab	402750
Rajasthan	276800
Tamil Nadu	
(i) Chennai Area	673550
(ii) Coimbatore Area	213800
(iii) Madurai Area	254500
Uttar Pradesh	458300
Uttaranchal	19000
West Bengal	617900
All India	8003800

Impact of Urbanisation

2948.SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rapid pace of urbanisation has led to deforestation, loss of bio-diversity and improper use of natural resources; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and schemes initiated to arrest deforestation, maintain bio-diversity and to ensure proper and justified use of natural resources ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Urbanisation invariably involves changes in the land use and in this process cutting down of few trees may also be necessary. In this process some variations in biodiversity may be inevitable. State Governments and local bodies are already taking

various measures such as creation of green belts, avenue plantations etc. In addition there are various legislations enacted by Central/State Governments which take care of the environmental problems.

Development of Fisheries

2949.SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken to give various incentives to coastal States for development of fisheries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Various schemes such as Development of Marine Fisheries; Fishing Harbours at Major and Minor Ports; Development of Freshwater Aquaculture; Integrated Coastal Aquaculture; National Welfare of Fishermen, etc. are implemented for fisheries development in different States/ UTs including Coastal States. The conference of State Ministers in charge of Fisheries of Coastal States/UTs was also held in September, 2002 to deliberate on important issues concerning fisheries sector for overall development of the sector during Tenth Plan.

Crop of Moong Dal Affected by Army Worms

2950.SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that entire crop of moong dal (pulse) in Karnataka has been infested with army worms (Sainika Hulu);

(b) if so, whether said worm has affected the crop in the State four years ago too;

(c) whether the Government are providing any assistance to the State to check this worm attack; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Army worm infestation on 'Moong Dal' has not been reported anywhere in Karnataka.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Discovery of ADI Granth

2951.SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 17th century Sikh religious relic the 'Adi-Granth' was discoverd in the collections of the British library recently; and

(b) if so, the action taken to bring back the manuscript to India from London ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Diseases Affecting Coconut Tree

2952.SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of scientific study conducted on the various diseases affecting the coconut tree and the latest findings;

(b) the total amount allotted and spent so far on such study;

(c) the loss suffered by the farmers in terms of loss of nuts as well as trees so far;

(d) whether any lasting remedy has been found; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Scientific studies were conducted by Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod on coconut diseases like root wilt, stem bleeding, leaf rot etc. Causal organisms have been identified and management practices implemented including the farmers plots.

(b) Out of Rs. 9.55 crores allotted Rs. 9.54 crores has been spent on the study.

(c) As per the survey conducted, about 900 million nuts and 50,000 trees were lost by the diseases.

(d) Management practices for the diseases have been evolved.

(e) The technology has been demonstrated on 210 farmers' plots. The results indicated that there is a definite improvement in coconut plantations.

Construction Workers

2953. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate number of construction workers in the country State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to bring any comprehensive legislation for the welfare of these workers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The number of construction workers in the country State-wise, as per the latest available information from 1991 Census, is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) The Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 for regulation of employment and conditions of service of the building and other construction workers. The Act provided for safety, health and certain welfare measures like immediate assistance to the beneficiary in case of accident, pension benefits, premium for Group Insurance Scheme, loans and advances for construction of house, assistance for education of children, medical expenses, maternity benefit to female beneficiaries.

Statement

Statement showing number of construction workers (State-Wise) as per 1991 Census

S.No.	States/UTs	No. fo construction workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4,70,668
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23,392
3.	Assam	1,09,607
4.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	1,62,230
5.	Goa	25,037
6.	Gujarat	2,82,822
7.	Haryana	1,23,476
8.	Himachal Pradesh	86,246
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	–
10.	Karnataka	4,27,972
11.	Kerala	3,32,340
12.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chattisgarh)	3,88,425
13.	Maharashtra	8,01,735
14.	Manipur	10,971
15.	Meghalaya	11,349
16.	Nagaland	9,032
17.	Orissa	90,315
18.	Punjab	1,56,045
19.	Rajasthan	3,37,033
20.	Sikkim	11,655
21.	Tamil Nadu	4,89,270
22.	Tripura	11,752
23.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	5,10,520
24.	West Bengal	3,81,317
25.	A and N Islands	12,449
26.	Chandigarh	22,098
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1,736
28.	Delhi	2,31,571
29.	Daman and Diu	1,960
30.	Lakshadweep	1,916
31.	Mizoram	7,158
32.	Pondicherry	11,108

[Translation]

Implementation of KVIC's Schemes

2954.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Boards have been successfully implementing Khadi and Village Industries Commission's schemes in the rural areas of their respective States including Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Maharashtra;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Rural Employment Generation Programme of the Khadi and Village Commission has been implemented successfully, so far. In view of the crying need to generate additional employment and the successful experience of the programme, it has been decided to continue the programme during the 10th Plan period i.e. upto 31.3.2007 as well. The target set for the 10th Plan is to generate additional employment opportunities for 2.0 million persons with a proposed investment of Rs. 1250 crores. The State-wise performance of REGP in respect of projects sanctioned and employment generated in the country upto 31.3.2002 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Statewise project financed and employment as on 31.03.2002(P) under REGP

S. No.	States/Union Territories	Projects financed	Employment (persons in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9955	1.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	317	0.03
3.	Assam	425	0.07
4.	Bihar	529	0.04
5.	Goa	1931	0.15
6.	Gujarat	682	0.04
7.	Haryana	3509	0.54
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1068	0.19
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5754	0.41
10.	Karnataka	10326	0.85
11.	Kerala	5592	0.62
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16779	1.44
13.	Maharashtra	16805	1.42
14.	Manipur	623	0.11
15.	Meghalaya	2784	0.20
16.	Mizoram	732	0.08
17.	Nagaland	4665	0.94
18.	Orissa	1467	0.14
19.	Punjab	7363	0.72
20.	Rajasthan	20365	1.87
21.	Sikkim	18	*
22.	Tamil Nadu	3484	0.31
23.	Tripura	48	0.05
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11704	1.70
25.	West Bengal	11416	0.83
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	162	*
27.	Chandigarh	139	0.01
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	*
29.	Delhi	203	0.03
30.	Lakshadweep	01	*

1	2	3	4
31.	Pondicherry	899	0.11
32.	Chhattisgarh	197	0.08
33.	Jharkhand	218	0.01
34.	Uttaranchal	313	0.06
	Total	140481	14.42

*Less than 500.

Ganga Pump Canal Project

2955. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any financial assistance to complete the work of Ganga Pump Canal Project at Bateswar in Bhagalpur in Bihar-Jharkhand border;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to complete the project with the help of World Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (d) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are planned, funded, implemented and maintained by the State Government from their own resources as per their own priorities attached to it. The Ganga Pump Canal Project at Bateswar in Bhagalpur in Bihar-Jharkhand border is under construction. The Union Government has received a proposal from Government of Bihar in September, 2002 to provide financial assistance to this project. There is no proposal to take the help of World Bank to complete the project.

Conservation of Bodhivriksh

2956. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

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

(a) whether the Great "Bodhivriksh" in Gaya is on the verge of falling due to decay;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for the same: and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to protect it from the attack of pests ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Super Speciality Hospital

2957. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria of setting up of Sub-Regional Office of ESI in the country;

(b) the number of said office functioning in the country especially in Kerala at present, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to upgrade ESI hospital as a super speciality hospital in the country;

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

(e) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The ESIC has laid down the following guidelines for setting up of Regional/Sub-Regional Offices :-

(i) A population of 5 lakh insured persons should be taken as the optimum number for a Regional Office;

(ii) In case number of insured persons goes beyond 5 lakh, bifurcation of the region should be considered, subject to the condition that the bifurcated portion remains a viable unit;

(iii) A concentration of minimum of one lakh insured persons at a particular centre/area may be considered for setting up of Sub-Regional Office in a Region.

(b) At present Sub-Regional Offices (ESIC) are functioning in the following centres/areas :–

Maharashtra Region	Pune, Nagpur, Marol (Andheri) and Thane
Tamil Nadu Region	Coimbatore and Madurai
Karnataka Region	Hubli
Gujarat Region	Surat and Broada
West Bengal Region	Barrackpore (Accommodation for Sub-Regional Office is being located)

At present there is no proposal for setting up of a Sub-Regional Office in Kerala.

(c) to (e) Model Hospitals will have facility of Cardiology and Dialysis Unit. The list of proposed. Model Hospitals is enclosed.

Statement

Proposed Existing ESI Hospitals Convertion into Model Hospital

Sl.No.	State	Hospitals proposed by ESIC
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nacharam 200 beds
2.	Assam	Beltola 50 beds
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi 50 beds
4.	Goa	Margao 50 beds
5.	Gujarat	Bapu Nagar 600 beds
6.	Haryana	Gurgaon 100 beds (to be newly constructed)
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Parwanoo 50 beds
8.	Karnataka	Indiranagar 300 beds
9.	Kerala	Asarmam 200 beds
10.	Orissa	Rourkela 50 beds
11.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry 75 beds
12.	Punjab	Jalandhar 100 beds + 90 beds (new block)
13.	Rajasthan	Jaipur 236 beds
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Sahibabad 100 beds
15.	Bihar	Phulwari Sharif 50 beds
16.	Chandigarh	50 beds

Note : In States of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh where ESIC is already running hospitals cum ODCs directly, the same will be further upgraded as Model Hospitals in consultation with State Government.

[Translation]

New Monuments in ASI List

2958.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some more sites are proposed to be included in the list of the protected monuments in the country especially in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, wheher the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has formulated any scheme for protection and conservation of these sites;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount spent on security and protection of these monuments during 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A list of monuments/sites proposed for being included under central protection is in the Statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Expenditure on security and conservation of the monuments is incurred once the monuments/sites are brought under the centrla protection.

Statement

Details of Monuments/Sites Proposed for being included under Central Protection

Andaman and Nikcobar Island (U.T.)

1. Old Building, Ross Island.

Assam

2. Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Silchar.

Bihar

3. House of Rishi Rajnaraya Basu at Deoghar.
4. L.S. College, Muzaffarpur, Bihar.
5. Bodhgaya Temple, Bihar.

Delhi

6. Siri Fort Wall and its adjoining historical mound.
7. Swami Shradanand Balidan Bhawan, Delhi.
8. Building at Roshanara Road where Swami Vivekanand Stayed in Delhi.
9. Quli Khan's Tomb, Mehruali, New Delhi.
10. Quila Rai Pithora and Siri Fort Wall, Delhi.

Goa

11. Mahadev Temple, Tamdisurla, Goa.

Gujarat

12. Bhau Tambekarwala, Vadodara.

Haryana

13. Group of Tombs at Jhajjar.
14. Ancient monument, Borsham Karnal.
15. Neemrana Mahal of Prithvi Raj Chauhan, Haryana.
16. Tombs of Taurru, Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana.

Himachal Pradesh

17. Buddhist Monastry at Lahalung Distt. Lahul Spiti.
18. Hiteshwari Devi Temple, Shiva Temple and four miniature temple at Hatkoti, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
19. Balakeshwar Mahadeva Temple, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
20. Bhuddhist temple at nadang, Lahul and Spiti.
21. Buddhist Monasteries at Naka Distt. Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh.
22. Durga Temple, Distt. Kangar, Himachal Pradesh.
23. Shiva Temple, Jubbal, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
24. Chandra Shekar Temple, Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
25. Khajji Naga Temple, Khajjiar Dissst. Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
26. Lakshmi Narayan Temple, Udaipur, Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
27. Shiva Shakti Devi Temple, Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
28. Thungyar Gumpha, Kerla, Distt. Kinnuar, Himachal Pradesh.
29. Shiva Temple, Mahakala Temple and Bhut Nath Temple, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
30. Monuments in Pangi Valley, Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
31. Shiva Mandir, Joginder Nagar, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
32. Barsela Monument Distt. Mandu, Himachal Pradesh.

Jammu and Kashmir

33. Ancient Nyarma Monastery in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir.
34. Hari Parbhat Sri Nagar Kashmir, Jammu and Kashmir.
35. Chiktan and other Gompas and Monasteries at Distt. Kargil, Jammu and Kashmir.

Karnataka

36. Memorial Tipu Sultan, Sringapatnam.
37. Anegundi Bridge and other related ancient monuments of Hampi.
38. Mata Manikeshwari Hill Manikgiri, Distt. Gulbarga, Karnataka.

39. Temple of Sri Someshwar and Chandershekar at Hassan, Karnataka.

40. Monuments belonging to Chalukya Dynastry of Multagi village, Karnataka.

41. Ramanatheswar and other temple situated in Chittur Village Distt. Shimoga, Karnataka.

42. Ancient Chalukyan temple, Badami, Bagalkot Distt., Karnataka.

43. Virupaksha temple, Karnataka.

Kerala

44. Shri Thiruvankidam Maharishu temple Chodissary, Distt. Trichur, Kerala.

45. Shri Vadakunnatha temple at Thumpomon Distt. Pathanamthilta, Kerala.

46. Sri Rama Swamy Temple of Vallarkad, Thrissur.

Madhya Pradesh

47. Pre-historic Rock Shelters, Bhimbetka, Distt. Raisen.

48. Gohar Mahal, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

49. Marshall's House at Sanchi, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh.

50. Town Hall Building, Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh.

Maharashtra

51. Ambarnath Shiv Temple near Mumbai.

52. Harishewsra Temple, Kudal, Sangam, Distt. Solapur.

53. Bodh Stup of Sapora Vill. Distt. Thane.

54. Fort at Ahmadnagar.

55. Gandhi Ashram, Solapur.

56. Aga Khan Palace. Pune.

Orissa

57. Ancient Caves at Khandgiri and Udaigiri near Cuttack.

58. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Birth Palace i.e. Jankinath Bhawan of Cuttack.

Punjab

59. Mata Jayanti Devi Temple, Ropar, Punjab.

60. Ranjit Singh Fort, at Phillaur, Punjab.

61. Durgiana Temple, Amritsar, Punjab.

Rajasthan

62. Rock Remains Primondial Shrine at Alwar (Rajasthan).

63. Samadi of Maharana Pratap, Rajasthan.

64. Ancient Site Ojiyana Distt. Bhilwara, Rajasthan.

65. Rakta Talai, Chetak Samadhi, Haldi Ghati, Badshahi Gate, Rajasthan.

66. Badshahi Bagh, Rajsamand, Rajasthan.

67. Ranakpur Jain Temple Complex.

Tamil Nadu

68. Thirumageshwara temple Devanur, Villupuram, Distt., Tamilnadu.

69. Kailashnath Temple, Tirupathur, Trichurapali Distt. Tamilnadu.

70. Excavated remaisn Buddhist Vihar and temple at Pallaveneshwaram, Distt., Tamilnadu.

71. Monuments in Kanyakumari Distt., Tamilnadu

Uttar Pradesh

72. Areas of land around excavated remains and Chaukhandi Stupa at Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh.

73. Mounds of Urai, Sadar Basti, Distt. Basti, Uttar Pradesh.

74. Monuments at Kasna Distt., Gutam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.

75. Pant Sadan the House of the First Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

76. Ashth Shakhi Kund, Radha Kund, Kishna Kund, Distt. Mathura.

West Bengal

77. Clive House at Dumdum.

78. Shiva Temple Complex at Sribabatipara, Kolkatta.

79. Main Gate Naubatkhana, Hangeshwari and Basudeva temple, Hoogli.

80. Hasting House at Barasat.

81. Khawaja Anwar Berth (Nawab Bari Palace) at Burdman.

82. Imambara, Yellow Mosque, Tripaulia Gate, South Gate Hazarduari Complex.

83. Estate of Kavi Guru Ravindra Nath Tagore, Kolkatta.

Water Logging in Bihar

2959.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ten lakh hectare area of land is affected by water logging in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether certain areas falling under the Gandak, Koshi, Ghaghara rivers and Mokama Tal area are prone to the problem of water logging;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Bihar to formulate any programme/scheme to solve the problem of water logging;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government so far in this regard; and

(e) the action proposed by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Government of Bihar has reported that the total water logged area in the State is 9.41 lakh hectare which interalia includes the areas falling under the Gandak, Koshi, Ghaghara rivers and Mokama Tal area.

(c) to (e) Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, executing and operating flood control schemes including water logging primarily rests with the concerned State Government. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

Central Water Commission has received three schemes from the State Government for drainage development in Bihar particularly in Mokama Tal Area which are under examination for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Improvement of drainage in the country including Mokama Tal area" for implementation during the 10th Plan.

[English]

Co-operative Farming Societies

2960.SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether formation of co-operative farming societies was banned in the year 1965 but still new fake members are being enrolled;

(b) if so, the total number of co-operative farming societies in the country, State-wise indicating the quantum of land holdings of each one of them, separately;

(c) whethere there is any proposal to varify the antecedents of the members of these societies and to delete the names of the fake members;

(d) when were the elections of those societies held last and whether there is any proposal to hold fresh elections of them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) Cooperatives is a State subject. The information sought in the question is not available with the Department. However the State wise informaiton on number of cooperative farming societies, number of such dormant societies and the area commanded and their coverage is enclosed.

Statement

No : 28 : *Farming Societies – Joint Farming Number, Membership, Coverage, Liabilities and*

Sr. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of Societies			Membership			
		Total	of Col. 01		Total	of Col. 04		
			Dormant	Located in Waste Land		S.C.	S.T.	Women
		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
								Of Ex-servicemen
1.	Assam	128	2	3	7,070	1,140	3,141	297
2.	Gujarat	10	–	–	149	18	–	–
3.	Haryana	16	4	–	363	250	10	9
4.	Maharashtra@	1	–	–	19	–	–	6
	Total of 1998-99	155	6	3	7,601	1,408	3,151	312
	Total of 1997-98	1	–	–	19	–	–	6
								Of Others
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Is.@@@	20	3	–	756	–	–	–
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1,940	879	805	1,25,901	85,652	18,442	4,031
3.	Bihar	309	309	–	8,226	434	1,399	–
4.	Delhi@@	2	2	–	43	–	–	–
5.	Gujarat	159	40	63	4,988	2,153	499	493
6.	Haryana@@	72	39	–	1,239	64	–	15
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	–	44	–	13	–
8.	Jammu and Kashmir@@@	4	4	–	109	–	–	–
9.	Karnataka	119	42	20	6,570	2,022	408	466
10.	Kerala	79	25	7	11,957	1,285	1,441	3,596
11.	Madhya Pradesh@@@	26	17	2	483	122	46	–
12.	Maharashtra	33	2	8	5,907	592	136	157
13.	Manipur	148	76	–	5,729	–	486	–
14.	Meghalaya	35	8	–	1,530	–	1,530	–
15.	Orissa	13	8	–	1,479	218	167	5
16.	Punjab@@	162	138	–	4,006	739	2	117
17.	Rajasthan	166	160	11	3,527	482	340	128

Assets as at the end of March 1999 and Operations during 1998-99

(Amount Rs. in Thousands)

Coverage in hectares				Working Capital/Total Assets	Paid-up Capital		
Area Commanded	Cultivable Land				Total	Government and CFAs	Individuals and Others
	Total	Irrigated	Un-Irrigated				
08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
4,566	1,441	656	785	1,31,98,275	5,28,500	1,02,500	4,24,000
131	120	69	61	95	11	–	11
932	932	711	221	345	120	1	119
49	49	20	29	179	34	–	34
5,678	2,542	1,446	1,096	1,31,98,894	5,26,665	1,02,501	4,24,184
49	49	20	29	179	34	–	34
–	1,588	1,124	464	3953	214	–	214
93,666	88,411	34,372	54,039	2,27,711	9,479	4,968	4511
26,994	18,372	17,521	851	5,870	1,428	–	1428
–	1,139	1,095	44	87	12	4	8
8,657	6,632	2,109	4,523	29,425	1,487	43	1,444
505	3,134	2,259	875	4,991	527	16	511
18	3	2	1	748	33	–	33
8	8	6	2	178	68	40	28
6,845	35,151	6,215	28,936	11,731	60,046	9,644	50,402
10,594	10,381	5,199	5,182	92,974	2,908	745	2,161
1,517	1,169	639	530	1,737	139	24	115
6,693	7,105	3,530	3,575	28,523	7,224	46	7,178
200	200	120	80	398	183	80	103
378	8	1	7	2,825	898	254	644
867	275	98	177	3,814	79	18	81
7,638	7,646	6,356	1,290	8,382	1,716	35	1,881
15,028	4,241	1,915	2,326	4,328	862	85	776

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
18. Tamil Nadu	6	1	–	1950	605	31	160
19. Tripura	1	1	–	164	–	–	–
20. Uttar Pradesh@@@	1,336	369	39	27,367	–	–	–
21. West Bengal@	189	–	–	15,876	–	–	–
Total of 1998-99	4,822	2,124	755	2,27,851	74,368	22,940	9,168
Total of 1997-98	4,863	2,183	728	2,31,330	72,295	21,297	8,707
Grand Total of 1998-99	4,977	2,130	758	2,35,452	75,776	26,081	9,480
Grand Total of 1997-98	4,864	2,183	725	2,31,349	72,295	21,297	8,713

@Data pertain to 1997-98 @@Data pertain to 1996-97 @@@Data prior to 1996-97

Statement

No ; 29 : *Farming Societies – Collective Farming Number, Membership, Coverage, Liabilities and*

Sr. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of Societies			Membership			
		Total	of Co. 01		Total	of Col. 04		
			Dormant	Located in Waste Land		S.C.	S.T.	Women
		01	02	03	04	05	06	07
								Of Ex-servicemen
1.	Assam	133	5	19	2,979	936	2,564	96
2.	Haryana	60	43	–	882	159	–	22
3.	Kerala	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4.	Madhya Pradesh	90	57	–	5,797	110	165	15
5.	Maharashtra	2	–	1	206	–	8	15
6.	Mizoram	252	39	–	9,945	–	9,945	–
7.	Nagaland	187	–	–	187	–	7,480	–
8.	Punjab@	146	122	–	2,942	294	2	112
	Total of 1998-99	870	265	20	22,938	1,499	20,164	260
	Total of 1997-98	2	–	1	196	–	6	12
								Of Others
1.	Andhra Pradesh	432	133	174	24,479	10,188	2,058	3,867
2.	Arunachal Pradesh@@	1	–	–	13	–	13	–

08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
24,000	24,000	24,000	–	4,863	75	–	76
–	–	–	–	5	2	–	2
1,24,189	1,08,141	68,086	40,055	77,833	5,273	791	4,482
–	–	–	–	5,891	1,270	290	980
3,27,794	3,17,604	1,74,647	1,42,957	5,16,057	93,921	17,084	76,837
3,21,618	3,07,676	1,68,669	1,39,007	4,76,998	28,184	8,444	19,740
3,33,472	3,20,148	1,76,093	1,44,053	1,37,14,951	6,20,586	1,19,585	5,01,001
3,21,667	3,07,725	1,68,689	1,39,036	4,77,177	28,218	8,444	19,774

Assets as at the end of March 1999 and Operations during 1998-99

(Amount Rs. in Thousand)

Coverage in hectares				Working	Paid-up Capital		
Area	Cultivable Land			Capital/Total	Total	Government	Individuals
Commanded	Total	Irrigated	Un-Irrigated	Assets		and CFAs	and Others
08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
1,498	1,080	502	578	76,45,224	4,86,798	1,11,661	3,75,135
1,390	2,068	936	1,132	3,501	588	17	571
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
12,444	6,009	1,055	4,954	17,204	8,859	633	7,926
252	143	128	17	759	57	15	42
–	–	–	–	31,54,366	9,82,687	5,41,373	4,41,314
–	–	–	–	9,008	9,008	9,008	–
5,371	5,371	4,230	1,141	6,806	1,306	47	1,259
20,955	14,671	8,849	7,822	1,07,36,868	14,89,001	6,62,754	8,26,247
252	143	103	40	783	45	–	45
							Of Others
30,544	29,123	12,134	16,989	47,360	1451	800	651
–	–	–	–	71	14	6	8

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
3. Assam@@@	428	197	–	15,571	3,313	5,059	–
4. Chandigarh@@@	1	1	–	11	5	–	–
5. Daman and Diu@	1	–	1	11	–	–	–
6. Delhi@@@	23	23	–	1,009	–	–	–
7. Goa	4	4	–	64	–	–	2
8. Gujarat	525	90	149	22,849	9,957	3,690	533
9. Haryana@@	16	6	34	327	97	–	9
10. Himachal Pradesh@@	1	–	–	13	–	13	–
11. Jammu and Kashmir@@@	4	4	–	75	–	–	–
12. Karnataka	14	4	8	2,853	287	41	26
13. Kerala	13	5	8	2,045	188	157	63
14. Madhya Pradesh@@@	143	97	–	3,914	347	271	–
15. Maharahtra	102	16	16	9,578	2,085	583	257
16. Manipur	51	28	–	3,293	–	404	–
17. Meghalaya	14	1	1	559	–	539	15
18. Mizoram@	199	22	–	10,718	–	10,718	–
19. Nagaland@	186	–	186	7,740	–	7,740	–
20. Orissa	1	1	–	112	26	5	–
21. Punjab@@@	78	–	–	6,834	1,173	–	–
22. Rajasthan@@@	9	–	–	–	–	–	–
23. Tamil Nadu	14	2	–	2,955	850	70	117
24. Tripura	2	1	–	58	4	5	–
25. Uttar Pradesh@@	188	49	26	6,545	–	–	–
Total of 1998-99	2,430	684	603	1,21,626	28,518	31,366	4,679
Total of 1997-98	2,421	683	680	1,17,746	29,404	31,445	4,754
Grand Total of 1998-99	3,300	950	623	1,44,584	30,017	51,530	4,939
Grand Total of 1997-98	2,423	683	681	1,17,942	29,404	31,451	4,768
All Farming Total 1998-88	8,277	3,080	1,381	3,80,016	1,05,793	77,621	14,419
All Farming Total 1997-98	7,287	2,866	1,407	3,49,291	1,01,699	52,748	13,479

@Data pertain to 1997-98 @@Data pertain to 1996-97 @@@Data prior to 1996-97

08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
18,623	18,623	18,623	–	5,031	1,115	599	516
107	107	107	–	1	–	–	–
–	–	–	–	439	1	–	1
–	1,700	1,360	340	766	196	14	182
60	60	45	15	33	22	7	15
37,251	30,865	9,213	21,652	30,858	3,430	241	3,189
199	918	627	291	419	153	2	151
2	2	2	–	554	32	–	32
50	50	30	20	242	140	–	140
1,055	33,362	5,473	27,889	954	108	18	90
872	1,425	181	1,244	8,602	118	45	73
3741	2,674	1,044	1,630	2,836	353	103	250
15,283	13,632	3,939	9,693	29,738	1,997	29	1,968
9	9	9	–	709	208	180	48
150	51	20	31	308	136	104	32
–	–	–	–	21,980	4,606	2,398	2,208
–	–	–	–	8	8	8	–
–	–	–	–	13	16	18	–
27,414	27,414	23,732	3,682	12,400	2,839	119	2,720
–	1,281	125	1,156	814	240	9	231
2,47,680	2,47,680	1,73,900	73,780	12,784	2,846	290	2,556
–	–	–	–	21	5	–	5
15,047	13,268	6,648	6,620	44,097	871	52	819
3,98,087	4,22,244	2,57,212	1,65,032	2,19,018	20,905	5,020	15,885
3,31,707	3,23,437	1,86,631	1,36,796	2,27,527	28,648	5,144	23,504
4,19,042	7,36,915	2,64,061	1,72,854	1,09,55,886	15,09,906	6,87,774	8,42,132
3,31,959	3,23,570	1,86,734	1,36,836	2,28,310	28,593	5,144	23,549
7,52,514	7,57,061	4,40,154	3,16,907	2,46,70,837	21,30,492	7,87,359	13,43,133
6,53,626	6,31,295	3,55,423	2,75,872	7,05,487	56,911	13,588	43,323

Employees covered under ESI Scheme

2961.SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI C.N. SINGH

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees covered under ESI scheme in 2001-2002 as compared to 2000-01; and

(b) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the area covered under ESI scheme in the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) The number of employees covered under the ESI Scheme as on 31.3.2001 and 31.3.2002 were 77.54 lakh and 71.59 lakh, respectively.

(b) A phased programme for implementation of ESI Scheme in new areas has been drown by the ESI Corporation for the year 2002-03 with the aim to cover about 1,10,390 employees in 44 areas.

[Translation]

Jabalpur-Delhi Flight

2962.SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jabalpur-Delhi air service has since been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of passengers who travelled on this sector during the period 2000 to August 2002;

(d) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the said service;

(e) if so, by when it is likely to become operational; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has discontinued operations between Delhi and Jabalpur due to shortage of aircraft capacity and inadequate loads

(c) The number of passengers travelled between Delhi and Jabalpur during the period April, 2000 – August, 2002 is as under :

Sector	No. of Passengers
Delhi-Jabalpur	2990
Jabalpur-Delhi	2651

(d) to (f) Shortage of aircraft capacity and commercial considerations do not permit Indian Airlines to airlink Delhi to Jabalpur at present.

[English]

Outlay for Flood Control

2963.SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the approved outlay for flood control at Central and State level in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan period: and

(b) the actual expenditure incurred in West Bengal during the said period in Central and State level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESORUCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The Central and State Plan outlays for Flood Control during the Ninth Five Year Plan were Rs. 716.13 crore and Rs. 2012.12 crore respectively;

(b) The anticipated expenditure on Food Control in West Bengal during the Ninth Plan made from central and State Plan allocations are Rs. 17.88 crore and Rs. 1097.34 crore respectively.

Irregularities in Kendriya Bhandar

2964.SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Registrar of his Ministry is aware that certain enquiries were conducted into

irregularities in the Kendriya Bhandar relating to shortage of stores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken against erring officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. No specific enquriy relating to shortage of stores has come to the notice of Central Registrar.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Foreign Assistance for Conservation of Water Resources

2965. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received financial assistance from World Bank and other foreign agencies for conservation of water resources in various regions of the country;

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

(c) the details of projects taken up in States including Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) As per National Water Policy, 2002 the water resources are to be conserved by maximizing retention, eliminating pollution and minimizing losses. Accordingly, various schemes have beem implemented by the State Governments through lining of conveyance system, modernization and rehabilitation of existing system including tanks and ponds through their own resources as well as external funding support including World Bank and other foreign agencies. The details of the such externally aided ongoing projects in water sector are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Foreign Assistance for Conservation of Water Resources. Details of ongoing externally aided projects

S. No.	State	Name of Projects	Funding Agency	Date of Agreement/ Completion	Assistance amount in Million DC	Utilization/ disbursement upto October, 2002	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project-III Cr. 2952-IN LN-4166-IN	World Bank	03.06.1997 31.01.2003	US $ 325 Credit. US $ 150.00 Laon US $ 175.00	US $ 142.51	Ongoing Recommended for extension for two years beyond 31.1.2003
		Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation component) Ln-4360-IN	World Bank	30.01.1999 31.03.2004	US $ 142	US $ 63.00	Ongoing IRDB Loan
		Andhra Pradesh-WELL Irrigation Project	Netherlands	14.11.1994 31.03.2003	NLG 26.847	EUR 5.88	Ongoing

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Modernisation on KC canal project	JBIC Japan	25.01.1996 26.3.2003	Yen 16049.00	JY 7443.13	Ongoing
2.	Karnataka	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project	World Bank	06.06.2002 31.1.2009	SDR 80	US$ 2.00	Ongoing
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Rajghat Canal Project	JBIC, Japan	25.02.1997 31.03.2004	Yen 13222.00	JY 5807.09	Ongoing
4.	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Minor Irrigation Project	KfW, Germany	21.12.1998 31.12.2006	DM 45.00	EUR 1.37	Ongoing
		Saline Land Reclamation Project Phase-II	EEC	11.7.1995 31.12.2005	ECU 15.50	EUR 1.229*	Ongoing
5.	Orissa	Orissa Water Resource Consolidation Project Cr. 2801-IN	World Bank	05.01.1996 31.3.2004	SDR 290.90	US$ 193.86	Ongoing
		Orissa Minor Irrigation Project	EEC	3.7.1995 31.12.2004	ECU 10.70	EUR 1.108*	Ongoing
		Rengali Irrigation Project	JBIC, Japan	12.12.1997 05.2.2003	Yen 7760.00	JY 4332.26	Ongoing
		Lift Irrigation Project	KfW, Germany	19.02.1993 30.6.2003	DM 55.00	EUR 21.78	Ongoing
6.	Pondicherry	Modernisation of Tank Irrigation System	EEC	21.2.1997 21.2.2003	ECU 6.65	EUR 1.305*	Ongoing
7.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project Cr. 3603-IN	World Bank	15.3.2002 31.3.2008	SDR 110	US $ 5.008	Ongoing Credit Effective from 27.3.2002
8.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Water Resource Consolidation Project Cr. 2745-IN	World Bank	22.09.1995 31.03.2003	US $ 282.90	US $ 171.203	Ongoing SDR 20 million cancelled.
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project Cr. 3602-IN	World Bank	08.3.2002 31.10.2007	SDR 117	US $ 5.004	Ongoing Credit Effective from 22.3.2002

Note : *upto August, 2002.

[Translation]

Dairy Development in Bihar

2966.SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have released Rs. 64 lakh and 47 thousand, against the total sanctioned amount of Rs. 279.78 lakh during 2001-2002 under the Centrally sponsored scheme to Bihar for Dairy development in hilly land backward areas which are deprived of the benefits of the Non-Operation Flood Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on the said scheme has been taken up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has sanctioned a project under the Centally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward areas for the districts of Madhepura, Saharasa, and Supaul of Bihar for implementation by the State Government. The project was approved during 2001-02 for a period of 5 years with a total outlay of Rs. 279.78 lakh and an amount of Rs. 64 lakh and 47 thousand was released as first installment, during 2001-02. However, the State Government could not utilise the funds during 2001-02 and requested for revalidation of the said amount during the current financial year, which has been done.

[English]

Steel Scraps

2967.SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of Steel scraps sold by Steel Authority of India between 2000 to 2001;

(b) the names of major buyers of Steel scraps during the said period; and

(c) the names of Director (Commercial) of SAIL who held the said post during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) The quantum of Steel scrap sold by Steel Authority of India during 2000-2001 is 7,07,000 tonnes.

(b) The plant-wise names of major buyers of Steel scrap during 2000-2001 is as under :

No.	Plant	2000-2001
1	2	3
1.	Bhilai Steel Plant	Shri Siddarth Industries
		Omprakash Trading Co.
		Chattisgarh Steel Prod.
		Balajee Steel Industries
		The Raipur Industrial Ste.
2.	Durgapur Steel Plant	Amit Steel Trader
		Aadhunik Steels Ltd.
		AHW Steels Ltd.
		Panchsheel Commercial Ltd.
		Matara Iron and Steel Co.
		Jayshree Industry
		Gauri Iron and Steel Co.
		Tulsi Enterprise
		Regent Steel Industries
		Kalika Enterprise
3.	Rourkela Steel Plant	Gopal and Company
		Rashi Steels
		Utkal Steels Ltd.
		Utkal Alloys Pvt. Ltd.
		Jay Jagannath Steel Ind.
		Ashoka Re-rolling Mills.
		Ashoka Ispat Udyog
		R.M. Sheet Metal Ind.
		Pareek Ferro Pvt.

1	2	3
		Vibha Steels Pvt. Ltd.
4.	Bokaro Steel Plant	Ahunik Steel Limited
		Northern Indl. Crop.
		MPA Steel
		Nupur Enterprises
		Adhunik Ferro Alloys
		Shiv Shankar Iron and Steel Co.
		Model Fuels
		Om Enterprises
		Dabwali Industrial Corp.
		Maruti Ispat
5.	Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur	Nil
6.	Salem Steel Plant	RK Steel and Alloys, Trichy
		Saravana Metals and Alloys, Coimbatore
		Viraj Alloys Ltd., Maharashtra
		Jsons Foundry Pvt. Ltd., Sangli
		Empire Metals India, Mumbai
		Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur
7.	Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited Bhadravati	Indian Seamless Issal
		Bhuwalka Steel Inds.
		SRM Steel Traders
		Sunil Steels
		Navakarnataka St. Ltd.,
		SB Rashellers Ltd.
		Kalyani Carpentar
		Sri Sitaram Co.
		Maheswari Bros.
		S.M.S. enterprises

(c) The names of Director (Commercial) of SAIL during the year 2000-2001 is S/Shri M.K. Moitra (upto 24.4.2000) and A.K. Singh (25.4.2000) onwards).

[Translation]

Amount for Research and Development of Agriculture

2968.SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the minimum percentage of total amount of the gross agricultural production spent by the Union Government every year for purposes of research and development works for development and expansion of agriculture in the country;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred during the last three years for this purpose, year-wise;

(c) whether various committees have recommended for at least one percent of expenditure for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the names of these committees alongwith the action taken by the Government for implementation the said recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The percentage of total amount of the Agricultural Gross Domestic Product spent as well as annual expenditure incurred including plan and non-plan by the Department are as under :

Year	%age of AGDP spent	Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	
		Plan	Non-Plan
1998-1999	0.214	436.92	516.54
1999-2000	0.245	498.47	790.62
2000-2001	0.294	549.48	703.64

(c) and (d) The Working Group on Agricultural Research and Education constituted by the Planning Commission have recommended atleast 1% of AGDP be spent on agricultural research and education. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture have also reiterated this recommendation in their reports.

[English]

Development of Mumbai Airport

2969. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to redesign the airport at Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Airports Authority of India has an on going process of development for augmentation of capacities for passenger and cargo facilities.

Non-Functioning Bay in Kerala

2970. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Air India Maintenance Bay at Nedumbassaery in Kerala is not functioning at present; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Transit checks and terminal transit checks of all Air India aircraft operating through the station are carried out at Kochi in Kerala. The facilities are upgraded and as on date, the facility is fully functional.

Creation of Reserve Forests for Elephants

2971. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that elephants are creating havoc to crops, particularly paddy in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for creation of Reserve Forests for the elephants;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance to be provided to the villagers whose paddy has already been destroyed by the elephants ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir, There have been instances of damage to agricultural crops by wild elephants in various States including West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Government of West Bengal has already notified two Elephant Reserves, viz. Eastern Dooars Elephant Reserve (in the northern region) and Mayurjharna Elephant Reserve (in the southern region), in there State. There is no proposal under consideration for the creation of any other Elephant Reserve in West Bengal.

(d) Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Government under Project Elephant for undertaking various measures for controlling depredation by wild elephants and for payment of ex-gratia relief to the villagers against loss of human life and crops. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 90.5 lakh has been sanctioned under Project Elephant for West Bengal, of which Rs. 25 lakh is meant for anti-depredation measures and Rs. 15 lakh for ex-gratia relief. In addition, the State Government also provides relief to the villagers from its budget.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects of Jharkhand

2972. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of irrigation projects are under implementation in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details alongwith names and locations thereof;

(c) whether there has been time over-run in the completion of porjects; and

(d) if so, the details and the time by which the projects are likely to be completed, project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a), (b) and (d) There are 8 major and 21 medium projects under implementation in Jharkhand. The details alongwith names and locations are given in a Statement attached herewith.

(c) Since Irrigation is a State subject, the responsibility for planning, funding and execution of all types of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage primarily rests with the State Government.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Ongoing Projects	Location	Started in Plan	Latest Estimated cost (Rs. in crore)	Target for completion (X Plan or Beyond)
1	2	3	4	5	6
A.	**Major Projects**				
1.	Ajoy Barrage	Deoghar, Santhal	V	208.69	Beyond X Plan
2.	Subernarekha (IS)	Singhbhum	V	2660.00	X Plan
3.	Auranga	Palamu	VII	903.00	Beyond X Plan
4.	Konar	Hazaribagh, Girdih	V	348.38	Beyond X Plan
5.	North Koel (IS)	Palamu, Aurangabad	V	814.72	Beyond X Plan
6.	Punasi	Santhal Pargana	VII	185.82	Beyond X Plan
7.	Tilaiya (IS)	Nawada, Hazaribagh	V	301.79	Beyond X Plan
8.	Gumani	Santhal Pargana	V	83.72	Beyond X Plan
B.	**Medium Projects**				
1.	Batane (IS)	Palamu	V	40.06	Beyond X Plan
2.	Bhirwa	Hazaribagh	VII	56.52	Beyond X Plan
3.	Basuki	Ranchi	VIII	43.52	Beyond X Plan
4.	Dhansinghtall	Gumla	VII	29.52	Beyond X Plan
5.	Jharjhara	Singhbhum	V	62.28	Beyond X Plan
6.	Katri	Gumla	VII	47.97	Beyond X Plan
7.	Kansjore	Gumla	VII	52.97	Beyond X Plan
8.	Kans	Ranchi	V	44.18	Beyond X Plan
9.	Keso	Hazaribagh	VII	27.75	Beyond X Plan
10.	Latratu	Ranchi	VII	42.17	X Plan
11.	Nakti	Singhbhum	VII	43.97	Beyond X Plan
12.	Punchkhere	Hazaribagh	VII	31.28	Beyond X Plan
13.	Ramrekha	Gumla	VII	43.88	Beyond X Plan
14.	Sakrigali	Santhal Pargana	V	11.89	Completed
15.	Surangi	Singhbhum Ranchi	VII	41.17	X Plan
16.	Sonua	Singhbhum	VI	59.27	Beyond X Plan
17.	Suru	Singhbhum	VI	37.44	Beyond X Plan

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Salalya	Hazaribagh	VIII	36.56	Beyond X Plan
19.	Satpotka	Singhbhum	VIII	43.00	Beyond X Plan
20.	Torai	Santhal Pargana	V	62.57	X Plan
21.	Upper Shankh	Gumla	VII	73.92	Beyond X Plan

[English]

Farmer Agro Service Centres

2973.SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of locations in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal where farmers agro service centres/kishi vigyan kendras have been established, till date;

(b) the functions of these centres; and

(c) the details of assessment of their performance, till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Raita Kayaka Kere Yojana

2974.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank had agreed to release Rs. 670 crore for desilting 2,000 tanks in the first phase under the Raita Kayaka Kare Yojana;

(b) if so, the amount utilised by the Government of Karnataka;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard and the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the World Bank has also agreed to enhance assistance for second phase; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (e) The agreement for Karnataka Community Based Tank management Project has been signed on 04.06.2002 for the World Bank assistance of SDR 80 million (Equivalent to Rs. 530.19 crores). The total cost of the project is Rs. 670.59 crores. The project is scheduled for completion by January, 2009. Upto October, 2002, an amount of US $ 2 million (Equivalent to Rs. 9.730 crores) has been utilized/reimbursed under the project by the State Government. As regards the second phase of the project, the same depends on satifactory completion of the present phase and the request of the Government of Karnataka for availing further assistance of the World Bank.

Scarcity of Foodgrain

2975.SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether shifting to cash crop, flowers and vegetable cultivation in various States of the country has resulted in low production of food-grains leading to scarcity of foodgrain in the coming years; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to overcome the above situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. As a part of national policy, the Government has been emphasizing crop diversification keeping in view the soil health problems being encountered by growing exhaustive crops like cereals followed by cereals. A record production of 211.32 million tonnes of foodgrains has been achieved during 2001-02. Raising the productivity of foodgrains could compensate the area shift from foodgrains to cash crop, flowers and vegetable.

(b) Does not arise.

Guest Houses of KVIC

2976.PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has been maintaining a large number of guest houses all over the country for use by its senior officers and functionaries at all levels;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce such expenditure on guest houses at different places;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the measures proposed to reduce such expenditure of KVIC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission does maintain Guest Houses at Mumbai, Pune, Nasik, Dahanu (Maharashtra), Delhi and Banglore.

(c) Yes, Sir. The expenditure on Guest Houses is normally recoverd from the Guests/occupants through room tariff/service charges.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Room tariff/other service charges are revised from time to time to take care of increase in expenditure. The Government has also directed the KVIC to close down its Guest House in Neeti Bagh, Delhi as the utility of the Guest House was not felt justified. Accordingly, the KVIC has closed down this Guest House. The Government has also directed the KVIC to initiated appropriate steps to close all such Guest Houses which are not financially justified and optimally utilized.

National Afforestation Programme

2977.SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special cell has been set up to implement National Afforestation Programme;

(b) if so, the details of forest divisions which are in the process of implementing the National Afforestation Programme; and

(c) the funds spent on afforestation programme during 2001-02 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State-wise details of Forest Divisions which are in the process of implementing the National Afforestation Programme are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) During 2001-2002 a sum of Rs. 126.77 Crores were released to States/UTs under the major Afforestation programmes of the Minisry of Environment and Forests.

Statement

National Afforestation Programme

Sl. No.	Name of the Forest Division	Amount Released during 2002-2003 (Rupees in lakhs)
1	2	3
	Haryana	
1.	Gurgaon	268.09
2.	Kaithal	144.66
3.	Sirsa	118.17
4.	Morni	84.98
5.	Yamunanagar	81.66
6.	Mahindergarh	88.14
7.	Jhajjar	86.34
	Rajasthan	
1.	Jaipur	80.00
2.	Pratapgarh	99.72
3.	Dungarpur	46.51
4.	Jhalawar	65.00
	Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Firozabad	37.46
2.	Hardoi	120.95
3.	Mirzapur	73.68
4.	Jhansi	114.87
5.	Chitrakoot	46.78
6.	Gonda	76.70

1	2	3
7.	Mahoba	63.84
8.	Gorakhpur	28.67
9.	Hamirpur	95.80
10.	Fatehpur	61.50
11.	Srwasti	92.72
12.	Shajahanpur	95.20
13.	North Kheri	100.03
14.	Sitapur	113.81
15.	Lalitpur	94.88
16.	Rae Bareily	62.00
17	Badaun	28.67
18.	Avadh	137.08
	Maharashtra	
1.	Nanded	50.02
	Karnataka	
1.	Honavar	48.00
2.	Koppa	45.00
3.	Hasan	42.00
4.	Dharwar	40.00
5.	Chitradurga	23.00
6.	Gulbarga	42.00
7.	Shimoga	60.00
8.	Karwar	59.00
9.	Dawangare	67.14
10.	Haliya	69.65
11.	Yellapur	72.50
12.	Bangalore (Rural)	84.00
13.	Kolar	67.00
14.	Mangalore	69.00
15.	Mysore	67.00
16.	Bagalkote	24.00
17.	Belgaum	60.50
18.	Raichur	41.00
19.	Bhadravati	67.00
	Himachal Pradesh	
1.	Chamba	60.17
	Jharkhand	
1.	Dhanbad	39.68
	Punjab	
1.	Muktsar	25.00
	Uttaranchal	
1.	Champawat	80.53
2.	Nainital	107.50
3.	Lansdown	23.28
	Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Hosangabad	71.12
2.	North Seoni	55.00
3.	South Seoni	116.00
4.	Mandla	83.00
5.	Satna	86.29
6.	North Betul	56.68
7.	Barwani	101.30
8.	Jhabua	87.31
9.	South Panna	102.00
10.	Damoh	97.31
11.	Khargaon	41.00
12.	Raisen	97.85
13.	Shivpuri	68.00
14.	South Betul	41.00
15.	Sagar	46.00

1	2	3
	Mizoram	
1.	Kolasib	147.31
2.	Champi	39.00
3.	Mamit	65.00
4.	Lai A	40.00
5.	Chakma AC	24.00
6.	Aizawal	55.00
7.	Darlawn	45.05
8.	Kawrthah	50.85
9.	Thenzawl	59.17
10.	Mara ADC	26.00
11.	NVanlilphi	68.27
12.	Lunglei	73.60
13.	Tlabung	46.30
	Tamil Nadu	
1.	Madurai	194.86
2.	Nagapatnam	45.00
3.	Krishangiri	70.00
4.	Srivilpthi	33.90
5.	Theni	95.93
6.	Dindigul	19.98
7.	Attur	37.21
8.	Coimbatore	48.82
9.	Vellore	59.00
	Nagaland	
1.	Mokokchung	230.48
2.	Zheboto	33.56
3.	Peren	82.00
4.	Teunsang	14.10
5.	Kohima	66.00
6.	Mon	57.00
7.	Phek	50.00
	Tripura	
1.	Udaipur	47.00
2.	Kailashahr	47.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	
1.	Hapoli	46.00
2.	Khonsa	68.45
3.	Along	80.50
4.	Shergaon	45.00
	Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Kurnool	103.00
2.	Anantapur	96.00
3.	Nalgonda	89.00
4.	Guntur	58.00
5.	Gudallur	103.00
6.	Ranga Reddy	70.50
7.	Elluru	82.00
8.	Krishna	51.00
	Sikkim	
1.	West Division	91.61
2.	North Division	104.66
3.	North East Wildlife Division	86.70
4.	East Division	93.34
5.	South Division	101.60
	Jammu and Kashmir	
1.	Kehmil	60.00
2.	Kamraj	66.07
3.	Bandipura	92.08
4.	Lidder	68.00
5.	Badgaon	51.97

1	2	3
	Orissa	
1.	Dhenkanal	63.71
2.	Keonjar	81.86
3.	Nayagarh	71.24
4.	Rayagada	106.62
5.	Baripada	76.21
6.	Angul	68.06
7.	Bamara	33.12
8.	Baliguda	61.11
93	Karanjia	52.73
10.	Kalahandi	41.27
11.	Ghumsur South	25.30
12.	Athamallik	63.27
13.	Athagarh	62.94
14.	Boudh	79.80
	Gujarat	
1.	Bansknta	75.00
2.	Sabarkntha	58.52
	West Bengal	
1.	Bankura North	59.63
2.	Midnapore	36.71

Museum in Orissa

2978.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to set up a museum at Dandakaranya in Orissa;

(b) if so, the Central assistance sanctioned for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Kalpasar Project

2979.SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to implement Kalpasar Project in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the said project can be linked to the proposal for linking of Rivers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) The Kalpaser Project is under consideration of the Government of Gujarat and prefeasibility project report was submitted to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for techno-economic appraisal. The State Government has not yet submitted the detailed Project Report of the CWC.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Water Resources in 1980 had prepared National Perspective Plan for Inter-linking of rivers and based on this plan the proposals for inter linking of rivers are being studied by National Water Development Agency (NWDA) for preparation of Feasibility Report. There is no proposal for including Kalpasar project in the National Perspective Plan for inter-linking rivers.

Seed Crop Insurance Scheme

2980.DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched a comprehensive Seed Crop Insurance Scheme to facilitate growth of seed industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of crops identified/selected under the scheme;

(d) the number of farmers covered thereunder, State-wise;

(e) the amount in respect of each seed crop required to be paid by farmers; and

(f) the amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme as on March 31, 2002, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A pilot scheme on Seed Crop Insurance has been launched with effect from Rabi 1999-2000 in order to provide financial security and income stability to the seed growers in the event of failure of seed crops; to strengthen confidence in the existing seed breeders/ growers and encourage new breeders/growers to undertake speed production programme of newly released hybrid/ improved varieties; to provide stability to the infrastructure established by the State owned Seed Corporations/State Farms; and to give a boost to the Modern Seed Industry and bring it under scientific management.

The scheme is implemented through the General Insurance Corporation of India.

(c) Seed Crop of Paddy, Wheat, Bajra, Jowar, Maize, Arhar, Gram, Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower and Cotton are covered under the scheme.

(d) 392 farmers have, so far, been insured under the scheme (Haryana 13, Karnataka 17, Orissa 103, Gujarat 17 and Uttar Pradesh 242).

(e) Premium at the rate of 3% for paddy, 2% for wheat, 3.5% for Jowar, 5% for Bajra, 5% for maize, 5% for Soyabean, 2.5% for Sunflower, 2% for Groundnut, 5% for Gram, 5% for Tur and 5% for cotton is required to be paid by farmers.

(f) The amount sactioned and spent under the scheme as on March 31, 2002, State-wise is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Statement showing Amount Sanctioned and Spent upto 31.3.02 under Pilot Scheme on Seed Crop Insurance

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of Agency	Funds Sanctioned 1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	Total amount spent up to 31.3.02
1	2	3	4	5	6
State Seeds Certification Agency					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.50	–	–	7.50
2.	Gujarat	4.00	–	–	4.00
3.	Haryana	3.00	5.00	–	8.00
4.	Karnataka	5.00	2.50	5.00	7.50
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5.00	2.50	–	7.50
6.	Orissa	2.00	5.00	–	1.02
7.	Punjab	1.50	2.50	–	0.31
8.	Rajasthan	4.50	7.50	–	4.75
9.	Maharashtra	7.50	–	–	0.65
10.	Uttar Pradesh	10.00	10.00	10.00	20.00
	Total	**50.00**	**35.00**	15.00	61.23

1	2	3	4	5	6
State Seeds Corporation					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.50	2.50	–	–
2.	Gujarat	0.80	2.50	–	–
3.	Haryana	0.60	2.50	–	2.50
4.	Karnataka	1.00	2.50	2.50	2.50
5.	Maharashtra	1.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
6.	Madhya Padesh	1.00	2.50	–	–
7.	Orissa	0.40	2.50	–	–
8.	Punjab	0.30	2.50	–	1.20
9.	Rajasthan	0.90	2.50	–	1.40
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2.00	5.00	–	5.00
11.	National Seeds Corporation	–	5.00	–	–
12.	State Farms Corporation of India	–	2.50	–	–
	Total	10.00	35.00	5.00	15.10
	General Insurance Corporation of India (GICI)	26.50	–	–	6.33
	Grand Total	86.50	70.00	20.00	82.66

Singapore Airlines Flight to Bangalore

2981. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "SIA seeking flights to Bangalore" that appeared in the Hindu dated November 26, 2002;

(b) if so, whether any meeting in this regard has been held with the Singapore Government;

(c) if so, the outcome of the meeting;

(d) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the new flights of SIA are likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) During bilateral civil aviation consultations between India and Singapore held on 6-7th June, 2002, Bangalore and Hyderabad have been granted as additional points to the designated airlines of Singapore alongwith separate phased entitlement. The entitlement for operating to Bangalore will be available to the designated airline of Singapore with effect from Summer, 2003.

Ozone Depletion

2982. SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have requested for Rs. 180 crores from the Multinational Fund to remove the chemicals which are responsible for Ozone depletion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plan formulated by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) After India became a Party to the Vienna Convention for the protection of Ozone Layer on June 19th, 1991 and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on September 17th, 1992, a Country Program was prepared in 1993 for the phase out of all Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). Chloro Fluoro Carbons (CFCs), Carbon Tetra Chloride (CTC), Halon-1211, Halon 1302 and Methyl Chloroform are Ozone Depleting Substances. CFCs, CTC and Halons are to be phased out by 2010 and Methyl Chloroform by 2015. India has prepared and submitted 354 projects and activities to the Multilateral Fund of which 352 projects and activities have been approved so far at a total funding of US$ 132,643,379 in order to phase out 12800 (Ozone Depleting Potential) tonnes. These project/activities are in different stages of execution and will be completed before the phase out date.

Sale of Sub-Standard Fertilizers

2983.SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the sale of sub-standard fertilizers in some States and particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the sub-standard fertilizers is being sold in the name of some popular brand manufactured by Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperatives (IFFCO);

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

(d) the steps taken to check the sale of such sub-standard fertilizers and to protect the interest farmers in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) It has come to the notice of the Government that in the Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh some spurious DAP was found to be sold in imitated IFFCO bags. The Government of Madhya Pradesh have immediately taken action and stopped the sale of such non-standard fertilizer and initiated administrative and legal action against the culprits. The Madhya Pradesh Government have also taken following steps in this regard to protect the interest of the farmers :-

(i) Fertilizer Inspectors have been directed to inspect all the stocks available in the State:

(ii) Surprise checks of dealers and their godowns are being done and samples drawn for its quality testing.

(iii) Action being taken against offenders under the provisions of ECA/FCO.

[Translation]

Organisations involved in Family Welfare of Animals

2984.SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
DR. BALIRAM :

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

(a) the number of organizations engaged in work of preventing cruelty on animals and provided assistance during the last three years indicating the extent of assistance provided to them, State-wise;

(b) whether any funds have been allocated to the Non-Governmental Organisations involved in family welfare of animals;

(c) if so, the details indicating the amount allocated to such NGOs during the last three years;

(d) the year-wise number of animals vasectomised/ tubectomised during the said period;

(e) whether the organizations receiving assistance have been monitored by the Government; and

(f) and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) During last three years, 231 organizations have been granted financial assistance under the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. A State-wise statement showing details of organizations alongwith amount of assistance given to them under various schemes during last three years is in the Statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir. Funds have been allocated to various Non Government Organizations to carry out sterilization and immunization of stray dogs under the scheme 'Birth Control and immunization of Stray Dogs'.

(c) A Statement showing the details of the amount allocated to such Non-Government Organizations under the Scheme 'Birth Control and immunization of Stray Dogs' during last three years is in the Statement-II.

(d)

Year	No. of Dogs vasectomised/ tubectomised and immunized
1	2
1999-2000	22,058
2000-2001	31,455
2001-2002	55,539
Total	1,09,052

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The organizations receiving assistance are monitored through physical inspections by designated inspecting authorities as well as officers of State Government and Central Ministry. Utilization Certificates and audited accounts duly certified by Chartered Accountants are also obtained from the organizations before sanction and release of assistance. Besides, certificates from municipal authorities are also taken by way of evidence of sterilization of stray dogs through collaborative arrangements between them and NGOs.

Statement-I

State wise list of NGOS Granted Financial Aid under Various Schemes

ANDHRA PRADESH

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	Blue Cross of Hyderabad	ABC	5,00,000.00
2.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC	2,00,000.00
3.	Blue Cross of Hyderabad	ABC	5,00,000.00
4.	Dri Gosamrakshan Punnya Ashram, Guntur	Shelter	4,70,250.00
5.	Friends of Snakes Club, Secunderabad	Shelter	4,50,000.00
6.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Ambulance	90,000.00
7.	International Animal and Birds Society, Guntur	Ambulance	3,50,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC Scheme	4,81,740/-
2.	SPCA, Kakinada	Shelter Scheme	1,46,250/-
3.	Blue Cross of Hyderabad	Shelter Scheme	7,29,000/-

1	2	3	4
4.	Visakha SCPA, Visakhapatnam	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
5.	Royal Unit for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Uranakanda, Anantpur	Shelter Scheme	9,77,267/-
6.	Shri Gosanrakshna Puunyashram, Satterppolli, Guntur	Shelter Scheme	4,70,250/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC Scheme	93,880/-
2.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC Scheme	5,75,620/-
3.	Animal Care Land, Tirupati	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
4.	PFA< Secunderabad	ABC Scheme	2,50,000/-
5.	Sri Raghuvebdra Samrakshan Sangam, Cuddapah	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
6.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC Scheme	5,75,620/-
7.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	ABC Scheme	10,20,000/-
8.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
9.	SPCA, Kakinadna	Shelter Scheme	1,46,250/-
10.	Care for Animals, Secunderabad	Shelter Scheme	9,48,201/-
11.	Sri Raghuvebdra Samrakshan Sangam, Cuddapah	Ambulance Scheme	3,99,600/-
12.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Ambulance Scheme	3,86,000/-
13.	Animal Care Land, Tirupati	Ambulance Scheme	4,08,060/-
14.	Green Mercy, Visakhapatnam	Ambulance Scheme	3,61,631/-

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Wildlife Trust of India	Shelter Scheme	10,46,250/-

ASSAM

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	PFA, Assam	Shelter	11,25,000.00/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Wildlife Trust of India, Kaziranga	Shelter Scheme	10,68,750/-
2.	PFA, Assam	Shelter Scheme	1,90,600/-
3.	Shri Guwahati Gaushala Trust, Guwahati	Shelter Scheme	10,68,750/-
4.	PFA, Assam	Ambulance Scheme	2,16,391/-
5.	Wildlife Trust of India	Ambulance Scheme	14,78,508/-

CHANDIGARH

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	SPCA, Chandigarh	ABC Scheme	57,000/-
2.	PFA, Chandigarh	ABC Scheme	1,63,200/-
3.	Chandigarh Animal Welfare and Eco-Development Society (CAWEDS)	Shelter Scheme	9,15,750/-
4.	PFA, Chandigarh	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

DELHI

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Friendicoes SECA, New Delhi	ABC	2,00,000.00
2.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	ABC	2,00,000.00
3.	Ruth Cowell Foundation, New Delhi	Shelter	5,81,850.00
4.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (PFA Gaushala), New Delhi	Shelter	11,25,000.00
5.	Animal Farms, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi	Shelter	11,25,000.00
6.	PFA (Animal Hospital, Gurgaon), Maharani Bagh. New Delhi	Shelter	5,31,900.00
7.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	Shelter	8,06,400.00
8.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (PFA Gaushala, Bawana), New Delhi	Shelter	11,25,000.00
9.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	Shelter	5,04,000.00

1	2	3	4
10.	Acharya Kaksaheb Kalelkar Loksewa, Delhi	Shelter	11,25,000.00
11.	Society for Animal Welfare Organisation, Delhi	Shelter	2,47,500.00
12.	Animal Farm, New Delhi	Shelter	11,25,000.00
13.	Wildlife Trust of India, Delhi	Shelter	10,68,750.00
14.	Acharya Sushil Gausadan, Delhi	Shelter	5,00,000.00
15.	Animal Farm, New Delhi	Ambulance	3,14,000.00
16.	PFA, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
17.	Society for Animal Welfare Organisation, New Delhi	Ambulance	3,94,000.00
18.	Wildlife Trust of India, New Delhi	Ambulance	3,38,350.00
19.	Friendicoes – SECA, New Delhi	Ambulance	4,14,000.00
20.	Pet Animal Welfare Society, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi	Ambulance	3,66,740.00
21.	Sonadi Charitable Trust, Delhi	Ambulance	4,01,893.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
2.	Pet Animal Welfare Society, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
3.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
4.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,47,500/-
5.	Friendicoes-SECA, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	5,44,000/-
6.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
7.	World Wide Fund for Nature India, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	2,79,000/-
8.	Friendicoes-SECA, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
9.	Manav Gau Sadan, Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
10.	Wild Life S.O.S., New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	7,74,900/-
11.	Society for Animal Welfare Organization, Delhi	Shelter Scheme	2,47,500/-
12.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

1	2	3	4
13.	Manav Gau Sadan, Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
14.	Sonadi Charitable Trust, Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,20,500/-
15.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	7,76,250/-
16.	Dabar Hare Krishan Gaushala, Najafgarh	Shelter Scheme	10,68,750/-
17.	Jeev Ashram Foundation, New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	4,49,000/-
18.	Manav Gau Sadan, Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
19.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
20.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
21.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	81,518/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,47,500/-
2.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
3.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
4.	Friendicoes-SECA, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	5,44,000/-
5.	Pet Animal Welfare Society, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
6.	Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care, Raja Garden New Delhi	ABC Scheme	4,08,000/-
7.	Sonadi Charitable Trust, Chitranjan Park, New Delhi	ABC Scheme	1,02,000/-
8.	Sonadi Charitable Trust, Chitranjan Park, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,20,500/-
9.	Circle for Animal Lovers	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
10.	PFA, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
11.	Dabar Hare Krishna Gaushala, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	10,68,750/-
12.	PFA, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
13.	Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre, Ruth Cowell Foundation New Delhi	Shelter Scheme	7,76,250/-
14.	Wildlife S.O.S., New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
15.	Animal Help Foundation, New Delhi	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-

GOA

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	ABC	2,88,000.00
2.	Goa Animal Welfare Trust, Margao, Goa	ABC	1,53,000.00
3.	PFA, Goa, Panaji	ABC	98,079.00
4.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	ABC	7,87,500.00
5.	PFA, Goa	ABC	2,84,849.00
6.	PFA, Goa	Ambulance	3,07,000.00
7.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	Ambulance	4,50,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Goa	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
2	International Animal Rescue, Goa	ABC Scheme	2,88,000/-
3.	PFA, Panaji	ABC Scheme	4,08,000/-
4.	Goa Animal Welfare Trust, Margao	ABC Scheme	1,530,00/-
5.	PFA, Goa	Shelter Scheme	3,82,928/-
6.	Green Cross, Mopusa	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
7.	Green Cross, Goa	Ambulance Scheme	90,000/-
8.	PFA, Goa, Panaji	Ambulance Scheme	1,65,024/-
9.	Goa Animal Welfare Trust, Margao	Ambulance Scheme	4,00,500/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Goa	ABC Scheme	4,08,000/-
2.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	ABC Scheme	3,17,910/-
3.	SPCA, Goa	Shelter Scheme	10,41,750/-
4.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	Shelter Scheme	7,87,500/-
5.	SPCA, Goa	Shelter Scheme	10,41,750/-

GUJARAT

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	Vadodara SPCA, Baroda	ABC	1,70,000.00
2.	Shri Kutch Mundra Panjrapole and Gaushala, Mundra	Shelter	6,21,000.00
3.	Shri Vrindavan Gaushala Jivdaya Trust, Rajkot	Shelter	5,76,000.00
4.	Shri Gau Seva Panjrapole Trust, Rajkot	Shelter	6,42,157.00
5.	Shri Gadhada Mahajan Panjrapole and Gaushala Trust, Bhavnagar	Shelter	5,85,000.00
6.	Shree Botad Mahajan Panjrapole	Shelter	5,85,000.00
7.	Shri Dhrangadhra Panjrapole	Shelter	9,61,200.00
8.	Shri Bhavnagar Panjrapole, Bhavnagar	Shelter	2,74,500.00
9.	Rajkot Mahajan's Panjrapole, Rajkot	Shelter	5,85,000.00
10.	Bhavnagar Panjrapole, Bhavnagar	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
11.	Gau Seva Panjrapole Trust, Rajkot	Ambulance	3,01,000.00
12.	SPCA, Bhuj	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
13.	Vadodraa SPCA, Vadodara	Ambulance	3,94,800.00
14.	Shree Kutch Mundra Panjrapole and Gaushala, Kutch	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
15.	Rajkot Mahajan's Panjrapole, Rajkot	Ambulance	4,33,810.00
16.	Shri Jeevdaya Jankalyan Parivar, Ahmedabad	Ambulance	3,59,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	4,59,000/-
2.	SPCA, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	2,25,000/-
3.	Shri Jeevdaya Jankalyan Parivar, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	6,20,500/-
4.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	4,59,000/-
5.	Andh Apang Gau Ashram Trust, Wanakner	Shelter Scheme	9,90,000/-
6.	Andh Apang Gau Ashram Trust, Wanakner	Shelter Scheme	9,90,000/-
7.	Shri Vrindavan Gaushala Jeevdaya Trust, Rajkot	Shelter Scheme	5,76,000/-

1	2	3	4
8.	Shri Ram Roti Annakshetra Ashram, Wadhwan, Sundernagar	Shelter Scheme	9,33,750/-
9.	Sri Gau Seva Panjrapole Trust, Rajkot	Shelter Scheme	6,42,157/-
10.	Shri Kutch Mundra Panjrapole and Gaushala, Mundra, Kutch	Shelter Scheme	6,21,000/-
11.	Shri Tera Panjrapole, Tera, Kutch	Shelter Scheme	7,06,500/-
12.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
2.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	6,20,000/-
3.	Animal Help Foundation	ABC Scheme	10,20,000/-
4.	Vadodara SPCA	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
5.	Shri Jivadaya Jankalyan Parivar, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	6,20,500/-
6.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	ABC Scheme	5,10,000/-
7.	Shri Morbi Panjrapole, Morbi	Shelter Scheme	7,96,050/-
8.	Shri Dhanagadhra Panjrapole	Shelter Scheme	9,61,200/-
9.	Shri Gauvansh Panjrapole and Gaushala, Junagarh	Shelter Scheme	3,85,650/-
10.	Wnakaner Panjrapole Gaushala	Shelter Scheme	9,33,750/-
11.	Animal Saving Group, Valsad	Ambulance Scheme	3,95,000/-
12.	Gujarat SPCA, Vadodara	Ambulance Scheme	3,58,000/-

HARYANA

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Wildlife SOS, Defence Colony, New Delhi for Animal Rescue Centre, Gaurgaon	Shelter	7,74,900.00
2.	Rashtriya Gaushala, Dharauli, Jind	Shelter	6,75,000.00
3.	Shri Gaushala Sala Dairy, Hissar	Shelter	4,46,400.00
4.	Shri Krishna Gaushala, Fatehahl	Shelter	7,37,000.00

1	2	3	4
5.	Arsh Mahavidyalaya Gurukul Gaushala, Jind	Shelter	5,40,000.00
6.	Akhil Bhartiya Gaushala, Rohtak	Shelter	8,68,500.00
7.	Rashtriya Gaushala Jind	Ambulance	90,000.00
8.	Arsh Mahavidyalaya Gurukul Gaushala, Jind	Ambulance	89,000.00
9.	Shri Gaushala Sala Dairy, Hissar	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
10.	PFA, Rohtak	Ambulance	3,49,057.00
11.	Shri Krishna Gaushala, Tohana	Ambulance	3,10,500.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Shri Krishna Gaushala Samiti, Amabala	Shelter Scheme	4,55,850/-
2.	Shri Gaushala Baba Phullu, Jind	Shelter Scheme	5,34,346/-
3.	Shri Somnath Gaushala, Jind	Shelter Scheme	4,38,750/-
4.	Shri Gaushala Sala Dairy, Hissar	Shelter Scheme	4,46,400/-
5.	Shri Balaji Gaushala, Jind	Shelter Scheme	5,20,200/-
6.	Shri Swamy Gaurakshanand Gaushala, Julana, Jind	Shelter Scheme	6,28,110/-
7.	Adarsh Gaushala Ilaka Satnali, Mahindergarh	Shelter Scheme	6,39,000/-
8.	Akhil Bhartiya Gaushala, Rohtak	Shelter Scheme	8,68,500/-
9.	Shri Gopal Gaushala, Narnaul	Shelter Scheme	4,96,710/-
10.	Akhil Bhartiya Gaushala, Rohtak	Ambulance Scheme	91,667/-
11.	Shri Gaushala Sala Dairy, Hissar	Ambulance Scheme	1,00,000/-
12.	Sri Sri 1008 Baba Nihal Giri Gaushala, Karnal	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
13.	Shri Gaushala Society, Panipat	Ambulance Scheme	85,500/-
14.	Adarsh Gaushala Ilaka Satnali, Mahindergarh	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
15.	Adarsh Gaushala Ilaka Satnali, Mahindergarh	Ambulance Scheme	1,00,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Somnath Gaushala, Jind	Shelter Scheme	4,38,750/-

1	2	3	4
2.	Akhil Bhartiya Gaushala, Rohtak	Shelter Scheme	3,37,500/-
3.	Adarsh Gaushala Ilaka Sathnali,	Shelter Scheme	6,39,000/-
4.	Rashtriya Gaushala, Dharauli	Shelter Scheme	9;00,000/-
5.	Shri Ladwa Gaushala, Ladwa, Hissar	Shelter Scheme	10,94,490/-
6.	Shri Swamy Gaurakshanand Gaushala, Jind	Shelter Scheme	6,28,110/-
7.	Shri Gaushala Baba Phulu sadh, Jind	Shelter Scheme	5,34,346/-
8.	Shri Gaushala, Khidwali	Shelter Scheme	6,50,250/-
9	Akhil Bhartiya Maharishi Dayanand Gaushala, Rohtak	Shelter Scheme	7,98,750/-
10.	PFA, Sadhrana, Gurgaon (Animal Hospital)	Shelter Scheme	9,33,750/-
11.	Shri Gaushala, Khidwali, Rohtak	Shelter Scheme	6,50,250/-
12	Shree Ladwa Gaushala Ladwa, Hissar	Ambulance Scheme	10,94,490/-
13.	Shri Gaushala, Khidwali Rohtak	Ambulance Scheme	3,99,500/-
14.	PFA, Rohtak	Ambulance Scheme	3,87,500/-

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	SPCA Jammu	Shelter	8,51,400.00
2.	SPCA, Jammu	Shelter	4,50,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Wildlife Protection Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Deer Park Manda, Near Hotel Ashoka, Jammu	Shelter Scheme	9,87,750/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Wildlife Protection Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Deer Park Manda, Near Hotel Ashoka, Jammu	Shelter Scheme	9,87,750/-

JHARKHAND

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	Maharishi Viswamitra Gaushala Parishad Nyas, Buxar	Shelter	11,25,000.00
2.	Tata Nagar Gushala, Jamshedpur	Shelter	5,26,500.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In. Rs.)
1.	Maharishi Viswamitra Gauraksha Parishad Nyas, Buxar	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In. Rs.)
1.	PFA, Ranchi	ABC Scheme	85,000/-

KARNATAKA

Year 1999-2000

S.No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	Bangalore SPCA, Bangalore	ABC	1,36,000.00
2.	Animal Rights Fund, Bangalore	ABC	59,000.00
3.	Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, Bangalore	ABC	2,00,000.00
4.	Mysore Panjrapole Society, Mysore	Shelter	11,25,000.00
5.	Compassionate Unlimited Plus Action, Bangalore	Shelter	11,25,000.00
6.	SPCA, Bangalore	Shelter	1,77,300.00
7.	PFA, Bangalore	Shelter	10,51,155.00
8.	PFA, Mysore	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
9.	PFA, Bangalore	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
10.	PFA, Mysore	Ambulance	1,00,000.00
11.	Animal Rights Fund, Bangalore	Ambulance	3,50,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Animal Rights Fund, Bangalore	ABC Scheme	59,000/-

1	2	3	4
2.	Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	10,22,175/-
3.	Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
4.	Shri Swamy Sarvadharma Sharnalya Trust, Kolar	Shelter Scheme	5,19,750/-
5.	Indian Wildlife Protection Group, Bangalore	Ambulane Scheme	4,50,000/-
6.	Animal Rights Funds, Bangalore	Ambulane Scheme	90,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Do it Yourself Activities (DIYA), Bangalore	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
2.	DIYA, Bangalore	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
3.	PFA, Mysore	ABC Scheme	2,04,000/-
4.	PFA, Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	10,51,155/-
5.	Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
6.	Save Our Wild Life (SOWL), Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	10,09,800/-
7.	Sri Swamy Sarvadharma Sharanaalaya Trust, Kolar	Shelter Scheme	5,19,750/-
8.	Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Bangalore	Shelter Scheme	10,22,175/-
9.	DIYA, Bangalore	Ambulance Scheme	4,44,500/-
10.	Crusade for the Rights of Animals, Bangalore	Ambulance Scheme	2,94,650/-
11.	SOWL, Bangalore	Ambulance Scheme	3,28,024/-

KERALA

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Thiruvananthapuram	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

MADHYA PRADESH

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	PFA, Gwalior	ABC	1,70,000.00
2.	PFA, Gwalior	ABC	1,70,000.00

1	2	3	4
3.	PFA, Gwalior	Shelter	5,00,000.00
4.	Shri Gopal Krishan Gaushala Vidisha Seva Nyas, Vidisa	Shelter	4,50,000.00
5.	PFA, Gwalior	Shelter	6,25,000.00
6.	Brijmohan Ramkali Gau Samrakshan, Bhopal	Ambulance	4,05,000.00
7.	Jeev Jantu Kalyan Sanghtan, Bhopal	Ambulance	4,05,000.00
8.	PFA, Bhilai	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
9.	Gau Samrakshan Seva Samiti, Vidisha	Ambulance	3,60,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Gwalior	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
2.	Shri Gopal Iftikhar Gaushala, Jaoru	Shelter Scheme	1,12,500/-
3.	Sant Shri Rotiramji Gaushala, Mandasur	Shelter Scheme	3,48,300/-
4.	Brij Mohan Ramkali Gausamrakshan Kendra, Bhopal	Shelter Scheme	3,37,500/-
5.	Achraya Vidya Sagar Gau Samvardhan Kendra, Sagar	Shelter Scheme	7,20,000/-
6.	Shri Gopal Krishna Gaushala, Vidisha Sewa Nyas, Vidisha	Shelter Scheme	4,50,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Gwalior	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
2.	Dayodaya Gauseva Jeeva Raksha and Paryavaran Sanrakshan, Sansthan, Sagar	Shelter Scheme	7,20,000/-
3.	Sant Shri Rotiramji Gaushala	Shelter Scheme	3,48,300/-
4.	PFA, Gwalior	Shelter Scheme	3,17,000/-
5.	PFA, Morena	Ambulance Scheme	3,65,500/-
6.	PFA, Ujjain	Ambulance Scheme	4,14,900/-

MAHARASHTRA

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Blue Cross Society of Pune, Pune	ABC	2,00,000.00

1	2	3	4
2.	AHIMSA, Mumbai	ABC	2,50,000.00
3.	PFA, Mumbai	ABC	1,63,200.00
4.	Bomb iy SPCA, Mumbai	ABC	2,00,000.00
5.	In Defence of Animals, Mumbai	ABC	1,20,7000.00
6.	Blue Cross, Pune	ABC	4,00,000.00
7.	Blue Cross, Pune	Shelter	7,90,425.00
8.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter	11,25,000.00
9.	PFA, Chandrapur	Shelter	7,50,000.00
10.	Nagpur SPCA	Shelter	9,28,755.00
11.	Ujjawal Gau Rakshan Trust, Nagpur	Shelter	11,25,000.00
12.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
13.	PFA, Chandrapur	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
14.	All India Animal Welfare Association, Mumbai	Ambulance	94,087,00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	All India Animal Welfare Association, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
2.	The Welfare of Stray Dogs, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
3.	Blue Cross of Society of Pune, Pune	ABC Scheme	4,00,000/-
4.	All India Animal Welfare Association, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	4,25,000/-
5.	Bombay SPCA, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,55,000/-
6.	In Defence of Animals, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	3,06,000/-
7.	Blue Cross of Society of Pune, Pune	Shelter Scheme	4,000/-
8.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
9.	PFA, Chandrapur	Shelter Scheme	7,50,000/-
10.	Bombay SPCA	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
11.	Jalna SPCA, Jalna	Ambulance Scheme	4,46,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Animal Welfare Association, Navi Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,44,800/-

1	2	3	4
2.	All India Animal Welfare Association, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	4,25,000/-
3.	Blue Cross of Society of Pune, Pune	ABC Scheme	3,15,360/-
4.	AHIMSA, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,50,000/-
5.	Blue Cross of Society of Pune, Pune	ABC Scheme	4,00,000/-
6.	In Defence of Animals, Bombay	ABC Scheme	3,06,000/-
7.	SPCA, Pune	ABC Scheme	1,02,000/-
8.	The Bombay SPCA, Bombay	ABC Scheme	2,55,000/-
9.	Voice of Animals in Distrees, Navi Mumbai	ABC Scheme	3,40,000/-
10.	The Jalna SPCA, Jalna	ABC Scheme	1,72,800/-
11.	The Welfare of Stray Dogs, Colaba, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
12.	AIAWO, Mumbai	ABC Scheme	4,25,000/-
13.	The Bombay SPCA, Bombay	Shelter Scheme	2,98,350/-
14.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	9,45,225/-
15.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	5,85,000/-
16.	The Bombay Humanitarian League, Mumbai	Shelter Scheme	5,85,000/-
17.	Shri Ramroti Annakshetra Ashram, Mumbai	Shelter Scheme	9,33,750/-
18.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	5,85,000/-
19.	Indian Herpetological Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	9,45,225/-
20.	Bombay SPCA, Bombay	Shelter Scheme	2,98,350/-
21.	Blue Cross Society, Pune	Shelter Scheme	3,90,425/-
22.	SPAN, Thane	Ambulance Scheme	3,37,498/-
23.	Blue Cross Pune	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
24.	The Plant and Animal Welfare Society (PAWS)	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
25.	Akhil Bharat Krishi Goseva Sangh, Mumbai	Natural Calamities Scheme	10,00,000/-

MANIPUR

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Naodakhang Youth's Sporting and Cultural Assn, Bishnupur	Shelter	3,91,000.00

1	2	3	4
2.	Manipur State Animal Welfare Society, Imphal	Shelter	3,55,050.00
3.	Voluntary Animal Welfare Organisation, Thobal	Ambulance	1,84,000.00
4.	Manipur State Animal Welfare Society, Imphal	Ambulance	4,06,000.00
5.	Community Development Organisation, Bishanpur	Ambulance	3,92,441.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Education and Technology Development Rural Services Organization, Nanzing	Shelter Scheme	1,57,500/-
2.	Voluntary Animal Welfare Organization, Thoubal	Shelter Scheme	4,95,000/-
3.	Naodakhang Youth's Sporting and Cultural Association, Bishnupur	Shelter Scheme	3,91,000/-
4.	Manipur State Animal Welfare Society, Imphal	Shelter Scheme	3,55,050/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Education and Technology Development Rural Services Organization, Nanzing	Shelter Scheme	1,57,500/-
2.	PFA, Imphal	Shelter Scheme	9,57,575/-
3.	PFA, Thoubal	Shelter Scheme	10,42,921/-
4.	PFA, Imphal	Ambulance Scheme	2,18,226/-
5.	PFA, Chandel	Ambulance Scheme	3,15,000/-
6.	PFA, Thoubal	Ambulance Scheme	3,94,100/-

NAGALAND

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Naga, SPCA, Kohima	Shelter Scheme	9,67,500/-
2.	Naga, SPCA, Kohima	Ambulance Scheme	3,80,870/-

ORISSA

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	PFA, Bhubneshwar	ABC	4,00,000.00
2.	PFA, Bhubneshwar	Shelter	11,25,000.00
3.	Kallinga Animal Care, Bhubneshwar	Ambulance	3,70,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Asureswar Gau Mangal Samiti, Cuttack	Shelter Scheme	5,00,000/-
2.	Kalinga Animal Care and Shelter, Bhubaneswar	Shelter Scheme	6,96,465/-
3.	Orissa State Council for Animal Welfare, Bhubaneswar	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
4.	PFA, Berhampur	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Ganjam	Shelter Scheme	8,77,400/-
2.	PFA, Rourkela	Ambulance Scheme	4,23,000/-
3.	PFA, Bhubaneswar	Natural Calamity Scheme	4,00,000/-

PONDICHERRY

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1.	Pondicherry PCA and Welfare Association, Pondicherry	Shelter	3,15,000.00
2.	Pondicherry PCA and Welfare Association, Pondicherry	Ambulance	4,50,000.00

PUNJAB

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	SPCA, Amristar	ABC	1,02,000.00

1	2	3	4
2.	SPCA, Amristar	Shelter	8,67,150.00
3.	Shri Gau Shala Prabhandhak Committee, Sangroor	Shelter	6,14,250.00
4.	Mahavir Gau Shala, Malout	Shelter	8,77,500.00
5.	Baba Bohriwala Gau Shala Seva Samiti, Amritsar	Shelter	6,37,380.00
6.	PFA, Jallandhar	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
7.	SPCA, Amritsar	Ambulance	4,40,000.00
8.	SPCA, Jallandhar	Ambulance	4,05,000.00

Year 2000-2001

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Anath Gauashram Rampura Phull, Bhatinda	Shelter Scheme	2,72,250/-
2.	Mahavir Gaushala, Muktsar	Shelter Scheme	8,77,500/-
3.	Anath Gauashram Rampura Phull, Bhatinda	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

Year 2001-2002

S. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Ludhiana	ABC Scheme	51,000/-
2.	PFA, Ludhiana	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
3.	Shri Gaushala Prabhandak Committee, Sangrur	Shelter Scheme	6,14,250/-
4.	Shri Gopal Gaushala, Patiala	Shelter Scheme	8,55,950/-
5.	Apahaj Gau Seva Ashram, Barnala	Shelter Scheme	8,04,250/-
6.	PFA, Ludhiana	Shelter Scheme	11,25.,000/-

RAJASTHAN

Year 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Help-in-Suffering, Jaipur	ABC	2,00,000.00
2.	Shri Kalyan Bhoomi Gau Seva Sadan, Padampur	Shelter	2,29,815.00
3.	Shri Gopal Gau Shala Barmer	Shelter	10,00,000..00

1	2	3	4
4.	Shri Bhagwan Mahavir Jain Gaushala Trust, Pali	Shelter	5,13,000.00
5.	Shri Ram Gaushala Seva Samiti, Jodhpur	Shelter	4,46,400.00
6.	Shri Ram Gaushala Trust, Ummednagar	Shelter	6,54,210.00
7.	Shri Brahamchari Ramkumariji Pannalalji Gaushala Dharmath Trust, Jodhpur	Shelter	8,34,750.00
8.	Shri Krishna Gaushala, Pali	Shelter	5,85,000.00
9.	Gauri Shankar Gaushala Seva Samiti, Jodhpur	Shelter	4,46,400.00
10.	PFA, Bhilwara	Ambulance	3,98,000.00
11.	Siwanchigate Gaushala, Jodhpur	Ambulance	4,04,000.00

Year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Shri Jan Kalyan Gopal Gaushala, Nagaur	Shelter Scheme	4,71,330/-
2.	Shri Krishan Gopal Gausadan Samiti, Nagaur	Shelter Scheme	5,48,910/-
3.	Shri Gulab Gaushala Dharmarth Trust, Jodhpur	Shelter Scheme	7,53,750/-
4.	Shri Krishan Gopal Gausadan, Jaipur	Shelter Scheme	10,09,485/-
5.	Shri Krishan Gopal Gausadan Samiti, Nagaur	Shelter Scheme	5,48,910/-
6.	Shri Ram Gaushala Seva Samiti, Jodhpur	Shelter Scheme	4,46,400/-
7.	Shri Kalyan Bhoomi Gau Seva Sadan, Sriganganagar	Shelter Scheme	2,29,815/-
8.	Shri Ram Gaushala Seva Samiti, Jodhpur	Ambulance Scheme	3,28,177/-
9.	Shri Krishan Gopal Gausadan Samiti, Nagaur	Ambulance Scheme	4,38,580/-

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Help in Suffering, Jaipur	ABC Scheme	6,12,000/-
2.	Shri Kapil Krishna Gaushala, Bikaner	Shelter Scheme	6,44,400/-
3.	Shri Brahamchari Ram Kumarji Panna Lalji Gaushala Dharmarth Trust, Jodhpur	Shelter Scheme	8,34,750/-
4.	Pujyapad Sant Shri Asaramji Gaushala Samiti, Tonk	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
5.	Dushkal Gau Seva Samiti	Shelter Scheme	7,20,000/-

1	2	3	4
6.	Shri Krishna Gopal Gaushala, Jaipur	Shelter Scheme	10,09,485/-
7.	Shri Adinath Pashu Raksha Sanstha Gaushala, Udaipur	Shelter Scheme	3,40,050/-
8.	Shri Krishna Gopal Gausadan Samiti, Jaswantgarh	Shelter Scheme	4,50,000/-
9.	Shri Gopal Gaushala, Barmer	Shelter Scheme	10,00,000/-
10.	Sant Shri Asaramji Samiti, Jaipur	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
11.	Shri Girdhar Gauseva Samiti, Kota	Shelter Scheme	6,91,690/-
12.	Shri Gopal Gaushala Samiti, Jodhpur	Ambulance Scheme	4,40,000/-
13.	Sant Shri Asaramji Gaushala, Jaipur	Ambulance Scheme	4,50.000/-

SIKKIM
Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Sikkim SPCA, Gangtok	ABC Scheme	34,000/-
2	Sikkim SPCA	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

TAMIL NADU
Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Chennai	ABC	2,50,000.00
2.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	ABC	2,00,000.00
3.	Blue Cross, Chennai	ABC	2,00,000.00
4.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust	ABC	2,50,000.00
5.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC	5,00,000.00
6.	PFA, Chennai, Charitable Trust	Shelter	11,25,000.00
7.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Shelter	6,00,000.00
8.	Shri Marudhar Kesari jain Gaushala, Chennai	Shelter	6,75,000.00
9.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Ambulance	2,32,000.00
10.	PFA, Vellore	Ambulance	3,43,000.00
11.	PFA, Coimbatore	Ambulance	1,00,000.00
12.	Bullock Cart Workers Development Association, Villipuram	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
13.	Sanctuary for Animal Veterinary Excellence, Chennai	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
14.	Bhartiya Pranimitra Sangh, Chennai	Ambulance	3,51,000.00

Year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC Scheme	5,00,000/-
2.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC Scheme	7,50,000/-
3.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	2,25,000/-
4.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	4,00,000/-
5.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	2,25,000/-
6.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC Scheme	7,50,000-
7.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	4,00,000/-
8.	Goswami Madam, T. Nagar, Channai	Shelter Scheme	3,17,236/-
9.	Sri Satyasai Praniseva Shelter, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	2,40,098/-
10.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
11.	Goswami Madam, T. Nagar, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	3,17,236/-
12.	Sri Satyasai Praniseva Shelter, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	2,40,098/-
13.	Sai Raghav Shelter for Animals, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	3,00,000/-
2.	SPCA, Chennai	ABC Scheme	1,70,000/-
3.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC Scheme	6,12,000/-
4.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	ABC Scheme	10,20,000/-
5.	PFA, Chennai	ABC Scheme	6,00,000/-
6.	SPCA, Kanchipuram	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
7.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	ABC Scheme	3,00,000/-
8.	Blue Cross of India Chennai	ABC Scheme	10,20,000/-
9.	PFA, Chennai	ABC Scheme	6,00,000/-
10.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	9,45,000/-
11.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	9,45,000/-
12.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	Shelter Scheme	2,73,800/-

1	2	3	4
13.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Ambulance Scheme	3,50,000/-
14.	Sri Satyasai Praniseva Shelter, Chennai	Ambulance Scheme	3,03,209/-
15.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Ambulance Scheme	1,00,000/-
16.	Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai	Natural Calamities Scheme	50,00,000/-

TIRPURA

Year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Agartala	Shelter	3,24,900.00
2.	PFA, Agartala	Ambulance	3,81,000.00

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Animal Rescue Development Department, Tripura	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

UTTRANCHAL

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	PFA, Dehradun	Ambulance Scheme	3,07,895/-
2.	PFA, Dehradun	Ambulance Scheme	1,00,000/-

UTTAR PRADESH

Year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (In. Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Pinjrapole Gaushala, Pilibhit	Shelter	7,30,750.00
2.	Karuna Gaushala Samiti, Gonda	Shelter	5,00,000.00
3.	PFA, Lucknow	Shelter	9,45,000.00
4.	Jai Shri Krishna Gaushala Samiti, Jhansi	Shelter	5,76,900.00
5.	Vinoba Seva Ashram, Shahjahanpur	Shelter	7,42,410.00
6.	Gorakhpur SPCA	Ambulance	90,000.00
7.	PFA, Meerut	Ambulance	3,32,000.00

1	2	3	4
8.	PFA, Ferozabad	Ambulance	4,50,000.00
9.	Dayodaya Pashu Gaurakshan Kendra, Lalitpur	Ambulance	3,50,000.00

Year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Shri Gaushala Kathar Jungle, Basti	Shelter Scheme	8,56,035/-
2.	Adarsh Gaushala Samiti, Bhajiabal	Shelter Scheme	7,23,600/-
3.	Shri Krishna Gaushala, Kushinagar	Shelter Scheme	8,46,900/-
4.	Shri Panjrapole Gaushala, Pilibhit	Shelter Scheme	7,30,350/-
5.	Vinobha Seva Ashram, Shahjahanpur	Shelter Scheme	7,42,410/-
6.	PFA, Firozabad	Shelter Scheme	7,29,000/-
7.	PFA, Jyotiba Phule Nagar	Shelter Scheme	10,36,057/-
8.	PFA, Firozabad	Shelter Scheme	3,93,750/-
9.	SPCA, Pilibhit	Shelter Scheme	6,30,000/-
10.	PFA, J.P. Nagar	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-
11.	PFA, Ghaziabad	Ambulance Scheme	3,52,500/-

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Doctor's Pets Creche Animal Welfare Trust, Lucknow	ABC Scheme	17,000/-
2.	SPCA, Gorakhpur	ABC Scheme	61,200/-
3.	Shri Gaushala Kathar Jungle, Basti	Shelter Scheme	8,56,035/-
4.	PFA, Agra	Shelter Scheme	11,16,000/-
5.	Kavi Pati Ram Shiksha Evam Vikas Samrit, Agra	Shelter Scheme	8,32,500/-
6.	PFA, J.P. Nagar	Shelter Scheme	10,36,058/-
7.	Animal Care Organization, Lucknow	Shelter Scheme	5,31,000/-
8.	Dayodaya Pashu Sanrakahan Kendra (Gaushala), Lalitpur	Shelter Scheme	7,20,000/-
9.	PFA, Dehradun	Shelter Scheme	9,19,165/-
10.	SPCA, Noida	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-

1	2	3	4
11.	Vinoba Seva Ashram, Shahjahanpur	Shelter Scheme	5,13,180/-
12.	PFA, Firozabad	Shelter Scheme	11,22,750/-
13.	PFA, Ghaziabad	Shelter Scheme	11,25,000/-
14.	Shri Krishna Gaushala, Kushinagar	Shelter Scheme	8,46,900/-
15.	PFA, Agra	Ambulance Scheme	3,95,000/-
16.	Doctor's Pets Animal Welfare Trust, Lucknow	Ambulance Scheme	3,85,573/-
17.	Vinoba Seva Ashram, Shahjahanpur	Ambulance Scheme	4,50,000/-

WEST BENGAL
Year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	SPCA, Calcutta (West Bengal)	ABC	2,20,000.00
2.	Love 'N' Care for Animal, Calcutta	ABC	45,000.00
3.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	ABC	4.00,000.00
4.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Calcutta	ABC	2,00,000.00
5.	PFA, Calcutta	ABC	2,00,000.00
6.	Burdwan Society for Animal Welfare	ABC	8,100.00
7.	Love 'N' Care for Animal, Calcutta	ABC	45,000.00
8.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	Shelter	8,28,450.00
9.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	Shelter	8,28,450.00
10.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Calcutta	Shelter	1,46,250.00
11.	PFA, Calcutta	Shelter	8,55,000.00
12.	Love 'N' Care for Animal, Calcutta	Shelter	8,18,100.00
13.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	Shelter	8,28,450.00
14.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Calcutta	Shelter	11,29,694.00
15.	Hetaljore Kishoribala Databya Chikitsalaya, Midnapore, Calcutta	Shelter	90,774.00
16.	Calcutta SPCA, Calcutta	Ambulance	3,50,000.00
17.	Howrah Animal Welfare Organisation, Howrah	Ambulance	4,44,000.00
18.	South Calcutta Animal Society, Calcutta	Ambulance	3,76,000.00
19.	Love 'N' Care for Animal, Calcutta	Ambulance	1,00,000.00

1	2	3	4
20.	Calcutta SPCA, Calcutta	Ambulance	1,00,000.00
21.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	Ambulance	95,310.00
22.	Bhav Nagar Social Service Welfare, Calcutta	Ambulance	1,98,077.00

Year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,02,000/-
2.	Calcutta SPCA, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	2,20,000/-
3.	Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter, Darjeeling	ABC Scheme	1,63,200/-
4.	Burdwan Society for Animal Welfare	ABC Scheme	71,900/-
5.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,02,000/-
6.	PFA, Calcutta	Shelter Scheme	5,40,000/-

Year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	Scheme	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1.	All Loves of Animal Society, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,02,000/-
2.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,44,500/-
3.	Howrah Animal Welfare Organisation, Howrah	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
4.	PFA, Hooghly	ABC Scheme	4,000/-
5.	PFA, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	2,00,000/-
6.	All Lovers of Animal Society, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,00,000/-
7.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Kolkata	ABC Scheme	2,53,000/-
8.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	ABC Scheme	1,44,500/-
9.	PFA, Hooghly	ABC Scheme	4,000/-
10.	Howrah Animal Welfare Organisation, Howrah	ABC Scheme	85,000/-
11.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	Shelter Scheme	8,18,100/-
12.	Vivekanand Adarsh Sevashram	Shelter Scheme	9,55,094/-
13.	All Loves of Animal Society, Calcutta	Shelter Scheme	6,35,745/-
14.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	Ambulance Scheme	4,40,900/-

Statement-II

List of NGOS Granted Financial Aid under the Scheme for Birth Control and Immunization of Stray Dogs

Year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	State	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	PFA, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	2,00,000/-
2.	PFA, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2,50,000/-
3.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1,00,000/-
4.	PFA, Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	1,70,000/-
5.	Blue Cross of Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000/-
6.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	Goa	2,88,000/-
7.	SPCA, Calcutta	West Bengal	2,20,000/-
8.	Blue Cross Society of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-
9.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2,00,000/-
10.	PFA, Bhubaneswar	Orissa	2,00,000/-
11.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	45,000/-
12.	SPCA, Amritsar	Punjab	1,02,000/-
13.	Bangalore SPCA, Bangalore	Karnataka	1,36,000/-
14.	Vadodara SPCA, Baroda	Gujarat	1,70,000/-
15.	Friendicoes SECA, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-
16.	Goa Animal Welfare Trust Margao, Goa	Goa	1,53,000/-
17.	Animal Rights Fund, Bangalore	Karnataka	59,000/-
18.	Animal and Bird Welfare Society, Howrah	West Bengal	4,00,000/-
19.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	2,00,000/-
20.	AHIMSA, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,50,000/-
21.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-
22.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Calcutta	West Bengal	2,00,000/-
23.	Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, Bangalore	Karnataka	2,00,000/-
24.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1,00,000/-
25.	PFA, Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	1,70,000/-

1	2	3	4
26.	PFA, Calcutta	West Bengal	2,00,000/-
27.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2,50,000/-
28.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	5,00,000/-
29.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	45,000/-
30.	PFA, Mumbai	Maharashtra	1,63,200/-
31.	Blue Cross of Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000/-
32.	Help in Suffering, Jaipur	Rajasthan	2,00,000/-
33.	Bombay SPCA, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-
34.	In Defence of Animals, Mumbai	Maharashtra	1,20,700/-
35.	Blue Cross Society of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	4,00,000/-
36.	Burdwan Society for Animal Welfare	West Bengal	8,100/-
		Total	Rs. 75,00,000/-

Year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	State	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	5,00,000/-
2.	PFA, Goa	Goa	2,00,000/-
3.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	4,59,000/-
4.	SPCA, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	2,25,000/-
5.	Shri Jeevdaya Jankalyan Parivar, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	6,20,500/-
6.	All India Animal Welfare Assn., Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-
7.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	7,50,000/-
8.	The Welfare of Stray Dogs, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-
9.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,02,000/-
10.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2,25,000/-
11.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	4,00,000/-
12.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-
13.	Pet Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	85,000/-
14.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-

1	2	3	4
15.	International Animal Rescue, Goa	Goa	2,88,000/-
16.	Animal Rights Fund, Bangalore	Karnataka	59,000/-
17.	Blue Cross Society of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	4,00,000/-
18.	Calcutta SPCA, Calcutta	West Bengal	2,20,000/-
19.	All India Animal Welfare Assn., Mumbai	Maharashtra	4,25,000/-
20.	Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter, Darjeeling	West Bengal	1,63,200/-
21.	PFA, Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	1,70,000/-
22	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,47,500/-
23.	Bombay SPCA, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,55,000/-
24.	Burdwan Society for Animal Welfare	West Bengal	71,900/-
25.	PFA, Panaji	Goa	4,08,000/-
26.	In Defence of Animals, Mumbai	Maharashtra	3,06,000/-
27.	Visakha SECA, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	4,81,740/-
28.	Friendicoes SECA, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	5,44,000/-
29.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	2,25,000/-
30.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	7,50,000/-
31.	Late Subash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	4,59,000/-
32.	PFA (Chennai) Charitable Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	4,00,000/-
33.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,02,000/-
34.	Circle for Animal Lovers, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-
35.	Goa Animal Welfare Trust, Margao, Goa	Goa	1,53,000/-
	Total	Total	1,06,94,840/-

Year 2000-2001

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO	State	Amount Granted (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Animal Welfare Association, Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,44,800/-
2.	Do It Yourself Activities, Bangalore	Karnataka	1,70,000/-
3.	Ruth Cowell Foundation (Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care Centre), New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,47,500/-

1	2	3	4
4.	Visakha Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	93,880/-
5.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust Chennai	Tamil Nadu	3,00,000/-
6.	All Lovers of Animal Society, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,00,000/-
7.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,44,500/-
8.	Late Subhash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1,70,000/-
9.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	NCT. Delhi	2,00,000/-
10.	Howrah Animal Welfare Organization, Howrah	West Bengal	85,000/-
11.	SPCA, Chandigarh	NCT. Chandigarh	57,000/-
12.	SPCA, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1,70,000/-
13.	All India Animal Welfare Association, Mumbai	Maharashtra	4,25,000/-
14.	Doctor's Pets Creche Animal Welfare Trust, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	17,000/-
15.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	6,12,000/-
16.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	5,75,620/-
17.	Blue Cross of Society of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	3,15,360/-
18.	Blue Cross of India, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	10,20,000/-
19.	Animal Care Land, Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	85,000/-
20.	People for Animals (PFA), Chennai	Tamil Nadu	6,00,000/-
21.	Subhash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	6,20,000/-
22.	Ahimsa, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,50,000/-
23.	PFA, Goa	Goa	4,08,000/-
24.	Blue Cross Society of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	4,00,000/-
25	DIYA, Bangalore	Karnataka	1,70,000/-
26.	In Defence of Animals, Bombay	Maharashtra	3,06,000/-
27.	Help in Suffering, Jaipur	Rajasthan	6,12,000/-
28.	PFA, Mysore	Karnataka	2,04,000/-
29.	PFA, Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh	2,50,000/-
30.	PFA, Hooghly	West Bengal	4,000/-
31.	SPCA, Pune	Maharashtra	1,02,000/-
32.	The Bombay SPCA, Bombay	Maharashtra	2,55,000/-
33.	Voice of Animals in Distress, Navi Mumabi	Maharashtra	3,40,000/-

1	2	3	4
34.	Sri Raghuvendra Samrakshaka Sangam, Cuddapah	Andhra Pradesh	85,000/-
35.	SPCA, Kanchipuram	Tamil Nadu	85,000/-
36.	PFA, Calcutta	West Bengal	2,00,000/-
37.	All Lovers of Animal Welfare, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,00,000/-
38.	PFA, Ludhiana	Punjab	51,000/-
39.	Compassionate Crusaders Trust, Kolkata	West Bengal	2,53,000/-
40.	Visakha SPCA	Andhra Pradesh	5,75,620/-
41.	Animal Help Foundation, Gujarat	Gujarat	10,20,000/-
42.	The Jalna Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Jalna (Maharashtra)	Maharashtra	1,72,800/-
43.	Vadodara SPCA, Gujarat	Gujarat	1,70,000/-
44.	Circle of Animal Lovers, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	2,00,000/-
45.	Shree Jivdaya Jankalyan Parivar, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	6,20,500/-
46.	Animal Welfare and Protection Trust, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	3,00,000/-
47.	Blue Cross of Chennai	Tamil Nadu	10,20,000/-
48.	Late Subhash Batra Jeevdaya Trust, Ahmedabad	Gujarat	5,10,000/-
49.	Love 'N' Care for Animals, Calcutta	West Bengal	1,44,500/-
50.	Friendicoes-SECA, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	5,44,000/-
51.	Pet Animal Welfare Society, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	85,000/-
52.	The Welfare of Stray Dogs, Colaba, Mumbai	Maharashtra	2,00,000/-
53.	Sanjay Gandhi Animal Care, Raja Garden, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	4,08,000/-
54.	PFA, Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	1,70,000/-
55.	PFA, Chandigarh	NCT, Chandigarh	1,63,200/-
56.	Visakha SPCA, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	10,20,000/-
57.	International Animal Rescue Centre, Goa	Goa	3,17,910/-
58.	Sonadi Charitable Trust, Chitranjan Park, New Delhi	NCT, Delhi	1,02,000/-
59.	PFA, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	6,00,000/-
60.	SPCA, Gorakhpur	Uttar Pradesh	61,200/-
61.	PFA, Hoogly	West Bengal	4,000/-
62.	AIAWO, Mumbai	Maharashtra	4,25,000/-

1	2	3	4
63.	PFA, Ranchi	Jharkhand	85,000/-
64.	Howrah Animal Welfare Orgn.,	West Bengal	85,000/-
		Total	1,88,83,390/-

Note : Some of the Organizations figures more than once. That is due to the fact that the grant is normally, released in two installments.

Formulation of New Policy for Steel Sector

2985.SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the achievement made in the steel sector during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate a new policy for the steel sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Over the last 3 years from 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 the Indian iron and steel industry has witnessed major achievements in different spheres of operation. The crude steel production has increased by over 12% and the capacity utilization has improved from 76% to 82%. The production of Sponge Iron has also witnessed a steady rise over the last three years and today India is the largest producer of Sponge Iron in the world. In the area of trade, despite trade barriers put up by various countries, India has been able to maintain its net exporter status. The export basket too has shifted toward value added goods. The apparent consumption of finished steel has risen by over 9% during this period. In the area of policy, some measures have been taken to check the surge in import of seconds/ defectives and the tax structure has also been rationalized to the benefit of the steel industry in general.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government has decided to formulate a National Steel Policy to draw out the road map for the iron and steel industry in the context of second generation reforms, restructuring and globalization. A draft Committee under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel has been set up to prepare the Draft National Policy. The Committee has prepared a first draft and the same is under examination in consultation with major steel producers and associations.

[English]

Advertising Rights Scam

2986.SHRI ADHIR CHOWHDURY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6850 dated May 13, 2002 and state :

(a) whether details have since been ascertained from the CBI regarding Advertising Rights Scam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the modus-operandi of the scam;

(d) whether responsibility have been fixed by the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and punishment meted out the guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (e) On 26.3.2002, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against some officials of Airports Authority of India (AAI) and M/s TDI International Pvt. Ltd. The case is under investigated by CBI.

Maintenance of Markanda Temple

2987.SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2032 on August 4, 2000 regarding Markanda Temple, Maharashtra and state :

(a) whether the allocation of Rs. 20,000/- made for the maintenance of Markanda Dev Temple, Markanda in

Gad Chiroli district of Maharashtra during the financial year 2000-2001, has been fully utilised;

(b) if so, the details of the work done in the temple with the said amount;

(c) the total amount allocated during the financial year 2001-2002 and during the current financial year for the maintenance of this temple; and

(d) the conservation work being carried out in the temple during the said years by the Archaeollogical Survey of India ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The allocation made for this temple could not be partially utilised for cleaning of the temple.

(c) and (d) During 2001-2002 against an allocation of Rs. 20,000/- the expenditure incurred on annual maintenance is Rs. 16,764/-.

During the current year, the allocation vis-à-vis the expenditure on this temple is as below :-

Sl.No.	Head	Allocation	Exp.
1.	Tools and Plants	5,00,000/-	4,67,035/-
2.	Structural repairs	3,00,000/-	50,000/-
3.	Annual maintenance	40,000/-	25,000/-

Besides annual maintenance and procurement of tools and plants for the temple, the dilapidated mini shrine of Bhima Shankar has been taken up for dismantling and reconstruction.

[Translation]

Promotion of Aquaculture in Madhya Pradesh

2988.SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval for promotion of aquaculture in fresh water in Madhya Pradesh during 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the time by which the amount of the Centre's share is likely to be released for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 19.97 lakh as one time central assistance towards 100% grant under the Pilot Scheme on Integrated Development of Inland Capture Fisheries Resources (Development of Reservoir Fisheries) has been released to Government of Madhya Pradesh on 21.8.2001. No funds have been released to the State Government under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of Freshwater Aquaculture during 2001-2002 since the State is having an unspent balance of Central share to the tune of Rs. 99.96 lakhs.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism Abroad

2989.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by Indian Tourism Offices abroad to promote India as an attractive tourist destination;

(b) the details of tourist offices opened abroad during the last three years thereafter, location-wise;

(c) whether performance of these offices has not been upto the mark during said period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the total tourist arrivals during the last three years and foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(f) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on maintenance of these offices during the last three years; and

(g) the steps taken or proposed to by taken to make these offices more effective ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Promotion of Indian Tourism is an on going process and the marketing strategy is to promote the country's Tourism products in key markets through advertising in print and electronic media, participation in fairs and exhibitions, dissemination of information through brochures, CD Roms, inviting of media personalities under the hospitality programme, web marketing, organization of workshops and seminars etc.

(b) to (d) No new tourist office was opened abroad during the last 3 years. Therefore, the issue of the evaluation of their performance does not arise.

(e) The total tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earned during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Tourist Arrivals	Foreign Exchange Earned (Rs. in Crores)
1999	2481928	12150.00
2000	2649378	14238.00
2001	2537282	14006.45

(f) The expenditure incurred on maintenance of overseas offices during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Non Plan Expn. (Rs. in lakhs)
1999-2000	1307.60
2000-2001	1505.62
2001-2002	1665.57

(g) The activities of the Indiatourism offices overseas are regularly monitored and strategic directions/guidelines are given from time to time for implementation.

[Translation]

Labourers Employed in Short Term Jobs

2990. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of labourers are seasonally employed in the country;

(b) if so, the number of labourers engaged in such jobs at present, State-wise;

(c) the assessment made in regard to the annual income being earned by these labourers through such jobs; and

(d) the minimum/maximum number of man-days generated out of such short term jobs annually ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) As per the sample survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000, approximately 60% of total work force of 397 million in the country was engaged in agricultural sector where a large number of economic activities are of seasonal nature.

(b) Total estimated employment in respect of major States for the year 1999-2000 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The annual average wages earned per worker who were engaged as casual labour were around Rs. 7704/- and Rs. 11,748/- in Rural and Urban areas respectively during the year 1999-2000.

(d) The information is not maintained.

Statement

Sl. No.	Major States	Employment during 1999-2000 (in thousands)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36148
2.	Assam	9357
3.	Bihar	36437
4.	Gujarat	22931
5.	Haryana	7159
6.	Karnataka	23599
7.	Kerala	12444
8.	Madhya Pradesh	34424
9.	Maharashtra	41241
10.	Orissa	14981
11.	Punjab	9885
12.	Rajasthan	23212
13.	Tamil Nadu	28895
14.	Uttar Pradesh	58924
15.	West Bengal	28237
	All India	397000

Private Airlines

2991. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the private companies allowed to operate flights in the country during the last three years;

(b) the names of the companies not permitted to operate flights alongwith reasons therefor;

(c) whether any broad guidelines are followed by the Government for giving permission to private companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) The applications for starting domestic air services to processed as per the laid down procedure detailed in various Civil Aviation Requirements issued by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

As per the procedure applications which are complete in all respects and cleared from security angle by Ministry of Home Affairs are considered for sanctioned 'No Objection Certificate' for starting air transport operation. On getting 'No Objection Certificate' the applicants are required to fulfill certain conditions within a prescribed period for being eligible to get air transport operator's permit.

During the year 2000, 2001 and 2002 (upto November) 'No Objection Certificates' have been issued to 27 applicants Applications of M/s. Crown Express, M/s. Neutrual Engineers, M/s. Ennoble Airways, M/s. Thomas Cook and M/s. Leela Aviation have been rejected/ deferred due to non-availability of security clearance and/ or for other deficiencies.

The following eight private companies which have fulfilled the eligibility conditions have been granted operator's permit (Non-Scheduled)

1. M/s. J.K. Corp.
2. M/s. Escorts Ltd.
3. M/s. Reliance Transport Travels Ltd.
4. M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd.
5. M/s. Himalayan Heli Services Pvt. Ltd.
6. M/s. Bilakhia Holding Pvt. Ltd.
7. M/s. Enbee Aviation Ltd.
8. M/s. RC Aviation India Pvt. Ltd.

Crashing of Aircraft of Bokaro Steel Plant

2992. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircrafts owned by Bokaro Steel Plant crashed during the last three years and till date, date-wise;

(b) the causes behind and damage suffered in each incident during the said period;

(c) the details of the findings of the inquiries conducted in this regard alongwith the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the measures taken to check such accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) No aircraft owned by Bokaro Steel Plant has crashed during the last three yeas, and till date.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Renovation of Jain Basadis

2993. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to renovate all Jain Basadis in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Jain Basadis provided financial assistance for renovation so far;

(c) whether the Government have already undertaken in the project of renovate Thousand Pillar Basadi in Moodbidri, Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka;

(d) if so, the amount allocated and released for the above work; and

(e) the time by which the balance amount is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal to renovate all Jain Basadis in the country. Government of India has, however, provided funds to Archaeological Survey of India as part of 2600 years of Tirthankara Mahavira's Janma Kalyanak for conservation and environmental development of 59 Centrally Protected Jain Monuments in the country. Funds have also been provided to CPWD for developmental activities in and around 63 unprotected Jain Monuments including Gauru Basadi Temple, Moodbidri in Karnataka for which a one time grant of Rs. 29,78,900/- has been allocated and released.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Research and Invention in Agriculture Sector

2994. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the set up of research and invention in the agriculture sector of the country is one of the biggest in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of scientists, researches administrators and other persons engaged in this service during 2001-2002;

(d) the amount spent on their salaries, allowances etc. during the said period; and

(e) the amount allocated to provide necessary facilities for research work during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Agricultural Research System comprising of ICAR Institutions, State and Central Agricultural Universities is one of the largest in the world. The Department is implementing 72 Major Research Schemes through ICAR Institutes (47), National Bureaux (5), National Research Centres (29), Project Directorates (11), and All India Co-ordinated Research Projects (82) encompassing research on food crops, commercial crops, horticultural crops, animal science, natural resource management, agricultural engineering, fisheries, agricultural education besides transferring front line technologies to the farmers.

(c) The details are as under :

(i)	Scientific Posts	4796
(ii)	Technical Posts	7759
(iii)	Administration Posts	5161
(iv)	Supporting Staff	10719
(v)	Auxiliary Posts	122

(d) The amount spent on their salaries, allowances etc. during the said period is Rs. 12.23 crore under Plan and Rs. 380.21 crore under Non-Plan.

(e) The amount allocated to provide necessary facilities for research work during the above period is Rs. 684 crore.

Employment Opportunities

2995. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target for creating employment opportunties has been left to the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The Special Group headed by Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, in its report submitted in May, 2002 has recommended strategies and programmes so that 50 million employment oppprotunities are generated during the course of the 10th Plan Period. Out of these, nearly 20 million will be created by selective innovative programmes and policies leading to a changed pattern of

growth in favour of labour intensive sectors and the remaining 30 million will come from the normal buoyancy of growth of the economy.

[English]

Drought Condition in Gujarat

2996. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to low rainfall 90 percent of the crops and livestock have been affected in Gujarat, particularly in Kutch district during current year;

(b) if so, the details regarding rains and droughts in the State particularly in Kutch during the said period;

(c) whether any detailed report has been received by the Union Government from the State Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the assistance sought by the State and actual amount released under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) during the last three years and the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) According to information supplied by the Government of Gujarat, Kutch received 39.34% of average rainfall and the State Government have declared 2747 villages in 13 districts, including 793 villages of Kutch, as drought affected. No memorandum has so far been received from the State Government for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for current year's drought.

Details of releases of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and form National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to Gujarat during last three years is indicated below :-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Central share of CRF	Assistance from NFCR/ NCCF (for drought)
1999-2000	121.05	54.58
2000-2001	131.14	85.00
2001-2002	117.01	27.00

[Translation]

Shortage of Water Resources in Rajasthan

2997. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to overcome the shortage of water resources in Rajasthan due to famine which constantly hit Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the scarcity of water in the irrigated area is constantly incrasing due to during up of conventional sources, decline in water level of wells, ponds and reservoirs and non supply of water in the canals; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by the Government to overcome the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, water resources schemes including the schemes to overcome the shortage of water resources are formulated, planned, executed and funded by the concerned State Governments. To help the State Governments in their efforts to harness the water from natural resources and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to provide central loan assistance. Accordingly, the Central Loan Assistance (CLA) amounting to Rs. 466.17 crore to the State Government of Rajasthan has been provided under AIBP upto end of 2001-02 and an amount of Rs. 63.30 crore has been released so far during the year 2002-03.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme,

artifical recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other Implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis, under which 174 schemes have been approved in various parts of the country during Ninth Five Year Plan. The scheme has been proposed to be extended during the Tenth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 150.00 crore.

As a long term measure, National Perspective Plan for water resources development has been formulated which envisages inter-linking of rivers by transferring of water from surplus basins/areas to water deficit basins/areas, Under the Himalayan component of the Plan, Sarda-Yamuna-Rajasthan and Rajasthan-Sabarmati link canals are envisaged to provide benefits of irrigation, drinking water, etc. to Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is getting water from Bhakra and Pong dams as per share on the basis of the percentages as decided under various inter-State agreements and meetings of Bhakra Beas Management Board. The entire Central share of assistance of Rs. 171.16 crore has been released to Rajasthan under the Calamity Relief fund during the current financial year. Besides, an assistance of Rs. 11.66 crore has also been provided to Rajasthan under the National Calamity Contingency Fund.

Flights to US

2998. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the American cities for which flights of Air India are available at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to expand the network of these services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Air India is currently operating flights to New York, New Jersey and Chicago with its own aircraft. Air India also serves Los Angeles through a code share arrangements with Singapore Airlines and Malaysia Airlines. Additionally, connections to all prime cities in USA are available over New York, New Jersey and Chicago with interline partners.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960

2999. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rules and regulations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 are adequate to deal with the conditions under which animals are bread, procured and slaughtered; and

(b) if not, the details of legislation and other measures being contemplated by the Government to rectify the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SRHI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The present rules and regulations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 to deal with the exigencies of stated situations are considered adequate.

(b) Improvement in the situation is sought to be effected through strengthening of enforcement system on an on-going basis.

Voluntary Organisation Involved in Environment Protection

3000. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) the names of the Voluntary Organisations engaged in protection of environment with the assistance of grants from the Government;

(b) the details of grants provided to such organisations during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the activities undertaken with the said assistance during the aforessaid period;

(d) whether any monitoring on their expenditure and work is being done; and

(e) if so, the details alongwith the names of monitoring agencies; State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Environment and Forests provides grants to a number of Voluntary Organisations of undertake activities for the protection of the Environment under its various schemes such as National Afforestation and Eco-Development; Environmental Education and Training; Environmental Information System; and Seminar/Symposia/Workshops etc. The details of such Voluntary Organisations State-wise, alongwith the grants provided during the last three years is given in the Statement-I.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Advisory and Monitoring Committees have been constituted by the Ministry under various schemes to oversee and monitor the activities of the Voluntary Organisations. Besides, 28 Regional Resource Agencies for monitoring the work of the National Environmental Awareness Campaign have also been constituted by the Ministry. (State-wise details in Statement-II).

Statement-I

Statement showing Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations during the last three years (1999-2002)

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Name of the Agency	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Andhra Pradesh				
1.	Anantapur	Bharathi Education Society	0.00	1.52	1.00
2.	Anantapur	Centre for Rural Integrated Development Society	0.69	0.00	0.00
3.	Anantapur	Chitharavathi Rural Development Society	3.14	1.12	4.00
4.	Anantapur	Gaja Lakshmi Rural Development Society	0.48	0.00	0.00
5.	Anantapur	Integrated Rural Development Trust	0.60	6.77	1.00
6.	Anantapur	Gorantala Social Welfare Association	5.00	2.53	0.84
7.	Anantapur	Gramabhyudaya Sevak Sangh	0.38	0.00	0.00
8.	Anantapur	Chaitanya Rural Education and Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.33
9.	Anantapur	New Mitra Society for Rural Development	4.20	0.00	0.00
10.	Anantapur	Patel Youth Club	4.25	0.00	0.00
11.	Anantapur	Rupa Educational Society	4.25	0.00	0.00
12.	Anantapur	Rural Health Educational Awareness Development Society	0.00	1.01	0.00
13.	Anantapur	Rural Integrated Development Society	0.00	1.00	0.00
14.	Anantapur	Sangameshwara Educational Society	0.25	0.00	0.00
15.	Anantapur	Saraswathi Mahila Mandali	2.20	2.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Anantapur	White Field Rural Development Society	2.90	1.30	0.00
17.	Anantapur	Women Rural Development Society	4.25	3.12	1.00
18.	Chittoor	Basava Tarakam Educational Society	2.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Chittoor	Ventures Society for Rural Development	0.00	0.00	3.50
20.	Chittoor	Sri Sai Health Educational and Seeds Supply Welfare Association	0.00	0.00	3.50
21.	Chittoor	Cauvery Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
22.	Chittoor	Centre for Rural Development	0.00	4.20	3.17
23.	Chittoor	Gram Jyothy Welfare Association	0.00	4.20	4.17
24.	Chittoor	Green Field Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	3.17
25.	Chittoor	Integrated Rural Development Society	2.35	0.00	0.00
26.	Chittoor	Jyothi Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
27.	Chittoor	Naveen Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	3.17
28.	Cuddapah	People Service Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
29.	Cuddapah	Praja Rural Development Society	0.00	2.09	2.11
30.	Cuddapah	S.K. Educational Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
31.	Cuddapah	The Social Service Society	0.00	0.00	3.50
32.	East Godavari	Development Organisation for Poor Children and Rural Villages	0.00	0.00	4.00
33.	Hyderabad	Deccan Development Society	19.31	18.68	21.62
34.	Hyderabad	Sri Sai Educational Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
35.	Hammakunda	Sarvodaya Youth Organisation	0.00	0.00	0.32
36.	Kurnool	Chaitanya Educational Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
37.	Kurnool	Kisan Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
38.	Kurnool	Rural Welfare and Development Society	3.00	1.60	0.00
39.	Kurnool	Arunodaya Mahila Mandali	0.00	0.00	4.00
40.	Kurnool	Rural Integrated Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.50
43.	Kurnool	Krushi Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.65
42.	Kurnool	Sri Venkateshwar Mahila Mandali	0.00	0.90	0.00
43.	Kurnool	Sthree Chaitanya Women Welfare Association	3.00	0.00	1.15
44.	Kurnool	Health Agricultural Rural Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
45.	Kurnool	Prasad Educational Society	0.00	0.00	3.50
46.	Mahboobnagar	Adarsh Rural and Eductional Developoment Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
47.	Mahboobnagar	Kisan Rural Integrated Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
48.	Mahboobnagar	Navodaya Rural Integrated Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
49.	Mahboobnagar	Saritha Samaj Seva Sangham	0.00	4.20	0.00
50.	Mahboobnagar	Sri Shiridi Rural Educational and Integrated Welfare Organisation	0.00	0.00	4.00
51.	Medak	Rural Education and Agricultural Development Society	0.00	0.00	1.22
52.	Nellore	Youth Service Association	0.00	4.20	3.17
53.	Nellore	Kasturi Bhai Mahila Mandali	0.00	0.00	4.00
54.	Nellore	Rural Development Social Service Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
55.	Prakasam	Greenland Rural Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
56.	Ranga Reddy	Rural Health Educational Awareness Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.20
57.	Warangal	Sunrise Society for Rural Development	0.00	0.00	4.00
	Arunachal Pradesh				
58.	East Siang	Koughi Koomang Welfare Society	0.00	0.00	2.00
59.	East Siang	Mongu Padam MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.00
60.	Kuang Kumey	Growers and Producers Co-op. Society Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.00
61.	Lower Subansiri	Lower Subansiri Handloom Cooperative Society	0.00	4.25	0.00
62.	Lower Subansiri	Shlley Valley MPCS Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
63.	Lower Subansiri	Payeng Valley MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.00
64.	Lower Subansiri	Handloom and Handicrafts Co-op Society	0.00	0.00	1.73
65.	Papumpare	Gramin Vikas, Kendra	0.00	2.95	1.30
66.	Papumpare	Himgiri Handloom-cum-Handicrafts Co-operative Society Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
67.	Papumpare	Jeet Anne Society	0.00	0.00	2.50
68.	Papumpare	Kimin Kudh MPCS	0.00	0.00	1.73
69.	Papumpare	The Batt M.P.C.S. Limited	4.25	0.00	3.22
70.	Papumpare	The Farmers M.P.C.S. Limited	4.25	0.00	0.00
71.	Papumpare	The Pappu Nalla MPCS Limited	0.00	4.25	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
72.	Papumpare	Omkar Mission	0.00	0.00	3.00
73.	Twang	Youth Action for Social Welfare	0.00	0.00	4.25
74.	West Siang	Tribal Development Foundation	0.00	2.95	1.30
75.	West Siang	Tribal Welfare Society	0.00	2.95	1.30
76.	West Kamang	Sakrin Veavers Co-operative Society Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
	Assam				
77.	Guwahati	Assam Science Society	7.60	0.00	0.00
	Bihar				
78.	Bhojpur	Jan Sewa Yatam Kendra	0.00	0.00	4.20
79.	Buxar	Namrata Education Trust	0.00	4.20	0.00
80.	Deoghar	Gramin Vikas Parishad	3.50	3.69	0.00
81.	Daltongung	Bharat Vigyan Parishad	0.00	2.50	0.00
82.	East Singhbhum	Amlagora Seva Foundation	1.00	0.00	0.00
83.	Gumla	Vikas Bharti	4.73	0.00	0.00
84.	Hazaribagh	Jan Jagran Kendra	1.47	0.00	0.00
85.	Hazaribagh	Dharti Social and Rural Development Society	0.00	0.00	0.00
86.	Hazaribagh	JOHAR	0.00	2.50	0.00
87	Jamshedpur	Gram Vikas Kendra	18.88	24.68	26.68
88.	Khagaria	Lakshmi Mahila Vikas Sansthan	0.00	0.00	4.00
89.	Madhubani	Vinoba Bhavey Social Development Trust of India	4.20	0.00	0.00
90.	Palamau	Central Rural and Urban Development Council	3.00	0.00	0.00
91.	Palamau	Gramin Vikas Samiti	1.38	0.00	0.00
92.	Palamau	Maa Durga Vikas Samiti	1.50	0.00	0.00
93.	Patna	Adarsh Seva Sansthan	1.24	0.00	0.00
94.	Patna	Agro-Tech Consultants Vishwa Shikha	2.00	2.20	0.00
95.	Patna	Rural Youth Coordination Centre	10.12	12.47	13.87
96.	Patna	Ambetkar Social Welfare and Development Society	0.00	0.00	0.32
97.	Ranchi	Centre for Enterpreneurship Development	0.84	0.00	0.00
98.	Ranchi	Vishwa Manav Seva Sansthan	0.00	2.50	0.00
99.	Saran	Rashtriya Gramin Krishi Vidyapeeth	0.00	0.35	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
100.	Sitamarhi	Rajendra Institute of Education and Social Welfare	2.60	1.27	0.00
101.	Siwan	Bihar Jan Sahiyog Avam Kalyan Pratishtan	0.00	0.00	3.00
102.	Siwan	International Human Foundation	0.00	0.00	4.00
103.	West Champaran	Lok Sewa Sansthan	0.00	0.00	4.20
	Delhi				
104.	Delhi	Indian Environmental Society	24.61	37.32	46.12
105.	New Delhi	Utthan Centre for Sanitable Dev. and Poverty Alliviation	0.00	8.50	0.00
106.	New Delhi	Indian National Science Academy	0.00	0.00	0.64
107.	New Delhi	Tata Energy Research Institute	7.20	6.30	6.50
108.	New Delhi	Development Alternatives	6.62	5.80	6.65
109.	New Delhi	WWF India	4.70	0.00	8.85
110.	New Delhi	Centre for Media Studies			
111.	New Delhi	Centre for Medicines Studies	0.00	3.15	3.45
112.	New Delhi	Society for Civic Rights	0.00	3.20	0.00
113.	New Delhi	World Environment Foundation	0.00	0.00	0.40
114.	New Delhi	Mustard Research Promotion Consortium	0.00	0.00	0.02
115.	New Delhi	Federation of Indian Mineral Industries	0.00	0.00	0.40
116.	New Delhi	Himalayan Environment Trust	0.00	0.00	0.60
117.	New Delhi	Institutes of Engineers	0.00	0.00	0.50
	Gujarat				
118.	Ahmedabad	Centre for Environment Education	4.50	1.85	3.19
119.	Ahmedabad	Vikaram Sarabhai Centre for Development Interaction	7.25	7.95	9.33
120.	Gandhi Nagar	Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation	0.00	0.00	36.77
	Himachal Pradesh				
121.	Kullu	Him Education Society	5.30	0.00	0.00
122.	Mandi	Jan Jagran Gram Kalyan Sanuti	0.00	2.50	0.00
123.	Solan	Maina Memorial Society	4.25	0.00	0.00
	Jammu and Kashmir				
124.	Budgam	The Kanwal Embriodery Workers Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.	0.00	4.55	3.22
125.	Budgam	The Kashmir Gift Embriodery Workers Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
126.	Budgam	Women and Children Welfare Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
127.	Jammu	World Wide Fund for Nature	6.25	4.96	3.82
128.	Poonch	Pir Panchal Environment and Eco-development Society			4.25
129.	Srinagar	The Kashmir Arts Emb. Workers Industrial Co.op. Society Ltd.	3.11	0.00	0.00
	Jharkhand				
130.	Dumka	Akhil Bhartiya Aadim Janjati Utthan Samiti	0.00	2.50	0.00
	Karnataka				
131.	Bangalore	Certman, Bangalore	6.14	3.11	0.00
132.	Bangalore	Karnataka Rajya Vingana Parishad	5.24	6.02	0.00
133.	Belgaon	Kittur Channamma Mahila Mandali	0.00	0.00	4.20
134.	Bellary	New Mitra Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
135.	Chitradurga	Sri Sai Krupa Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
136.	Chitradurga	Shravanthi Association for Rural Development	0.00	0.00	4.00
137.	Chitradurga	People's Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
138.	Gauribidanur	Action for Social and Educational Development Association	0.00	1.43	0.00
139.	Kolar	South India Rural Development Society	4.20	0.00	3.17
140.	Kolar	Rural Educational and Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.20
141.	Kolar	Vasavi Social Service Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
142.	Kolar	Gemini Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
143.	Kolar	Pragthi Rural Development Society	4.20	0.00	0.00
144.	Kolar	Sarvodaya Mahila Mandli	0.00	4.20	0.00
145.	Kolar	Social Rural and Development Association	0.00	2.00	0.00
146.	Kolar	Society for Health and Educational Development	0.00	4.20	0.00
147.	Kolar	People's Rural Integrated Development Society	0.00	4.20	3.17
148.	Kolar	Kamal Rural Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.50
149.	Tumkur	Jayamangli Rural Development Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
150.	Tumkur	M.K. Educational Trust	0.00	4.20	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
151.	Tumkur	Arunodaya Rural Development Society	1.13	0.00	0.00
152.	Tumkur	Rural Social Service Society	0.00	4.20	0.00
153.	Tumkur	Society for Tribal Action in Rural Development	4.20	0.00	3.17
154.	Tumkur	Triveni Educational and Rural Development Society	4.20	0.00	3.17
155.	Tumkur	Mother Theresa Rural Development and Education Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
156.	Tumkur	Society for Integrated Rural Development	0.00	0.00	1.68
	Kerala				
157.	Calicut	OISEA International	0.00	0.00	0.12
158.	Cochin	Society of Fisheries Technology	0.00	0.00	0.40
159.	Palghat	Kaupood Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.50
160	Kottayam	Kottyam Rural and Education, Environment Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.20
161.	Pattanamtitta	Pattanamtitta Youth Association	0.00	0.00	4.20
162.	Mlappuram	Society for Health and Education Development	0.00	0.00	4.20
163.	Alleppey	Society for People Development	0.00	0.00	4.20
	Madhya Pradesh				
164.	Betul	Dayanand Sewarshram Sangh	0.00	4.25	0.00
165.	Bilashpur	Prasad Sanskritik Shaikshanik Evam Gram Vikas Samiti	0.38	0.00	0.00
166.	Chhindwara	The Environmental Service Group	0.00	4.20	0.00
167.	Morena	Akhil Bhartiya Sewa Sansthan	0.00	0.00	4.00
	Manipur				
168.	Bishnupur	The Environmental Social Reformation and Sanghai Protection Forum	4.25	0.00	0.00
171.	Churachadpur	The Geliang Sericulture-cum-Horticulture Farming Co-operative Society	0.00	4.25	0.00
170.	Chandel	The Environmental Rural Development Society	0.00	4.25	0.00
171.	Chandel	Hill Area Comprehensive Development Society	0.00	4.25	3.22
172.	Chandel	Yangkhel Ching Khutha Khadi and Village Industry	0.00	4.25	0.00
173.	Chandel	Nungphura Village Development Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
174.	Imphal	The Rural Areas Development Centres	3.72	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
175.	Imphal	All Manipur Management Development Training and Research Centre	0.00	1.84	0.00
176.	Imphal	Community Development Society	4.10	3.10	0.00
177.	Imphal	Helping Organisation for Poverty Advancement and Rural Development	0.00	4.00	0.00
178.	Imphal	Manipur Scheduled Caste Welfare Assoication	0.00	1.00	1.15
179.	Imphal	Social Environment and Rural Villages Education Service	3.50	3.13	1.00
180.	Imphal East	Organisation for Rural Development and Economic Consciousness	4.25	0.00	0.00
181.	Senapati	Houdu Akau Rural Development Society	0.00	0.00	3.00
182.	Senapati	Social Action for Tribal and Backward Classes	0.00	0.00	1.72
183.	Senapati	Chil Chil Asian Mission	0.00	4.25	3.22
184.	Senapati	Integrated Tribal Welfare Association	0.00	4.25	2.28
185.	Senapati	The N. Heikon Youth Club	0.00	6.32	0.00
186.	Senapati	The Tribal Handloom Co-operative Weavers Society Limited	0.00	4.25	0.00
187.	Senapati	Tribal Rural Ecological and Cultural Uplifment cum Women Development Association	0.00	4.25	0.00
188.	Senapati	United Hill People's Development Society	0.00	4.25	0.00
189.	Senapati	Onnuri Mission Society	0.00	0.00	4.25
190.	Senapati	The Samaritan Mission Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
191.	Tamenglong	Oriental Rural Development Organisation	0.00	4.25	0.00
192.	Ukhrul	Eco-Development Society	4.25	0.00	0.00
193.	Ukhrul	Rural Multipurpose Development Society	0.00	4.25	0.00
194.	Ukhrul	Agency for Rural Area Development	0.00	0.00	4.00
195.	Ukhrul	Forests Replenishing Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
	Maharashtra				
196.	Karad	Microbiologist Society	0.00	0.00	0.12
197.	Mumbai	Bombay Natural History Society	4.70	4.84	4.98
198.	Mumbai	Indira Gandhi Institute of Development and Research	0.00	0.00	0.48
199.	Pune	Bharatya Agro-Industries Foundation	12.13	16.24	2.49

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Mizoram				
200.	Aizwal	Sinner's Friends Society	0.00	0.00	1.73
	Nagaland				
201.	Dimapur	Backward Classes Development, Society Ltd.,	4.25	1.60	1.62
202.	Dimapur	Alilang M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.34	0.00
203.	Dimapur	Anar's Society	1.80	2.40	0.00
204.	Dimapur	Chai MPCS Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
205.	Dimapur	Graziers M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.34	0.00
206.	Dimapur	Imlimok M.P.C.S.	1.80	2.45	3.22
207.	Dimapur	Jemtosu M.P.C.S. Ltd.	4.25	0.00	3.22
208.	Dimapur	Ekumm M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.50
209.	Dimapur	Moa Ren M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.00
210	Dimapur	Khok-kha M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.34	0.00
211.	Dimapur	Kotailo Forestry and Plantation Co-operative Society Ltd.	1.00	3.25	0.00
212.	Dimapur	Yongpang M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
213.	Dimapur	Novelty M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
214.	Dimapur	Ozukurn M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	4.25	0.00
215.	Dimapur	Tameja Women Welfare Society	0.00	1.95	2.30
216.	Dimapur	Young Naga Women's Society	4.20	0.00	2.27
217.	Dimapur	Anechar M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.50
218.	Kohima	Kushiwa M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.00	0.00
219.	Kohima	Economic Rural Area Development Service	0.00	0.00	4.25
220.	Kohima	Ura Women Welfare Society	0.00	0.00	4.25
221.	Kohima	Kwighi Kemehai Zie	0.00	2.95	3.80
222.	Kohima	Liric M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
223.	Kohima	Meshendi M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.65	0.69	0.00
224.	Kohima	Ndining Farming Cooperative Society	0.00	1.90	2.35
225.	Kohima	Jonglong M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
226.	Kohima	Women's Cooperative Society	0.00	2.95	4.52
227.	Kohima	Vimeyie M.P.C.S. Ltd.,	1.00	3.25	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
228.	Kohima	Rural Women Development Trust	1.00	3.25	0.00
229.	Kohima	Rangkau M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.90	2.35
230.	Kohima	Ruziekhouzhou M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
231.	Kohima	Rhetso MPCS Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
232.	Kohima	Rural Development Trust	0.00	2.95	1.30
233.	Kohima	Nourhevi Society	0.00	0.00	2.50
234.	Kohima	Pete M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
235.	Kohima	Yarhezou M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	2.50
236.	Kohima	Zhumoha M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.50
237.	Mokokchung	Chubalar M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.34	0.00
268.	Mokokchung	Rudichulare MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
239.	Mokokchung	Sumanglenden M.P.C.S. Ltd.	3.25	0.00	0.00
240.	Mokokchung	Sungtopangnen M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	1.34	0.00
241.	Mokokchung	Loponglu M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
242.	Mon	Grace Mount Women Society	1.80	2.40	3.27
243.	Mon	Tumsum MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	2.50
244.	Phek	Jurry's MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	1.34
245.	Phek	Sangte MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	1.34
246.	Phek	Reguri Village MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
247.	Phek	Nik MPCS Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
248.	Phek	Phek Town Baptist Church Women Welfare M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	2.50
249.	Tuensang	Chemchung M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
250.	Tuensang	Semdok Enterprises M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
251.	Tuensang	Nuiyong M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	2.95	1.30
252.	Tuensang	Eastern Cultural Organisation	0.00	0.00	2.50
253.	Wokha	Khumcho Welfare Club	0.00	1.04	0.00
254.	Wokha	Shinning M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
255.	Wokha	Athel M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25
256.	Wokha	Yamhon Village Women Society	0.00	0.00	2.50
257.	Zunhebato	Nanumi M.P.C.S. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	4.25

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Orissa				
258.	Bhubaneshwar	Gandian Institute of Technical Advancement	4.50	1.25	0.00
259.	Bhubaneshwar	Society of Geo-Scientists and Allied Technologists	0.00	0.00	0.40
260	Bhubaneshwar	Centre for Environmental Studies	0.00	0.00	44.12
261.	Dhenkanal	Maa Bhagwati Mahila Samiti	0.00	0.00	4.20
262.	Kalahandi	New Opportunities for Women	0.00	0.00	4.20
263.	Puri	Gram Unnayan Samiti	1.00	0.00	0.00
264.	Puri	Jibaramji Club	0.00	0.00	2.50
265.	Sambalpur	Jeevan Jyoti Development Association	0.00	0.00	3.00
	Rajasthan				
266.	Jaipur	Gram Bharti Samiti	0.00	2.50	0.00
267.	Jaipur	Social Policy Research Institute	0.00	0.00	0.60
268.	Jodhpur	The School of Desert Sciences	3.36	6.05	0.00
269.	Pushkar	Consortium of Indian Scientists of Sustainable Development	0.00	0.00	3.00
270.	Rajasamad	Rural Development and Technical Education Society	0.00	0.00	4.00
271.	Udaipur	Sewa Mandir	77.23	13.30	10.33
	Sikkim				
272.	West Sikkim (gyalsingh)	Lampatey Society	0.00	0.00	3.00
	Tamil Nadu				
273.	Chennai	Madras Science Foundation	1.04	0.77	0.00
274.	Chennai	CP Ramasamy Iiyar Foundation	15.93	22.16	22.54
275.	Dindigul Anna	Centre for Peace and Rural Development	0.00	2.50	0.00
276.	Dindigul Anna	Grama Reconstruction and Extensive Action Trust	0.00	0.75	0.00
277.	Dindigul	Centre for Rural Action Development and Research	0.00	2.50	0.00
278.	Dindigul	Youth Centre for Rehabilitation and Development	0.90	0.00	0.00
279.	Karur	Rural Stewards in India	0.00	2.50	0.00
280.	Madras	Commity Action for Food and Rural Development (CAFARD)	0.84	0.00	0.00
281.	Madurai	Community Development Centre	0.64	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
282.	Madras	St. Joseph's Educational Trust	0.12	0.00	0.00
283.	Thirunelveli	All Round Development Services and Upliftment	0.00	0.00	3.00
284.	Thirunelveli	Centre for Rural Economic Development and Industrial Training	0.00	0.00	3.35
285.	Thirunelveli	RVS Educational Trust	0.00	0.00	3.50
286.	VVA	Forests Protection Awareness and Rural Development Association	0.00	0.00	2.15
	Tirpura				
287.	South Tripura	DISHARI	0.00	0.00	3.00
	Uttaranchal				
288.	Almora	Paryavaran Avam Jan Jagaran Samiti	0.00	0.00	3.50
289.	Almora	Sahiyogi Gamodhyog Vikas Samiti	0.00	0.00	4.25
290.	Dehradun	Uttaranchal Sabhikeliye Sikaksha Parishad	0.00	0.00	11.71
291.	Dehradun	Centre for Research and Ecology and Environment Application and Training and Education	0.00	0.00	0.12
292.	Rudra Prayag	Padmavati Jan Kalyan Samiti	0.00	0.00	3.50
	Uttar Pradesh				
293.	Agra	Geetam Gramodyog Evam Vikas Sansthan	0.00	4.20	0.00
294.	Agra	Kisan Vriksharopan Samiti	8.00	8.93	3.00
295.	Agra	Sunder Singh Baghel Lok Kalyan Samiti	4.20	0.00	0.00
296.	Allahabad	Jai Karan Bind Gram Vikas Sansthan	0.00	0.00	1.00
297.	Almora	Kumaon Adventure and Environment Fellowship Society	2.98	1.50	0.38
298.	Almora	Mahila Gramoduyog Jan Chetna Sansthan	4.19	3.00	0.00
299.	Almora	People's Institute for Rural Action	0.00	4.25	0.00
300.	Almora	Mahadev Gram Avam Paryavaran Vikas Samiti	0.00	0.00	1.32
301.	Dehradun	The Himalayan Trust	0.00	0.50	0.00
302.	Firozabad	Gramin Vikas Samiti	1.09	0.00	0.00
303.	Firozabad	Sanjeebani Samaj Sewa Samiti	0.00	0.00	4.00
304.	Kanpur	Eco-friends	0.00	1.00	0.00
305.	Mainpuri	Shree, Narayan Gram Vikas Parishad	0.00	4.20	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
306.	Muzaffarpur	Nature Conservation	0.00	0.00	0.40
307.	Nainital	Central Himalayan Rural Action Group	0.00	1.48	0.00
308.	Pauri Garhwal	Jan Chetna Mahila Sansthan	2.00	0.00	0.00
309.	Siddharth Nagar	Shoratgarh Environment Society	11.24	3.50	21.47
310	Sultanpur	Samaj Kalyan Seva Samiti	0.78	0.00	0.00
311.	Unnau	Chowhan Gram Vikas Sewa Samiti	0.00	0.00	3.00
	West Bengal				
312.	Bankura	Gana Unnayan Parishad Pratap Bagan	2.92	0.00	0.00
313.	Bankura	Sonamukhi Adivasi Unnayan Samiti	2.50	0.00	0.00
314.	Birbhum	Dharani Roy Memorial Self Employment School	0.00	0.00	0.00
315.	Calcutta	Liberal Association for Movement of People	1.50	1.43	0.00
316.	Calcutta	School of Fundamental Research	13.17	14.11	13.91
317.	Calcutta	Institute of Science Education	0.00	0.00	0.00
318.	Midnapur	Integrated Rural Welfare Institute	2.29	1.50	3.00
319.	Midnapur	Chingudania Vivekananda Samaj Sewa Sangha	0.00	0.00	1.59
320.	Midnapur	Samaj Seva Sangh	0.00	2.60	0.00
321.	Midnapur	Baruni Sashan Gram	0.00	0.00	0.03
322.	Midnapur	Midnapur Vidyanagar Rural Welfare Association	0.00	0.00	0.15
323.	Purulia	Purulia Palli Seva Sangh	0.00	0.45	0.00
324.	24 Paraganas	S.D. Marine Biological Res. Institute	2.24	2.78	0.00
325.	24 Paraganas	Dakshin Laxmi Narayanpur Yuba Sangha	0.00	0.00	1.25

Statement-II

Statement showing Regional Resource Agency Statewise responsible for monitoring the expenditure and work of Voluntary Organisations under the National Environmental Awareness Campaign

Sl.No.	Regional Resource Agency	Jurisdiction
1	2	3
1.	Director, C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyar Foundation, No. 1-A, Eldams Road, Chennai – 600 018.	Tamilnadu, Pondicherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2.	Director, Vikram Sarabhai Centre for Development Interaction (VIKSAT), Nehru Foundation for Development, Thaltej Tekra, Vastrapur Road, Ahmedabad – 380 054.	Gujarat, Daman and Diu

1	2	3
3.	President, Environment Society of India, Karuna Sadan, Sector-11-B, Chandigarh – 160 011.	Haryana, Chandigarh
4.	President, Sewa Mandir, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur – 313 001.	Rajasthan
5.	Director (Environment), Punjab State Council for Science and Technology (PSCST), MGSIPA Complex, Near Sacred Heart School, Sector-26, Chandigarh – 160 019.	Punjab
6.	President, Indian Environmental Society, U-112, Vidhata House, Shakarpur, Vikas Marg, Delhi – 110 092.	Delhi, Western Uttar Pradesh
7.	Secretary, Shohratgarh Environmental Society, 9, Adarsh Colony, Shohratgarh, Siddharth Nagar Distt. 272 205 (U.P.)	Eastern Uttar Pradesh
8.	Honorary Secretary, Uttarakhand Sewa Nidhi Paryavaran Shiksha Sansthan, Jakhan Devi, Mall Road, Almora – 263 601 (U.P.)	Uttaranchal
9.	Director, Deccan Development Society, A-6, Meera Apartment, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad – 500 029 (A.P.)	Andhra Pradesh
10.	Director-Convenor, School of Fundamental Research, 29, Pratapaditya Road, Calcutta – 700 026.	West Bengal
11.	Secretary, Gram Vikas Kendra, K-3/57, Hans Stoehar Road, TELCO Town, Jamshedpur – 831 004.	Jharkhand and All district of Bihar except North Bihar
12.	Secretary, Rural Youth Coordination Centre Ujala Campus, Near Bahuria Kothi, Chandrika Singh Path, Katra, P.O. – Chapra, Distt. Chapra, Pin – 841 301.	All districts of North Bihar
13.	Secretary, State Department of Forests and Environment Government of Orissa, Bhubaneshwar – 751 001.	Orissa
14.	Chairman, State Committee on Science Technology and Environment, Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvanathapuram – 695 014.	Kerala, Lakshwadeep and Minicoy Islands
15.	Managing Trustee and President Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF), BAIF Bhawan, Dr. Manibhai Desai Nagar, National Highway No. 4, Warje, Pune – 411 029.	Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Maharashtra
16.	Executive Director Environmental Planning and Coordination Organisation (EPCO), "Kachnar", Paryavaran Parisar, E-5, Arera Colony, Bhopal – 462 016.	Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh
17.	General Secretary, Assam Science Society, Lamb Road, Latasil, Guwahati – 781 001.	Assam
18.	Director, World Wide Fund for Nature-India Jammu and Kashmir State Office, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Jammu Jammu (Tawi) – 180 004.	Jammu Region of Jammu and Kashmir
19.	Senior Scientific Officer, Environment and Ecology Wing, Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Manipur, Porompat, Near D.C. Office, Imphal (East) – 795 001.	Manipur

1	2	3
20.	Secretary State Department of Environment, Government of Nagaland, Kohima – 797 001.	Nagaland
21.	Member Secretary Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Ker Choumohany, Agartala – 799 001.	Tripura
22.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Environment and Forests Department, Forests Extension Division, Government of Mizoram, Aizawal – 796 001.	Mizoram
23.	Secretary, Departmnet of Environment, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok – 737 103.	Sikkim
24.	Secretary State Departmnet of Environment, Government of Meghalaya Shillong – 793 001.	Meghalaya
25.	Secretary Departmnet of Environment, State Government of Arunachal Pradesh Itanagar – 791 111.	Arunachal Pradesh
26.	Member Secretary State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, H.P. 34, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla – 171 001.	Himachal Pradesh
27.	Executive Secretary Karnataka Rajya Vijnana Parishat, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore – 560 012.	Karnataka
28.	The Director Department of Environment and Remote Sensing Jammu	Kashmir and Laddakh Region of Jammu and Kashmir

Forest Development Project

3001. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

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

(a) whether any integrated forestry development projects are being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such projects, State-wise;

(c) the expenditure incurred on each project;

(d) whether any external assistance has been received by certain states in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have received any proposals/requests/schemes from different states during the last three years and thereafter for setting up forest development projects under National Afforestation Programme in their respective areas;

(g) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon, state-wise; and

(h) the fund allocation for the purpose during Tenth Plan Period, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) The details of the integrated forestry development projects being implemented in the country with external assistance are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(f) and (g) The National Afforestation Programme has been launched only during the Tenth Five Year Plan. The details of the proposals received and sanctioned under this Programme till date are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(h) The approved outlay under the Tenth Five Year Plan for National Afforestation Programme is Rs. 1025.00 Crores. No State-wise allocation of funds has been made.

Statement-I

List of On-going Externally Aided Projects

(Rs. in crores)

Name of Project	Funding Agency	Project Period	Project Cost
Tamil Nadu Afforestation	JBIC, Japan	1996-02	499.02
Eastern Karnataka	JBIC, Japan	1996-02	565.54
Uttar Pradesh Forestry (including Uttranchal)	World Bank	1997-02	272.00
Punjab Afforestation	JBIC, Japan	1997-05	442.00
Kerala Forestry	World Bank	1998-02	183.00
Andhra Pradesh Community	World Bank		653.00
Eco Development	World Bank		294.93
Indo-German Eco-Development changer, Himachal Pradesh Phase-II	GTZ, Germany	2002-06	30.00

Statement-II

Forest Development Project

Sl. No.	Name of the Forest Division	Amount Released during 2002-2003 (Rupees in lakhs)
1	2	3
	Haryana	
1.	Gurgaon	268.09
2.	Kaithal	144.66
3.	Sirsa	118.17
4.	Morni	84.98
5.	Yamunanagar	81.66
6.	Mahindergarh	88.14
7.	Jhajjar	86.34
	Rajasthan	
1.	Jaipur	80.00
2.	Pratapgarh	99.72
3.	Dungarpur	46.51
4.	Jhalawar	65.00
1	2	3
	Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Firozabad	37.46
2.	Hardoi	120.95
3.	Mirzapur	73.68
4.	Jhansi	114.87
5.	Chitrakoot	46.78
6.	Gonda	76.70
7.	Mahoba	63.84
8.	Gorakhpur	28.67
9.	Hamirpur	95.80
10.	Fatehpur	61.50
11.	Srwasti	92.72
12.	Shajahanpur	95.20
13.	North Kheri	100.03
14.	Sitapur	113.81
15.	Lalitpur	94.88
16.	Rae Bareily	62.00
17.	Badaun	28.67

1	2	3
18.	Avadh	137.08
	Maharashtra	
1.	Nanded	50.02
	Karnataka	
1.	Honavar	48.00
2.	Koppa	45.00
3.	Hasan	42.00
4.	Dharwar	40.00
5.	Chitradurga	23.00
6.	Gulbarga	42.00
7.	Shimoga	60.00
8.	Karwar	59.00
9.	Dawangare	67.14
10.	Haliya	69.65
11.	Yellapur	72.50
12.	Bangalore (Rural)	84.00
13.	Kolar	67.00
14.	Mangalore	69.00
15.	Mysore	67.00
16.	Bagalkote	24.00
17.	Belgaum	60.50
18.	Raichur	41.00
19.	Bhadravati	67.00
	Himachal Pradesh	
1.	Chamba	60.17
	Jharkhand	
1.	Dhanbad	39.68
	Punjab	
1.	Muktsar	25.00
	Uttaranchal	
1.	Champawat	80.53
2.	Nainital	107.50
3.	Lansdown	23.28
	Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Hosangabad	71.12
2.	North Seoni	55.00
3.	South Seoni	116.00
4.	Mandla	83.00
5.	Satna	86.29
6.	North Betul	56.68
7.	Barwani	101.30
8.	Jhabua	87.31
9.	South Panna	102.00
10.	Damoh	97.31
11.	Khargaon	41.00
12.	Raisen	97.85
13.	Shivpuri	68.00
14.	South Betul	41.00
15.	Sagar	46.00
	Mizoram	
1.	Kolasib	147.31
2.	Champi	39.00
3.	Mamit	65.00
4.	Lai A	40.00
5.	Chakma AC	24.00
6.	Aizawal	55.00
7.	Darlawn	45.05
8.	Kawrthah	50.85
9.	Thenzawl	59.17

1	2	3
10.	Mara ADC	26.00
11.	Nvanlilphi	68.27
12.	Lunglei	73.60
13.	Tlabung	46.30
	Tamil Nadu	
1.	Madurai	194.86
2.	Nagapatnam	45.00
3.	Krishangiri	70.00
4.	Srivilpthi	33.90
5.	Theni	95.93
6.	Dindigul	19.98
7.	Attur	37.21
8.	Coimbatore	48.82
9.	Vellore	59.00
	Nagaland	
1.	Mokokchung	230.48
2.	Zheboto	33.56
3.	Peren	82.00
4.	Teunsang	14.10
5.	Kohima	66.00
6.	Mon	57.00
7.	Phek	50.00
	Tripura	
1.	Udaipur	47.00
2.	Kailashahr	47.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	
1.	Hapoli	46.00
2.	Khonsa	68.45
3.	Along	80.50
4.	Shergaon	45.00

1	2	3
	Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Kurnool	103.00
2.	Anantapur	96.00
3.	Nalgonda	89.00
4.	Guntur	58.00
5.	Gudallur	103.00
6.	Ranga Reddy	70.50
7.	Elluru	82.00
8.	Krishna	51.00
	Sikkim	
1.	West Division	91.61
2.	North Division	104.66
3.	North East Wildlife Division	86.70
4.	East Division	93.34
5.	South Division	101.60
	Jammu and Kashmir	
1.	Kehmil	60.00
2.	Kamraj	66.07
3.	Bandipura	92.08
4.	Lidder	68.00
5.	Badgaon	51.97
	Orissa	
1.	Dhenkanal	63.71
2.	Keonjar	81.86
3.	Nayagarh	71.24
4.	Rayagada	106.62
5.	Baripada	76.21
6.	Angul	68.06
7	Bamara	33.12
8.	Baliguda	61.11

1	2	3
9.	Karanjia	52.73
10.	Kalahandi	41.27
11.	Ghumsur South	25.30
12.	Athamallik	63.27
13.	Athagarh	62.94
14.	Boudh	79.80
	Gujarat	
1.	Bansknta	75.00
2.	Sabarknta	58.52
	West Bengal	
1.	Bankura North	59.63
2.	Midnapore	36.71

Food Parks

3002. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of food parks sanctioned during the Ninth Plan;

(b) the total number of food parks functioning at present in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the Government are considering to shorten the gestation period of the food parks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) : (a) and (b) A total of 27 Food parks were approved during the Ninth Plan period. Most of the projects were approved in the last two years of the Ninth Plan and in three cases of Food Parks at Ghaziabad (U.P.), Madurai (Tamil Nadu) and Mallapuram (Kerala), most of the civil works have been completed.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up food parks of its own. The Ministry, under its Plan Scheme, only provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to Public Sector Undertaking/Joint/ Assisted/Private Sector/Non Governmental Organizations/ Cooperatives for creation of specific common facilities in Food Parks. The gestation period depends, inter-alia on managerial, financial and tectical issues related to the project. On its part, the Ministry has reviewed the progress of Food park projects periodically.

[Translation]

Employment Scheme for Women

3003. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any schemes meant exclusively for women to provide them employment to the maximum extent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) and (b) Age relaxation is given to women entrepreneurs, and also preference to them alongwith weaker sections of the society for creating self-employment among the educated unemployed youth under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY). The relaxation is also given under the scheme to the married women applicants for their residency criteria for the last three years.

In order to provide employment exclusively for women coir workers, the Coir Board is implementing a scheme "Mahila Coir Yojana". Under the scheme motorized ratts/ motorized traditional ratts are provided to women artisans in rural areas after giving training in spinning coir yarn on the equipment. A subsidy to the extent of 75% of the cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7500/- for motorized ratts and Rs. 2625/- for motorized traditional ratts are provided to women coir workers under the scheme. The training in spinning coir yarn on the equipment under the Scheme is organized through NGOs, Cooperative Societies, Public Seotor Undertakings Coir Cooperative Marketing Federations and local bodies etc.

Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) Scheme, the KVIC provides 30% grant of the total project cost to women entrepreneurs as compared to 25% grant for others. Women have to contribute 5% of the project cost as compared to 10% for others as their own contribution under the scheme.

Bokaro Steel Plant

3004.SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY . Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bokaro Steel Plant had suffered a loss approximately to the tune of Rs. 900 crores but the management of the said plant has shown a loss of Rs. 300 crores only concealing the facts;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute a high level committee to ascertain the actual loss suffered by the said plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the product of said plant marked a price hike of Rs. 5000 to 6000 owing to boost taken place in the Steel Industry during April 2002; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) No, Sir. Bokaro Steel Plant has incurred a loss of Rs. 459 crores during 2001-02.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) the products of BSL have shown a price increase in the range of Rs. 700 to Rs. 2500 per tonne depending on the category owing to the improved market conditions. This improvement in prices is expected to cut down the losses of the plant.

[English]

Disaster Response Team for Accidents

3005.SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a National level disaster response team of experts to ensure accidents are porbed quickly and victims are identified to avoid legal complications at the time of payment of compensation;

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

(c) by when such a response team would be formed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. Investigations of aircraft accidents are done under the relevant provisions of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting of Environmental Tribunal

3006.SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :
PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

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

(a) whether the main difficulty in setting up the National Environmental Tribunal has been the non-availability of suitable incumbent to head the tribunal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to set up the Tribunal alongwith efforts made to find out the suitable incumbent to heat it ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Non availability of suitable incumbent to head the Tribunal has been the prime constraint in setting up the National Environment Tribunal. The Ministry has considered to take a comprehensive approach to meet the provisions as laid down in the National Environment Tribunal Act.

Domestic Airlines on Foreign Sector

3007.SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow AI-IA to operate on sectors like UK, USA, Canada and South-East Asia and to enhance their capacity and frequency beyond their bilateral agreements from December 2002 to February 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government also propose to increase the flights operating on these sectors so as to complete with the other international airlines; and

(d) if so, the number of flights proposed to be increased as against the existing ones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) Although the Government of India have allowed designated airlines of other countries to operate additional flights outside bilateral agreement for the period December, 2002 – March, 2003 subject to commercial agreement with Air India no foreign Government have extended such reciprocal facility to Indian carriers. Indian carriers are presently unable to utilise full bilateral traffic rights available to India on UK, Canada, South-East Asia Sector. However they have either introduced or are planning to introduce additional/new flights to New York, Frantfurt, Paris and Bangkok.

Heritage Building in Kerala

3008. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ancient palace called Padmanabhapuram palace situated in Tamil Nadu but under the control of Government of Kerala is a centrally protected monument;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to protect and preserve this ancient palace;

(c) whether the steps taken are in accordance with the National Standard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Padmanabhapuram Palace situated in Kanyakumari District of Tamilnadu is protected and maintained by the State Government of Kerala.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

Water Mission

3009. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHARY :
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, be pleased to state :

(a) whether the President and the Prime Minister on the eve of Independence day referred to a water mission for a permanent solution to the problem of drought and to make water available round the year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to implement the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Hon'ble President of India in his address to the Nation on the eve of Independence Day, 2002 had referred to Water Mission, which will enable availability of water to the fields, villages, towns and industries thoroughout the year, even while maintaining environmental purity. The President had referred that one major part of the Water Mission would be networking of our river.

(b) and (c) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for integrated water resources development through inter-linkages of several southern based Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers. Through this programme it is intended to assess the surplus basins as of now for possible transfer of water from surplus to deficit basins in order to optimally utilise the water resources of the country. With this purpose the Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and feasibility studies of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers. Union Minister of Water Resources heads the Society and Chief Ministers/Irrigation Ministers of the States are its Members. The Society meets regularly to review progress made in National Perspective and to decide the further course of action. NWDA has identified 30 links under National Perspective for preparation of Feasibility Report and has completed Feasibility Report of 6 links. Implementation of the water transfer links would only be possible if the concerned co-basin states agree to the water linkage proposal and other logistical support necessary for project implementation and availability of fund. A group headed by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) and consisting of officers of CWC and concerned States as members has been constituted to discuss with the States the issues

for arriving at a consensus regarding availability and sharing of surplus water and the preparation of detailed project report by NWDA pertain to various link schemes.

Promotion of Tourism in Jammu and Kashmir

3010.SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any improvement in the arrival of domestic/foreign tourists after elections and pulling out of security forces in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any package is being offered by Winter Sports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The tourist arrivals to the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the period September to November, 2001 and 2002 are as follows :

Place	Tourists Arrivals					
	Sept. – Nov' 2001			Sept. – Nov' 2002		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
Kashmir Valley	2690	978	3668	5809	813	6622
Vaishno Deviji	1103340	–	1103340	1189649	–	1189649
Ladakh	943	1926	2869	568	866	1434

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation Limited has offered a Special Skiing package for Gulmarg which includes return air fare from Delhi to Srinagar in economy class, 5 nights 6 days stay at select hotels/House Boats, transfer and sight seeing.

Centralised Infomation Grid for EPF Members

3011.SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the EPF (Employees Provident Fund) has built a centralized information grid for the benefit of its members;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all members would be provided with Social Security Numbers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Employees Provident Fund Organisation is in the process of allotting a unique Social Security Number (SSN) to its members. The Social Security Number will be based on unique features of the workers and will have biometric details. The SSN will be unique and permanent for each member. This will facilitate the identification, settlement of claim, etc. independent of the employer. The SSN is a 14 all digits number, which will allow to maintain complete details of the members such as name, age, parental details, photographs and finger prints in the database.

[Translation]

Plant Gene Resources International Treaty

3012.SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether signing the International Treaty/ agreement in regard to disputed plant gene resources would be beneficial for the Indian Agriculture and Food Organisation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has signed and ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Treaty will facilitate conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use for sustainable development of agriculture and food security.

Subsidy in Fisheries Sector and Agro-Marketing Scheme

3013. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the programmes implemented by his Ministry for subsidy in the fisheries sector and Agro-Marketing scheme under centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) the criteria laid down for providing financial assistance/loans to the States under the scheme;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last four years i.e. since April 1, 1998 till date, State-wise; and

(d) the names of the schemes under the programme which are being run by his Ministry/State Governments particularly Rajasthan/Voluntary Organisation during the said period, scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The Centrally sponsored schemes and programme implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture for subsidy in the fisheries sector and agro-marketing scheme alongwith criterian for extending financial assistance to States are in the Statement-I.

(b) Criteria for central assistance extended to the States/UTs includes suhmission of viable proposals, utilization certificate, progress report of earlier releases.

(c) State-wise and year-wise total amount of Central Assistance released under schemes during the last 4 years is in the Statement-II.

(d) These schemes and programme are meant for all States including Rajasthan and UTs. However, Government of Rajasthan sought financial assistance to implement the scheme for Development of Fresh Water Aquaculture and National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during this period.

Statement-I

Details of programmes implemented and criteria laid down for providing financial assistance to States/UTs for subsidy in the Fisheries Sector and Agro-Marketing

A. Fisheries Sector : The following major scheme implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture for the development of fishery Sector and Welfare of Fisherman have subsidy component.

(i) **Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries :** Through (a) Motorization of Traditional Crafts by extending assistance for purchase of inboard/ outboard motor and purchase of gear (b) Re-imbursement of excise duty on HSD oil supplied to Mechanized Fishing vessels below 20 M.

(ii) **Development of Freshwater Aquaculture :** Under this scheme, subsidy is provided to the fishermen for renovation/reclamation of ponds, cost of inputs, construction of new ponds establishment of feed mill etc. @ 20% with a maximum of Rs. 12000/-, Rs. 6000/-, Rs. 4000/- per hectare and Rs. 5.0 lakh per unit respectively.

(iii) **Integrated Coastal Aquaculture :** Subsidy is provided for renovation/construction of brackish water fish farm cost of inputs for the first year @ 25% of the capital cost and total cost of inputs for the first year subject to maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per hectare and establishment of prawn seed hatchery of 2-5 million capacity @ 10% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 1.0 lakh per hatchery.

(iv) **Scheme of Welfare of Fisherman :** The central assistance is provided @ Rs. 20,000/- per unit for construction of house, Rs. 300 per annum towards saving-cum-relief for Marine fishermen and Rs. 225 in case of inland fishermen and Rs. 7/- per beneficiary for Group Accident Insurance of active fishermen.

B. Agro Marketing : In addition to Minimum Support Price scheme for major agricultural commodities, the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) and

National Institution of Agriculture Marketing (NIAM) are playing an important role in developing the agricultural marketing system in the country through conducting research studies, survey and setting up marketing information network and imparting training to the personnel in the marketing.

Statement-II

State-wise release of Central Assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the last four years for fishing sector and Agro-Marketing Together

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.00	100.00	39.40	20.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	8.00	25.00	35.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.60
4.	Bihar	0.00	80.11	0.00	47.54
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	35.00	21.48
6.	Haryana	20.00	38.06	0.00	61.85
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15.00	5.00	22.73	9.81
8.	Goa	23.41	24.09	44.22	17.95
9.	Gujarat	539.87	594.04	552.22	403.39
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	26.25	0.00	38.75
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.97
12.	Karnataka	253.87	356.55	158.76	399.85
13.	Kerala	390.60	431.90	573.92	128.40
14.	Madhya Pradesh	200.00	192.64	87.00	18.45
15.	Maharashtra	414.36	296.86	579.67	182.12
16.	Manipur	14.85	0.00	43.47	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.00
18.	Mizoram	10.00	10.00	30.00	35.00
19.	Nagaland	60.00	39.16	134.39	184.58
20.	Orissa	28.96	123.55	93.75	125.43
21.	Punjab	34.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	1.50	53.36
23.	Sikkim	0.00	3.50	5.86	3.64

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tamil Nadu	525.79	857.47	856.60	951.79
25.	Tripura	16.05	41.57	56.12	81.28
26.	Uttar Pradesh	135.00	403.34	483.50	441.77
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	27.07	0.00
28.	West Bengal	258.81	327.13	559.19	586.64
	UTs				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.90	23.39	17.91	15.69
2.	Daman and Diu	7.50	31.75	14.80	62.25
3.	Lakshawdeep	0.50	1.05	1.75	2.50
4.	Pondicherry	36.00	159.19	214.32	112.99
	Total	2999.87	4174.60	4708.15	4175.78

Note : This relates to subsidy scheme in the fisheries sector only.

[English]

Setting up a Coconut Fiber and Research Institute

3014.SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coconut farmers are facing serious hardships due to low price for their produces, diseased coconut and trees and other financial strains;

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

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has proposed setting up of a Coconut Fiber and Research Institute in Kerala by ICAR or any other agency; and

(d) The reaction of the Government and the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) The coconut farmers in the country are facing hardship due to prevalence of various pests and diseases in coconut. As regards the price of coconut produce, there has been a declining trend during last two years. However, the trend in 2002 season indicates that there is increase in price of coconut products.

(b) The Coconut Development Board is implementing various development programmes to assist the farmers for the management of disease/pest affected gardens. Under the Technology Mission on Coconut, assistance is being provided to the research institutes to develop suitable strategies for disease and pest control.

(c) and (d) ICAR has no proposal to establish Coconut Fibre and Research Institute in Kerala.

[Translation]

Inclusion of River Subject in the Union List of Constitution

3015.SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :
SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to include the subject of rivers in the Union List of the Constitution with a view to solving the problem of sharing of river water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal with the Government at the moment to change any of the provisions on 'water' in the Constitution.

[English]

Encouragement of Growth and Development of Indigenous Steel

3016. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the production and demand of steel in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether production of steel is enough to meet its demand in the country;

(c) if not, the quantity of steel imported each year;

(d) whether there has been any gap between demand and supply of steel in the country resulting in slump of steel industry;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any proposal is being considered for enacting a legislation called "Buy India Act" on the lines of "Buy American Act" to encourage growth and development of indigenous steel industry; and

(g) if so, the salient features of the proposed Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) The production and demand of finished steel in the country during the last three years is indicated below :

(Quantity : in million tonnes)

Year	Production	Demand
1999-2000	28.46	24.59
2000-2001	30.32	26.63
2001-2002	31.62	28.92

(b) and (c) From the table above, it is evident that production is enough to meet the demand in the country, However, some quantity of high grade steel, which is not produced domestically, is being imported. Other imports are mainly done on price consideration. The figures of imports including imported scrap for the last three years are as follows :

(in 000' tonnes)

1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
3486	3613	3689

(d) and (e) Yes, there has been a small gap between demand and supply to steel in the country due to low demand vis-a-vis existing capacity, falling steel prices, high production costs, closure of important export markets for Indian Steel due to protectionist measures initiated by a number of importing countries and a general slow down in the Indian economy and recessionary trends in the global steel markets.

(f) and (g) A proposal has been mooted to enact a legislation – "Buy Indian Act" to encourage growth and development of the indigenous steel industry by giving preference to indigenous steel producers in Government procurement on the lines of "Buy American Act".

Suspension of Unviable Flights by IA

3017. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has decided to stop all unviable flights operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of alternative arrangements if any made by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) At present, Air India has no plan of withdrawing from any of the routes it is operating.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reduction in Airfare by IA

3018. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to reduce the air fare of Indian Airlines flight between Silchar and Guwahati to attract more passenger;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the revised air fare would be made applicable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Indian Airlines has no proposal to reduce the air fare between Silchar and Guwahati.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Ban on Agriculture Sector

3019.SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have lifted the ban on agriculture sector and provided export facility to farmers and traders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to provide direct information regarding the effect of global warming on agricultural products, changing monsoon, increasing heat and uncertainty of winds to the farmers;

(d) if so, whether to provide such information on a regular basis the Government propose to start an independent agriculture channel;

(e) if so, by when it would be started; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government has removed restrictions on farm sector for export of wheat and wheat products, grain and flour of barley, maize, bajra, ragi, jowar (excluding hybrid jowar grown as Kharif crop), butter and on all types of pulses, lentils, grams and flour made therfrom with effect from March, 2002. Registration requirement for export of non-basmati rice and the requirement of export of pulses in package of 5 kg. have also been removed.

Further, the restrictions on exports of cashew to Russia, groundnut oil in 5 kg. Packs and above and agricultural seeds except cashew, jute and onion, have also been lifted with effect from 31.03.2002. The registration requirement on export of butter and wheat and wheat products have also been removed with effect from 31.3.2002.

(c) to (f) There is no definite proposal yet to set up a separate agricultural channel for making available information on agriculture and related subjects including global warming on agricultural products, changing monsoon, increasing heat and uncertainty of winds to the farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture has produced a number of video films on agricultural subjects through private film procedures empanelled with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The films are being telecast through Doordarshan in Krishi Darshan and other sponsored Agricultural Programme.

[English]

Supply of Foodgrains to Meet Fodder Requirement

3020.SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to supply the foodgrains which are unfit for human consumption for fodder free of cost for meeting the requirement of the States; and

(b) if so, the quantity of such foodgrains supplied to the States particularly Karnataka, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to supply feed category damaged foodgrains available with FCI to the drought hit States for cattle feed free of cost.

(b) The Government of Rajasthan has so far been allocated a quantity of 30,000 MT of feed category foodgrains. No request from the Government of Karnataka for feed category of damaged foodgrains has been received.

Drip Irrigation

3021.SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are encouraging drip irrigation scheme and are also providing maximum subsidy for this purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of subsidy provided for this purpose during the current year particularly to Gujarat, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture – Supplementation/ complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan the Government is providing assistance to the State Governments for taking up various activities including drip irrigation. Under this Scheme the State Governments have the flexibility to take up programmes as per the felt needs and requirement. The assistance being provided to the farmers for drip irrigation during the year 2002-03 is @25% of the cost of the system.

(c) The State-wise details of funds allocated and release made during the current year under the Macro Management Scheme is given in the Statement. An amount of Rs. 16.00 crores has been released to the Government of Gujarat out of the outlay of Rs. 32.00 crores earmarked under the Scheme during 2002-03.

Statement

State-wise details of Outlay and Release under Macro Management Scheme during 2002-2003

Sl. No.	Name of State	Outlay and Release during 2002-03 (Rs. in Lakh)	
		Outlay	Release till November, 2002
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3800.00	1900.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	440.00	220.00
3.	Assam	700.00	350.00
4.	Bihar	2500.00	1250.00
5.	Jharkhand	1200.00	600.00
6.	Goa	200.00	100.00
7.	Gujarat	3200.00	1600.00
8.	Haryana	1600.00	800.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1600.00	800.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1600.00	800.00
11.	Karnataka	5800.00	2900.00
12.	Kerala	3000.00	1500.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4500.00	4350.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	1400.00	700.00
15.	Maharashtra	8200.00	4100.00
16.	Manipur	600.00	300.00
17.	Meghalaya	600.00	300.00
18.	Mizoram	800.00	400.00
19.	Nagaland	1000.00	500.00
20.	Orissa	2500.00	1250.00
21.	Punjab	1700.00	850.00
22.	Rajasthan	6700.00	3350.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	4200.00	2100.00
24.	Tripura	800.00	400.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	6885.00	3442.00
26.	Uttranchal	1400.00	700.00
27.	West Bengal	2400.00	1200.00
28.	Sikkim	500.00	250.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	200.00	100.00
30.	Chandigarh	100.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	200.00	100.00
32.	Daman and Diu	100.00	0.00
33.	Delhi	160.00	80.00
34.	Lakshadweep	200.00	100.00
35.	Pondicherry	200.00	100.00
	Total	70985.00	37492.00

Non Illumination of Qutab Complex

3022.SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Qutub Minar in the dark" appearing in the Statesman dated September 11, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the steps taken to restore supply of electricity to the monument; and

(d) the annual expenditure incurred in maintenance of the monument during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Illumination of the Qutb Minar was undertaken by the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation. The Archaeological Survey of India has approached the concerned authorities to make the flood lighting operational, and to identity a sponsor for funding the illumination.

(d) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of Qutub Minar during the last 3 years is as under :

1999-2000	Rs. 22.71 lakhs
2000-2001	Rs. 07.98 lakhs
2001-2002	Rs. 19.87 lakhs

Committee to Review Irrigation Projects

3023.SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times high power committee set up by the Government to review the progress of on-going irrigation projects have visited various States during the last one year;

(b) the observations of the committee for the progress of projects; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) No High Power Committee set up by the Union Government to review the progress of on-going irrigation projects has visited the States during the last one year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Centrally Sponsored Tourism Schemes

3024.SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to tourism are in the offing in various States;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has introduced the following schemes during the current financial year to grant Financial Assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations :-

(i) Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits (Central Sector)

(ii) Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development (Centrally Sponsored Scheme)

(iii) Large Revenue Generating Projects (Centrally Sponsored Scheme)

(iv) Capacity Building for Service Providers (Central Sector)

During the Tenth Plan, annually six integrated circuit projects will be taken up and in addition one Destination Development project in each State/UT will also be taken up for implementation.

Rise in Fare Due to High Cost of Fuel

3025.SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether as a result of hike in the price of aviation fuel and high sales tax, domestic airlines are all set to raise passenger fares;

(b) if so, the percentage of proposed hike in fares; and

(c) by when this hike is likely to be effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) Fares on domestic sector are not regulated. All airlines operaters are free to charge any fare based on their cost input and the competitive market environment.

Indian Airlines has increased its fare across the board by 10% on domestic sectors w.e.f. 10.11.2002. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have also increased their fares by about 10% in November, 2002.

Welfare Board for Tailoring Workers

3026.SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Leaders of Tailoring Workers Federation of India regarding construction of a National Level Welfare Board for Tailoring Workers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal to set up "National Level Welfare Board for Tailoring Workers" is presently not under consideration of the Government.

Development of Hampi in Karnataka

3027.SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government for approval to Short Term Tourism Development Plan for Hampi (Karnataka) and sanction the Central share of Rs. 16.96 crores under the Special Tourism Area Development Programme; and

(b) if so, by when the Government is expected to release its share of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Under the Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development Scheme as envisaged in the 10th Five Year Plan, Hampi has been identified as a destination development project in Karnataka during the year 2002-2003. Housing and Urban Development Corporation has been engaged to prepare the Master Plan for the said project. The project is being planned in consultation with the Government of Karnataka.

Amendment in EPF and MP Act

3028.SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government for necessary amendments in the EPF and MP Act for exemption of landless and weaker cooperative societies from remittance of EPF amounts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Employees Provident Fund Organisation have proposed amendment in the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 to extend pensionery benefits or the benefit of one or more schemes so as to ensure social security benefit to a larger section of employees.

[Translation]

Damage to Paddy Crop due to Hailstorm

3029.SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that famine like situation has arisen in Bihar, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh due to the devastation of paddy crop owing to hailstorm;

(b) if so, the financial assistance being provided by the Government to the affected States;

(c) whether the death occurring due to starvation and famine has come to the notice of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

[English]

Better Price for Onion

3030. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide better price for onion to the farmers on the basis of cost of production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have included onion in the list of essential commodities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the percentage of production of onion and the area of land under cultivation in the country;

(f) the surplus onion production during the last three years;

(g) the names of the schemes being implemented by the Government for providing remunerative prices for surplus production of onion;

(h) the measures being taken by the Government to promote export of additional production of onion;

(i) the quantum of onion proposed to be exported during the current financial year;

(j) the quantity of onion exported during the last three years; and

(k) the total expenditure incurred thereon and revenue earned therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The prices of onion are determined by the market forces of demand and supply. However, to protect the interest of farmers under conditions of glut, the Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under which is fixed quantity is purchased at a price which takes into account prevailing market prices and cost of production.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has included onion as an essential commodity vide order No. 15-3/99-ECAR and E dated 29.6.1999 issued by Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs.

(e) The production of onion has been estimated at 47.21 lakh tonnes from an area of 4.49 lakh hectares in 2000-01. This represents a decline of 3.5% production over the previous year.

(f) While no estimates on surplus production is maintained, the Government has exported onion without affecting domestic supplies.

(g) To ensure remunerative prices to onion growers, the Government has implemented MIS under which on specific requests from State Government, and its willingness to share 50% losses, if any, the commodity can be covered under the scheme.

(h) and (i) An Inter-Ministerial Review Committee (IMRC) on seasonal availability of onion set up in the Department of Commerce reviews the availability of onion for export regularly in order to ensure remunerative prices to the growers and also to protect the interest of domestic consumers. For the year 2002-2003 the export quota of

onion has been fixed at 9.00 lakh tonnes through designated agencies.

(j) and (k) The quantum of export of onion during the last three years along with values thereof are indicated below :

Quantity : in lakh tonnes
Value : Rs. in lakh

Year	Quantity	Value
1999-2000	3.18	26704
2000-2001	3.30	32362
2001-2002	5.07	41140

Production of Rice

3031. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of rice has increased during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the country;

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

(c) the effective measures proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of rice in different parts of the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. The production of rice in the country has increased during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) The year-wise/State-wise estimates of production of rice during the Ninth Five Plan are given in the Statement.

(c) The Government are implementing the Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice) for improving production and productivity of rice in the country. Since October 2000, this scheme has been subsumed under the Macro Management Scheme which gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements and agro-climatic conditions. This regionally differentiated strategy adopted during the Ninth Five Year Plan would be continued during the Tenth Five Year Plan. As a new initiative, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'On Farm Water Management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' has been launched in March 2002 for the year 2001-02 and the Tenth Five Year Plan. The objective of the scheme is to exploit ground/surface water, efficient water utilization and management for increasing crop production in eastern India. Apart from these, the Government have launched various other initiatives such as emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Network, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price, procurement by public agencies etc.

Statement

*Statewise Yearwise Estimates of Production of Rice during the Ninth Five Year Plan**

(Thousand Tonnes)

State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	8510.0	11878.0	10637.8	11448.1
Arunachal Pradesh	129.5	114.1	134.8	126.1
Assam	3382.9	3254.8	3861.0	3998.5
Bihar	7133.2	6769.4	7251.9	5416.6

1	2	3	4	5
Jharkhand#				1644.7
Goa	147.5	151.2	208.9	145.2
Gujarat	1042.3	1015.8	984.9	1014.3
Haryana	2556.0	2425.0	2583.0	2684.0
Himachal Pradesh	120.4	117.8	120.4	124.9
Jammu and Kashmir	549.3	589.1	391.1	414.9
Karnataka	3212.7	3656.9	3716.7	3734.0
Kerala	764.6	726.7	770.8	751.3
Madhya Pradesh	4528.2	5060.6	6376.5	960.4
Chhattisgarh#				3237.8
Maharashtra	2394.6	2467.6	2558.9	1945.2
Manipur	351.7	382.2	365.0	366.3
Meghalaya	150.1	149.7	170.7	165.9
Mizoram	110.3	109.2	88.4	103.7
Nagaland	187.3	209.6	132.4	205.6
Orissa	6204.6	5391.5	5187.0	4613.5
Punjab	7904.0	7940.0	8716.0	9154.0
Rajasthan	190.3	205.5	252.6	155.7
Sikkim	21.4	22.0	23.4	21.4
Tamil Nadu	6893.7	8141.4	7532.1	7217.9
Tripura	535.8	491.5	505.7	513.4
Uttar Pradesh	12165.4	11386.6	13231.9	11540.1
Uttaranchal#				621.5
West Bengal	13236.6	13316.5	13759.7	12428.1
A and N Island	30.0	26.2	28.4	30.0
D and N Haveli	22.4	17.0	22.1	18.8
Delhi	5.3	6.0	6.7	5.0
Daman and Diu	2.9	3.3	5.6	3.2

1	2	3	4	5
Pondicherry	51.5	51.5	59.4	61.1
All India	82534.5	86076.7	89682.9	84871.2

*Statewise estimates for 2001-02 are yet to be finalised.

#Separate estimates for the newly carved out States available only from 2000-01.

Development of Travel Circuits

3032.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the travel circuits identified in the country for development during 2002-03 and the amount sanctioned for the purpose;

(b) whether any such travel circuits has been identified in the Eastern States particularly in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed following six circuits for development of infrastructure to the international standard during 2002-03. An amount of Rs. 41.50 crores has been earmarked for the purpose :-

(i) Eastern Region – (Buddhist Circuit) Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda-Varanasi.

(ii) Northern Region – (Himalayan Circuit)
Route I – Chandigarh-Bilaspur-Kullu-Manali-Rohtang La-Key Long-Sarchu-Upshi-Leh
Route II – Shimla Sangla-Kaza-Chatru-Keylong-Sarchu-Yashi-Leh.

(iii) Central Circuit – (Heritage, Nature and Wildlife Circuit)
Gwalior-Shivpuri-Chanderi-Orcha-Khajuraho-Jhansi-Bhopal-Sanchi and surrounding Buddhist areas-Bhimbetka-Pachmarhi-Kanha Jabalpur (Bhedaghat).

(iv) Western Circuit – (Konkan Riviera Circuit)
Bombay-Alibagh (Mandva)-Muradjanjira-Ganapatipule-Vijaydurg-Mithibad-Kunkeshwar-Mochetmad-Sindhudurg-Tarkali-Shiroda-Savantwadi-Amboli-Goa-Coastal Karnataka-Bekal.

(v) Southern Circuit – (Backwater and Beach Circuit)
Cochin-Kumarkom-(Backwaters)-Kottayam-Quilon-Trivandrum (Kovalam).

(vi) North-East Circuit – (Eco-Tourism Circuit)
Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga-Tezpur-Bhalakpung-Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)-Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima.

Trivandrum-Sharjah Flight

3033.SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to augment the Indian Airlines flight between Trivandrum and Sharjah keeping in view the huge demand on this sector; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines commenced services on Trivandrum/Sharjah sector in January, 2002 with A320 type of aircraft. The frequency was subsequently increased to 4 per week in Summer, 2002. As the occupancy is just 62%, there is no plan to augment the capacity at present.

Hybrid Rice Production

3034.SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any step to increase hybrid rice production in Karnataka during Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the central assistance extended to the State for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian council of Agricultural Research have provided assistance to Karnataka for transfer of hybrid rice technology through field demonstrations and farmers' training as well as for the production of seed.

During the year 2001-02, the Karnataka Government have also conducted field demonstrations and supplied subsidized hybrid rice seed to the farmers.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have provided Rs. 95.46 lakh during 9th Plan for the purpose. Besides, a budget provision of Rs. 25.00 lakh was also made during 2001-02 for hybrid rice development programme under the work plan of Macro Management Mode Scheme.

[Translation]

Assistance to Cottage Industries

3035.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the share of cottage industries of Bihar in total industrial production of the country;

(b) whether any financial aid is provided by the Government to these industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) During financial year 2001-02, the total all India KVI production was Rs. 7551.52 crores of which the share of Bihar was at Rs. 182.00 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The funds made available to Bihar State during 2001-02 are given below :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Grant
Khadi	338.27
V.I.	18.42
Total	356.69

(d) Does not arise.

Regularisation of Porters in Patna

3036.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casual posts of porters working on temporary basis at Patna airport;

(b) the length of their service on casual/temporary basis;

(c) whether the casual/temporary porters of other airports with shorter service have been regularised at Patna airport;

(d) if so, the number of such porters; and

(e) by when the Government propose to regularise the casual porters working at Patna airport and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (e) Airport Authority of India (AAI) do not have any cadre of porters at Patna airport. Information from Indian Airlines is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Unauthorised Revision of Salary in KVIC

3037.SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has unauthorisedly accorded upward revision of salary benefit to various categories of non-entitled officials thereby violating the directions of the Government;

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

(c) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government vide letter dated 18.12.1998, had approved the revision of the pay scales of 5 categories of posts viz. Assistant Director, Dy. Director, Director, Dy. Chief Executive Officer and Joint Chief Executive Officer only.

However, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) on its own extended benefit of pay revision to other cetegories of posts. On finding these facts, the Government took up the matter with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, who opined that their approval was for the pay scales applicable to the 5 categories of posts only. As per the direction of Ministry of Finance, the KVIC had been directed to withdrew the pay parity extended to other posts and accordingly the KVIC vide their letter No. Admn. I ORQ/7979). PRR dated 31.10.2001, had withdrawn the pay parity extended to other categories of posts.

[English]

New Shuttle Lounge at Mumbai Airport

3038. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines have started new shuttle lounge at Mumbai Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints from Members of parliament have been received regarding the furnitures and amenities not being up-to the mark;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken in this regard; and

(f) the name of the developers alongwith the terms and condition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) A new shuttle lounge at the departure level of Terminal 1A has been put into operation by M/s. Oberoi Airport Services for Indian Airlines Limited. The shuttle lounge became operative with effect from 27th October, 2002.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received from certain Members of Parliament about the condition of the chairs and sofas in the shuttle lounge.

(e) The matter was taken up with M/s. Oberoi Airport Services who were asked to immediately refurbish the chairs and sofas placed in the shuttle lounge. The chairs and sofas have since been refurbished.

(f) The shuttle lounge services at Terminal 1A is being provided by M/s. Oberoi Airport Services. The terms and conditions, inter-alia, contain the following :-

(i) Indian Airlines would continue to provide its executive class passengers amenities at the shuttle lounge of M/s. Oberoi Airport Services at Terminal 1A.

(ii) The shuttle lounge will cater only to Indian Airlines passengers. No other passengers or card holders will be entertained at the shuttle lounge.

(iii) The payment would be made by Indian Airlines on monthly basis based on the number of passengers.

(iv) The agreement can be terminated by Indian Airlines by giving one month notice.

(v) M/s. Oberoi Airport Services will provide two staff in this shuttle lounge in each shift to assist the passengers.

(vi) Any breach of the above conditions will be considered as deficiency of service and penalty of not paying the bill for the whole day will be applicable.

Air India Hanger

3039. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to have Air India Hanger at various Airports in the country especially in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rourkela Steel Plant

3040. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether SMS-II of Rourkela Steel Plant is yet to achieve its capacity utilisation after six years of commissioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are major problems in operation and maintenance; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the problems and achieve capacity utilisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The capacity utilisation of SMS-II at RSP has been as follows

Unit '000 tonne

Year	Annual Capacity	Production	% CU
1996-97	1355	45	–
1997-98	1355	508	37
1998-99	1355	864	64
1999-00	1355	998	74
2000-01	1355	1066	79
2001-02	1355	1179	87

(c) and (d) There are no major problem in operations and maintenance. Due to depressed market conditions, production was regulated from 1999-2000 to 2001-02. With improved market trend, RSP is planning to raise production and achieve capacity utilisation in SMS-II.

Agencies for Plant Virus Diagnosis and Quality Control

3041. SHRI A. NARENDRA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have set up any agencies for plant virus diagnosis and quality control for the benefits of farming community;

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

(c) the potential demand for planting material of agricultural, horticulture, floriculture per year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for commercialisation of plant tissue culture globally ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Department of Biotechnology has established a National Facility for Virus Diagnosis and Quality Control of tissue culture raised planting material. The facility is set up at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and there are five satellite centres at Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore; Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur; National Chemical Laboratory, Pune; SPIC Science Foundation, Chennai; Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi. The facility aims at providing virus testing and quality testing support for tissue culture raised plants, based on the use of Biotechnological methods for diagnosis and molecular markers for quality testing.

(c) and (d) There is a great potential of disease free planting materials in different crops and commodities in the country. The Department of Biotechnology is promoting the commercialization of plant tissue culture by providing an interface between the R and D institutes and industry through the Micropropogation Technology Parks (MTPs) set up at TERI, New Delhi and NCL, Pune. The Department has supported a vest network of R and D projects which aim at developing complete protocols for micropropogation of economically important plant species. The two MTPs play an important role in refining these protocols for scale up and transferring the complete technology package to the industry. In addition the two MTPs also provide complete know how for setting up of green house/low cost polyhouses in different states. Training of skilled human resource is another important feature of the MTPs which provide support to the Industry. The National Facility for Virus Diagnosis and Quality Control has also been set up to meet the requirements of the Industry.

Vacant Posts in ASI

3042. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of posts are lying vacant in Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to streamline working of ASI ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Encroachments in Monuments

3043. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "ASI fails to stop encroachment" appearing in The Hindu dated November 25, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of buildings which are illegally built up with in the 300 metres area around Siri Fort Wall and other protected monuments;

(c) the reasons for failure to honour the Delhi High Court orders; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Central Government to check encroachment in future and remove the present encroachments ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are being collected and the information will be placed on the table of the House.

(c) In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, necessary action has already been taken.

(d) Necessary steps have already been initiated to contain encroachments around the monuments by providing boundary wall and M.S. grill fencing. Besides, accelerated security and petrolling have already been initiated. In addition, civic bodies of the Delhi Government have been approached not to consider any building plan within the radius of 300 m from the protected limits of the monuments without the formal approval of the Archaeological Survey of India. The assistance of the district authorities and the police have been sought to remove the encroachments around the centrally protected monuments in Delhi.

National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding in Maharashtra

3044. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra to release funds for implementation of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo breeding;

(b) the present status of the proposal; and

(c) by when required funds is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra submitted a proposal under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding" (NPCBB). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme prescribes release of grants only to a State Implementing Agency (SIA) nominated by the State Government for implementation of the scheme. Since the State Government of Maharashtra has so far not constituted the SIA, grants under NPCBB could not be released to the State.

Encroachment Near Monuments

3045. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey about the total number of monuments under the jurisdiction of ASI and the total area under these monuments has been conducted;

(b) whether some of the monuments are under encroachment;

(c) if so, total area under encroachment both with private and Governmental Agencies;

(d) the steps being taken to get these encroachments removed;

(e) the number of monuments and total area freed from encroachment;

(f) whether security and preservation of monuments suffer in absence of statutory legal powers for Department of Archaeology even after 20 years of its existence; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Animal Birth Control Society for Dogs

3046. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT :

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

(a) whether the Government have set up an Animal-Birth-Control-Society for Dogs;

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

(c) the number of office bearers and members in the Society ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT, Delhi) has taken a decision to constitute a Society for Stray Canine Birth Control under the President-ship of the Commissioner, MCD for controlling the population of stray dogs in Delhi. The process of registration of the said society is on. The Society is intended to augment resources, and widen the level of participation of various agencies in the task of undertaking sterilization and immunization of stray dogs in a humane manner.

(c) The Society has four office-bearers viz. President, Vice-President, Member-Secretary and Treasurer. It has 13 members in all including the office-bearers.

Expansion and Upgradation of Airports

3047. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Airports that have been upgrated or expanded during the last three/years;

(b) whether the Government have undertaken a major expansion and upgradation exercise at major Airports particularly at Jodhpur;

(c) if so, by when International flights are likely to operate from Jodhpur;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce more domestic flights particularly from Bilaspur; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) During the last three years, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up major upgradation and expansion works at airports located in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Agartala, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Gaya, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kangra, Lucknow, Nagpur, Varanasi and Vishakhapatnam. In addition, AAI has constructed a new Civil Enclave at Pathankot and a new Civil Airport at Kargil.

(b) Expansion and upgradation of Airports, particularly upgradation of major airports, is a continuous exercise. Jodhpur airport belongs to Ministry of Defence, where AAI maintains a civil enclave. The work for expansion and modification of the terminal building to accommodate 400 passengers at a time at a cost of Rs. 6 Crores has been completed in December, 1998. The departure hold area is fully air-conditioned and provision of a visitor's gallery and a restaurant on first floor have also been made. AAI has also drawn plans to expand the civil apron and widen the taxi track to facilitate operation of AB-320 type of aircraft.

(c) to (e) Introduction of new flights are decided by the airlines based on their commercial judgement and operational viability.

[English]

Delhi Milk Scheme

3048.SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Agriculture in its Thirty-Second Report on Demands for Grants (2002-2003) has recommended that Delhi Milk Scheme be liberated from the shackless of Government control;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee stated that it would be better to liberate the DMS from the shackless of Government control and find its own ground in view of the changed circumstances owing to liberalization, computerization, automation, sanitary awareness and downsizing.

(c) Steps have been initiated for corporatisation of DMS.

[Translation]

Fare Concession for Senior Citizen's by AI

3049.SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India are considering to give fare concession to the Senior Citizens on the lines of Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the extent to which the above concession is proposed to be given;

(c) the date from which it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (d) Air India is offering 55% concession on the normal economy class basic fare on domestic sectors to Senior Citizen with effect from 16th January 2002.

[English]

Safety Audit of Private Operators

3050.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) are carrying out safety audits of private air operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of audits undertaken by DGCA during the last three years;

(c) whether a number of private operators are not following the established norms of safety;

(d) if so, the number of such cases that came to the notice of DGCA during such audits; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure compliance of safety norms by private Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The safety audit covers all essential areas including engineering, operations, quality control department etc. During the last three years, a total of 25 safety audits of private air operators have been carried out by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The air operators are following the established norms of safety. The deficiencies pointed out in the safety audits are brought to the notice of the operators immediately for taking in-house corrective measures.

(e) The DGCA ensures, on a continuous basis, strict compliance of safety norms by all air operators, including private operators by way of safety audits. Besides, spot checks on maintenance activities are also carried by the DGCA.

[Translation]

Contribution of Agriculture in Rural Economy

3051. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution of agriculture in the economy of the rural areas in the country has declining to 57% in 1993-94 against 72% in 1970;

(b) if not, the facts thereof and whether this percentage is still declining;

(c) if so, the percentage in the year 2000-2001; and

(d) the reasons for regular decline in the contribution of the agriculture sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) According to the estimates made by the Central Statistical Organisation, the contribution of sector consisting of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fishing in the Net Domestic Product (NDP) in the rural areas of current prices for the year 1970-71 and 1993-94 were 72.4 percent and 56.1 percent respectively. Since these estimates are prepared only for the base years of the National Accounts Series and the current series has the base year 1993-94. a similar percentage contribution of the sector for the year 2000-01 is not available. Decline in the contribution of agriculture in the rural economy is on account of higher growth rate in the non-agricultural sector.

[English]

Water Utilisation in Irrigation Sector

3052. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of water is utilized in irrigation sector out of the total water utilized in the country at present;

(b) if so, the quantity of water utilized for irrigation;

(c) the quantity of ground water utilized at present for irrigation;

(d) whether the level of ground water has been going down due to excess utilization; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 501 billion cubic metre (BCM) of water is utilized for irrigation.

(c) Utilisation of created irrigation potential, by use of 501 BCM of surface and ground water sources, is 85.41 million hectare (provisional). Out of this about 46 million hectare (provisional) of potential utilised is from ground water sources.

(d) and (e) As per data collected by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), ground water depletion has been observed in various parts of the country. The names of the States/districts having pockets, indicating the level of fall during 1982 to 2001, are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Pockets with Fall in Water Level in Last Twenty Years (1982-2001) (Pre-monsoon Period)

Sl. No.	States	Fall in Water Level	
		4-6m.	>6m.
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantpur, Chitoor, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore,	Adilabad, Anantpur, East Godavari, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Mabhubnagar, Medak, Prakasam,

1	2	3	4
		Nizamabad, Prakasam, Ranga Reddy, Sirkakulam, Warangal Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam,	Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Warangal, Viskahapatnam, W-Godavari
2.	Bihar	Gaya, Giridih, Lohardaga, Palamu	
3.	Chhattisgarh	Baster, Bilaspur, Janjgir, Champa, Kanker	Baster ,Dantewada, Durg, Raigarh
4.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Baroda, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Valsad	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Baroda, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dangs, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahal, Rajkot, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar
5.	Haryana	Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Kaithal Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Sirsa	Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Kaithal, Kurukshetra, Mahenderagarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Yamuna nagar
6.	Delhi	South West, South, New Delhi, North West, West, Central	South, South West, New Delhi
7.	Karnataka	Bangalore, Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Kolar, Koppala, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uttar Kannada	Bangalore, Balery, Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamarajanagara, Chitradurga, Davangere, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uttar Kannada
8.	Kerala	Ernakulam, Idukki, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kollam, Kottayam, Kozhikode	Iddukki, Kannur, Kollam, Kottayam, Thiruvananthapuram
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandwa, Khargone, Morena, Narsinghpur, Nimach, Panna, Raisen, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri	Barwani, Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Datia, Dewas, Guna, Gwalior, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Khandwa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Nimach, Raisen, Rajgarh, Rewa, Shajapur, Vidisha
10.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik, Parbhani, Sangli, Satara, Sholapur, Thane, Wardha, Yavatmal,	Ahmednagar, Akola, Amaravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Latur, Nanded, Pune, Sholapur
11.	North Eastern States	Jorhat, Kamrup, Karbi-Anglong, South Tripura, West Tripura	Morigaon

1	2	3	4
12.	Orissa	Balasore, Bolangir, Boudh, Cuttack, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Mayurbanj, Nayagarh, Nowrangpur, Phulbani, Sambalpur, Suvarnpur	Angul, Balasore, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Phulbani, Sundergarh, Suvarnpur
13.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Patiala, Sangrur	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Ferozepur, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Moga, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur
14.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jalore, Jhalawar, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bhilwana, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jalore, Jhalawar Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
15.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Dharampur, Dindigul, Kancheepuram, Madras, Theni, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Erode, Kanya Kumari, Namakkal, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Sivaganga, Tanjavur, Tirunelveli, Tiruvallur, Tiruvarur
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Badaun, Ballia, Barabanki, Bareilly, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Fatehgarh, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lakhimpur, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mirzapur, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pratapgarh, Reebareili, Rampur, Saharanpur, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Unnao	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Badaun, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Bulandshahar, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Fatehgarh, Fatehpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mainpuri, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pratapgarh, Reebareli, Sultanpur, Unnao
17.	West Bengal	Bankura, Birbhum, Kochbihar, Purulia	Bankura, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Dakshin Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Purulia

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance for Tourist Spots

3053. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CUTLURE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted to identify tourist spots for foreign assistance;

(b) the names of States which have received foreign assistance for development of tourist spots during the last three years; and

(c) the assistance received so far in this regard, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Identification and development of tourist spots for foreign assistance is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Department of Tourism, Government of India examines and recommends the specific project proposal received from the State Government to Department of Economic Affairs to explore the possibility of foreign assistance. The acceptance of project proposals for foreign assistance depends on the foreign funding agency.

(b) (Ajanta-Ellora) Maharashtra.

(c) Maharashtra – 3745 million Japanese Yen.

[English]

Expansion of Mangalore Airport

3054.SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of land required by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to take up the Mangalore Airport Expansion Project;

(b) the extent of land without any encumbrances provided to the AAI by the Government of Karnataka;

(c) the estimated cost of the above Airport Expansion Project;

(d) the amount spent so far; and

(e) by time by which the Mangalore Airport Expansion Project is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has the requirement of approximately 200 acres of land for construction of new runway at Mangalore airports. The State Government of Karnataka has been requested to hand over the required land free from all the encumberances to the AAI. However, no action has yet been taken by the State Government in this regard.

(c) to (e) The estimated cost of construction of the new runway at Mangalore airport would be Rs. 70 crores approximately. AAI has paid Rs. 0.50 crores to the State Government as initial deposit for acquisition of the required land. Rs. 1.48 crores has been spent on expansion and modification of the existing arrival block of the terminal building. The entire work is likely to be completed within three years from the date of commencement of the work.

[Translation]

Clearance of Insurance Claims of Madhya Pradesh

3055.SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether insurance claims in regard to cotton and tur for Rabi crops 2000-01 of Madhya Pradesh have not been cleared by the Union Government under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard and the time by which these claims are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether the Government have provided its share to the implementing agency for clearing the claims immediately; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) As per the information made available by the Implementing Agency (IA) insurance claims in respect of Cotton and tur crops in Madhya Pradesh in Rabi 2000-2001 season were not payable. However, claims pertaining to cotton and tur crops during Kharif 2000 season were payable in Madhya Pradesh and have already been settled.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

State Animal Welfare Boards

3056.SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which are having State Animal Welfare Board alongwith the composition of the said boards; and

(b) the frequency of their meetings alongwtih the agenda ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) As per information furnished by the Animal Welfare Board of India, the State Animal Welfare Advisory Boards have been set up in 19 States and 5 Union Territories. The States/Union Territories which have established Boards are in Statement. The composition of these Boards varies from State to State. Generally, Secretaries of Departments of Agriculture, Environment and Forests, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, and

representatives of voluntary organizations engaged in animal welfare activities including Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) are members of these Boards.

(b) The State Animal Welfare Advisory Boards are expected to meet at periodical intervals as per the functional exigencies, and discuss matters germane to animal welfare in the respective States.

Statement

States/Union territories that have formed Animal Welfare Boards

Sl.No.	Name of State
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Gujarat
3.	Maharashtra
4.	Orissa
5.	Rajasthan
6.	Tamil Nadu
7.	Manipur
8.	Mizoram
9.	Andaman and Nicobhar Islands
10.	Himachal Pradesh
11.	Arunachal Pradesh
12.	Goa
13.	Sikkim
14.	Uttar Pradesh
15.	Chandigarh
16.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu
17.	Delhi
18.	West Bengal
19.	Haryana
20.	Lakshadweep
21.	Pondicherry
22.	Assam
23.	Tripura
24.	Kerala

Schemes for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Farmers

3057. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated for various schemes such as "Rehabilitation and Welfare of Farmers" have not been fully utilized during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilised for various schemes during the above period till date, State and scheme-wise;

(c) the reasons for under utilisation of funds allocated;

(d) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the performance of Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the guidelines issued by the Government for utilisation of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is not implementing schemes such as "Rehabilitation and Welfare of Farmers", however, a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implemented by the Department for increasing agricultural production and productivity of crops. Benefit of these Schemes is extended to all categories of farmers both directly and indirectly.

(d) and (e) The performance of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes is being closely monitored through periodic returns, discusison in Zonal/national Conferences

and also through utilisation certificates and progress reports.

(f) State Governments are required to submit utilisation certificates when expenditure is incurred under various Schemes by them through local bodies or private institutions. Where funds are spent directly by the State Governments, guidelines issued in different Schemes from time to time are being followed for release, adjustments and utilisation of funds.

Steel Authority of India

3058. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steel Authority of India (SAIL) is expected to get final bid for its various units;

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

(c) whether SAIL is also considering to divert its fertilizer unit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (d) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is currently engaged in divestment of its non-core units as part of its financial and business restructuring.

The divestment process of Oxygen Plant-II at Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP), Rourkela Fertiliser Plant and Salem Steel Plant (SSP) is at an advanced stage. The bids for SSP and Oxygen Plant-II are expected in January 2003, whereas the bid for Rourkela Fertiliser Plant is under analysis. The final decision on each of these units will be taken after receipt of bids and their acceptance by SAIL Board.

Currently, divestment process for Alloy Steel Plant (ASP), Durgapur and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP), Bhadravati have been stopped due to lack of response from the market.

[Translation]

Standing Committee on Labour

3059. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agenda of the 37th Session of Standing Committee on Labour, concluded in 2001, contained the Impact of globalisation on Indian Industries, Labour Sector and Economy, as well as safeguarding farmers' interests including Health care and security etc; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The follow-up action on the various conclusions of the 37th Session of Standing Labour Conference held on 14.02.2001 has appropriately been taken.

[English]

Indian Airlines vs Private Airlines

3060. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incentives offered by the Indian Airlines and other private airlines operating on the domestic sector provided opportunities to more people to travel by air:

(b) if so, how far the Indian Airlines benefitted by concessional schemes in comparision to the other private airlines;

(c) whether the bulk of the domestic market share went to the private airlines like Sahara Airlines and Jet Airways; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. The response to market requirements, Indian Airlines introduces Promotional Fares on its domestic network from time to time. Promotional fares have helped in increasing the seat factor of Indian Airlines by 2% and 6% during the month of September and October, 2002 respectively as compared to the corresponding months in the last year. Private airlines i.e. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have also offered similar promotional fares and as a result their seat factor has improved in the recent months.

(c) No, Sir. In the year 2001-02 Indian Airlines had an estimated market share of 47%.

(d) Does not arise.

Reduction in Fares

3061. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently there ensued a cut throat competition for offering reduced fares for air-journey on various popular routes;

(b) if so, the percentage of fare that the Indian Airlines and Air India had to undercut indicating comparative figures of fare-cuts offered by different private airlines during July to October 2002; and

(c) the extent to which it helped to make good the loss being suffered due to vacant seats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. In response to market requirements, Indian Airlines introduces Promotional Fares on its domestic network from time to time. The level of fare reduction varies from sector to sector and season to season depending on various market factors. Indian Airlines has introduced the 'APEX Fares' schemes from Ist August to 31st October, 2002, which has been extended upto 31st March, 2003. The fare component in Apex fares are lower by 12% to 64% over the normal fare component. Jet Airways also offers 'APEX fares' and their fares are also in the same range. Promotional fares have helped in increasing the seat factor of Indian Airlines by 2% and 6% during the month of September and October, 2002 respectively as compared to the corresponding months in the last year. During July to October, 2002 period, Air India has not cut any filed fares.

Regional MSP for Agricultural Produce

3062. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have mooted the idea of regional Minimum Support Price (MSP) for agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the thereof; and

(c) its likely impact on Inter-State Government of foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Withdrawal of IA From International Sector

3063. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to withdraw Indian Airlines from International operations;

(b) the number of International flights being currently operated by Indian Airlines;

(c) whether these flights are all profitable;

(d) whether any periodic review is conducted of their profitability; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) List of International services currently operated by Indian Airlines is enclosed.

(c) to (e) The international operatios of Indian Airlines generate significant cash profit. Further, these operations are subject to periodic review with reference to economic criteria, loads, bilateral rights/entitlements, commercial/ code share agreements etc.

Statement

List of International Services of Indian Airlines Winter Schedule 2002 EFF 27th October 2002 (updated 18 November 2002)

Sl. No.	Route	A/C	Freq/ Wkly
1	2	3	4
1.	Chennai-Colombo-Chennai	A300	7

1	2	3	4
2.	Chennai-Singapore-Chennai	A300	7
3.	Delhi-Kathmandu-Delhi	A300	7
4.	Kolkata-Bangakok-Kolkata	A300	2
5.	Kolkata-Kathmandu-Kolkata	A300	2
6.	Mumbai-Calicut-Cochin-Sharjah and VV	A300	4
7.	Mumbai-Goa-Calicut-Sharjah and VV	A300	3
1.	Bangalore-Singapore-Bangalore	A320	7
2.	Chennai-Bangkok-Chennai	A320	1
3.	Chennai-Calicut-Dubai and VV	A320	2
4.	Chennai-Calicut-Muscat and VV	A320	4
5.	Chennai-Cochin-Goa-Kuwait and VV	A320	2
6.	Chennai-Cochin-Muscat and VV	A320	3
7.	Chennai-Coimbatore-Cochin-Sharjah and VV	A320	3
8.	Chennai-Hyderabad-Dubai and VV	A320	7
9.	Chennai-Kuala Lumpur-Chennai and VV	A320	7
10.	Chennai-Trichy-Calicut-Fujairah-Kuwait and VV	A320	1
11.	Chennai-Trichy-Calicut-Rasalkhaimah-Kuwait and VV	A320	1
12.	Chennai-Trichy-Trivandrum-Sharjah and VV	A320	4
13.	Cochin-Calicut-Doha-Bahrain and VV	A320	7
14.	Delhi-Ahmedabad-Muscat and VV	A320	3
15.	Delhi-Amritsar-Sharjah and VV	A320	2
16.	Delhi-Bangkok-Singapore and VV	A320	7
17.	Delhi-Lucknow-Sharjah and VV	A320	2
18.	Hyderabad-Ahmedabad-Kuwait and VV	A320	2
19.	Hyderabad-Ahmedabad-Sharjah and VV	A320	3
20.	Hyderabad-Bangalore-Chennai-Bangkok and VV	A320	2
21.	Hyderabad-Bangalore-Muscat and VV	A320	2
22.	Hyderabad-Bangalore-Sharjah and VV	A320	4
23.	Jaipur-Delhi-Dubai and VV	A320	7
24.	Kolkata-Bangkok-Kolkata	A320	2
25.	Kolkata-Dhaka-Kolkata	A320	3
26.	Kolkata-Kathmandu-Kolkata	A320	1
27.	Kolkata-Yangon-Bangkok-Kolkata	A320	2
28.	Trivandrum-Male-Trivandrum	A320	7
29.	Varanasi-Kathmanadu-Varanasi	A320	3

Bound Duty for Coir Jute and Rubber

3064.SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether bound duty for coir, jute and rubber cannot be raised due to undertakings given to WTO;

(b) the necessity for agreeing for bound duty on import of these items which are detrimental to the farmers' interest;

(c) the way out to get out of such bound rates for these agricultural produces;

(d) whether the Government of India has taken up this matter with WTO; and

(e) the outcome thereo ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Illegal Zoos

3065.SHRI AMBAREESHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of illegal private Zoos are operating in the

country where the wild animals are kept in pathetic condition;

(b) if so, the details of such Zoos detected by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of animals which have been released from these private Zoos during the said period, State-wise; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to make the punishment in all these cases stringent?

THE MINISTER ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) According to The Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 no zoo can operate unless it is recognized by the Central Zoo Authority. Since 1995 the Authority has derecognised 180 zoos of which 49 are privately operated. Out of the 49 privately operated zoos 32 have already closed down and their animals rehabilitated. Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States have been requested to close down the rest also and rehabilitate their animals suitably. Since Central Zoo Authority already has power to derecognise the defaulting zoos, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to make any further amendment in the existing provisions regarding the punishment.

Allocation for Development of Coconut Industry

3066. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether only Rs. 174 crore was allocated for Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan Period;

(b) whether the Government are aware that coconut mites have damaged plenty of coconut trees in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the meagre fund allocation by the Centre for research and control of mites in the main cause for the coconut mite-menace in the country; and

(e) whether the Government contemplate to allocate more funds for mite control under the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) As compared to an allocation of Rs. 79.29 crores during VIII Plan, an allocation of Rs. 174.00 crores was made during IX Plan under the Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India.

(b) and (c) As per the survey conducted by the Government of Tamil Nadu during the year 2001, around 212 lakh coconut palms have been affected by coconut mite in 27 districts.

(d) Government of India through the Coconut Development Board has provided an amount of Rs. 5800.00 lakh exclusively for control of coconut mite in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 141.95 lakh was released for taking up research projects on mite under National Agriculturre Technology Project (NATP). Government of India also constituted a Steering Committee to assess the situation and take timely action at various levels and also evolve future strategies for effective control of mite and their further spread. The Coconut Development Board released a total amount of Rs. 1054.52 lakh to Government of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99 to 2000-2001 for adopting control measures against mite. An amount of Rs. 950.00 lakh released during 2000-2001 was not utilized by the State Government during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. This amount was revalidated for utilization during the current year.

(e) During 2002-2003, an allocation of Rs. 2000.00 lakh is provided under Technology Mission on Coconut which include management of eriophyid mite of coconut.

Reduction in Royality for Duty Free Outlets

3067. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation has sought reduction in royalty to be paid for duty free outlets at major airports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The sales turnover of duty free shops having been adversely affected by a number of factors beyond control of ITDC, ITDC sought reduction in royalty to be paid for duty free outlets. The Airports Authority of India, however, did not agree to ITDC request on the grounds that there is no provision for review/reduction in the contract granted through global tenders.

Environmental Tourism in Orissa

3068.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is vast scope to promote environmental tourism in Orissa;

(b) if so, the places identified for the purpose;

(c) whether Bhitar Kanika and Hakitola in Orissa are ideal for promoting environmental tourism; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to develop these places ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Promotion and development of tourism including Environmental/Eco-tourism in the States are undertaken by the respective State Governments. Bhitar Kanika and Chilka Lake have been identified by the State Government of Orissa for promotion of Eco-tourism.

Farmers Affected Due to Price Hike

3069.SHRI V. VETRISELVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers in almost all the States have been affected adversely due to hike in the prices of various farm implements, fertilizers and also the lack of Minimum Support Price (MSP) of their produces;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any remedial measures to protect their interest;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government to the farmers to face the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of major agricultural commodities are fixed on the basis of the recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministeries as well as such other relevant factors considered important in fixation of minimum support prices. While recommending the MSPs the CACP considers a number of factors like the cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, partity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers. Cost of cultivation/production taken into account includes all paid out costs such as cash and kind expenses on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures etc. Thus, the hike in the prices of various farm implements, fertilizers etc. are duly taken into account in fixing the MSPs.

The government announces each season the minimum support prices (MSP) of major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through the public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India, Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Tobacco Board, besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The MSPs of major agricultural commodities have been raised over the years. Keeping in view the drought situation in the country the Government has already announced payment of special drought relief prices ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 per quintal for different kharif crops of 2002-03 seasons. A statement showing the minimum support prices of major agricultural commodities fixed in recent years is enclosed.

The designated Central Nodal Agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking price support operations in case, the market prices of major agricultural commodities fall below minimum support prices announced by the Government.

Statement

MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES
(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Special Drought relief price	(#) increase in MSP 2002-03 over 2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Paddy	Common	440	490	510	530	530	20	–
		Grade 'A'	470	520	540	560	560	20	–
2.	Jowar		390	415	445	485	485	5	–
3.	Bajra		390	415	445	485	485	10	–
4.	Maize		390	415	445	485	485	5	–
5.	Ragi		390	415	445	485	485	5	–
6.	Wheat		550	580	610	620			
7.	Barley		385	430	500	500			
8.	Gram		895	1105	1100	1200			
9.	Arhar (Tur)		960	1105	1200	1320	1320	5	–
10.	Moong		960	1105	1200	1320	1330	5	10(0.8)
11.	Urad		960	1115	1200	1320	1330	5	10(0.8)
12.	Masur (Lentil)		–	–	1200	1300			
13.	Sugarcane@		52.70	56.10	59.50	62.05			
14.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1440	1575	1625	1675	1675	20	–
		H-4	1650	1775	1825	1875	1875	20	–
15.	Groundnut in Shell		1040	1155	1220	1340	1355	20	15(1.1)
16.	Jute		650	750	785	810	850		40(4.9)
17.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1000	1100	1200	1300			
18.	Sunflower Seed		1060	1155	1170	1185	1195	15	10(0.8)
19.	Soyabeen	Black	705	755	775	795	795	10	–
		Yellow	795	845	865	885	885	10	–
20.	Safflower		990	1100	1200	1300			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	Toria		965	1065	1165	1265			
22.	Tabacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Gr)	22.50	25.00	26.00	27.00			
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	22.50	27.00	28.00	29.00			
23.	Copra	Miling	2900	3100	3250	3300	3300		-
	(Calender Year)	Ball	3125	3325	3500	3550	3550		-
24.	Sesamum		1060	1205	1300	1400	1450	5	50(3.6)
25.	Nigerseed		850	915	1025	1100	1120		20(1.8)

@Statutory Minimum Price linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 percent with proportionate premium for every 0.1 percent increase in recovery above that level.

The MSP for measur(lentil) has been fixed from the crop year 2000-01.

Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

New International Terminal at Trivandrum

3070. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :
SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to include IInd Terminal at Trivandrum in the "Green Field Project";

(b) whether the Government are aware that the work on new terminal is pending for long;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the details of proposal form foreign companies seeking operational righis at Trivandrum Airport pending before the Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) There are plans to construct a new international terminal complex at the Chackai canal side at Trivandrum airport subject to required land being acquired and handed over by the State Government free of cost and free of all encumbrances.

(d) No request is pending from any foreign airlines for Trivandrum as a point of call.

Air Services in Karnataka

3071. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka is connected with only six flights from Middle East by Indain Airlines and only eleven flights a week from the Far East by Indian Airlines and Malaysian Airlines;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka is pleading with the Central Government to increase the number of Air Services; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has requested to increase the airlinks from Middle East and Far East.

(c) The permission of foreign airlines for operating to various airports in the country and for national carriers of operate to airports abroad are decided in the bilateral air service talks which are held from time to time. The request of the Government of Karnataka will be taken up during such bilateral talks.

Notification for Hazardous Occupations

3072.SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Union Government to take action for final publication of the notification regarding expansion of the list of hazardous occupations/processes in the context of child labour; and

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon and the time by which the notification is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) As per the information available, no such proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Assistance to State Governments

3073.SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total central assistance provided to State Governments particularly Maharashtra State in agricultural sector during the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the said amount provided to Maharashtra is less as compared to the other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the amount provided to the State Governments has been completely utilized; and

(e) the details of funds provided by the Union Government which have not been utilized, State-wise/Year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The details of central assistance provided and utilized by the State Governments including Maharashtra State under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for the development of agriculture during the last three years are given in the Statement-I. The central assistance provided to Maharashtra is relatively better as compared to the other States.

(e) The details of the funds lying unspent with the States as on 1.4.2002 and also the funds released and utilised by the States upto 30.9.2002 during the current year 2002-03 are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Amount Released/Expenditure Incurred under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		Releases	Exp.	Releases	Exp.	Releases	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6175.51	5312.24	3914.84	5260.57	4235.45	4901.16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	475.05	243.63	761.31	794.35	1216.81	1398.70
3.	Assam	386.91	456.97	1099.27	192.67	1798.80	1853.57
4.	Bihar	240.7	179.27	419.59	17.61	1844	970.8
5.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1175.49	675.00
6.	Goa	202.06	60.46	49.12	156.13	222.15	215.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Gujarat	4789.31	4575.21	4713.47	3692.61	3108.33	1079.16
8.	Haryana	1648.8	1611.23	1833.74	2023.1	1988.36	2142.13
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1116.09	1326.06	1338.17	1269.07	1896.97	1865.82
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1060.35	1018.9	917.87	434.45	916.43	1154.49
11.	Karnataka	8159.30	6514.77	7180.52	5705.63	7039.95	7140.20
12.	Kerala	2571.59	2058.06	3724.72	538.71	2698.61	2658.96
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7696.70	8900.25	5506.69	6440.38	6813.06	4612.06
14.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	963.00	0.00	1610.05	1483.00
15.	Maharashtra	8324.33	8841.11	10633.31	8352.73	10598.78	10884.66
16.	Manipur	984.03	686.41	935.68	716.32	938.27	1241.08
17.	Mizoram	894.94	740.23	1088.69	1010.77	1766.82	1928.22
18.	Meghalaya	601.02	56.22	724.74	293.75	969.27	1431.49
19.	Nagaland	1223.07	990.76	1489.72	1416.60	1717.66	1588.19
20.	Orissa	4594.78	2562.7	1680.81	2664.25	2073.05	2397.03
21.	Punjab	1206.84	329.45	849.49	437.53	1063.00	403.86
22.	Rajasthan	8470.36	7346.15	8133.23	8037.73	6763.15	8240.4
23.	Sikkim	541.89	330.36	825.29	755.17	1292.44	1495.59
24.	Tamil Nadu	5513.83	4430.36	5665.59	4323.58	5416.38	6068.56
25.	Tripura	951.07	779.39	817.25	1002.11	1609.10	1438.10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7603.00	10122.21	7068.83	7436.80	7938.75	7422.45
27.	Uttranchal	0.00	0.00	882.00	440.08	1515.35	1424.42
28.	West Bengal	1544.25	1278.56	1595.47	1936.77	2913.80	2082.00
	Total	76975.78	70750.96	74812.71	65349.47	83140.28	80196.78

Statement-II

Details of Fund Released and Expenditure upto 30.09.2002 and unspent balance as on 1.4.2002 for the Year 2002-2003

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Unspent Balance as on 1.4.2002	Released upto 30.9.2002	Expenditure upto 30.9.2002
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2099.88	2702.52	844.96
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	155.30	330.46	92.25
3.	Assam	716.15	566.00	45.00
4.	Bihar	2367.49	1219.50	3.25
5.	Jharkhand	786.00	633.00	7.00
6.	Goa	39.12	109.50	7.29
7.	Gujarat	2438.85	2321.58	524.88
8.	Haryana	346.60	1791.65	930.87
9.	Himachal Pradesh	281.37	913.21	53.02

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	296.01	821.00	11.46
11.	Karnataka	1376.95	3714.51	695.09
12.	Kerala	51.64	1803.00	186.78
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2541.00	3067.43	4061.62
14.	Chhattisgarh	563.40	801.06	68.65
15.	Maharashtra	2834.22	5015.70	825.42
16.	Manipur	570.83	424.09	91.34
17.	Mizoram	210.97	606.5	199.5
18.	Meghalaya	148.43	453.5	9.00
19.	Nagaland	34.02	558	72.99
20.	Orissa	2251.43	1335.5	164.51
21.	Punjab	2911.75	890	51.95
22.	Rajasthan	1012.77	4013.67	965.29
23.	Sikkim	69.86	278.1	42.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	755.55	3228.56	1014.881
25.	Tripura	65.71	554	33.41
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2470.34	3637.9	391.88
27.	Uttranchal	184.49	745.914	46.45
28.	West Bengal	670.84	1367.04	78.24
	Total	28250.97	43902.89	11518.98

Case against Senior Manager of Pawan Hans

3074.SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem capitoned "Pawan Hans ke varishth parbandak ke khilaf Dhokhadhadi ka mamla Darj" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 12, 2002; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 31.10.2002 CBI registered a case against the Senior Manager (Materials), Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL), M/s Fly Jac Forwarders and others to investigate alleged irregularities in inviting tender and manipulation of transport contract. The matter is under investigation by CBI.

Foreign Investment in FPI

3075.SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed 100 percent foreign investment in Food Processing Industry (FPI);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of foreign investment made is food processing sector during the last three years; and

(d) the details and the number of countries who contributed in this investment, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) : (a) and (b) Government have taken various steps from time to time for promotion of food processing industries. These include inter-alia development and improvement of infrastructure, according high priority to this sector, automatic approval for upto 100% foreign investment.

(c) and (d) During the period 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 foreign investment to the tune of Rs. 903 crore approx. have been approved in the processed food sector. The country-wise details of foreign investment approved is in the Statement.

Statement

Country-wise Summary of Approvals for the Processed Food Sector

(1/4/1999 - 31/3/2002)

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Country	Foreign investment
1	2	3
1.	Australia	1077.25
2.	Belgium	5.00

1	2	3
3.	Canada	10.00
4.	Denmark	2200.00
5.	France	17812.00
6.	Germany	5118.00
7.	Japan	8610.98
8.	Malaysia	105.84
9.	Mauritius	2600.03
10.	Netherlands	9331.57
11.	New Zealand	10488.00
12.	NRI	9671.34
13.	Oman	23.50
14.	Russia	1.73
15.	Singapore	2334.39
16.	Spain	91.07
17.	Sweden	30.34
18.	Switzerland	315.00
19.	U.A.E.	47.00
20.	U.K.	437.68
21.	U.S.A.	20050.21
	Total	90360.93

[English]

Decline in Production of Fish

3076.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the sharp decline in the production of fish in the Orissa coast of Bay of Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to augment fish production in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to reduction of a substantial area of the coast line to conserve Ollive ridley sea turtle in the earmarked areas like Gahirmatha, Marine Nile Life sanctuary (1435 sq. km.), Jatadhar to Devi river mouth (20 kms), Chilka mouth to Rusikulya mouth (20 kms) stretch towards sea during January to May every year, there is a reduction in fish landing in these areas.

(c) The steps taken to augment fish production are as follows :

(i) Subsidy for Motorisation of traditional crafts providing Outboard Motor Engine (OBM) and Inboard Motor Engine (IBM).

(ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil supplied to mechanised vessels below 20M length.

(iii) Modernisation of existing fishing crafts by providiing modern fishing applicants like GPS, fish finder, etc.

(iv) Regulating mesh size of fishing gears.

(v) Setting up of 30 Fish Farmers Development Agencies.

(vi) Promoting coastal aquaculture through 7 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies.

Fish Production In Karnataka

3077.SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the potential of Karnataka in fish production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to increase fish production in the State durint the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Estimated marine fishery potential of Karnataka is 4.25 lakh tonnes of which 2.25 lakh tonnes from the

inshore waters upto a depth of 70m and remaining 2.00 lakh tonnes from off-shroe/deep sea. State has 5.03 lakh hectare of fresh water resources comprising of 2.93 lakh hectare of tanks and ponds, 2.10 lakh hectare reservoirs. Estimated inland fishery potential of the State is 3.00 lakh tonnes per annum. Present production is 2.50 lakh tonnes from Marine and Inland Sectors.

(c) Steps taken to improve fish production in the State during Ninth Plan include :

(i) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty and remission of State Sale Tax for HSD used by mechanised boats.

(ii) Subsidy for motorisation of traditional craft and provision and fish finding and navigational equipment.

(iii) Implementation of NCDC assisted projects in integrated marine fisheries development and Integrated Reservoirs Fisheries Development at block cost of Rs. 23.24 crores and Rs. 4.28 crores respectively.

(iv) Set up 13 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs).

(v) Extended subsidy for fish seed production and development of water logged areas.

Technology Mission to Promote Horticulture

3078. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH :
SHRI K.A. SANGTAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced a scheme viz "Technology Mission" to promote Horticulture in the North-Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the scheme is likely to strengthen marketing, transport, financing and cold storage at the farmer's land;

(d) the guidelines issued to the State Governments to effectively implement the said schemes for the benefit of farmers;

(e) whether there are any proposal for the promotion of Horticulture in NER under consideration of the Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated for the purpose;

(g) the details of areas brought under Horticulture in NER during the last three years;

(h) the funds spent thereon during the said period; and

(i) the target fixed for the promotion of Horticulture in each North-Eastern States during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing since 2001-02, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim". The Mission has a structure of four Mini Missions. Mini Mission-I for research and technology development, coordinated and implemented by Indian Council fo Agricultural Research; Mini Mission-II for production and productivity, coordinated and implemented by Department of Agricutlure and Cooperation; Mini Mission-III for post-harvest management and marketing coordinated the Department of Agricutlure and Cooperation and implemented by National Horticulture Board and Directorate of Market Intelligence and Mini Mission-IV for processsing, coordinated and implemented by the Ministry of Food Precessing Industry.

The Mission mode approach through four Mini Missions is to ensure development of horticulture in the region with an end-to-end approach in an integrated manner in order to address all the issues of production, post-harvest managment, storages, value addition, processing and marketing.

(e) The aforeasaid Technology Mission for Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern Region is comprehensively taking care of all aspects of Horticulture Development in the region and, therefore, at present the Government has no proposal under consideration to initiate any new scheme.

(f) The question does not arise.

(g) to (i) The Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim is under implementation since 2001-02. Based on the action plans of the States concerned, an area of 11592 hec. has been brought under horticultural crops in NER during 2001-02. Funds amounting to Rs. 67.25 crores have been spent during this period. For the year 2002-03, an allocation of Rs. 120.00 crores has been made for the Mission. The programmes for implementation also include covering of additional area of 25000 hec. under horticultural crops in the region during the year.

Tardy Progress of IARI

3079.COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of slow progress of Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi as it has completed only 180 in-house projects during 1995-2001 as against the stipulated target of 402;

(b) whether IARI has failed to achieve its objectives as a Centre for academic excellence though the strength of faculty members during the said period was three times that of students admitted for different courses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the working of this esteemed institution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) There were 402 in-house projects in operation during 1995-2000. Out of this 210 projects were started in 1994 of which 205 were completed in 1999.

In April, 1999, another 192 new projects were initiated. These are progressing satisfactorily. A few projects were extended beyond 5 years so as to complete the new research leads that these projects have provided.

(b) The IARI is a deemed university and has been functioning in this capacity since 1998 meeting the requirements of research, education and extension. Therefore, education is only a part of its important activities. Of the 524 scientific staff, only about 430 of them are eligible to guide M.Sc. and Ph.D. students and are located in Delhi. The IARI admits nearly 200 students per year in various disciplines for M.Sc. and Ph.D. degress and as per the norms a guide can have at a gien time a maximum of only three students. Therefore, the faculty is being utilised effectively.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) There are several Committees set up in the IARI which monitor the research programmes. These are the Divisional Budget and Research Committee, the Staff Research Council, the Research Advisory Committee which also give necessary policy direction and guide on new research activities. In addition to these, the Council periodically appoints Quinquennial Review Team, which monitor the working of the Institute's programmes.

Tourism Development in Uttarnachal

3080.SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and the Government of Uttaranchal have launched any scheme for the development of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any relief/financial aid is likely to be provided to set up tourist resorts/economy hotels in the State; and

(d) if so, the time frame if any fixed out in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Development of tourism in States/UTs is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. The Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for development of tourism circuits and destinations identified in consultation with them. Some projects of Uttaranchal have also been identified under this scheme during the current financial year.

(b) Haridwar-Rishikesh has been identified for development as a destination and Jageshwar has been identified for rural tourism project.

(c) Expansion of the existing tourist accomodation unit and development of a camping site for low income group tourists have been included in the proposed rural tourism project at Jageshwar.

(d) The State Government has been requested to send detailed cost estimated etc. for rural tourism project at Jageshwar.

Funds to Registered Institutes by KVIC

3081.SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of institutions registered with KVIC directly through Khadi Boards for tannary purpose, State-wise;

(b) the funds released to these institutions during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(c) whether funds are released strictly as per the sanctions;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in fixing the responsibility and punishing the guilty, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY) : (a) There are nine institutions registered with Khadi and Village Industries Commission directly undertaking tannery activities viz Haryana-3, Maharashtra-3, Tamil Nadu-2, and Andhra Pradesh-1.

(b) No fund was released by the KVIC to these institutions during last three years.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Sanjay Gandhi Rashtriya Udhyan, Mumbai

3082.SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether boundary of Sanjay Gandhi Rashtriya Udhyan, Mumbai has to be re-measured and re-surveyed;

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

(c) whether any announcement to this effect has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether eviction drive for removal of encroachment on the said park has been facing some difficulties; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof and corrective measures proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Barren Land

3083.SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance extended by the Union Government to State Goernments particularly to Madhya Pradesh for developing the barren land for permanent agricultural use during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of persons provided job-opprotunities as a result of the abovesaid expenditure, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Barren land refers to exposed steep mountain slopes, snow covered and such other areas, which cannot be brought under cultivation at an economical cost, hence there is no scheme for development of such areas.

However, Government of India is implementing following schemes in the country for development of wastelands and degraded lands :

(A) Ministry of Agriculture :

(i) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA).

(ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP and FPR).

(iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS).

(iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA).

(B) Ministry of Rural Development :

(i) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP).

(ii) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

(iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP).

The state-wise physical and financial progress made under the above programmes during the last three years are given in the Statement I and II respectively.

Statement

State-wise and Scheme-wise land covered under improvement of Wasteland and Degraded land during last three years (1999-2002)

Area in 000' ha

Sl. No.	States	IWDP	DDP	DPAP	RAS	WDPSCA	NWDPRA	RVP and FPR	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	195.46	118.00	533.50			48.34	32.53	927.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.30				10.05	1.67		20.02
3.	Assam	193.13				8.91	0.00	0.54	202.58
4.	Bihar	8.00		37.00			1.94	0.00	46.94
5.	Chhattisgarh	88.01		151.50			40.02	5.22	284.75
6.	Gujarat	110.48	477.00	334.50	2.00		170.29	21.04	1115.31
7.	Haryana	30.28	160.00		22.00		13.60	13.25	239.13
8.	Himachal Pradesh	193.83	109.00	67.00			17.91	16.00	403.74
9.	Jharkhand	24.68		196.00			0.00	0.00	220.68
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	30.57	140.00	88.00			0.17	16.44	275.18
11.	Karnataka	116.23	218.50	379.50			132.16	91.66	938.05
12.	Kerala	19.47					66.65	1.83	87.95
13.	Madhya Pradesh	254.49		580.00			194.27	94.36	1123.12
14.	Maharashtra	169.46		546.50			151.80	53.46	921.22
15.	Manipur	20.50				8.01	14.58		43.09
16.	Meghalaya	34.72				7.46	13.65		55.83
17.	Mizoram	113.12				20.93	30.40	0.83	165.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
18.	Nagaland	127.18				16.82	30.91		174.91
19.	Orissa	112.19		166.00			39.87	6.56	324.62
20.	Punjab	14.18			11.00		2.78	0.00	27.96
21.	Rajasthan	205.30	1036.50	192.50	2.00		323.86	73.51	1833.67
22.	Sikkim	42.94					13.57	0.00	56.51
23.	Tamil Nadu	157.61		180.00			150.93	13.90	502.44
24.	Tripura	19.42				10.02	21.92	1.77	53.13
25.	Uttar Pradesh	166.70		235.50			151.67	161.19	715.06
26.	Uttaranchal	79.16		119.00			30.94	19.53	248.63
27.	West Bengal	5.46		44.00			34.53	29.55	113.54
28.	Goa						2.80		2.80
29.	A and N island						2.29		2.29
30.	Chandigarh								0.00
31.	D and N Haveli								0.00
32.	Delhi								0.00
33.	Daman and Diu								0.00
34.	Lakshadweep								0.00
35.	Pondicherry								0.00
36.	DVC (Jharkhand)							43.39	43.39
	Total	2540.89	2259.00	3850.50	37.00	82.20	1703.52	696.56	11169.67

IWDAP – Integrated Wasteland Development Project

DDP – Desert Development Programme

DPAP – Drought Prone Areas Programme

RAS – Reclamation of Alkali Soil

WDPSCA – Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas

NWDPRA – National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas

RVP and FPR – River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers

Statement-II

State-wise and Scheme-wise amount spent on Improvement of Wasteland and Degraded land during last three years (1999-2002)

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	IWDP	DDP	DPAP	RAS	WDPSCA	NWDPRA	RVP and FPR	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4276.90	2087.00	11497.00			981.73	1935.63	20778.26
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	85.85				321.77	80.00		487.42
3.	Assam	2337.63				387.00	134.88	17.91	2877.42
4.	Bihar	66.00		572.00			77.17	0.00	715.17
5.	Chhattisgarh	697.90		1381.00			1399.89	259.15	3737.94
6.	Gujarat	2382.79	7454.00	3471.00	173.62		4087.63	1277.76	18846.17
7.	Haryana	309.44	2748.00		291.83		320.39	421.59	4091.25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2538.79	1220.00	654.00			828.49	1536.65	6777.93
9.	Jharkhand	189.49		1569.00			49.32	0.00	1807.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	693.13	1845.00	886.00			35.40	1383.91	4843.44
11.	Karnataka	1933.12	1713.00	4322.00			5236.56	3544.47	16749.25
12.	Kerala	241.03					2374.36	268.42	2883.81
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3982.29		8258.00			5242.81	3745.95	21229.05
14.	Maharashtra	1439.96		4553.00			5109.80	2825.28	13928.04
15.	Manipur	825.11				462.00	695.00		1982.11
16.	Meghalaya	260.74				602.00	533.01		1395.75
17.	Mizoram	933.23				1385.00	1511.00	107.03	3936.26
18.	Nagaland	2419.11				1256.00	1595.00		5270.11
19.	Orissa	1905.94		1698.00			1529.94	302.30	5436.18
20.	Punjab	268.92			322.50		127.50	0.00	718.92
21.	Rajasthan	2499.75	19919.00	2562.00	96.31		11465.41	4580.02	41122.49
22.	Sikkim	836.44					678.42	0.00	1514.86
23.	Tamil Nadu	1997.80		2600.00			4887.43	1505.20	10990.43
24.	Tripura	160.23				602.44	950.92	102.10	1815.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Uttar Pradesh	4169.27		3837.00	10.00		4873.34	5605.38	18494.99
26.	Uttaranchal	632.33		835.00			1196.03	1631.93	4295.29
27.	West Bengal	45.00		662.00			970.03	196.23	1873.75
28.	Goa						81.39		81.39
29.	A and N island						91.57		91.57
30.	Chandigarh								0.00
31.	D and N Haveli						0.00		0.00
32.	Delhi								0.00
33.	Daman and Diu								0.00
34.	Lakshadweep								0.00
35.	Pondicherry								0.00
36.	DVC(Jharkhand)							3036.10	3036.10
37.	HQ/Others		15.00	52.00				127.00	194.00
	Total	38127.66	37001.00	49409.00	894.26	5016.21	57144.91	34410.01	222003.05

IWDP – Integrated Wasteland Development Project

DDP – Desert Development Programme

DPAP – Drought Prone Areas Programme

RAS – Reclamation of Alkali Soil

WDPSCA – Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas

NWDPRA – National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas

RVP and FPR – River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers

[English]

Sale of African Ivory in International Market

3084. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI ANADI SAHU :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "A Failure, elephantine" published in the "The Pioneer" dated November 15, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) conference has decided to allow limited sale of African ivory in the international market;

(c) if so, whether the Indian Elephant now faces a threat as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government officials present at the meeting failed to pre-empt such a decision;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps the Government intends to undertake to prevent illegal trade of ivory and poaching of the elephants for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 12th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITIES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) was held in Santiago (Chile) from November 3 to 15, 2002. The Conference of Parties has decided to permit one-off sale of ivory from Botswana, Namibia and South Africa subject to the following conditions :

1. The sale will be restricted to the existing stockpiles of legally procured ivory in the possession of the governments of Botswana (20,000 kg), Namibia (10,000 kg) and South Africa (30,000 kg).

2. The ivory will be exported only to countries having adequate ivory-trade control system and will not be re-exported.

3. Trade will not be permitted before May 2004 and in any event not before the CITES Secretariat has verified the prospective importing countries and the MIKE (Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants – a monitoring system approved by CITES) has reported to the Secretariat on the baseline information (e.g. elephant population numbers, incidence of illegal killing).

4. Trade will be affected only after the Standing Committee of CITES has agreed that the above conditions have been met.

5. The income from the proposed sale will be utilised exclusively for elephant conservation and community development programmes in the respective exporting countries.

(c) The Conference of Parties has imposed many conditions as mentioned above on the exporting and the importing countries with a view to guard against any adverse impact of the proposed sale on the African and the Asian elephants. Moreover, only a one-off sale of ivory, rather than regular international trade, has been permitted and the exporting countries will have to seek fresh permission from the next Conference of Parties due in December 2004. As such, no major threat to the Indian elephant is apprehended.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The decisions of the Conference of Parties were taken with a two-third majority in a secret voting. India voted against the proposals in question.

(f) Government of India has already initiated many steps to prevent illegal trade of ivory and poaching of elephants as mentioned below :

1. Government of India has launched a special scheme known as "Project Elephant" for providing financial assistance to the major elephant-bearing states for protection of elephants and their habitats. Till 31.3.2002, the Central Government had released Rs. 52.42 Crores to the state governments under this Project. An amount of Rs. 9 Crores has been earmarked during the current financial year under the Project.

2. Government of India has identified 25 Elephant Reserves in the country with a view to ensure systematic and focussed management of viable populations of elephants over their entire range. Of these, 14 Elephant Reserves have since been notified by the state governments.

3. Government of India has banned ivory trade within the country. It has also banned import and export of ivory.

4. Government of India has initiated steps for implementing MIKE (Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants) – a monitoring system prescribed by CITES, to assess the impact of international ivory trade on the Indian elephants.

5. A Special Co-ordination and Enforcement Committee comprising representatives of various enforcement agencies under the Central Government has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment and Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

6. The Central Government has empowered the C.B.I. under the Wildlife (Protection) Act,

1972 to apprehend and prosecute the wildlife offenders.

7. Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations of the Forest Departments to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

8. Prime Minister of India has also written letters to the state chief ministers asking them to strengthen the protection mechanism for wild animals.

[Translation]

Performance of Officers Posted Abroad

3085. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Videshoan me Tainati ko Laker Paryatan Mantralaya ke Afsaroan me Thani" appearing in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated July 2, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the norms laid down for postings abroad;

(c) the time intervals and the level of officers by whom the performance of offices posted abroad is undertaken; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against officers which are violating the norms ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The posting to overseas offices is governed by well laid and transparent guidelines. A Selection Committee interviews all the eligible candidates and assesses their performance. The Selection Committee among other things takes into cognizance the competitive nature of the global tourism market and gives weightage to managerial abilities, verbal and written communication skills, knowledge of Indian tourism product, knowledge of global tourism scenario, knowledge of administration, financial skills and knowledge of computers, etc. The tenure of overseas posting is 3 years. The performance of overseas offices is monitored annually by senior officer including Secretary (Tourism). No selection for overseas posting is made in violation of prevailing rules and norms.

[English]

Water Potential

3086. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country utilises less than 15% of water potential available from rivers and rains;

(b) if so, whether any long-term and short-term action plan been formulated by the Government for increasing the water potential by rains and rivers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) There is an average precipitation, including snowfall, of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. Out of this, the annual flow in the river systems of the country is 1869 BCM. Owing to the topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable surface water resource is assessed as 690 BCM and the annual replenishable ground water resource is about 432 BCM, totalling to 1122 BCM. Out of this, 605 BCM is being presently utilized through surface and ground water resources.

To increase the water potential, Government of India is promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programmes, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis.

As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins which will further increase the water potential.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 632(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 2002, seeking to amend the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 27th January, 1994, issued under sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 754(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2002, seeking to amend the Notification No. S.O. 25(E) dated the 4th January, 2002, issued under sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (3) of section (3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O. 1010 (E) published in Gazette of india dated the 18th September, 2002 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 884 (E) dated the 19th December, 1996.

(ii) S.O. 1010 (E) published in Gazette of india dated the 18th November, 2002 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 884 (E) dated the 19th December, 1996.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6248/2002]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Latit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Latit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6249/2002]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6250/2002]

(4) A copy each of the Annual Reports for the year 2001-2002 (Hindi and English versions) along with Audited Accounts in respect of the following Institutes:-

(a) (i) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Ahmedabad.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6251/2002]

(ii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Bangalore.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6252/2002]

(iii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Bhopal.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6253/2002]

(iv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Bhubaneswar.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6254/2002]

(v) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Kolkatta.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6255/2002]

(vi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutirition, Chandigarh.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6256/2002]

(vii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Chennai.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6257/2002]

(viii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Chennai.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6258/2002]

(ix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutirition, Gurdaspur.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6259/2002]

(x) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Guwahati.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6260/2002]

(xi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Gwalior.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6261/2002]

(xii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Hyderabad.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6262/2002]

(xiii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Jaipur.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6263/2002]

(xiv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutirition, Lucknow.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6264/2002]

(xv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Mumbai.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6265/2002]

(xvi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutirition, New Delhi.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6266/2002]

(xvii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Patna.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6267/2002]

(xviii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Shillong.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6268/2002]

(xix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutirition, Shimla.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6269/2002]

(xx) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutirition, Srinagar.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6270/2002]

(xxi) Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology Thiruvananthapuram.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6271/2002]

(xxii) National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, New Delhi.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6272/2002]

(b) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the above institutes for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6273/2002]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6274/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(1) Review by the Government of the working of the Steel Authority of india Limited, New Delhi for the year 2001-2002.

(2) Annual Report of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6275/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-1998.

(ii) Annual Report of the West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-1998, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6276/2002]

(b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6277/2002]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited,

Mangalore, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) of item No. (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6278/2002]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):—

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Seeds Corporation and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Ministry of Agriculture) for the year 2002-2003.

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the State Farms Corporation of India and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Ministry of Agriculture) for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6279/2002]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd December, 2002 agreed without any amendment to the Unit Trust of India (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 2002 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th November, 2002."

(ii) 'I am directed to inform you that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Thursday, the 5th December, 2002 adopted the following Motion regarding filling up of the casual vacancies in the Joint Committee on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto:-

MOTION

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of Lok Sabha that Rajya Sabha do appoint two Members of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on Stock Market Scam in the vacancies caused by the resignation of Shri Vikram Verma from the membership of the Committee and retirement of Shri Amar Aingh from Rajya Sabha and communicate to Lok Sabha the names of the members so appointed by the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee and resolves that Shri Lalitbhai Mehta and Shri Amar Singh be appointed to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

12.03 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Atrocities against Dalits in Haryana, Bihar and Other Parts of the Country

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and other hon. Members of Parliament raised the issue on 4th December, 2002 regarding killing of 5 members of the Scheduled Castes in Dulina in Jhajjar District of Haryana. They also alleged that police and some communal elements killed these persons.

The facts of the case as reported by the Government of Haryana are that on 15th October, 2002 on Dushera day, 5 persons were coming from Farukh Nagar, district

Guargaon and going to Karnal. Jhajjar district falls enroute. They were carrying 228 hides (34 hides of cows, 2 hides of sheep and 192 hides of buffaloes) and a dead cow in a Tata 407 vehicle. The body of the dead cow was purchased from a hide contractor of Farukh Nagar for Rs. 200/-. It was a stray animal and had died in the morning of 15.10.2002.

While going to Karnal from Farukh Nagar, they crossed police post Dulina and stopped between Dulina and Jhajjar. They started removing the skin of the dead cow along the roadside. It was around 6.30 p.m. and the people of adjoining villages were returning home after attending Dushera celebrations in Jhajjar town. Seeing the deceased persons skinning the cow, public thought that cow slaughter was being carried out openly. About 50-60 persons gathered there and gave severe beating to all the five deceased persons. The public took the deceased to Police Post, Dulina where they reported that the deceased were carrying out cow slaughter on which the Assistant Sub-Inspector registered a case No. 469 under section 3/8 of the Punjab Prohibition of Cow Slaughter Act, 1955 against the deceased person. However, ASI after making preliminary enquiry told the public that it was not a case of cow slaughter, instead a dead cow was bought by the deceased from Farukh Nagar and was being skinned, but the villagers strongly argued with the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police and it was decided that verification be done in Farukh Nagar whether the cow was bought dead or alive. Team consisting of Head Constable, driver of the vehicle Tata 407 and one person from the public was sent to Farukh Nagar. On verification, it was established that the cow was bought dead by the deceased persons. The verification party came back to Dulina at about 8.00 p.m by which time many passers-by saw the half-skinned cow and rumour about cow slaughter spread in Jhajjar town and nearby villages. People in thousands armed with lathi, jaily etc. gathered there and blocked the main road. On hearing this Deputy Superintendent of Police, Jhajjar, SHO, Jhajjar alongwith force, Naib Tehsildar, Jhajjar and City Magistrate, Jhajjar also reached the spot.

However, the mob swelled further and became violent. They started pelting stones on the police personnel. Many police and civil officers received injuries. They tried to pacify them but they did not listen to the reason. The police resorted to lathi charge but that was also of no avail. The mob set on fire the Tata 407 vehicle and a hut near the Police Post. They tried to set the Police Post on fire. They also tried to break open the iron grills of the window of the police post in order to catch hold of the deceased persons.

The mob outnumbered the police and it was already dark. The magistrates and the police officers present on the spot decided not to resort to firing as the situation would further worsen because there was no space left between the mob and the police and they were surrounded by the mob from all sides. Suddenly, a violent group of hooligans armed with iron rods and other deadly weapons reached there and pushed the police personnel and magistrates aside and broke open the door of the police post. They attacked all the five alleged cow slaughterers with iron rods, lathis, stones and brickbats etc. and took them out on the main road. There, they beat them to death. They threw two dead bodies in the hut which was already on fire.

A case No. 470 dated 15th October, 2002 u/s 148/149/302/435/332/353/452 IPC, dated 15th October, 2002 was registered in connection with the incident. A Special Investigation Team consisting of DSP Jhajjar, Inspector Bahadurgarh, SI and SHO Jhajjar and ASI in charge of Police Post, Dulina was constituted to conduct the investigation. The *post mortem* of the dead bodies was got done by a board of doctors and the dead bodies were handed over to the relatives of the deceased. *Post mortem* of the cow was also conducted in which it was established that the cow died at least 24 hours before the incident. During the investigation, 23 accused persons have been arrested so far and section 3(2) of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has been added to the case.

Another case No. 469 dated 15th October, 2002 u/s 148/149/323, 506 IPC and 3/8 of the cow Slaughter Act, 1955 has been registered for causing initial assault on the deceased persons and nine accused persons have been arrested. Further investigations are on.

[Shri I.D. Swami]

The Government of Haryana has also ordered an inquiry by Divisional Commissioner, Rohtak into the whole incident. The inquiry report is expected shortly. The Government of Haryana has announced an ex-gratia relief of Rs. 5 lakh to next of the kin of each deceased and the amount has been paid. Government has also promised job to one of the members of the family of each deceased person.

Haryana has a history of communal harmony since ages. People of all sections of society live in peace and harmony. Crime against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is taken seriously and investigated by a gazetted officer. In fact, it appears that the incident took place because of the mistaken impression that a cow slaughter was being committed openly which aroused the passions of the people and it should not be treated as a deliberate atrocity committed on the members of the Scheduled Castes. However, if anybody is found guilty in the inquiry report of the Divisional Commissioner, Rohtak, the State Government would not hesitate in taking action against them.

So far as atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes in Bihar and other parts of the country are concerned, no major incident has been reported in the recent past. In fact, there has been a perceptible decline in the IPC crimes committed against Scheduled Castes in the last five years. While 18,658 IPC crimes were committed in 1997, this number came down to 17,397 in 2000 which shows a decline of 6.8 per cent. As regards incidence of crime under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, there was a decline of 78 per cent from 3,683 in 1990 to 810 in 2000. Similarly, the incidence of crime under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 showed a decline of 13.4 per cent from 17,511 in 1995 to 15,157 in 2000.

Ministry of Home Affairs have been issuing guidelines to the State Governments from time to time to give more focused attention to improving the administration of the criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and other vulnerable sections of society. The guidelines issued by MHA include, *inter-alia,* the sensitisation of police personnel in the implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, instructions to the police to have a more empathetic approach while dealing with the cases of atrocities against them, specifying the scope and responsibility of the police personnel investigating such offences, recruitment of sufficient number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes/minorities as police personnel, especially, at the cutting edge level, setting up of special cells to deal with such offences, programmes for creating awareness among the vulnerable sections of society and legal recourse open to them, evaluation of the working of special courts, identification atrocity prone areas for prevention of crime and measures to be taken for economic and social rehabilitation of the victims of atrocities.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : MR. Speaker, Sir, the statement given by the Hon'ble minister is full of untruth...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement given is not at all satisfactory ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You are all aware that on such a statement no clarificatory questions are allowed. That is the procedure and i am talking of the rules, you are all also aware of that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to far a minute. When this issue was raised, at that time I had said that I will put this issue before the Business Advisory Committee, and we can also have discussions on this issue if the Business Advisory Committee agrees. But the regarding the request

which has been made just know I had advised that this request would have been made earlier and I will put this matter before the Business Advisory Committee. Therefore, it has been discussed. You all are well aware that on every such request no question can be asked here thereafter.

[English]

There can be a discussion if a notice is given on this subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, I am only requesting for an early debate, if possible.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes please, we can have a debate as early as possible.

(Interruptions)

12.13 hrs.

CONTROL OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS (LAND AND TRAFFIC) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for control of land within the National Highways, right of way and traffic moving on the National Highways and also for removal of unauthorised occupation thereon.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for control of land within the National Highways, right of way and traffic moving on the National Highways and also for removal of unauthorised occupation thereon."

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 9.12.2002.

Shri Radhakrishnan, you had said that you would like to oppose this Bill. As per rules, you are not allowed to oppose because the notice given by you was time barred. But very briefly you can raise your point.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I accept your valuable advice, but I may be permitted to raise the main and important issue, which I will have to put in three-four sentences.

While welcoming the principle involved in the instant Bill, I am constrained to oppose it on a basic issue. Just like the offences of rape are on the increase, the accidents on the roads are also on the increase...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is Control of National Highways Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Question was regarding National Highway *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Just like rapes, rod accidents are also on the increase. Now, if we read the newspapers, everyday there are reports of big accidents. Yesterday also, President of a *Gram Panchayat* was met with an accident. So many accidents are taking place. The reason is, non-maintenance of the national highways. When we travel on the national highways, the road is in a very pitiable condition. That is the main reason for all these accidents. They are on the increase.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise your question, when discussions on this subject will be held.

[English]

Please sit down, now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : No, I have not completed. The Bill did not contain any provision for giving punishment for the laxity on the part of Department officials, that is, the officials of the National Highways ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak on this issue when discussion on this subject will be held.

[English]

When we discuss the Bill, you can speak about it, and not now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : They may also be made liable. That provision is not in the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, I am making a request to you. Normally opposition to a Bill at the introduction stage is done on the legislative competence of this House. I would request you that the Secretariat should examine some points about the legislative competence, on which the Member has a right and he can raise. But every time what we see is that with this notice, the merit of the Bill is discussed in the beginning.

For the proper follow up of rules and conventions of this House, I would request you to see that if there is some legislative competence, the Members have the right and they can raise it. But every time what we see is that the merit of the Bill is discussed at the stage of introduction itself. That should not be allowed. This is my request.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I am discussing the legislative competence. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I have not allowed you.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : When the Bill is in vogue, on principle there is a legislative competence. That competence has not been met.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, now.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this bill is being introduced for all these things.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for control of land within the National Highways, right of way and traffic moving on the National Highways and also for removal of unauthorised occupation thereon."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : I introduce* the Bill.

12.18 hrs.

(i) REPORTED KILLING OF FORMER KARNATAKA MINISTER

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the issue regarding the killing of Mr. Nagappa.

MR. SPEAKER : Deve Gowdaji have stood up to speak on the same issue.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I had also given notice in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : You notice has also been received.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : With your kind permission, I would like to raise a very tragic incident of a precious life of Shri Nagappa, the former Minister of Karnataka. He was abducted about 110 days back by brigand Veerappan. Two days back, he had sent a recorded message that Nagappa died because of the encounter made by the other State. But I am not going to give any credential for his recorded message. That is not the issue before us. ...*(Interruptions)*

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*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (Tirunelveli) : Sir, he said, 'the other State'. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has totally denied this incident.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am not going to give any credential for the recorded message. That is what I said.

Sir, this issue is a menace to both the States. Several important and precious lives were list in the past. The State Governments have tried their best by constituting the Special Task Force, even in the past, to end this menace. But unfortunately we were unable to succeed.

On various occasions, the Government of India has also co-operated by sending the BSF or the Special Forces to operate along with the Task Forces of both the State Governments.

Unfortunately, the change in Governments in each State at times has created certain frictions and they are unable to handle this issue in a proper co-ordinated manner. This is the reason behind all these things.

I was also there for about one-and-a-half years as the Chief Minister of Karnataka. I tried my best. At that time, we were able to make some progress. Dr. J. Jayalalithaa was also there at that time as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Veerappan's brother, Arjun was killed during that period. We did our best. Hardly three people were left with him. That was the situation. Unfortunately, subsequent developments have deteriorated the situation. I do not want to make any political speech to gain any political mileage. This incident has created a lot of tension in Karnataka.

The message from Veerappan, whether true or not, has created a lot of tension in the minds of the people of Karnataka. The events that happened in 1992 should not be repeated at any cost. The Centre should now act without any delay. I do not want to raise what happened in Godhra. This recorded message has created tension in the State of Karnataka. That is my primary concern. A precious life has been lost. I am not going into the *post mortem* of who is right, who is wrong, who has failed or at what stage the State Governments have failed. I am not going to raise all these issues at this juncture because it would further aggravate the situation. My primary concern is to see that the whole matter is ended. The Government of India should play a very prominent role here.

The family members of Shri Nagappa had met the hon. Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and all other leaders including Dr. Jayalalithaa. They had prayed and requested them with folded hands to co-operate in getting Shri Nagappa released from the forest brigand. All efforts had failed and this incident has happened three days ago.

I have got my own experience, as Chief Minister, of how the matter was handled. There is some sort of a non-co-operation; there is no proper co-ordination. I do not want to blame either side. The Government of India must take the responsibility of heading the Special Task Force and both the State must co-operate to remove political areas of differences on which State Government has taken what stand at what time. All these things are irrelevant now. Karnataka and Tamil Nadu should be freed from this menace hereafter.

Several precious lives have been lost. Several officers were killed and butchered apart from several elephants being killed. I do not want to take the valuable time of this House. The Government of India must come out categorically today.

I can quote how the Government of India has reacted at various stages. This is not a political issue. Both the States must live in harmony and peace with proper understanding. Allowing this type of a menace to continue is going to create further tensions in both the States. The hon. Deputy Prime Minister should come to this House and announce that they are going to take the entire responsibility to see that this menace is put an end to. This responsibility must be taken up by the Union Government instead of allowing both the State Governments to have their own areas of friction.

There are certain pitfalls. I can say with some responsibility that there are some people giving out messages to the man who has created all these tragic

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

events. Over the last twenty to twenty-five years, successive Governments have tried their best, whether it was the Karunanidhi Government or the Jayalalithaa Government or the Deve Gowda Government or the Krishna Government. This is not the issue. There are people who are giving information to the brigand because he has fed them. He has maintained his own agencies or organisations to get feedback on how the task forces are going to move.

So, all these things are going to be a hindrance. That is why, the Government of India should take the responsibility. The Central Government should monitor the whole thing. Both the State Governments should respond and extend their cooperation and see that this menace of Veerappan should end. I think that will be the real tribute to late Nagappa's family. I know their concern. I know the family as to how much they have suffered on account of this abduction. The entire family today is put in such a sorry state of affairs. We are all concerned about the family. So, the real tribute we can pay to the bereaved family is to put an end to this menace. The people of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu should live peacefully and see that they should maintain the cordiality.

I demand the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs to come to this House and spell out whether the Government of India is prepared to take the responsibility with the co-operation of these two States or not. There could be a joint operation under the leadership of the Central Government. I think, this is the answer to this problem. This is all I want to say. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Janta Dal (U) leader, Shri. H. Nagppa was brutally killed after 106 days of his kidnapping and whole house expressed its sorrow on this incident and convey condolences to the bereaved family.

Shri Deve Gowdaji has just now send here and it has also been mentioned that there is no political issue in it, but this question came before us that as to why the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Tamilnadu not met even once during these 106 days? He was continuously kept in asjuction for 106 days...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : All of you please sit down. Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : There is a coordination between both the State Governments. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : What action has ben taken by the Union Government in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We had raised this question Five days ago that there is tension between these two states, but Union Government did not take any responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI. J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : How pitiable it is that the question of two states is being raised at such a juncture ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Government reply is yet to be received. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, none of us interrupted when Mr. Deve Gowdaji was speaking. I would like to say that the Chief Minister of Karnataka

should take its responsibility and he should immediately resign.

[English]

He should resign forthwith. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. All of you know that it is not a subject of polities and Shri Malhotraji is expressing his views. Your Party leader, Shri Shivraj Patilji is also going to express his viewpoint on this issue. Malhotraji has the right to express his views and let him express his views.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (Udupi) : The Minister of Home Affairs should resign. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shivraj Patilji will also express his views.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : They have no business except doing politics and levelling charges–counter charges...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please ask him not to do so. He never allows anybody to speak. Please ask him to go out. He stands up when anybody speaks. Please speak on your turn. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please see that I have allowed him to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit Down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said that he has a right to express his views. If you do not agree with him, you can always put forward your arguments.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He stands up every time. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Union Government Deputed special task force and it was sent back after five days and it was said that we have to taken no action. We do not have any demand of special task force. The Government of that state sent back there task force after five days.

Today, 106 days have passed. Virappan gave a notice of 12 days that Shri Nagappa will be killed after 12 days ? What action was taken by the Karnataka Government? No action was taken. You are worried about election in Gujarat. You are restricted to Gujarat Elections and no action is being taken to save Shri Nagappa. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Sir, How is Gujarat connected to this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : How can he say like this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : Sir, the hon. Member is linking it to Gujarat. It is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should not speak like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a period of 106 days has been elapsed. It is a issue concerning two states. It is the Union Government responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : When hon. Member Shri Deve Gowda spoke, he was allowed to speak. Hon. Member Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra should also be allowed to speak. I am going to permit hon. Member Shri Shivraj Patil. He will also speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the special task force was sent back after retaining for five days and the Karnataka Government did not take any action. First of all I want to say this much only.

The second question which I want to raise is that when the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Home Minister pressurised and asked that why the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu is not being consulted. Only then after 90 days the Hon'ble Minister was deputed with the instruction to talk personally.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier Shri Rajkumarji was kidnapped. The cine star of that state of that time, who should have tried, made full efforts on their behalf, but the Chief Minister of Karnataka consulted ten times with the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu and discussed on all points by calling their meeting ten times. ...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilhaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the D.G. Police of Karnataka was said so ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, this is no correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, can he say anything without any responsibility? This should be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : I am asking hon. Member Shri Shivraj Patil to speak on what he wants to suggest. The next speaker is Shri Shivraj Patil.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I have an objection to this kind of statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, it is written here. I can give you the book. It is titled : Veerappan's Prize Catch : Raj Kumar, written by Shri C. Dinkar.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to Shri Shivraj Patil.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, he is making a statement against a Chief Minister of a State who is not present in this House. If he has to make such an allegation. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : What is the allegation here? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : If he has to make such an allegation against any outside member, he has to give a proper notice not only to the Parties against whom he is speaking but to the Government also and get the Government's view. ...*(Interruptions)* He should cross-check with the Government and the Government's reply on it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am authenticating it....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Sir, every time they raise the same issue. There is a book written by the Director General deployed there. This is what written in his book. If you permit. I lay this book on the table of the House. He has clearly written in it.* ...*(Interruptions)*

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, you have allowed me. Hon. Member Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra can reply to what I am saying here on the floor of the house. If he is making any allegation, it is necessary for him to give a notice to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and get the information. I would like to know whether he has given a notice to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and got the information or not.

Secondly, if he is alleging against a person belonging to any other Party, he has to give a notice to them also. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Here is the book written by Shri C. Dinakar. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Thirdly, if the person is not sitting in the House, the hon. Member cannot make any allegation against him. If this kind of an irresponsible statement is allowed to be made on the floor of the House, the floor of the House will be used only to fling allegations against each other. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, I am having this book in my hand. I lay it on the Table authenfication. *...(Interruptions)** This is a book written by the former police chief. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am on a point of order. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief of Police posted there has given a detailed account of as to how and in how many instalments the Chief Minister paid money. I lay the same here. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, again, I am on a point of order and I will request. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You are kindly aware that there is no point of order during 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, this is a point of order with respect to quoting a book. Any book, any newspaper or any magazine cannot be quoted on the floor of the House without the papers having been authenticated. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, I am authenticating it and placing it on the Table of the House. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : He has to come to his core conclusion and if he has not come to any core conclusion, he cannot just pick up a piece of paper, read it out and say that because this is written on this piece of paper, it should be reliable. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Malhotrajee, I request you that it would be better if you do not quote the statement involving allegation. You please don't quote such statement.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : In 'Zero Hour', only two-minute statement is allowed.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Devegowdajee has spoken for 45 minutes. The hon'ble Member preceding him continued for 15 minutes. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I request you not to make a allegatory statement. Except it you may speak up whatever you want to.

(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : My point is had this much efforts as were made to get Shri Raj Kumar released. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, it should be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will go through the record and it will be expunged. I agree with you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is going to happen to the statements involving allegations made by him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever allegatory things are spoken will be expunged.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the efforts put it in to get Shri Raj Kumar released or had one tenth or even one hundredth of the same effort been put in to get Shri Nagappa released and had they not been visiting Gujarat so often perhaps Nagapa Saheb would have survived and he would not have been killed. He could have been saved. The centre had repeatedly asked them to send task force. It is shameful that a man who killed 120 men and thousands of elephants is still indulging into smuggling and instead nabbing or shooting him he is being bribed and dialogues are being held with him. It is the talk of town in Karnataka that he commits such crimes in connivance with the Government. Nobody is keen to wipe him out. The Central Government have repeatedly offered to deploy special task force, make Helicopters available to them or anything they need. For heavens' sake, use all your might/potentialities to apprehend such a smuggler and put him to death rather than taking political mileage by collaborating with him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, please give two minutes to me also to speak....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I can't allow a detailed discussion over this issue. We may hold discussion only after Mr. Minister makes a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I would like to state that Shri Nagappajee has been assassinated. On his tragic death we convey our condolences to the bereaved family of the deceased on behalf of our party and the party leader. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down!

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : In this matter Karnataka CM had a discussion with the Leaders in Opposition to check out the plan to take effective action. He tried his level best to translate the same into actions. As I know, deliberations have also been held with Tamil Nadu Government and the Central Government over this issue. Whatever is being stated by the ruling party here is indeed awfully tragic. To me, it appears that this tragic incident is being utilised for narrow gains....*(Interruptions)* If we had intended to take political mileage from Gujarat election, we would have capitalized Akshardham attack....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please keep quiet now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The statements given by us and our leader in and outside the House and the manner is which we reacted to this matter is well known to all. Such sort of statements or behavior are nothing but creating a tension between the Central Government and the State

Government and this will create a rift between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka Governments. Whatever speech Devegowdaji made, he did so with great sense of responsibility that both Tamil Nadu and Karnataka Governments should co-operate with each other and work in a collective manner. Besides, they must do whatever is required to be done. Though, no statement comes from the Government side however, irresponsible statements are being made by the ruling party. This is not a healthy sign for our country's unity.

At this tragic moment, I would simply say that in the first place, information should be collected in detail and thereafter discussion/debate should be held if required. In fact, it should be debated in the Legislative Assembly. If it is to be discussed here, we will discuss it only after having full information. MPs whoever wish to participate in the debate or want to quote from any book he/she should express views with all responsibility. Suitable action should be taken against him if he fails to substantiate what he has said so that this forum may not be utilised against anyone...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, enough discussion has taken place.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Please permit me to say one thing.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed him and i will not allow you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, with folded hands, I would like to say that I moved an Adjournment Motion not gain any political mileage. Please...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : What are you saying? When you can speak, can we not speak? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE : Sir, it is a very sorry state of affairs in the Indian Parliament that a death is being utilised for this purpose. Where are we going? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I understand you sentiments on this issue. Your demand has been made through the House – and I am the Speaker of the House – that the Government should make a detailed statement on this issue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will be happy if this issue is taken up by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Let my friends from the ruling party bear with me for a moment. It is not a question of mixing politics. In the beginning itself, I said that we do not want to mix politics. I have seen the statement made by Dr. Jayalalithaa. I said that I could not give any credence for a recorded message. That is why, I said that I do not want to mix politics. There is no need to get any political mileage on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : That you have already made it clear. I am sorry to say that I will not be able to permit you any further.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have already made a request to the Minister. Let the Minister make a statement. This issue is not open to all.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry to say that I will not be able to permit all the sections in the house.

*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Deve Gowda, you have made your point.

(Interruptions)

Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pramod Mahajan also wants to say something. Is it that you want to complete the whole issue right now? Only after the Minister makes a statement, the things can be discussed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : How can he make such a statement. What is the basis?

MR. SPEAKER : It has not been taken on record.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I associate myself with what has been stated by Shri Deve Gowda. It is a great tragedy. We send our condolences to the members of the bereaved family. Shri Deve Gowda had very appropriately said that this is a matter where everybody should rise above any particular political issue and, together, all should try to end this menace. Everybody should have joined in this, instead of trying to find faults with each other. It is a very sorry state of affairs that the floor of Indian Parliament is being misutilised for these narrow political purposes. It is a shameful thing.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Shri Deve Gowda referred to the statement issued by my leader and the Chief Minister *of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalithaa. She issued a statement yesterday saying that the joint operation was suspended only at the request of the Karnataka Government, and the incident took place about 40 kilometers inside the territory of Karnataka. That is a fact.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself and on behalf of the Government with what has been stated in the House with regard to condemnation the cold-blooded murder of Mr. Nagappa.

The terrorism triggered off by Veerappan is a challenge for all of us. Nagappa's assassination will be the last in its chain. The first episode started long before it. I hope, it would be the last episode of Veerappan's terror after the murder of a senior leader like Nagappa. I agree with Devegowdajee that to arrest Veerappan and punish him under Law would be a real tribute to Nagappajee.

I can only say on behalf of Government of India that the Government of India will have to open a front against Verappan unitedly with the State Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Had it been so easy to arrest him, it would have been done much earlier. There are some impediments. Government after Government have come and gone in both the states, however, it has hardly made any difference to Veerappan. His terrorist activities have not been checked even to the least degree. I assure you on behalf of the Union Government and the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister that we will certainly take initiative in this regard. We will definitely have talks with Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Governments on the possibility of forming a Joint front. We will take effective steps for that. If both of the Governments need police personnel, National Security Guards or armed forces, we will provide all assistance after chalking the strategy to arrest Veerappan. The Central Government will do make every efforts within its constitutional limits.

As I understand and hope, that Government of India with the co-operation of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Governments will launch a compaign wherein Nagappa's

*Not recorded.

murder would prove to be the last prey to Veerappan. Thereafter, we will extend our support to both the Governments to make Veerappan himself the last victim.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we deeply appreciate the statement made by Shri Pramod Mahajan. This is what is expected of him....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Sir, you had said that I'll be given an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Time will not be over. Even if time is over, I will be sitting here. Until you finish your speech. Zero Hour will be continued unit you conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I want to tell you that the issue raised by you is already being discussed in the House. This issue will be discussed at 4 P.M. and you may put forth your views. However, since you've raised the issue, I will allow you.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : I am the first person who has given a notice.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, I, on behalf of my Party, associate with what has been said by Shri Pramod Mahajan. We send our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. This is an important matter and we are associating ourselves with statement made by Shri Pramod Mahajan.

MR. SPEAKER : This matter is over now.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Rewa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through the notice I have given, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important subject and also make a demand from the Government. There are two categories of people in the country, one is reserved and another unreserved.

Since, the country became independent, reservation was provided to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and to the backward classes in the country. The first Government was formed in India under the leadership of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. He provided for reservation in the country taking in view the condition of the poor. I fully support that. I also want that the reservation should continue. My submission is that there is a class of people belonging to the category in this country which is living below the poverty line. That class has remained poor for a very long time. There is a need to thing about them. The unreserved class I am talking about may include Hindus Muslims, Sikhs and also upper castes. Being economically week, this class is gradually becoming socially and educationally weaker and is going down the graph. On the one hand, the policy of our Government is to improve the social and educational level of the common man, and on the other hand such type of disparity is emerging. Gradually, a new class will come up in our society which will be economically weak. Gradually, the educational and social level of that class will deteriorate. I am sure that the Government would provide special facility to the people of this unreserved category living below the poverty line and would also give them reservation. I believe that the whole House is unanimous on this issue.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : I agree with his contention. I respect Jawahar Lal Nehrujee, but he had not given reservation. It was the Janata Dal Government which had for the first time, provided reservation in the country after accepting the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a subject of discussion.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : 52 percent of the population in this country belongs to backward classes. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : He does not even know how to express gratitude to a person. I demand that attention should be paid to it. I am sure that the whole

[Shri Sunder Lal Tiwari]

House irrespective of different party affiliations, would agree to it. Such arrangements exists in various states. Why should the Union Government not adopt it.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the aegis of Barh Mukti Andolan (flood salvation movement) lacs of farmers from Bihar are coming to Delhi to stage a march at the Parliament House to press their demand for a permanent solution to the twin problems of floods and drought in Bihar. Every year Bihar is incurring a loss of crores of rupees with respect to its infrastructure due to the rivers flowing from Nepal into Bihar which cause floods, water logging, soil erosion and also damage to the embankments of rivers like Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati etc. Especially the area of South Bihar remains affected with drought. The farmers do not get remunerative prices for their crops. The problems of the sugar-cane farmers is already a subject of concern. Lacs of farmers are staging a 'dharna' today at the gates of the Parliament House for a permanent solution to the problems of flood and drought. I urge upon the Government to pay attention to these problems without any delay and find out a permanent solution of these problems of the farmers and also meet their representatives. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the farmers of the Barh Mukti Andolan, who have come from Bihar, are holding a huge demonstration outside the Parliament. Every year Bihar suffers from floods, drought, water logging and soil erosion. That is why a huge march is being organised by the farmers of the State. The Government of India should take note of it. The Government should immediately consider the issue raised by Shri Raghunath Jhajee. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : We are going to listen to the sufferings of the lacs of farmers who have come from Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The Government should take into consideration the demands of the Barh Mukti Andolan. The Government should give a clear reply in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is Zero Hour, and today I would like to give a chance to everybody to put his viewpoint.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? This is not going to help you. This way, you will not be able to raise your issues and no discussion can be held on them. This is not going to serve your purpose. P. Rajendranjee you may speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Members from both the sides will be there. Raghuvansh Prasad Singhjee, please be seated. Do you not want to let other Members speak?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Only the views of Shri P. Rajendran will go on record. Rajendranji, please speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon) : Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government on the following matter.

The Central paramilitary forces work shoulder with our Army jawans at our borders. When an Army jawan dies in action, his body is transported to his hometown and a befitting State funeral is given. His bereaved family is taken care of, and cash assistance is also granted. But these acts of kindness are not shown to any BSF, Assam Rifles, ITBP or CRPF jawan dying in action in the border.

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*Not recorded.

This discrimination tells upon the morale of the paramilitary forces working under hazardous and risky conditions meeting the challenges of insurgents, terrorists and disruptive forces.

I, therefore, humbly request the Central Government to consider their needs sympathetically and take action to treat them at par with Servicemen/ex-Servicemen in the matter of grant of benefits when they work in the borders.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumabi South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would once again like to. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am ready to take up the notices of all the members. Please do not raise your hands. If you cooperate, notices of all the members will be entertained, otherwise not.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are cooperating. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am trying to understand your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, once again a bomb exploded in Mumbai last week. The bomb exploded in Ghatkoper. ...*(Interruptions)* A bomb exploded in Mumbai Central recently. ...*(Interruptions)* We do not want to indulge in politics but the Home Minister of the Congress Government ruling the state has said that it was not a crude bomb. Sir, according to my information and as has appeared in today's newspaper also, it was an explosion. I personally visited the site. Our mayor, Shri Mahadev Dewle and Kirpa Shankarji also visited the site. Sir, we all saw that the smoke of crude oil had come upward and people were injured by its splinters and hon'ble Kripa Shankerji has given a statement that it was not a bomb explosion. Sir "SIMT" was involved in the explosion as has appeared in today's newspaper. My apprehension is that it is a conspiracy of the Government to cover up the matter? Therefore, I would like to ask the Government how long will it go on? ...*(Interruptions)* The President of Russia, Mr. Putin has visited India. He apprehended that the weapons given to Pakistan are virtually going in the hands of the terrorists. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mohan Rawaleji, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, the people of Pakistan are happy because no bomb explosion is taking place there. It is taking place in India. People are scared. I.D. Swamiji is sitting here. He should give a statement. The sense of fear in the minds of the people should be removed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Rawaleji please listen to the Chair.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, the hon'ble Minister is sitting here. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : You are also in the Government, then to whom are you asking? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is asking from the State Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I urge upon the Government to attack Pakistan in order to curb the atmosphere of terror unleashed by them but the Government is sitting pretty. ...*(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the house of Zee T.V. correspondent, Shri Naveen Kumar, situated in Shakarpur area of Laxmi Nagar was attacked yesterday morning. Shri Naveen Kumar is making a documentary film on the 'Atack on Parliament on 13th December'. He has been constantly threatened of dire consequences for the last two years. Four people have attacked the House with hand grenades and according to the report, the splinters of the hand grenades were similar to the ones that were used in the attack on Parliament. It is a serious matter and it seems that nobody will remain

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

safe in the country. No Journalist will be able to work freely. I allege that the intelligence machinery of the Government of India has proved to be totally failure and the life and property of the people is not safe. The journalists are not in a position to discharge their duties. He has been provided proper security only after his repeated requests citing reasons of threat to his life yet he was attacked.

Sir, it is a serious incident. I wish that the Government consider the matter seriously and look into the problem.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Brahma Nand Mandalji, you have given a privilege notice. You can speak on this topic in Zero Hour.

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : Sir, I have give a privilege notice. I am speaking on the same subject. I thank you for giving me a chance a speak.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I reached Patna from Delhi by a flight on 18.8.2002 and boarded in Brahamputra Mail for Jamalpur. When the train reached on Kiul junction, Shri Hemant Kumar, Additional DRM, Malda along with RPF personnel, the Rail Magistrate and many Ticket Inspectors entered my AC Second Class compartment for checking the tickets. The compartment was over crowded. He came to me and said–"Who are these? You pay for their tickets." I was stunned by his behaviour. He addressed me with the word (Tum) 'you'. The word 'Tum' is a disrespectful and indecent expression. We use the word 'Aap' to give respect to others. I replied–"I do not know, who they are". I said, "You are a competent officer and can tackle with them according to law". At this, he shouted–"What do you think of yourself, what if you are an M.P.? i can teach you a lesson here and now". I replied–"You are an officer, you are at liberty to take any appropriate action." You should not think yourself above the Law. He exasperated on it and shouted "You threaten me. I will teach you a lesson now. You, alongwith hundred persons, travel in the train without ticket." I thought it proper to keep quiet because it appeared from their attitude that had I spoken something they would have beaten me. In this way, Shri Hemant Kumar has alleged that I travel in the train and also take some people with me without ticket. He disgraced me by saying indecent words. As a result of it I feel insulted.

Therefore, I request that appropriate action should be taken against Shri Hemant Kumar for breach of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER : You have said whatever you like to say.

[English]

I have already called for a factual note from the Ministry of Railways. I will take a decision after receipt of factual note from the Railways.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. The matter does not end here. I have also enclosed a photocopy of the Telegraph which carries a heading "Travelling without ticket." No member of Parliament travel without ticket, he has an identity card. I had a reserved berth. I have also enclosed photocopy of that rail ticket.

He could have asked me to show the identity card for my identification. He did not ask for my ticket but he was asking me to show the ticket of some one else. He was not doing his duty. I did not recognise him but it seems to me that he recognised me. I would like to know what would you ask from the Ministry of Railways in this regard? He created obstructions in my journey to my Parliamentary Constituency....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am examining this matter. I will talk with you after getting full information from the Ministry of Railways in this regard.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today I have get information that the hon. Minister would make a statement on disinvestment. I would like to inform that the state government owns seven acre land of Ashok Hotel in Gaya where the Buddhists visited. The Government, without consulting the state government, have decided to sell the said hotel at throw away price i.e. Rs. two crore and one lakh. In the same way decision was taken about

selling the Centaur Hotel. Ashok Hotel at the famous Buddhist circuit was running in profit. The value of the land would be Rs. 200 crore and the value of the building would be Rs. 150-200 crore. The government have decided to sell the property of RS. 300-400 crore in only Rs. 2 crore and I lakh. In this way the property of the government is being sold. Even the state government have not been informed in this regard. The government have decided to transfer Shri Lohani, the Chairman of ITDC, under whose supervision the hotel was running in profit. Shri Jagmohan suddenly transferred the said officer, who was running the hotel in profit, because he opposed the disinvestment. He opposed selling of the government property at throw away prises and also opposed selling of profit making units. But the government transferred him immediately.

Sir, I demand that when the hon. Minister will make a statement in this regard then he should also explain how the government decided to sell the property amounting to Rs. 400 crore in only Rs. 2 crore and 1 lakh. The State Government is the owner of this land, and how the Union government can sell it? *...(Interruptions)* The owner of the land is someone else but the seller is other. The NDA government is taking such wrong steps, the other governments did not do like this. The government should make a statement in this regard. There is resentment among the people of Bihar. We will strongly oppose this and it would start alteration....*(Interruptions)*

13.07 hrs.

(ii) RE: ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OF YOUTH BY UNSCRUPULOUS TRAVEL AGENTS PARTICULARLY IN PUNJAB

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to inform that there is a big racket of travel agents in various cities of the country particularly in Punjab. Employment opportunities for the youths have almost come to end. These travel agents are playing a trick on the youth in the name of sending them in foreign countries and charge Rs. five lakh to ten Lakh from these youths. The more sensitive issue is that there youths are emigrated to Greece, from Greece to Lebanan, Lebanan to Turkey and then from Turkey to Iran and later on they were kept in Jails. They have torhe their passports and some youths are languishing in Queta Jail in Pakistan. They have sent a list to me, with your permission, I would like to read their names.

[English]

1. Satnam Singh, S/o Balwinder Singh V.P.O. Sohal Distt. Gurdaspur (Pb.)
2. Surjit Singh, Village Talli, Distt. Pehowa, Haryana.
3. Rakesh Singh, Village Kashmir Garh Distt. Yamuna Nagar (Haryana)
4. Surjit Singh, Village Bakhli, Distt. Pehowa (Haryana)
5. Balwinder Singh, Village Narwarsi, Kurukshetra (Haryana)
6. Inderjit Singh, Village Brara Gurdev, Distt. Ambala (Haryana)
7. Rajwinder Singh, Village Ajrawar, Distt. Pataila (Punjab)
8. Sukhwinder Singh, Village Milk Shekha, Distt. Amabala (Haryana)
9. Harmesh Singh, Village Jandel Khurd, Distt. Nawan Shehar (Punjab)
10. Surinder Singh, Village Mallan Wali, Distt. Yamuna Nagar (Haryana)
11. Bachitar Singh, Pehowa (Haryana)
12. Surjit Lal, Village Kataria, Naewanshehar (Punjab)

[Translation]

Shri Sadhu Singh has also sent a complaint.

Sir, through you I urge upon the government to take action in this regard. Swamiji is present in the House. He

[Shri J.S. Brar]

is not concerned with that Ministry but he also has some responsibility. There are atleast eight-nine youths of Haryana which have been cheated by the travel agents.

This is how the youngsters are misled and taken abroad. A report has come today that the floating population living in Kullu had been charged with smuggling.

The British Government released them by advancing the plea that they were social workers or writers. My point is that nearly 15 youngsters had been kept behind bars in Quetta Jail as Under trial prisoner have no charge of terrorism, illegal acts, smuggling or any unlawful doings whatsoever. Whether you will do any efforts to get them released. I want an assurance from you. It would be kind of you if you make a statement over this issue. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an important issue. If Mr. Speaker makes statement regarding this issue, they can be saved.

MR. SPEAKER : You better ask the Minister of Home Affairs to be attentive. I am already attentive to your words.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : You are listening to it. It's okay however, if you take up the issue with the Minister of External Affairs, people who have been put behind bars can be released.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : Whatsoever is stated by the honourable Members is brought to the notice of the Department and the Ministry your points will also be duly considered.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Thank you Sir, I am grateful.

13.10 hrs.

(iii) RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF PRADHAN MANTRI SADAK YOJANA IN UTTAR PRADESH

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, It has been decided to link villages having population of one thousand or five hundred in the first and second phase respectively with the Pit ways. But the guidelines issued by the Central Government is not being complied with. Recently, the Government of India has issued directions to accept the proposal under PRADHAN MANTRI SADAK YOJANA on the recommendation of Honourable members and they should be invited on the occasion of their inauguration or while dedicating it to the nation. But I am sorry to say that this direction is not being followed anywhere in Uttar Pradesh. I would request, through you, to the Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to direct the UP Government to follow the guidelines issued by the Government of India. If the Government can't afford to get the guidelines complied with, please withdraw all guidelines.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Rewa) : Mr. Minister, they say that the government don't have budgetary allocation for it and can't organise any such inauguration.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government of India has issued any guidelines to U.P. Government or any other state Government regarding Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. It must be complied with. As Honourable Member said and if it is not being followed then I will bring this to the notice of Minister in the PMO supervising its implementation and steps will be taken for taking action in this regard.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Dec. 7, Saturday evening at quarter past six a pilot less aircraft of Pakistan was flying over Punch District for 15 Minutes – Probably it was there for the purpose of spying. Jawans of Indian army fired at it using Anti Aircraft Guns and it returned to POK. That aircraft had entered there twice or thrice earlier also. How long shall we remain silent. Wherever incident of Bomb explosion have occurred, Pakistan plays key-role in all such incidents. They collect secret information through ISI and commit crimes. I would like to request the Government, through you to be more and more alert on

this count. ...*(Interruptions)* We should send the message that in case of such happenings, we will go for attack. If the Government makes any such statement everything will be okay.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Government of India an issue regarding coir workers. There are about five lakh women coir workers in Kerala. They are thrown out employment because the producers refuse to continue with production due to the export policy adopted by the Central Government. We all speak for women empowerment, but unfortunately these five to six lakh women workers are thrown out of employment for no fault of theirs. The Government of India proposed certain schemes and those schemes were implemented by the State Government. The Central Government had promised to give fifty per cent of the money. The Central Government said it would be on 50:50 basis. But the Central Government did not disburse a paisa towards the implementation of this scheme. The Central Government suggested the scheme and the State Government implemented it. This is an age-old traditional industry. The workers are now in starvation. We will hear about starvation deaths in the near future. Until and unless the Central Government takes immediate remedial measures, the situation will become worse. I, therefore, request the Central Government to consider the matter as seriously as possible.

MR. SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at p.m.

13.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

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14.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled for Lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had raised an issue on Bihar during Zero House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not Zero Hour.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Please allow me to speak for a minute. People belonging to Bihar were marching towards Parliament under the leadership of our Honourable MP Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav. They have been severely Lathicharged by the police outside Parliament. They have been wounded. The Hundreds of people from Bihar have suffered injuries who came here in the hope of getting permanent solution to the problems of flood and drought. They gave a notice to the Prime Minister of India in this regard that they will raise their demands and while they were heading their way forward, they were beaten mercilessly by the police in which some others too, received injuries.

Just now, I visited there. Hon'ble MPs Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Shri Rajo Singh had also visited there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In the Zero Hour too, you had raised the same issue therefore, there's no point in raising the same issue for the second time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : They have been Lathi-charged and water cannon was used over them. Thousands of people have been badly beaten up.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not Zero Hour.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Don't have they right to lodge their complaints. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[English]

Now, matter under Rule 377 will be taken up.

14.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to ensure proper maintenance of National Highway No. 91 passing through Bilhaur parliamentary constituency, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilhaur) : Sir, the National Highway No. 91 passes through Bilhaur my parliamentary constituency and the metropolis of Kanpur. Thousands of heavy vehicles pass through this highway everyday leading to traffic hazard, jams and accidents in the cities of Bilhaur, Shivrajpur, Chaubepur and the metropolis of Kanpur the road within the Bilhaur city is in bad condition. There are accidents every day hundreds of citizens have fallen ill due to the flying dirt from the road. Therefore, the Hon'ble Minister for Surface Transport is requested:-

1. That a two kilometer long road between Bilhaur Municipality be constructed at the earliest. The proposal has come from the State Government.

2. A by pass road to the NH No. 91 be constructed at Bilhaur, Uttaripura, Shivrajpur and Chaubepur.

3. A six lane road be constructed on National Highway No. 91 from Mandhna to Rama Devi crossing in Kanpur Metropolis.

4. Overbridges be constructed at the crossing of Jariv Chouki, Cocacola and C.O.D. in Kanpur Metropolis on the National Highway No.91, with the assistance of the Railways. The department of Railways has already sanctioned it.

5. A by pass be constructed from Mandhna to Mouti on N.H. No.91 and be linked to the main National Highway.

(ii) Need to safeguard the interests of employees of Cement Corporation of India particularly at 'Nayagaon' in Madhya Pradesh

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Sir, as a result of the Government decision aimed at privatising or selling certain units of the Cement Corporation of India which were incurring losses, an attempt is being made to sell such units which were in profit but were rendered unprofitable due to their mismanagement consequently they were decided to be sold. These units also include the units of "Naya Gaon" in the Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh. The labourers have been saying ceaselessly for the last several years that they can bring these cement units to the level of profitability. There are huge arrears of labourers salary. A gloomy future awaits children of hundreds of families as it has been decided to close down the Central School there. The labourers are distressed due to the shortage of power and water. I therefore, request the Minister of heavy Industries for giving a serious consideration to this matter and he should implement such a decision at the earliest so that hundreds of labourers and there dependents do not have to run from pillar to post.

(iii) Need to run recently introduced super fast train between Ranchi and Mumbai via Hatia and Rourkela

SHRI RAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of happiness for the people of Jharkhand that this Government acceding to their demand have initiated a Superfast Rail Service from Ranchi to Mumbai via Gayal, Hatia, Allahabad. The people of Jharkhand will have to spend 12 to 14 hours more in reaching Mumbai as there are already several Rail Services in operation on this line and the possibility of its growing unpopular is much more. If this Rail Service takes the route via Hatia, Rourkela from Ranchi to Mumbai it will generate more revenue for the Railways and it would be convenient to the people living on these routes for reaching Ranchi and Mumbai. At present there is no rail service Mumbai and Ranchi on this route. I, therefore, request the Central Government through the House that the prescribed route of the announcement Ranch-Mumbai Superfast be changed to Ranchi-Hatia-Rourkela-Mumbai route.

(iv) Need to introduce a Shatabdi Express train Between Bangalore and New Delhi

[English]

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (Hassan) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a number of Shatabdi Express trains

have been introduced in the country in the recent years. The capital city, New Delhi, has the facility of Shatabdi Express trains to various cities like Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Bhatinda and others. There is no Shatabdi Express between Bangalore and New Delhi despite our repeated representations to hon. Minister of Railways and to the hon. Prime Minister of India.

In fact, there is only one daily train between Karnataka and Delhi whereas the other capital cities of States have three to four trains daily from Delhi. The waiting list for tickets to Bangalore from Delhi and *vice versa* always goes beyond three hundred.

This Shatabdi Express can cater to the needs of Andhra Pradesh also as the train has to pass through Hyderabad. This would give a new boost and impetus to the fast improving software industry in these three cities – Bangalore, Delhi and Hyderabad. This is a very long pending demand of the people of Karanataka.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways to introduce Shatabdi Express between Bangalore and New Delhi *via* Hyderabad without any further delay.

(v) Need to stop eviction of poor and marginal farmers including tribal communities from forest areas particularly in Udupi Parliamentary constituency, Karnataka

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (Udupi) : There have been reports of concerted action by the Karnataka State Forest Department officials and Revenue Department officials to evict poor and marginal farmers, including tribal communities, from their settlements in forest areas. My constituency, Udupi, a part of Dakshin Kannada, has a fair number of such settlers, numbering more than 1.25 lakh, including Kodagu District. This exercise, it seems, is in pursuance of the Supreme Court Kodagu District. This exercise, it seems, is in pursuance of the Supreme Court directives to evict encroachers from forest land.

Most of these settlers are in occupation of their small landholdings for more than 35 years. There being around 90,000 acres of such land held by settlers numbering more than 1.25 lakh, the per capita landholding works out to around 0.6 or less acres. The settlers had put in great efforts and struggled to develop the terrain and to plant vegetation and plantation crops like Areca, Cashewnut, Rubber, Tapioca to eke out a living without causing damage to the ecology and environment. Being poor and illiterate, most of them do not possess documents to prove their rights of occupation.

I would, therefore, urge the Centre to intervene in the matter on humanitarian grounds and abandon this drive of eviction.

(vi) Need to extend assistance to the State Government of Kerala to Protect the Interests of workers engaged in traditional industries

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, the plight of about one crore people who are depending on the traditional industries for their livelihood all over Kerala is very pathetic and pitiable. The lives of these workers mainly in the Handloom, Coir, Cashew industries, Fisheries and Construction sector are being thrown to doldrums following the crisis in agriculture and allied sectors. Amongst these workers around two million are either completely unemployed or partly employed.

The crisis of cashew industry due to fall in the price of cashew kernels has indeed caused a negative impact on our foreign exchange earnings apart from rendering workers jobless. Coir products worth crores of rupees are accumulated in the godowns for long as the exports has shown a diminishing trend and workers are denied of employment for the last one year.

Application of modern technology, infusion of capital investment and modern marketing are the dire needs of these traditional industries.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to extend all possible assistance to the State of Kerala so as to save the millions from starvation.

(vii) Need to set up an Export Promotion Council at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY (Kurnool) : Sir, the pharmaceutical industry in Andhra Pradesh is on its

[Shri K.E. Krishnamurthy]

upward trend. In a meeting with Chief Minister, representatives of Pharmaceutical producers in the State of Andhra Pradesh have expressed their inclination to have an Independent Export Promotion Council at Hyderabad. The State Government has also made up for its establishment and committed to provide necessary facilities such as land, infrastructure, etc. and will also be ready to sanction a grant of Rs.3 crore as Corpus for the establishment of new Export Promotion Council. A formal request to this effect has also been sent by the State Government to the hon. Minister for evolving ways for the establishment of the Council.

In view of the above, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry kindly to view the matter in its right spirits and give instructions to the concerned for the establishment of Export Promotion Council at Hyderabad.

(viii) Need to provide adequate compensation to the farmers whose land have been acquired for construction of a by pass in Phulpur Parliamentary constituency, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMRAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the National Highway No. 2 from Varanasi to Kanpur passes via Phulpur Allahabad Parliamentary Constituency. A by pass is being constructed form Handia to Kaudihar in my constituency, Phulpur. Agriculture land of thousands of farmers belonging to my constituency is being acquired for constructing this by pass. Gopalgunj and Handia Markets are situated on this road and number of houses are also there on both sides. I have come to know that a plan is being chalked out by the Highway Authority to demolish the House on this road.

I demand from the Central Government that adequate compensation be paid to the affected farmers so that they could by lands at other places. Having built markets on the surrounding lands be provided to the farmers. The width of the roads be kept lesser and compensation be paid for the reconstruction of demolished houses.

(ix) Need to set up 'procurement centres' at block level in Bihar

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the infrastructure of procuring agricultural products in Bihar is very poor. Consequently the farmers of Bihar are not even able to get the support price announced by the Government for this produce.

I, therefore, request the Government to provide for procurement centres at block level and also to ensure the procurement of farmers produce through FCI.

14.21 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-fourth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : I beg to present the Forty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

14.22 hrs.

INDIAN EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up legislative business. The next item is consideration and passing of Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill. Time allotted is two hours.

(Interruptions)

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*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 9.12.2002.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY) : I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 , be taken into consideration."

Sir, it is a small amendment, but it will go a long way in rendering justice to our womenfolk. We have been reading in the newspapers that the rape cases are increasing leaps and bounds. When the victim undergoes this rape, she is in a trauma. She feels utterly humiliated. She is brought to the courtroom. In the cross-examination, the counsel, representing the accused, starts putting questions with regard to her personal character prior to this rape. That is allowed in the Evidence Act. The Supreme Court has also held that whatever may be the right of the accused to cross-examine the prosecutrix, still care must be kept in mind. She will be feeling humiliated if she were to be put questions with regard to her prior character.

It is well known that the accused is there for committing the rape. The question is not about the character of the woman but the question is about the act of the accused. When the act of the accused is in question, I cannot understand what right the accused could have to question the very character of the woman whom he has raped. That becomes a further humiliation for the woman who has been raped.

There is another anomaly in the Evidence Act. There is a provision in the Evidence Act that the character of an accused prior to the crime cannot come into question. Under the Evidence Act, it is prohibited to question whether he was a man of a dubious character or what was his conduct prior to committing a particular crime. On the other hand, the very same Evidence Act says that when a woman is raped and she stands as a prosecutrix, her character prior to the act of rape is questionable. So, we are moving an amendment to see that the victim of the rape is saved from this humiliation, which is a second humiliation, so to say. That is why, in the Act as such, we have now stated that after Section 146(3) of the Evidence Act, there would be a fourth sub-section:

"Provided that in a prosecution for rape or attempt to commit rape, it shall not be permissible to put questions in the cross-examination of the prosecutrix as to her general immoral character."

I would like to place here one more additional point. Even if a woman is of a questionable character, if she does not allow a male to invade her body for his own personal purposes, just because she happens to be a woman of an immoral character, can she be taken for granted by the accused person? So, under these circumstances, the amendment is timely and it will save our womenfolk. Consequent to amendment to Section 146, we are providing that Section 155 (4) of the principal Evidence Act shall be omitted. These two amendments taken together will render justice to women who have been subjected to rape.

When this matter was taken up by the Cabinet and this Bill was approved, the entire Press supported it. I am quite sure the House would also support this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The first preference goes to lady Members. I now call Shrimati Margaret Alva to speak.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : Sir, I stand to fully support this amendment. In fact, this has been the demand for several years, if I may say so, of the National Commission for Women and all the others. I stand up in support of this amendment also as the Chairperson of the Committee on Women's Empowerment. I am sure, across party lines, even with the overwhelming majority of men here, everybody would agree that this is a long awaited amendment.

The trauma that a woman goes through could be imagined. In fact, the hon. Deputy Prime Minister recently said that it is even worse than the murder of a woman because she has to live with this assault on her. The society, unfortunately, over the centuries, has always

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

blamed the victim rather than the one who assaulted her. Every time, the question asked is: 'How is it that only she was raped? There must be something wrong with her. Why did she go out? It was only because she went out that she was raped.' So, always, the onus of proving that she is not the one to blame has been on the woman's head.

The other most deplorable aspect is that when it comes to a trial of rape, the woman's character is brought into question. She has to show in the evidence that she is not of an immoral character or that she is not what is called of a "bad character". Now, who is to give her a certificate? Who is the one who would declare her to be of a good character or of a bad character? Is it the police or is it the public? Is it a public trial where people have to declare her to be of a good character before she seeks protection and justice from the court?

Sir, pardon my saying it, these were the laws drafted by men for protection of men. Women were never in drafting committees and they were never consulted. These are old laws which have outlived their utility. I must say that we were also in the Government for so many years and I also plead guilty that we have allowed such clauses to remain in the law despite the demand from various organisations and the public that these should be amended.

Sir, I have heard from women about the trauma of the victim who comes before a court. It must be admitted that the overwhelming number of rape cases are never reported and are never complained about because the stigma is always on the women. So, the prefers not to complain. But now with the public awareness, with the media and with all the other support systems, women have begun to file FIRs, their family complains about it and the public these days are knowing facts and figures. It is a tragedy the way the number of rape cases now – I am endorsing the tragedy – are reported, but the numbers that we see today shows that they are being reported. This was happening earlier also, but nobody reported, nobody recorded and nobody took notice of it. Today from the bus, to the school, to the medical colleges, to trains in Mumbai and in every single place, these cases are being reported.

Now, recently, in Delhi, a 40-year old woman was raped in her own home. So I suppose she must go the court and prove: "She is of good character, saying they came to her house and raped her". What is even more amazing is that boys of 14 years, 15 years or 16 years are indulging in these rapes one care is still under trial. They are trying to produce the school certificate that the boy is a minor and so he should not be punished. If he is a minor, the punishment should be even worse, that at this age, he has started violating the womah's modesty and the woman's body.

[Translation]

I do not know what is going wrong with us as a people and as a nation.

Sir, I welcome the amendment that is being brought here by the hon. Minister. I must say that we had earlier in the amendment brought this requirement that if trial for rape should take place, it should be held *in camera.* There should be no publicity and there should be a closed-door trial. This never happens. The lawyers fill the court rooms. I have heard from Counsel as well as women activists that the most embarrassing and humiliating questions are asked. The woman is repeatedly asked to retell the whole story as to what happened to her, where, how and who did it. These are very humiliating things and the women literally breaks down in the course of the trial.

[Translation]

No one known what is going on.

[English]

Cases are Postponed and victims are called again to come to court.

[English]

There is coming and going to courts as if she is a kind of a public woman to be humiliated in the court room. The insistence is that these cases should be held *in camera,* preferably in a way that would not make it even more of a trauma for the woman. I would say women judges, maybe more sensitised judiciary, are required to deal with this crime.

Sir, I plead that these trials should be time-bound. There should be a time-limit for the filing of the FIR, the posting, the hearing and the final decision; otherwise there will be absolutely no sense. Draggging rape trials for two to three years and constantly adjourning and making the women come and go must stop.

The most important thing in a rape trial is the medical examination of the victim. These trials always fall because the doctor, the police, and the accused are hand in glove somewhere and neither a proper test is done nor the clothes are preserved or things like that, because of which there is absolutely no way of finally convicting the accused. I think, we need to look at the Evidence Act, a little more in detail as far as the rape trials are concerned.

The last but not least thing is, this whole question. ...*(Interruptions)* I am only agreeing with you. Even in the case of a murder, you do not ask about the character of the man who is murdered. It is immediately taken as something for which Section 302 is applied and he must be hanged if he is found guilty. I am not one who believes that by making the punishment as death penalty in the case of rape – though there are people who think so – that the problem is going to be solved. I think the important thing is to know that the trial will be conducted quickly and that the guilty will be punished. You increase the punishment if you want. But, I think, the entire law of rape, in the present circumstances, with a very senior Minister in charge, should be reviewed. I hope that there will be a review of these trials in rape cases and you make them really meaningful and quick so that the victims get justice.

The other day somebody was paid a compensation of Rs. 2,000. Can a woman's honour be restored with a compensation of Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000? It is crazy. We are asking that the women be looked upon with the same respect and the same sensitivity realising that each family has its daughters, its mothers, its sisters and its own family members who are women, whom you would like protected. Let us not think about a different law for others and a different law for our families.

If you want your daughters and your grand-daughters safe, time has come for Parliament to take every step to see that the rape trials are quick and rape accused receive the worst condemnation and immediate punishment.

14.37 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Disinvestment Policy

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister Shri Arun Shourie to make a statement now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, I would like to draw your attention to this issue. It is listed just in the Supplementary List of Business. Such an important issue and such an important subject is listed in the Supplementary List. This shows their attitude to this Parliament. This is an issue which is agitating our countrymen. It involves our security. They are surrendering to the pressures of U.S. multi-nationals. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister can made a *suo motu* statement.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : They cannot be an agent even in U.K. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Sir, the whole nation is perturbed. It is a serious matter. What is needed today is that we should have a discussion. We demand a discussion and not the statement... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, we demand a discussion on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Speaker has already agreed that the hon. Minister will make a statement at 2.30 p.m.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola) : Sir, this is a policy matter and without a discussion a *suo motu* Statement cannot be made on the floor of the House. It infringes on the rights of certain sections of the society. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : We are demanding a discussion on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Speaker has already agreed on this. Your notice is disallowed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : Sir, it is under pressure from U.S. and other multi-nationals. We have already give a notice for discussion under Rule 193. You have not allowed. It should be discussed on the floor of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, these days we are getting information even when Parliament is in Session from the newspapers. We come to know of many matters from the newspapers. This is a matter – ! take it that it is about the oil companies because that is what is coming out in the papers – is important. We have come to know about the differences in the Cabinet from the newspapers, about the differences in the NDA from the newspapers. What is happening in other places is, of course, part of the record of this Parliament.

Can we not expect that when such vital issues are involved, before the Government's decision is announced in the House, that it is discussed here? Let some sort of respect be shown to the Parliament and a discussion takes place before important decisions are taken. Should it be treated as a mere ritual? ...*(Interruptions)* Will it be treated as a mere ritual? I do not know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has give a notice to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we are not here to listen to his death warrants. What is happening? This Government is fractured on this issue. I am requesting the NDA allies also. Ho. Member Shri Prabhunath Singh is sitting here the Shiv Sena friends are just opposing it. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I am saying that before a decision is announced, it should be discussed on the floor of the House and the views of the Members from all sides is taken and then you take a decision. What is this? This is a clear affront to Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister's Statement was agreed to by the hon. Speaker and it is listed here. I am just nobody.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kindly co-operate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, he has to make a *suo motu* Statement.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : Sir, the last time ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only after making a Statement, decision can be taken.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk) : Sir, I have give a notice ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Lakshman Seth, he has to make the statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : Can we please ask a few questions after the Statement is made? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Is this the way to treat this House?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, last time when the discussion took place in this House on disinvestment, the House had to be adjourned because there was no quorum. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : How can he make a Statement on the issue of disinvestment without any discussion on the floor of this House? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Lakshman Seth, please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sunil Khan, Shri Basu, Please hear me for a moment.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Prabhunath Singh, please do not interrupt now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Is this NDA programme or some other programme? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, he has sought the permission of the Chair. The hon. Speaker has given the permission. He has to make a statement.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : No. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Should I start? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let it go on. You read the statement.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, as you and the hon. Members are aware, the Government has been implementing successfully an intensely considered and well-defined programme of disinvestment in Central public sector enterprises. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us see after the Statement is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him make the statement. You cannot prevent him from making the Statement.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please resume your seat. You are a senior Member.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Speaker has given the permission.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : The Government has, however, been receiving from time to time several significant suggestions from the hon. Members of this House as also from experts and others outside. ...*(Interruptions)*

With your permission and through you, I would like to inform the House that the Government has, after detailed deliberations on the various views expressed and suggestions made, decided in a meeting held on 6th December, 2002 to fine-tune the disinvestment policy and programme by adopting the following approach. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, this is a clear insult to Parliament. So, we are walking out.

14.44 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : The main objective of disinvestment is to put national resources and assets to optimal use and in particular, to unleash the productive potential inherent in our public sector enterprises. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Except the hon. Minister's statement, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : The policy of disinvestment specifically aims at modernisation and upgradation of public sector enterprises; creation of new assets; generation of employment; and retiring of public debt. ...*(Interruptions)* Government would continue to ensure that disinvestment does not result in alienation of national assets which, through the process of disinvestment, remain where they are. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please ask the hon'ble Minister to read it again. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : let the hon'ble Minister complete his statement first then I would listen you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Take note of one thing. Our party has got reservations in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* Samata Party has got reservation on this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : After the statement of the hon'ble Minister I would listen to you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central) : We have failed to listen. We have been requesting to read it again. ...*(Interruptions)* How would we know what has been said in the statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you will not listen, how will you come to know?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Please ask the hon'ble Minister to read it again.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon'ble Minister, please read it again.

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Hon. Sir, as you and the hon. Members are aware. the Government has been implementing successfully an intensely considered and well-defined programme of disinvestment of the Central Public Sector Enterprises. The Government has, however, been receiving from time to time several significant suggestions from the hon. Members of this House as also from experts and others outside.

With your kind permission and through you, I would like to inform the House that after detailed deliberations on the various views expressed and suggestions made, the Government has decided in a meeting held on the 6th December, 2002, to fine-tune the disinvestment policy and programme by adopting the following approach:

- The main objective of disinvestment is to put national resources and assets to optimal use and in particular to unleash the productive potential inherent in our public sector enterprises. The policy of disinvestment specifically aims at:
  - * Modernisation and upgradation of Public Sector Enterprises;
  - * Creation of new assets;
  - * Generation of employment; and
  - * Retiring of public debt.
- Government will continue to ensure that disinvestment does not result in alienation of national assets, which, through the process of disinvestment, remain where they are. It will also ensure that disinvestment does not result in private monopolies.
- In order to provide complete visibility to the Government's continued commitment to utilise disinvestment proceeds for social and infrastructure sectors, the Government will set up a Disinvestment Proceeds Fund. This Fund will be used for financing fresh employment opportunities and investment, and for retiring public debt.
- For the disinvestment of natural asset companies, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Disinvestment will work out guidelines.

- The Ministry of Finance will also prepare for consideration of the Cabinet Committee on Disinvestment a paper on the feasibility and modalities of setting up an Asset Management Company to hold, manage and dispose the residual holding of the Government in the companies in which Government equity has been disinvested to a strategic partner.

- With these objectives as the guiding principle, the Government has taken the following specific decisions:

  * To disinvest through sale of shares to the public in Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

  * To disinvest in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) through strategic sale.

  * To allot, in both cases of BPCL and HPCL, a specific percentage of shares to the employees of the two companies at one-third of the market price....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a debate should be held in the House in this regard so that we could also put forth our opinions. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, there is just one point of information. Last time the debate took place. It had to be closed and adjourned for want of quorum. You yourself were in the Chair. I am always for a debate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola) : You have already sold it to Reliance, and now you are making a Statement.

[Translation]

To state for what amount they have sold Sir, it is also necessary the Reliance.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want to say something, I will give you permission, but you cannot speak like this. I have given the floor to Shri Prabhunath Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : They have sold of the Reliance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : BPCL is not being given to a strategic partner. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : You have pre-decided the issue, and it will come.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, three processes have been adopted in the country in respect of disinvestment. The economists in our country say that the economic condition of our country would not get strengthened without disinvestment. The number of such economists is not much. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am completing my speech with in two minutes. A majority of people in this country think that disinvestment process would result in unemployment in the country and there is no question of improvement in economic condition of the country instead all the Government property will go in the hands of a few people.

The third category of people are those who say that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Sir, there are differences amongst the NDA partners themselves on this. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please listen. It is a convention in the House that nobody seek any clarification

after a statement has been made by a Minister. If you want to discuss this matter you can fix the time and discuss it in the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the third category of people wants that it should be reviewed but no action is being taken in this regard. A detailed discussion should be held in the House and the opinion of all parties should be heard and action should be taken in this regard after taking the House in confidence. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In this House we have a convention that Members are not to seek any clarifications after a Statement has been made. Rules do not permit that. I am a Member of the House and I can feel the sense of the House. Shri Prabhunath Singh has raised this matter. Everybody would like to discuss this issue. Let the House find some time to discuss this vital issue. But after the Statement has been made now, I would not be in a position to give the floor to anybody to seek clarifications on this.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, they have already taken a decision. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Sir, Shri Ram Naik, the hon. Minister for Petroleum who is sitting here now, till yesterday was opposing disinvestment of the petroleum sector. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, once the hon. Speaker had allowed us to seek clarifications. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whenever such important issues are raised, exceptions are made to the rule. But that is an exception, not rule.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, I fully agree with you. As an exception, you please allow one Member from each party to speak on this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Sir, the hon. Petroleum Minister should be allowed to make a Statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the House would be adjourned on the 20th of this month and there would be no occasion for a debate on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, who has authorised them to do so...*(Interruptions)*

The Parliament is in Session...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Rewa) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while talking about disinvestment Process in Gujarat yesterday, the Prime Minister stated that disinvestment policy would continue. This Government is presently misleading the people of the country. Hon'ble Ram Naikjee is sitting here. Hon. Uma Bharatijee and the hon'ble Minister of Defence have also given their statement in this regard. Majority of people have opposed this policy. I fail to understand what message the Government intend to give to the nation what is wrong and what is right. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, you are a Member of the Business Advisory Committee. You can take up this issue in the BAC and if time is found in BAC, then you can discuss it. It should not done in this fashion.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is very difficult. You give notice under Rule 193. Discuss this in the BAC and find some time to discuss this issue. That is all.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Hon'ble Minister, even your partners have also levelled allegations on you. Hon'ble Ram Naikjee is sitting here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please give me an opportunity to speak for two minutes.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Prabhunath Singh, I cannot give notice for discussion under either Rule 184 or Rule 193. It is up to you to give notice. It will be taken up in the Business Advisory Committee and if time is left, specific time will be fixed for the discussion. Then only we can discuss it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, we support the proposal of Shri Prabhunth Singh for a discussion under Rule 184. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Prime Minister should come here to make a statement. Various Union Ministers have given different statements about disinvestment. Your Ministers have alleged that this process is not good and your coalition partners are also levelling similar allegations on you. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shrimati Beatrix D'Souza.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, Shri Ram Naik is opposing this; Shri George Fernandes is opposing; Shiv Sena is opposing, and all of them are opposing this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is going on in the House! Nothing will go on record now.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, you are a Member of the Business Advisory Committee. If you want this matter to be discussed, you give a notice.

(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, today injustice is being done with the labourers, they are not getting wages. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : First of all you satisfy your Ministers and your coalition partners. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Enough is enough. Please do not interrupt now. Shri Mohan Rawale, please do not interrupt now. I have called the name of Shrimati Beatrix D'Souza.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister has made a Statement with the permission of the Chair. If you want to leave the House, you can leave.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA Shri Ram Naik should answer if he is happy with the selling away of oil sector.

[Translation]

He has already left the House. You can have your say in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, that would not be of any use. When this issue was being discussed in the House, not even a single Member of his party was present here. Ther was no quorum in the House and all his Members had already left. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Malhotraji, you make your Ministers see sense. Your Ministers are giving different types of statements. First of all you should respond to statements what the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh and your coalition partners are making in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : I have already given notice, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : We should also be given chance to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Jha, you are the Member of the Business Advisory Committee. Can you not give a notice in this regard?

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : We are also Members of this House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then give notice. Who is preventing you from giving notice?

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, they will sell out the whole country, whether you will remain sitting quiet even then? You should also give your views on this matter and give some directions.

15.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are certain rules for conducting business of the House. The proceedings of the House are conducted according to that rule. If you want some discussions here you will have to follow the rules. You please give in writing that you want discuss a particular issue under this particular rule.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Hon'ble Minister, you made your colleagues understand. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there injustice is being done with the workers, workers are being given VRS forcibly.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sunder Lal Tiwari. Please do not disturb. Please hear her. It is very important matter.

15.01 hrs.

[English]

INDIAN EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL–Contd.

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA (Nominated) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2002. But it is unfortunate that after 100 years, the amendment to the law regarding rape is being done in this piecemeal fashion. Though this is a welcome amendment but much more has to be done.

This amendment was first recommended by the 84th Report of the Law Commission in 1980. It stated that a woman who is raped, undergoes two crises – rape as well as the trial. The courtroom experience of the raped woman is both negative and destructive. In fact, the proceedings of the courtroom very often resemble a B-grade movie. The rape victim first has to face an insensitive police mechanism, a hostile courtroom and also an insensitive Judiciary.

Here, I will give you two examples of insensitive Judiciary. In the first case of Mathura (Tukaram *versus* State of Maharashtra, 1978), the Supreme Court acquitted two policemen who had raped a 16-year old girl, saying that there was no injury on the person, and secondly that her testimony was suspect because she had eloped with her boyfriend.

In the second case of Suman Rani (Prem Chand *versus* Haryana, 1989), the Supreme Court reduced the mandatory sentence of 10 years to five years in a gang-rape by policemen – this was also by policemen – stating that this girl had also eloped with her boyfriend and therefore, her character was suspect.

Sir, this piecemeal amendment of the Act will not be sufficient if a rapist is to be convicted. A complete overhaul of the rape laws – substantive and procedural – is necessary. There is a need to amend laws relating to sexual assault and sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Section 375 of the IPC needs to be changed to include non-penetrative sexual assault. There is an urgent need

to reform the legal provisions of rape under Sections 375 and 376 to include child sexual abuse and sexual assault with objects and also forced oral sex.

The offences categorised under the following Sections of the IPC should be brought under one heading, namely, "Sexual Assault". Sections 374, 375, 376, 509 and 511 are all relating to rape, violating modesty and indecent behaviour.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara) : Sir, the hon. Minister should listen and take note of all these things said by her.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, please.

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA : The age of consent should uniformly be raised to 18 years and the exception clause to marital rape in section 375 should be deleted. The punishment should be enhanced even to life imprisonment if the rapist transmits HIV to the victim.

Finally, a conducive atmosphere and environment should be created in police stations itself. Not only should the defence be barred from asking questions to the victims, but in the police stations itself, questions should not be asked by the police to the victim relating to her past sexual experience etc.

As Shrimati Alva has also mentioned, trial in rape case should be held in camera and, if necessary, dealt with in fast-track courts. Rather than the sensationalised demand that the rape victim be awarded death sentence, which is highlighted in the Press, it would be more important if this particular amendment comes through, as it will. The proposals which I have mentioned are supported by the women groups and they will prove sufficient to indict and convict the rapist.

15.06 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. This piece of legislation, which appears to be very brief, is the most welcome.

The principal Act, that is the Indian Evidence Act, was passed in 1872 when the Britishers were ruling India. It may perhaps be their mindset that brought in clause 4 of Section 155 of the Indian Evidence Act. Since then 55 years have passed. It is now that we are bringing in this very important amendment. Actually, this was the long-standing demand of many of the women organisations.

As is shown in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Law Commission of India in its 84th and 172th report has observed the traumatic experience which the victim undergoes in such cases on account of this particular clause. The National Women Commission also has observed in a study that the Defence Counsel usually refers to prior sexual contact of the victim and this way her life is made very difficult. Thus, apart from the traumatic experience of the rape, she has to undergo humiliation in front of the society. Character assassination is undertaken in the court room and all this gets greater publicity in Press and other media. The stigma attached to her dies only with her death. Women are ostracised on this account in the society as also in their families.

In that sense, it is a very welcome measure. We are indeed grateful for this. This amendment assumes great significance in the light of increased incidence of violence and sexual assault on women which are reported almost every day. Of late, daily we are hearing cases of attempted rape and other types of assaults on women, including eve teasing.

We are not wholly satisfied with this piece of amendment alone. Unless a holistic approach is brought in, women at large will not be getting full-fledged justice and they will not be able to enjoy the rights enshrined in the Constitution. So, in this connection, while supporting this amendment, I would like to make certain suggestions which must be incorporated in future legislation at the earliest.

Last week, while responding to a question on rape, the hon, Deputy Prime Minister said that death punishment is the answer. But we cannot agree to that. It is not that because of the lack of very strong legislation or deterrent punishments these cases are increasing, but there are

[Prof. A.K. Premajam]

other factors which are actually hindering the grant of justice to women in such cases. One of them is the lengthy process of legal proceedings. Sometimes more than 10 years are taken for deciding a case. All of us can imagine the experience of a woman who has to undergo lengthy legal proceedings and that too in a very publicised manner, and then finally not receiving justice. So, the lengthy process of legal proceedings should be cut down and the time limit should be applied as far as these cases are concerned. As has already been mentioned by Shrimati Margaret Alva earlier, the proceedings of these cases should be made in-camera.

Another important fact is that still the Judiciary, the bureaucracy, and the police authorities are governed by prejudices and bias against women. Something should be done to remove such bias. Of course, I know it cannot be done in a short span of time. It will take a long time. But we should make an earnest and sincere effort to remove these prejudices and bias as far as women in the society are concerned. For example, in one of the cases, the accused was acquitted on the basis that upper class men do not rape lower class women. Actually, this is bias only. Our experience is that lower class women are helpless and defenceless. They are at the mercy of the upper class men. So, such incidents do happen. In spite of other evidences, the accused was let off because he happened to be an upper class man and the woman who was raped happened to be a lower class woman. So, such prejudices are still governing even the Judiciary, the bureaucracy, and the police authorities, There should be proper sensitisation of this problem. I do to think death punishment will make any difference as far as meeting justice to women is concerned.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that a holistic approach is made and that too by bringing an urgent legislation to cover all the loopholes in the existing system.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI (Rewa) : Hon'ble Madam Chairman, I respect the Indian Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and support it also. The women have been making demands for this as injustice is being committed against them.

Madam, whenever trial of rape case is started in the court, such questions are asked by the lawyer to the victim, which make them feel disregarded.

Madam, the future of rape victims becomes dark. Certainly, this is a good Bill brought by you and we support it but I would like to submit that when this august House enact a law, it should keep in view the reality.

Madam, we are omitting clause 4, Section 155 of the Indian Evidence Act. The sub-clause 4 under Section 376, 366 and 363 is related to sexual offence only. It is not a general clause which means that section 155 is applicable to all sections of I.P.C. also.

While omitting the said clause utmost care should be taken. My plea is, as you said, if some one is killing another or committing any crime, the character of the deceased may not be taken into consideration. I do not think that a person will ask a criminal to kill him. All the sections, Acts and criminals can't be considered under the same category. This special enactment was made, as it is noticed that both men and women, by gesture or in certain situations invite each other for sexual relation, but in case of murder, no one says to come and kill him. Therefore it should be seen in this way. It should also be seen in this way that sometimes women are also accomplice into it. The hon'ble Minister may consider it that any innocent may not be sentenced or given life long imprisonment under such circumstances. We cannot compare section 376, 363 with section 302 or 304. It cannot be compared with section 320 or 324.

As far as dignity is concerned, we want that the dignity of our mothers and sisters is maintained, but as I have said, this should also be taken into account that any innocent may not become victim in the wake of such emotions. I also want to say that questions regarding general immoral character should not be asked during the course of cross-examination.

[Translation]

It is being banned, Through you, I want to say that we have not defined general immoral character – *[English]* What is general immoral character? *[Translation]* if the word 'general' is removed then only immoral character will left. Then what happened? Will we accept it? Therefore we should define and codify the general immoral character word completely so that the court may remain cautious at the time of taking decision and both the party may feel that justice has been done with them.

In the end, I must say that the number of lewd women are increasing. Now what type of behaviour should be adopted towards them? Whether all the women be considered of good character. How is it possible? Neither all women nor all men are of good character. My point is if a woman is lewd, how the law will be implemented in that case. How it is possible to do justice in that case?

In the end *[English]* Let us suppose some virgin is there. *[Translation]* Someone has committed sexual intercourse with her. *[English]* The matter went to the Police Station and she was referred to a doctor. She has been subjected to medical examination. *[Translation]* It is a general presumption that she is virgin because she is unmarried and the medical examination reveals that *[English]* She is habitual to sexual intercourse. *[Translation]* Hence the right to ask about immoral character, and to cross-examination is becoming useless. All these points should be considered seriously. I have raised these questions but it does not mean that I am against it. I fully support this. I am saying so because it can happen in future, that the innocent are punished and injustice is done to them. Therefore, my submission is that without being emotional, enact a law that will save the dignity of women and injustice is not done to the innocent people.

SHRI PRABUNATH SINGH (Mahrajganj, Bihar) : Madam Chairman, I rise to support this Bill but I would also like to give a few suggestions. There are no two opinions about the fact that now-a-days the incidents like eve-teasing, rape etc. have increased in the country. A Mumbai based newspaper reported that a woman became a victim of rape in a moving train. Co-travellers remained mute spectators at the sight of such act. A girl studying in Delhi based Medical College was raped. Today, we have read in the Janasatta that some police officer has also been faced with such incident. Now these incidents are not limited to the poor and the down-trodden community or to the elite group only instead the number of such cases are increasing day by day and we do make stringent laws from time to time. The worrisome point is that although we are making strict laws and provision of stringent punishment but the number of such incidents are multiplying day by day what is the reason behind it? Isn't it indicative of the fact that we enact laws with lots of loopholes at the time of its implementation that facilitate the rapists to get scot free and as a result such incidents rise.

Tiwarijee has already left the House. He had raised certain issues. I won't use his words, however, I must say that one sided fault is not there. Many cases are fake and fabricated ones. You must have known in the recent past, a case of rape was initiated in the court against the speaker of Legislative Assembly, Sadanand Babu belonging to your party. After a few days down-the-line, the complainant confessed in writing that she had lodged the complaint being misguided by others. I very well remember many such cases with factual details in which cases are filed and subsequently, taking bribe of Rs. 10 thousand, 20 thousand or so statements are changed that she didn't identify the person in question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : They exert pressure for changing the statements also.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Madam, please don't term it just as pressure. It should be taken for granted that a few women get involved in such practices as a profession that stigmatizes the character of entire women community. So, therefore we would like to request hon'ble Minister that we are in support of the legislation of any stringent law, however, it must be included therein that in case a woman files a case, the Report of Medical Examination Costs only Rs.32 in the rural areas

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

but whenever anyone gets such report from the doctor having interest in the case, the rates go up. This fee also goes upto the amount of Rs.100, 200 or even Rs.400 and women are made instrumental in it. This evil game is played to entrap some opponent, rival, enemy into legal dragnet since it's difficult to get bail in such cases and when the report of Medical Examination is prepared and produced in the Court, the police advances the logic-since now the evidences have been produced, the report of Medical Examination been submitted, the deal should begin. Thereafter, the changeover starts, statements are also made hostile by spending Rs.50 thousand each.

I would like to submit that in the new legislation, one thing should be clearly delineated that in case of revelation of the material fact with reference to the fake and fabricated nature of the case as well as the instruments attached therewith, all the concerned persons including the woman, doctor, witnesses should be punished with at least half amount of what would have been meted out in case of the rapist. To my mind, only then, fictitious cases will cease to be registered. If you don't work on this line, your law will end up in nothing but a story. Very often you do make laws, everybody knows that the punishment of committing a murder is execution. Everybody is aware that in the event of someone's murder, capital punishment is awarded, but this doesn't check the killing incidents. So, therefore, you should resort to be-parte action.

As it appears to me, making laws does involve some difficulties. Mr. Minister, please don't take it otherwise because by the way, the persons abiding by the law and the ones passing final orders, are associated with the judiiary. They all are born in an Air conditioned room and stay limited to Air Conditioned halls. They don't lead practical life due to which they are unaware of the practical things of life which results in the erroneous legislation of laws. We would like to request you to provide for more and more stringent, rigorous conviction however, at the same time persons making false allegations should also be awarded at least half of the punishment as it would have been awarded in case of the rapist. The doctor providing a fake report of Medical Examination, persons giving wrong witnesses should also be kept in the same bracket. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You address to the chair, don't look that way.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I won't stretch the issue at a far length. I won't prolong the issue. I will conclude my words by giving a suggestion. You were saying in course of your address that a woman judge should be posted in the Judiciary to oversee the proceedings of rape-cases, don't you think it would be a biased approach lest women should pass ex-parte judgement. In our view neither male nor female but some lunuch (sexually impotent person) should be appointed to that post to make impartial justice.

With these words, i conclude my speech.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You have passed a very good suggestion and it should be accepted.

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farukhabad) : Madam, Mr. Minister has come up with an Indian Evidence (amendment). Act, i welcome it.

But I deem it unfortunate that after 1872, some sort of changes must have been occurring therein but the necessary changes that you have executed to bring about, draws our congratulations. All the speakers prior to me who have put their views, however, I feel that the far-flung areas of the country are awfully destitute and poor and 90 percent of their cases don't get registered. There is dominance of police Administration in our country and the public living in such far-flung areas don't come forward to let their cases get registered because they fear that the image of their family and women will get tarnished due to that. Whether Hon'ble Minister has made such provisions so that more and more people may have the courage to come forward and get their cases registered and the rapists be severally punished. You should make efforts in this regard also.

As far as the Urban Civilization is concerned, to my knowledge and understanding, I can say with authority that

the customs prevalent in Metro-cities under the impact of western culture has also affected such rape cases. My submission and conviction is that this cannot be checked because Government can't impose dress code but one thing is sure that it certainly ignites such incidents.

As all other Members have expressed their views I too want to submit that if at the district level SI or SHO of women wing is assigned the responsibility of an inquiry officer, the rape victims can be met with fair justice– this is my feeling and my thought. As Shri Prabhu Nath Singhji has stated just now, I too subscribe to the view but for the misuse of law, situation would have been quite different altogether. I am not in agreement with him that if the cases of misguiding women to lodge false complaint me to light, provisions must be made to punish that lady.

Notwithstanding being laws in place, the crime and the number of rape cases has been authorise. Its main reason can be attributed to the expensive legal system and delay in judgements. The more the judgement is delayed the more the case of such incidents will be. Hence the Government should come forward so that the rape victims may get quick justice at a fairly reasonable expenses.

As all other Members have said I do associate myself with them and want to submit before the Government that Legislation and Implementation are two distinct things. We have already laws in place had there been proper implementation, the situation would not have been the much worse. You are making good laws make them stringent. We will definitely extend our cooperation in this regard. However, the Government must make provisions to implement it even at the grass root level.

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur) : Madam, I also generally support the amendment moved by the hon. Minister. It is a very essential thing because the Act itself is of 1872. The conditions prevailing a century ago have to be changed. The Law Commission and the other opinion-makers have all reported about it and they are all in favour of such an amendment.

The suggestion that I want to make is in respect of Clause 2, which amends Section 146 of the Indian Evidence Act. The hon. Minister himself has moved an amendment to this clause. In this amendment, he has used the words "general immoral character." As my friend Shri Tiwari mentioned it, unless there is a definition of "immoral character", how would it help? Can a lawyer question the moral character of woman? What do you mean by "immoral character?" So, an ingenious advocate can put it in such a way saying that he is not questioning her immoral character and questioning her moral character only. Why should it go for immoral and mora character? If you can say about the character of the victim in general, that would be better. I say this because an ingenious lawyer can say that he is not questioning the immoral character. Otherwise, you should define the immoral character somewhere. Even if the definition is there about immoral character, the advocate or the victim can be cross-examined on the moral character which will indirectly become the cross-examination of her immoral character. ...*(Interruptions)* She can be cross-examined.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : It shall not be permissible.

SHRI A.C. JOS : I read clause 2 which says:

"Provided that in a prosecution for rape or attempt to commit rape, it shall not be permissible to put questions in the cross-examination of the prosecutrix as to her general immoral character."

Cross-examination is permissible.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : But this cannot be a subject of cross-examination.

SHRI A.C. JOS : The victim's immoral character cannot be a subject of cross-examination, but her moral character can be a subject of cross-examination. So, it would have been better if the Government had worded the amendment which says that it shall not be permissible to put questions in the cross-examination of the prosecutrix as to her general character. Otherwise, an ingenious lawyer would misuse this provision and ask questions about her moral character.

DR. (SHRIMATI) BEATRIX D'SOUZA : Madam, the hon. Member is doing hair-splitting.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Some lawyer might do that. Splitting of hair is the job of a lawyer. Some ingenious lawyer will do that. That is why I have underlined it here. Otherwise, I welcome this amendment and I support it fully. It is an absolutely essential amendment. Rather I would say that it has been brought very late.

I would like to mention another point which you and other hon. colleagues have also highlighted during the debate and that is, we should have a general relook into the rape law because as Shrimati Rodriguez mentioned earlier. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Who is Rodriguez here? She is Beatrix D'Souza.

SHRI A.C. JOS : I am sorry for that.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You get the names of the lady Members right at least.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Last week also, in her submission, she mentioned about the elements of rape and whether assault to the body of a woman is considered a rape or not etc. This has to be considered.

Then, as far as punishment is concerned, it is generally accepted that punishment for rape is not as severe as it should be. The number of rapes is increasing in our country now and it is a shame for our country. So, we should have a very serious look into the rape law once again. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to bring a serious and comprehensive amendment to this law.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Hon'ble Madam Chairman, The proposal put forth by the Minister of Law to bring an amendment in the Evidence Act is really very pertinent. As per WHO Report in every 54 minutes a woman is raped in India. Yet there's another report which tells that every day 42 women are raped. Apart from this there are a number of such cases which go unreported. Can we call our society a civilized one in these circumstances? Such incident are a big blot for a civilized society whereas to quote our scriptures "Yatra Naryasdephu Pujyante Ramante Tatra Devata". Implication is where women are adored Deity reside there. It's already existing in our culture, these people do claim that they are getting civillized however, the spectrum of such events stigmatise the whole society. How can a society, rampant with such societal evils and moral degradation can claim to be civilized?

In the recent past, a sensitising incident took place with a Medico girl, which got published in the newspapers. The fact of the matter is, most of the issues go unreported and even the case is not registered. Therefore, the law commission and commission for women as well as others have recommended that to amend the clause 4 of the Evidence Act of 1874 which put onus on a woman to prove the rape. Rape is more heinous crime than murder. In murder, one dies then and there whereas a rape victim suffers life-long. The fact of the matter is that, as the victimised woman appears in the Court, the lawyer is bent on demoralising her by asking volley of questions of varying nature with a view of protect the rapist. Such sort of interrogation with a woman has been termed as second rape. At the one hand the woman is already victimised and on the other hand, by letting her go into such process of interrogation and demoralizing her, every attempt is made to prove her characterless. Now, the Government have made a very good attempt and after the passage of the Bill, such sort of interrogation will not be permitted. Dr. Lohia always supported Male-female equality and Sapta-Kranti. He was of the view that a civilized society cannot tolerate such molestation, breach of trust and rape against women. Hence the Government should formulate some stringent law in place and so is already there.

It has also been suggested that the rapists should be awarded capital punishment, however, this too doesn't find consensus among all because this is not the only solution to it. As there's a provision of police station for Scheduled Castes similar arrangement should be made for women

where women police personnel should be posted. These arrangements will facilitate protection to women and punishment to the criminals. It's also a fact that wherever stringent law is made, such as in the dowry-case, rape case, atrocities against SCs, bail is not granted but in practice, we find that due to stringent law, it's prone to misuse. Therefore, the Government should be vigilant.

[English]

Jurisprudence is an eye of the law.

[Translation]

It hardly matters if a criminal gets exonerated but an innocent must not be convicted..*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (Tirunelveli) : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, hundred persons may go scot free. One should not be convicted on account of false evidence.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : They would not go scot free. Do not worry.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We have not read law but have got rough idea of law.

With these words, I conclude and want to request the Government to implement the suggestions.

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur) : Thank you Madam Chairperson for giving me five minutes. I will complete my speech in five minutes.

I totally support the amendments brought into the Evidence Act by the hon. Law Minister. I wish to state that prevention is better than cure and rape cases are going to increase if the crime of female child infanticide and feticide is not curbed very heavily and is brought at par with Section 302 of the IPC, if there is any crime of female child infanticide and feticide.

Secondly, my worthy colleague and hon. Member of Parliament, Shrimati D'Souza has brought to your notice several crimes committed by police officers. I would also humbly request the Law Minister to bring the security forces, for violation of chastity of women, within the purview of the National Human Rights Commission because the security forces and the paramilitary forces are not brought under the purview of the National Human Rights Commission for the crime of rape or molestation of women.

Thirdly, I think, if a Government servant or a public servant is convicted for molestation or for rape, he should be dismissed from service. I fail to understand why Shri K.P.S. Gili was made the Advisor to the Government of Gujarat, where mass scale rapes of Muslim women took place, as he was convicted by the Punjab and Haryana High Court for the molestation of Shrimati Rupen Deol Bajaj, a senior IAS Officer. I wish the Government would give this House an explanation as to why a Dracula was made to guard the blood bank.

Fourthly, as most police officers and security personnel have been quoted in this House for committing the crime of rape – Section 25 of the Evidence Act strictly says that the statement made to a police officer is not admissible in law according to the Evidence Act – so I may also pray to the hon. Law Minister that under POTA and TADA, statements made to a police officer should have the same strength of law as they have under Section 25 of the Evidence Act.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : I may be please allowed to speak one sentence only. I am not going into the Act itself.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : All right, only one sentence.

SHRI ANADI SAHU : After the amendment itself, it will not have the desired results.

Madam, sub-clause (I) of Section 155 has not been amended. It says:

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

"(I) by the evidence of persons who testify that they, from their knowledge of the witness, believe him to be unworthy of credit."

Unless this is amended, we will not have the desired results.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Can you repeat it please?

SHRI ANADI SAHU : Again I will repeat it. Section 155 (1) says: "by the evidence of persons who testify that they, from their knowledge of the witness, believe him to be unworthy of credit". The prosecutrix will be a witness. Unless we amend this particular section itself by omitting sub-section (4), it will not have the desired result and the defence lawyers can play havoc.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY) : Madam Chairperson, I am extremely happy that this amendment to the Indian Evidence Act, irrespective of Party differences, has secured the unanimous support of this House. I am also equally happy that the Members who participated in this discussion without confining themselves purely to this particular amendment, also brought out the different dimensions of this problem. I can assure this House that the Government shares the anxiety and the concern of everyone who took the opportunity to express the views that a comprehensive look at various sections and provisions of various enactments like CPC, Cr.PC, IPC, Evidence Act, etc., should be had so that whatever loopholes are there today are plugged, justice in connection with the commitment of rape is rendered quickly and it is also made severely punishable. They also expressed their views that there should be a separate court; woman Justice should be there; justice should be rendered at the earliest possible date; and the punishment should be so deterrent that other persons dare not indulge in these things. All these things are various welcome suggestions which the Government does bear in mind. I will not hesitate to interact with the leaders of various political parties in this House. Taking their suggestion, I hope, the Government will be able to come back to this House earlier than later with a comprehensive amendment of these laws so that the crime of rape shall need to be paid very heavily.

One or two other suggestions have come. One of the suggestions that was expressed is that there may be unscrupulous persons who may try to take advantage of the provisions of this enactment or the amendment that we are now providing, in order to wreck vengeance on an individual or a group of individuals. I do not say it is not possible. Laws are intended to protect the citizens. Knife is there for the surgeon to save the life, but if somebody takes the knife and tries to use it to take away the life of another person, then it is not the crime or the mistake of the law as such. We will have to see and prevent such persons who try to unscrupulously utilise the provisions of the law for their own personal gains. There are sufficient safeguards in the law. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb the Minister when he is speaking. Let him finish. Please sit down. Do not disturb your own Minister.

SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY : Let me complete.

That care will have to be taken. It will be taken.

Then, an apprehension was expressed about the use of the words 'immoral character'. Why do you use the words 'immoral character'? When you interpret the law, when there is a particular word used in a section of the law, you have to look at it with reference to that particular context. These particular words, 'immoral character' have been used in this particular amendment because we have found in our experience that at the time of cross-examination, the advocate, who represents the accused, tries to utilise that opportunity to assail the character of the woman.

That is why I said earlier that under a Supreme Court decision, even if a woman is of an immoral character, that cannot be probed during the course of cross-examination

to assail the character of that woman or to justify the act of rape. I have with me the 1996 Supreme Court decision with me and I would like to seek the permission of the Chair just to read one sentence which is very relevant in this matter:

> "Even if the prosecution in a given case has been promiscuous in her sexual behaviour earlier, she has a right to refuse to submit herself to sexual intercourse to anyone and everyone because she is not a vulnerable object at prey for being sexually assaulted by anyone and everyone. No stigma should be cast against such a witness ... for, after all, it is the accused and not the victim of the crime who is on trial in the case."

So, under these circumstances, the words 'immoral character' fit in properly. Whenever a court tries to interpret an action, it always takes the intention with which it has been done. So, this should be properly understood and there should be no scope for misinterpretation by a lawyer.

Some hon. Members expressed an apprehension that through this cross-examination regarding immoral character, we are trying to insult and humiliate the womenfolk as such. It is not a question of insulting or humiliating our womenfolk alone. If the society cannot take care of its womenfolk – I feel personally and I am sure every hon. Member would have the same opinion – it is not an injustice done to the womenfolk alone but it is an injustice done to the society itself. That type of attitude should be developed in the society. I think, all of us would agree that we shall give no room for anybody to try to misuse the law or to try to misuse situations and circumstances that are present in the society today to see that women are insulted or humiliated.

Many suggestions have been made by hon. Members. A suggestion was made that some other sections also need to be amended. That need not be taken up in this Bill. I would like to assure this hon. House that when the next occasion comes, after ascertaining the views of the entire House, we would try to bring forth a comprehensive rape law so that we would have the support of the entire House and see that this type of things that go on in our society, which lower the estimate and prestige of our society in the world, are put an end to as effectively and as quickly as possible. I can give this much of an assurance to this House.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : I hope, it would be very soon.

SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY : It would be in the next Session itself.

Now, I request that this Bill may be passed by this House.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MADAM CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.00 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Problems being faced by Farmers In the Country–*Contd*

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up further Discussion under Rule 193. Shri Jaswant Singh Bishnoi, Shri K.S. Sangwan, Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria.

[Translation]

The House is very much interested to discuss the problems being faced by the farmers.

Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary, please express your views.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Madam Chairman, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on agriculture policy. It is good that discussion is going on in the House on the problems being faced by the farmers in the country. India is an agricultural country. The farmers constitute 70 percent population of the country.

16.02 hrs

[SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*]

Even after 55 years of independence the condition of the farmers has not been improved. It is rather deteriorating day by day. Special attention was paid to the problems of the farmers when the NDA Government was formed. The government allocated 58 per cent amount for rural development. But even after allocating such a big amount the problems of the farmers have not been solved. It is a matter of regret. Had attention been paid towards the problems of the farmers earlier then majority of their problems could have been solved gradually. Even the agriculture policy is also not beneficial for them. Various hon. Members have expressed their views that the problems of the farmers are discussed in the House, announcements are made but these are not implemented sincerely. Today, there is need to solve the problems of the farmers sincerely. We should cut across party line for solving the problems of the farmers. By doing so we can strengthen our country and it can make progress. I feel that if the farmers are ignored, the country can not progress, rather it would be pushed into a retrogressive phase.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today, there is a race to spin money, all over the country. But the people fail to understand that nobody can survive without food. Therefore, there is need to pay heeds to the problems of the farmers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the farmers have various problems, out of which their major problems are of roads and bridges etc. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices of their produces. Because there is lack of proper transportation facility and the middlemen siphon off their hard earned money. Therefore, there is need to pay special attention in this regard so that the middlemen could not siphon off their earning. Therefore, keeping in view the necessity there is need to set up cold storage at block level. I think that the farmer would store its produce in the cold storage and sell its produce when gets its remunerative price.

The essential items of the farmers such as manure, pesticides and agricultural equipments are becoming costlier. Therefore, there is need to provide essential items to the farmers at cheaper rates. The farmers have to purchase the diesel and kerosene oil at costly rates. The farmers do not get remunerative price of their crops, sometimes they have to throw away their produce. Therefore, it should be ensured that the farmers should get the minimum support price of their produce which is fixed by the Government. Therefore, there is need to pay special attention in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion has been held and we all know that loan worth millions, trillions of rupees of the government is outstanding against the capitalists and no action is taken to realise the loan. If a farmer takes a paltry sum of loan from the government and does not repay it in time, he is put behind the bars. The government should not behave with the farmers in this way. We people speak

some thing and in practice do something thing else. My submission is that the farmers should not be harassed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the betterment of the farmers the government have implemented Crop Insurance Scheme and have also issued credit cards to the farmers. The farmers have been benefitted from both the schemes, but only a small number of farmers are being benefitted from these schemes. My submission is that the government should make such an arrangement as all the farmers, be they small or big, get benefit from these schemes.

Sir, the farmers are living in a miserable condition. Even today 90 percent farmers in the country are not in a position to send their children to schools and also do not make arrangement for their treatment when they fall sick. And even they are not able to make proper arrangement of the marriage of their children. To improve the economic condition of the farmers the government should provide transportation facility to the farmers. For this the government should connect every village of the country with road. Electricity should be made available in villages. If proper schooling is made available for the children of the farmers, medical facility and irrigation facility is provided to them, it would considerably ameliorate their lot.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at present the farmer is constrained to sell his produce at the rate of Rs. one or two per kilogram in the village market as he cannot go to the city markets for selling his produce due to the non availability of roads linking the villages upto the town. If roads are made available. They can go to the city markets and sell their produce at the rate of Rs. 15-20 per kg. which they have to dispose off at Rs. one or two per kg. In the village market. What happens at present is that a middleman purchase his produce at the paltry rate of Rs. 1 or 2 per kg. in the village and sells the same produce in the town market at Rs. 15-20 per kg. Earnings of the farmers are being grabbed by the middlemen. It is not going to improve the condition of the farmers. We want that the facilities of roads, electricity, transport, schools and health be provided in the villages. If that is done and the medical facility is provided there, it would immensely benefit the farmers. What class of people are living at present in the villages and at the block level. I am talking about the farmers. Small marginal and big farmers are living there. These farmers do not get any medical facility there. If there are schools, there are no teachers or at some places there are not even school buildings. Such is the situation there. We are talking of uplifting the oppressed and the downtrodden people of society here. All these facilities are not available to them in the villages. Five to six doctors are posted in the block but one can find that no doctor is available there. This is the ground reality of the present system.

Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Government that when ever we sincerely discuss their problems in this House and the problems of floods and drought are frequently and consistently discussed, will it serve any purpose merely discussing their problems–Unless steps are initiated to solve them? In order to improve the condition of the farmers in the real sense of the term a policy is required to be framed for them. A farmers policy will go a long way to serve the interests of the farming community in the country. We should undertake this work in the right earnest.

I come from a block. There are many jungles in our area which provide livelihood to the people. These jungles are in the process of deforestation. The people subsist on the jungles by picking up wood and leaves from it. They subsist on the seeds of the 'Sal' tree. The wood of 'Sal' is hard and they eke out their living by selling it. Jungles are depleting day by day. During the rainy season falling off of the leaves of trees is beneficial for the farmers. Felling of jungles has become the order of the day. I am talking of jungles as they are directly related with the farmers therefore, there is need to protect them. If Government is sincere about protecting the jungles, it should hand them over to the villages. The jungles which have been assigned to the villages are being protected by the villagers themselves but wherever they are under the Government, the people destroy jungles by cutting trees. This is the condition of farmers today.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, there are 20 Members more who want to speak.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Sir, so many Members are absent also. So, you give more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You must ensure that all the Members are present. Nobody is taking interest in the farmers' issue.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Sir, I agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I had told the Minister to see that attendance is in full on both the sides.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : I am winding up in one minute. I am sorry to say that the quantum of foodgrains which rots in India is equal to the total foodgrain production of Asia as a whole. Godowns are over flowing with foodgrains, still there are reports of starvation deaths. The Central Government is held responsible for that but the Central Government says time and again that the states can lift as much as they want but if the state Government fails to lift or distribute that properly, who is to blame? It appears that somewhere there is something wrong with the system that is why they are not able to lift the foodgrains. Therefore, the system needs to be improved.

To sum up I would say that if the farmer is protected, the country is protected. We need to honestly implement the conclusion drawn from the debates and discussion held in this House with regard to farmers.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU (Wardha) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to Shri Basu Deb Achariaji for the proposal he has brought forward here. At the same, I am thankful to you for the opportunity given to me by you for speaking me on this subject. Please excuse me, if you find any error in my expression in Hindi. First of all I would like to say that I belong to a former community and being a farmer, I have closely experienced the life of a farmer. Now I, feel that the standard of living of our farmers is declining day by day. What are the reasons? It will not be proper to say that there is only one reason. So long as our policy makers do not take uniform viewpoint and we think separately on each issue like the water tight compartment, we will not be able to bring about improvement in the situation, Therefore, I would like to say that it will not be possible for us to bring about prosperity in any other field until and unless we improve farmer's life. We have to take this measure for this purpose. Perhaps, this is the reason that we will have to do it on war footing. We have always been saying that ours is pre-dominantly an agriculture-country which means that even today our seventy percent population is residing in rural areas and is dependent on agriculture. It is also worth seeing as to how uch share of our budget we earmark for this purpose. I would request that Hon'ble Minister to definitely keep this point in view while preparing the budget.

In our present economy the scenario is such as the business community has become more rich. I have read such a report that merely two percent of the population, who belong to this business community are residing in fifteen big cities and not in villages. I have also read that fifteen percent of people belonging to bicycle economy. i.e. the middle class are in existence even today and an example of the poor economy is that the maximum number of people, nearly 83 percent belongs to this community. The maximum number out of them i.e. 65 to 70 percent people are residing in rural areas. I would certainly ask the Hon'ble Minister that if we have a glance at the population residing in rural areas, we will find that ten lakh labourers dependent on agriculture will be added to their present number in a decade. I don't know as to what we are going to think about the hundred million labourers, but I am confident that you will look at this issue also while framing your policy in this regard. Unfortunately, our godowns are full of foodgrain stocks, but we also receive reports of starvation death due to its non-distribution owing to some reasons. We will also have to bring about improvement in it, as our foodgrains requirement which is 208 million tonnes at present, is going to be increased to 266 million tonnes after a decade.

In addition to it, our land holding, which was 2.7 hectares in the year 1960, has decreased to

1.6 hectares during the year 1990. Due to it, even if we want, we can neither go for small scale economy nor can take the benefit of big scale economy. Therefore, I expect that the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture by paying attention towards the on going discussion on our cooperative sector, regarding running the corporate and corporate sector by amalgamating each other, will bring improvement in it.

Further, howsoever we may make huge strides in the field of agriculture and in industrial sector, our country will not be able to make further progress until and unless we associate ourselves with the people in industrial sector. As we have seen that due to ours non-association with them, the textile industry has completely been destroyed and the cotton and also sugarcane growing farmers have come to the roads. In addition to it, also the oil, seed and jute etc. producing factories have become sick. We cannot make desired progress until and unless we associate our industrial base with our farmers. I expect from the Minister to take care of it also.

We are having another important sector i.e. irrigation sector, which is associated with agriculture. On the one hand our crops are washed away due to floods, on the other hand our crops are burnt due to drought and thirdly only 40 percent of our cultivable land is irrigated land. I would definitely like to submit to you that the land, which was getting 5400 cubic meter fresh water during the year 1950, is now getting only 1300 cubic meter water and only the God knows whether something will be available or not by the year 2025. We will also try to know if we are able to do so. Therefore, I would like to request you... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : Sir, I would like to speak for some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are four more speakers from your party.

SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU : Sir, otherwise I would have spoken in my Mother tongue and then I would have taken half the time. But I want to speak in Hindi. I would like to request the other speakers from my party to please bear with me.

[Translation]

I would like to tell Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture that the farmers of our country should be self-reliant, we will not be able to make progress depending upon the farmers of other countries. This is all right that we have become member of WTO, but after that we have also passed a legislation that interests of farmers should not be harmed. This is a good legislation. Our Government made up their mind to become a member of U.P.O.V. (Union for Protection of Plant Variety) before the implementation of the said legislation. There is no need to consider on this aspect as it is beneficial to big countries, developed countries and seed producing corporations which are members of this Union. It is not compulsory for any one to take its membership if they have already taken the membership of WTO. I would like to tell you that if you discuss it with your department, they will also suggest that there is no need of it. If we feel that it is beneficial to research and other fields, even than it is not essential.

As far as our Power Sector is concerned, our hon'ble Minister is facing a lot of difficulties and is making efforts to remove them but in this connection I would like to point out very politely that in our exhibition organised at Pragati Maidan, I saw in chinese stall that they tried to set up in every village a power production plant as it does not require transmission. If you are making efforts in this regard, you should think about it also.

Secondly, it is a matter of regret. I have told the Hon'ble Minister and even his predecessor that whenever the power sector is discussed then the issue of power left is raised mainly agriculture is held responsible for it. Are the farmers only involved in power theft in this country? It is not so. The maximum power is pilferaged in the cities and by the industrialists. Therefore, there is a need to change this mindset and it would be beneficial to us.

We should also change our approach regarding the rural system. The attitude of all our Bank Officers, officers

[Shrimati Prabha Rau]

of the Reserve Bank of India and the people associated with rural system is not good rather they adopt wrong approach towards the farmers. They all think that farmers are thieves but I would like to submit that the farmer has never been involved in theft and he will never do so. He has no such mentality since his birth. Whatever is outstanding against him he wants to repay that. Even he wants to repay his loan. The loan is not provided to the farmers like industrialist. Whenever any industry becomes sick, loan is given to revive it. But, if a farmers fails to repay his debt for two or three years due to some difficulties his land is auctioned and thus he is brought to the foot path. Unless this attitude will change, the farmer can never be happy. Premium for insurance of crop loan is charged, but they never get insurance. Interest is also charged by cooperative societies. There is agriculture produce committee. (Krishi Upaj Samiti). Rules have been framed in this regard, Despite this middlemen entrap the farmers with their underhand dealings. The Government should pay attention towards this and try to check this practice.

Today scientific sector has developed a lot. There have been many developments in the field of Information and Technology. Knowledge has spread. We want that the information, knowledge and technology related to agriculture should reach the villages also and all should have access to it. Similarly, the benefit of computer should also be provided to the farmer and computer education should also be imparted to him. We have opened all doors to economy. Today whatever happens in the world we get information about that immediately. That information should also be accessible to the farmer instantly.

The Government should take initiatives as to how the farmer be associated with the cottage industry like dairy, sheep rearing, poultry and fisheries etc. so as to increase his income in such professions.

Now a days, cosmetics is much in vogue. For that a plenty of herbs are available abundantly in our country, but they are not being popularised. There are aromatic liquids, flowers etc. from which medicines can be manufactured. If we popularise them, it would prove helpful to the farmer. Sometimes wild animals destroy standing crops of farmers. We are told that we should not harm them while they are destroying their crops. No doubt, such teachings should be given to human beings, but if they are harming the human beings then the Government should make necessary arrangement for their safety. With these words I conclude.

[English]

DR. RANJIT KUMAR PANJA (Barasat) : I thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir for giving me this opportunity.

I would like to say a few words on the farmers' plight. My Constituency is mainly rural covering about 70 per cent to 75 per cent of the rural population. So, 70 per cent to 75 per cent votes to the MPs and MLAa of my Constituency come from the rural area.

The farmers of my Constituency produce fruits, cereals, vegetables, meat, fish, eggs and milk. They also produce fibres like cotton and jute. But we are totally at the receiving end. So, it is high time that we should think about the betterment of the lives of these people by giving them just the basic requirements for survival. Most of the people of my Constituency are poor and they are living below poverty line.

They produce to keep us – the middle-class and the rich – alive. But paradoxically, they still remain poor, as they have, so far, not been given the standard of living they deserve. There is hardly any electricity. There are no proper roads, drinking water, primary education and primary health care. All these amenities are not there even after 50 years of our Independence, and this is due to, I think, a lack of system all through since our Independence.

Sir, it is heartening to note that our hon. Prime Minister has started some *yojnas* so that in the next few years we will be having some important things viz., roads, electricity, primary health care and primary education system to give a better life for these poor people.

Sir, most of these rural people are farmers but they do not own any farm. Most of them do not even own any land. They plough and toil but they do not even get the proper supporting prices. They have no adequate warehouses or cold storages for preserving their crops. They have no co-operatives to help them. Due to lack of these facilities including the lack of proper roads and transport, whatever they sell is done under distress, to the middlemen who make the entire profit. I have seen it in my Constituency. They are producing a lot of jute. Two years ago, they were selling jute at Rs. 400 per quintal. Being a doctor, I had some patients in the jute farms. So, I know it. They were buying it in the jute industry at Rs 1200 per quintal. A difference of Rs. 800 was there from the farmers to the jute manufacturing concerns.

There have been many high level talks. We heard today that there was a National Seminar on fixation of Minimum Support Price. But how far the farmers have been benefited from these deliberations and decisions, raises a little doubt.

Sir, I suggest that the MPS should be declared in time, that is, before the sowing season, taking into account all the criteria, specially of the cost of production, natural calamities, to see that the farmers are aware of the MSP so that they get the proper price.

Bank loans and insurance for all deserving farmers should be done...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : They are selling the JCI.

DR. RANJIT KUMAR PANJA : There are a lot of thing which can be said about JCI, FCI etc. There should be a proper system to organise all these things so that the farmers get the benefit.

Small cooperative, I believe, is an absolutely essential thing. Small warehouses and cold storage should be run through *panchayats*. They should also look for the means of transport for sending produce to the market. In my constituency, a lot of vegetables grow. The poor farmer sells it at Rs. 1 or Rs. 2 per Kg. while about 50 kms. away they are being sold at Rs. 10 or at Rs. 20 per Kg. Due to lack of cooperatives as also the transport facility, they sell their produce to the middlemen who get all the benefit.

Along with this supporting system for the farmers, there should be proper primary education and primary health care to create awareness among the people and to save the progeny so that they have a better life in future. The farmers who are toiling hard in the field can have better health through these health centres.

[Translation]

*SHRI RANEN BARMAN (Balurghat) : Hon. Chairperson, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on an important issue. The issue of agriculture is an important one in our country. Our country is an agriculture dominated country and without improvement of agricultural sector, the country cannot progress – it is a simple thing to understand. But unfortunately, even after 55 years of our independence, agriculture sector has not developed to the desired level. The late Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had raised the slogan – *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan* – the *jawans* save us from the attack of enemy and the farmers save the country by growing foodgrains for people. We see that the emphasis was unfortunately not on agriculture, so the farmers are disappointed. They do not get proper price for the produce after investing in farming tools and other pesticides. Therefore, they lose their interest in farming. Different newspapers report suicide cases by farmers – this should be looked into. They depend solely on rainfall so that they can continue with rainwater. Irrigation could not be provided everywhere and the Teesta canal project is lying incomplete due to lack of funds. If this project could be completed, the farmers could work on single yield plots and reap advantage accordingly. I appeal to the hon. Agriculture Minister to complete the Teesta canal project expeditiously. The Government has been regularly withdrawing the subsidies provided to the farmers on fertilizers and farming tools. The farmers face the danger of drought and flood these days. The 12 States of our country that

*Original in Bengali.

[Shri Ranen Barman]

are facing drought these days have not been given proper assistance by the Government, and the farmers were not given the said assistance. The Prime Minister had assured them of relief but in reality that did not happen. After buying the fertilizers and investing in other materials, the farmers cannot have the profit margin by selling their products and are unable to sustain their family. They are compelled to sell wheat, jute, sugarcane at a much lower price. They could protect their harvest if there were adequate arrangement for cold storage. Cold storages were not constructed in most of the villages thus indicating utter neglect of agricultural sector. Our country can only prosper if the lot of the farmers and agriculture are improved. I would appeal to the Minister of Agriculture to bear this in mind. I would also appeal that the loans incurred by the farmers for their profession and due to the situations arising out of drought should be waived and steps should be taken for over all development of the farmers. In view of the general disappointment that has engulfed our farmers, more emphasis should be given on agriculture and the farmers should be protected if only we want to save our country. I would like to say that the Agriculture Ministry has not affected the measures that should have been taken to ameliorate the plight of farmers. If the situation prevails like that of now, the future of our country will be threatened. Once again I like to point out that to save the country we should first protect the farmers and the agricultural sector. This is my sincere appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH (Balia, Bihar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion regarding the problems of agriculture and farmers is being held for the last several days. I heard the speeches of most of the Members, I, as a farmer and an incharge of the Department of Agriculture do share their concerns.

Most of things dwelt on by the Members be it electricity, water, loan arrangements or other such things are essential for farmers, but the Department of Agriculture can do nothing in this regard as these things are out of their jurisdiction. So they are not to be held responsible therefor. The Department of Agriculture can provide to the farmers neither water, electricity or loans, nor can it carry out land reforms. Also they are not supposed to make arrangements for manure storage. They can not solve the problems affecting our farmers.

A number of hon'ble Members had discussed these problems. I want to reiterate them and support them. Whenever we discuss the problems related with agriculture and with the farmers the Ministers of all the Departments related with it should certainly remain present here. Discussions are held and it is assumed that the matter is related only with the Department of Agriculture and the Minister incharge of the Department of Agriculture will convey the message to the concerned Ministers. No solution to these problems could be found through this method.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Where are the Ministers overseeing irrigation, fertiliser and procurements etc.? You may, please, call those Ministers. The Hon'ble Member is raising an appropriate question...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is better that all the Ministers concerned be present. Otherwise what is the use of having the debate?

SHRI ANIL BASU : MSP for jute is the responsibility of the Textile Minister FCI is the responsibility of the Food Minister and Food Ministry is the nodal Ministry; Agricultural Minister has nothing to do with it. He only takes care of the production.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Convey the mood of the hon. Members to the Ministers concerned.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : I would convey this to the other Ministers. But I am going to reply on behalf of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Ministers who are dealing with the Ministries concerned should be present. They only know the matter.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Hon. Agricultural Minister himself is unhappy because the Planning Commission has slashed down his allocation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He should be helped by other Ministers. This is a long debate. The debate on farmers' issue is an important issue. This is the second day of the debate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Sir, the Department of Agriculture have played their part in the country. They have played a major role. The country which was having shortage of foodgrains, has been made self-reliant by enhanced production and productivity. Now the country is in a position to export foodgrains. Some of our friends quizzed during the discussion as to why the farmer is still poor even after the country have became self-reliant in matter of foodgrains? Those say that they are poor because they do not have adequate irrigation facilities. I want to tell them that there is good system of irrigation in Punjab and Haryana and these two states get adequate power supply as well. But still they are in debt trap and hence, poor. It is considered that farmers in these states are prosperous for ahead in respect of per capita income. Still I remember that during the elections in Haryana in 1988 late Devi Lalji gave a call to farmers asking them to vote for his party and in-case his party wins the elections, he would waive off their loan upto Rs. Ten Thousand.

The farmers of Haryana voted for him in such a large number that he got 85 per cent of total seats. But still the farmer of Haryana remains in debt trap, which is a matter of serious concern. Ultimately, where the fault lies? Whatever solutions to problems of farmers have been given so far is in piecemeals and if they are not seen as a part of our economy, problems of our farmers are not going to be solved. Pressure is exerted on the Government, demands are raised by the farmers and Government are asked to raise the minimum prices for their produce. MSP for potato, onion, sugarcane and sugar is asked to be raised. But the reality is that when the prices of potato, onion and sugar go up in the market, the Government is changed. Even if lacs of metric tons of potatoes get rotten no voice is raised. The crop of sugarcane in thousands of acres of land is burnt but no voice is raised. Neither the Government nor media is moved by such incidents. I, therefore, want to say that whenever talks are held to increase the amount of subsidy and support prices I would be saying to decrease the support price but give them at least what you have decided. There is no harm in decreasing it. Some one has quite rightly said:

> "Sarkar Ne Kimat Badha Di Mandi Mein Dhan Ki,
> Phir Bhi Unbyahi Reh Gai Beti Kisan Ki."

Why it happens so? The Government increase prices and declare it but the price-rise affects the economy of the entire country. These are inter-related matters.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, again there would be constitution of Pay Commission that will fix salaries on the basis of Price Index of Commodities. It will have its calculation about price hike ultimately creating the need of increasing dearness allowance to a certain amount. Therefore, my submission is that with reference to subsidies, the economy of the entire country should be taken into account. My opinion is that the question of increasing subsidy doesn't arise or else this trend will continue. Mr. Chairman, Sir, people talk of subsidies on Fertilizers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time given to you is three minutes but I have given you seven minutes. So, please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Sir, I know your compulsions. At present, it's an issue of fertilizers. Merely fifty percent of the subsidy amount being given on fertilizers reach the farmers and the rest 50% goes either to the producer or to the middleman's purse. The farmers don't get benefitted by the subsidy. Therefore, I would like to suggest Hon'ble Minister to take two measures–First evolve some mechanism for the fertilizers so that farmers

[Shri Ramjivan Singh]

may get direct reach and access to it. Secondly, a different concept has been evolved in the Agricultural field since the ill-consequences of chemical fertilzers are coming into view, many agricultural countries across the world are reducing its use. It's a fact that at some places, its use goes even up to 255 kg per hectare. In our country, its utmost use upto 155 kg. Per hectare has been witnessed in Punjab and in other states, its use is even more restricted. Nevertheless it's very low as compared to the world but it has started causing stagnation in production in Punjab. This is the reason why the need to reduce the use of fertilizers is being emphasised. In view of the imminent\ prospective danger I would like to know whether propose to informulate some plan or have consultation with the agricultural scientists with a view to stopping the use of fertilizers. Completely after five years. We no more need to use it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to give an example, when East India Company got established in the year 1783, it conducted survey of 800 districts located in Andhra Pradesh and found that during those days 80 mound paddy was produced per acre despite the unavailability of chemical fertilizers. At that time our land was fertile which is no more so in the current scenario. Before the first five year plan/the year 1947 such was the position of our land. Chemical fertilizers were nowhere in use in our country. These have started to be used after 1947 and the adverse impact is being witnessed. So is the case with pesticides. Its prevalence is increasing in our country. In Philippines the use of pesticides has been reduced to zero. I request you to abolish the Integrated Pest Management.

Sir, there has been increase in production but we couldn't adopt fruit, vegetables, processing and Harvest technology which has been causing the loss of Rs. 50 crore every year. Are the Government thinking how to recoup that loss? A consideration in this regard is very much warranted.

Sir, an hon'ble member from that side has rightly remarked that holdings have turned out to be uneconomic. The Government should provide some benefits to farmers and annouince some incentives so that small farmers may join to convert them small pieces of land into a big holdings. I am of the view that there may be division among brothers, produce, wealth but not in pieces of land because this is linked with the national economy. The current status indicates an increase in uneconomic holdings. To put a check on it, the Department of Agriculture should make an announcement to provide free boaring upto 4 inches in case of farmers coming up with a plot of 5 acres of land. If, we are able to convert even 25 to 50 percent land from small farming put into big farming plot, it will substantially prove conducive to the growth of the country.

Sir, currently farming in the country is becoming totally mechanised. In Bihar, the landless farmers engage themselves in farming on crop sharing basis in the fields of big farmers–but the big farmers in Punjab do farming on crop sharing basis with small farmers because it's the time of Mechanised farming. Therefore, my submission is that mechanised farming as is in use today is not good. Today, the tractor costs Rs. 3-4 lakh due to which small farmers can't afford to do their own farming. Arrangements should be made for the manufacturing of small tractors so that small farmers may also purchase them for farming.

Sir, likewise, there should be provision of water management. Sprinklers and Deep irrigation arrangement should be made for it. The Government should arrange to provide its reach and access to farmers at the minimal cost.

With these words, I conclude and express my deep gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today an important matter is being discussed. Shri Basu Deb Achariaji has raised the matter. Problems discussed in the House everyday are called important and serious.

17.00 hrs.

But I think that one problem is important and the other is serious. The members raising the important problem

also say that it is a serious problem. The hon'ble Minister of Agriculture may please state as to what a problem be termed when it is said six times a day that it is a serious problem. Rather it should be termed as the most serious problem. All farmers of the nation, whether they grow sugarcane, wheat, rice, coconut or oilseed are worried today. The main cause of his trouble is that he is not getting remunerative price for his crops. There are several problems like shortage of water, electricity, irrigation, and fertilizer but if we look into the problem, we find that the main cause is the same i.e.–not getting remunerative price for his crop.

17.01 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

The farmers are not getting even that much minimum benefit of the amount invested as he used to get ten years ago on his investment.

I would like to present a study report before you. "The Strategic for side group" is a company which undertakes such studies. Its Chairman is Sh. Sandeep Vaslekar. He has stated in his study report that if the present agriculture policy continues for ten more years, the farmers of India will be on the verge of starvation. He has also written in his study report that the present requirement of 208 million tonnes of foodgrains would be increased to 266 million tonnes in next ten years. Similarly the present requirement of 80 million tonnes of vegetables would by increased to the tune of 117 millions tonnes and the present requirement of 84 million tonnes of milk would go up to 163 million tonnes. Thus our requirement will continue to increase and the farmers will no longer take interest in agricultural activities because they do not get remunerative price for their crops.

It is evident that if the present situation continues for twelve years, not only the farmers of India will die of starvation, commit suicide but also will turn away from agriculture. India is predominantly an agricultural country and the profession of 70 percent people is still cultivation. So, if farmers cease to take interest in agriculture, what will be the condition of the country? You can imagine what would be the law and order situation and economic condition of the country? Leaving apart reasons *viz.* lack of electricity, water, fertilizers and drought the main problem is dumping of foreign stock of foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds and sugar due to which prices of these commodities do not increase. The rate at which the prices of fertilizer, electricity, water increases, the price of crops do not increase and rather it either remains steady or even decreases, then how the farmers will opt for agriculture. Its main reason is the W.T.O. agreement. Through you, I would like to tell the Minister of Agriculture that we were compelled to sign the W.T.O. agreement, but there are some terms in that agreement that if we implement them the farmers will not have to be in such a state as they are now. I have seen that 50 percent custom duty is imposed on commodities, though, we have the right to impose 300 percent custom duty. Then why do we allow the import of such commodities which are found abundant in our country? Why do we not stop the import of such commodities by imposing 200-250 percent custom duty? It is said that we have signed WTO agreement? Do the Government adhere to all the terms of the agreement? If our problem is not resolved even after adhering to all the terms of the agreement, we should appeal to the WTO in this regard. India is an agricultural country where 70 percent population depends on it. If the farmers are reluctant to opt for agriculture, the country will be landed in the predicament of starvation and we also be losers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is not an ordinary problem. The conditions of other countries may be different. The conditions of India are quite different. The population of the country is above 100 crore and we have not been able to check population to the required extent.

Therefore, first of all by using the rights and conditions extended by the World Trade Organisation, we should control our import by imposing lesser custom duty on those commodities which are in short supply and more custom duty on those commodities which are not in short supply so that these commodities do not accumulate in our country.

[Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal]

The other point is about the condition of sugarcane growers. Even today more than fifty percent sugar mills are lying closed atleast in Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that how rabi crop would be sown in such a situation. The farmer cut the sugarcane, sell it and then sow wheat in the same field. Today, their sugarcane crop is standing in the fields. The farmers have got only two options – either they should burn the sugarcane or they should not sow wheat this time. Crores of rupees of farmers are due on sugar mills, nobody is prepared to pay it. Cane crushing used to start in the beginning of November in Uttar Pradesh, but it has not started so far. It seem that perhaps it is happening under some policy. Perhaps, it looks that the government have decided to close down the sugar industry in the country and import all the sugar from other countries as neither the Union government nor the state governments are taking any special initiative in this regard. The farmers and their representatives are crying but nobody is taking any initiative in this regard. There is on one to talk about the welfare of the farmers. The payments of farmers have not been made so far. I, therefore, doubt that perhaps in collaboration with other countries a conspiracy to close down the sugar industry of the country is going on...*(Interruptions)* I speak sometimes, do not interrupt me. I will speak for a while.

The third point is about the plight of the farmers. What is the position of fertilizers today? The prices of fertilizers have become one and a half time more during the last eight years. The electricity rates have become one and a half time more during the last eight years. Not more than eight hours a day electricity is being supplied in the villages of Uttar Pradesh. Munnu Babu, perhaps the electricity supply in your area exceed than our area. How to get water when the price of diesel and agriculture equipments have increased to one and a half times. If you look at the price list of last eight years then you will find that either the price of the grains have remained static or they have further declined. How a farmer would cultivate if he does not get a remunerative price for its produce. That is why farmers are gradually turning away from agriculture. Previously our unemployed youths used to think that our ancestors are in agriculture so if we do not get employment then we will do cultivation. But now the position is that our youth are prepared to polish the shoes rather than going to villages. The reason being that they are seeing the pitiable condition of their forefathers. They think that in this profession their condition will even be worse than their forefathers.

It may also be seen that dishonesty and corruption in Uttar Pradesh is siphoning off nearly 80 per cent of the Drought Relief Fund. No farmer is getting any relief in the name of drought relief fund.

The government used to announce the minimum support price of paddy and wheat before arrival of their crops in the market. But now two of our Chief Ministers had to go on hunger strike and only then government declared the minimum support price of paddy. Minimum support price has been declared, but through you I would like to challenge the government that till now not even a single procurement centre has been opened in Uttar Pradesh. Before it, some wheat procurement centres were opened. In those centres also farmers were required to pay Rs. 100/- per quintal to middleman as bribe for selling their wheat. At the harvesting season of crops of paddy or wheat when farmers went to sell at these procurement centres, their crops were not procured on one pretext or the other and the farmers had to return back without selling their crops. But when the farmers approached these middle man then they were forced to sell their crops worth Rs. 550/- per quintal at Rs. 400, 425 or 450 per quintal to these middlemen. This year, the government have broken the record by not opening the procurement centres. Paddy procurement centre have not opened so far. Under these circumstances I request your good self that government should pay more importance to agriculture.

You should give first preference to the agreements of World Trade Organisation. If there is shortage of any commodity in our country, we should immediately reduce

custom duty on it and we should enhance the custom duty upto 50, 75 or 300 per cent on those commodities which are in abundance in the country. Even after that if the situation is out of control then it is our responsibility to appeal before the World Trade Organisation in this regard. We should fight and threat to leave the organisation. Ours is not a country like America and Britain. They exert pressure on us for reducing the subsidy while they extend four times, six times, eight times or ten times subsidy to their farmers. Either it may be America or other countries of America they provide ten times subsidy to their farmers but exert pressure on poor country like India to reduce its subsidy. All these matters should be considered seriously. I do not know how far government is serious about this issue because I am observing that neither the Minister of Rural Development nor the Minister of Food and Civil suppliey is present in the House.

17.15 hrs.

(Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya *in the Chair)*

The hon. Minister of Agriculture is present in the House. He has got some pain for farmers. It is in their blood as I know he is son of Chaudhary Charan Singh. Therefore, definitely he must have got pains for the cause of the farmers. He should make such an arrangement that the farmers of the country particularly that of Uttar Pradesh should be assured to follow agriculture as their profession. Their coming generations would also continue to follow the same profession. One billion population of the country cannot feel assured unless the farmers feel assured. With these words I thank you and conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Hon'ble Chairman Sir, we are discussing the problems being faced by the farmers. All the hon'ble Members are concerned about the sufferings of the farmers. Suggestions have been offered from all the corners aimed at addressing their sufferings. Farmers have always been the core issue of discussion and will continue. But the existing issue which we are focusing on is sugarcane. Farmers produced sugarcane but now it has led to a movement because the fixation of price does not find its final shape. For the last fifty years there has been fixation of statutory minimum price. This price was fixed by the Central Government, subsequently, the State Government used to fix negotiating price in consultation with the mill-owners and the representatives of the farmers. This whole process of arriving at a consensus was completed quite comfortably. This practice was prevalent in Haryana, Punjab and also in Uttar Pradesh. The difference amounting to Re.1 existed in the eastern and western Utter Pradesh right from the olden days. The Central Government fixed statutory Minimum price @ Rs. 64-65 per quintal while going by the earlier practice continuing for the last 50 years, the negotiating price amounted to Rs. 89 per quintal. In this process, it's fixed @ 1% recovery. But, after the judgement pronounced by Allahabad High Court a ban was imposed on the fixation of negotiating price by the State Government. This is the reason why there would not be any negotiating price now. The mill owners are advancing the logic that they will give statutory minimum price. Now the farmers will get only rupees 64 per quintal against the earlier Rs. 89 per quintal. This has caused resentment among the farmers. Farmers are not ready to sell their sugarcane. Farmers living around Riga Sugar Mills have moved even a step further and have burnt their sugarcane at the sugarcane purchasing centre. A number of sugar mills have not started functioning yet. The Government of India should talk to the mill-owners without any delay. But I don't know why the Central Government is still keeping mum over this issue. Mr. Sharad Yadavjee is not present here, the farmers growing sugarcane are very much agitated. In our opinion the farmers of U.P. should also get Rs. 89 per quintal. We have heard that in Haryana the rates have been fixed at Rs. 110 per quintal, while on the other hand, the farmers of UP will get Rs. 64-65 only. This is big injustice with the farming community there. Here everybody is giving the slogan of 'Jai Kisan' but in fact the farmers are being put to a great loss. The farmer is dying. Farmers are committing suicide. What can be more tragic for them? Therefore, the Government must clarify as to what sort of action is proposed to be taken by the Government?

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi) : You speak very elegantly but your temperature has risen up. Which rates are prevailing in Bihar?...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I would like to ask as to whether Bihar is not in India. Bihar is also under the jurisdiction of NDA Government. Let me know whether yours is Government of India or Government of NDA? This Government doesn't execute its functions on the line of the Government of India, rather this Government is functioning as if it were the Government of NDA... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Raghuvans Babu, you please address to the chair.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Hence the Government is required to take a decision on it immediately. The Government should also make it clear that as how much profit the mill owners are getting in this. I may tell you the fact that the levy was reduced to 15% from 40% and that too is proposed to be removed. How many crores are going to the mill owners in terms of profit. How many crores have been mis-appropriated?

What is this Buffer Stock, what is meant by Buffer stock? Buffer Stock norm is applied with regard to the crops. Now, the import of sugar has been started. The price of sugar is going down. The Buffer Stock which was earlier fixed as 5 lakh tonne, is now being abolished. The Buffer Stock was increased to twenty lakh tonne under the huge pressure of the sugar lobby. How much more money will have the Government spent on account? The Government should tell it. On one hand, reduction was made in the PDS of APL and on the other hand, the mill owners and sugar lobby have been earning profits. The Government is showing its pessimistic face on the issues of farmers. This is what makes us considering this Government as anti-farmer Government. Injustice is being done with farmers. Ram Jeevan Babu had also raised the issue that farmers have to deal with 14-16 departments. A Standing Committee of Parliament should be constituted. Though there is a standing committee on Agriculture but its scope is very limited. Farmers are associated with the departments of Food, Electricity, Irrigation and Commerce. In all, farmers are linked with 16 Departments but the anti-farmers Government agreed to it that it had no objection over the constitution of a Standing Committee for farmers but anti-farmers forces are engaged in it and are creating hurdles. I am on the look out for the forces which are putting hurdles in the constitution of a Standing Committee on farmers. There is an issue of sugarcane producers. Thereafter, there is an issue of Paddy procurement. Our team of representatives called on the Minister of Food Processing. He said that 100 centres will be established in Bihar. Last year these were 40. 60 more centres will come into existence this year. Hundred centres of paddy will be opened. There would be 20 more centres in Orissa. Jaiswal Sahib was rightly saying that not even a single centre has been set up. At some places simply a banner is placed as indicator of the purchasing centre. There is inflow of Cash Credit but, an order to this effect was not passed. There is no balance to weigh Commodities. There are no sacs somewhere. Out of the stated 100 centres how many of them have been set up and how much paddy was purchased?

Thus, farmers are being victimised with fraudulent practices and injustice. The price of all things that have any thing to do with cultivation is going up but no measures are being taken at the Government level to address it. Even the minimum price is not being given to the farmers. The report submitted by Shri Ajit Sen Gupta in this regard is also lying pending with the Government. The amount of procurement is fairly good in three of the states but in the rest of the States it is not so. In these states the middlemen procure it. I want to submit before the Government that it is an urgent matter and if it is not resolved it will lead to chaos, struggle and there would be a march upto Parliament. It has been only today that Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav who is a leader of a party and a member of Parliament accompanied the farmers in their march upto Parliament but they were lathi-charged and chased up. Shri Kesari Yadav also joined the march and has received and has been admitted to the hospital. At least hundred persons of the group staging Dharna have received

injuries. This Government have resorted to order Lathi-charge on the innocent farmers. Similarly, Sabarmati Ashram from where Gandhiji launched his march for freedom movement. In India, international rivers also cause devastating floods every year and the farmers are ruined. Each year farmers have to bear a loss of Rs. 1200-1500 crore due to four problems–like flood, drought, water-logging and erosion, farmers' crops go waste and they become homeless. There is loss of human lives and livestock. Going by the report submitted by Kanwar Sen Guptajee, the Central Government may hold talks with Nepal Government because the State Governments can not afford to undertake it. By and large the Central Government is responsible for the damage caused by international rivers. But the Government of India is not taking any step in this regard. Injustice is being done with us for the last 55 years. Earlier a project was started at the cost of Rs. 150 crore but subsequently, it was changed and has been shifted to the other state. Bihar has been suffering damages due to this reason. We have been united on the issue of farmers and if there is no redressal of the farmers problems then the anti-farmers Government will have to go...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You conclude your speech.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, in the end, I wish to draw your attention towards WTO. We have heard the speech of the son of the soil–Mr. Deve Gowdajee, who is a humble farmer as well. No exercise is being undertaken to safeguard the interests of farmers against the danger of WTO. With this medium we are thinking to transport goods from one country to the other but we are facing difficulties in carrying foodgrains from one place to the other within the country itself. Fairs are organised in our country to purchase bullocks which cost ranging from rupee five thousand to 20 thousand. Farmers purchase calves from Nagaur district of Rajasthan. Ban has been imposed upon the transportation of calves. Many institutions are working this. Many institutions are engaged in this. The institution founded and headed by Mrs. Maneka Gandhi is also engaged in this. I want to urge the Government to put an end to the anti-farmer policy and adopt such policies that are helpful to the farmers interest or else anti-farmers Government will be out of power and farmer-friendly Government will come to power.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the debate on the problems of farmers under Rule 193 has been going on for quite a long time. Every year and in every session problems of farmers are invariably discussed in one form or the other. Since independence, we have held countless discussion on their problems but nothing concrete has been achieved so far. Almost all the speakers have presented their views about conditions and problems of farmers.

Sir, everybody knows and you too know that India is a predominently agricultural country. Our economy depends on agriculture is not merely our profession rather it directs our social and cultural life also, Farmers and agriculture have been constantly neglected since independence. Industrial policy was formulated and implemented in 1951 after independence but the agriculture policy was not formulated. Only two years ago the Government under Hon'ble Atalji formulated the Agriculture policy. If Agricultural policy had been formulated soon after independence in 1950-51, like the Industrial policy, things would not have come to such a head as we all have been discussing them these days. Farmers would not have suffered such a plight. It is also known to everybody that geographical condition of our country is very different from one place to another wherein there is flood in some part and drought in the other. Somewhere there are mountains, hilly, terrains, and somewhere sea and plains. But farmers are everywhere. There could hardly be a representative among ourselves sitting over here who have reached here but without the support of farmer as they constitute 80% of the total number of voters in this country. There is such a large representation of our farmers that their problems remain always in focus but there is no solution to them. It is highly regrettable.

Sir, a few days back Hon'ble Atalji had given a statement which was regarding our rivers. There is

[Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan]

problem of water. There are inter state disputes everywhere. The issue of Cauvery has almost been resolved but it has become complicated yet again. The dispute between Haryana and Punjab has been continuing for the last 35-36 years. The Courts have almost decided it but that has not been implemented. The water may go to Pakistan but sharing it with Haryana is not acceptable. In this way, there are many complicated problems. The statement that the Prime Minister has given regarding these problems and nationalization of our rivers is highly appreciated. There should be equitable sharing of water and inter linking of rivers should be carried out so that there is fair and equal distribution of water as it is a heritage and wealth of the entire nation. If attention had been given from the very beginning to water, power and all the problems related to farmers, their condition would have been very different from what it is today.

Sir, everybody is aware of the problems faced by farmers. The greatest of the problems being faced by the farmer today is that he has been reduced to a small farmer. Today, 22% of the total farmers are such who have only one acre of land. 59.4% are those who own 2.5 acres of land. 18.6% farmers are those who possess only five acres. This has become the condition of holding. How the farmer will make both ends meet while there is much price rise. Raghuvansh Prasadji and other Hon'ble Members have also referred to it. Every one knows that farmers and agriculture have constantly been ignored since Independence. The farmer has sunk into debt so deep that once he takes loans for purchasing tractor and fertilisers, he becomes totally incapable of repaying the same because interest charged thereon is so high that things go beyond his reach. That too, the loan given to farmer is a short term loan and he is supposed to repay it within six months time while the crop harvested by him in that period numbers only one. One crop in six months. If the crop is hit and destroyed by any natural calamity, he is left with no money to repay the debt. Interest upon interest continuing on the last crop loans. It becomes so huge that he feels helpless. Today, a tractor comes for Rs. 4 lacs but the annual interest there on comes around Rs. 50,000. If a firm, owning only 6-7 acres of land, has to repay Rs. 50,000 towards interest, how will he feed his children and how will he meet his other expenses? Thus, interest is being overcharged from our farmer. The Minister of Agriculture is sitting here. He is requested to introduce long term loans to be repaid in long term instalments. Also interest thereon should be decreased so that the farmer can be cushioned against the adverse impacts.

Shri Ramjivan Singhji has rightly stated today that farmers of Haryana and Punjab are considered as the most prosperous farmers. We know about Haryana. It is right that the farmer is hard working and produces in plenty but the half of our state is hit by floods and the other by drought. The farmer has sunk into debt so deep that he is feeling helpless or there is no way out for him. I am giving data about the farmers of Haryana and Punjab. They carry a debt of Rs. 7,600 per acre on their head. This data comes from commercial Banks. When the farmer fails to repay and it comes to recovery, he is put behind the bars notwithstanding the amount of loan–be it a loan of Rs. one hundred or one thousand. The charges of his food and lodging are also added to the amount of loan. No big capitalist is ever arrested and fined. I would like to cite an instance of Industrial Financial Corporation of India, Sector 27, Chandigarh. Avinash Arora and his brother took a loan of Rs. 50 crores and disappeared without any information. Neither the Police could trace them nor anybody else. That money has been divided among his relatives and invested in business. Nobody arrests those with a loan of 50 crores but the farmer with a loan of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 is caught and put behind bars. This system is not in the interest of our farmer and our country. The Government will have to take note of this.

Now comes the issue of subsidy. The farmers of our country get less subsidies as compared with the developed nations. When it comes to subsidy, they announce to give a lot and subsequently pass arguments to suspend subsidy. Anti-farmers lobby protests against it. Raghuvans Babu has rightly remarked regarding subsidy. The subsidy given to farmers on fertilizers actually doesn't reach the

farmers. It directly flows into the industrialist's kitty. In the name of farmers its real benefit reaches to the industrialist. FICC Agency, that's its Departmental Committee, fixes its retention price...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, in the private sector, they manage to get the Government subsidy by showing 120 percent production and since at the factories corporate sector such as IFFCO, KRIBHCO and NFCL, the production level is less, hence less subsidy is given to them and thus fertilizers factory under private sector get more subsidy than those of co-operative sector. I just want to submit that farmers aren't the real beneficiary of subsidies. Just now, our respected leader Ramjeevan Singhji has rightly submitted that he is in agreement with the proposal of reducing subsidies however whatever amount of subsidy is offered by the Government that must reach the farmers. The implication is the subsidy offered by the Government doesn't reach the farmers as the middle men swallow up the half of it. So, therefore, I would like to suggest that the availability of the given amount of subsidy should be ensured in case of farmers.

Sir, now I would like to request regarding Minimum support price. In the Zero hour too this issue was raised. You are also telling me time and again to sit down. Hon'ble Minister is also procrastinating the issue on to another day for discussion but I would like to submit in brief that not just today but voices have been rising for the last 5 years that support price should be declared before its cast but it has not been adopted till date nor its implementation has ever seen the light of the day. If it's known earlier that certain minimum price for certain crop has been declared by the Government, the farmers will ponder over the economics of seeds-sowing and harvesting if that is cost-effective he will undertake the whole spectrum of activities, if not, he will not do so. Farmers first prepare themselves at mental level. So, therefore it's of prime significance that minimum support price be declared first prior to the sowing of seeds because this power is not vested in the national or international market either. Therefore, if the Government declare the minimum support price (MSP) in the primary phase before the seeds are sown, it would facilitate greater convenience to farmers. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture is present here. I want to request him that he can do so. If it's so, he will be doing the greater good to the farmers.

Sir, in the end, I want to let you wake up to the recommendations made by Kelkar Committee relating to which there is recurrent reporting in the newspapers, Media that taxation on agricultural income has been recommended. Sir, if it is so, it would be very unfortunate. Today too, this House is discussing over the bad conditions of farmers and the farmer is dying of hunger. There is a great storage of crops in our country still the farmer is dying however, Kelkar committee is submitting the report to levy taxes on farmers. If boxes are levied on the farmers, nothing would be more unfortunate than this one.

Sir, before I conclude I would like to submit regarding water level. A very complex problem of water level going constantly down has arisen. The water-level has been so much abysmally low that the tubewells owned by farmers have been fertile and no attention is being paid towards this problem and farmers' money is allowed to go waste. If this situation persists for 3 to 4 years down the line, the water level will reach such an abysmally low level that there would be nothing but desert every where. With these very words I end-up my submission. I express my thanks for giving an opportunity to put my words forward before you all. I feel grateful to you all for giving me an opportunity to make my submissions.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Thank you hon. Chairman, Sir. At the very outset, I must thank the hon. Member, Shri Basu Deb Acharia who has raised this matter for discussion The problems of farmers of our country, who constitute around 80 per cent of the population, have assumed serious multi-dimensional proportions in the recent years.

Sir, the departed former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri raised the slogan *'jai jawan, jai kisan'*, but the *kisan* could not achieve *jai* and *kisan* could not advance. The departed Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

Gandhi gave a clarion call '*garibi hatao desh bachao*', but still, *garibi* persists and our desh is suffering. Our Government has taken up the programme to eliminate the poverty of our country. Now, they are searching the poorest of the poor while they left the poor.

Sir, I am not saying that 'farmers' means 'farm owners'. I am talking mainly about the farmers and in particular, the small farmers, the marginal farmers and even the agricultural labourers.

They are considered to be poor in our country. They are producing agricultural commodities, they are achieving success and as a result, there is surplus production; they are feeding the nation as a whole, but they are being considered poor. I think, this term should go. Do not refer to then as 'poor', but refer to them as small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and so on and so forth. Tagore considered them as the "lamp-stand of civilisation". They give light to the civilisation and to the nation, but they remain in dark. Therefore, do not call them poor. They are having rich traditional experiences, but they are distressed. This term is most insulting to them. This type of discrimination – below the poverty line (BPL) and above poverty line (APL) – should go. This sort of discrimination is very much confusing; it is not only insulting, but also is being misused. A person who is earning Rs. 1,500 per month is considered to be below the poverty line. He is earning only Rs. 1,500 and it is hardly sufficient to meet his basic necessities. This sort of criterion should go. Please refer to them as small farmers, marginal farmers and so on and so forth.

Last Friday and even today, most of the hon. Members raised the problems concerning the farmers and the farmers' plight. In the course of the last budget Session, our former Finance Minister boastfully proclaimed that his Budget would bring "*kisan ki azadi*" which means 'freedom to the farmers'. In recent times, our country is witnessing incidents of suicides. Therefore, it is nothing but a freedom to commit suicides. The number of suicides is mounting like an epidemic. This is the reflection of the crisis.

Many points have been raised. There are instances of starvation deaths, debt burden, and also the question of minimum support price. The parameter for fixing the minimum support price is itself defective. Therefore, it should be amended. Our peasants are not getting the minimum support price.

As most of the hon. Members have already pointed out, the FCI in West Bengal is non-existent because they are not procuring anything. I would request that there should be a proper discussion in regard to procurement policy of our country. There is the question of availability of agricultural inputs at cheaper rates.

Sir, issues like subsidy, irrigation, marketing, storage facilities, rural electrification, transport facilities, disaster owing to natural calamities, crop insurance and issuance of credit cards to farmers have been raised by several hon. Members here. The present Crop Insurance Act should be amended. A mention has also been made about the necessity of having advanced bio-technology, genetic engineering, tissue culture and so on and so forth. The issue of taxation of farmers has also been raised. I do support all these points that have been raised by the hon. Members here. I would like to pose a few questions, the answers to which would probably help in addressing the issues that have been raised.

Firstly, would our country be guided absolutely by the dictates of the WTO, the IMF and the World Bank, or would we make an effort to proceed mostly on our strength? Our rulers now are searching for markets in Europe, USA and in such other countries. What about our own market? Our own market is not a small one. Is the Government thinking about our own market? They are thinking about competitive markets but not thinking about our distressed people. What should be the priority of the Government? Our Government should take the initiative to mobilise the opinion of the developing countries to fight out the pressure of the developed countries.

Our Government is rendering service to the G-8 nations. They have lifted the Quantitative Restrictions at a time when there is a domestic surplus. This is

unfortunate. The Government is curbing subsidy when the developed countries are providing huge subsidies to agriculture. Today, our traditional knowledge and rich experience are being pirated through the system of Intellectual Property Rights. We have heard of so many Boxes in international fora like the Blue Boxes, Green Box etc. But what about having a 'Livelihood Box'! There should be a Box for food security. Our Government should at least try to fight for this within the ambit of the WTO.

I would like to know whether our Government would proceed based on the democratic and federal essence of our Constitution or not. Agriculture is a State subject. But Government often brings in legislation without having a proper consultation with the State Governments and then they do not take responsibility in matters of irrigation and loss due to natural calamities thereby putting more financial burden on the State, as has been the case in crop insurance. The allocation of the Government in the Budget in areas of rural development, rural employment, irrigation and flood control is only 2.6 per cent. That is the attitude of the Government towards this sector. Agriculture supports 70 per cent of our population and it accounts for one-third of our exports. But credit flow to the farming sector from the nationalised banks is not even 18 per cent.

What has been the attitude of the Government towards the Land Reforms Policy?

In most of the State this is neglected. There should be a National Commission to assess the situation. The Union Government should take measures to set that up. So far, there has been no comprehensive legislation to take care of the interests of agricultural labourers.

Lastly, I raise the point of the National Agriculture Policy. They have brought out one National Agriculture Policy but that is not in the interest of the toiling peasants of our country. That is mostly in the interest of the corporate sector and the multinational Companies.

Sir, through you, I would request the Minister that, before the commencement of the next Budget Session of Parliament, he should invite the representatives of peasants' organisations in our country, and try and arrive at a consensus in order to unanimously solve the burning problems the peasants are facing at the present juncture.

[Translation]

*SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (Hassan): Mr Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this vital issue. In fact, we have raised the problems of farmers in this august House on several occasions. Unfortunately, the Government of India has done nothing to find out solution for the burning problems of the farmers. The hon. Minister is the son of former Prime Minister and great leader of farmers Chaudhury Charan Singh. He is fully aware of the problems of farmers in our country. But it is not clear whether the hon. Minister is getting the required support from the Government to solve the problems of farmers.

The Government is shedding crocodile tears and it does nothing for the betterment of the farmers. The total investment of the Government of India for farmers is only 2.6%. This fact itself makes it clear that the Centre is not at all interested in the welfare of our farmers. If this trend continues there will be no future for the farmers and the country cannot dream of any progress in any field.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri G. Putta Swamy Gowda, one minute please.

Hon. Members, there are still 10 more speakers. If the House agrees, we can extend the time of the House till the discussion on this subject is over.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : Yes, Sir We want to get it extended.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AHHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : It is a vital issue and the time of the House should be extended till the hon. Members like to express their views on this subject.

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*Original in Kannada.

[English]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir, the time can be extended.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, the time of the House is extended till the discussion on the subject is over.

18.00 hrs.

[Translation]

*SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : The most shocking news is the increase in the number of suicides by farmers. Several farmers, particularly cotton growers, tobacco growers and others have committed suicide. The sugarcane growers are not able to find buyers for their produce and if the Government purchases it, it never makes the payment on time, as it is happening in Uttar Pradesh at present.

Even after 55 years of independence the living conditions of our farmers have not improved. The farmers are self-reliant in developed countries. Unfortunately, in our country they are struggling for survival. There are many instances where the farmers have burnt their produce like sugarcane, cotton etc. because there were no buyers.

The farmers are not able to improve their living conditions because the Government of India is least bothered about them. Even drinking water is not available to most of the villages in remote areas of our country. Water is not available for irrigation and the cost production of fertilizers and pesticides has gone up. There is drastic reduction in the subsidies. The total irrigation land in the country is only 27%. Therefore, the Centre should come out with a clear-cut new agriculture policy to save the farmers.

18.02 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Another most important aspect is the marketing facility that is available to our farmers. I can go to the extent of saying that there is absolutely no marketing facility for the farmers in our country. A coconut is sold for Rs. 2 in our villages and the same coconut fetches Rs. 12 to the seller in Delhi. This is how the middleman is making money and the farmer (producer) hardly gets his cost price. The trend should change and the Centre should come forward to provide modern storage facilities and marketing facilities to the farmers such that they can get remunerative prices for their produce. Mr Chairman Sir, you have rightly stated while participating in this debate that the condition of the farmer in our country is deteriorating day by day. The facilities provided in some foreign countries like Japan, America, China, etc., have enabled their farmers to capture the international market. The Government of India should also provide more subsidies such that our farmers could become self-reliant. Agricultural sector has been neglected by the Centre. The other sectors like industry, education, etc., have got some encouragement by the Central Government. The step motherly attitude of the Centre to agricultural sector should come to an end immediately. This is the only solution for the amelioration of our farmers.

Kaveri water dispute has not been solved till today. There is no sincere effort by the Centre in this regard and the sufferers are the Karnataka farmers. Kaveri water dispute has become political game. The farmers of Karnataka are not allowed to utilise their share of water from Krishna river also. It is very essential to stop politicalising such vital issues. There is an urgent need to check playing politics in the name of farmers. The percentage of rainfall is coming down every year and the ground water level is going down. There is shortage of electricity in most of the States particularly in Karnataka. Under these circumstances the Government of India should come out with new plans and programmes to encourage our farmers to develop the land and make it suitable for dry farming.

The hon. Minister's father late Shri Chaudhury Charan Singh, former Prime Minister of India, wanted to do a lot for uplifting the farmers of this country. I hops that his son, the hon. Minister will make all efforts to converse his father's dreams into realities.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

Sir, once again I thank you for giving me this opportunity and with these words, I conclude my speech.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have given various adjectives like Annadata, Bhoomi-Putra, Dharti-Putra and Kisan-Bhagwan to our farmer and he, too, has accepted these adjectives by claiming himself to be the son of the soil – "Putro Aham Pratigyam". But it sounds very strange when we hear that a farmer has committed suicide in such and such area and in such and such state. After all, what does a farmer want? His demands are very limited. A farmer should get remunerative price for his produce. Irrigation facility, adequate power supply and compensation, in the event of any natural calamity destroying his crops, are some of his other demands. In case only this much is made available to him he would never complain. Much discussion is held but to no avail.

Discussion is held on every aspect of our growth as to how we achieved it and how much time was taken in achieving it. But what are we doing on the issue of fixation of prices? The government need to have a policy in this regard. The crop is standing in the fields and it need water. But, since, electricity is not available, water is not reaching the field.

I praise the announcements made by the hon. Prime Minister for progress of farmers. The Union Government have implemented Crop Insurance Scheme, however, some of the states have not implemented this scheme. The Government of Madhya Pradesh have also not implemented this scheme. There is a lacuna in this scheme also. In this scheme, damage is assessed on basis of the area and at Tehsil and district level it is also assessed whether farmers have really suffered any damage or not. Datas are collected on this basis wherever, farmer is required to pay the premium of the insurance. This deserved attention of the hon. Minister.

Sir, likewise, the Government have provided Credit Card facility to farmers and this has benefitted our farmers. My suggestion is that camps should be organised to promote the use of Credit Card and public representatives should be invited to attend the said camps. In my opinion implementation of this facility should not be left at mercy of the officers. Electricity is a state subject, but I would like to say that in order to provide this facility to the farmers, the Union Government should exercise some control. If the Government is able to provide even basic facilities to farmers, they will feel happy.

Further, I would like to say something about livestock also. Livestock is the backbone of our agriculture. In Lord Krishna's "Leela", we find mention about cow breeding (Gau palan) and cow caring (Gau seva). And this was the reason he was named Gopal. But today, to our dismay, we find in newspapers that America has got even 'Gomutra' patented.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : If this Government remain in power them America will get everything patented.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : This is happening because of his Government who pledged everything to World Trade Organisation. But, today we are trying to get out of it...*(Interruptions)* But we have to suffer the consequences of the mistakes they made, the sins they committed.

KUMWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Till when we will have to suffer...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Our hon. Minister, Shri Murasoli Maran have made efforts to come out of this red by attending the Doha Conference.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Only after that they obtained the patent of 'Gomutra'... *(Interruptions)*

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Sir, I would like to say that in 1952, the number of livestock was 452 against every 1000 people whereas in 1992, it was only 232 against the same number of people. It reveals that the number of livestock is decreasing. Today we talk of bio-fertilizer. Use of fertilizers is rendering our land infertile.

[Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria]

Nobody knows as to where the earthworms have gone. Whether they are still alive or not, nobody knows. We are talking about importing earthworms...*(Interruptions)* My submission is that excessive use of fertilizers is reducing the fertility of our land...*(Interruptions)* Which is why, I want to say that we will have to go back to our old farming tradition and have to encourage "Gau palan". By using compost (made of dung), we can correct the situation. When Shri Gujaralji was the Prime Minister, 40 thousand tonnes of foodgrain was imported. Fertilizer and foodgrain, both, were imported but today the situation has changed and we are exporting the same...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : A separate subsidy of Rs. 50/- was given on DAP. You can go through the record....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kusmaria Ji, please address the Chair.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Sir, today we are exporting the same things we have exported foodgrains worth Rs. 11000 Crore. We have exported rice worth Rs. 17,000 Crore. We are exporting foodgrains to 30 countries...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Inspite of that our farmer is dying and committing suicide....*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Sir, these are our achievements. The ground water level is receding. Our hon. Prime Minister has announced "Gramin Sarak Yojana" recently. I would like him to introduce another similar scheme for irrigation.

Sir, my request is that the irrigation scheme should be preferably implemented in such areas where means of irrigation are not available so that every field gets water and every hand gets job. Today, the people are deserting their villages and migrating to other places needs to be checked. I would like you to pay your attention and take note of what I have said. Farmers must get power, water and remunerative prices for their produce so that their condition is improved. This is my request which deserves your attention. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you very much.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : The farmer understands Hindi, not English...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : I do not speak Hindi. I speak Punjabi and English. Now I will speak in English.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : You speak in Punjabi.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : I can speak in Punjabi but for that prior intimation is required to be given which I have not done.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may speak in English.

*SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Sir, I am grateful to you that today you have allowed me to speak on the problems faced by the farmers. 80% of the MPs have been elected by farmers but we champion the cause of businessmen and industrialists. That is why, only the Tourism Minister is sitting here today whereas the Agriculture Minister is conspicuous by his absence. Hon. Chairman Sir, today the farmers are in a miserable condition. Punjab has been plagued by drought. The farmers are neck-deep in debt. If immediate steps are not taken to ameliorate their plight, the farmers will be ruined. Injustice is being done to the farmers. If an influential

*Original in Punjabi.

businessman fails to repay his loan, no action is initiated against him. On the other hand, if the poor farmer fails to repay his loan, he is thrown into prison. Sir, it is a well known fact that European countries and the United States of America are providing enough subsidies to their farmers, whereas we are expected to do away with subsidies to our farmers.

Sir, there is an urgent need to have an open border at Wagah between India and Pakistan. This will provide the products of our farmers easy access to the markets of Islamic countries. Our farmers will be able to sell their products in Iran, Iraq, the Gulf countries, Saudi Arabia and the Central Asian countries. In return, we will be able to get oil, electricity and natural gas from these countries. Sir, Panjab needs an atomic power grid and the Central Government should take immediate steps to fulfil this demand of Punjab. Floriculture should be given a boost by the Government.

Sir, Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur are the three border districts of Punjab. Sir, due to Indo-Pak tension, the farmers cannot cultivate their fertile land there. Army has planted landmines in the fields. The farmers have not been given any compensation. Sir, I demand that the affected farmers be given adequate compensation for both rabi and kharif crops. Mr. Chairman Sir, the farmers should be guided properly so that they may go in for diversification of crops, vegetables and fruits and floriculture. Marketing facilities should be made available to the farmers

Sir, we have an international airport at Amritsar. If available infrastructure is further developed there, all these agricultural products of Punjab can have easy access to the European markets. Thus, the entire region comprising of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir will benefit from it. Sir, this Government wants to do away with minimum support price. The Government also wants to impose income tax on the farmers. Unemployment is on the rise among the sons of farmers. Sir, you too hail from the family of farmers. I also belong to the family of farmers. Sir, if the Government succeeds in its aim, the condition of farmers will further deteriorate. My party is totally against the anti-farmer policy of the Government. Sir, I also demand that more agro-industries should be opened in Punjab. Sir, the Prime Minister had recently offered to link all major rivers of the country. We are totally opposed to this concept. This is against the Constitution. The river water issue is a State subject. According to article 246, we cannot take the water of a river into another State. To please the Central Government, our Chief Ministers had agreed to the sharing of river water with Haryana and Rajasthan in the past. Executive orders were issued in this regard. Sir, I want to categorically state that we will not give even a single drop of water to any other State. The canals that supply water to Haryana and Rajasthan can carry our blood instead. But we will not allow even a single drop of water to be given to any other State. Sir, the sub-soil water level is diminishing. As per Indus Water Treaty, India and Punjab are entitled to the use of water of rivers Sutlej, Beas and Ravi. We want that dams should be constructed on these rivers so that all the water does not go to Pakistan and our area should get adequate water for irrigation. Sir, the sugar mills are facing closure. Centre has levied excise tax on them. The Punjab Government has levied 24% excise tax on molasses... *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman Sir, you wanted me to speak in Punjabi. Had I spoken in English, I would have ended my speech by now.

Sir, there is a saying in English: Don't kill the goose that lays the golden egg. We must see to it that sugar mills are not closed. The Government too, has a lot to gain from these sugar mills. Excise duty should be reduced, and minimum support price for sugarcane should be increased so that the farmers get remunerative price for their crops. Sir, the Sikhs are not being allowed to purchase land in Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir. This goes against the concept of secularism enshrined in our Constitution. Sir, I request the Central Government to end this discrimination against Sikhs in a secular country like ours. Sikh farmers should be allowed to purchase land in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan.

[Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann]

Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to voice my concern regarding the plight of farmers.

[English]

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the issues of farmers in India. I am coming from Pollachi constituency which covers Erode and Coimbatore.

I am speaking on behalf of MDMK, which is headed by Thiru Vaiko, Member of Parliament who is presently in prison, in the Vellore jail, due to misuse of prevention of Terrorism Act, the POTA. Thiru Vaiko, Member of Parliament, conducted a big rally of farmers including coconut growers on 28th June, 2002 in my constituency, Pollachi. They have all gathered behind us and it was a very big rally in Pollachi which caused a speculative look at Thiru Vaiko, MP and the Party led by him, the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. On seeing the crowd of farmers behind MDMK and Thiru Vaiko, the Tamil Nadu Government could not tolerate and paved a way to arrest him by the misuse of Prevention of Terrorism Act, POTA. ... (*Interruptions*)

The main demands of the farmers are as follows: First of all they are all dead against the removal of free electricity enjoyed by the farmers for the past more than ten years. Now, the Government of Tamil Nadu is under the plan to charge Rs. 600 for one HP motor or 50 paise per unit of electricity from the farmers. The farmers certainly cannot bear this and cannot add this extra expenditure while selling their farm products. This burden of electricity to be paid by the farmers will be as good as throwing the farmers into a deep dry well with big stone, that is electricity tariff, tide around their neck. Further, if this electricity tariff is to be paid by the farmers as stipulated by the Tamil Nadu Government, most of the farmers will throw the lands without any farming as they are already a loss to them.

Farmers should be encouraged to involve in farming with more enthusiasm by helping them with easy bank loans, by providing fine variety of seeds, enough of water facility and regular advice regarding the technological improvements that take place then and there in the field of farming.

Joining of big rivers like the Ganga, the Cauvery, the Mahanadhi, the Godavari and the Krishna with other parts of the country where water scarcity persists is a very good scheme and it will help to solve the water problem once for all in the country.

While the fertilizer rate is fixed and it goes on rising then and there, while the daily coolies are raising their wages on a par with the increase in the daily expenditure of the common man (*per capita* expenditure), the farmer is worried because his products' price does not go to the level of earning profit by farming. Due to the failure of monsoon, the water level in the ground has gone up to 1000 feet below and many bore-wells have dried up. As a result of this, there is scarcity of water for both drinking and farming. As a result of it, the farmers are tied up with heavy bank loans, private loans and the dead coconut trees are a burden for the poor and the medium farmers to cut them and remove them from the field. Hence both Coimbatore and Erode Districts, which are in my constituency, should be declared as drought-hit areas and all the loans from the cooperatives and banks should be waived off.

Lifting of free electricity to the farmers is going to create a grave situation and will lead to a financial crisis among them which may not be a favourable situation for farming in my constituency and the whole of Tamil Nadu.

With these words, I conclude. Sir, I than: you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have got the time to speak on this issue with great difficulty but that does not matter ultimately I have got it.

Sir, a discussion in the House under Rule 193 regarding the problems of farmers for which the notice was given by Shri Basudeb Acharia is in progress. I want to put forth my views in this regard. Our Hon'ble Members have expressed their valuable views in this regard. In the light of those views I would like to urge upon the Hon'ble Minister on certain points. At the outset my only question is as to why there has been a stagnation in the agricultural production of the country for the last four years? The agricultural production in the country has almost been the same for the last four years, what are the reasons therefore?

I would like to submit in this respect that fertilisers, pesticides, insecticides and the seeds provided to farmers are all adulterated. In addition to this I want to refer to the most daunting problem that wherever there are canals and other facilities of irrigation, those areas are not affected but I am speaking of those areas where tubewells are the only means of irrigation. The receding level of water is posing problem there. The water level is consistently going down in the tubewells consequently drawing of water from tubewells has become a very costly exercise. Where earlier an engine of 5-10 Horse Power run by diesel would do now there an engine of 20 H.P. works, which consumes more diesel and it also raises the cost.

Sir, problems of every state may be different but I would like to speak of Uttar Pradesh that farmers there are not given the regular power supply of even four hours while charges of full power supply are being charged from them in the name of minimum charges. I consider it unfortunate that in spite of the fact that 60-70 percent population is dependent upon agriculture and 32% of the total profits of India come from this sector, and only a small percentage of the Central Budget is allocated for it.

There is yet another irony of fate in this regard. If something comes in form of adulteration with fertilizer, that is okay, but fertilizer is being misutilised in India. Fertilizer has been so badly used here that as a result of which soil has turned into a sort of wasteland, I have been observing a new trend for the last five six years that a large number of companies have come in the name of organic fertiliser. I want to submit through you, Sir, that money was paid for lifting the wastage of sugar mills by the mill owners, the same is being sold to farmers after adding a little fertiliser like Amonium Sulphate in the name of organic manure.

It is my claim, Sir, that there is nothing of substance or any residue in it except a little carbohydrates which could enhance quality or quantity. Now the problem arises that our scientists have discovered and are still discovering a great many things like seeds, new implements but at the grass root level, nothing has been provided. Hon'ble Minister, you come from that family of farmers which provided leadership to India. Today, you must be realising their agony but I cannot deny it that you are in such a Government that is not taking much interest in farmers problems and you might be having problems in the implementation of those schemes... *(Interruptions)*

It is my assertion that scientists have invented many new things but they do not reach to our farmers. Even today those things do not reach to the people who can utilise them properly. The greatest problem before India is fragmentation of land holdings. The Government should pay attention towards it. If the Government do not pay any attention towards it, I feel that per capita land holding would further reduce to. 1 hectare. The economy can only grow if land holding is better. If the fragmentation of land continues, the pressure of human being will keep increasing on the land, the stagnation of production would remain.

I remember, the hon. Prime Minister had said a year ago that farmers of India should stop cultivating the crops of wheat and paddy. You are right there as it won't matter even if you have no yield today since you already have 7½ lakh metric tonnes in store and the consumption is 2½ lakh metric tonnes. I would say that agriculture policy is needed for planning for cultivation of crops in the country. Items should be allotted for each district that this much of crop is to be cultivated be it wheat, potato or Sugarcane, we would be to increase price only then.

[Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh]

Today the situation is such that potato is sold at 750 rupees per quintal and at times it is difficult to be sold even at 50 rupees per quintal. Planning is needed for this. It is possible only when agriculture policy is formulated. It is very essential to formulate national agriculture policy. Small countries have formed agriculture policy but it has not been formed here although ours is an essentially an agrarian country. It is definitely unfortunate for all of us. As I observe items to be exported must be of good quality. As soon as our consignment is submitted for checking, it is found to have either viral or bacterial contamination and the whole consignment is disapproved.

Your items are being bought by only those under developed countries who are not in a position to pay... *(Interruptions)* You have you own infrastructure. If you want to compete under WTO then you will have to improve the quality and make efforts in this direction.

It has been a topic of discussion for long as to why agriculture is not given the status of industry. What constraints the Government face in giving it the status of industry. If it is done then our farmers will not remain helpless and won't seek your help. As far as I know, committee has already been constituted. However the recommendations should be implemented and agriculture should be given the status of industry.

Prices are also a matter of discussion. If prices are fixed before cultivation of crops then the farmer would keep in mind what crop would fetch him good money. If you declare price in the beginning then you won't have this much of buffer stock which you have got today. The only way to overcome this error is to declare the prices in the beginning.

As far as WTO is concerned, three factors are important quality, quantity and reasonable cost. Prices are increasing continuously as subsidy is less. Through you I request the hon. Minister to reconsider agriculture policy so that all these problems are solved automatically.

[English]

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia) : Sir, we have been discussing the problems being faced by the farmers and also their plight. It is a fact that the crisis in agriculture is deepening. The middle and poorer sections in the peasantry are getting perished. The indebtedness among the farmers is also growing. The steep fall in the prices of certain agricultural commodities is also causing a great hardship to the farmers. Natural calamities like drought and flood also cause great hardships to the farmers. Such calamities affect them every year.

Many types of pests are also causing heavy damage to the crops of the farmers. The wages of agricultural labourers are also falling. The public investment in the agricultural sector and the irrigation sector is declining. The uncertainty of agricultural production is also continuing. Therefore, in order to enable our farmers to compete with their counterparts in foreign countries – in the global agricultural market – the subsidies, as are available in other countries, should also be provided to our farmers.

The profession of farming has now become unprofitable. The Government should see to it that it could be made a profitable one. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices. Everyone has spoken on this issue. They are not even getting the support price that is announced every year by the Government. The Plan investment in agriculture is also decreasing every year.

Therefore, the Government should ensure that farmers get their price and the guidelines of crop insurance scheme are modified so that all the farmers who are affected by the natural calamities get the facilities. I would also urge the hon. Minister that public investment for agricultural and irrigation sector, including banks, should also be increased. The Government should also ensure that credit facilities are made available to the farmers so that they can avail them whenever in need.

[Translation]

*SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) Hon. Chairman, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion on the problems faced by the farmers of our country. I have got several opportunities earlier to dwell at length on agricultural issue but today I would like to devote my speech entirely to highlight the problems faced by the Cauvery Delta farmer.

Failure of monsoon, drought conditions, vagaries of weather and natural disasters have given rise to problems faced by the farmers to carry on their agricultural occupation in several States. But the problems faced by the farmers of the Cauvery Delta region are man-made. This havoc has been wrought by human callousness. We have to ponder over this. In 1998, our Prime Minister constituted Cauvery River Water Authority involving all the Chief Ministers of the riparian States with the objective to evolve a lasting solution to this vexing issue and to resolve the dispute in sharing the river water. When this Authority was set up, the case that was pending with the Supreme Court was sought to be withdrawn or stayed. The proceedings before the highest court of the country were preferred to be kept in abeyance to enable the functioning of this Cauvery River Water Authority. I would like to lay stress on this important issue. Till April 1997, the plea by the Government of Tamil Nadu was heard by the Supreme Court of India. In 1998, the Solicitor General of the Union Government went before the apex court with the submission that the court may not proceed with the case any further as the Centre would prefer the CRA to be ceased of the matter. On the promise that Cauvery Tribunal was set up in June 1991, a decade ago, the Union Government gave an assurance to the apex court that they would implement the award given by the Tribunal. Thus Cauvery River Water Authority was established on the basis of this promise the Centre had given to the apex court. In all these four years the Centre never bothered to implement the Tribunal Award or fulfill its promise it gave as a solemn assurance before the highest court of the country. Nothing was done during any part of this 4 year period. What was this Prime Minister doing? I fail to understand as to why this Union Government went before the Supreme Court to give a false promise. The authority was set up. All are aware of the repeating problems repeated annually during every successive year. There are no two opinions that the problem persisted and crisis came to the fore every time. What is the crux of the problem? Till 1974, Tamil Nadu was getting every year about 600 tmc of water from Karnataka that reached the Cauvery Delta region without fail. In 1991, when it was said that Tamil Nadu would be given only 205 tmc of water instead of 600 tmc, the Government of Tamil Nadu accepted the offer that came with an assurance that 140 tmc out of this 205 tmc would be released during the 4 months of June, July, August and September every year. It is only because of the assurance that 140 tmc of water would be released during these 4 months the Government of Tamil Nadu readily accepted the proposal mooted then. We may not get 600 tmc any more. We are not even concerned about the 205 tmc of water promised. But, we are very much in need of sufficient water during the crucial 4 months to carry on agricultural activities to raise Kuruvai crops. This is very important. Somehow, we would be able to carry on cultivation during that season. It is only because of that guarantee that was spelt out we accepted the proposal. The Government of Tamil Nadu readily agreed to it without any delay considering the needs of the farmers on both sides. They believed that the assured quantity of river water would flow. Not even a day was delayed in our accepting the proposal from the Centre. We believed that the Authority headed by the Prime Minister of the country would fulfill its assurance and render us justice. We had a fervent hope. But we were in for a great disappointment. We thought that we would get justice when Prime Minister himself was at the helm of the Authority. I would like to emphasize and record our anguish. In the last 4 years we did not get anything that was assured. In no year, in no month, in no week the water was released as promised. Till date we have not got justice. How can we repose faith in them? The Prime Minister did not even bother to convene the meeting of the Cauvery River Water Authority.

*Original in Tamil.

[Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar]

In 1998, in the month of November when the Authority convened its first meeting we raised just one question. This Authority was set up in September 1998. Its first meeting was in November 1998. We wanted to know how much of Cauvery water was released to Tamil Nadu. We asked for the amount of water as we wanted to know the exact quantity of water released by Karnataka to Tamil Nadu. Karnataka Government said that 16 tmc of water was released in September that year. But Tamil Nadu contested it saying that they received only 8 tmc of water. This was raised in the very first meeting of the CRA. Even today no one is knowing what had happened. No one including the Centre knows how much of water was released and received. What happened to 8 tmc of water is still a mystery. Hon. Chairman Sir, we all know how much of water would be there if it is 8 tmc of water. T means thousand, m means million, c means cubic. It is eight thousand million cubic feet. That is 8 billion cubic feet. That mich of water has not reached Tamil Nadu. What does it mean? The water claimed to have been released in Karnataka did not reach Tamil Nadu. The amount of water that reaches Tamil Nadu is measured near Hogenekkal. Till date no proper reply has been given as to what had happened to that. I have raised this question many times. I raised the question in the House of the people. Whether the water was received or not has not been answered as yet. Then why should this Government be there; why should there be a Cabinet; why should there be a Prime Minister? In July 1997, this Authority met. Just once that year. In the way alms were shared among the beggars, advice was given to accept a meagre quantity. It was like saying take little and keep quiet with that. In 2000, the authority did not meet even once. Not even once in that year. Is it called justice? Is this the way to administer the country? Having failed to convene even once the meeting of this authority in 2000, the Centre convened the CRA meeting in September 2001 when there was a grave crisis. Similarly, in this year also, the proposal to convene the meeting of the authority was considered only when the problem assumed a grim and grave dimension. Whenever the CRA is convened they do not go into the basic issue, neither the bone of contention nor the basis for an amicable solution. They come out with piece meal offers.

Through the Chair, I would like to ask this Government as to why you have not evolved a distress sharing formula in the last 4 years. When nature fails, there must be some viable formula available to share the water among all the Cauvery basin States. Have you ever thought of it even once? Now you are coming out with an announcement about linking Ganga with Cauvery. Without resolving the basic problem on hand, even without showing small mercy, your talking big is meaningless. This Prime Minister who told the Court that talks would be held had only failed to hold talks taking it to its logical end. What did you do in these 4 years? Has the Prime Minister spent even a single minute to think about evolving a solution to this vexing problem? Has he done anything to arrive at a lasting solution in these 4 years? What did he do? Only when there is grave crisis the authority would meet and there again only piece meal solution would be offered. If the CRA meets when there is no pressing problem and when the crisis is not at its boiling point, they can think coolly to draw a long term strategy. Some solution could have been evolved by now. But unfortunately that has not happened. Without doing any such thing you have only been disappointing all leading to despair.

You have now started talking about linking Ganga and Cauvery. Is it so simple? Do you know its magnitude? About 35 years ago, Dr. K.L. Rao came out with this proposal. Even before we could win independence our leaders of the freedom struggle have thought about it. Freedom fighters like Mahakavi Subramania Bharathi dreamt abut this, envisioned this as a developmental plan for an emerging country.

But you have suddenly caught hold of this idea. Since you have nothing to offer you are talking of linking Ganga with Cauvery. There is no timely help. There is no immediate solution. You are talking of a plan that would be a distant dream. You cannot solve the problems of Cauvery Delta farmers now. So we have lost faith in this Prime Minister.

I am not speaking on behalf of my party the Congress Party. I speak now on behalf of the Cauvery Delta's farming community, the people of my constituency who are finding it increasingly difficult to surmount the problem due to the scarcity of irrigation water in that once perennial river Cauvery. Our farmers living there are now facing extinction. I speak for them.

We have lost all faith in this Prime Minister. We have also lost faith in this Cauvery River Authority. To seek justice we have no other means except to go before the Supreme Court again. The Prime Minister who says that we should not knock at the doors of the court of justice must have the courage to accept before the same court that he could not keep his word to find an amicable solution to resolve the dispute. Can he still assure that the Centre would implement the award of the Tribunal? Will he come forward to accept that he failed in his responsibility? I challenge him whether he can still ensure an amicable mechanism to evolve a solution. Can he do it?

Even 205 tmc of water could not be released in time. When there is heavy rain in the catchment areas and when they cannot store and water and when they face flood threat, Karnataka releases all such storm drain water. What is the use? The water that cannot be released at a needy time is of no use when it is let out in abundance during off season. Our humble prayers to release water for commencing in time the Sambha cultivation and Kuruvai cultivation go unheeded. Even for a drop of water we have to beg or led to that state? At that point of time we do not find any initiative from our Prime Minister, or our Agriculture Minister or our Irrigation Minister. Do you have any sympathy for the Cauvery Delta farmers? You do not find time to study seriously the basic problems that affect the farmers. Without understanding the immensity of the problem faced by the Cauvery Delta farmers you are going about in your own way.

I have pleaded many a times. Shri Ajit Singh was in our party once. When he was a Minister in our Government he had come forward at least to listen to us to hear our problems. Now that he has changed his camp, he does not find time to visit our Cauvery Delta region even after my repeated requests. He has not visited our area. Of course he had sent a Central team. But that team came only up to Nagapattinam. When they had come up to Nagapattinam what prevented them from coming further up to Mayiladuthurai in the same Cauvery Delta region? They did not visit the much affected Mayuram. They had written their report sitting elsewhere. How can they do so? Major part of the Cauvery Delta region is in my Mayiladuthurai Lok Sabha constituency. Without visiting my Parliamentary constituency they went to some other district headquarters and prepare a report sitting there. Is it not meaningless? During every session, I take pains to invite repeatedly the Agriculture Minister to our Cauvery Delta region. He does not find time to visit our place though he has been visiting many other places. Why is it so? We want justice. Shri Ajit Singh cannot render us justice. Our Water Resources Minister Shri Arjun Sethi also cannot extend justice to us. Even from the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee we are not going to get any kind of justice. At this juncture, we have only one opportunity. We can go to Supreme Court again. We can reopen the case there and seek justice. Hope of getting justice is there. At the hand of the Centre we are getting a raw deal. We have lost faith in this Government. In order to show that I have lost faith in this Government let me walk out of this House of the people.

Since the Government has failed to evolve a lasting solution to the vexing problems of the Cauvery Delta farmers, I walk out.

19.00 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar left the House.)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the condition of farmers is pitiable. Almost 30 hon. Members have expressed their views on Wednesday and today. All issues ranging from to problems related WTO, UPOV to sugarcane farmers, Seri Culture and Coconut farmers have been raised here.

[Shri Ajit Singh]

Issue of suicide by farmers has also been raised here. Problems related to organic farming have also been raised here. Cutting across party lines all the hon. Members have expressed their concern for the farmers. The problems that the farmers are facing due to drought have been specially mentioned in the House. Hon. Members have also presented certain data and given some suggestions as more than 65 percent people come from agrarian background. But I regret to note that all the members who have given their speech have left the House. There should be unity in the House and atleast those members should be present in the House who have spoken about the issue in question...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : I agree with you and want to say that even people in power are not serious.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : You had pointed out that all the Ministers are not present here. My submission is that you would not have complained if you had noticed the proportion that number of Ministers present here is equal to the number of members present in the House. My concern is that despite the fact that so many members from all the parties are concerned, why all of them are feeling that nothing is being done in this regard or rather, it is impossible to do something in this direction. I am concerned, you should also be concerned about it. Had 500 members out of 541 preferred to stay here for 2-3 late sitting hours it would definitely have created an impression on the bureaucracy that the hon. Members are really concerned in this regard, it is a serious problem and steps should be taken to sort it out. It is possible that the hon. Members might have left as everybody knows what the problems are. The Government is also aware of the problems. The previous Government also knew the problems that is why they feel that there is nothing much to be told. We all know what the problems are.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : It was not known that House will sit till 7 O'clock.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : It was necessary to stay here even if the House sat till eight as it is a big problem.

Sir, today the trends in agriculture are changing in our country. Holdings are small these days. Average holding is around 1-5 hectare and 80 percent farmers are small or marginal farmers having holdings less than 2 hectors. My submission is that if we look at the data, we will find that farmers with 5 hectares will be considered small and marginal in Rajasthan and from this point of view more than 80 percent farmers are small or marginal. Secondly our problems have also changed in the field of agriculture. Our production is not less, our problem is this that we have too much of every thing. Now our country is facing the problem of marketing which was not there earlier.

Today the contribution of science and technology has increased manifold and biotechnology will be contributing a lot to agriculture as holdings are small now. Use of fertilizers has also increased due to intensive croping. Micro-nutrients are being used and new varieties of seeds are coming. Drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation are also being proposed due to shortage of water. As a result the expenses of the farmers have increased compelling them to take more loan. There are these kinds of problems – problem regarding input as expenses have increased. New technologies and other things are not available to the farmers. Whether they are aware or not and whether they can get the things or not is also a problem. Moreover, due to small holdings, the input cost has increased and thus farmers need credit. Even today the farmers get only 60 percent credit from the institutions and for the rest of the 40 percent they still have to depend on the moneylenders. Everybody is acquainted with all the facts.

In this regard I would like to say one thing that agriculture is a state subject. It is not there even in the concurrent list. We want to set in reforms in the field of agriculture – solve the problems like marketing. Many people have suggested that holdings have become small, their fragmentation should be stopped. The social condition of the country does not allow this. We believe

that if a person has even one bigha land then he has pride of ownership. If you tell him that we will displace you as you need bigger area of cultivation then the situation can become difficult. I believe you have got to strengthen cooperatives if the farmers have to go for marketing in this situation, buy new tractors and use new types of seeds. Today every farmer of our villages is associated with cooperatives but the problem is that it is a state subject. There is a need to change the law. If you do not mind I would like to say that many States are devoid of cooperatives movement, it is a department of the Government...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : It has become a hub of corruption...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Corruption is there in many other places but it is a department of the Government. Today cooperatives are needed as I have said that a farmer with only one or two hectares of land can not market his own products particularly when we are asking him to cultivate crops other than wheat or paddy for which different marketing strategy is needed. The farmers need the help of cooperatives. I think it can be a cooperative and no other agency. We have changed the law at Centre and in a way we have almost finished the participation, contribution and control of the Government. We only have 30-35 multi State cooperatives in the country. Lakhs of cooperatives are in the control of States and none of them is ready to change the law. We have called several meetings, they give their approval but do not wish to change the law because withdrawing from power is very difficult, it is not easy.

Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Members and leaders of all parties that we might have to amend the constitution for the sake of cooperatives as was done in the case of Panchayati Raj so that there might be a uniform law in the country to strengthen the cooperatives otherwise the farmers can not be protected. It is not only a issue of marketing. Hon. Members have raised the issue that even today if a farmer does not repay 5000 rupees, he is jailed. I have written many times to the States to change the law...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the recovery of Credit from the farmers in drought hit areas of Uttar Pradesh has not been stopped even after the Prime Minister's declaration and their sons are being put in jails...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I have said that it is essential to strengthen cooperatives to sort out the problems of marketing and credit. The foremost need is change the law.

There are several similar laws. Members have raised the issue of corruption. Why are the farmers committing suicide?...*(Interruptions)* Their language is not different from yours in this regard. Today everybody agrees that agriculture is the backbone of our country's economy. I want to say something different that if we add sugar and butter and other agro based industry like fertilizers, chemicals, alcohol, beauty industry tractors, farm implements etc. to the 24 percent GDP which comes from this sector, then a different scenario would emerge as these are also agro based. Our country's economy is largely based on agriculture. We need to change the law. Many people have raised the issue of corruption. Why are the farmers committing suicide? Firstly, the farmers get only 60 percent Credit from the institutions and the rest of 40 percent from the money lenders where interest rate is 25 percent to 100 percent. If he looses one crop or fails to get the remunerative price of his crop, he suffers heavy loss. MSP has been the topic of discussion. Be it the farmer of cottcn or something else, they are committing suicide due to it. The farmers of cotton are committing suicide as they are the poorest. Farmers in every region are facing problems. They are committing suicide when pushed to edge. I was relating this to corruption because farmers are getting spurious seeds, fertilizers and pesticides which is a big reason. The Union government can formulate the law but it is to be enforced by the State Government. We are going to change the law regarding pesticides. Members have given many suggestions and said that punishment should be made more stringent. I believe that it is not going to end. We have set up Krishi Vigyan Kendra and we are encouraging private enterprises to enter this field and

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create awareness among the farmers. Service Centres should be set up where farmers can take their pesticides to be examined to check whether they are genuine or not at the cost of say 10-20 rupees. If it is found that the pesticides are spurious then the farmers would not go to the that shop again. We are changing the laws over here. We are doing away with Fertilizer control order. It gave opportunity for corruption to the leaders. The implementation of laws is in the hands of State Government.

Cooperatives and corporates should enter the field of marketing to sort out this problem but caution has to be exercised while finalising contracts with the corporates. A committee had been constituted in this regard. Task Force has submitted its report. A standing committee has been constituted with MOS as its incharge. State Ministers are its members. But how to implement that report on marketing. The problem is that it involves agricultural produce marketing laws which have been formed by States. There is a need to change them. They should allow for contract farming. Further, Mandi Samiti is only doing the job of recovering taxes. Grading, post harvesting marketing management should be there. Improvements should be made in this regard and quality control should be exercised. This is the job of 'Mandi Samiti'. Let's endeavour to change the law and facilitate the farmers to directly deal with the processor if they wish to. We are providing facilities and financial assistance to the Mandi Samiti so that facilities may be added for marketing by way of which it may undertake the exercise of upgrading. So is the storage problem. There does exist a law of Negotiable instruments. We are also striving in that direction to make amendments in the law. This will facilitate the farmers to receive so to 90% payment of sugarcane, depending on the varieties, from bank through receipt. We are making attempts to bring about a change in the law.

When it comes to credit, I agree with the concerns expressed by all other members, your concern holds the ground. At the time of the nationalisation of Banks, the Govt. had issued directives that they were required to spend 18% on agriculture. This is a priority sector. However, no bank has provided 18% as on date. Though the remaining amount out of this goes in a separate fund viz. IRDF under NABARD, that spends it in the name of Infrastructure. But the concern expressed by myself as well as all the members is largely focused on the fact that when deposit rates have been reduced and the villagers money constitute 70% of the total deposits, this also gives you perception that although deposit rates have been reduced but the rate of interest being levied on the farmers is not coming down. We need your support on that count. We are going to conduct a meeting of agriculture-minister' Co-operative ministers, NABARD and RBI to arrive at a consensus to reduce the rate of interest to be paid by the farmers at least to the tune of 12%. I hold the conviction that in most of the cases the rate of interest varies from 14% to 20% and here too, 50% Credit to the villagers is being given by the cooperative Banks only. If it takes 6% from NABARD, 3% at state level, 2% at district level and 2% at village level, it amounts to 13-14%. To my mind, tiers need to be reduced here.

Similarly there is a yawning gap between the quality of agricultural produces and the amount of expenditure incurred by the buyer. This difference even goes up to 6 to 7 times. The reason being that there are 5 to 6 intermediators between the farmers and consumer it goes and even up to seven. In this context too, there comes the question of marketing Committee. Several states have done fairly well on this front. We should set of neighbourhood Mandi. At least small towns, big villages, where at least farmers of low-production will come straightway to sell off-their products into the hands of consumers. Thus, their would not be intermediaries resulting in substantial improvement on agricultural front.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been talking of improvement in industry sector for the last 12 years or so, we have been discussing over fiscal improvement where as it's agricultural sector that requires ample focus of attention for improvement. Improvement and liberalization is not a

bad term and we should make its impression in our mind or else, many people feel that liberalization simply indicates that we are selling, causing chaos on agricultural front and are taking no pains to safeguard the interest of farmers. In fact, it is not so. Rather when we are talking of contract farming. I would like to suggest that contract must be reviewed in A.P.M.C. because some big corporate entered into contract with the poor farmer. We don't go through the fine print then how can we expect a farmer of go through it. Hence marketing and co-operative needs to be liberalized and we must resolve that we will not use biotechnology to incorporate new inputs as the precursor of science and Technology. In my view, whenever some frontier, science or any new science falls in place, lost of question are raised. We may recall when Bhakhra-Nangal Dam was built, even then there is a controversy that whether it would be or not of any significance after generating hydroelectric from it or therefore, if Biotechnology or some other new techniques are devised we must consider over how to make the farmers familiar with the application of new techniques. For this Government are considering to set up agricultural – science centre in each and every district... *(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : You please announce that it'll be set up in each and every district of the state.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Problem arise only when some states go on creating new districts or else, it would have been set up in every district. But it, also not going to serve the purpose. I feel that we should take initiative that private enterprises could enter in this sector. So many students who have completed their graduation in the field of agriculture won't be able to get the job. Since they belong to villages, they can continue to live in villages and cause awareness among the farmers by imparting them training that'll help them earn their livelihood also. We have launched schemes of Agro-clinics and agro-business centres. Many private companies have also entered into this field. As I told you earlier; we want to convert our agriculture science centres into service centre.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as we all are aware, a study was conducted in past also that if rural area, be a village falls on main road naturally, there has been an increase of 15% in coming over there. This study has been already conducted.

Therefore, agriculture doesn't simply mean that it should be left limited and restricted to this one only. If we really wish to make improvement, we should not simply restrict ourselves to the sowing of seeds but if we provide better infrastructure villages, farmers would be able to know the prices of their agriculture produce in the market and it is possible when they have means of transport availability to carry their products to the market and only then they can get the fair price against their products. We are also striving for that. We wish to link all our markets with Information Technology which will enable the farmers to know the existing rates of various items in different markets.

They need to have information in this regard also.

Sir, I would like to submit with reference to WTO that many people are concerned about it. WTO came into existence and started functioning with effect from 1st January, 1995. We had a lot of expectations attached with it that there would be increase in agricultural trade and India's participation will grow-up. Domestic subsidies will be lowered in the developed countries and there would be reduction in export subsidies which will lead to the increase in the price of agricultural produce and consequently, there would be increase of trade in the poor and developing countries like India, because infact even today, our farmers are crying with the farmers the world over, despite these shortfalls. At the time of signing the WTO agreement it was the intention of India that the farmers here will be benefitted. However, the fact remain that we have not been able to derive benefits in the expected proportion. Developed countries have not ventured to lower down their subsidies. Market access has not been augmented for developing countries. However, side by side it also true that the concern expressed by the Hon'ble Members that owing to WTO agreement there has

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been loss is also not correct. Do you think had there been no WTO, America would not have given subsidies to its farmers or whether European union would not have offered subsidies. In that scenario too, we would have resorted to bilateral agreement. Now at, least 144 countries can discuss things under one banner.

Sir, we are very much wake up to the new round set to start shortly last month we had called for all party meeting including the farmers organisations associated with them in which we discussed the stand to be taken in the next WTO round. We had also called Ministers of agriculture of every state and did seek their advice with regard to our stand to be taken in the ensuing WTO round. We have reached at a consensus. In the new WTO round which is set to begin we will fully strive to safeguard the farmers' interest by using every means that we have with us...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Minister, I have a suggestion to offer, that if a joint parliamentary committee be constituted, it will be much better. The joint parliamentary committee (JPC) will also submit its report.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : To my mind, there's a parliamentary committee on Ministry of Commerce, apart from a parliamentary advisory committee. There must have been discussion over this issue. If it is not so, I would request Hon'ble Minister of Commerce to let this issue be discussed there because hon'ble members of all parties will be present over there.

We have talked with all the parties and all state governments over this issue and we will keep it on because there will be a long discussion over it and may involve. Considerable time. Instruments like Tariff bound rates, custom duties, SPS rates, that are available to us will be fully utilized and has been kept intact to provide our farmers with safeguards which we have done upto now.

Sir, people hold the view that import will increase. We have the data of business agricultural trade available with us. It has always been in our favour right from 1990-91 to 2001-02. At times it amounted to as high as Rs. Twenty thousand crore and sometimes as low as Rs. Six thousand crore. At times there has been increase in Agricultural import and on certain occasions, there has also been decrease in it. But it would not be right go say that in the wake of signing WTO Agreement, our import has always been on the rise because during the year 1995-96 it was to the tune of Rs. 6 thousand crore, while in the year 1999 it was Rs. 12 thousand crore and in the year 2001-02 it is estimated to be around Rs.16 thousand crore and it will see more growth the next year. Final figures of 2001-02 are not available to us right now but it is estimated to be around Rs. 30 thousand crore. Thus, taking a look at the trend, the balance of payment is our favour.

Sir, many people are concerned that a big quantity of apples are being imported from aborad. Here in Delhi, we come to see that apples are available for sale in the big markets but buyers of those apples are in few numbers very few people can afford to buy them. Whereas it is also remarkable that a few people do import the same in case of their unavailability in India. Let alone common people, even we people cannot afford to buy them. Going by the figures seen a year earlier, if we compare with the figures as on 2nd July, the import of fruit and nuts has seen the downward trend, it has not increased. It's being imported in less quantity. If we make a fair comparision of the quality of apples that we produce to those being Imported, that turns out to be negligible. I would like to submit that we did not find the benefits of WTO agreement to that extent as was expected. Yet the sort of fear and concern that we have been pushed into the loss zone due to WTO agreement must go away from the minds of our hon'ble members. Yet the fact remains that we have to be cautious enough to keep the safeguards for our farmers intact in the ensuing WTO round. We are concerned about it. I have also invited suggestions from you all on that issue. As the discussions will go on. Consensus will be reached. There's no point of majority or minority in this sphere. We would continue to make you all abreast of the information and will keep on inviting your suggestions.

To conclude, I would simply say that farmers are faced with problems all over the country...*(Interruptions)* A proposal has also advanced that there must be a box of Food Security...*(Interruptions)*. Many members have raised issues relating to crops insurance scheme. As of now, this has already been implemented in 19 states and 2 UTs. I would like to submit that many states have been benefitted in this. The State Governments as well as the Central Government have offered much more money to farmers then what they have received from them in terms of premium of insurance in all the areas where-ever this insurance scheme has been launched. But I do accept that a lot more needs to be done on that front as still there are lots of shortcomings in that–such as there's a provision there in that the whole area falls under Taluka... *(Interruptions)*. I am aware of the provision that in two or three years we will bring it over to the panchayat level. We already have technologies available to us that will facilitate us to upgrade it to per acre level because we have satellites, imagery and everything required to undertake this exercise.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : If you bring it to per acre level, it will do much good to the farmers.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : We have technologies... *(Interruptions)* What I have said, that technology is already available but at the same time its economics must not be ignored. In terms of Khariff crops, technologies will also not be proved to be of much significance because there are clouds over there. Many states particularly Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat where there is recurrence of natural calamities for years have also derived benefits of Insurance schemes. We understand after shortcomimgs of this scheme...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Earlier the state premium was one third which has now risen to fifty-fifty... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : At present there is a provision in the Insurance Scheme that 50 per cent premium will have to be paid by the farmers and out of the rest of 50 per cent, there would be equal bearing on both central and state Governments. As I have just submitted, we want to bring this provision to commercial level in order that the insurer may also bear the liability. It needs to be reformed. Still, I would like to submit that the farmers facing natural calamities have received benefits of this insurance scheme. Many states, where there is drought situation like Rajasthan, if they insure them...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we would like to ask one or two questions after the hon. Minister's reply is over.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Earlier, the states got one third share but now they get fifty percent share, due to which the State...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Are you referring to premium or payment...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN I am talking about premium...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Premium will increase gradually. This year 60 percent will be paid by the insurer and the remaining 40 percent will be equally shared. The state governments are not concerned about premium. The State Governments are concerned about their financial condition which would become more serious if they have to pay the farmers in the event of destruction of crops. They are not worried about premium. Agriculture is a State subject. Therefore, I state that the state Governments should own fifty percent responsibility.

SHRI MAHESWAR SINGH : The Government have made a provision for tackling the natural calamities. The States have different revenue manuals. Therefore, will the Government make an attempt to bring about uniformity in the manuals of various state after consultations with the Ministers of Agriculture of State Government... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : As far as the matter of distribution is concerned, West Bengal has not been granted as much amount as is given to a certain State...*(Interruptions)* Last Year, nine districts suffered damage. The State was to receive around fourteen hundred crore rupees, but that amount was not given...*(Interruptions)* The State is being discriminated against. The other States are granted more amount. Please throw light on this....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : It is being alleged for the last six months that politics is taking place in the matter of natural calamities. I would like to state that the provisions for natural calamities had been recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission and not by the Union Government and the criteria has been evolved in consultation with the State Governments...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : It is not true.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I will pay heed to you provided personal interview is given. However, according to my information, this provision was made by the Eleventh Finance Commission. The States had been demanding a number of things which are not covered under the criteria. Teams are sent to assess damage and disburse funds according to the criteria. However, I would like to mention that most of the State Governments have not yet spent the amount given to them for tackling natural calamity. It is quite possible that they might have spent the amount but have not submitted the report to us in this regard. We cannot provide money from National contingency Fund till they submit utilisation certificate. We have recently provided two thousand crore rupees to the state Governments for tackling drought and they still have some amount left in their calamity relief funds.... *(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Please monitored also whether the State Governments are spending the said amount properly or not....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I was dwelling on the policies and the plight of the farmers. Regarding the query of the hon'ble member from West Bengal that his state did not get assistance, I would like to inform that during the last two years no assistance was sought for natural calamity. Therefore, it is not proper to allege that we are not providing assistance to them....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : This is not true.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Please come and talk to me. The Centre will provide assistance if you have document to prove that the State Government had sought assistance but no assistance was provided. It is a big calamity and there is no need to indulge in politics in this regard. I would like to reiterate that the Centre do not have any implementing agency or any monitoring agency. According to the constitution the State Governments enjoy some rights. The only thing we have done is that a separate account should be opened so that the funds may not be misused. We have tried our best to assess that how the funds are used and how the report in this regard is to be sent. So the hon'ble members should not suggest that the Centre should monitor utilisation of funds.... *(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : I suggested this because the amount Union Government is providing under this very head...*(Interruptions)* According to my information the State are misusing the funds and are not spending it properly ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Time and again communication is sent to various Chief Ministers and concerned Ministers and even meetings are convened to suggest about utilisation of funds. I have requested as well as written to them to constitute district-wise monitoring consisting of hon'ble Members of Parliament. But implementation is the duty of the State Governments....*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : You also hail from Uttar Pradesh and it is not being implemented in Uttar Pradesh too...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : In the end, I would like to state that hon. Member of various political parities raised the problem in their own inimitable styles and made suggestions too. However, all are in agreement that problem is quite acute and will worsen all the more in the

next 5-10 years. The agricultural scenario is changing. I want the cooperation of all political parties in helping the farmers in this changing scenario. Every state has separate party in power. Therefore, their cooperation is also required. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me so much time to speak.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Agriculture did not reply to the question regarding sugarcane growers...*(Interruptions)* the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh are in dire straits....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The problem of sugarcane growers has already been discussed in detail in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha....*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Since the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture has not said a word on the problem of sugarcane growers therefore, I and my party stage walkout from the House.

19.35 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : I do not want to take much time of the House. I know the difficulty the hon. Minister of Agriculture is facing. The only issue is, there is no coordination between the Ministries of Finance, Commerce and Agriculture. It is not an allegation which I want to make. There is no coordination between these three Ministries which are vital to safeguard the interest of the farmers.

The Ministry of Commerce had recommended to reverse the proposal so as to have import duty from 30 per cent to 40 per cent. The Commerce Minister, Shri Maram had himself told it but the Ministry of Finance did not accept that. It does not mean that you have no interest in it. I heard your speech very patiently. I do not want to make a speech here. Will the Government come forward to accept the proposal made by the Ministry of Commerce on import of raw silk? Why have they brought it down? What was the import duty during the last year? In the same House the Commerce Minister had told that a proposal in this regard had been sent. You may not be able to answer it right now. I would say that there is no coordination between these three Ministries.

I met the hon. Prime Minister in a delegation. Fortunately, you are also equally concerned with the problems of the farmers. I will not walk out of the House or blame you. When I initiated the debate, I told that politics should not be brought in here. Everybody, who spoke in the House, showed concern for the farmers. When I demanded of the Prime Minister to waive the penal interest on all types of loans – whether it is bank loan or cooperative society's loan – for the current year, the hon. Minister of Agriculture supported this idea and told that the matter was under consideration of the Government. He had told that a proposal was already there before the Government and the Cabinet would take a decision on it. I do not want to mix politics here. Will the Government take a final decision to waive the interest and the penal interest, at least for this year, for all the farmers? There is no question of selecting this or that crop. Almost all the crops, whether it is horticulture, plantation crop or traditional crop, are affected. All farmers are suffering due to so many reasons. I do not want to list those reasons here. You, yourself, have made a suggestion. There must be a powerful lobby for the farmers. Fortunately, all Members cooperated in this. Will the Minister pursue the matter and take up the issue with the hon. Prime Minister? He is not here. I know he has gone to Gujarat. Will the proposal before the Cabinet be considered and for this year at least one-time concession be given to the farmers for the commercial bank loans, nationalised bank loans or cooperative societies' loans?

The last point is regarding the tobacco growers. In Karnataka, they have to pay penalty for the first time. I am unable to understand this. If there is excess growth of any crop, will they have to pay penalty? They have given Rs. 15 crore as penalty for having grown excess tobacco. It is one of the best quality tobacco. I pleaded before yourself

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

as also the hon. Prime Minister to waive this as it is not proper. This matter has to be considered. I raised this issue. That is why, I said that inter-Ministerial coordination is not there. There is no need to constitute a separate committee. I am not going to demand for it. Is there any coordination among these three Ministries? Will there be any concrete decision on the proposal sent by the Ministries of Commerce or Textiles or Agriculture. I do not know whether this Government functions in a very cooperative manner and with a proper understanding among the Ministries. I do not know this because things are going on as there is no Opposition. It is also divided. They have all gone. Nobody is interested. There is no question of blaming the people. They are suffering. What can you or I do? You are also a son of a farmer and I am also a son of a farmer.

So please clarify these three issues. One is regarding penalty for unlicensed crop. That should be removed. The purchase of 16 lakh tonnes of tobacco 2 licensed or unlicensed – should be made this year. The import duty should be reduced from 40 per cent to 30 per cent as proposed by the Ministry of Commerce. Are they going to accept it? Are you going to waive the penal interest on all loans? These are the suggestions. They are before the cabinet.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : As far as the issue of coordination is concerned, there is a committee of Secretaries headed by the Commerce Secretary. The Committee consists of the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Secretaries of other Ministries also. Whenever the matter of custom duty is raised and suggestions are given, the committee considers the matter at length. It is not so that coordination is lacking. As far as Sericulture is concerned, it comes under the purview of the Ministry of Textiles. It might have been that they have also raised this question. However, it does not meant that the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Commerce are at loggerheads. Moreover, on the issue of Customs Duty various Ministries send their proposals which are vetted by the Committee of Secretaries and if need be is pondered over even at higher level.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think you for giving me a chance to speak. Hon'ble Ajit Singh has answered all the questions. Since, I had initiated the debate on behalf of the Congress party, so I would like to ask two things. My first submission is that the hon'ble Minister dwelt at length on both the positive as well as negative aspects of the issues concerning the states, Punjab has prepared a project of diversion of 28,000 acres of land. So, I want to know whether the Union Government will give any assistance or not? The second thing I mentioned in my speech was that Punjab has suffered a loss of more than 6000 crore rupees due to drought. However, even then the Union Government have not given a single penny in the form of assistance. A memorandum in this regard was sent to the Minister of Agriculture and a central team has also visited there. Therefore, whether Punjab will get the due amount or not?

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Sir, the former Prime Minister has put some important questions relating to silk and other crop producers of Karnataka as also regarding waiving the interest. All these are very important and vital points. I hope he will consider them.

I would like to ask one more question. Most of the States in this country are facing drought. It is not Karnataka or Bihar or Andhra Pradesh or Uttar Pradesh alone. For this problem, a comprehensive programme has to be prepared for six months. There is drinking water problem in most of the villages of Karnataka. The Food for Work Programme is there. It is because they have not been able to sow even 20 per cent seeds in the whole State.

People of the entire State are suffering on account of no 'food for work' programme and also due to drinking water problem. Earlier, the Chief Minister had requested for eight lakh tonnes of foodgrains. The hon. Minister visited Karnataka and after witnessing the situation himself, released two lakh tonnes of foodgrains. This quantum has already been utilised. Thereafter, after studying the

situation, the Government of Karnataka made a request for twenty lakh tonnes of foodgrains. But till today nothing has been released.

May I know from the hon. Minister what is the programme for the country for another six months to save the farmers and the workmen? Talking particularly about Karnataka, when are you going to release the foodgrains? Your concern regarding the farmers' problems is well known. You have made your commitment to do something for the farmers. The entire Congress Party is with you in the interest of the farmers. We have to form a farmers' forum in Parliament to fight out the issues and find a solution to their problems. I hope the Chairman also is all for forming a farmers' forum in Parliament. Then only we can solve their problems.

SHRI S. MURUGESAN (Tenkasi) : The hon. Minister has not touched the problem being faced by farmers in the Tamil Nadu Cauvery delta. They are very much affected. We want a reply from the Minister on this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the matter of drought had been discussed here separately. Further, I would like to inform the hon'ble Member from Punjab, since he has raised a question that Punjab has not received any assistance from Centre, that we have increased the price of paddy by Rs. twenty in those States, where it is procured, because the input cost of farmers has increased. It might have been that they have not received the sought overall assistance, but do not say that the input cost of farmers increased due to drought and due to the use of electricity for irrigation purposes. That's why we have increased the price of paddy by Rs. 20 per quintal for one year only.

As far as the matter of diversification is concerned, we are asking the States to go in for diversification and have discussed the matter with other people also. How much financial assistance can be given to a state is another matter. However, we are running several schemes for diversification purposes. We have increased the procurement price of mustard to a great extent during the last few years. Therefore, we are running a scheme for storage too. We are assisting in setting up cold storages also to increase capacity.

As far as the problem regarding Cauvery is concerned, there is Cauvery Tribunal and Supreme Court is also seized of the matter. I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that Tamil Nadu is the only state which has been granted more amount by the inter-ministerial group to tackle drought. The state was given more amount than that recommended by the Central Team....*(Interruptions)* The assistance given to Karnataka is upto 31 January. After that we will discuss the matter and will provide foodgrains depending on the request. If any State requests us to provide assistance the task force will meet and consider it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the House stand adjourned till Eleven of the Clock tomorrow.

19.48 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, 10th December, 2002/ Agrahayana 19, 1924 (Saka)

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