

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourteenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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(Vol. XXXVII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

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NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 09, 2003/Agrahayana 18, 1925 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government are adopting discriminatory attitude in procurement of paddy of farmers in UP. Procurement specifications have been relaxed in many states in the country whereas no relaxation has been given in UP and Bihar....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All of you are aware that many a times I have urged in the House that no one can raise one's point during Question-Hour. You should raise these issues after the Question-Hour is over.

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since it is a very serious issue, therefore, I have given notice for Suspension of Question-Hour. It involves 10 crore farmers of Uttar Pradesh and farmers of Bihar are also involved in it. The Central Government are playing politics in this regard...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not such an issue which entails Suspension of Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I understand your problem, you may speak on this issue during Zero Hour. Do not speak now, I will give you an opportunity after Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I want to raise an important issue, therefore, I should be listened to. My issue concerns national security...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is why, I said that I would give you an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Please listen to me for two minutes....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want to talk right now?

...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is being given step-motherly treatment.(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to disturb the Question Hour, but we have given notice on an important matter regarding admission in medical colleges. The students are suffering not only in Andhra Pradesh, but also in West Bengal....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to request all those who have given Notices for Adjournment.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Sir, I, too have given a notice regarding freedom of press in Tamil Nadu....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have requested everyone which includes you also. I would take decision on Notices of the Members after Question Hour. Till then, the Question Hour should continue. Prabhunath ji, I have told you also that I would give you the first opportunity to speak. Then you can convey your concern. I would permit you to speak during Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, despatch of confidential documents by ex-DGP, Bihar to the State Government on 5.12.2003 created sensations(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You raising it during the Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : That report revealed the receipt of arms from Pakistan's secret agency, ISI....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Prabhunath ji, what is the need of it? I have not yet allowed him to speak. I would allow him to speak during Zero Hour. The Question Hour has just started.

...(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Rural Development Schemes

+

*101. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite increasing the financial provisions the Government has been losing control over a host of schemes aimed at upgrading the rural sector as mentioned in the 'Statesman' dated 15.9.2003;

(b) whether the funds meant for rural development schemes are underutilized/diverted by State Governments;

(c) if so, the facts, the details and the reasons therefor State-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure implementation of various rural development schemes effectively?

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

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The report appearing in the Statesman dated 15.09.2003 is not based on facts. The Government have instituted an in-built monitoring mechanism in the guidelines of each Scheme so as to ensure that the objectives of the scheme are achieved by their implementation.

The percentage utilization of funds to total allocation during the period 1999-2000 to 2002-2003 was 89%, 93%, 82% and 106% respectively. As per the guidelines of Rural Development Programmes, the States/UTs can also carry forward 15% of the total allocation to the following financial year.

With a view to ensuring that the benefits of the rural development schemes reach the targeted persons, the Ministry has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring the implementation of the programmes, including utilization of funds, through mechanisms such as periodic review meetings by the Minister of Rural Development with State authorities, visits to the field by officers of the Ministry of

Rural Development (Area Officers Scheme), meetings of the Performance Review Committee, Periodic Progress Reports from State Government, Concurrent and Quick Evaluation of Programmes etc. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State and District levels has been reconstituted recently with greater role for Members of Parliament. Other monitoring initiative includes District Level Monitoring for verification of assets and verification of programme implementation by National Level Monitors.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my reaction is that the Minister has made a cursory statement...(Interruptions) Sir, how can I proceed?(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Adhir Chowdhary, you can ask your question now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I would give you priority during Zero hour.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, my first reaction is that the Minister has made a cursory statement because I have asked for providing information Statewise and that has not been given.

Sir, it is true that the micro level progress of our country is largely dependent upon rural development programmes. as we believe that India begins and ends in villages. In spite of all endeavours over the years accompanied by special emphasis put forward in the 1980s, it was further bolstered by devolution of more financial and administrative powers to the people so as to treat the rural poor not as a burden, but as a resource.

The time has come to re-evaluate as to what kind of tangible results we have produced so far because diversion of funds is rampant and siphoning off of funds, in collusion with the local officers, is taking place regularly. So far as my State of West Bengal is concerned, I can say that Panchayati Raj Institution has become a fountain-head of corruption even diversion of funds has been reported by CAG also.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, even funds earmarked for the rural development projects are reported to have been

diverted to meet the revenue deficit. In West Bengal, the NGOs, who were assigned to play a simultaneous role in implementing the rural development projects, have been debarred from participating by a circular, which stops the formation of Self-Help Groups.

May I ask the hon. Minister how much funds under SGSY have been released to the State Government of West Bengal? How many BPL families have so far been covered? So far as Central allocation is concerned, how much funds under SGSY, since the inception of the Scheme, have been released. The CAG has remarked that in spite of replacement of IRDP under the nomenclature of SGSY no significant improvement has been made so far over IRDP.

MR. SPEAKER : How many supplementaries do you want to add?

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, the SGSY was aimed to provide 30 per cent coverage of BPL families in five years. I would like to know, since the inception of the Scheme, how many families have been covered under SJSY.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Sir, he has asked specifically about the funds allocated and released to the State of West Bengal, particularly under SGSY Scheme. I can give the latest figures. In the year 2002-03, under SGSY, the West Bengal Government was given Rs. 90.68 crore, out of which the expenditure was only to the extent of Rs. 53.55 crore. That is, the performance is to the tune of 59 per cent. Under other schemes, particularly the SGSRY-I & II, the performance is to the extent of 58 per cent. Under the Scheme of IAY, the performance is to the extent of 79 per cent. The figures that I have given in the reply relate to the whole country. The hon. Member wanted the detailed information of all the States, I can forward that information to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chowdhary, this is your supplementary now.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, my question has not been answered properly. I have asked the hon. Minister, under SGSY, which was aimed to provide 30 per cent coverage of BPL families, how much percentage of coverage has been provided so far to the BPL families.

Now, I will ask my supplementary. Under the Prime Minister Gram Swarozgar Yojana, it was envisaged that every habitation consisting of a population of 1000 would be connected by all-weather road by the year 2003. I would like to know whether it has been achieved so far or not. As far as the State of West Bengal is concerned, how much funds so far have been released under the scheme and what is the length of roads that have been constructed and how many

habitations covered so far? Under the Rural Accelerated Water Scheme, how much funds have been released to the State Government?

Furthermore, the vision of our hon. President is to provide urban amenities to the rural areas, that is, called PURA. I would like to know whether the Government has devised any action plan in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not stop asking questions, I will disallow your supplementary. Please do not force me to do that. You know how to ask a question. You can not take the time of the House like this.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, it is related to the vision of the hon. President of India. I would like to know whether any action plan has been devised by the Government under the scheme or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing further will go on record on this question.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL : Sir, there are so many questions in his supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : You can reply to one question only.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : He has asked about the BPL level that has come down. Under SGSY and other employment generating schemes, the figure for the last three years was 37.1 per cent.

Now, it has come down to 27.09 per cent.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Sir, I have asked whether the Government has been able to provide the connectivity by road by the year 2003 to those habitations consisting of 1000 population. It has not been answered...*(Interruptions)* What is this?...*(Interruptions)* I request you to permit Half-an-Hour discussion on this Question.

MR. SPEAKER : You can ask for a discussion.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : The Speaker may please consider it.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, I have to permit discussion on this because there are a number of people who want to ask supplementaries.

[Translation]

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would ask only one question, but I would seek your protection.

Whenever Ministers have got an opportunity to speak they have alleged that the State Governments, especially States where their party is not in power have not utilized allocated funds. And if at all they have done so, they have diverted the funds. I have sought the list of such States from the Minister but hon. Minister has not replied to that. So, I urge you to ask him to lay it here. This is the protection I seek from you.

My next question is, one or two years back hon. Minister had stated that a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament will be constituted for monitoring of such schemes. I would like to know that though orders have been issued for the creation of such Committee but whether Members have been given some rights. Whether they have been intimated to convene their meetings and how many Members have covered such meeting. If so, let such Members raise their hand.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though hon. Member has said that I make lengthy speech but the fact is that I have given to-the-point reply. Secondly, hon. Member has asked as to how the funds meant for development schemes are being utilised and how the people derive benefit from these schemes. In this regard, I would like to say that Vigilance Monitoring Committees have been constituted for this purpose. I am happy to tell you that many a States have constituted said committees...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Please tell, whether the Govt. have reviewed its working.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Member of Lok Sabha have been appointed as Chairmen and Member of Rajya Sabha as Dy. Chairman. Without pointing out any particular State, I would like to say that initially many States had not constituted said Committees. But when we forced them, some of them constituted Committees. But, my Ministry endeavors setting up of Vigilance Monitoring Committees and convening their meetings...*(Interruptions)*. The Committees are responsible for supervision of ongoing schemes. They are accountable to it. I would like to say that the Government of West Bengal has not constituted the Committee so far. I have requested them twice. I would like them to constitute the Committee...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you create disturbance time and again? Please sit down, this is no way. You also sit down, you can ask question when your turn comes. Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, please ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Whether the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh is sitting here after submitting her resignation?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know as to what the hon'ble Minister said about the Rural development Ministry...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : When their Chief Minister had been sitting, had they asked him?

MR. SPEAKER : Khuranaji, you please sit down.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Ramdas ji, please sit down. No cross talk please.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether some States are reluctant to constitute the Vigilance Committee proposed to be set up for monitoring the financial assistance given out by the Rural Development Ministry which totals more than Rs. 70000 crore? If so, what action has been taken by the department in this regard?

Besides, I would also like to know whether Government have constituted any monitoring cell to find out the reality about crores of rupees being given to NGOs through CAPART or to various NGOs directly? If so, whether such complaints have been received that some of the NGOs were provided funds for some specific tasks, but those tasks were not completed?

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of the hon'ble Member is regarding the States which have set up Committees for vigilance and monitoring. As per information available with me, 28 States have conducted the meetings of such Committees in their various districts, though meetings have not taken place in all the districts. My Ministry has been sending reminders to them regarding the districts where meetings are yet to take place. States have answered us in this regard. Not only that, we also say that if they do not constitute the Committee then we may also block the funds being given through the Rural development department. But we would not like to take that recourse? Therefore, they should take action.

Secondly, he mentioned about CAPART. Vigilance and Monitoring in that regard is undertaken through Area Officers. Not only that, Vigilance and Monitoring set up is strong at district level. We have also taken action wherever we received reports that things are not working properly.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after registering my protest at the hon. Minister saying that he will provide State-wise details of this, if the Members so wants, when part (c) of the Question specifically asks for State-wise details, I would like to ask with reference to part (d) of the Question, why the answer refers only to bureaucratic monitoring and says nothing about more devolution, Panchayat-based district planning or implementation through local bodies. Does this not reflect the very casual approach of the Ministry towards the implementation of Part IX of the Constitution and the complete ignoring of the 37th Report of the Standing Committee on this subject?

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Sir, I cannot give details about what Mani Shankar Ji is saying, but I would like to say one thing that in his idea, there should be a handbook wherein there should be state-wise details of democratic devolution to the States. I have a handbook which mentions the funds sanctioned, allocated and spent. If he so desires, I am ready to give him the handbook. I am ready for that...(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Hon'ble Minister is saying that he will provide it if I so desire, whereas it is contained in the question itself. It should have been replied in the first instance.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I need your protection. The Minister has already desired it. How can he say: "If he so desires"?

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : We can provide it.

[Translation]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : The answer to the question should come in writing. It should have been in the reply itself. The written answer completely ignores part © of the question, I would like to protest.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : No, Sir, he may say whatever he wants to, but have furnished maximum information and I am ready to provide still more.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : You are totally indifferent to the sentiment of the Member...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has made some comments on the first part of my question, but the question itself has not been answered. It he has failed to understand my question, I am ready to ask it again. The question was whether his Ministry has been indifferent to 37th report of the Parliamentary Committee. And in his reply, he has mentioned neither Panchayats, nor districts level planning, nor has he mentioned the taskforce constituted in the Ministry. They depend completely on bureaucracy and the information desired by public representatives are not paid heed to what the public representatives say are not heard or ignored. That is why things have come to such a sorry pass...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The matter is quite simple that Member do not like the dependence on bureaucracy. They desire that works should be handed over to elected representatives. Please reply to it. Please tell us whether it is proposed to be done or not.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we definitely want to do that...(Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is already being done. Bureaucrats are not in control of all the things. Hon'ble Member has mentioned about the 37th report. We are ready to take follow up action and reply accordingly ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring it to the attention of the hon'ble Minister that he has made the MPs, Chairpersons of the Committees set up to monitor the utilisation of funds provided by the Rural Development Ministry. I have held a number of meetings in the three months so far, after the meetings I have come to the conclusion that there is no point in attending these meetings since no action is taken against anybody regarding the matters which we bring to their notice. I am not pleading for others I wish to put my point. I informed in writing to the hon. Minister that in 1997 I was urged upon to get a bridge constructed in my constituency involving an expenditure of rupees 20 lakh and the amount was sanctioned. Initially a sum of rupees 15 lakh was demanded for it but later on an additional amount of rupees 5 lakhs was also sought and I thus sanctioned rupees twenty lakh for it but the said bridge has not been constructed till date. Now, as Chairman of this Committee, when I instituted an inquiry in this regard, it was revealed that construction of this bridge would involve an expenditure of rupees 1 crore 27 lakhs. I am not an engineer but would definitely like to know that on what basis the engineer initially said that the construction would involve a cost of rupees 15 lakh. Then

this cost was escalated to rupees 20 lakh and the said amount was sanctioned, even then the bridge was not constructed. And now when I became the Chairman of district level Committee and conducted inquiry in this regard to find out as to why the bridge was not constructed, it was stated that there is a need of rupees 1 crore 27 lakh to construct the bridge I want to know what are the reasons behind it.

Sir, the main reason behind this is that a local MLA dishonestly got another bridge constructed beside the site which involved the cost of Rupees 1 crore 30 lakh. Therefore, they are demanding rupees 1 crore 30 lakhs. I would like to know that on what basis the engineer earlier made an estimate of rupees 20 lakh and now how it has been increased to rupees 1 crore 30 lakh?....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Paswan ji, please ask the question only.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would conduct inquiry by the CBI in this matter and whether there is any authority with the Union Government through which high level inquiry could be conducted in this regard.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would look into the entire details in this matter, but I would request the hon. Member to apprise me of this matter. I would hold a complete inquiry and would take action, whatever is required....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : What machinery the Govt. have that would enable him to hold inquiry...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Paswan ji, hon. Minister has said that he would hold a high level inquiry.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our hon. Deputy Prime Minister is also present here, I would like to submit that earlier MPs had demanded that the Chairmanship of DRDA in the district should be provided to the MP. At that time Shri Sunder Lal Patwa was hon. Minister, he accepted this demand but later on it was put in the cold storage. Now the Ministry of Rural Development has appointed an MP as the Chairman of Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at the district level, as has been told and orders have also been issued to this effect. But as a Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee of Urban and Rural Development Ministry, I would like to share my experiences that we have visited 9 states recently. During this period we felt that this is being implemented only in one or two States, remaining States are not implementing it. It is also not being implemented in my State, Maharashtra. I held meeting twice in Maharashtra. I wish to submit that all the Centrally sponsored schemes, not only of the Urban and Rural Development Ministry but also of other Ministry viz., Sarvashiksha Abhiyan...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Khaire ji, please complete your question. If you ask so lengthy question, other Member would not get opportunity.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Sir, Members of Parliament are not consulted in the matter of centrally sponsored schemes....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Khaire ji, many MPs have to ask question on this matter, please ask the question.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : MPs are not consulted in this regard that is why this should be expanded a little. Not only Urban and Rural Development but Health Department should also be involved in it. All the centrally sponsored schemes which are implemented in our constituencies and districts should not have the Chairman only from the Urban or Rural Development Committee. Through you, I would like to make this submission to the hon. Minister. Moreover I also demand that meetings should be held every three months....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let them appoint Chairman first.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : What steps are going to be taken by the hon. Minister for Monitoring the funds being released from the Centre under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, as the States do not have funds....(Interruptions). These are important schemes.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member's statement is correct. I would not talk of other Ministries but would say that a Vigilance Monitoring Committee has been constituted for the Ministry of Rural Development. Sir, it is true that despite making requests from the Centre many States have not constituted Vigilance Monitoring Committee. We have given ultimatum also that we would take action if they do not constitute the Committee or do not hold quarterly meetings of the Monitoring Committee, we would take action in this matter as we do on audit report before releasing second instalment of the funds. The Ministry is very serious in this regard and we would take stern action further, whatever is required. I do not want to mention the name of those States, as there are so many such States, which have not constituted the Committees.

[English]

BPL Census

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*102. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL :

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether all the States have completed the BPL Census;
- (b) if so, the details and the results thereof;
- (c) if not, the time by which the BPL Census is likely to be completed by the remaining States;
- (d) the scoring point established to qualify for BPL identity;
- (e) whether still a large number of rural people are living below the poverty line and the Union Government have asked the State Governments to furnish list of such people;
- (f) if so, the details of the States which have submitted list about people living below the poverty line; and
- (g) the funds allocated to States and steps taken to uplift the people living below poverty line?

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

Statement

(a) to (g) During each Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Rural Development conducts a Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census with a view to identifying households living below the poverty line who could be assisted under various anti-poverty Programmes implemented by the Ministry. Accordingly the States/UTs were advised to identify the BPL households for assistance during the Tenth Plan and to complete the BPL Census, 2002 by June 2003. However, due to the ruling of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 5th May, 2003, in People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) Writ Petition No. 196 of 2001, the State Governments have been advised not to finalise the BPL list until the next hearing of the case. The results of BPL Census (2002) are to be finalized after obtaining the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard.

The identification of the poor in BPL Census 2002 is to be done through door-to-door survey with hundred percent coverage in each village. A 'Score Based Ranking' of each household indicating their quality of life, based on both economic and social indicators, has been adopted for the BPL Census, 2002, in contrast to the 'income' approach/the 'expenditure' approach involving 'exclusion criteria' adopted in the previous BPL Censuses.

No scoring point has been prescribed to qualify the households for BPL identity. The States/UTs are given the flexibility to decide the cut-off scores for identifying and sub-categorizing of the households into 'Poor' and 'Non-poor'. The cut-off scores may be uniform or could be varying from district to district, block to block and village to village within a State keeping in view ground realities. The cut-off scores may be decided after tabulating the data for the entire State.

The estimate of poverty is done by the Planning Commission based on the Quinquennial Consumer Expenditure Surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO). According to the estimation of the Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000, 27.09% of rural population was living below the poverty line. However, the State Governments have been advised to finalize the list of BPL households in conformity with the estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1993-94.

A total Central allocation of Rs. 18376.00 crore (RE) and Rs. 14070.00 crores (BE) for all the rural development programmes have been made for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 respectively. This Ministry is implementing a number of programmes such as wage employment, self-employment, area development programmes, sanitation and drinking water supply to uplift the rural people living below the poverty line.

[Translation]

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has not properly replied the Question No. 102. I had asked quite pointedly and explicitly as to whether all the States have completed the BPL/Census but is proper reply has not been given. It is written that the orders to complete the BPL census by 2003 have been given but as per the latest situation the census has not even started in several states and many states are facing several problems in this regard. The census workforce comprising the 'gramsevakhs', teachers and patwaris etc. ask for separate remuneration for undertaking census duty. Is the Union Government aware of this fact and if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide some financial assistance to the State Governments for this purpose?

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Committee on BPL census was set up by the Rural Development Department in 2001 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Sanjeeva Reddy comprising technocrats experts and the representatives of the Planning Commission and others. the Committee is functioning House to house, block to block and district to district survey is being done as per the directions of the Committee. During the Survey one thing which has

come to the fore is that while the earlier survey was based on income and expenditure the ongoing survey is being done on the basis of the economic and social position. This survey was to be completed by June 2002 but in between a writ petition challenging the survey was filed in the Supreme Court. Consequently stay order was granted in this matter thus the work will not resume until the next hearing is commenced. However we have made full preparation.

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : My supplementary question is as to how many States have completed this BPL census. I had asked the question on the basis of the statement made by the hon. Minister during his visit to West Bengal in which he stated that

[English]

the List of people living below poverty line from the State of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan is still awaited.

[Translation]

On the basis of this statement, I had asked the names of those States which have yet to furnish the detail to the center in this regard. I am asking a explicit question and hon. Minister should give a reply to it.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Several States have completed this work.

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : States ruled by the opposition may also be among them but this work has not been completed in Gujarat so far, hon. Minister should tell it clearly....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : We do not have the full information on it because of the stay granted by the Supreme Court and the matter is withheld and is subjudice. However, we are still looking forward to it. Several States have informed us in this regard and we have received a lot of information.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : I have three small questions.

MR. SPEAKER : You can not ask three questions but can ask only one question.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : There are very small three questions.

MR. SPEAKER : It is of no use, you could get the reply of only one question.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will ask in

parts a, b, and c. In second para of the statement, it has been stated that door-to-door survey in each village will be done under the BPL census 2002. My first question is related to the districts in Andaman and Nicobar which have been declared Nicobari tribal districts. However non. Tribals have also been living therefor the last fifty years and these non tribals have also been given the ration-cards, local certification and votes status by the Government of India. The Nicobari tribals have been having the status of being 100% BPL for the last 50 year. I would like to know whether or not the Government propose to increase non-tribals living in that area in the BPL category by conducting survey. I hail from Andaman and Nicobar. Part(b) of my question is that under the pattern evolved for carrying out BPL survey a score of 13 points and 52 points has been shown as per the economic and social indicators. However the draft list of scoring has only been given in Gram Sabha but the form of scoring has not been given alongwith it due to which it was passed in Gram Sabha as per the new pattern. However, the poor villagers made complaint to the Lieutenant Governor in writing that a mistake has been committed in scoring and it be finalised by again holding a meeting of Gram Sabha. I would like to know as to whether the Government would again conduct BPL Survey in Andaman and Nicobar Islands by putting up both i.e. original form and the application form in the Gram Sabha or not so that this grievance could be redressed. My third question relates to the discrimination that is being committed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The percentage of the BPL families in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram and Orissa as per 1997 census is 60 to 70 percent while it is below 20 percent in the case of Andaman and Nicobar. I would like to know the reason for it. I would also like to know whether the Government propose to compensate the mistake made in the BPL census 1997 during the Tenth Five Year Plan? These are my three small questions a, b, and c.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as first question about BPL census in the non-tribal area is concerned, I would like to say that it would certainly be done because it is to be done all across the country. As far his second question regarding the mistake of revising it completely through Gram Sabha is concerned, I would like to say that it would certainly be rectified. Thirdly, I would also like to say that during the 10th Five Year Plan, we would try to rectify the mistake of taking average of 10 percent families under BPL...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the efforts are being made by the Government for the upliftment of the persons living below the poverty line but the budgetary allocation for poverty alleviation has reduced to Rs. 14077 crore in the year 2003-2004 from Rs. 18376 crore in 2002-2003 budget. If the budgetary allocation keeps on going down, it is only likely to increase povert. Hence I would like to know as to how much budgetary allocation is proposed to be made in the forthcoming year 2004-2005?

Now, the percentage of the persons living below poverty line is 26. I would like to know as to what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to decrease the number of persons living below poverty line next year? Besides, the rural development needs to be called BJP development because if the rural development is to be achieved then the persons like them should be uplifted first.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as for the budgetary allocation for 2003-2004 is concerned, hon. Member has said that it is less in comparison to the previous year. The allocation under this Head was increased in the revised estimates last years and Rs. 18 thousand 376 crore were allocated for this purpose. I hope that the budgetary allocation of Rs. 14 thousand 70 crore for this year would also be increased. The same will apply for the forthcoming year. The Government wants to provide sufficient funds for the development of rural areas and the rural folk.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, right now the question about the list of people living below poverty line was raised. Through you, I would like to say to the hon. Minister that the list of the people living below poverty line is not correct. At some places it has been seen that the names of the poor i.e. the people living below poverty line are not in that list instead the names of rich people are there....(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : You ask direct Question. Other Members also have to ask question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Whenever we visit rural areas, we find that the name of a person has not been included in that list who is very poor, living below the poverty line and whose name should be there. There is no such way and we are not authorised to write to the District Magistrate or Block officer to include the name of a person in the list of people living below poverty line and when we do so, no action is taken in this regard. The name of a poor person, who is living below poverty line is not included in the list for years. Hence he remains deprived of the benefits of schemes launched by the Government. In spite of the fact that we are the representatives of people, we are unable to help him in getting his name included in the list. That letter lies pending at the block and panchayat level. I would like to say that the poor people need a special kind of protection. Would the hon'ble Minister after considering the matter find out a way or issue orders that if we write letter for including the name of a person in the list of the people living below poverty line then

the name of that person, provided he is eligible, be included in the list within specific time.

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, half-an-hour discussion should be held on this issue as there are many people whose names are not in that list...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the apprehension expressed by the hon'ble Member is true to a certain extent but as per the 73rd Amendment Act this right has been provided to Gram Sabha and according to Gram Sabha...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether the Gram Sabhas exit?(Interruptions) They don't exit at all(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Maneji, you please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all this remains on papers....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mistryji, you please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all these lists are prepared through Gram Sabha.....(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the figures are deliberately being lowered...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Correction will be carried out in that and if there is any complaint in this regard or a direct application has been forwarded by a Member, according to the records of Gram Sabha the District Magistrate would correct the list as he has been authorised for the same. Hence it is referred to the District Magistrate.

[Translation]

Custodial Deaths

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*103. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the advice given by the Supreme Court for amending the laws in view of the harassment in police custody, country-wide;

(b) if so, the details thereto and the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the Evidence Act to curb growing incidents of custodial deaths;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

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

Statement

The Supreme Court, while delivering its judgement in D.K. Basu Vs. State of West Bengal and others, took note of the need to amend the provisions of the Indian Evidence Act in order to contain the rise in the case of custodial violence, in line with the recommendations of the Law Commission. The Law Commission in its 113th Report, recommended the insertion of Section 114B in the Indian Evidence Act to provide that in the prosecution of a police officer for an alleged offence of having caused bodily injury to a person, if there was an evidence that the injury was caused during the period when a person was in the custody of the police, then the Court may presume that the injury was caused by the police officer having the custody of that person during that period. The Commission further recommended that the Court, while considering the question of presumption, should have regard to all relevant circumstances including the period of custody, statement made by the victim, medical evidence and the evidence which the Magistrate may have recorded.

Criminal Laws (both substantive and procedural) are subjects included in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Accordingly the recommendations of the Law Commission on matters relating to Criminal Law have been sent to all the State Governments/UT Administrations for their comments. A decision to initiate further amendments to the procedural law including the evidence act will depend on the views of the State Governments/UT Administrations.

The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill, 1994 was introduced in Parliament in 1994 proposing to amend the Cr. P.C. to provide for, inter-alia,-

- (i) Prohibition on the arrest of women before sunrise and after sunset except in unavoidable circumstances;

(ii) Mandatory provision for supplying information of detainee or arrested person to his friend/relative nominated by him;

(iii) Furnishing of a copy of medical report to the detainee when requested by him; and

(iv) Mandatory judicial inquiry in a case of alleged death, disappearance, or rape in custody.

[Translation]

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is his second question. In this way all our time get wasted...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Maneji, you please pay your attention to this that this is his second question. That question is over. This is not a supplementary rather next question has started.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to this fact that the hon'ble Supreme Court had expressed its concern over custodial deaths and directed to enact the law to prevent such deaths. The Government have made some amendments in Section 114 of the Evidence Act. I would like to know as to whether the amendments which have been made by the Government in the law keeping in view the intension of the order, issued by the Supreme Court, are sufficient or some more amendments are required? Whether, after the amendment, the number of custodial deaths has decreased or increased? The number of custodial deaths and number of persons punished in this regard till date?

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : Since this subject relates to concurrent list, a comprehensive Criminal Amendment Law in this regard has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha in 1994. It was referred to Standing Committee and has been sent back from there. But it has to be circulated among the States and we have circulated it. But now, since it has already been delayed, the Home Ministry is considering to fix a time limit for receiving comments from the States so that further action can be taken in this matter.

As regard the second part of the question is concerned, Justice Mailamaith Committee was constituted on the instructions of the Supreme Court which have been issued in this regard. We have received the recommendations of that Committee and as per that recommendations Criminal Justice Reforms, including IPC, Cr. P.C. and Evidence Act is

being considered with a view to make some amendment in this matter. Provisions have already been made in the Criminal Law Amendment Bill to amend Section 25, 26 and 27 of the Evidence Act.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, custodial deaths are taking place in this country and this is known to us as well as you. The administrative powers vested in the police are sometimes misused by them leading to custodial deaths which destroys the whole family. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether any legislation already exists or the Government propose to enact any legislation for providing compensation to the family Member or to the next of kin of the person dying in custody?

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : Right now, there is no such provision which provides compensation to the family members of such deceased. However, some consideration can be given to the suggestion rendered in this regard. However, I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Member as he had earlier also asked as to whether or not anybody has been punished for custodial death. I would like to tell that 475 custodial deaths other than judicial custody have taken place between 2000-2003. The reason for the deaths in the judicial custody is that most of them are infirm and old aged and have protracted ailments and a lot of deaths take place due to this reason. However, all the States have to submit the information about the deaths taking place both in judicial custodies and police custodies to the National Human Rights Commission and the Commission has recommended that out of 475 cases action be taken against the guilty in 21 cases and it has recommended for prosecuting, punishing, suspension and disciplinary action in 21 cases of deaths in judicial custody and police custody. Right now there is no provision for compensation.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Whether the Government are contemplating to provide compensation?

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : I have already said that the suggestion rendered by the Hon'ble Member would be kept in mind while considering the recommendation of the Members Committee and while bringing Bill on the judicial reforms.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fundamental rights under section 21 of the constitution which deals with the protection of life and liberty states.

[English]

"No person shall be deprived of his life and personal liberty according to the procedure established by law".

[Translation]

In reply to the unstarred Question No. 4212 dated 30th

April in Rajya Sabha, it has been stated that the total number of complaints registered with the NHRC during the last three years is 90,852 and in reply to the unstarred Question No. 4235 of Rajya Sabha asked the same day it has been stated that 832 custodial deaths have taken place during the last three years. It is quite apparent that the fundamental rights of the persons dying in custody has been violated. C.B.I. despite being such a big institution has never been accused of using third degree methods and it completes its investigation without using third degree whereas it deals with different kind of cases. However, other than C.B.I., fake encounters are staged to settle score with an adversary. Who are killed in police stations? Those killed are very poor persons who neither have money nor any approach. The big fish use money power. It is a subject of human rights. In the past, we had raised the Jhazzar issue which involved custodial death. These incidents take place in other states also and the incidents of blinding and torture take place. Such inhuman incidents take place forcing the Supreme Court to intervene and direct the administration. The Supreme Court has asked the Government to implement the recommendations of the report of the Law Commission which also include divesting SHO of some of the powers as barring a few exceptions so much powers has been vested in him that he be keep even DGP and IG of Police in look up. If SHO's are held responsible for custodial deaths 90 percent of such incidents can be prevented. I would also like to know the names of those State Governments which have yet to respond to the Centre's written directives in this regard? The Supreme Court has asked the Government to amend the existing law and the person guilty of causing even injuries during custody deserves to be punished. I would like to know as to by when the Government propose to amend the Evidence Act. I would also like to know the names of those States which have yet to submit their reports to the Union Government so far?

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : Several State Governments have not responded. Right now I don't have the details and as I had stated during the reply of my supplementary question that final instruction from the Ministry of Home Affairs is being given that if the State Government fail to respond to a particular date it would be presumed by the Ministry that....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Particular date, that is, by when?

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : The Home Ministry has decided to give either one month's or twenty day's time. It will be sent right now so that the amendment Bill...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Government bring the Bill in the forthcoming budget session...(Interruptions)

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : We would try to finalise the matter by then by giving notices to the State Governments ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, through you, I want to know from the hon. Home Minister whether the Central Government is aware of the police encounters held frequently in some States like Tamil Nadu. Recently, one Mr. Venkatesa Pannaiyar was shot dead by the Tamil Nadu Police when he was sleeping in his house. I want to know whether any complaint has been lodged with the Central Government regarding such encounters.

Apart from that, a lady called Serina was also harassed by the Tamil Nadu Police. The High Court at Chennai made an adverse observation in this regard. I would like to know the reaction of the Central Government.

SHRI I. D. SWAMI : This needs a separate notice because the main Question is about the custodial death and not about encounters. Encounter is not an issue now, custodial death is the issue. So, a separate notice would be needed.

Computerisation of Land Records

*104. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has computerised Land Records in all the districts of the country;

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

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to expand the scheme in the remaining districts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) the funds demanded/ allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The Scheme of Computerisation of Land Records was started in 1988-89 with the objective of providing computerised copies of ownership details to the landowners on demand. So far 582 out of 593 districts of the country have

been covered under the scheme. An Annexure showing number of districts covered (State-wise) under the Scheme is enclosed.

(c) to (e) The remaining 11 districts in the States of Meghalaya and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Diu and Lakshadweep are proposed to be covered during the 10th Five Year Plan. These State/UTs have been requested to update their Land Records and then take up computerisation.

(f) This is a demand driven Scheme, therefore no State-wise allocation is made. However, the proposals received from the State Governments are examined as per the Guidelines and funds released accordingly. Since inception of the Scheme, Government of India has released Rs. 288.25 crores (upto 30.11.2003) to States/UTs for the implementation of the Scheme.

Annexure

Sl.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	No. of Districts covered
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14
3.	Assam	23
4.	Bihar	37
5.	Gujarat	25
6.	Goa	1
7.	Haryana	19
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14
10.	Karnataka	27
11.	Kerala	14
12.	Madhya Pradesh	45
13.	Maharashtra	35
14.	Manipur	8
15.	Meghalaya	0
16.	Mizoram	9

1	2	3
17.	Nagaland	8
18.	Orissa	30
19.	Punjab	17
20.	Rajasthan	32
21.	Sikkim	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	29
23.	Tripura	4
24.	Uttar Pradesh	70
25.	West Bengal	18
26.	Chhattisgarh	16
27.	Jharkhand	22
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
29.	Delhi	9
30.	Pondicherry	1
31.	Chandigarh	1
32.	Daman & Diu	1
Total		582

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I have already gone through the statement which has been laid on the Table of the House. It is mentioned in the reply that the scheme of computerisation of land records has already covered 582 districts out of 593 districts. So, it is assumed that the land records of the land owners in respect of these districts have already been prepared.

In this context, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the extent of excess land, which is in excess as per the Land Ceiling Act of the respective States. What is the total amount of excess land State-wise? I request the hon. Minister to give the figures State-wise.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Sir, as it has been already replied, out of 593 districts, 582 districts have been covered under the computerisation scheme. Out of 6,111 *taluks* in the country, 3,114 *taluks* have been covered under computerisation scheme at the cost of about Rs. 288 crore since the beginning of 1988-89. As far as computerising the

land records of the remaining *taluks* and districts is concerned, it is planned that by Tenth Plan it would be there.

The hon. Member is particularly interested in knowing about the total excess land as per the Land Ceiling Act. Now, it is very difficult to tell him the figure. I would certainly pass on the information to him.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Sir, I wanted to know about the excess lands. I think the hon. Minister would supply the figures.

My second supplementary is this. Computerisation of land records would be beneficial for the implementation of the land reforms programme. I would like to know whether the Union Government is contemplating to convene a meeting of the Ministers of the State Governments at the national level to review the land reforms programme and to assess how far the State Governments have implemented it in their respective States.

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : We had held a meeting in this regard last year about which detail has been provided. If all of you favour it there I would held a meeting with the concerned Ministers of each State and I moved certainly take best possible action in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SHRINIVAS PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to ask the supplementary question. I was the person who was connected with the land records in one of the districts earlier. What is the main purpose of computerisation? It is to facilitate speedy supply of information on land records to a needy person. If one goes and applies for the land record and if he does not get it, there is no use of computerisation. The person who needs the land records the most is the farmer. There is a need for computer at the *panchayat* level or at the village level. The person who is in-charge of land records at the ground level is the *Taleti* or the *Patwari*. If he wants a *khate utara*, to apply for that he has to go to *taluk*. Then, where is the speedy implementation?

So, unless the land record is available to a common man who requires it at the village level, what is the use of computerisation? Otherwise, if you ask a person to go to a *taluk* or district headquarters, he has to spend money to go there. Then, he has to wait for the computerised records. I would like to know whether the Government of India is thinking of giving relief-through the State Governments to a person who wants the record at the village level; how it is given and when it is given.

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL : The hon. Member has states that this will not yield any benefit. It is not true. The governments of Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Goa have completed their work in this regard and the government of West Bengal is about to achieve its target. The hand written record is both slow and expensive.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, his question is different. It will be better if you can take it still further. That is what he wants you to do.

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : It is going to help us.

MR. SPEAKER : You both belong to the same State.

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL : Of course, it would be done.

[English]

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL : I know the difficulties in getting it.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : After completion of the work at the taluk level, we will definitely go to the lower level. Ultimately our aim is to do it.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good.

Metro Rail Services

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*105. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce Metro Rail Services in States surrounding National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government is encouraging different States to plan for Metro Rail systems for their large urban areas and cities particularly the States having a population of more than forty lakhs;

(d) if so, the details of plans submitted and clearance given by the Union Government to such States;

(e) the financial and technical assistance offered by the Union Government therefor; and

(f) the details of Memorandum of Understanding signed between the States and DMRC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Union Government has not received any proposal for extension of the Delhi Metro (mass rapid transit system-MRTS) to any of the States surrounding the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) has taken up studies to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for extending the Delhi MRTS to NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh and Gurgaon in Haryana.

(c) to (e) The Union Government considers, on merit, proposals of States for techno-economic studies to improve urban transport facilities in major cities, including metro rail systems, and funds a part (40 per cent) of the cost of such studies undertaken by States for this purpose. So far, grant-in-aid of Rs. 1281 lakh approx. has been released by the Union Government to sixteen States for such studies in twenty five cities. In respect of metro rail projects, the Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for Bangalore, based on a DPR prepared by the DMRC with approved funding assistance of Rs. 1 crore from the Union Government. The proposed metro rail project for Bangalore, involves a total length of 33 km. approx. in two corridors. The proposal has been referred to the Planning Commission. In view of the present status of the proposal, it is not possible to indicate the nature and quantum of financial assistance of the Union Government for this project.

(f) DMRC has not entered into Memorandum of Understanding with any State Government. However, State Governments of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat have signed agreements with the DMRC for preparation of DPRs for metro rail systems in the cities of Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Ahmedabad respectively. The DPRs have suggested two corridors (aggregate length of 33 km. approx.) for Bangalore and two corridors (aggregate length of 39 km. approx.) for Hyderabad. The DPRs for Mumbai and Ahmedabad have not been received by the Union Government.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, work on metro rail is going on in Delhi. People living in the vicinity of Delhi are also becoming aware of it. Its necessity is being realised also in cities having dense population. Union Government provides 40 percent of the cost of studies to this effect. Gurgaon and Noida lie close to Delhi. Even there the need of metro rail is being realised. Metro rail is also being considered for other cities such as Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Patna etc. I would like to know from the Government whether they propose to extend metro rail till Gurgaon and Noida? Besides, I would like to know by what time the proposals of State Governments regarding metro rail in their respective states would be approved and work would start?

[English]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA : The hon. Member has asked a question. In my answer. I have given the States which have come forward with the proposal. I have already indicated them. Under the Central Scheme of funding studies for metro and other systems, Andhra Pradesh has come forward with a proposal for Hyderabad, Chhattisgarh for Raipur, Gujarat for Bhavnagar and Jamnagar; Kerala for Thiruvananthapuram; Madhya Pradesh for Gwalior, Indore and Jabalpur; Maharashtra for Mumbai and Thane. Along with this, proposal has come from Punjab for Patiala; from Tamil Nadu for Chennai. The proposals for studies for the projects have come. I have already indicated them to him.

In the Tenth Plan, we have allocated Rs. 200 crore mainly for the techno-economic feasibility studies. It is very important. I have already indicated in my answer that we are only providing money-to the extent of 40 percent of the cost - towards the Detailed Project Reports. Accordingly, the DMRC is making the Detailed Project Report for some cities. After getting the DPR, it will go to the Planning Commission. After the Planning Commission approves it, it will go to the Cabinet. After going to the Cabinet, the project agreements will be signed by the respective State Governments. I am very happy to say that if it comes from Patna, I will definitely go for the DPR of Patna and try to help him also.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, proposal in this regard has already been received from Bangalore. Though such proposals from Mumbai and Ahmedabad have yet not been received. Please tell us as to what decision will be taken in regard to these three?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA : As I have already told you, detailed project report on Mumbai is being prepared, a decision will be taken only after that. Karnataka is most advanced of all. There action will be taken after the receipt of Planning Commission.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Reward to Medal Winners

*106. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government had promised lakhs of rupees to the Asiad and Commonwealth Games Medal winners;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that many Medal winners are yet to receive the amount announced;
- (d) if so, the names thereof and reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the Medal winners would be paid the amount announced?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) to (e) The medal winners in International sports events such as the Olympics, World Championships, Asian and Commonwealth Games and Asian and Commonwealth Championships are given cash incentives under the existing scheme of "Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and Their Coaches". In consideration of the excellent performance of our sportspersons in the Asian and Commonwealth Games 2002, enhanced cash incentives were announced by the Government for which adequate budgetary provision was not available during the financial year 2002-03. The Ministry has, therefore, made part payments to these medal winners. In the meanwhile, in order to fulfil the commitment already made in this regard, the Ministry of Finance as well as the Planning Commission have been approached for approving the additional funds under the above scheme by way of re-appropriation. As soon as approval for the same is received, the balance of the committed cash awards will be paid to the winners of the Asian and Commonwealth Games 2002. A statement as list of names of the medal winners of these Games who have been given part payments is enclosed.

Statement***List of Winners in Asian Games 2002***

1. Bahadur Singh Sagoo
2. Saraswati Saha
3. K.M. Beenamol
4. Sunita Rani
5. Anju Bobby George
6. Neelam Jaswant Singh
7. Jincy Philips
8. Soma Biswas
9. Manjeer Kaur
10. Manjuma Kurikose
11. S. Geeta
12. Yasin Merchant
13. Rafathabib
14. Shiv Kapur
15. B.C. Ramesh
16. Samsher Singh
17. Neer Gulia
18. Ramesh Kumar
19. B.C. Suresh
20. Sanjeev Kumar
21. Denesh Kumar
22. Jagdish
23. Manpreet Singh
24. Sunder Singh
25. Jagadeesha K.K.
26. Ram Mehar Singh
27. Leander Paes
28. Mahesh Bhupathi
29. K.M. Binu
30. Madhuri A Singh
31. Bobby Aloysius
32. P. Ramchandran
33. Manoj Lal
34. Satbir Singh
35. Bhupender Singh
36. Jata Shankar
37. Paramjit Singh
38. Geet Sethi
39. Alok Kumar
40. Dillip Tirkey
41. Devesh Singh Chauhan
42. Bharat Kumar
43. Jugraj Singh
44. Dinesh Nayak Vatheir.
45. Viran Rasquinha
46. Vikram Vishnu Pillay

47. Ignace Tirkey
48. Bimal Lakra
49. Gagan Ajit Singh
50. Prabhjot Singh
51. Daljit Singh Dhillon
52. Tajbir Singh
53. Kanwalpreet Singh
54. Dhanraj Pillay
55. Deepak Thakur
56. Nitin Mongia
57. Manavjit Singh
58. Mansher Singh
59. Anwer Sultan
60. Suma Shirur
61. Anjali Bhagwat
62. Deepali Deshpande
63. Manisha Malhotra
64. Shakti Singh
65. Anil Kumar
66. J.J. Shobha
67. Sunita Rani
68. Inderjeet Lamba
69. Bhagirath Singh
70. Rajesh Pattu
71. Deep Ahlawat
72. Jenil Krishnan
73. Inder Pal Singh
74. Roshan Lal
75. P. T. Paulose
76. Ashim Mongia
77. R. Mahesh
78. Rajesh Chaudhary
79. Surender Bhandari
80. Sania Mirze
81. Vishal Uppal
82. Mustafa Ghouse
83. Palwinder Singh Cheema

List of Winners in Commonwealth Games 2002

1. Abhinav Bindra
2. Sameer Ambekar
3. Samresh Jung
4. Vivek Singh
5. Ali Khan
6. Rajya Vardhan Singh
7. Jaspal Rana
8. Mukesh Kumar
9. Bhawar Lal Dhaka
10. Mahaveer Singh
11. Rajya Vardhan Singh

Powers Vested in CVC

*107. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the passing of the Central Vigilance Commission Bill, the enhanced powers of CVC to supervise the functioning of CBI have produced better results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CVC has the powers to profile offences committed by Union Government Officers, corporations, societies and local authorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it would help in checking the corruption in all these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 (No. 45 of 2003) received the assent of the President on 19.11.2003 and has been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on 12.9.2003. It is yet early to assess the results achieved in this regard.

(c) and (d) According to Section 8 (1) (d) of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003, the Commission is empowered to inquire or cause an inquiry or investigation to be made into any complaint against any official belonging to such category of officials specified in sub-section(2) (i.e Members of All India Services serving in connection with the affairs of the Union and Group 'A' officials of the Central Government and such level of officers of the corporations established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies and other local authorities, owned or controlled by the Central Government, as that Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, specify in this behalf) wherein it is alleged that he has committed an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and an offence with which a public servant specified in sub-section (2) may, under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 be charged at the same trial.

(e) The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 is aimed at curbing corruption in such organizations.

Uniform Rate of Drugs

*108. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

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

12. Charan Singh
13. A. P. Subbalaiah
14. Anwer Sultan
15. Anjali Bhagwat
16. Suma Shirur
17. Rajkumari
18. Sheweta Chaudhary
19. Sheila Kunungo
20. Thandave Muthu
21. Vicky Batta
22. C.P.S. Kumar
23. Kunjurani Devi
24. Snamacha Chanu
25. Sunaina
26. Pratima Kumari
27. Prasmita Mangrajan
28. Neelam Sethi Laxmi
29. Shalleja Pujari
30. Mohammad Ali Qamar
31. Som Bahadur Pun
32. Jitendra Kumar
33. Chetan Baboor
34. S. Raman
35. Somyadee P Roy
36. Krishnan Kumar
37. Ramesh Kumar
38. Palvinder Singh Cheema
39. Anuj Kumar
40. Shokinder Tomar
41. Anil Kumar
42. Neelam Jaswant Singh
43. Anju Bobby George
44. Akram Shah
45. Bhupinder Singh
46. Amandeep Kaur
47. Sumrai Tele
48. Suman Bala
49. Kanti Baa
50. Sita Gussain
51. Tingorgleima Chanu
52. Helen Mary
53. Pakpi Devi
54. Surja Lata Devi
55. Masira Surin
56. Manjinder Kaur
57. Sanggai Chanu
58. Pritam Rani Shwach
59. Mamta Kharab
60. Jyoti Sunita Kulk
61. Saba Anjum
62. Aparana Popat

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government has decided to have a uniform rate of drugs inclusive of the local taxes printed on the medicine packs for the benefit of the consumers;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the rate of local taxes vary from State to State and the manner in which the Government propose to resolve this issue in consultation with the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it was also decided to print the price of the drugs and the sales tax to be charged thereon separately on the pack in view of the varying rates of the taxes;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any final decision has been taken to resolve the issues related to non-inclusion of local levies in the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for medicines; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKDEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above, does not arise.

(c) and (d) The rates of local taxes vary from State to State. There is no proposal to equalize the rate of each local tax in all the States..

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In view of reply to (e) above, does not arise.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) In view of reply to (g) above, does not arise.

Comprehensive Legislation for the SSI Sector

***109. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :**

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of **SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to formulate a comprehensive legislation for the small scale industries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the expert group had recommended in 1997 that there should be a separate law for small enterprises with the objectives of defining the sector and outlining the broad framework for its promotion;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government is planning to redraft the Small Enterprise Development Bill, 2003;

(f) whether the Small Scale Industries have requested the Union Government to provide purchase preference to them;

(g) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(h) the other incentives given by the Union Government to Small Scale Industries to enable them to compete in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. C. P. THAKUR) : (a) and (b) Government have formulated the draft legislation viz "Small Enterprises Development Bill, which seeks to address concerns of the Small Scale Industries (SSI) sector related to credit, marketing, trade protection, labour related returns/inspections, registration of SSI units, Government Purchases, etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Expert Committee on Small Enterprises constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Abid Hussain in 1997 had recommended a separate law for small enterprises. The Committee had further recommended that "the objective of the law would be to define the small enterprises sector and outline the board framework for the promotion of the sector".

(e) The Union Government had entrusted a study for simplification of laws, rules procedures affecting small scale industries sector and the task of suggesting a Single Comprehensive Law for SSIs to the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad. ASCI attempted the Small Enterprises Development Bill for SSIs. The draft Bill prepared by the ASCI was presented to the members of SSI Board in its 47th Meeting held on 4th July, 2002. Thereafter, the draft was circulated to all concerned and based on the feed back received, ASCI prepared a revised draft. Comments were again sought from the State Governments and other stake holders. Taking into consideration the comments received, the Small Enterprises Development Bill has been redrafted by the Union Government.

(f) and (g) A Government Stores Purchase Programme for Small Scale Industries (SSIs) already exists wherein 358 items are reserved for exclusive purchase from small units and a price preference upto 15% is admissible to SSIs.

(h) The promotion and development of SSIs has been a conscious policy of Government as is evidenced by various measures announced from time to time. A Comprehensive Policy Package was announced by the

Government in August, 2000 to enhance the domestic and global competitiveness of small scale industries through inter alia, easier access to credit, technology, infrastructure, marketing and entrepreneurship development. In addition, Government and the Reserve Bank of India have also announced various other measure/incentives including instructions to banks to provide credit to SSIs at interest within a band of 2% plus minus Prime Lending Rate (PLR), introduction of Laghu Udyami Card Scheme, selective enhancement of investment limits etc. to enable SSIs to compete successfully in the open market.

Housing Schemes

*110. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds allocated/released under various Central Rural Housing Schemes during the last two years and till date, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) whether the funds allocated for these schemes have been utilised within the stipulated time by the State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof as well as the achievements made so far, State-wise;

(d) whether shelterless were aimed to be provided with shelter by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether only 50.34 lakh houses were constructed/upgraded as on March, 2002 against the target of 109.53 lakh housing units;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the details of the funds misutilised or expenditure incurred in excess of the approved norms during the said period, State-wise; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (c) The State-wise details of funds allocated/released, utilised and number of houses constructed/upgraded under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), the flagship programme of rural housing and other Rural Housing Schemes of the Ministry during the years 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 till date are enclosed as statement.

(d) to (f) In pursuance to the national Housing policy announced in 1998, a special Action Plan was prepared for construction of additional 13 lakh new houses annually in the rural areas in addition to the existing target of about 12.50

lakh houses annually with an emphasis on extending benefits to the poor and the deprived.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C & AG) in its Report No. 3 of 2003 has indicated that against the target of 109.53 lakh housing units, only 50.34 lakh houses were constructed or upgraded as on March, 2002 under various Rural Housing Schemes. However, as per the information available with this Ministry, around 52.38 lakh houses were constructed/upgraded in rural areas under various housing schemes of the Ministry and through the efforts of Housing & Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO) and National Housing Bank (NHB). One of the major constraints in implementation of the Action Plan is inadequate budgetary resources. As a result, shelterlessness in rural areas by the end of 9th Plan could not be achieved in full.

(g) The C & AG has also reported that funds amounting to Rs. 1.83 crore were misutilized/misappropriation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Manipur, Mizoram and West Bengal. Also excess expenditure aggregating to Rs. 4.04 crore was incurred beyond norms on construction/upgradation of houses during the said period as per details given below:

(Rs. in crore)			
States	Misappropriation/ Misutilization of funds	Excess Expenditure	Total Amount
Andhra Pradesh	0.56		0.56
Assam		1.36	1.36
Chhattisgarh		0.97	0.97
Gujarat		0.70	0.70
Karnataka	0.02		0.02
Manipur	0.39		0.39
Mizoram	0.25		0.25
Himachal Pradesh		0.18	0.18
Orissa		0.23	0.23
Tamil Nadu		0.19	0.19
Tripura		0.22	0.22
West Bengal	0.61	0.19	0.80
Total	1.83	4.04	5.87

The State Governments concerned have been requested to take the remedial measures.

(h) The Government is trying to provide assistance for construction/upgradation of as many houses as possible in rural areas within the available budgetary resources.

Statement

Statewise allocation (Central plus State), Central Releases (Central plus State), Utilisation and Number of Houses Constructed/Upgraded under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during last 2 years and current year till date i.e. (05.12.2003)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	2001-02				2002-03				2003-04				Nos of Houses Constructed/Upgraded	Nos of Houses Constructed/Upgraded
		Allocation (C+S)	Releases (C+S)	Utilisation	Nos of Houses Constructed/Upgraded	Allocation (C+S)	Releases (C+S)	Utilisation	Nos of Houses Constructed/Upgraded	Allocation (C+S)	Releases (C+S)	Utilisation	Nos of Houses Constructed/Upgraded		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15725.94	24115.19	15553.62	82228	16093.63	16476.20	20122.58	126837	18225.83	9137.96	9227.91	57992		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	740.08	703.41	822.02	4542	759.89	984.57	665.38	3423	837.00	424.47	308.48	1626		
3.	Assam	16652.15	11494.84	10974.00	46817	17098.20	13316.44	10433.62	65587	18832.79	9416.44	2505.29	10446		
4.	Bihar	42718.39	26630.72	30940.08	167979	43717.12	26306.53	28339.43	172542	49509.11	25023.59	5041.82	41857		
5.	Chhattisgarh	2680.19	2756.71	2796.40	22996	2752.07	2703.80	2923.19	16255	3116.68	2537.52	1243.65	4503		
6.	Goa	101.00	70.71	56.88	317	103.97	52.00	49.80	269	117.76	51.71	27.07	83		
7.	Gujarat	4519.50	8166.59	4364.16	27497	4625.13	7357.34	5330.60	27053	5237.95	4342.25	2709.46	10212		
8.	Haryana	1528.19	1856.39	1677.30	9814	1563.93	1586.35	1927.66	9840	1771.12	1752.24	689.64	2768		
9.	Himachal Pradesh	676.07	1137.56	706.68	3852	691.88	1143.45	628.68	3413	783.55	398.05	130.18	512		
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	806.73	1364.36	1143.06	7632	827.63	611.53	911.35	5749	937.28	534.45	278.35	1844		
11.	Jharkhand	12551.05	5136.68	7723.47	50136	12844.51	7274.45	8064.81	40482	14546.23	7128.59	1342.21	8340		
12.	Karnataka	8134.51	7038.59	7261.22	43824	8324.69	6469.63	7502.49	42452	9427.61	6796.55	4079.34	20533		
13.	Kerala	5040.77	5087.91	4618.14	21372	5158.63	3960.40	4517.33	32107	5842.08	2946.08	2529.11	17638		
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9384.51	9959.45	9534.23	64962	9603.89	9357.35	10206.99	63691	10876.32	8617.25	4387.97	15215		

Rs. in lakh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15.	Maharashtra	14433.05	14524.80	18346.48	88773	14770.44	13478.60	21137.15	80928	18727.41	8263.64	5679.12	24514
16.	Manipur	882.41	445.81	283.45	1538	906.01	346.68	551.34	2571	997.96	252.17	14.31	65
17.	Meghalaya	1172.39	588.60	754.91	3953	1203.80	1208.20	741.83	3305	1325.92	397.07	416.47	2353
18.	Mizoram	281.45	232.45	223.78	1275	288.97	232.77	231.06	1305	318.31	159.20	96.73	538
19.	Nagaland	756.83	778.41	648.52	4473	777.12	388.56	666.73	6698	855.93	428.00	93.38	669
20.	Orissa	12659.96	61984.05	32576.78	169488	12955.96	43391.26	80678.23	444669	14672.47	29330.65	13583.19	59409
21.	Punjab	1012.34	1149.51	919.92	5317	1036.00	798.06	1028.10	5651	1173.27	550.25	461.61	2253
22.	Rajasthan	4264.37	4421.27	4635.03	30471	4364.06	4199.08	4715.54	37592	4942.27	4083.85	2576.02	20150
23.	Sikkim	202.90	178.43	237.31	1754	208.33	199.83	155.17	1149	229.47	114.75	165.34	1059
24.	Tamil Nadu	7697.15	9439.27	12065.45	43540	8081.77	8273.91	14446.87	62968	9152.52	9152.52	4722.98	17006
25.	Tripura	1711.80	2225.35	1713.38	10382	1757.67	2636.51	2050.88	10321	1836.96	1310.65	1172.27	3486
26.	Uttar Pradesh	26793.49	31371.17	29346.45	171944	29466.67	27995.78	31225.28	177190	33370.67	16685.33	2702.21	17533
27.	Uttaranchal	2990.65	1619.51	2484.75	11245	3080.57	2682.12	2297.13	11799	3468.07	1733.04	1063.17	4868
28.	West Bengal	16972.43	14272.62	12283.36	71553	17369.21	13548.11	14951.86	86377	19670.45	9275.24	3289.49	20611
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	143.47	171.55	187.99	858	145.82	40.32	188.68	532	166.27	0.00	66.14	456
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	75.29	49.70	22.36	202	77.05	0.00	3.48	54	87.26	33.35	0.00	0
31.	Daman & Diu	31.16	15.58	9.12	66	31.89	0.00	8.24	48	36.12	0.00	0.37	4
32.	Lakshadweep	2.44	1.62	3.10	15	2.50	2.50	2.75	5	2.83	2.84	1.01	6
33.	Pondicherry	71.22	23.31	42.09	266	72.90	74.63	57.31	403	82.55	41.26	20.27	94
Total		215625.47	249211.91	214955.52	1171061	220742.95	217097.95	2787759.53	1543267	248275.02	160930.96	70613.56	368533

(C-5) Centre plus State Matching Share

Target under PMRY

*111. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether sponsoring of a much larger number of applicants than the actual target under PMRY has led to dissatisfaction amongst the intended beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the norms fixed for the purpose;

(c) the action taken by the Government to achieve the target each year;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the apathy of the participating Banks is the main contributory factor for continued poor performance under District Credit Plan and other welfare schemes in Union Territory of Chandigarh; and

(e) if so, action taken to improve the situation and achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the guidelines of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), applications upto 125% of the annual target are to be sponsored. This additional sponsoring of the applications is to ensure the achievement of the target by taking into account rejections due to the ineligibility of the applicants.

(c) In order to achieve the targets, Government has taken various measures that inter-alia, include liberalization of certain parameters of the scheme in respect of age, educational qualifications, activities covered, annual family income, collateral free financing for projects under industry sector etc. In addition, reviews are being held with various agencies at the Central, State and District levels to monitor the implementation of the scheme.

(d) Information on District Credit Plans are not maintained centrally. However, as per the reports received from the Reserve Bank of India in respect of PMRY, 1273 cases have been sanctioned against the total target of 1350 between the years 1993-94 to 2002-03 in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(e) This issue has been taken up with the Reserve Bank of India and the States/UTs to further improve the performance.

Enlargement of Industrial Area

*112. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to enlarge the area earmarked for small scale industries of Delhi so as to include other non-conforming areas of Delhi to benefit industrial units operating from those areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such an attempt would be consistent with the earlier action of the Government to shift such industrial units from the non-conforming areas;

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

(e) whether the Central Pollution Control Board and other such agencies are proposed to be consulted before taking any final decision for enlargement of the existing industrial area of Delhi; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (f) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi had forwarded a proposal for in-situ regularization of 24 non-conforming/residential clusters areas of Delhi where concentration of industries was more than 70%. These recommendations were made keeping in view the shortage of land in Delhi and cost of relocation of all non-conforming units.

The Delhi Development Authority, vide its Resolution No. 113 dated December 20, 2002 recommended for such in-situ regularization of industries. While recommending the same, it also took into view the recommendations of a Sub-Group constituted by it under the chairmanship of Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board to recommend policy measures for industrial sector in the context of Master Plan of Delhi-2021. After taking into account the existing scenario of industrial concentration in various parts of Delhi, planned industrial areas in Delhi, requirement of new industrial areas etc. this Sub-Group recommended regularization of non-conforming industrial clusters on redevelopment of these areas and adherence to certain regulations/planning principles.

Government felt that various issues confronting planned development of Delhi need to be addressed in a holistic and comprehensive manner while formulating new Master Plan-2021. Accordingly, it has issued guidelines to the Delhi Development Authority for facilitating formulation of Master Plan of Delhi 2021. The guidelines highlighted various concerns that need resolution and includes the issue of concentration of industries in non-industrial areas to the extent of 70% or more. Accordingly, Delhi Development Authority has been asked to examine the issue of industrial concentration in non-conforming areas during formulation of Master Plan 2021. This will involve consultation with all concerned agencies/stakeholders.

The guidelines for formulation of Master Plan 2021 have been widely publicized for suggestions and response to facilitate Delhi Development Authority in taking a

comprehensive view of these aspects while formulating the Master Plan of Delhi 2021.

Finalization of Master Plan of Delhi is done as per the provisions of Delhi Development Act 1957 which requires issue of draft notification inviting public suggestions/recommendations and intensive deliberations with all stakeholders on all aspects of the proposed Master Plan.

Drug Abuse

*113. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news regarding "Police to curb medicinal drug abuse" appearing in the Asian Age, New Delhi dated 18 September 2003;

(b) if so, the names of the drugs which are being commonly used by doctors in connivance with druggists and chemists;

(c) the number of persons arrested so far;

(d) whether any Drug Abuse Management has been formed by the Government;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The prescription drugs commonly reported to be abused are Proxyvon, Phensedyl, Corex, Buprenorphine, Diazepam, Nitrazepam, Lorazepam and Tidigesic. However, there is no evidence to show that there is any connivance between the doctors and druggists in their unauthorized sale in Delhi.

(c) During the current year (upto 30th November, 2003), Delhi Police arrested five persons in connection with illegal possession or sale of prescription drugs capable of being abused by drug addicts.

(d) to (f) The Central Government has launched a Scheme for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance (Drugs) Abuse under which financial assistance is given to the Non-Governmental Organisations for prevention, awareness, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Olympic Games

*114. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India and other agencies of Government have completed their strategy for the next Olympic Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign coaches have been brought to India to ensure that the Indian contingent to the next Olympic win at least five medals;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have earmarked sufficient funds for training of our athletes;

(f) If so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India and Sports Authority of India have finalized Long Term Development Plans (LTDP) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons and training method experts and these are being implemented. Besides, the probable medal winners are being provided with required scientific and equipment support, coaching by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps and assistance to participate in international tournaments as per requirements given by the concerned federations.

Moreover, under the 'Scheme Relating to Talent Search and Training,' and also under the 'National Sports Development Fund' assistance is being provided to promising sportspersons for training and participation in tournaments abroad, for purchase of equipment for scientific support and for training and participation in the country.

Sponsorship from public and private sector undertakings has also been mobilized as part of the strategy and several sportspersons have been benefited through it.

Finally, in order to monitor the preparation for the next Olympic Games, Government has constituted a high level Committee which has been empowered to make recommendations on all matters pertaining to the preparation of the Indian contingent for the Olympic Games, 2004.

(c) and (d) In order to prepare Indian teams and sportspersons who have already qualified for 2004 Olympics or are likely to qualify, Government has engaged a number of foreign coaches. The details of such coaches is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) to (g) The expenditure on account of training of our sportspersons/athletes is met from the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federation, Scheme Relating to Talent Search & Training and National Sports Development Funds. These Schemes have a combined budgetary provision of Rs. 46.67 crores for the year 2003-2004 which is considered adequate.

Statement

List of Foreign Coaches engaged for the preparation of Indian Team/Sportspersons for Olympic Games, 2004

Sl.No.	Discipline	Name	Country
1	2	3	4
1.	Archery	Mr. Chae Woong Lim	Korea
2.	Rowing	Mr. Nicolae Vulpe	Romania
3.	Wrestling (GR)	Mr. Andzrej Malina	Poland
4.	Yachting	Mr. Rod Hagebols	Australia

1	2	3	4
5.	Athletics (Sprint)	Mr. Yuri Ogorodnik	Ukraine
6.	Athletics (Throws)	Mr. Volodymyr Hudlin	Ukraine
7.	Yachting-470 class	Dr. Lex Bertrand	Australia
8.	Yachting-Star Class	Mr. Andrew Rushworth	England
9.	Yachting-48er Class	Mr. Julian Bethwaite	Australia
10.	Yachting-420 Class	Mr. Chris Kelly	England
11.	Wrestling (FS)	Mr. Vladimer Mestvirishvili	Georgia
12.	Recovery Expert (Athletics)	Ms Inna Zevereya	Ukraine
13.	Recovery Expert (Athletics)	Mr. Aliaksei Haspadryk	Belarus
14.	Athletics (Throws)	Mr. Yuri Minakov	Ukraine
15.	Recovery Expert (Athletics)	Mr. Volodymyr Potrebenko	Ukraine

[Translation]

Medium of UPSC Examination

*115. DR. M. P. JAISWAL :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the English knowing candidates have an edge over the Hindi knowing candidates in UPSC examinations;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) the examinations in which Hindi and English are compulsory;

(d) the reasons for not allowing option for using Hindi language in all examinations conducted by UPSC; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) It has been reported by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) that all the candidates appearing in examinations conducted by them are treated in just and equitable manner. Examinations are conducted in accordance with the rules of examination as notified by the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. These rules contain, *inter alia*, the conditions of eligibility including the scheme and syllabi for the examinations and option of writing the answers if available. Candidates from all over the country appear in the competitive examinations conducted by the Commission. The schemes of examinations are meticulously designed to rule out any possibility of discrimination against candidates from any region/language. There is no edge to English knowing candidates over the Hindi knowing candidates in the examinations conducted by the UPSC.

(c) There is no open competitive examination of the Commission where Hindi is compulsory. A Statement indicating the examinations in which there is a compulsory paper or part of the paper on English/General English is enclosed.

(d) and (e) The question of information of Hindi and other languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as medium of various examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission was considered by the Dr. Satish Chandra Committee appointed by the UPSC. Efforts are being made to arrive at a consensus on this sensitive issue, keeping in view the recommendations of the Committee.

Statement

(A) Examination in which there is a paper or part of paper on English/General English

S.No.	Name of Examination	Percentage of marks assigned for English paper vis-a-vis total marks for written examination			Type of paper	Standard of paper	Remarks
		Percentage	Marks in English	Total written marks			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Civil Services (Main) Examination	Paper of qualifying nature only; marks obtained in this paper not being counted for ranking.			Conventional	Matriculation	There is also a paper on one of the Indian languages of the same standard and of qualifying nature.
2.	Indian Forest Service Examination	21.4%	300	1400	Conventional	Science or Engineering Graduate	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Engineering Services Examination	10%	100	1000	Objective	Engineering/ Science Graduate	This paper is a part of paper on General Ability Test.
4.	Indian Economic Service/ Indian Statistical Exam.	10%	100	1000	Objective	Graduate	
5.	Geologists' Exam.	14.3%	100	700	Objective	Science Graduate	
6.	Combined Defence Service Exam (a) For IMA/AFANA (b) For OTA	33.3% 50%	100 100	300 200	Objective Objective	Graduate Graduate	
7.	NDA and Naval Academy Examination.	22.2%	200	900	Objective	Intermediate	This paper is a part of paper on General Ability Test.
8.	Special Class Railway Apprentices' Exam.	16.7%	100	600	Objective	Intermediate	
9.	Central Police Forces Examination	22.5%	90	400	Conventional	Graduation	

(B) Direct Recruitment Examinations in which there is no paper on English.

- 1 Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination.
2. Combined Medical Services Examination.

[English]

Cultivable Land

*116. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether out of 320 million hectares land of the total geographical area, only 181 million hectares of land is cultivable;

(b) if so, whether the Government has enquired into the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the quantum of uncultivated land that has been converted into cultivable land during the each of the last years alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (c) As per the Nine-fold Land Use Classification of Ministry of Agriculture, out of 329 million hectares (total geographical area of the country) 183.5 million hectares is cultivable land. This includes 141.2 million hectares net sown area, 14.8 million hectares under current fallows, 10.1 million hectares under fallow lands other than current fallows, 13.8 million hectares area under culturable wasteland and 3.6 million hectare land under miscellaneous tree crops.

The balance area falls under different land uses such as forest, permanent pastures, other grazing lands, barren and unculturable land, and area under non-agricultural uses like buildings roads, railways, rivers, canals, other water bodies etc. which can not be converted into cultivable land except at exorbitant cost.

(d) The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is mainly implementing three schemes/programmes namely, Centrally Sponsored Programme of Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR), Reclamation of Alkali Soils and Watershed Development Project in shifting Cultivation Areas for treatment/reclamation of degraded lands on watershed basis. The details of achievements under each scheme for the past five years (1998-99 to 2002-03) and the current year (2003-04) are contained in the enclosed statement-I. The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three major Programmes namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) for treatment of wastelands/ degraded lands on watershed approach in accordance with the guidelines for watershed development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. The area sanctioned and funds released under these programmes during the last five years (1998-99 to 2002-03) are also given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Total Area treated under problem lands
(Physical in thousand ha. and Financial Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
		Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.
1.	Reclamation of Alkali Soils	29.53	372.30	19.19	322.50	14.45	152.00	3.20	340.00	20.784	791.870	5.28	340.01	87.15	1978.67
2.	Soil Conservation Scheme in River Valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers (RVP) & FPR)	244.73	11468.55	302.08	12656.25	229.41	11447.07	163.23	10310.85	204.03	11985.37	39.60	2610.12	1183.07	60518.21
3.	Watershed Development Programme for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) for North Eastern States	40.548	1714.85	27.961	1683.15	30.774	1797.87	22.005	1535.19	19.336	1967.25	5.521	572.00	518.214	9270.31
Total		314.808	13565.70	349.231	2005.65	274.634	13396.94	188.44	12186.04	244.15	14754.49	50.40	3522.13	1788.43	71767.19

Statement-II

Area Sanctioned and Funds released under IWDP, DPAP and DDP during the last five years (1998-99 to 2002-03)
(Physical in thousand ha. and Financial Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Programme	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		Total	
		Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.
1.	Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP)	518.19	6190.90	701.32	8307.42	1104.01	12977.97	797.89	18599.53	335.52	26793.150	3456.96	72877.97
2.	Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)	440.00	7300.00	1139.00	9500.00	1685.50	19000.01	1026.00	20851.52	1239.00	25000.00	87281.13	81751.63
3.	Desert Development Programme (DDP)	200.00	7998.36	750.00	8500.00	829.50	13499.79	679.50	15003.00	801.00	18500.00	66762.15	63502.15
Total		1158.19	21499.26	2590.32	26307.42	3619.01	45477.77	2503.39	54554.15	2375.52	70293.15	157500.21	218131.75

Agro-products Marketing

*117. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the steps being undertaken to promote marketing of agro products;

(b) the number of agro clinics and agro-business centres set up during the second half of the previous fiscal year, State-wise; and

(c) the employment generated through the above schemes during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) A number of steps have been taken by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to promote marketing of KVI products including agro products. The marketing of such products is done through Departmental and Institutional sales outlets. For promoting the marketing of such products, exhibitions are organized within the country and producing institutions are also encouraged to participate in international exhibitions to promote exports. Support is also provided by the KVIC for participation in Trade Fairs, Exhibitions, buyer-sellers meet etc. Further, a confederation for Promotion of Khadi and Village Industries (CPKVI) has been formed to promote marketing of KVI products in a big way.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has informed that they are operating six Plan Scheme during the 10th Plan period for the development of the processed food sector. Under the Plan scheme of Backward and Forward Integration and other promotional activities, assistance in the form of grant is available, inter-alia, for market survey, test marketing and brand building.

(b) The Government does not set up any Agro-clinics and Agro-business Centres on its own. However, as informed by the Ministry of Agriculture, they are promoting Agri-clinics and Agri-business centres through a Central Sector Scheme 'Establishment of a network of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres' which aims at extending opportunities to all eligible agricultural graduates to support agriculture development through economically viable ventures which will be set up by them with the help of bank loan. 416 Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres have been set up during the period 01.10.2002 to 31.03.2003. The State-wise details are given at enclosed statement.

(c) As the schemes of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres were launched on 09.04.2002, the year-wise details of the employment generated are given below:-

Year	Employment generated
2002-03	416
2003-04 (upto 06.12.2003)	354

Statement

No. Agri Clinics and Agri Business Centres set up during 01.10.2002 to 31.03.2003

S.No.	States/Union Territories	No. of Agriclincs and Agribusiness Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
3.	Assam	-
4.	Bihar	11
5.	Goa	-
6.	Gujarat	33
7.	Haryana	10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-
10.	Karnataka	107
11.	Kerala	03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	04
13.	Maharashtra	52
14.	Manipur	-
15.	Meghalaya	-
16.	Mizoram	-
17.	Nagaland	-
18.	Orissa	15
19.	Punjab	-
20.	Rajasthan	93
21.	Sikkim	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	26
23.	Tripura	-

1	2	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	09
25.	West Bengal	-
26.	Chandigarh	-
27.	New Delhi	-
28.	Pondicherry	01
29.	Chhattisgarh	-
30.	Jharkhand	-
31.	Uttaranchal	-
Total		416

Mineral Exploration

*118. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether MNCs have been allowed to enter in the mineral exploration in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the States where these companies have been allowed to participate in mineral exploration;

(d) whether some States have allowed these companies despite the opposition of environmentalists and warning of World Mining Congress;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safeguards of mineral wealth in the country; and

(g) the number of proposals cleared so far, for mineral exploration of these companies, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), only an Indian national or a company registered in India can be granted a reconnaissance permit (RP) or prospecting licence (PL) or mining lease (ML) for exploration or mining of minerals. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a multi-national company (MNC) is not allowed to undertake reconnaissance/prospecting operations for exploration of minerals, unless they are registered in India as an Indian company.

On the recommendations of the State Governments, approvals have been given by the Central Government for grant of 65 Prospecting Licences for large areas (during October, 1996 till Dec., 1999) and 157 Reconnaissance Permits (since 2000 till November, 2003), in respect of minerals included in the First Schedule of MMDR Act, including those in favour of Indian subsidiaries of MNCs. The States where these permissions have been granted pertain to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Maharashtra.

(d) No information about opposition to mining exploration by environmentalists and/or World Mining Congress has been brought to the notice of this Ministry. In fact, the Declaration of World Mining Congress, December 2003 identified that increasing investment in exploration was a key area for which efforts should be made.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) To safeguard the mineral wealth, Government of India has enacted Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and framed Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 (MCR, 1960) and Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 (MCDR, 1988). While MCR, 1960 deals with regulation of Reconnaissance Permits, Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases, MCDR takes care of conservation of Minerals, scientific mining and protection of environment in respect of prospecting and mining operations.

(g) The details of the proposals cleared by Central Government so far for mineral exploration (i.e. PLs for large area and RPs), State-wise are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of State	No. of PL for large area approved	No. of R.Ps approved
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	37
2.	Bihar	1	-
3.	Gujarat	2	-
4.	Haryana	3	1
5.	Karnataka	-	37
6.	Chhattisgarh	1	23
7.	Maharashtra	1	-

1	2	3	4
8.	Rajasthan	54	30
9.	Uttar Pradesh	3	2
10.	Jharkhand	-	1
11.	Orissa	-	13
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	12
13.	West Bengal	-	1
Total		65	157

Rise in the Prices of Fertilizers

*119. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the international prices of Ammonia and Phosphoric acids which are vital input for both urea and phosphatic fertilizers have risen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely impact on the Fertilizers units in the country and the anticipated rise in the prices of fertilizers as a consequence thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Union Government propose to neutralise the rise in the prices of Fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the prices of ammonia and phosphoric acid have risen as compared to the prices prevailed during the year 2002-03. The average price of ammonia during 2002-03 as per Fertilizer Marketing Bulletin weekly was \$148.33 per MT C & F compared to the current year's average price of \$ 214.29 per MT C & F up to 20.11.03. The price of phosphoric acid has also risen as the FAI consortium for 2003-04 negotiated the price of phosphoric acid at \$ 356 per MTC & F as against the price of \$341.50 per MT C & F for 2002-03.

(c) and (d) There has not been any increase in the selling price to the farmers as a result of increased prices of imported ammonia and phosphoric acid. The Central Government announces/indicates Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of these fertilizers (except SSP) that are applicable uniformly throughout the country. The Government has not increased MRP of any fertilizer during the year 2003-04. Besides, the phosphatic and potassic fertilizers namely DAP, MOP, various

grades of complex fertilizers and SSP are covered under the Concession Scheme and Government is paying concession/subsidy (equivalent to difference between normative delivered cost and the MRP). The concession/subsidy is announced on quarterly basis after updating the prices of imported raw materials/intermediates (including ammonia and phosphoric acid) and foreign exchange rate.

Diversion of Funds under SGRY

*120. SHRI C. N. SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has given some directions on diversion of funds earmarked for Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) in the year 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether some State Governments have still not submitted the utilization certificates under the Yojana;

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

(e) the action taken by the Government against the defaulting States; and

(f) the details of the works undertaken/completed under the Yojana so far, State-wise, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per order dated 8th May 2002 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, no directions on diversion of earmarked funds of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) have been given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. As per the Guidelines, no State Government can divert the resources under the Schemes to other Schemes.

(c) to (e) Under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), DRDAs/Zilla Parishads are required to submit Utilization Certificates of the resources released during the previous year. Subsequent instalment is not released to DRDA/Zilla Parishads till the Utilization Certificates of the resources released in the previous year are received in the Ministry. State-wise details giving the number of DRDAs/Zilla Parishads who have sent the proposal alongwith Utilization Certificates during the current year till date is given at enclosed statement-I.

(f) The details of the category-wise works under the SGRY is not maintained in the Ministry. However, the

state-wise details of total number of works indicating works in progress and completed as reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations are given at enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Total No. of Distts.	Proposal received Stream-I	Stream-II
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	0	0
3.	Assam	23	0	0
4.	Bihar	37	10	10
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	16	7
6.	Goa	2	1	0
7.	Gujarat	25	20	17
8.	Haryana	19	19	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	1	2
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	12	12
11.	Jharkhand	22	6	11
12.	Karnataka	27	15	21
13.	Kerala	14	4	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45	41	40

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Maharashtra	33	6	4
16.	Manipur	9	1	0
17.	Meghalaya	7	0	0
18.	Mizoram	8	0	0
19.	Nagaland	8	3	5
20.	Orissa	30	4	11
21.	Punjab	17	8	11
22.	Rajasthan	32	32	32
23.	Sikkim	4	4	0
28.	Tamil Nadu	28	28	28
29.	Tripura	4	1	3
30.	Uttaranchal	13	2	2
31.	Uttar Pradesh	70	8	15
32.	West Bengal	19	0	1
33.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	0	0
34.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0
35.	Daman & Diu	2	0	0
36.	Lakshadweep	1	0	0
37.	Pondicherry	1	0	0
Total		580	242	256

Statement-II

Number of works completed and in progress during 2002-03 and 2003-04 (upto October 2003) under the SGRY

S.No.	States/UTs	Number of Works (In Nos)			
		2002-03		2003-04*	
		Completed	In Progress	Completed	In Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	88119	20458	31850	50780
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2411	128	30	131
3.	Assam	40517	23478	11697	26961
4.	Bihar	68876	44557	22447	43878
5.	Chhattisgarh	37215	6306	13944	10038

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Goa	27	34	9	74
7.	Gujarat	20884	9125	17734	14587
8.	Haryana	29933	548	4165	4158
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8761	6214	7887	8207
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	17419	633	2010	4693
11.	Jharkhand	39153	26085	6394	22830
12.	Karnataka	126445	17912	42301	60482
13.	Kerala	12999	17956	5214	16901
14.	Madhya Pradesh	161574	30594	58250	43990
15.	Maharashtra	72068	44784	21638	60353
16.	Manipur	4278	1389	167	432
17.	Meghalaya	2952	1009	29	19
18.	Mizoram	5277	546	905	202
19.	Nagaland	474	190	NR	NR
20.	Orissa	96868	17825	21816	21373
21.	Punjab	17227	4122	5710	8577
22.	Rajasthan	57073	12535	32647	27439
23.	Sikkim	778	463	NR	NR
24.	Tamil Nadu	79225	5432	53031	47670
25.	Tripura	13921	2111	6192	2481
26.	Uttaranchal	4654	6134	NR	NR
27.	Uttar Pradesh	253913	88686	58259	65449
28.	West Bengal	154857	54705	44969	52870
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	NR	NR	11	21
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	NR	NR
31.	Daman & Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR
32.	Lakshadweep	NR	7	NR	NR
33.	Pondicherry	198	61	82	83
All India		1416096	444026	469388	594679

*Upto October 2003

NR : Not Reported

**Allotment of Government Accommodation
to Kendriya Bhandar**

1043. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

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

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar has been allotted government accommodation at Rs. 1/- per month because of its being a Welfare Project for the Central Government Employees but many of the accommodation have been allotted by it to its employees in full or part for residential purposes;

(b) if so, the details of the premises allotted by the Kendriya Bhandar;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to withdraw the Government accommodation allotted to Kendriya Bhandar especially the accommodation allotted for running the stationery department; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Removal of Unemployment in Rural Areas

1044. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any concrete schemes to solve the problems of backwardness and unemployment in rural and backward areas of the states especially in Gujarat, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development implement the major rural development schemes like, the Self Employment Schemes of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Wage Employment Scheme of Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), the Housing Scheme of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to solve the problems of backward and unemployment in rural and backward areas throughout the country including Gujarat, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir. In addition, the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) are implemented by the Ministry for the development of rural and backward areas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The Schemes of the Ministry are on-going in nature and are effectively monitored through various mechanisms.

[English]

Gas Cracker Project in Assam

1045. SHRI M. K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Assam at a recent meeting with Union Government officials pressed for Central aid for speedy implementation of the Rs. 3700/- crore Gas Cracker Project in Assam;

(b) If so, the precise demand made by Assam Government therein;

(c) whether the Union Government representatives suggested any alternatives to the gas cracker project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Assam Government's response and reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (d) Chief Minister of Assam and official of Govt. of Assam have been meeting the Central Ministers/ Government officials to press for speedy implementation of the Assam Gas Cracker Project. Since a considerable amount of subsidy is involved in making the project viable, it has been suggested that in today's environment, the State Government may also consider identifying alternative proposals.

**Overburden Removal-cum-coal
Raising in Murulidih Colliery**

1046. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overburden removal-cum-coal raising is going on in Murulidih colliery by engaging contractors; and

(b) if so, the number of contractors and the number of persons engaged in the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) As informed by coal company hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) is going on for removal and transportation of overburden and coal at Murilidih.

(b) As informed by coal company hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) at Murilidih has been done through one contractor who has deployed 25 workers.

Overcharging by KB

1047. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Kendriya Bhandar is charging much more rates for various items than at which these are being sold in open market or in other cooperative stores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such complaints received by Kendriya Bhandar during 1.10.2002 and 30.11.2003 and the action taken on each of such complaint alongwith the time taken to reply back to complainant about the action taken;

(d) whether attention has also been drawn to a newsitem published in "Rashtriya Sahara" of 10.11.2003 under the caption-"Kendriya Bhandar Mein Saman Aam Bazaar Se Mehanga";

(e) if so, the facts with details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

Production of Aluminium

1048. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production and stock of Aluminium during 2002-03 so far;

(b) whether the stock of Aluminium is likely to be increased during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure the proper utilization of the surplus Aluminium in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) As per the information received from primary producers of aluminium, the total production of aluminium during the year 2002-03 was 6,89,041 MT and stock as on 31.3.2003 was 15,023 MT. Except Madras Aluminium Company Limited (MALCO) which has reported likelihood of marginal increase in the stock, all other primary producers do not anticipate increase in their stocks during current financial year.

(d) Aluminium Sector is decontrolled and the aluminium and its products have been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) category, and, hence freely tradable.

Study on Developing Basic Urban Infrastructure

1049. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken notice of study undertaken by Investment Credit and Rating Agency on developing basic urban infrastructure by 2020:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon;

(d) whether the Union Government has formulated any strategy to invite private participation in developing basic urban facilities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the alternative financial sources to be provided for development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) The Government is not aware of any study undertaken by Investment Credit and Rating Agency on developing basic urban infrastructure by 2020.

(d) to (f) Central Government has formulated guidelines

for sector reforms and successful public-private partnerships in urban water and sanitation services in consultation with State Governments. The guidelines, inter-alia, include policy framework, implementation arrangements, creating enabling conditions for sustained reform and Private Sector Participation (PSP), selecting nature of PSP transactions and managing public-private partnerships.

As urban development is State subject, it is for State Governments and Urban Local Bodies to adopt guidelines as per their requirements.

CBI Raids on Officials/Politicians

1050. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI have conducted raids on officials/politicians during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)

1051. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that number of employees loosing their jobs in fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT), a Central PSU in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any measures for the protection of employees working in FACT, Cochin; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as the company is continuously making losses, it has to resort to cost cutting measures for sustaining its operations. These measures include rationalisation of manpower by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to surplus employees. Further, the operations of ammonia-urea plant of Cochin Division of FACT have become economically unviable necessitating suspension of its operations. Hence, the company have filed an application with Government of India for layoff of surplus workmen of this plant.

(c) and (d) The course of action being adopted by the management of the company for rationalising the manpower is strictly in accordance with Government policies.

Decline in Conviction Rate

1052. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that conviction rate in the country has declined as reported in the Times of India dated 13.9.2003 under the caption "Government data shows dip in conviction rate".

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the name of the States where conviction rate has decreased; and

(d) the steps taken or instructions given by the Union Government to States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) As per the information compiled by National Crime Records Bureau, the conviction rate of total cognizable crime under IPC during the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 was 39.6, 41.8 and 40.8 respectively. The conviction rate showed a decline in the year 2001 as compared to the year 2000. The details of the conviction rate of total cognizable crime under IPC during the year 1999 to 2001 are given at enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The conviction rate showed a declining trend from the year 1999 to year 2001 in the States of Assam and Gujarat. The conviction rate showed a decline in the year 2001 as compared to the year 2000 in the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry. The Government have introduced the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003 in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2003 which inter-alia proposes to insert a new section 164A in the code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 with a view to preventing the evil of witnesses turning hostile.

Statement

Conviction Rate of Total IPC Crimes during 1999-2001

Sl.No.	State/UT	1999	2000	2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35.9	32.6	37.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.6	50.7	56.1
3.	Assam	28.9	21.1	19.7

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	19.1	19.9	23.1
5.	Chhattisgarh	NA	NA	55.3
6.	Goa	21.3	17.6	18.8
7.	Gujarat	33.0	28.6	24.7
8.	Haryana	30.0	32.4	31.9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	28.0	29.2	21.8
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	41.4	36.6	41.0
11.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	27.1
12.	Karnataka	27.9	31.9	29.8
13.	Kerala	38.2	47.9	50.0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	47.2	54.2	47.1
15.	Maharashtra	15.7	12.6	13.1
16.	Manipur	27.3	30.8	59.6
17.	Meghalaya	43.1	29.5	30.2
18.	Mizoram	93.6	77.5	84.9
19.	Nagaland	90.3	76.0	81.2
20.	Orissa	15.0	16.5	14.2
21.	Punjab	40.4	46.1	39.6
22.	Rajasthan	51.2	51.2	53.5
23.	Sikkim	62.1	45.2	56.2
24.	Tamil Nadu	65.4	64.2	62.8
25.	Tripura	23.2	15.0	18.6
26.	Uttaranchal	NA	NA	52.9
27.	Uttar Pradesh	50.4	55.0	54.9
28.	West Bengal	16.3	22.6	17.4
Total (States)		39.9	41.1	40.3
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	28.8	27.6	51.1
30.	Chandigarh	57.6	56.3	45.7
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	30.2	45.6	22.1
32.	Daman & Diu	25.9	26.7	23.5
33.	Delhi	32.4	48.7	50.4
34.	Lakshadweep	14.3	0.0	25.0
35.	Pondicherry	86.0	91.9	85.8
Total (UTs)		35.3	50.2	52.8
Total (All-India)		39.6	41.8	40.8

Registration of Cases

1053. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Police issued circular/instruction that no case can be registered without enquiry from Crime Against Women Cell in Dowry case;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases registered in Delhi since 1999, District-wise and year-wise with or without enquiry from Crime Against Women Cell;

(d) the reasons for not-conducting enquiry by the Crime Against Women Cell in these cases; and

(e) the number of dowry cases registered after seven years of marriage since 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The setting up of Crime Against Women Cells does not dilute the responsibility of the local Police to initiate action as and when the victim approaches them for assistance.

(e) Delhi Police have during the period from 1999 to 30th November, 2003 registered 799 dowry related cases.

Statement

District	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 (upto 30/11/03)
North	67	100	87	87	53
North-West	226	181	208	287	252
Central	64	49	75	70	51
New Delhi	9	8	17	14	24
North-East	91	89	122	168	129
East	104	109	187	145	114
South	127	162	180	235	212
South-West	150	164	168	195	125
West	281	294	312	239	189
Total	1119	1156	1356	1440	1149

[Translation]

Shifting of Indian School of Mines

1054. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the Mines belt are located in Singhbhum whereas the Indian School of Mines is located in Dhanbad;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to shift the said school at Navamandi in Singhbhum; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the mineral belts are located in the Singhbhum district of Jharkhand.

(b) There is no proposal at present for shifting the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad to any other place. There are large number of mines in and around Dhanbad too.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Third Census of SSI's

1055. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Third Census of Small Scale Industry Sector of the country;

(b) whether the Union Government has made evaluation of the performance of the SSI Sector in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The Third Census of Small Scale Industry (SSI) Sector was conducted all over the country between November, 2002 to April, 2003. In this Census, all the registered SSI units were covered on complete enumeration basis and the unregistered SSI sector was covered through a sample survey. The Quick Results of the Census were released in August, 2003. As per the Quick Results, out of a total of about 23 of lakh units registered till 31.3.2001, 62.35% units were found working. The average employment, Gross Output and Fixed Investment per registered SSI unit were 4.6 people, Rs. 15.23 lakhs and Rs. 7.11 lakhs, respectively. The average employment in the Unregistered Sector was 2.11 people.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The performance of the SSI sector in terms of growth rate during the last five years is as under :-

Year	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Growth Rate %	7.70	8.16	8.23	6.08	7.68

Sharing of Intelligence with Nepal Police

1056. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Police and Nepal Police have agreed to share intelligence on crime and criminal with Central Bureau of Investigation;

(b) if so, the types of crimes on which intelligence is likely to be shared by these organizations; and

(c) the time by which this agreement come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) In the Third Meeting of Interpol Officers of India and Nepal held in July, 2003, it was agreed by the two sides to share intelligence on crime and criminals in matters of mutual concern including drug trafficking, human trafficking, movement of criminals and anti-social elements, stolen vehicles and the vehicles involved in criminal activities.

There was no separate agreement between Delhi Police and Nepal Police.

Construction of Mini Township by DMRC

1057. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has a plan to construct a mini township right next to the up-coming Delhi University Station, with about a thousand flats;

(b) if so, the details, cost and the main objectives of the projected township; and

(c) the steps taken so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) With a view to raising resources for the Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System Project, Phase-I in accordance with the approved funding plan therefor, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) has invited bids for a housing scheme for about 1000 flats, near Delhi University Station, through private developer(s) to be selected on the basis of competitive bidding.

DMRC is not developing the housing scheme itself. The cost of the scheme cannot be stated at this stage, as it will depend on the bids received.

(c) An advertisement for this purpose has been placed by the DMRC in prominent newspapers on 20.11.2003, inviting developers, who met the prescribed criteria, to participate in the competitive bidding process.

Review of Investigation and Prosecution System

1058. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH :

SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering review of the present investigation and prosecution system in view of recent criminal trial in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) To prevent the evil of witness turning hostile, a Bill namely, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2003 which inter alia proposed to amend Sections 161, 162 and to insert new sections 164A and 344 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The proposed amendments, require that the statements of all persons which appear to be material and essential for proper investigation of the case relating to offences punishable with death or imprisonment for seven years or more shall be recorded on oath by Magistrate who will also satisfy himself that such person is making the statement voluntarily and not under any inducement, threat or promise. Also it has been proposed to have a provision for summary trial for perjury and enhance the punishment for perjury after the summary trial.

The Bill has been referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination.

Coal Mining by State Public Sector Undertakings

1059. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to allow State Public Sector Undertakings to take up coal mining their state boundaries and sell it in the open market anywhere;

(b) if so, whether the States having no substantial coal reserves can actually set up their own coal reserves producing entities and start operation in coal rich states such as Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) to (c) In 1979 the Union Government took a decision that State Government Undertakings can carryout coal mining operations of non-coking coal in opencast mines in isolated small pockets. This policy was further liberalised in 2001 by allowing the State Government Undertakings to mine coal without the existing restriction of working the non-coking reserve by opencast method in isolated small pockets alone. Coal mining operations can be carried out by a State Government Undertaking authorised to do coal mining under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, any where in the country and the coal so extracted can be sold in the open market.

ISI Activities

1060. SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many youth from bordering States particularly from Gujarat have been enticed by the ISI to cross over to Pakistan and joined militant organisations for training;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such youths identified;

(c) whether some of those have already completed training and joined militant organizations operating in the various States;

(d) if so, the number of such persons, killed or captured, in anti-insurgency operations; and

(e) the reasons behind this illegal traffic and the steps taken by the Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) to (e) As per available reports, some youths in the state of Jammu & Kashmir are taken to Pakistan by Pak based terrorist outfits for training and re-induction into India as a part of Pakistan's policy of cross-border terrorism. These have also been some reports that some Muslim youths from Gujarat have been taken to Pakistan via Bangladesh for training.

In order to deal with the situation, the Government has pursued a multipronged approach which inter alia, includes strengthening the border management to check infiltration

and exfiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery and undertaking well coordinated intelligence based anti-terrorist operations. Further, as a result of the coordinated action by the Central and State intelligence and security agencies, a number of Pak backed terrorist /espionage modules have been detected/neutralized in various parts of the country.

Adventure Activity

1061. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has devised any youth Adventure Activity related to cross-river swimming in the country including for rural youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether separate funds will be allocated for this activity;

(d) if so, the details of funds given during 2002-2003, so far;

(e) whether any places in Andhra Pradesh have been selected for this activity; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Recruitment in ITBP on Compassionate Ground

1062. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether candidates are called in recruitment camps of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force for recruitment on compassionate grounds;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such candidates called during 2002;

(c) whether the candidates selected in the camp held on 11/11/2002 in pursuance to memorandum number - 1-14013/1/2002-personnel 2-13449-531 dated 18/10/2002 were later on declared disqualified on the grounds of over age despite conducting recruitment exam and medical test;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to conduct investigations in the said matter;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the future of such candidates; and

(g) the time by which the said candidates are likely to be recruited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The candidates who are eligible for compassionate appointment under the Government instructions are called for assessment by a Board in special recruitment camps organized by Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

(b) During the year 2002, total 82 such candidates were called in the special recruitment camp, out of whom 71 reported.

(c) and (d) Final selection is not made in the camp. The recommendations of the Board are considered and final selection is made after the approval of the Competent Authority. The issue of age relaxation is decided by the Competent Authority having regard to arduous working conditions in ITBP and other relevant facts. In the instant case of recruitment, no relaxation was granted by the Competent Authority.

(e) There appears to be no need for conducting any investigation in this case.

(f) Families/NOKs of the deceased personnel are granted substantial financial assistance in the form of Ex-Gratia/Family Pension/DCRG/Leave Encashment etc.

(g) Candidates who do not fulfil essential eligibility criteria for appointment in ITBP, cannot be considered for the recruitment.

SC/ST/OBC Personnel Working in Ministry

1063. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1254 on 29.7.2003 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir, the information has since been collected.

(b) The details are placed below at enclosed statement.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement					
S.No.	Grade	No. of employees working in the Grade	Number of employees belonging to OBC, SC and ST classes out of the total number of employees, Grade-wise		
			OBC	SC	ST
Department of Rural Development					
1	Grade A	51	00	06	03
2	Grade B	138	02	21	07
3	Grade C	157	09	27	06
4	Grade D	94	05	26	04
Department of Land Resources					
5	Grade A	20	00	01	01
6	Grade B	29	02	03	00
7	Grade C	30	01	05	00
8	Grade D	19	02	07	01
Department of Drinking Water Supply					
9	Grade A	18	00	02	00
10	Grade B	21	00	03	00
11	Grade C	24	01	04	02
12	Grade D	11	01	01	01
National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD)					
13	Grade A	78	02	10	03
14	Grade B	68	02	08	02
15	Grade C	172	37	24	03
16	Grade D	131	23	67	07
Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology					
17	Grade A	28	02	05	01
18	Grade B	51	04	06	02
19	Grade C	49	07	09	02
20	Grade D	33	11	05	05

Note :

1. Reservation of OBC came into effect from 08.09.1993
2. Information relating to SC/ST/OBC is as indicated in the service book
3. Officers against most of the Group A posts are posted by the respective cadre controlling authorities of different All India Services and other Group A Services.

Leakage of Question Papers

1064. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that leaked question papers of exams like CAT and of the State level examinations like Maharashtra Public Sector Commission (M.P.S.C.) are being sold openly; and

(b) if so, the action being taken/scheme being formulated by the Government to curb such practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The leakage of question papers of Common Admission Test (CAT), is being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Since the CAT conducted by the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) is a prestigious examination and leakage of paper that has taken place is a serious issue, the Government of India has set up a One-man high level Committee on 24.11.2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri

V.K. Shunglu, Ex-C & AG to inquire into the matter. The One-man high level Committee will examine the circumstances which led to leakage of papers and to see whether there was any systemic failure, fix responsibility on those persons/ Agency responsible for leakage of question paper and examine the methodology of conduct of CAT examination and suggest measures to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. The State level exams like Maharashtra Public Service Commission are within the purview of the concerned State Public Service Commissions.

[English]

Production of Domestic Pharmaceutical Industry

1065. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of domestic pharmaceutical industry is less than one percent of the total World market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to improve the domestic share in the international pharmaceutical business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) In February, 2002, Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy-2002'. The main objectives of this policy are :-

- (a) Ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption.
- (b) Strengthening the indigenous capability for cost effective quality production and exports of pharmaceuticals by reducing barriers to trade in the pharmaceutical sector.
- (c) Strengthening the system of quality control over drug and pharmaceutical production and distribution to make quality an essential attribute of the Indian pharmaceutical industry and promoting rational use of pharmaceuticals.
- (d) Encouraging R & D in the pharmaceutical sector in a manner compatible with the country's needs and with particular focus on diseases endemic or relevant to India by creating an environment conducive to channelising a higher level of investment in to R & D in pharmaceuticals in India.

- (e) Creating an incentive framework for the pharmaceutical industry, which promotes new investment into pharmaceutical industry and encourage the introduction of new technologies and new drugs.

A Public Interest Litigation in Karnataka High Court has resulted in an order dated 12.11.2002 which stops the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Government has filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Karnataka High Court.

Citizenship of Chakma Refugees

1066. DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI AMBAREESHA :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to grant citizenship to some refugees particularly Chakma from Bangladesh;

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

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Governments which are going to be affected adversely by this decision have also been consulted in this regard;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (f) The Government is already seized of the matter relating to grant of citizenship rights to the Chakmas staying in Arunachal Pradesh. The applications for grant of citizenship submitted by the Chakmas staying in Arunachal Pradesh have not been disposed of as yet because of non-receipt of recommendations of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh in terms of rules made under Citizenship Act 1955.

Misuse of PSUS by Concerned Ministries

1067. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :

DR. M. V. V. S. MURTHI :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI :
 SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :
 SHRI ANIL BASU :
 DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
 SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
 SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
 SHRI PRABODH PANDA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Vigilance Commissioner met Prime Minister recently and complained about misusing of some Public Sector Undertakings by concerned Ministries as reported in various leading newspapers;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether public Enterprises Selection Board Chairman also wrote to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has laid down any guidelines to check such misuse;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to curb this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) As per information provided by Cabinet Secretariat the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) had called on the Prime Minister on 16th October, 2003. During the meeting, the CVC gave a briefing in respect of various initiatives of the Commission during the past one year and also dwelt upon the need to remove the misplaced fear of vigilance in the minds of senior public sector executives which often leads to hesitation on their part in reaching decisions. The CVC delineated various measures which could be taken to build to both autonomy and accountability in the functioning of the Public Sector Undertakings. At no point, did the CVC mention any names or make any allegation in respect of any Central Minister.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(e) to (g) There is an inbuilt vigilance mechanism in each Ministry/Department and Public Sector Undertakings.

The vigilance set ups are headed by Chief Vigilance Officers who are appointed in consultation with CVC.

[Translation]

CBI Enquiry Against IAS/IPS Officers

1068. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI :

SHRI G. J. JAVIYA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the officers of the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service against whom cases have been registered by the CBI or other central investigative agencies in the last four years, year-wise, office-wise;

(b) the number of States from which the Union Government have received names of the IAS and IPS Officers involved in corruption and other charges alongwith the details of the action taken in this regard by the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether there has been a rise in the incidence of corruption amongst IAS Officers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of guilty officials indicating IAS/IPS removed or dismissed after CVC/CBI reports;

(f) the number of officers not yet removed and the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The available information is as follows :-

Year	No. of IAS officers	No. of IPS officers
2000	17	5
2001	17	3
2002	3	2
2003	7	nil

(b) The State Governments are required to refer to the Central Government only those cases, where it is

proposed to impose one of the major penalties of dismissal/removal/compulsory retirement or impose a penalty of cut in pension on a Member of the Service or where sanction for prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against a Member of the Service, is required. During the last four years (2000-2003), such proposals were received from 16 States. Except in eleven cases, action has been taken and decision communicated to the concerned State Governments.

(c) and (d) No general statement can be made in this regard as is evident from the reply to part (a) of the Question.

(e) Nil.

(f) and (g) Four. The State Governments are required to submit the proposals under the provisions of the AIS (D & A) Rules, 1969.

[English]

Illegal Immigration by Eminent Personalities

1069. SHRI V. VETRISILVAN : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that large number of agencies and famous personalities are involved in illegal immigration from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken against such agencies or personalities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) and (b) It has been reported that a Pop Singer from Punjab and Classical Dancer from Gujarat are involved in illegal immigration from India.

(c) The respective State Governments concerned are investigating these cases.

Employment Assurance Scheme

1070. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated/released to achieve targets under EAS during the Tenth Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the funds released so far are adequate to achieve the targets;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the number of beneficiaries under the scheme as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was implemented till the end of Ninth Five Year Plan. This Scheme is not being implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Trial of DDA Officers

1071. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

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

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has sought permission to lodge a case for trial in the Court of Law against certain officers of Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the irregularities detected by the CBI and the time taken to investigate these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. CBI has sought prosecution sanction vide their letter date 6.10.2003 against Shri Subhash Sharma, Ex. Vice Chairman, DDA, Shri Jagdish Chander, Ex. Director (Land), DDA, and Shri Ashok Kapoor, Ex. Sr. PS, DDA in the following two cases, registered by CBI:

(i) RC. AC. 1/03-A-0025 dated 26.3.2003-prosecution sanction has been sought against all the three officers mentioned above.

(ii) RC-DAI-2003-A-0025 dated 03.04.2003 - prosecution has been sought in respect of Shri Subhash Sharma, Ex. VC, DDA.

(c) Investigation by CBI in RC. AC. 1/03-A-0001 has revealed that Shri Subhash Sharma and Shri Jagdish Chander entered into criminal conspiracy showing undue favour to Modern Public School Educational Society in the matter of cancellation of unutilized land of about four acres, in favour of the same society. In RC-DAI-2003-A-0025 dated 03.04.2003, investigation have revealed that Shri Subhash Sharma entered into criminal conspiracy with APY Hoteliers and Developers with the object of rendering undue favour to them, in lieu of illegal monetary consideration.

The said cases were registered in March-April 2003 and the investigation reports were submitted by CBI in October, 2003.

[English]

Modern Light Weight Coaches for Metros

1072. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the modern light weight coaches for metros are being indigenously built;

(b) if so, the details of places where such coaches are being built and the collaborations engaged in this work; and

(c) the time by which the country is likely to be self-sufficient in the field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. has awarded a contract for "Design, manufacture, supply, testing and commissioning of 240 coaches" for the Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) Project, Phase I, to a consortium named, MRM, comprising Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan (Leader); Rotem Company, South Korea and Mitsubishi Electrical Corporation, Japan. The contract includes manufacture of 180 modern, light-weight coaches in India, with progressive indigenisation, through technology transfer. MRM has engaged Bharat Earth Movers Ltd., a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Defence, for assembly/manufacture of these indigenous coaches. For some production by the latter has started. Autometer Alliance Limited, Noida; Amco Power Ltd., Bangalore and K-Lite, Chennai are the other Indian companies engaged by MRM for supplying some other types of equipment.

(c) Though no firm estimate for self-sufficiency in the manufacture of such coaches can be given at this stage, about fifty five per cent indigenisation by value has been targeted in the medium term.

[Translation]

Criteria for BPL Identification

1073. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any representation from State Governments/UTs for changing the norms for identifying the people living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Governments of Rajasthan and Kerala have requested the Union Government to withdraw the ceiling fixed for the BPL households to be identified through the BPL Census, 2002.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development has advised the State Governments that the number of persons identified through the BPL Census, 2002 may not exceed the number of persons living below the poverty line estimated by the Planning Commission for 1999-2000 for the rural sector or the number of persons as per the Adjusted Share computed by the Planning Commission, whichever is higher. An additional 10% has also been permitted to account for the transient poor.

[English]

Smuggling of Drugs and Narcotics

1074. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the land route used to smuggle contraband drugs and narcotics between India and Pakistan has become active again;

(b) if so, whether it is fact that the various terrorist organizations are financing its operations by trafficking of narcotics;

(c) if so, the factors contributing to revival of the smuggling route;

(d) the modus operandi being adopted by the smugglers;

(e) the details of the arrests made in this connection during 2001, 2002 and 2003; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) Seizure data of illicit narcotic drugs does not indicate that the land route used to smuggle contraband drugs and narcotics between India and Pakistan has become active again.

(b) There is no definite input to suggest that various terrorist organizations are financing their operations by trafficking of narcotics.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) Some of the methods adopted by trans-border smugglers to smuggle narcotic drugs through Indo-Pak border are:

1. concealing of narcotics by Pak based traffickers on one side of the border fencing, under cover of darkness, and subsequent recovery of the consignment by traffickers on the other side,

2. by carrying on person,

3. by crossing the border on foot/camel by people inhabiting the border villages on both sides having close ethnic links.

(e) Matters related with crime being a State subject, no statistics regarding the details of the persons arrested in connection with illicit trafficking in narcotics is centrally maintained. According to information furnished by the Narcotics Control Bureau, 32, 8 and 12 persons involved in trafficking of drugs of Pakistan and Afghanistan origin were arrested in the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 respectively.

(f) The security agencies of the Central and State Governments maintain a high level of alertness and they are fully geared to check illegal cross border activities.

Expansion of NALCO

1075. SHRI C. N. SINGH :

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has approved the second phase of the expansion plan of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the investment involved therein;

(c) the manner in which the money will be generated for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the time by which the expansion plan is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (d) NALCO has submitted a proposal for second phase expansion of the capacities of its Bauxite Mines from 48,00,000 TPY to 63,00,000 TPY, Alumina Refinery from 15,75,000 TPY to 21,00,000 TPY, Aluminium Smelter from 3,45,000 TPY to 4,60,000 TPY and Captive Power Plant from 8 X 120 MW to 10 X 120 MW at a total investment of Rs. 4091.51 crores (to be financed through internal resources and commercial borrowings). The proposal is under the examination of the Government.

[Translation]

Closure of Khetri Copper Mines

1076. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has ordered closure of the Khetri Copper Mines in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether any steps has been taken by the Government to give employment to employees working in these mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Ministry of Labour have granted permission for closure of Khetri Copper Mines under Section 25(O) of Industrial Dispute Act, 1947.

(b) Hindustan Copper Limited have taken various steps to protect the interests of employees working in the Khetri Copper Mines which inter-alia includes the benefits of the Voluntary Retirement Schemes (VRS) based on the guidelines issued by Department of Public Enterprises from time to time. Moreover, the VRS would enable workers to get the benefits several times higher than the closure compensation under section 25 (O) of the aforesaid Act.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) and (b) above, do not arise.

[English]

**Inclusion of Labour Cooperative
Societies under SGRY**

1077. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra to allow the labour co-operative societies to take up the works under Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Graham Staines Murder Case

1078. PROF. A. K. PREMAJAM :

SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a team consisting of Central Ministers visited Manoharpur a couple of days after the murder of Graham Staines and his two children;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the team during the visit publicly claimed to have found evidence of an "International conspiracy" behind the murders;

(c) if so, whether the said evidences had been submitted to the competent authorities for examination; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details from which the team drew its conclusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, Minister, Human Resource Development, Shri George Fernandes, Defence Minister and Shri Naveen Patnaik, the

then Minister for Steel and Mines visited Manoharpur village (Distt. Keonjhar) on 27th January, 1999 soon after the murder of Graham Staines and his two children. No evidence of an international conspiracy behind the murder has come to light.

Allotment of Land

1079. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority is allotting land to various welfare and cultural organisations in Delhi to construct their own offices and buildings;

(b) if so, the details of such organisations allotted land during the last three years;

(c) the number of organisations in the waiting list as on date;

(d) whether the Union Government monitors the fact that land given for the purpose are being used for the same purpose or for some other purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action being taken by the Union Government in case any violation is noticed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Organisations allotted land during the last three years are enclosed as per enclosed statement.

(c) 15 Nos. of organizations who had applied for allotment of land for office building in the last three years are waiting for allotment.

(d) to (f) Appropriate action is initiated by DDA for violation of terms and conditions of allotment on case to case basis as per site inspection report or misuse pointed out otherwise.

Statement

List of Allotment of Land to Welfare and Cultural Organisations

Sl.No.	Allottee Name	Locality/Plot No. (Sector/Block/Pocket)	Area (Sq. mtr)	Purpose of allotment	Date of allotment
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Citizenship Development Society	Locality : Mayur Vihar Scheme Plot No. : 12(97) (Sector : /Block:/Pocket:)	795.00	Office Building	01/03/2000
2.	Bonded Labour Liberation Front	Locality : Dwarka Scheme Plot No. : Off (Sector 8 : Block:/Pocket:)	300.00	Office	30/01/2001

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Foundation for Aviation and Sustainable Tourism	Locality : Tuglakabad Area Scheme Plot No. : 43 (Sector:/Block:Pocket)	1000.00	Office	13/06/2001
4.	Gujarat Coop. Milk Marketing Federation Ltd.	Locality : Janak Puri Scheme Plot No. : 24/1 (Sector:/Block:/Pocket)	940.64	Office Building	12/09/2001
5.	Society for Indian Ocean Studies	Locality : Lado Sarai Scheme Plot No. : 2 (Sector:/Block:/Pocket)	1071.33	Office Building	03/08/2001
6.	D.O.E.A. C C Society	Locality : Dwarka Scheme Plot No. : 3 (Sector : 08/ Block : / Pocket)	4277.88	Office Building	14/08/2001

Development Boards

1080. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Planning Commission has submitted a draft report for constitution of Development Board for Konkan Region in the light of experience in the report of the existing three Development Boards in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government propose to amend the Constitution in regard to the setting up of Developmental Boards in Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) No. Sir. The Planning Commission had undertaken a performance evaluation study on the working of the three existing Development Boards in Maharashtra and have submitted their report to the Government.

(d) At present, there is no proposal to amend the Constitution to set up Development Boards in Maharashtra.

(e) Does not arise.

Development of Sports in Orissa

1081. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Orissa for the development of sports during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided by the Union Government to the State in this regard during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure, 26 proposals have been received from the Government of Orissa during the last 3 years. Out of this, 14 proposals have been approved with total Central assistance of Rs. 434.84 lakhs.

Under the scheme of Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools, during the last 3 years, only one proposal for an amount of Rs. 17.00 lakh from Government of Orissa was received during the year 2002-2003. The proposal was considered and a grant of Rs. 17.00 lakh was released to that State.

[Translation]

Watershed Development Programme

1082. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of project proposals under Watershed Development Programmes received by the Union Government from the State Governments of Maharashtra and Bihar during the last three years and till date, district-wise;

(b) the number of proposals sanctioned so far, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources is implementing three Programmes namely, Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) for development/treatment of wastelands/degraded lands in accordance with the guidelines for Watershed Development.

IWDP projects are prioritized in consultation with the State Governments every year. Project proposals, which are not sanctioned in a financial year, are considered for prioritization during the next financial year in consultation with the State Governments.

24 Projects have been sanctioned under IWDP during the last three years till date in Maharashtra for Satara, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Beed, Latur, Sangli, Yavatmal Dhule, Jalgaon, Buldhana, Wardha, Jalna, Pune, Osmanabad, Nandurbar, Chandrapur Bhandara, Gondia, Amravati and Ratnagiri districts. So far in Bihar 10 projects for Saran, Siwan, Darbhanga, Purnea, Nalanda, Gaya, Kisanganj, Munger, Vaishali and Nawada districts have been sanctioned under IWDP during the last three years till date.

The projects under DPAP for Maharashtra and Bihar are given in the enclosed statement. No DDP Projects are being implemented in Maharashtra and Bihar.

Statement

No. of Watershed Projects sanctioned under DPAP in Maharashtra State

Sl. No.	Districts	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 till date	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ahmednagar	85	20		20	125
2.	A.Bad	15	12		12	39
3.	Akola		26	52	14	92
4.	Wasim	0	0	0	12	12
5.	Amravati	0	18	36	18	72
6.	Beed	54	12		12	78
7.	Buldana	61	18	27	18	124
8.	Chandrapur	20	6	9	6	41
9.	Dhule	20	14	0	6	40
10.	Nadurbur	0	0	0	8	8
11.	Garchiroli	40	6	0	6	52
12.	Jalgaon	20	14	35	14	83
13.	Jalna	25	4	0	4	33
14.	Latur	38	8		8	54
15.	Nagpur	0	2	5	2	9
16.	Nanded	15	8	0	8	31
17.	Nasik	0	26	52	26	104
18.	Osmanabad	11	6	0	6	23
19.	Pune	0	24	48	22	94

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Prabhani	39	8	0	4	51
21.	Hingoli	0	0	0	4	4
22.	Sangli	15	12	0	14	41
23.	Satara	11	8	0	8	27
24.	Sholapur	84	20	0	20	124
25.	Yavatmal	25	24	36	24	109
Total		578	296	300	296	1470

No. of Watershed Projects sanctioned under DPAP in Bihar State

Sl. No.	Districts	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04 till date	Total
1.	Bhabua	5	10	10	10	35
2.	Jamui	9	14	14	14	51
3.	Madhubani	3		8	8	19
4.	Nawadah	7	18	18	18	61
5.	Rohtas	2	4	4	4	14
6.	Sitamarhi	2	0	6	6	14
Total		28	46	60	60	194

Export of Fertilizers

1083. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries to which India have been exporting fertilizers alongwith the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Nepal has decided to import fertilizers from India through "Krishak Bharati and Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited"; and

(c) if so, the country-wise details of the value of fertilizers exported to various countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (c) India exported fertilizers namely urea, NPK complex, MOP and SSP to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bahrain, UAE, Indonesia, Sharjah and Myanmar during the last three years. The details of fertilizers exported are as under:

Country	Year	Fertilizer	Quantity exported ('000 MT)	Approximate value of exports (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
Bangladesh	2000-01	MOP	12.84	853
Nepal	2000-01	Urea	56.83	2935
	2001-02	Urea	12.92	640
	2002-03	Urea	18.74	1278

1	2	3	4	5
	2003-04 (upto 30.11.2003)	Urea	40.01	2750
	2000-01	SSP	2.21	56
	2001-02	SSP	1.38	35
	2002-03	SSP	5.41	186
	2002-03	MOP	1.10	82
Sri Lanka	2000-01	SSP	0.20	5
UAE	2000-01	Complex (15:15:15)	0.04	4
Bahrain	2001.02	Complex (15:15:15)	0.02	2
Sharjah	2002-03	NPK complex	0.04	7
Myanmar	2001-02	Urea	2.8	138
Indonesia	2002-03	SSP	0.3	12

(b) No, Sir. However, the Central Government has permitted Brahmputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (BVFC) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) to export 15,000 MT and 35,000 MT urea respectively to Nepalese companies/agencies/cooperative institutions during 2003-04.

[English]

Illegal Parking

1084. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police has taken any steps to check the operation of illegal parking lots in Delhi particularly illegal parking by the side of Delhi Police Head Quarters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Police is frequently checking unauthorized/illegal parking in Delhi. The parking lot by the side of Delhi Police Headquarters is being run by Municipal Corporation of Delhi. Delhi Police have advised the authorities concerned in the Corporation not to allow parking of vehicles beyond its capacity in the parking area.

[Translation]

Outstanding Dues of NDMC

1085. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Government Departments against whom NDMC's dues are outstanding alongwith the total amount due, department-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to clear the dues of NDMC;

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the impact likely to be caused in the event of non-payment of dues to NDMC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) An amount of Rs. 36,46,96,776/- on account of electricity and water charges and Rs. 2,70,62,77,178/- on account of licence fee of the premises, including interest accrued on unpaid licence fee, are outstanding against various Government Departments as on 30th November, 2003. The Department-wise details of electricity/water charges and licence fee are given in the enclosed statement-I and statement-II respectively.

(b) to (d) The recovery of dues from defaulting Departments by NDMC is a continuous process. Non-payment of electricity/water charges may result in disconnection of electricity/water supply and non-payment of licence fee may result in eviction proceedings under the provisions of the Public Premises Act, 1971.

Statement-I

Department-wise Arers on Account of Electricity/Water Charges

S.No.	Organisation	Total Amount
1	2	3
1.	Airport Authority of India	11562486
2.	All India Institute of Medical Sciences	3523491

1	2	3
3.	Archeological Survey of India	2846937
4.	Central Government Offices	17908461
5.	Central Government Health Services	368649
6.	Central Public Works Department	132388186
7.	Delhi Bar Council, Delhi High Court	2368
8.	Delhi Development Authority	2257241
9.	Delhi Fire Services	874715
10.	Government of NCT of Delhi	5774193
11.	Delhi Milk Scheme	10504
12.	Delhi Vidyut Board	5040749
13.	Garrison Engineer, Military Engineering Service	66203392
14.	Government Schools	253134
15.	Government of Hospitals	402965
16.	Income Tax Department	2097

1	2	3
17.	Life Insurance Corporation of India	41800
18.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi	2737030
19.	Ministry of Defence	7094390
20.	Mother Dairy	171329
21.	Municipal Corporation of Delhi	3858501
22.	Northern Railway	66925997
23.	Delhi Police	10732809
24.	Post Offices	3778571
25.	Press Club of India	63481
26.	Central Provident Fund Organization	11118424
27.	Public Works Department	5579910
28.	State Government Guest Houses	2943899
29.	Government Hotels	231067
Total Amount		364696776

Statement - II*Department-wise Arrears on Account of Licence Fee*

S.No.	Name of Department	Licence fee	Interest	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Lok Nayak Bhavan				
1.	Director of Estate, Ministry of Urban Development	242744864	653859090	896603954
2.	Ministry of Home Affairs	5271555	18063288	23334843
3.	Super Bazar Coop. Stores, Deptt. of Food & Supplies	183072740	72596345	255669085
Chankya Bhavan				
4.	National Industrial Dev. Corp.	27020974	15192499	42213473
5.	Cabinet Secretariat	1662800	52058	1714858
6.	Ministry of Defence	25296160	2610251	27906411
Akbar Bhavan				
7.	Ministry of External Affairs	519445432	525069201	1044514633
8.	Department of Telecommunication	74103299	22514870	96618169
Chandralok Building				
9.	Power Finance Corporation		26424	26424
10.	Ministry of Health	739556	1651627	2391183
11.	Ministry of Communication		53800	53800
Yashwant Place				
12.	Central Bureau of Investigation, 6th floor	16532511	9541338	26073849
13.	Central Bureau of Investigation, 7th floor	16092510	18951794	35044304

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Income Tax Department Mayur Bhavan	14609075	1476058	16085133
15.	Department of Income Tax	70516057	124983053	195499110
16.	Central Provident Funds Organization Mohan Singh Place	18146180	22447959	40594139
17.	Department of Telecommunication Palika Kendra	5460	1441062	1446522
18.	Delhi Police	230416	256872	487288
Total		1215489589	1490787589	2706277178

[English]

Mineral Sand Mining in Kerala

1086. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Government of Kerala for getting clearance to grant mineral sand mining from North of Kayamulam Stretching of Alapuzha coast in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some MPs have raised objections against the decision of the State Government to grant mining lease right to a company subject to the clearance of the Union Government;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES

(SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Mines has received seven proposals from Government of Kerala for grant of mining leases for ilmenite, rutile etc. over various areas in district Alapuzha in favour of M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd. (KREML) for approval of the Central Government under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). The details of these proposals are given in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Sri V. M. Sudheeran, Hon'ble MP and other MPs from Kerala have raised objections against State Government of Kerala's decision to grant mining lease to KREML for an area north of Kayamkulam stretching Alapuzha coast on environmental grounds.

(e) The proposals regarding grant of approval of the Central Government under Section 5(1) of the MMDR Act and the references from the Kerala MPs have been referred to the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). Interim reply received from DAE in some cases suggests that they have, inter-alia, requested KREML to inform whether Environment Impact Assessment/Environment Management Plan (EIA/ EMP) studies have been undertaken and whether clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest has been obtained.

Statement

State : Kerala-Mining Lease (ML)

District : Alapuzha

S.No.	Name of the Party	Nature of Concession	Mineral(s)	Area (in hecst.)	Date of receipt of proposal
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.5	4/6/2003
2.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.5	4/6/2003

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.65	4/6/2003
4.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.6529	6/10/2003
5.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.4395	6/10/2003
6.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.9384	6/10/2003
7.	M/s. Kerala Rare Earths and Minerals Ltd.	ML	Ilmenite, rutile, leucoxene, zircon & sillimanite	4.5425	6/10/2003

Basic Amenities in Government Colonies

1087. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided basic civil/electrical amenities like wash basin, sink, fan, tubelights etc. to the allottees to Type I, II and III accommodations at free of cost in some specific colonies particularly Multistorey Quarters at Tyagraj Nagar, Vasant Vihar etc. whereas in some colonies, such facilities are provided after depositing 10 per cent of the cost by allottees of Government accommodation;

(b) if so, the reasons for such disparity;

(c) whether it is not a violation of clause 15 (2) (b) of the Constitution which provide right of equality to the citizens; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide such facilities in all types of accommodations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Amenities like sink, wash basins, fans, tubelights, etc. are provided as standard fixtures in all new constructions of Central Government residential accommodation. In older constructions, where these fixtures were not provided initially in accordance with the specifications then applicable, fixtures like sink, wash basins, wire gauge shutters, magic eye, additional ceiling fans, etc., are provided if the allottee pays the prescribed percentage of the cost as contribution. In the type-I quarters in Tyagraj Nagar, these were provided against a specific sanction issued by the Government. No such amenities have been provided in type-I quarters in Vasant Vihar while in type-II quarters, sink and in type-III quarters, sink and wash basin, were provided as part of the original construction.

(c) The fundamental right under clause 15 (2) (b) of the constitution prohibits the State from discrimination on ground of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them in relation to access of a citizen to the types of places mentioned in that clause. This list of places does not include residential accommodation of various types provided by the Government to its employees.

(d) No proposal to provide the facilities free of cost in the old constructions of residential accommodation is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Evaluation of Rural Development Schemes

1088. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any Review evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Rural Development Schemes and especially self employment programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and achievements made State-wise, scheme-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the target fixed for rural development schemes for the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan and the manner in which it is proposed to be achieved;

(e) whether the Government propose to launch new plan for rural development; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) The Ministry of undertakes Concurrent Evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Rural Development Schemes from time to time, through out the country to evaluate the performance of the schemes at the field level, to assess the impact and identify the problems in course of implementation so as to make mid-course corrections wherever necessary. Concurrent Evaluation of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarazgar Yojana, which is a self employment programme was done during 2002-2003. The major achievements of this schemes are given in enclosed statement.

- (d) The Schemes are mostly on-going and no target is, therefore, fixed.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Question does not arise.

Statement

The Major Achievements of the Scheme are given as under.

The SGSY has been generally successful in providing economic empowerment to the poor, especially women. In most of the groups, the savings are regular. SHG members have improved their general awareness and knowledge, with the groups taking responsibility to ensure proper implementation of Government Programmes and Schemes. The rural women seem to have benefited most from the scheme. Involvement of them in SGSY has contributed in improving their confidence in managing the finances of their families, improving their ability to communicate, enhancing their capacity to protest against social evils and influencing their behaviour positively towards mutual help. The women swarozgaris appear to be more in control of their lives and are in a stronger position vis a vis their family members.

As high as 83.51% of the total individual respondents are of the opinion that SGSY activity has helped them in increasing their income. About 60.59% have reported that indulging in SGSY activities has helped them to increase their savings as well. More than three fourths of the total individual beneficiaries have opined that SGSY activities have resulted in developing a greater desire for self-employment. About 40.34% of the samples have claimed that their social prestige has gone up after taking the SGSY activity. Around 38% have felt that they could provide their children and other members of family with better health and educational facilities after being a swarozgari.

SGSY activities have helped to satisfy the desire for self-employment in a majority of beneficiaries (58.15%). This is evident from the percentage figure of the State of Uttaranchal (95.04%) and Tamil Nadu (91.52%). In 48.53% of SHGs, an increase in income is observed as the impact of SGSY activity. Hence the prime objective of SGSY in bringing BPL families above the poverty line is achieved to some extent as most of the groups have just started their economic activities and may take a year or two more to stabilize.

[English]

World Bank Loan for Poverty Alleviation Schemes

1089. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank has provided any loan for the Poverty Alleviation Schemes in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details of the said on-going schemes funded with the loan in these States; and
- (c) the number of persons benefited therefrom in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) In so far the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation is concerned, the World Bank has not provided any loan for the Urban Poverty Alleviation Schemes during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Setting up of Fertilizer Projects in Iran

1090. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to set up gas based fertilizer projects in foreign countries particularly in Iran;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) whether the financial viability to undertake such projects in foreign countries has been studied;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) the benefits accrued to the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir, the Union Government does not propose at present to set up any gas based fertilizer projects in Iran or any other foreign country.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

[Translation]

Works and Achievements in CIL

1091. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of works undertaken and the achievements of Coal India Ltd. as on date in the field of long term planning, conservation, research and development, production and sale;
- (b) whether the Coal India Ltd. has conducted any new survey for opening new mines and reopening closed ones;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total number of new coal mines opened and coal mines closed after nationalization of coal companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) The details of work, undertaken and the achievements of Coal India Limited regarding long term planning, conservation, research and development and production in Coal India Ltd. are as under:

(i) Long term planning : For each five year plan period, CIL in association with its subsidiaries, prepare its plan document for the plan period consisting of different physical and financial parameters. The plan document is discussed in the Ministry of Coal and Planning Commission

and then finalised. The plan document is reviewed during its mid-term appraisal.

In CIL 416 projects (costing Rs. 2 crore and above) have been sanctioned till March 2003 since nationalisation, out of which 331 projects have been completed and 85 projects are under different stages of implementation.

During X plan period, 92 projects have been planned to be taken up.

(ii) **Conservation** : During mine planning, this aspect is considered for utilisation of coal resources with due regard to safety. Accordingly, method of work is selected and status of workings of overlying, underlying coal seams and workings of the same coal seam around the mine, for which plan is proposed are given due consideration. The plan is approved by DGMS considering all aspects of safety and conservation.

From conservation and safety points of view, sand stowing is presently being done in 87 underground mines for coal extraction.

(iii) **Research and development** : Working group on coal and lignite for formulation of X five year plan has identified the following thrust areas for R & D in the plan period.

Production, productivity & safety
Coal exploration
Underground mining
Opencast mining
Equipment development
Underground coal gasification

44 S & T projects approved by SSRC are under different stages of implementation which are funded by the Govt. In addition, 16 R & D projects have also been taken up by CIL which are funded by its resources. These apart, new S & T/R & D projects are also being taken up.

(iv) **Production & sale** : After nationalisation, the achievement of Coal India Limited in production were as under :

(Figs. in million tonnes)

	1976-77 (actual)	2002-03 (actual)
	1	2
Underground		
-Manual	64.87	19.54
-Mechanised	0.96	28.88
Total	65.86	48.42

	1	2
Opencast		
-Manual	6.71	1.07
-Mechanised	16.94	241.20
Total	23.65	242.27
CIL Total	89.48	290.69

As regards sales & marketing, CIL has achieved an off take of 289.22 mt in 2002-03 and 166.08 mt. in 2003-04 upto October' 03 (provisional). CIL could maintain a steady growth in offtake and achieved a growth of 2.41% in 2002-03 over previous year. In current year (April-October' 03) CIL achieved a growth in off-take of 3.35% over same period last year.

(b) and (c) Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDI), a subsidiary of CIL, studies the scope of opening new mines in the virgin and in the continuing mines in CIL for new coal seams. This is a continuous process. As regard reopening of closed mines it may be mentioned that the closure of mines after nationalization was primarily on account of exhaustion of mineable reserve and on safety consideration, fire and inundation and techno-economic unviability.

As such, it is not possible to reopen such mines. With the present available technology, exploitation of the left out quantum of coal through re-engineering is not possible.

(d) The total number of new coal mines opened has been given in reply to part (a) above of the question

The total number of coal mines closed after nationalization of coal companies are 178 as on 1.4.2003.

[English]

Financial Assistance for MRTS in Mumbai

1092. **SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL** : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for seeking financial assistance for the implementation of Mass Rapid Transit System along Andheri Ghatkopar alignment in Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) A proposal for implementation of a light/rapid rail transit system between Andheri and Ghatkopar in Mumbai has been sent by the Government of Maharashtra to the Union Government. The Government of Maharashtra has been asked to clarify some points concerning this proposal.

Fluoride Mitigation Centre

1093. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 267 dated 22/7/2003 regarding Fluoride Mitigation Centre and state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a Fluoride Mitigation Centre in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (c) The draft project document for establishment of Fluoride Mitigation Centre, submitted by the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health and opinions of some experts thereupon were discussed in an internal meeting of the Department in August 2003. It was decided to examine the techno-economic viability of various options for setting up the Fluoride Mitigation Centre. As this involves wide-ranging consultations with a number of Institutions, no definite time can be indicated for taking a final decision in the matter.

Performance of Local Bodies

1094. DR. D. V. G. SHANKAR RAO : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) has rated Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad as the best Corporation in the country and adjudged Vizag Municipal Corporation as best Corporation for implementing e-governance;

(b) if so, the main features of administration in the administration of these local bodies;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken steps to ask local bodies to emulate these local bodies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad and the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation have been awarded by the CRISIL in September, 2003 for their initiatives in Accounting Reforms and in E-Governance, respectively. The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation was also rated as AA+ (SO) for the year 2001-02 by the CRISIL, based on which they could float tax-free municipal bonds for Rs. 82.50 crores during that year.

(b) The main features of administration of these municipal bodies are :

- Increase in revenue income year by year;
- Increase in capital expenditure year after year;
- Decrease in Salary Ratio year after year;
- Increase in property tax collections without hiking the rate of property tax.
- Computerization of all property tax assessments;
- Self-sufficiency in finance;
- Strengthening internal efficiency;
- Maintenance of accounts in accrual based double entry financial accounting system under fully computerized environment for transparency and accuracy;
- Streamlining of processes to reduce response time for the provision of services;
- Privatisation of sanitation up to 80%;
- Adoption of Unit Rate system in execution of civil works and
- In-house development of software and integration of modules, which allow for sustainability and continuous improvement of their initiatives.

(c) and (d) To make the urban local bodies more responsive and accountable to the people and also to develop cities with a standard of services as well as enhance their capability to undertake the task of raising resources, the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has recently circulated a Model Municipal Law to all State Governments for necessary action. The Model Municipal Law seeks to define the role of municipal bodies in delivery of municipal services, adoption of double entry accounting system levy of user charges, involvement of private sector in delivery of municipal services, property tax reforms, etc. Besides, this Ministry has also prepared and circulated Urban Development Plans Formulation and Implementation Guidelines, 1996; Guidelines on Property Tax Reforms, 1998; and draft Guidelines on Public Private Partnerships, to the States to help urban local bodies to play their role more effectively and ensure better service delivery. This Ministry

has also been conducting various conference/workshops with the representatives of the States from time to time to impress upon them to make the urban local bodies as viable unit of self governance by giving them needed functional and financial powers.

Central Assistance to Orissa under AUWSP

1095. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the Central assistance released to the Government of Orissa for the implementation of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme during each of the last three years; and

(b) the names of towns in Orissa where the said Programme has been implemented during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The year-wise details of Central assistance released to the Government of Orissa for implementation of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Central Assistance (Rupees in lakhs)
2000-01	245.79
2001-02	245.73
2002-03	254.81

(b) The names of towns covered in Orissa during the last three years are at enclosed statement.

Statement

Names of Towns sanctioned in Orissa under AUWSP during the years from 2000-01 to 2002-03

Sl. No.	Name of Town	District
1.	Rambha	Ganjam
2.	Barapali	Bargarh
3.	Kantabanji	Bolangir
4.	Khandpada	Nayagarh
5.	Khalikote	Ganjam
6.	Hinjilcut	Ganjam
7.	Patangarh	Bolangir
8.	Sonepur	Sonepur
9.	Rairangpur	Mayurbhanj

City Challenge Fund

1096. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set up a City Challenge Fund for catalyzing city level economic reforms programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total corpus of the proposed fund; and

(d) the details of various programmes proposed to be taken up under the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Department of Urban Development has formulated a new Centrally sponsored scheme of City Challenge Fund. The fund can be set up only after approval of the Union Government is accorded as per prescribed procedure.

(b) City Challenge Fund envisages to address the following areas at the city level :-

- (i) Catalyze city level economic reform programmes.
- (ii) Institutional, fiscal and financial reforms of cities.
- (iii) Creating credit-worthy cities.
- (iv) To meet requirement of funds for the transition costs of city restructuring.

Access to the City Challenge Fund would be on a competitive basis. It would be open to Municipalities/Urban Local Bodies that can present a plan of action and commitment to under take urban sector reforms that meet the criteria of the fund.

(c) Planning Commission has made a provision of Rs. 500 crore for this scheme during the 10th Plan period 2002-07.

(d) The fund does not envisage to cater to any particular programme. It would address the objectives mentioned at (b) above at city level.

Reduction of Fertilizer Prices

1097. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government has received representations to reduce prices of fertilizers in the country;

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

(c) whether changes in the fertilizer pricing and concession norms have been made recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the existing subsidy given to farmers on various fertilizers at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Present maximum retail price (MRP) of urea and indicative MRPs of other fertilizers were fixed on 28.2.2002.

(c) and (d) New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units has been introduced with effect from 1.4.2003 in place of the erstwhile Retention Price Scheme. NPS will be implemented in stages. Stage-I would be of one year duration, from 1.4.2003 to 31.3.2004 and Stage-II would be of two years duration, from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2006. The modalities of subsequent stages would be decided after a review of implementation of Stage-I and Stage-II. NPS aims at bringing in greater transparency, uniformity and efficiency in subsidy payments to urea units and inducing them to take cost reduction measures on their own to be competitive.

(e) Subsidy/concession on fertilizers is given to farmers in the shape of making them available fertilizers at subsidized selling prices. The amount of subsidy/concession disbursed on urea and decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers during 2002-03 was Rs. 11014.52 crore.

Issuance of NOC for Lignite Based Power Project

1098. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued necessary directives to M/s. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited to release the Gurha lignite reserves in favour of M/s. Rajasthan Rajya Vidhyut Utpadan Nigam Limited for installation of its proposed lignite based Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the NOC is likely to be issued by M/s. NLC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) to (c) Neyveli Lignite

Corporation in their letter No. GM/M/P & Geo./RRVNUL/2003 dated 3.2.2003 have already informed M/s. Rajasthan Rajya Vidhyut Utpadan Nigam Limited that they agree for release of Gurha West Block to Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation (now stands amalgamated with Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited) in lieu of Hadla lignite reserves.

Delay in Allotment of Flats by DDA

1099. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered that litigation costs of 255 allottees, who did not get possession of their flats within the stipulated time, be realised from the salaries of DDA officers and also the DDA should pay damages to the aggrieved allottees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the particulars of officers of DDA held responsible for delay in allotment of flats and bringing bad repute to DDA and the amount realised from their salaries as per orders of the Supreme Court;

(d) whether any departmental action has also been taken against these officers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement, dated 11.9.2003 has upheld the decision of State Commission/National Commission, which had ordered payment of interest @ 15% by DDA on the deposit of allottees in case of delayed possession to the petitioner allottees of Fifth Self Financing Scheme, payment of cost of Rs. 2,000/- to each of the respondents and recovery of this cost from its officers. They have also reported that the compliance of the orders of the Supreme Court is underway.

Merger of the Employees of DRDAs with District Panchayats

1100. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of District Rural Development Agencies have been merged with District Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details of States where such merger has taken place; and

(c) if not, the time by which the merger is likely to take place in other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (c) As per the information available with the Ministry of Rural Development, the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in the States of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal are working as separate cells, under the Zilla Parishads. The Guidelines of the Scheme of DRDA Administration provide that the DRDAs would maintain their separate identity but will function under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Zilla Parishad. The Guidelines do not provide for merger of the employees of DRDAs with Zilla Parishads. As a matter of policy, the DRDAs are not supposed to have any permanent staff and employees are to be taken on deputation to the DRDAs for specific periods.

Capital Subsidy

1101. SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) provides capital subsidy to small scale and medium scale drug units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any financial steps to facilitate technology upgradation of small and medium scale drug units which are required to implement the provisions of Schedule of Notification under GSR No. 894 dated 11.12.2001 issued by the Health Ministry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) provides for 12% upfront capital subsidy to SSI units including tiny units on institutional finance availed by them through 28 Banks, 12 State Financial Corporations, 34 Cooperative Banks, 31 Regional Rural Banks and National Small Industries Corporation for induction of well Established and Improved Technologies approved under the Scheme relating to 30 specified products/sub-sectors including the drug units. The eligible subsidy is calculated on the actual loan amount not exceeding Rs. 40

lakh under the guidelines of the Scheme. The Scheme is being implemented at the national level through two Nodal Agencies, namely, Small Industries Development Bank of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

(c) and (d) The notification issued by the Health Ministry under GSR No. 894 dated 11.12.2001 pertains to the provisions for Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for Drugs & Pharmaceuticals. These are broadly covered under the eligible Well Established and Improved Technologies for Drugs & Pharmaceuticals.

(e) Does not arise.

Jobs in Drought Hit Areas

1102. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any comprehensive policy to provide more jobs for drought hit areas;

(b) if so, the extent to which the new policy is likely to be benefited in providing jobs to poor in various States especially in Maharashtra;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to allocate additional Central assistance to implement the various job providing schemes in these areas;

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

(e) the number of poor people benefited by such schemes in Maharashtra during the last two years and current years so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Due to severe drought during 2001-2002 & 2002-2003, Government decided to provide foodgrains free of cost under the Special Component of the Sampurna Grameen Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) to the Drought affected States to take up relief works in the affected areas.

(c) and (d) The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a Memorandum seeking financial assistance of Rs. 1715 crores (inclusive of Rs. 900 crores for employment generation) from the National Calamity Contingency Fund.

in addition to the entire Central Share of Rs. 136.98 crores released to them from Calamity Relief Fund for the financial year 2003-2004. In order to provide immediate relief, 50000 MTs of foodgrains have been released free of cost for relief employment works in the State.

(b) and (e) The Statement indicating the state-wise mandays of employment generated for the last two years and during the current year (till date is given at enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise details of Mandays Generated under Food for Work Programme (FFWP) and Special Component

		(In Lakhs Mandays)		
S.No.	State	FFWP	Special Component	
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1982.48	2269.87	N.R.
2.	Bihar	N.R.	*	*
3.	Chhattisgarh	180.59	227.43	308.88
4.	Gujarat	388.52	N.R.	N.R.
5.	Haryana	*	N.R.	*
6.	Himachal Pradesh	*	22.92	*
7.	Jharkhand	*	N.R.	*
8.	Karnataka	200.00	1083.50	321.38
9.	Kerala	N.R.	N.R.	*
10.	Madhya Pradesh	229.75	436.75	482.40
11.	Maharashtra	137.51	N.R.	N.R.
12.	Orissa	301.22	451.15	75.48
13.	Rajasthan	810.16	556.79	N.R.
14.	Tamil Nadu	*	N.R.	N.R.
15.	Uttar Pradesh	*	59.08	*
16.	Uttaranchal	*	12.30	*
Total		4230.23	5119.79	1188.14

*Foodgrains not released.

N.R. : Not Reported by the State Government.

Delhi Rent Control Act 1995

1103. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has has given any

judgement recently regarding the Delhi Rent Control Act., 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision to notify the date of enforcement of the Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The Supreme Court, in its judgement dated 8.10.2003 dismissed Civil Appeals Nos. 3988-89 of 2001 filed by Common cause for issuing order to the Central Government to notify the Delhi Rent Act, 1995. In the said judgement the Supreme Court observed that the Government is entitled to take into consideration various facts while deciding whether the Act should be brought into force or not and no mandamus can be issued to the Central Government to bring the Act into force.

(c) to (e) The Delhi Rent Act, 1995 could not be enforced after its enactment due to agitation by various groups. It was then decided to bring the Act into force after amending some of its provisions. Consequently, the Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 28.7.1997. The same was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development for examination and report. The Committee has since submitted its report and its recommendations have also been accepted by the Government. After the Amendment Bill is passed in both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President, the Delhi Rent Act, 1995 alongwith the amendments can be brought into force.

KBK Districts under SGSY

1104. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural families in KBK districts which have been assisted under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) till date;

(b) the number of Self-Help Groups (SHG) working in these backward districts to provide benefit to the rural poor families as on date; and

(c) the year-wise break up thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (c) The number of Self Help Group formed, swarozgaris assisted under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in rural areas of KBK districts since inception of the scheme i.e. 1.4.99 till date (year-wise) is enclosed in the statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Districts	Number of SHG Formed						Total Swarozagaris Assisted					
		1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004 (Upto Oct)	Total	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004 (Upto Oct)	Total
1.	Bolangir	113	606	3397	438	130	4684	1167	3117	1813	1993	37	8127
2.	Kalahandi	0	190	122	97	48	457	1595	1331	1821	1763	505	7015
3.	Koraput	407	570	439	266	380	2062	2001	2901	2841	2039	982	10764
4.	Malkangir	180	0	1109	100	10	1399	1418	1587	1171	562	225	4963
5.	Nabrangpur	245	1154	1895	1264	1116	5674	1291	3060	2315	2052	48	8766
6.	Naupada	6	226	1059	555	54	1900	858	1380	1528	822	23	4611
7.	Rayagada	336	773	2409	1710	702	5930	1684	2137	1118	1359	257	6555
8.	Sonepur	509	471	339	271	250	1840	555	1233	1091	533	89	3501
Total		1796	3990	10769	4701	2690	23946	10569	16746	13698	11123	2166	54302

[Translation]

Decline in Coal Production

1105. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal production in coal mines of Western Coalfields Limited is constantly declining;

(b) if so, the details of said decline since 2000 till date, year-wise;

(c) whether this decline has occurred in all mines of WCL;

(d) if so, the mine-wise details of decline in production and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some of the mines under WCL have turned unviable; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There has been an increasing trend in coal production in Western Coalfields Limited (WCL). Actual coal production during last four years is as under :-

(in million tonnes)

Year	Production
1999-2000	33.86
2000-2001	35.20
2001-2002	37.01
2002-2003	37.82

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

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Some of the mines under WCL have turned unviable details of which are given below:

Year	Name of Mine	Type
2000-2001	Chattarpur-1	Underground
	Bhandewara	Underground
	Shivpuri	Opencast
	Kawadi	Opencast
2001-2002	Mana	Underground
	Satpura-II	Underground
	Makardhokra	Underground
	Neharia	Underground
	Damua	Underground
	Mohan	Opencast
	Haranbhatta	Opencast
	Dhuptala	Opencast
	Chhinda	Opencast
	New Sethia	Opencast
2002-2003	Datala	Opencast
	Pench East Patch	Opencast
	Tawa	Underground
	Pathakhara-II	Underground
	Pathakhara-I	Underground
	H. Lalpeth	Opencast
	Kamptee	Opencast

*[English]***Recovery of Overcharged Amount**

1106. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has asked the Union Government to recover 50% of amount from the companies on account of over charging;

(b) if so, the names of the Companies, the names of medicines, the amount over-charged and the amount paid by the companies to the Government so far; and

(c) measures being taken to recover the balance amount from the companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) In its order dated 1.8.2003 the Honourable Supreme Court has stated, interalia, that "We also consider it just and proper to give liberty to the appellant and the concerned statutory authorities to recover 50% of the 'overcharged' amounts pending fresh determination by the High Court. Accordingly, we direct stay of recovery of 50% of the 'overcharged' amount subject to the payment of remaining 50% within the period of four weeks from the date of communication of the amount payable by each of the writ petitioners".

In September, 2003 the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) have issued notices to the following companies for recovery of 50% of the overcharged amount in respect of the bulk drugs shown against each for the period upto June, 2000:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Bulk Drug	Name of the Company	50% of Overcharged amount to be recovered as per the Supreme Court Order dated 1.8.2003 (Rs.)
1.	Salbutamol	M/s. USV Ltd.	7,07,752
2.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Okasa Ltd.	2,37,08,931
3.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Okasa Pharma Ltd.	91,05,089
4.	Theophylline	M/s. Okasa Pharma Ltd.	45,81,155
5.	Norfloxacin	M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.	94,03,039
6.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.	99,81,354
7.	Ciproflaxacin	M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.	23,47,00,748
8.	Salbutamol	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	39,81,15,194
9.	Ciprofloxacin	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	21,08,39,457
10.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	4,77,69,384
11.	Norfloxacin	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	37,42,16,445

In November, 2003 the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) have issued notices to the following companies for recovery of 50% of the overcharged amount

in respect of the bulk drugs shown against each for the period from July, 2000 to July, 2003:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Bulk Drug	Name of the Company	50% of Overcharged amount to be recovered as per the Supreme Court Order dated 1.8.2003 (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Narfloxacin	M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.	8,080,942
2.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.	799,685
3.	Norfloxacin	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	257,209,232

1	2	3	4
4.	Ciprofloxacin	M/s Cipla Ltd.	239,558,166
5.	Salbutamol	M/s. Cipla Ltd.	270,810,727
6.	Theophylline	M/s. Okasa Pharma Ltd.	5,894,815
7.	Cloxacillin	M/s. Okasa Pvt. Ltd.	119,262,500

M/s. Ranbaxy Labs has deposited Rs. 23,47,00,748/- (Rupees Twenty Three Crores Forty Seven Lakhs Seven Hundred Forty Eight only) being the 50% of the overcharged amount in the sale of Ciprofloxacin based formulations for the period upto June, 2000.

Appropriate measures as per law will be taken against the defaulters.

Santhali Language

1107. SHRI SALKHAN MURMU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to include Santhali Language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which amendment Bill in this regard is likely to be brought before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Sita Kant Mohapatra to make recommendations, inter-alia, to evolve a set of objective criteria for inclusion of more languages, including Santhali, in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The Government will consider the recommendations of the Committee and take a suitable decision in the matter.

Hogenakkal Drinking Water Project

1108. SHRI P. D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any alternative plan to replace the Integrated Hogenakkal Drinking Water Project to be implemented in Dharmapuri District of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this is likely to be replaced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (c)

The provision of drinking water supply to rural areas is State subject. The powers to plan, design and implement drinking water supply projects vest with State Government.

Tamil Nadu Government submitted the Integrated Hogenakkal Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Project to be implemented in Dharmapuri District of Tamil Nadu, with a total outlay of Rs. 1008 crore, for seeking financial assistance from the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The proposal is pending due to non-receipt of additional information sought from the State Government. This Department has not received any alternate plan from the State Government to replace the Integrated Hogenakkal Drinking Water Project for seeking financial assistance from JBIC.

Human Right Education

1109. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government considers Human Rights Education as a major component for the promotion of Human Rights; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for its promotion by starting Masters/Doctoral level of Human Rights programmes in Central Universities like JNU, Delhi University, Jamia Millia etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) The Government considers Human Rights Education as one of the effective methods for creating awareness of human rights. The Government has prepared the national Action Plan for Human Rights Education. As per this Plan the Ministry of Human Resource Development has taken action on re-orientation of syllabus so as to introduce elements of human rights in school education. Programmes on Human Rights are also being telecast through 'Gyan Darshan'.

Central Universities like Jamia Millia Islamia conducts post graduate and doctorate courses in Human Rights and Duties Education. The University Grants Commission provides financial assistance, under the Human Rights and Duties Education Scheme, for organizing Seminars, Symposia and Workshops to Universities and Colleges and conducting various courses. During the year 2002-2003, the Commission has approved 29 proposals of different Universities and

Colleges for organizing Seminars, Symposia and Workshops. The Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi have been aided for conducting Post Graduate Diploma and Degree Courses in Human Rights and Duties Education. The University Grants Commission does not consider the doctoral level course under this scheme.

Amount under Mega City Scheme

1110. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount sanctioned and released to Kolkata under the Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities Scheme during each of the last three years;
- (b) the projects undertaken under the scheme during the said period;
- (c) whether all the schemes have been completed within the stipulated time;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) During the last three years, Central Government released funds to Kolkata Mega City under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities, as follows :-

(Rupees in crores)

Year	Amount
2000-01	19.09
2001-02	25.70
2002-03	26.23

(b) During the period, 18 schemes were undertaken.

(c) to (e) As per information made available by Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, nodal agency for Kolkata Mega City, the status of schemes sanctioned during the period is as follows :

i. Number of schemes sanctioned/undertaken	-	18
ii. Number of schemes completed	-	3
iii. Number of schemes dropped	-	1
iv. Number of schemes behind schedule	-	6
v. Number of schemes where work is in progress	-	8

The completion of schemes has been delayed due to land problems.

As per the guidelines, it is for the State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) to periodically monitor the implementation of projects taken up under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities.

Development on Wasteland

1111. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted a Task Force on development and management of wasteland in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any draft policy has been prepared by this Force so far; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. However, a Task Force headed by Secretary (Rural Development) is looking into measures for promoting involvement of credit/financial institutions in mobilization of additional funds for wastelands/watershed development.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Purchase of Stationery

1112. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 5063 dated 20.12.2002 and 3583 of 19-08-2003 regarding purchase of stationery and state;

- (a) if the information has since been compiled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken in the matter;
- (d) whether many of the Government offices are still not following DOP & T OM dated 10.2.2000; and
- (e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (e) Information will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Sports Facilities

1113. SHRIT. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received applications from State Government regarding construction/ set up sports/games infrastructural facilities during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State-wise details of proposals received during the last 3 years from the State Governments and approved for Central assistance under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" have been indicated in the enclosed statement.

Statement

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20.	Nagaland	10	6	171.60	38	23	80.28	4	-	-
21.	Orissa	4	1	60.00	14	8	28.34	10	5	346.50
22.	Punjab	15	14	650.82	1	-	-	3	-	-
23.	Rajasthan	5	3	62.515	6	1	20.00	2	2	43.00
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	30	28	134.56	5	5	212.47	2	1	60.00
26.	Tripura	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	14	4	97.44	9	4	76.63	10	3	90.195
28.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	7	7	643.967	4	-	-
29.	West Bengal	-	-	-	4	2	21.38	33	28	136.92

Note : Proposals which were found deficient could not be considered for assistance and the concerned State Governments were suitably informed.

Self Help Groups for Women

1114. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Guidelines under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) 50% of the Self Help Groups formed in each block would be exclusively for women;

(b) if so, the number of Groups formed so far and how many of them are exclusively for women, State-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government to ensure that the guidelines issued by the Government are strictly followed; and

(d) the number of women beneficiaries under the scheme as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Since inception of the scheme from April 1999 to October 2003, a total number of 16,87,026 Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed, which include 7,92,159 women groups. During this period, a total number of 17,24,416 women swarozgaris have been assisted. A Statement indicating State-wise break up the women groups formed and women swarozgaris assisted is in the enclosed statement.

(c) The responsibility of following the provisions of the guidelines, including that for formation of women groups, lies with the State Governments. The State Governments are being asked to strictly follow the guidelines for coverage of women beneficiaries from time to time.

Statement

Financial and Physical progress for women under SGSY since Inception (1.4.1999) upto Oct. 2003

S.No.	States/UTs	Group Formed since 1.4.99	Women Group Formed	Members of Women SHGs Assisted	Women individual Swarozgaris Assisted	Total Women Swarozgaris Assisted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	414802	307989	271500	41086	312586
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	244	43	474	1866	2340
3.	Assam	81468	25868	48597	4443	53040
4.	Bihar	43929	11434	76880	56813	133696

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	37916	16850	4811	6941	11752
6.	Goa	332	71	512	470	982
7.	Gujarat	110730	26557	6984	23615	30599
8.	Haryana	6283	3164	11335	28282	39617
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5564	2123	13101	4664	17765
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	7257	57	13381	1847	15228
11.	Jharkhand	15155	211	31111	13977	45088
12.	Karnataka	31260	10120	74654	15812	90466
13.	Kerala	44983	37881	34725	35324	70049
14.	Madhya Pradesh	212740	79162	47837	39941	87778
15.	Maharashtra	63953	29600	62530	77902	140432
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	1519	341	2415	826	3241
18.	Mizoram	870	100	3192	189	3381
19.	Nagaland	898	140	2807	1008	3815
20.	Orissa	101603	61644	42983	47578	90561
21.	Punjab	2078	1493	6831	5581	12412
22.	Rajasthan	22471	8714	2635	59032	61667
23.	Sikkim	447	236	548	1416	1964
24.	Tamil Nadu	110944	84074	238073	15011	253084
25.	Tripura	11385	4800	7406	13030	20436
26.	Uttar Pradesh	275324	41915	49345	71087	120432
27.	Uttaranchal	16276	5363	8350	4995	13345
28.	West Bengal	65370	31238	53030	33511	86541
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	134	33	493	21	514
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	26	0	26
31.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	32	32
32.	Lakshadweep	2	0	1	5	6
33.	Pondicherry	1089	938	1122	422	1544
Total		1687026	792159	1117689	606727	1724416

Committee on Recruitment Reform1115. **SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU :****SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :**

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some suggestions have been made that the selection to Indian Civil Services should be made according to the specialisation of the candidate in a particular area such as health care, education science and technology, industry, economics and finance, culture, food and agriculture, foreign affairs, information technology etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendations have been made earlier also by a committee set up by the Government to reform the recruitment procedure to the Civil Services;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has considered the suggestions made at (a) above and the recommendations made by the committee; and

(f) if so, the concrete proposals formulated by the Government to bring about the required reforms in the matter of recruitment to the Civil Services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Separate competitive examinations are held for the services where specialization of the candidates is required with requisite qualifications as eligibility conditions.

(c) to (f) Reforms in the recruitment system is a continuous process. A Committee commonly known as Kothari Committee, was constituted by the Union Public Service Commission to review the I.A.S. etc. Examination through which recruitment to a number of All India Services and Central Services, Group 'A' and Group 'B' is made. That Committee recommended a unified competitive examination, known as Civil Services Examinations, in place of the then existing three separate examinations. The scheme of the Civil Services Examinations have further been reviewed by Prof. Alagh Committee. That Committee too has not recommended selection to the higher Civil services according to the specialization of the candidates.

Training to Senior Police Officers by FBI

1116. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the America's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) imparted training to senior police

officials in the country in the matter of cyber crime and crisis management;

(b) if so, the number of officers to whom the training was imparted by FBI;

(c) whether no arrangement for such a training existed in the country and whether the Government intend to invite experts from other countries also to train our officers in the different crime related matters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of officers to whom the training was imparted are as under :-

(i) Cyber Crime Course-30

(ii) Crisis Management Course-29

(c) and (d) These training courses were part of the Anti-Terrorism Assistance programme. Other such courses are also being conducted on specialized subjects.

Talks with NSCN (I-M)

1117. **SHRI M. K. SUBBA :** Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team led by the Union Government interlocutor Mr. K. Padmanabiah lately had talks with NSCN (I-M) leaders on their demands;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The last round of talks between the representatives of the Government of India and NSCN (I-M) leadership took place during September 17-19, 2003. The next round of talks is scheduled for December 6-9, 2003. Talks had been going on with NSCN (I-M) leaders to find an amicable solution to the Naga issues. While there had been an exchange of views and efforts to reach a mutually acceptable position, talks remain inconclusive.

**Conversion of Leasehold Property
Into Freehold**

1118. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had cleared the scheme for conversion of leasehold rights in residential property into freehold in Chandigarh in 1996;

(b) if so, the rate of conversion charges fixed thereunder.

(c) whether the conversion fee has been hiked before people could actually benefit from the scheme as stipulated;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the hike;

(e) the number of fresh applications received after the hike in the conversion charges;

(f) whether the Government has considered the desirability to convert leasehold rights in commercial property as well into freehold; and

(g) if so, the progress in the matter?

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

Finger-Prints in Tihar Jail

1119. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tihar Jail has undertaken a pilot project where scanners would take finger-prints of the inmate every time he leaves or enters the jail;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether the above project propose to cover the visitors; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help to control Jail breaks and in tracking down of the accused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have installed on an experimental basis a Biometric Finger Identification System in one of the jails of the Tihar Jail Complex which enables every prisoner to be photographed alongwith his/her fingerprints.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) This system is expected to help proper identification of the prisoners ordered to be released and also identify the repeat-prisoners.

Development of Sports Complex in A.P.

1120. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance has been given to Andhra Pradesh during 2002-2003 in 2003-2004 so far for the development of Sports complexes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications pending with the Government for assistance for the development of sports infrastructure in various places in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) and (b) The details of assistance released to Government of A.P. during 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 (as on 3.12.2003) for various sports infrastructure projects including sports complexes under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" are at the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) No application from Andhra Pradesh is pending with the Ministry. Proposals received but found deficient have been sent back to the State Government/Other agencies for rectification and re-submission.

Statement

Development of Sports Complex in A.P.

Sl.No.	Details of the project	Grant released
1	2	3
2002-2003		
1.	Indoor Stadium category-III at Karamchedu, Distt. Prakasam	Rs. 13.74 lakh (1st instalment)
2003-2004 (As on 3.12.2003)		
1.	Indoor Stadium category-III at Karamchedu, Distt. Prakasam	Rs. 4.577 lakh (IInd & Final Instalment)
2.	Indoor Stadium and playfields at District Sports Complex, Warangal	Rs. 30.00 lakhs (1st instalment)
3.	Indoor Stadium at Fateh Maidan, Hyderabad	Rs. 60.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)
4.	Indoor Stadium at Gachibowli, Hyderabad	Rs. 60.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)

1	2	3
5.	Outdoor Stadium at Gachibowli, Hyderabad	Rs. 18.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)
6.	Swimming Pool at Gachibowli, Hyderabad	Rs. 60.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)
7.	Indoor Stadium at Yousufguda, Hyderabad	Rs. 60.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)
8.	Cycling Velodrome, adjacent to Osmania University, Hyderabad	Rs. 24.00 lakh (1st & Final instalment)
9.	Indoor Stadium at Saroor Nagar, Hyderabad	Rs. 60.00 lakhs (1st & Final instalment)
10.	Swimming Pool at District Sports Complex Hammakanda at Warangal	Rs. 47.85 lakh (1st instalment)
11.	Swimming Pool at District Sports Complex at Nizamabad	Rs. 17.50 lakh (1st instalment)

[Translation]

Directorate General for Hindi

1121. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the main functions of the Central Translation Bureau, Central Hindi Directorate, Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology and Kendriya Hindi Sansthan;

(b) whether there is any proposal for creation of a Directorate General by merging these Institutes doing same type of work;

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

(d) if not, the steps to be taken for removing slackness of these Institutes for promotion of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) The Central Translation Bureau (CTB), a subordinate office of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, translates non-statutory manuals, codes and procedural literature etc. It also imparts training in translation.

The Central Hindi Directorate (CHD), Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) and Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (KHS), Agra are institutions under the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD). Briefly their work is as under:-

(i) The CHD engages in propagating Hindi in Non-Hindi speaking areas, publishes foreign and regional language dictionaries with Hindi, Hindi language learning books and conducts correspondence courses to teach Hindi etc.

(ii) The CSTT engages in developing and updating dictionaries on technical subjects of various disciplines, in Hindi and other Indian languages.

(iii) The KHS provides facilities for higher studies in Hindi language and literature to Hindi Teachers of non-Hindi speaking States as well as foreigners etc.

(b) The objectives of the four institutions are different. However, the Expenditure Reform Commission (ERC) in its report has suggested merger of the CHD, CSTT and KHS.

(c) The Ministry of HRD have examined the recommendation of the ERC and a view has been taken that the specific objectives of the three institutions being different, merger of these Institutions will blur the focus of their activities, even though collectively they contribute to the promotion of Hindi. However, the Ministry of HRD have constituted a Departmental Committee headed by the Additional Secretary of the Ministry, to consider this matter.

(d) The working of the above three Institutions is regularly monitored at various levels in the Ministry of HRD to further improve functioning.

OBC/SC/ST Employees

1122. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1168 on 29.7.2003. and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The requisite information has since been collected. The details of the number of employees working in grades A,B,C,D, and the number of employees belonging to OBCs, SCs and STs classes out of total number of employees grade-wise, in the Ministry is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement				
		Number of employees		
		Belonging to		
		OBC	SC	ST
A	2310	66	337	75
B	3613	30	656	140
C	25401	661	4841	1121
D	22605	518	6502	790

[English]

Separate Territory for Kashmiri Pandits

1123. DR. M. V. V. S MURTHI :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of Kashmiri Pandits in the month of September, 2003 met the Deputy Prime Minister and demanded separate Union territory on the lines of Chandigarh within the State;

(b) if so, the other demands made by them; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) A delegation of Panun Kashmir met Dy. Prime Minister on 2nd September, 2003 and demanded, inter alia, a separate homeland for Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley.

(b) The other demands made by them included setting up a high-powered committee for early return of Kashmiri Migrants to the Valley, nation-wide Census of Kashmiri Pandits, exemption from payment of Income-tax for Migrants from the Valley and employment opportunities for Kashmiri Pandit youths.

(c) The demands viz. creation of a separate homeland for Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley, nation-wide census of Kashmiri Pandits and total exemption from payment of Income-tax for migrants from the Valley cannot be met due to constitutional and legal implications. Regarding other demands, the Government of India has been working in close association with the State Government to mitigate their hardship and problems.

Recruitment of Children by Militants in Kashmir

1124. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the fact that militants in Kashmir are recruiting children for their so called Jehadi movement;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter; and

(c) the steps the Union Government propose to take to counter and check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) As informed by the State Government of J & K, there have been reports of attempts by terrorist outfits through their overground support network in the State of lure unemployed gullible youth to join the terrorist group for their so called Jehadi movement. Allurements by way of monetary assistance have reportedly played a major role in recruiting the youth into terrorist fold.

(c) The State Government has reported that action, under the law, against all those overground supporters found abetting terrorism is regularly being taken through the concerted efforts of security forces and intelligence agencies. A number of local youths were also rescued by the security forces this year from the clutches of terrorists.

[Translation]

Laying of Separate Track

1125. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to connect Tri Nagar Station of the Delhi Metro of Shahdara-Rithala section with Moti Nagar of Barakhamba-Dwarka section by laying a separate track between the two stations of different sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Shahdara-Rithala and Barakhamba Road-Dwarka are two independent Metro rail corridors, planned along the directions of dominant traffic flow. Tri Nagar (on Shahdara-Rithala corridor) and Moti Nagar (or Barakhamba Road-Dwarka corridor) being only 3 km away from each other, they are easily connectable by other modes of public transport.

[English]

Housing Loan and Insurance Cover for Poor

1126. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

SHRI BRAHMA NAND Mandal :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated certain schemes to provide housing loan and insurance cover for the rural poor;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and when these are going to be implemented;

(c) the number of persons likely to be benefited under these schemes;

(d) the role of the State Governments in the implementation of these schemes; and

(e) the further steps taken to introduce a micro insurance policy for the benefit of the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme (CCSS) since 1.4.1999 wherein credit upto Rs. 40,000/- and subsidy upto Rs. 10,000/- is provided to rural households having annual income upto Rs. 32,000/- for house construction. Since the year 2001-2002, the allocation for CCSS has been merged with the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) funds and accordingly 20% of IAY funds can be utilized as subsidy either for upgradation component or for credit based houses or both as decided by the district implementing agencies. The credit component of the scheme is to be disbursed by variety of housing financing institutions and by scheduled commercial banks. The subsidy component is borne by the Centre and the States jointly. The institution to implement the scheme is to be selected by the State Government. The Ministry has not formulated any scheme to provide insurance to the beneficiaries of the Rural Housing schemes.

Central Vigilance Commission Act

1127. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the new CVC Act the enquiring agency requires prior permission of the Government to start any inquiry against officers of the level of Joint Secretary and above;

(b) if so, whether this provision results in classifying the offenders on the basis of their ranks;

(c) whether it contradicts the right to equality guaranteed in the constitution;

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

(e) whether Supreme Court has issued a notice to the Government on 3 November, 2003 regarding secret single directive clause in the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 to clip the independence of CBI and CVC; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (f) In Section 26(c) of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 a new Section 6A has been inserted in the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 which inter alia provides that the Delhi Special Police Establishment shall not conduct any inquiry or investigation into any offence alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 except with the previous approval of the Central Government where such allegation relates to-

(a) the employees of the Central Government of the level of Joint Secretary and above; and

(b) such officers as are appointed by the Central Government in corporations established by or under any Central Act., Government companies, societies and local authorities owned or controlled by that Government.

The above newly inserted Section 6A is known as the 'Single Directive'

In the Writ Petition (C) No. 38/97 - Dr. Subramaniam Swamy - vs - CBI and others, the amicus curie has filed written submissions in the Supreme Court praying to strike down the provisions of Section 26(c) of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 and the newly inserted Section 6A in the DSPE Act, 1946 where under the CBI functions. On 3.11.2003, the Supreme Court, while hearing the matter, allowed four weeks time to file response to the written submissions of the amicus curie. The matter is the presently subjudice in thus Supreme Court.

Use of Mobile by Militants

1128. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision of the Union Government to allow limited mobile phone availability in J & K has promoted militants groups as reported in the *Statesman* dated 2.9.2003;

(b) if so, whether Jaish-e-Mohammed and other militant groups active in the valley, have established their base through mobile phones; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government on such activities of militant groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) No report of mobile phones in J & K being into the hands of terrorists has come to notice.

A number of security conditions have been incorporated by Department of Telecommunications in the Licence Agreement for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in consultation with the Security Agencies and Ministry of Home Affairs. The CMTS Licensees are required to obtain application and supporting documents from their prospective subscribers before providing them with the Service, inter-alia, to ascertain the identity of the subscribers. The Licensees are also required to forward a list of all their subscribers to the Security Agencies on monthly basis.

The above arrangement enables the Security Agencies to keep a check on the misuse of mobile phones.

[Translation]

Terrorism in North Eastern States

1129. **SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :**

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some IAS and other officers have succumbed to the dictates of the court of terrorists in the North-Eastern State;

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

(c) whether this act of the officers is an indication of mounting influence of terrorists in the North-Eastern States;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide security to the Government officials and common people from the terrorists; and

(e) the details of the efforts being made to bring the terrorists into the mainstream?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) to (e) There have been some reports to this effect. Militants are known to using coercive methods to force general public and State Government officials to obey their dictates. Central Government has been providing assistance to North Eastern States which inter alia includes deployment of Army and Central Paramilitary Forces, coordinated action by security forces for counter insurgency operations, modernization/upgradation of State Police forces, reimbursement of security related expenditure and declaration of militant organizations as 'unlawful associations'. Government has extended an invitation to all militant outfits to give up the path of violence and to come forward for talks within the provisions of the Constitution.

[English]

Pending cases against DDA Officers and Employees

1130. **PROF. A. K. PREMAJAM :**

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

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

(a) whether cases of corruption are pending against Senior DDA Officers and employees for the last many years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that at present Central Bureau of Investigation, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Delhi Police have registered 105 cases of corruption against officials of DDA. These are at various stages of process. While 15 cases are under investigation, in four cases prosecution sanction is under process and 86 cases are under trial in various courts.

Pesticides Testing Laboratories

1131. **SHRI S. D. N. R. WADIYAR :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pesticides testing laboratories set up by the Union Government in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the number of various categories of officials working; laboratory-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that all the States do not have such laboratories;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) steps being taken to set up such laboratories in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) Union Ministry of Agriculture has established two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories situated at Chandigarh (UT) and Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Faridabad (Haryana).

A statutory referral laboratory, Central Insecticides Laboratory has also been established u/s 16 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 by the Central Government at Faridabad (Haryana)

(b) Statement-I showing the number of various categories of officials working in Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories and in Central Insecticides Laboratory is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories situated at Chandigarh & Kanpur supplement the resources of all the States/UTs in monitoring the quality of pesticides. However, there are 46 States Pesticides Testing Laboratories in 18 States and one Union Territory set up by the States/UTs Government as per enclosed statement-II.

(e) On the request of the State Governments, the Government of India provides funds as grants-in-aid for establishing/strengthening of the State Pesticide Testing Laboratories.

Statement - I

No. of Various Categories of Officials working in the Laboratories set up by the Union Government

S.No.	Designation	Scale of pay	Total No. of Posts		
			CIL, Faridabad	RPTL, Chandigarh	RPTL, Kanpur
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Joint Director	12500-16400	4	1	1
2.	Deputy Director	10000-15200	8	1	1
3.	Assistant Director	8000-13500	8	-	-
4.	Jr. Bio-chemist	8000-13500	1	-	-
5.	Administrative Officer	6500-10500	-	1	1
6.	Plant Protection Officer	6500-10500	4	2	2
7.	Sr. Technical Assistant	5500-9000	2	-	-
8.	Instrument Technician	5500-9000	1	-	-
9.	Mechanic	5500-9000	1	-	-
10.	Senior Scientific Assistant-II	5500-9000	18	6	6
11.	Senior Scientific Assistant-III	5000-8000	20	2	2
12.	Scientific Assistant-I	4500-7000	2	-	-
13.	Upper Division Clerk	4000-6000	1	2	2
14.	Steongrapher	5000-8000	2	1	1
15.	Lower Division Clerk	3050-4590	1	1	1
16.	Laboratory Technician	3050-4590	7	-	-
17.	Laboratory Attendant	3050-4590	20	2	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Driver	3050-4590	1	1	1
19.	Dafttry	2610-4000	1	-	-
20.	Peon	2550-3200	-	1	1
21.	Chowkidar	2550-3200	-	1	1
22.	Beldar	2550-3200	4	-	-
23.	Animal House Attendant	2550-3200	5	-	-
Total			111	22	22

CIL - Central Insecticides Laboratory

RPTL - Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratory

Statement-II*Pesticide Testing Laboratories in State/UTs*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Laboratories	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Rajendra Nagar, Guntur, Anantapur, Tadepalligudem & Warangal
2.	Assam	1	Guwahati
3.	Bihar	2	Patna
4.	Gujarat	2	Junagarh & Gandhinagar
5.	Haryana	2	Karnal & Sirsa
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Simla
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	Srinagar & Jammu
8.	Karnataka	5	Bangalore, Bellary, Dharward, Shimoga & Kotnoor
9.	Kerala	1	Trivendrum
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Jabalpur
11.	Maharashtra	4	Pune, Amaravathi, Thane & Aurangabad
12.	Manipur	1	Mantipukhri
13.	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar
14.	Punjab	3	Amritsar, Ludhiana & Bhatinda

1	2	3	4
15.	Rajasthan	2	Jaipur, Bikaner
16.	Tamil Nadu	9	Coimbatore, Kovilpatti, Erode, Madurai, Trichy, Aduthari, Salem, Cuddalore & Kanchipuram
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3	Meerut, Lucknow & Varanasi
18.	West Bengal	1	Midnapore
19.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry
Total		46	

*[Translation]***Driving Vehicles in Inebriated State**

1132. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether youths in Delhi drive under the influence of liquor which sometimes cause accidents;

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

(c) the number of such cases detected wherein the driver was in an inebriated condition during the last three years as on date; and

(d) the fine recovered from them in the form of challan during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) There have been occasions in which the vehicles driven by persons in an inebriated state caused accidents.

(b) The persons found to be driving under the influence of liquor are prosecuted as per law.

(c) The number of cases of drunken driving detected during the last three years by Delhi Traffic Police is indicated below :-

Year	Number of cases
2001	1545
2002	2464
2003 (upto 30.11.2003)	2004

(d) The amount of fine recovered by Delhi Police from drunken drivers during the last three years was as follows:

Year	Amount of fine recovered
2001	Rs. 5,70,350
2002	Rs. 5,36,050
2003 (upto 30.11.2003)	Rs. 4,63,150

This does not, however, include the amount of the recovered in cases where the same was imposed by the courts, since this information is not maintained by Delhi Police.

[English]

VRS by Officers of AIS

1133. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of All India Services sought voluntary retirement during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons cited by officers for opting for VRS; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the whole System more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) 4 IAS officers have taken voluntary retirement during the last 3 years, under Rule 16 (2A) of the All India Services (DCRB) Rules, 1958. No. IPS or IFS officer has taken voluntary retirement under this rule. Information regarding voluntary retirement of members of the All India Services under Rule 16 (2) *ibid* is not maintained centrally as powers under this rule have been delegated to the State Governments.

(b) Some officers have cited personal reasons for taking voluntary retirement, though there is no provision under the rules requiring an officer to specify a reason.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Profit in Kendriya Bhandar

1134. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether profit of the largest consumer co-operative society of the country, Kendriya Bhandar has registered an increase during the year 2002-2003 as compared to 2001-2002;

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

(c) the time by which the dividend is likely to be distributed among the share holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) The Gross and Net profit of Kendriya Bhandar for the financial years 2002-2003 and 2001-2002 are as under :-

	2002-03 (Rs. in lakhs)	2001-02 (Rs. in lakhs)
Gross Profit	1419.53	1284.02
Net Profit	596.37	621.52

The General Body of Kendriya Bhandar has already approved dividend for the financial year 2002-03 @ 20% of shareholding.

Swajaldhara Scheme

1135. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA :

SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the districts covered under the Swajaldhara Scheme so far, District-wise;

(b) whether the performance of the Swajaldhara Scheme is not upto the mark;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to scarp the scheme;

(e) if so, the scheme prepared by the Union Government to replace the Swajaldhara Scheme to provide the drinking water in the rural areas;

(f) the names of States where performance of Swajaldhara Scheme is not satisfactory; and

(g) the directions issued by the Union Government

to State Governments for proper implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) A State/Union Territory wise list of districts covered under the Swajaldhara scheme so far is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The Swajaldhara scheme evoked overwhelming response after its launch by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in December 2002 and 20372 proposals were received of which 4744 proposals could be examined and approved by the Government in the year 2002-03. With a view to ensuring timely and effective implementation of the scheme, the power to sanction rural drinking water supply schemes has been delegated to the district level from the year 2003-04. The first instalments for the schemes cleared in the year 2002-03, and for the year 2003-04 have been released recently and the execution of schemes has commenced/is set to commence. Thus, at this stage, it is

premature to assess the performance of Swajaldhara scheme.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The State/UT wise allocation under Swajaldhara for the year 2003-04 was communicated in June 2003 and the States/UTs were requested to communicate the districtwise allocation and other requisite details immediately so as to enable the Department to release the first instalment. However, the same has not so far been received from Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Delhi and Pondicherry.

(g) The comprehensive Guidelines on Swajaldhara have been issued in June 2003.

Statement

State/Union Territory wise list of districts covered so far under Swajaldhara

#	State	Name of districts covered under Swajaldhara
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna, Anantpur, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Vishakhapatnam, Nizamabad, West Godavari, Medak, Guntur, Adilabad, Rangareddy, Warangal, Srikakulam, Khammam, Mehboobnagar, Chittoor, Vizianagaram
2.	Assam	Halkandi, Kamrup, Kachar, Sibsagar, Karimganj, Goalpara, Bongaigaon, Darrang, Golaghat, Morigaon, Nagaon, Nalbari
3.	Chhattisgarh	Kawardha, Korba, Jaigir Champa, Jashpur
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
5.	Gujarat	Anand Panchmahal, Sabarkantha, Vadodara, Valsad, Ahmedabad, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Narmada, Patan
6.	Haryana	Kurukshetra, Ambala, Faridabad, Kaithal, Mahendragarh, Panchakula, Rewari, Sonapat, Rohtak, Jhajjar
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi, Hamirpur, Shimla, Sirmour, Kulu, Solan, Chamba, Bilaspur, Kangra
8.	Karnataka	Shimoga, Haveri, Tumkur, Raichur, Udupi, Bangalore (R), Bagalkote, Bangalore (U), Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, C.R. Nagar, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Kodagu, Kolar, Koppal, Mandya, Uttara Kannada
9.	Kerala	Idukki, Malappuram, Kottayam, Thrissur, Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kozhikode, Palakkad
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Dhar, Tikamgarh, Katni, Mandsaur, Dewas, Khargone, Jhabua, Vidisha, Balaghat, Barwani, Chindwara, Jabalpur, Rajgarh, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sidhi

1	2	3
11.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Buldana, Ratnagiri, Beed, Thane, Oshmanabad, Jalgaon, Nagpur, Ahmednagar, Jaina, Satara, Sangli, Hingoli, Nashik, Kolhapur, Sindhudurg, Yavatmal, Parbhani, Solapur, Pune
12.	Nagaland	Dimapur, Tuensang, Zunheboto
13.	Orissa	Kendrapara, Sambalpur, Dhenkenal, Keonjhar, Bundh, Bolangir, Bhadrak, Bargarh, Malkangiri, Puri, Kandhamal, Jaipur, Deogarh, Cuttak, Angul, Navarangpur, Kalahandi, Koraput, Ganjapathi, Jagatsinghpur, Jharsuguda, Khurda, Mayurbhanj, Nayagarh, Nuapara, Phulbani, Rayagada, Sonepur
14.	Rajasthan	Jaipur, Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jhunjunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Rajasamand, S. Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur
15.	Tamil Nadu	Thirumanmali, Shivganga, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Puddukottai, Erode, Kanchipuram, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Dindigul, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Perambalur, Karur, Theni, Villupuram, Selam, Ramanathapuram, Kanyakumari, Nagaipattinam, Namakkal, Nilgiris, Thanjavur, Thiruchirapalli, Thiruvavur, Thiruvallur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli
16.	Tripura	North Tripura, South Tripura, Dhalai
17.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mahoba, Etawah, Banda, Sonbhadra, Sultanpur, Meerut, Siddharthnagar, Pratapgarh, Muzaffarnagar, Balrampur, Unnao, Lucknow, Varanasi, Badaun, Chandauli, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkar Nagar, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Begpat, Bahraich, Balia, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bhadohi (Sant Ravidas Nagar), Bijnor, Bulandshar, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etah, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Gautambudh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghazipur, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Hathras (Mahamaya Nagar), J. Phoolle Nagar, Jalaun (Orai), Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kannauj Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kaushambhi, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Maharajganj, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Moradabad, Padrouna (K. Nagar), Pilibhit, Raebareli, Rampur, Saharanpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Shahjahanpur, Shrawasti, Sitapur
18.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun, Almora, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Champawat, Nainital, Pauri, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag, Tehri, Uttarkashi
19.	West Bengal	Midnapur, Bardhaman, South 24 Parganas, Coochbehar, Hooghly, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Malda

[English]

Merger of Haridwar District with Uttar Pradesh

1136. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether people of Uttar Pradesh are demanding that the district of Haridwar in Uttaranchal be merged with Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Some organisations and political parties like the Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU), Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and the Haridwar Bachao Sangarsh Samiti have been demanding from time to time, that the district of Haridwar in Uttaranchal be merged with Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Government has no proposal to reorganize the State of Uttaranchal.

Construction of LIG Flats

1137. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority had awarded contracts for the construction of LIG flats to certain big companies at a high rate with the result that the flats were allotted at a very high cost at the time of allotment;

(b) if so, the number of LIG flats for which DDA awarded the contracts to these companies stating the rates at which the contract was awarded and the cost at which these flats were allotted as against the originally estimated cost;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the particulars of officers of the DDA and others who are responsible for awarding the contracts; and

(f) the action so far taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that it has awarded the work for construction of 9,611 Lower Income Group (LIG) alongwith 350 MIG and 140 HIG flats on Turn Key Basis to the pre-qualified construction agencies @ Rs. 7,190/- (Rs. Seven thousand one hundred and ninety) per sqm. of the plinth area of dwelling unit. The statement indicating the name of the work with its location, the name of the construction

company to whom and the rate at which the work has been awarded is enclosed. The above cost of Rs. 7190/- per sqm. includes the following items which were accounted for justifying this rate and for which no extra payment is to be made :

- (i) construction of the boundary wall around the housing pocket, a community hall, security hut, shopping centre.
- (ii) the preparation of Architectural and Structural designs, design of services and getting them approved from the Civic Agencies like MCD, DJB and DVB, maintenance of houses and services for a period of three years.
- (iii) the filling of one meter depth, dual piping system for water supply, rain water harvesting, construction of electric sub-station and providing/laying High Tension and Low Tension lines and transfer of the services to the respective Civic Agencies.

These houses are still at construction stage and have not yet been allotted. The cost of the flats is finalized at the time of allotment.

(c) to (f) Responsibility on any individual can be fixed only after determination of acts of omission and commission. Based on allegations of irregularities, the Vigilance Department of DDA took up inquiry into the allegations in respect of the two Turn Key Projects at Bakkarwala & Narela and has completed the preliminary investigations.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Agency	Rate per Sqm of plinth area of dwelling unit (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Construction of 1320 LIG Houses in Pocket A Bakkarwala	M/s. Ahluwalia Contract (India) Ltd.	7190/-
2.	Construction of 900 LIG Houses in Pocket B-1 at Bakkarwala	M/s. Gammon India Ltd.	7190/-
3.	Construction of 900 LIG Houses in Pocket B-2 at Bakkarwala	M/s. Unity Infra Project Ltd.	7190/-
4.	Construction of 1380 LIG Houses in Pocket C at Bakkarwala	M/s. Larson & Tubro Ltd.	7190/-
5.	Construction of 1000 LIG Houses in Pocket D at Bakkarwala	M/s. Unity Infra Project Ltd.	7190/-
6.	Construction of 756 LIG Houses at Sector 14, Dwarka	M/s. V.R.M. (India)	7190/-

1	2	3	4
7.	Construction of 630 LIG Houses at Sector 18 Rohini	M/s Unitech Ltd.	7190/-
8.	Construction of 2420 LIG Houses at Narela	M/s. Unity Infra Project Ltd.	7190/-
9.	Construction of 795 Houses (140 HIG, 350 MIG & 305 LIG) at Vasant Kunj	M/s. Ahluwalia Contract (India) Ltd.	7190/- + Rs. 175/- for superior specifications

Allocation of Funds under BSP

1138. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state the details of the funds allocated, actually released and utilized under the basic Services Programme by the Union Government with a view to improve the standard of living of the poor people and provide employment to youths living in urban areas during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : The erstwhile Urban Basic Services Programme (UBSP) was merged in the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), which was launched by the Government w.e.f 1.12.1997. This scheme is specially meant for urban poor below poverty line and seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under employed poor through (i) encouragement to setting up of self-employment ventures by the urban poor and (ii) through provision of wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The details of the funds allocated, released and utilised under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana during last three years, State-wise is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Statewise and Yearwise Funds Allocated, Released and Utilised under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	2000-2001			2001-2002			2002-2003		
		Allocation	Released	Expenditures	Allocation	Released	Expenditures	Allocation	Released	Expenditures
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1417.04	1417.04	1417.04	1417.04	331.51	331.51	784.37	904.15#	70.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	72.82	-	14.86	72.82	-	55.87	58.54	0.00	40.68
3.	Assam	864.89	63.30	593.41	864.89	-	52.55	476.55	0.00	253.94
4.	Bihar	606.30	-	460.84	606.30	-	0.00	427.02	0.00	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	422.69	422.69	286.62	422.69	128.44	194.30	236.41	236.41	49.95
6.	Goa	35.86	-	34.44	35.86	-	2.50	17.52	0.00	N.R.
7.	Gujarat	818.01	697.47	1368.20	818.01	166.67	561.88	266.69	1717.07*	335.57
8.	Haryana	138.77	125.14	264.13	138.77	50.40	261.15	88.39	238.39#	116.99
9.	Himachal Pradesh	78.44	56.72	23.24	78.44	23.98	40.92	55.21	63.64#	26.13
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	89.69	25.34	201.00	89.68	12.81	96.85	62.98	62.98	98.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Jharkhand	202.10	202.10	0.00	202.10	86.64	0.00	213.37	0.00	N.R.
12.	Karnataka	1150.40	168.00	1260.40	1150.40	395.16	1124.51	580.09	668.68#	587.38
13.	Kerala	389.46	256.50	311.28	389.46	266.23	305.20	261.98	301.99#	150.48
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1143.05	888.59	1188.60	1143.05	304.02	538.09	813.93	683.93-	1028.03
15.	Maharashtra	2129.23	-	1351.10	2129.23	-	1979.52	1331.81	618.73	1875.47
16.	Manipur	200.45	-	81.49	200.45	-	111.70	133.72	0.00	240.82
17.	Meghalaya	123.56	19.00	1.17	123.45	-	0.00	70.10	0.00	N.R.
18.	Mizoram	128.15	126.77	199.47	128.15	70.52	84.64	91.22	105.15#	91.22
19.	Nagaland	85.13	76.25	154.56	85.13	37.00	87.23	59.67	68.78#	67.75
20.	Orissa	375.11	69.24	446.01	375.11	300.00	286.39	330.94	381.48#	232
21.	Punjab	139.42	41.29	169.31	139.42	-	199.52	58.45	67.38#	26.03
22.	Rajasthan	643.53	376.08	541.32	643.53	32.64	534.23	349.20	402.53#	218.02
23.	Sikkim	33.48	32.49	69.75	33.48	28.86	24.76	27.07	31.20#	31.16
24.	Tamil Nadu	1529.39	764.70	514.00	1529.39	285.32	764.70	651.70	751.22#	285.32
25.	Tripura	162.00	162.00	0.00	162.00	84.99	236.17	99.17	114.31#	38.14
26.	Uttaranchal	102.97	102.97	95.95	102.97	27.88	43.42	76.18	16.33	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1956.43	1340.78	2047.50	1956.43	733.07	1436.36	1450.29	1671.76#	1297.19
28.	West Bengal	849.64	826.54	632.84	849.64	293.86	732.30	435.20	501.66#	531.25
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	111.43	-	45.83	111.43	-	77.76	114.30	0.00	9.92
30.	Chandigarh	102.29	-	11.48	102.29	-	20.57	122.27	269.09#	20.77
31.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	27.08	145.00	119.04	27.08	-	138.05	23.91	23.91	233.74
32.	Daman & Diu	52.20	-	11.72	52.20	-	11.57	32.52	0.00	5.04
33.	Delhi	139.96	40.00	22.38	139.96	-	7.25	125.15	0.00	12.3
34.	Pondicherry	49.04	67.00	41.32	51.04	191.00	45.22	65.85	191.00#	109.69
Total		16370.00	8513.00	13980.30	16374.00	3831.00	10388.69	10091.77	10091.77	8083.94

* Rs. 15 crore have been released in May, 2002 to the Govt. of Gujarat for the benefit of riot affected persons.

Additional funds released due to transfer of additional funds from non-performing States to better performing States.

\$ Including unspent balance of old UPA programme.

Encroachments on Government Premises

1139. DR. M. V. V. S. MURTHI :

DR. BALIRAM :

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

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that residents of Ground Floor quarters in Government colonies particularly in Sector-D, Type-II and Type-III, Mandir Marg have occupied the Government premises beyond their allotted premises and covered the same with the permanent grills causing inconvenience to the other residents;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government is also aware that the flats/plots located near G-point, Gole Dakkhana, New Delhi which were previously inhabited by the employees of P & T prior to 1984 have been encroached by the Government Officials;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether this all illegal occupation of Government premises/flats is well known by the CPWD and NDMC authorities but no action has been taken by them;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Production of Bio-fertilizers

1140. SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to produce bio-fertilizers and bio-control agents with the help of private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shortage of bio-fertilizers and bio-control agents are posing serious threat to farmers in the country;

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government to meet such shortage; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (e) The Government of India have been implementing a Central Sector Scheme on National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilizers since 6th plan for production and promotion of biofertilizers. Under the scheme 122 biofertilizer production units, consisting of 83 Government of India supported units with an installed capacity of 10525 tonnes and 39 private units with an installed capacity of 7975 tonnes, are engaged in production of biofertilizers. The aggregate production capacity is 18,500 tonnes. However, the estimated production is 10,000 tonnes/annum. In case of rise in demand of biofertilizers, the unutilized production capacity can be utilized.

To promote the increasing demand of biocontrol agents/biopesticides, it is proposed in the Xth Five Year Plan to encourage the private entrepreneurs and Non Government Organisations (NGOs) to open mass production units of biocontrol agents/biopesticides to cover all parts of the country. These efforts will ensure the easy and timely availability of biocontrol agents and biopesticides to the farmers in villages. The shortage of biocontrol agents/biopesticides are not posing any serious threat to farmers in the country. There are more than 400 production units of biocontrol agents/biopesticides in States/UTs under the control of Central/State Governments and private entrepreneurs which are engaged in their multiplication.

Pour Flush Latrines

1141. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 6262 Pour Flush Latrines have been constructed with an expenditure of Rs. 3.27 crore in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether most of the latrines have been constructed with sub-standard materials;

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

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the officials responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Rate of Interest on Loans

1142. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has modified and lowered the rate of interest on loans granted for various projects and also for personal housing recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the existing criteria adopted by HUDCO for construction of houses and sanction of loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) has modified and lowered the rate of interest on loans granted for various projects and for loans to individuals for personal housing under HUDCO Niwas with effect from 19th November, 2003.

(b) Details of the revised norms applicable are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) HUDCO is a financing institution and it finances various housing and urban development projects. The actual construction is undertaken by the borrowing agencies. The projects received in HUDCO for financing are appraised and sanctioned, if found technically sound, financially viable and legally acceptable to HUDCO.

Statement**Option A-Floating Rate of Interest****Financing Pattern**

A	Base Rate (BR) (Base Rate will remain in force till further revision is made)	8.5% p.a.			
B.	All housing and Infrastructure Project Loans including Take-out Finance except HUDCO Niwas	Extent of Finance	Net interest rate (%) p.a. Above Base Rate		
			Upto (%)	Upto 5 years	Upto 10 years Upto 15 years
1.	EWS Housing & Action Plan Scheme by Public Agencies/NGOs	As per guidelines	0.50	lower than	BR
2.	Direct borrowing by Govt. and Police Organisation	100	BR	BR	BR
3.	Public Government Agencies	85	BR	0.25	0.50
4.	Private Agencies/Co-operative Agencies	70	1.00	1.50	2.00

Note : Normally Base Rate shall be revised once in a year. However, in the event of change in the interest rate of at least 1%, the revision in base rate can be twice every year.

Option B - Fixed Rate of Interest ●**Financing Pattern**

A.	All housing and Infrastructure Project Loans including Take-out Finance except HUDCO Niwas	Extent of Finance	Net interest rate % p.a.		
			Upto (%)	Upto 5 years	Upto 10 years Upto 15 years
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	EWS Housing & Action Plan Scheme by Public Agencies/NGOs	As per guidelines	8.50	8.50	8.50
2.	Direct borrowing by Govt. and Police Organisation	100	9.00	9.00	9.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Public Government Agencies	85	9.00	9.25	9.50
4.	Private Agencies/Co-operative Agencies	70	10.00	10.50	11.00

Notes : ● HUDCO will have the option to revise interest on all schemes (including existing schemes) at an interval of 5 years. However, in respect of loans where resetting in interest rate has already been approved, the period of five years shall be from the date of resetting.

Sub . Revision in interest rate for loans to Residents India and Non-resident Indian under Fixed and floating rate scheme, bulk Loan Schemes, fees for loans to Resident Indians and other operational norms of HUDCO NIWAS-HN-OM-08-2003

I. Interest Rates :-

A. Loans to Resident Indians under Fixed Rate Scheme (Effective 18.11.2003)

Purpose of Loan	Existing ROI	Revised ROI*
- For construction		
- Purchase		
- Composite loan	9.50/9.75/10.00%	8.25/8.50/8.75%
- Purchase of Plot		
- Extension/Improvement		
- Registration of Existing House		
Loan to Professional for non residential premises	11.00% (upto 10 years)	9.75% (upto 10 years)
Loan Against Residential Property	11.00% (upto 5 years)	9.75% (upto 10 years)

1. *First Figure is for 1-5 years, second figure is for 6-15 years and third figure is for 16-25 years.

2. Existing benefit of reduction in interest rates for certain categories of individuals under empowering mechanism would stand withdrawn.

B. Loans to Resident Indians under Floating Rate Scheme :-

(Effective 18.11.2003 to 31.03.2004)

Purpose of Loan	Existing ROI	Revised ROI*
1	2	3
- For construction		
- Purchase		
- Composite loan		

1	2	3
- Purchase of Plot	9.50%	8.25% (upto 25 years)
- Extension/Improvement		
- Registration of existing House		

* Revised rates will be applicable to new loans sanctioned after revision including loans sanctioned earlier but where agreement has not been executed before 18.11.2003. However, six monthly adjustments in interest rates in respect of existing as well as new loans will be made effective from 01.04.2004 for which new rates shall be notified in March, 2004.

C. Loans to Non-Resident Indians Fixed Rate Scheme:- (Effective 18.11.2003)

Purpose of Loan	Existing ROI	Revised ROI*
- Construction		
- Purchase		
- Composite loan	9.75/10.00%	8.50/8.75%
- Purchase of Plot		
- Extension/Improvement		

* First Figure is for 1-5 years and second figure is for 6-10 years.

D. Loans to Non-Resident Indians Under Floating Rate Scheme :-

(Effective from 18.11.2003 to 31.3.2004)

Purpose of Loan	Existing ROI	Revised ROI*
- Construction		
- Purchase		
- Composite loan	9.50% (upto 25 years)	8.25% (upto 10 years)
- Purchase of Plot		
- Extension/Improvement		

* Revised rates will be applicable to new loans sanctioned after revision including loans sanctioned earlier but where agreement has not been executed before 18.11.2003. However, six monthly adjustments in interest rates in respect of existing as well as new loans will be made effective from 01.04.2004 for which new rates shall be notified in March 2004.

**E. Bulk Loans Scheme (Fixed Rate of Interest) :-
(Effective 18.11.2003)**

(a) Bulk Loans Scheme for State Govts./Para-Statals of the State Govts./Profit making PSUs:

Existing ROI	Revised ROI*	Repayment period (Years)
9.50%	8.25%	Upto 5
9.75%	8.50%	6 to 10
10.00%	8.75%	11 to 15

* Existing benefit of reduction in interest rates under empowering mechanism would stand withdrawn. However, processing and administrative fee under empowering mechanism would be 0.15% for Bulk Loan to State Govts./Para-Statals of the State Govts./Profit Making PSUs.

(b) Bulk Loan scheme for other HFCs which has rating not less than "AA":

Existing ROI (for "AA") Rated company)	Existing ROI (for "AAA") Rated company)	Revised ROI (for "AA") Rated company)	Revised ROI (for "AAA") Rated company)	Repayment period (Years)
10.00%	9.75%	8.75%	8.50%	upto 5
10.25%	10.00%	9.00%	8.75%	6 to 10
10.50%	10.25%	9.25%	9.00%	11 to 15

Note : HUDCO shall not extend Bulk loan to any HFI, which has rating less than "AA"

Processing and Administrative Fee (Effective 18.11.03) for Resident Indian Loans :-

	Existing terms	Revised terms*
Individual Loan for Resident Indians	0.6% (0.2% Processing Fee (PF) and 0.4% Administrative Fee (AF))	There shall be no Processing fee for resident Indian Loans, Administrative fee shall be 0.50% of the loan amount sanctioned for Resident Indians.
Individual Loan for Resident Indians	0.4% (0.2% PF & 0.2% AF) for Personnel from armed forces including paramilitary forces and police, widows, physically handicapped, artists, journalists, women and employees of Central/State Govt./PSUs.	Administrative fee shall be 0.3% of the loan amount sanctioned for personnel from armed forces including paramilitary forces and police, widows, physically handicapped artists, journalists, women and employees of Central/State Govt./ PSUs.

* Administrative fee for individual loans to Resident Indians under empowering mechanism would be 0.30% for certain categories. The group of allottees/employees entitled for benefit under empowering mechanism for administrative fee would stand reduced from present level of 20 individuals to 10 individuals.

Processing & Administrative fee for NRI's, Bulk Loan to State Govts./Para-Statals of the State Govts./Profit making PSUs and Bulk Loan to other HFCs remain same i.e. 1.25%, 0.25% and 0.40% respectively.

All other terms and conditions of lending will remain same except as indicated above. These revised interest rates will be applicable in respect of loans sanctioned on or after 18.11.2003 including loans sanctioned in the past but where the agreements have not been executed upto 17.11.2003. You are requested to make necessary additions/amendments in Annexure-B-IA (page 359), annexure G-II, G-II-A (page 167 & 173), item 1.1 (b) (page 11), item 1.6 (page 14 & 15), item 1.10 (page 18), item 1.16 (page 23), item 1.17 (page 25), item 10.5 & 10.6 (page 154, 15 & 156), annexure-V (page 411) of the Handbook on Procedural Guidelines and Operational Manual of HUDCO Niwas and other required changes. In respect of loans of floating interest rates, the rates quoted above are applicable from 18.11.2003 till 31st March 2004 on loans sanctioned on or after 18.11.2003

including loans sanctioned in the past but where the agreements have not been executed upto 17.11.2003.

These rates are not applicable for loans already disbursed and where agreements have been executed before 18.11.2003.

[English]

Production of Coal by Outsourcing

1143. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of coal by outsourcing has been started and is proposed to be started in different coal companies like Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Central Coalfields Ltd.;

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

(c) whether outsourcing is permitted in the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act;

(d) if so, the fact thereof;

(e) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement on disinvestments of oil PSUs also permits outsourcing in coal industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) Outstanding by hiring of equipment has been started for production in coal in the following places in ECL, BCCL and CCL

ECL : Four small opencast patches viz. Shankarpur OC Patch, Bilpahari OC Patch, Patmohona OC Patch and Khoirabad OC Patch.

BCCL : Three patches viz. Murlidih, Kalyanchak and Khas Kusunda.

CCL : Ashok OCP and KDH OCP by surface miners.

Hiring of equipment has been resorted to under the following conditions :

1. Patch deposits which have small reserve and can not be worked : economically with high overhead cost.
2. Patch deposits where seasonal mining can only be done.
3. Non-availability of sufficient capacity due to fund crunch and
4. To curb illegal mining and to protect from the hazards of fire and for other safety related problems.

(c) and (d) Hiring of equipment is not prohibited under the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act.

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

Profit of Subsidiaries of CIL

1144. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of net profit earned by Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL) and other subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. during each of the last three years, Subsidiary-wise;

(b) the amount of royalty paid by these subsidiaries to their respective State Governments during the said period, subsidiary-wise;

(c) the amount spent on Employees Welfare Programmes, extension of medical facilities to them and also on peripheral developments in those years, Subsidiary-wise;

(d) whether MCL and other companies have contributed anything to the State Governments to combat the natural calamities like flood cyclone and drought in those years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, subsidiary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) The amount of profit earned before tax by Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL) and other subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. during each of the last three years are given below :-

(Rs. in crore)

Company	2002-03 Profit (+)/Loss (-)	2001-2002 Profit (+)/Loss (-)	2000-01
1	2	3	4
ECL	(-) 338.78	(-) 277.64	(-) 917.19
BCCL	(-) 507.13	(-) 755.00	(-) 1276.70
CCL	(-) 384.65	(-) 108.32	(-) 792.91
NCL	(+) 1293.01	(+) 1387.34	(+) 1025.05
WCL	(+) 472.52	(+) 310.20	(+) 28.23
SECL	(+) 882.31	(+) 768.87	(+) 116.92
MCL	(+) 882.31	(+) 719.60	(+) 641.35
CMPDIL	(+) 1.99	(+) 2.80	(-) 3.81

1	2	3	4
CIL/NEC	(+) 280.08	(+) 561.80	(+) 280.21
Sub-Total	(+) 3,350.78	(+) 2609.65	(-) 898.85
Less : Dividend from subsidiaries	(-) 485.28	(-) 855.09	(-) 515.62
Total	(+) 2865.50	(+) 1754.68	(-) 1414.47

(b) The information in respect of amount of royalty paid by the concerned subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Ltd. to the respective State Governments during the period 2000-01 to 2002-03 is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Employees of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries and the Management always come forward in crisis to help in case of natural calamities like flood, cyclone and drought. Details are given in the statement-III enclosed.

(c) The details are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Statewise and Coal Companies Royalty paid during the years 2000-01 to 2002-03

Year	Name of Coal Cos.	Name of States									Total (Rs. in crores)
		West Bengal	Bihar	Jharkhand	Orissa	Madhya Pradesh	Chhattisgarh	Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Assam	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2000-01	ECL	9.67	42.46	26.94							79.07
	BCCL	0.40	206.07	54.62							261.69
	CCL		143.66	112.68							256.34
	WCL					48.91		220.79			269.70
	SECL					296.25	139.07				435.32
	MCL				253.95						256.95
	NCL					229.79			131.48		361.27
	NEC									7.80	7.80
	Total	10.07	392.79	194.24	253.95	574.95	139.07	220.79	131.48	7.80	1925.14
2001-02	ECL	10.06		63.19							73.35
	BCCL	0.29		250.33							250.62
	CCL			257.67							257.67
	WCL					49.98		229.45			279.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	SECL					116.90	348.34				465.24
	MCL				267.00						267.60
	NCL					224.00			135.59		359.59
	NEC									7.48	7.48
	Total	10.45	-	571.19	267.00	390.88	348.34	229.45	135.59	7.48	1960.38
2002-03 (provisional)	ECL	10.08		72.42							82.50
	BCCL	0.25		218.51							218.76
	CCL			358.99							358.99
	WCL					55.19		258.13			313.32
	SECL					138.85	424.39				560.24
	MCL				310.73						310.73
	NCL					240.80			149.33		390.13
	NEC									7.93	7.93
	Total	10.33		649.92	310.73	431.84	424.39	258.13	149.33	7.93	2242.60

Statement-II**B. Break up of Medical Expenses (included in (A) above)**

(Rs. in lakh)

A. Amount spent on Employees Welfare Programme inclusive of Expenses of Medical & Community Peripheral Development.

Name of Subsidiary	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Prov.)
ECL	21457.00	19596.00	24887.00
BCCL	24321.00	22302.00	24546.00
CCL	14574.00	13958.00	13951.00
WCL	20572.00	18807.00	22116.00
SECL	27368.00	29133.00	31467.00
MCL	7390.00	7971.00	8773.00
NCL	19198.00	17333.00	18161.00
NEC	1578.00	1477.00	1729.00
CMPDIL	1023.00	866.00	1156.00
Total	137481.00	131443.00	146786.00

Name of Subsidiary	Medical Facilities		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Prov.)
ECL	1162.43	1070.64	1194.00
BCCL	1027.39	1209.24	1067.00
CCL	949.69	920.20	1740.00
WCL	1437.49	1497.09	1614.00
SECL	1651.33	2002.69	2774.00
MCL	499.71	522.14	514.00
NCL	1473.19	1655.43	634.00
NEC	298.86	389.49	103.00
CMPDIL	185.10	207.31	231.00
Total	8885.19	9474.23	9871.00

**C. Break up of Expenses Related to Community/
Peripheral Development (included in (A) Above)**

Name of Subsidiary	For Community/Peripheral Development		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (Prov.)
ECL	56.95	49.28	50.93
BCCL	43.24	21.65	43.41
CCL	56.25	50.34	61.51
WCL	74.78	66.72	76.29
SECL	225.34	352.68	551.00
MCL	369.58	270.38	466.31
NCL	86.19	376.43	178.96
NEC	7.48	15.73	8.08
Total	919.81	1203.21	1436.49

Statement-III

Details of contribution towards natural calamities

1. Orissa Cyclone	7.00 Crore to Prime Minister Relief Fund 1.85 Crore in Kind
2. Orissa Flood	2.20 Crore in Kind
3. West Bengal Flood	1.10 Crore in to West Bengal Chief Minister Relief Fund.
4. Bihar Flood	0.30 Crore in Bihar Chief Minister Relief Fund
5. Drought Relief Rajasthan & Gujarat	1.00 Crore Prime Minister Relief Fund
6. Gujarat Earth Quake	12.00 Crore Prime Minister Relief Fund

Model Municipal Law

1145. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring forward a legislation for enactment of a "Model Municipal Law" for facilitating accounting reforms etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. However, to facilitate State Governments to bring needed reforms in the municipal accounting system of Urban Local Bodies, a Task Force was set up under the Chairmanship of Comptroller & Auditor General of India. In its report the Task Force has suggested Municipal Accounting and Budget Formats for Urban Local Bodies with appropriate codification and classification of Budget and Accounts Heads. As per Entry 5 of the State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, local government is a State subject. Hence, the report of the Task Force has been circulated to all States for taking necessary action so as to bring needed municipal accounting reforms at the local body level. Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation have also brought out a Model Municipal Law, which, inter-alia, contain provisions for municipal accounting reforms. While framing the Model Municipal Law, the States were duly consulted and they have appreciated the efforts of the Government in drafting the Model Municipal Law.

Promotion of Yoga

1146. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the scheme for promotion and development of Yoga in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of NGO's which have received grants from the Government for promotion and development of Yoga in the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh alongwith their performance and funds utilized during the last three years till date in the States;

(d) whether any reports regarding misutilization of funds by the NGO's have been received; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those NGO's ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Computerization in Mines

1147. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to introduce computerised system in various areas relating to mines;

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

(c) the time by which this system is likely to be introduced in the mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Computerization and use of Information Technology in mining is a commercial proposition, for which the mine-owners are competent to take decision. Therefore, the Government does not have any proposal to introduce computerised system in various areas relating to mines.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above do not arise.

Workshop on Rural Housing and Habitat

1148. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has organised National Workshops on Rural Housing and Habitat in collaboration with Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith aims of organisation of such workshops;

(c) the funds allocated by the Union Government to various non-Governmental agencies under various rural housing schemes during the last one year and the current year;

(d) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding misutilisation of funds by NGOs, especially from the State of Karnataka; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) A 'National Workshop on Rural Housing and Habitat Development' was organized by the Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with CAPART on 18-19th October, 2002 at New Delhi. The purpose of the Workshop was to sensitize Government and Non Government Agencies about opportunities and fund availability under the various Rural Housing Schemes being implemented by the Government of India and to provide a platform for increased Government-NGO interaction and to identify critical issues (both at policy and implementation levels) which require

immediate attention of the Ministry of Rural Development, the State Governments and NGOs.

(c) Funds are released to NGOs for implementation of the projects under 2 housing schemes namely Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development and Rural Building Centres. An amount of Rs. 258.86 lakh during 2002-2003 and Rs. 68.40 lakh during 2003-2004 (so far) has been released by the Ministry of Rural Development to various NGOs under the project based rural housing schemes.

(d) No specific complaint have been received regarding misutilisation of funds by NGOs from the State of Karnataka.

(e) The question does not arise.

Funds under PMGSY

1149. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has stopped financial aid to some States under the PMGSY;

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

(c) whether any review of construction of roads under the Yojana has been done;

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

(e) whether the Government has made any estimate about the fund required for completion of the projects proposed for Tenth Five Year Plan in various States under the Yojana;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the fund likely to be sanctioned by the Union Government, State-wise the Life Insurance Corporation and any other Financial Institutions; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, funds are released after clearance of proposals, as per eligibility.

(c) and (d) The construction of road works under the Programme is done by the State Government Agencies, and State Governments conduct reviews to monitor progress.

Periodical reviews are also conducted with State Governments as Central level. The last series of reviews with all States were held in November 2003 at New Delhi, Thiruvananthapuram and Kolkata.

(e) and (f) Based on the preliminary figures given by the State Governments, it has been estimated that Rs. 60,000 crore would be required to achieve the objective of the programme i.e. providing all weather roads to all Unconnected Habitations with a population of 500 persons and above by the end of the Tenth Plan period (2007). The final estimation will be available after the verification of Core Network, prepared by the States, is completed.

(g) and (h) The present funding for the programme is on account of 50% share of the Diesel Cess accruing into the Central Road Fund. As such the Budgeted allocation is as follows :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2000-01	2500
2001-02	2500
2002-03	2500
2003-04	2325

The Budget for 2004-05 and subsequent years is decided from year to year. No funds have been sanctioned by the Life Insurance Corporation or other Financial Institution for the programme so far.

Suspension of Officers of DDA

1150. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of officers of Delhi Development Authority, who were suspended in various DDA scams during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 till 30th November, 2003;

(b) the names of officers who were reinstated on the ground that no charge-sheet could be filed by the CBI within the stipulated period of 90 days; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the failure of the CBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Central Bureau of Investigation have reported that during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 till 30.11.2003, eight DDA officials were placed under suspension. The names of suspended officers are :-

(i) Shri Subhash Sharma, the then Vice Chairman, DDA, (ii) Shri Anand Mohan Saran, the then Commissioner (Land Disposal), DDA, (iii), Shri Jagdish Chander, Director (Lands), DDA, (iv) Shri Vijay Risbud, Commissioner, (Planning) DDA, (v) Shri R.K. Sharma, Junior Engineer, DDA, (vi) Shri S.K. Bhardwaj, Dealing Asst., DDA, (vii) K.R. Pant, Field Investigator, DDA and (viii) Shri Badar, Majeed Junior Engineer, DDA.

Except Shri Subhash Sharma, the remaining seven officers are still under suspension, Shri Subhash Sharma has been reinstated by the D/o Personnel & Training on the recommendations of the Committee constituted under sub Rule 8 of rule 3 the All India Services (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, which reviewed the case of Shri Sharma.

CBI has reported that there is no failure on their part and it is not binding on an investigating agency to file a charge-sheet within 90 days in a particular case. As per the relevant section 167 of Criminal Procedure Code (Cr. PC), if any accused is arrested during investigation for an offence punishable with imprisonment for 10 years and above, a charge-sheet has to be filed within 90 days failing which the accused is entitled for bail from the concerned court. In case of an offence punishable with imprisonment of less than 10 years, a charge-sheet has to be filed within 60 days failing which the accused is entitled for bail. This legal provision has no direct connection with revocation of suspension of an accused which is the discretion of the concerned administrative department.

Revision of Cost under IAY

1151. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from the State Governments, especially from the State of Maharashtra for revision of the cost per unit for construction of house under Indira Awas Yojana;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has received proposals for revision of the assistance per unit for construction of house under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttaranchal.

(c) A proposal for upward revision in the quantum of per unit assistance under the Scheme is under active consideration of the Government.

Decline In Production of Coal1152. **SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :****SHRI T. GOVINDAN :**

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decline in the production of coal in various locations in the country during the year 2002-2003;

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

(c) whether the production of coal from underground mines has declined over the years;

(d) if so, whether there is a stagnation in the production of superior grade coals like coking coal of grade A and non-coking grade B coal;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Union Government have reviewed its impact on the coal users; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to increase the production of the above grades of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) Production of coal has been less in 2002-03 than in 2001-02 only in the State of West Bengal. Details are as under :-

(in million tonnes)

State	Company	2001-02 (Actual)	2002-03 (Actual)
West Bengal	ECL	17.31	16.71
	BCCL	0.57	0.60
	Total	17.88	16.77

Reason for less production in 2002-03 are exhaustion of extractable reserve in some mines and land acquisition problem.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Production of superior quality coking coal has declined due to exhaustion of reserves. In respect of grade "B" non-coking coal production is planned to increase from 21.81 million tonnes in 2002-03 to 25.16 million tonnes in 2006-07. There is no category of grade "A" coking coal.

(f) and (g) Indian coal, by virtue of its drift origin, is generally having high ash content as coal matter is intimately mixed with mineral matter during formation stage. Further

reserve of low ash content coking and non-coking coal is very limited in India. However, consumers are free to import superior grade of coking coal and non-coking coal grade A & B as coal is under Open General Licence. Due to depletion of reserves of superior quality of coking coal increase in production of this coal is limited. However, some reserves of metallurgical coking coal locked under the Dhanbad-Patherdih Railway line can be available after this line is dismantled. Apart from this three new projects having washery grade coking coal have been planned at Bermo Opencast and Topa Opencast during 10th Plan and Kedla Opencast during 11th Plan period to increase the production.

Drug Price Control Order1153. **DR. BALIRAM :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Supreme Court has stayed the Drug Policy;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Union Government has submitted a list of 354 drugs to be included in DPCO;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that an NGO has requested the Government for the addition of 118 more medicines for the treatment of AIDS and Cancer to be included in the Controlled list;

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

(g) the action being taken by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (g) The Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February 2002. However, a public interest litigation filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an Order dated 12.11.02 which stopped the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. This Department filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the Order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003. The Supreme Court vide its order dated 10.3.2003 directed the Government, inter alia, that, "we suspend the operation of the order to the extent, it directs that the Policy dated 15.2.2002 shall not be implemented. However, we direct that the petitioner shall consider and formulate appropriate criteria

for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of the price control and further directed to review drugs, which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 after the review of the National Essential Drugs List, 1996.

All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN) has filed a Writ Petition No. 423/2003 before the Supreme Court raising a number of issues relating to availability, rationality, pricing of drugs, health care system in the country etc.

Job Opportunities to OBCs

1154. SHRI P. D. ELANGOVAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided job opportunities for the persons belonging to Other Backward Communities (OBC) in the various Departments/Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the OBC staff strength is far less than the total strength, particularly in Group A and B;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate job opportunities to OBCs;

(f) whether the Government has asked for any detailed reports from the various Departments and undertakings under his Ministry regarding the current status of OBC representations in groups A,B,C and D; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of total number of employees (OBCs) in Departments and Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of this Ministry are given below:-

Organisation/ Public Undertaking	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total
Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO)	NIL	NIL	4	1	5
Commissioner of Payments (COP)	NIL	NIL	1	1	2
Coal India Ltd. (CIL)	1189	3059	79486	32889	116623
Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC)	2147*	429*	9365*	2903*	14844*

*These figures comprise of UR/OBC. More than 50% belongs to OBC category Actual number could not be indicated as furnishing of Community Certificate in respect of OBC was not necessary for OBCs recruited prior to 8th September, 1993. However, from 8th September, 1993 till date, 3638 persons of OBC categories have been recruited in NLC.

(c) and (d) The information in respect of subordinate offices and public undertakings under the administrative control of this Ministry is as under :-

CCO All Group A & B posts are filled up either by promotion or by deputation Hence, reservation for OBC is not applicable.

COP There has been no vacancy in this organization since 1993.

CIL There is no reservation in promotion. However, as against the total strength of 116623 of OBCs in Groups A,B,C and D 4248 employees belong to Groups A & B.

NLC The Strength of OBC in Group A & B is more than 50% of the required number.

(e) Subordinate offices and public undertakings under the administrative control of this Ministry are following the guidelines for recruitment of OBCs.

(f) and (g) Periodical reports are obtained from subordinate offices and public undertakings for onward transmission to Department of Personnel and Training and Department of Public Enterprises.

[Translation]

Allocation for AUWSP during Tenth Plan Period

1155. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

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

(a) whether a provision of Rs. 900 crore has been made for Central Scheme under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the amount to be provided during the said period, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount spent by the various States, particularly Maharashtra during the year 2002-03 and in 2003-04 till now, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether more amount has been demanded by the Government of Maharashtra under the AUWSP; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State-wise and year-wise allocation is decided on year-to-year basis as per the annual allocation made by the Planning Commission for Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP). A statement indicating the State-wise annual allocation and funds released by the Ministry to all the States including Maharashtra during the first two years of the 10th Plan Period (till date) and funds reported to have been utilized by the State Governments is enclosed.

(d) No request for more funds under AUWSP has been received from Government of Maharashtra.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Annual Allocation of Central Share		Central Share Released			Amount Utilised (As per UC Received As on 30.11.03)
		2002-03	2003-04	2002-03	2003-04 (upto 30.11.03)	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	382.19	438.76	385.90	149.55	535.45	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	92.09	105.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	608.35	698.39	571.60	249.94	821.54	0.00
4.	Bihar	336.27	386.05	419.05	315.47	734.52	26.32
5.	Chhattisgarh	339.72	390.00	430.52	168.70	599.22	414.17
6.	Goa	73.45	84.32	75.29	0.00	75.29	0.00
7.	Gujarat	627.80	720.72	664.47	720.72	1385.19	113.83
8.	Haryana	244.46	280.65	579.94	280.64	860.58	286.66
9.	Himachal Pradesh	91.81	105.40	297.60	0.00	297.60	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	57.38	65.88	0.00	65.88	65.88	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	250.20	287.23	445.97	0.00	445.97	335.02
12.	Karnataka	756.34	868.28	1055.35	782.49	1837.84	1055.58
13.	Kerala	270.86	310.95	268.21	268.21	536.42	31.40
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1418.56	1628.52	1236.46	1451.23	2687.69	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Maharashtra	743.72	853.79	563.76	563.70	1127.46	0.00
16.	Manipur	192.55	221.05	174.80	139.53	314.33	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	36.28	41.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	100.48	115.33	46.57	46.57	93.14	0.00
19.	Nagaland	47.44	54.46	85.42	0.00	85.42	85.42
20.	Orissa	469.41	538.89	254.81	409.36	664.17	0.00
21.	Punjab	257.08	295.14	0.00	36.09	36.09	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	720.75	827.44	568.48	335.28	903.76	332.25
23.	Sikkim	13.95	16.02	83.97	83.97	167.94	99.98
24.	Tamil Nadu	717.31	823.48	813.16	609.18	1422.34	813.16
25.	Tripura	128.37	147.37	241.66	147.37	289.03	91.81
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2655.79	3048.88	2426.09	2105.40	4531.49	773.63
27.	Uttaranchal	185.93	213.45	320.97	0.00	320.97	0.00
28.	West Bengal	376.45	432.17	184.95	152.73	337.68	0.00
Total		12195.00	14000.00	12195.00	9082.01	21277.01	4459.60

*[English]***Maintenance of Roads in Delhi**

1156. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer given to the answer to USQ No. 3656 dated 19.8.2003 and state:

- (a) whether the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken thereon; and
- (d) the time by which the state of roads, particularly in Nehru Place, Najafgarh to Jharoda Kalan, Mahipalpur and Uttam Nagar is likely to be improved and made use-worthy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The requisite information are as follows :-

The Public Works Department of Govt. of NCT of Delhi and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that the funds earmarked for repair and maintenance of roads

are properly utilized. It has also been indicated that the traffic was held up on some stretches of roads due to water logging for short period during very heavy rain falls. The water was pumped out to remove the bottlenecks. The Delhi Development Authority and New Delhi Municipal Council have reported that roads in their areas are in good condition.

The Transport Department of Govt. of NCT of Delhi has informed that generally bad road conditions lead to problems in the vehicles suspension, alignment and shock absorbers. However, no representation has been received by them in this regard.

The pot-holes, ditches and cracks are repaired when they occur. To improve the roads, the Public Works Department proposes to improve the storm water drainage system besides maintenance of roads done by Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The MCD has informed that roads in the walled city are made of cement and concrete. Since provision of concrete roads is a costly proposition, there is no proposal to construct concrete roads.

(d) The Public Works Department (PWD) of Govt. of NCT of Delhi has reported that the road at Nehru Place which is a part of Outer Ring Road from Modi Mill, Okhla to

Nehru Place is use-worthy and functional. However, some works relating to services and central verge have been taken up.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that all the roads which were damaged due to extensive rains including the stretch of road from Najafgarh to Jharoda Kalan and Mahipalpur Road and road in Uttam Nagar i.e., Najafgarh Road from Janakpuri to Kakrola were repaired and made road-worthy by the end of September, 2003.

Ratio of Officer and Staff

1157. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any fixed ratio between the number of group "A" Officers and the subordinate staff;

(b) if so, the ratio prescribed for the post of Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary/Director/Joint Secretary/Additional Secretary/Special Secretary/Secretary;

(c) whether this ratio is being observed in all the Ministries /Departments and other Government offices; and

(d) if not, whether prior clearance from the Departments of Personnel and Finance is required and the exceptional conditions prescribed for such relaxation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The Central Secretariat Service has been recently restructured with following strength of Group 'A' as well as Group 'B' officers :

Director	110 Group 'A'
Deputy Secretary	330 Group 'A'
Under Secretary	: 1400 Group 'A'
Section Officer	: 3000 Group 'B'
Assistant	4904 Group 'B'

(b) The number of posts in Group 'A' within a Ministry/Department/Office depends on the functional requirements and/or administrative necessity.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply against (b) above.

(d) Creation of post (s) is done in consultation with Ministry of Finance and Department of Personnel in accordance with the extant instructions in this behalf.

Conference of Ministers of North Eastern States

1158. SHRI M. K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Ministers of Rural Development of the North Eastern States recently met in their fifth conference at Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken at the Conference;

(c) the details of the Central funds allocated and sanctioned for Rural Development Projects in Assam and other States of the region during the last three years and till date, scheme-wise, State-wise; and

(d) the progress made so far in implementation of the rural development schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) A Conference of the State Ministers of Rural Development of North-East States was held on 5th September, 2003 at Gangtok, Sikkim.

(b) The following decisions were taken in the Conference

- The States in the Region would be provided transportation subsidy for movement of foodgrains under Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)
- District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs), which are not having their own building, would be assisted for construction of DRDA buildings and new DRDAs in the Region would be assisted for procurement of one new vehicle and computers.
- An exercise would be taken by the Ministry to identify traditional bodies in different States of the Region as implementing agencies.

(c) and (d) The details of the Central funds allocated and released, and the progress made so far, State-wise for the last three years and till date for major programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development, namely, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Rural Water Supply (RWS), is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement
State-wise Central Allocation, Central Release and Utilisation of Funds under various
Rural Development Schemes during 2000-2001

Year : 2000-2001

Sl.No.	States	SGRY-I					SGRY-II					SGSY				
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation			
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
1.	1	2														
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	408.80	812.95	1274.12	1084.19	456.91	367.68	612.05	428.11	276.91	99.26	362.90	179.93			
2.	Assam	10546.62	5273.31	8086.60	5880.31	11872.04	0.00	2487.00	1426.61	7185.18	0.00	2208.46	2071.74			
3.	Manipur	707.18	478.58	697.76	308.27	795.90	530.58	762.10	108.36	482.36	24.94	24.94	N/R			
4.	Meghalaya	792.68	500.88	736.63	420.90	891.69	763.61	1244.92	811.86	540.42	23.89	364.80	88.94			
5.	Mizoram	183.36	183.36	552.29	517.00	206.33	206.33	280.30	330.54	125.06	62.56	154.50	110.48			
6.	Nagaland	543.30	403.52	1040.94	1025.17	611.66	454.48	624.98	807.16	370.70	174.94	348.85	143.40			
7.	Sikkim	203.84	403.84	625.50	625.09	228.45	228.45	304.67	248.45	138.45	136.83	216.71	151.69			
8.	Tripura	1276.22	1276.22	1616.30	1401.74	1437.02	1437.02	1915.98	1908.67	870.92	860.44	1301.13	1231.26			
	Total	14680.00	9332.66	14630.14	11242.67	16500.00	3988.15	8232.00	6069.76	10000.00	1382.86	3682.86	3977.44			

Year : 2000-2001

Sl.No.	States	IAY				RWS				(Rs. in Lakh)	
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	726.86	519.91	939.20	875.29	4389.00	2206.50	2206.50	2163.45		
2.	Assam	16354.79	8177.40	15532.56	11991.24	7372.00	5459.78	7407.96	6053.00		
3.	Manipur	896.65	326.45	490.81	104.34	1475.00	0.00	329.88	76.36		
4.	Meghalaya	1151.46	496.65	844.03	804.58	1869.07	1797.15	2122.83	1519.67		
5.	Mizoram	276.42	251.97	407.91	412.96	1226.00	1161.99	1176.65	1175.80		
6.	Nagaland	743.31	680.31	991.12	682.67	1275.00	822.61	1324.33	1195.54		
7.	Sikkim	199.28	199.28	287.23	273.06	650.00	325.00	1351.12	513.18		
8.	Tripura	1681.23	1681.23	2263.92	2271.35	1521.00	1521.00	1521.00	1580.00		
	Total	22000.00	12315.20	21756.78	17415.49	19777.07	13294.03	17440.37	14277.00		

Utilisation of funds out of the total available funds that includes opening balance at the beginning of the year and releases during the year

State-wise Central Allocation, Central Release and Utilisation of Funds under various Rural Development Schemes during 2001-2002

Year : 2001-2002

Sl.No.	States	SGRY-I				SGRY-II				SGSY			
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	519.21	592.30	892.00	298.20	519.38	556.49	937.77	733.83	164.76	106.34	356.55	185.57
2.	Assam	13490.96	13490.97	17894.8	12103.40	13495.28	13495.28	18434.55	11145.93	4281.13	3328.48	4553.31	2989.44
3.	Manipur	904.42	523.72	523.72	N/R	904.72	399.45	639.56	287.16	287.00	13.02	13.02	NR
4.	Meghalaya	1013.29	833.84	1232.50	492.09	1013.61	835.53	1505.11	1281.81	321.55	83.38	485.61	305.43
5.	Mizoram	234.48	334.48	574.95	475.54	234.54	304.90	411.36	331.42	74.41	64.17	111.51	101.77
6.	Nagaland	695.06	695.06	721.54	171.61	695.29	750.98	1049.22	324.39	220.57	69.98	200.21	65.99
7.	Sikkim	259.60	259.60	387.58	170.00	259.69	337.59	452.22	279.75	82.38	82.38	156.02	231.06
8.	Tripura	1632.98	1604.69	2436.14	2396.72	1633.50	2075.78	2778.13	2166.52	518.20	622.08	1189.36	1116.40
Total		18750.00	18344.66	24702.81	16107.56	18756.01	18756.00	26207.92	16550.81	5950.00	4369.83	7065.59	4995.86

Year : 2001-2002

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	States	IAY				RWS			
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	555.06	527.56	1048.29	822.02	4478.00	2455.91	2474.96	2365.67
2.	Assam	12489.11	8621.13	15675.78	10874.00	7561.00	5357.67	6712.63	5125.00
3.	Manipur	661.80	334.36	445.81	N/R	1643.00	821.50	1075.02	517.23
4.	Meghalaya	879.29	441.45	775.31	460.15	1760.00	1215.51	1672.00	1518.38
5.	Mizoram	211.09	174.34	243.05	223.78	1257.00	1634.10	1634.95	1255.48
6.	Nagaland	567.62	583.81	824.38	622.27	1308.00	1700.40	1700.40	1700.40
7.	Sikkim	152.17	133.82	240.30	237.31	536.00	696.80	696.80	696.80
8.	Tripura	1283.85	1669.01	2225.35	1713.38	1559.00	2026.70	2026.70	1578.94
Total		16799.99	12485.48	21478.24	15052.91	20100.00	15908.59	17983.46	14757.90

Utilisation of funds out of the total available funds that includes opening balance at the beginning of the year and releases during the year

State-wise Central Allocation, Central Release and Utilisation of Funds under various Rural Development Schemes during 2002-2003

Year : 2002-2003

Sl.No.	States	SGRY-I					SGRY-II					SGSY			
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	493.74	331.12	907.27	798.29	493.24	508.89	919.35	321.73	127.10	78.06	279.37	162.50		
2.	Assam	12810.39	11470.02	19746.95	16049.33	12816.04	11026.94	17123.01	13171.07	3302.59	2802.61	4885.00	3587.09		
3.	Manipur	860.17	383.38	997.12	N/R	859.19	396.00	396.00	N/R	221.40	0.00	0.00	0.00		
4.	Meghalaya	963.63	927.55	1423.36	877.68	956.59	978.37	1447.65	531.98	248.05	27.51	235.97	52.16		
5.	Mizoram	222.99	316.54	542.50	448.43	222.74	257.34	446.48	420.98	57.40	86.08	115.67	84.03		
6.	Nagaland	660.99	356.70	556.21	600.26	660.30	310.58	352.57	286.80	170.16	83.15	252.71	184.01		
7.	Sikkim	246.88	246.88	332.42	138.10	246.62	192.30	328.28	230.70	63.55	95.33	161.78	129.80		
8.	Tripura	1553.21	2329.81	2711.24	1831.63	1551.28	1520.26	2523.20	2379.85	399.75	599.65	843.16	975.63		
Total		17812.00	16382.00	27217.07	20743.72	17812.00	15180.68	23527.54	17343.11	4590.00	3772.39	6773.66	5175.22		

Year : 2002-2003

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	States	IAY			RWS		
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	569.92	738.47	1237.23	665.38	4977.00	3650.00
2.	Assam	12823.65	9987.33	13139.86	10425.71	8407.00	5252.50
3.	Manipur	679.51	260.01	467.12	178.14	1826.00	947.00
4.	Meghalaya	902.85	906.15	1267.16	362.08	1957.00	2935.50
5.	Mizoram	216.73	174.58	257.46	231.06	1398.00	2105.00
6.	Nagaland	582.84	281.42	525.47	353.83	1454.00	2181.00
7.	Sikkim	156.25	149.87	219.44	155.17	597.00	895.50
8.	Tripura	1318.28	1977.39	3056.41	1953.96	1734.00	2427.60
Total		17250.00	14485.22	20170.15	14625.33	22350.00	20394.10
							24227.48
							17080.05

Utilisation of funds out of the total available funds that includes opening balance at the beginning of the year and releases during the year.

State-wise Central Allocation, Central Release and Utilisation of Funds under various Rural Development Schemes during 2003-2004 (till date)

Year : 2003-2004

Sl.No.	States	SGRY-I				SGRY-II				SGSY			
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	571.71	323.84	441.81	62.67	571.14	342.68	523.04	62.57	221.53	89.03	173.85	19.18
2.	Assam	14833.49	8900.06	17363.00	3500.75	14840.03	8904.00	17348.05	2706.02	5756.15	2878.08	3780.27	769.48
3.	Manipur	996.01	353.60	457.30	21.75	994.88	222.56	302.02	N/R	385.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Meghalaya	1115.82	586.94	982.07	40.59	1114.61	586.30	1026.59	58.86	432.33	33.78	260.96	39.42
5.	Mizoram	258.21	154.93	156.88	136.24	257.92	154.74	160.74	0.20	100.04	50.02	55.81	27.45
6.	Nagaland	765.38	262.94	262.94	N/R	764.58	458.74	458.74	N/R	296.58	42.78	42.78	N/R
7.	Sikkim	285.87	171.52	171.52	N/R	285.57	171.34	302.01	N/R	110.78	55.38	106.43	66.24
8.	Tripura	1798.50	1079.12	2234.54	836.51	1798.27	1313.37	1573.84	527.33	696.73	348.37	497.97	413.56
Total		20624.99	11832.95	22049.86	4698.51	20625.00	12153.74	21695.03	3354.98	8000.00	3497.44	4917.87	1334.33

Year : 2003-2004

Sl.No.	States	IAY				RWS				(Rs. in Lakh)			
		Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation	Central Allocation	Central Release	Total Funds Available	Utilisation
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	627.75	318.35	858.30	275.73	4982.00	2481.00	3642.50	711.09				
2.	Assam	14124.59	7082.33	11807.66	2505.29	8403.00	4201.50	4947.50	2264.00				
3.	Manipur	748.47	166.14	261.26	14.31	1633.00	916.50	1247.88	11.10				
4.	Meghalaya	994.44	297.80	397.07	N/R	1967.00	983.50	2440.64	134.05				
5.	Mizoram	238.73	119.40	166.45	77.12	1398.00	683.00	1395.78	477.86				
6.	Nagaland	641.95	321.00	490.58	93.38	1453.00	726.50	1671.50	N/R				
7.	Sikkim	172.10	86.06	197.08	165.34	603.00	301.50	599.94	82.81				
8.	Tripura	1451.97	623.03	1717.58	1030.14	1743.00	871.50	2208.76	982.55				
Total		19000.00	8994.11	15695.98	4161.31	22350.00	11175.00	18154.50	4863.46				

Utilisation of funds out of the total available funds that includes opening balance at the beginning of the year and releases during the year

Corruption and Mismanagement in DDA1159. **SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :****SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :**

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

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority had hired the advisory services of Investment Credit and Rating Agency to ask for suggestions to improve its policies and procedures;

(b) if so, whether ICRA has found the DDA corrupt and mismanaged as reported in the Statesman dated August 28, 2003;

(c) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of the recommendations made by ICRA in its report;

(e) whether the Government propose to take action on the basis of the recommendations of ICRA; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BÂNDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that a process improvement study was entrusted to M/s ICRA Advisory Services with the following terms of reference :-

- (i) Identify the total set of factors, which contribute to building credibility of an institution like DDA such as transparency and customer friendly operating processes;
- (ii) Analyse the operating process of DDA for its various activities such as :-
 - Developing land, allotment and disposal;
 - Building residential and commercial complexes and their subsequent transactions and;
 - Sanction of building plans and associated activities.
- (iii) Obtain feedback from public and other stakeholders on their expectations from DDA;
- (iv) Determine the reasons specific to DDA, which have led to its present image;

(v) Recommend strategies to improve the image and credibility of DDA in the form of

- Policy level changes within the purview of DDA charter;
- Re-engineering of its operating processes;
- Changes in organization structure;
- Training of customer interface manpower and;
- Effective public relations exercise;

(vi) Any other matter incidental or related to the scope of the study.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The ICRA Report does not make any such observations above DDA.

(d) to (f) The major recommendations made by M/s. ICRA Advisory Services in its report are given in the Statement enclosed. DDA has reported that they have examined the report and have prepared strategy and time frame for implementation.

Statement***Major Recommendations of the ICRA Report***

1. Market-Study should be conducted by Housing/Land Disposal prior to each project with a separate cell be created under Principal Commissioner to track market related changes, which shall also draw up Long-Term Plans. It is suggested that inputs of the Housing/land disposal Divisions be taken at the Land Acquisition stage also.

The Screening committee should evaluate the techno-economic feasibility of project prior to preparation of detailed lay-out plans by Housing and Urban Projects Wing (HUPW).

2. DDA should migrate towards Project Management Structure by identifying a Project Manager at the beginning of the Project, a team based approach is suggested, which should have members from Architecture, Finance, Housing and Land Disposal Wings.
3. DDA should examine the models adopted by other Development authorities, which involve private sector participation in project execution. DDA should explore possibility of building customer-financed projects and thereby transferring risk and ensuring greater compliance to cost and time.

4. It is suggested that to ensure better customer service and enhance accountability in the organization, the Deputy Director of each section in Housing and Land Disposal should head a self-contained unit of their current personnel as well as that of housing accounts. This would eliminate time spent in inter-department movement of folders leading to faster processing.
5. The Price Fixation Committee currently sets reserve price of plots of land. Currency of inputs provided to the Price Fixation Committee needs to be looked into, as the input data is manually collected from various sources. The end to end computerization as recommended, will aid the correct fixation of reserve prices.
6. DDA should simplify its building plans sanction activities. It should evolve a Green channel concept for smaller cases where prior sanction of building plans may not be called for. Further, cases where prior sanction may be considered necessary, the activities may be de-centralized to the zones.
7. The survey carried out by I.C.R.A. Advisory Services brings out that one of the key problems in enforcement is that citizens are not aware whether a particular area has become de-notified area or not. Citizens are also not aware about the permissible modification/extensions allowed by DDA to existing structures.

It is recommended that DDA should built consensus with MCD on de-notification and it should also involve community participation. An interaction with Residents Welfare Association and co-operative Group Housing societies and other Consumer Associations to educate them and to seek their help in curbing planning violations by sharing sanctioned building plans of the new houses in that locality.
8. Implementation of enterprise-wide Geographic Information system and connecting Zonal offices to Wide Area Network is an imperative. Availability of information on land records at a micro-level will aid the process of enforcement.
9. Citizen's charter of DDA would require to be modified, to reflect the improvements that have happened in its different process. A complete document should be prepared covering all aspects of operations.
10. A voluntary retirement scheme will also have to be conceived and implemented along with fresh recruitment to rationalize the workforce within the organization, an exercise that will depend on the outcome of the results of the manpower Study.

11. One of the important issue before the Organisation is the visible lack of motivation amongst employees in discharging their duties. Following measures are recommended for a positive impact on motivation levels;
 - (a) Speedy settlement of vigilance cases.
 - (b) Re-designing of the appraisal form and introducing differentiated levels of annual increment/incentive, which can be pegged to the annual appraisal score of a person, thus ensuring that high-performing individuals are seen as receiving higher rewards.
 - (c) Recognizing high-performing individuals and identifying career progression path within the frame work of personnel policies and giving exposure to different functional areas and good training opportunities.
12. There is also a need to have a look at introducing a zonal orientation in the activities of DDA as well as rationalizing the zonal offices across Engineering, Land Management etc.
13. DDA should create a more user friendly website on which various forms should be made available. It should also have facility to log complaints. In addition, Information Kiosk should also be provided. Consumers should also be given the facility of tracking the status of their files through the website.
14. Streamlining of IT system is a prerequisite for implementing any effective process improvement initiatives. While currently there are various modules that are operational in DDA, like the AWAS, Bhoomi, Receipt & Despatch, Accounting System etc., there is a need to integrate the different systems and also ensure computerization of all activity notes.

The integrated IT system should cover the following activities and have functionalists that are capable on transaction processing as well as monitoring along with an ability to generate data to meet planning needs.
 - (i) Land Management-That land acquisition being the initial point for the operations of DDA, it is suggested that IT system should seek to capture land records of all current and past land acquisition programmes. Spatial as well as financial data relating to cost of acquisition should also be captured.
 - (ii) A Project Management Information System with customization to support the process of DDA on which all relevant data from beginning to end of

the project should be captured on IT System, is recommended.

- (iii) The inventory of vacant houses should also be maintained as a structured process by linking it with the Project Management Information System.
- (iv) Following additional functionalities in the AWAS and BHOOMI system should be created while integrating the HRAS system with AWAS system :
 - Demand and collection module.
 - Issuing of possession letters.

Grading and Pricing of Coal

1160. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the fresh steps taken by the Union Government for grading and pricing of coal on the basis of gross calorific value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : Ministry of Coal had constituted a Committee for considering formulation of the gradation system of coal based on Gross Calorific Value (GVC) and creating equivalency chart between gross calorific value and Useful Heat Value (UHV). CFRI, Dhanbad conducted the exercise so assigned to them and developed such equivalency charts. The above Committee suggested to use a matrix system for grading of coals considering experimentally determined ash and GCV values on 'as received basis'. The recommendations of the Committee were considered by the Ministry of Coal in July, 2003 when it was decided that 'to start with, one mine preferably in NCL may be selected for adoption of GCV on trial basis. The mine will be jointly selected by CIL and NTPC. In such a selected mine, for six months, both GCV and UHV will be compared and further necessary action will be taken thereafter.

Accordingly, Amlohri opencast mine of Northern Coalfields Limited has been selected for the purpose.

The coal gradation is exercised by notification of the same by the government and coal prices are declared by CIL as per gradation. Presently the coal gradation and pricing are based on UHV. Pricing on the basis of GCV will be possible only after gradation of coal is made on the basis of GCV.

Rural Development Board

1161. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Rural Development Board;

(b) if so, when and the details and the objectives of the Board;

(c) whether the board has not met even once after its constitution;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the objectives of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

Decrease in Poverty Ratio in Rural Areas

1162. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether poverty ratio in the rural areas has dropped considerably as revealed at the National Conference on Poverty and Human Rights organized by UNESCO in September 2003;

(b) if so, the decrease recorded in the rural population living below poverty line during the last five years;

(c) the allocations made to States for providing assistance to the rural population in the matter of food, education, drinking water, sanitation etc. during the period, State-wise; and

(d) the manner in which the money provided has helped in raising the standard of the BPL families, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The estimation of population living below the poverty line is undertaken by the Planning Commission on a quinquennial basis since 1973-74. The estimates of incidence of poverty (poverty ratio) in rural areas of the country have shown a declining trend over the years. The estimates of 1993-94 indicated 37.3% of rural population living below poverty line and as per 1999-2000 estimates this percentage has decreased to 27.1 %.

(c) A statesmen-I indicating the State-wise Central allocation for all the rural development programmes for the period from 1999-2000 to 2003-04 is enclosed.

(d) The money utilized under various programmes of this Ministry has a positive impact on the socio-economic development of the families living below the poverty line which has been established by a number of evaluation studies carried out by different independent Research Institutions. The results of the Concurrent Evaluation of Swarnjayanti

Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) also indicate that more than 37% individual beneficiaries and 15.1% Self Help Groups (SHGs) were able to cross the poverty line. State-wise results of Concurrent Evaluation of SGSY (1st Round) are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Central Allocation of all Rural Development Programmes during 1999-2000 to 2003-04

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State Name	Central Allocation				
		1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	59936.44	89750.28	182127.38	76795.84	70490.81
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4398.74	10637.58	10506.53	11015.90	10926.41
3.	Assam	38317.14	67907.41	66404.87	59855.28	66467.21
4.	Bihar	143841.38	102406.86	116403.97	100718.92	112666.52
5.	Chhattisgarh*	-	27753.34	51437.26	27209.65	27959.16
6.	Goa	754.26	2810.08	2399.36	1037.64	996.44
7.	Gujarat	28108.84	35593.41	34365.06	34115.64	32841.18
8.	Haryana	12331.17	12932.17	14922.68	13798.19	14045.51
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7362.58	16661.08	17084.59	17442.89	15738.22
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12783.55	16644.16	17640.60	19513.16	18444.74
11.	Jharkhand*	-	54274.81	58224.19	52904.10	59698.53
12.	Karnataka	44826.74	52528.99	60447.21	50521.33	53431.62
13.	Kerala	19010.63	22037.92	23974.62	17862.58	19917.91
14.	Madhya Pradesh	76363.31	81023.85	94303.88	70697.82	72598.98
15.	Maharashtra	74891.94	84652.64	95085.00	77256.67	83929.80
16.	Manipur	3020.26	9572.51	9445.40	9331.16	7266.70
17.	Meghalaya	3460.55	9735.86	9264.12	8755.42	9361.26
18.	Mizoram	1569.99	5267.11	5184.62	5635.00	4816.32
19.	Nagaland	2827.39	7307.78	7414.62	7623.50	6161.42
20.	Orissa	49916.95	67141.55	78411.79	61941.48	66494.83
21.	Punjab	6314.32	9363.82	9523.15	10326.37	10775.60
22.	Rajasthan	42854.61	68906.59	95758.15	67765.21	62814.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Sikkim	1805.29	3824.76	4007.46	3526.15	3517.73
24.	Tamil Nadu	46787.61	50298.97	51982.77	43150.55	46993.24
25.	Tripura	5313.82	10486.32	10876.75	9367.24	10111.72
26.	Uttar Pradesh	149028.59	159499.41	163852.03	146988.50	161151.21
27.	Uttaranchal*	-	17137.33	18659.89	17387.96	17989.41
28.	West Bengal	58023.13	73685.81	72368.05	64016.86	69135.65
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	376.21	1438.24	1465.45	1432.06	1466.64
30.	Chandigarh	24.17	22.13	17.60		
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	278.10	786.77	834.71	784.50	808.98
32.	Daman & Diu	141.77	660.50	686.07	653.34	662.49
33.	Delhi	323.01	879.19	902.96	524.27	502.81
34.	Lakshadweep	135.87	676.83	650.60	614.84	655.24
35.	Pondicherry	378.72	906.21	976.22	833.42	865.69
Total		895506.71	1174712.26	1387609.60	1091430.43	1141704.88

* States were not existing

Statement-II

*Results of Concurrent Evaluation of SGSY, 2003
(1st Round) Swarozgaris who Crossed the Poverty
Line due to SGSY*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	States	Percentage of Swarozgaris who Crossed the Poverty Line*	
		Individual	SHG
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28.90	42.67
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.42	6.25
3.	Assam	40.74	1.78
4.	Bihar	54.38	23.82
5.	Chhattisgarh	32.34	1.83
6.	Goa	49.64	20.00

1	2	3	4
7.	Gujarat	27.77	28.20
8.	Haryana	33.19	18.72
9.	Himachal Pradesh	33.33	30.60
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	46.38	6.46
11.	Jharkhand	48.17	2.66
12.	Karnataka	34.05	26.75
13.	Kerala	48.38	26.56
14.	Madhya Pradesh	47.08	13.26
15.	Maharashtra	39.32	11.41
16.	Manipur	NA	NA
17.	Meghalaya	NA	NA
18.	Mizoram	46.67	12.99
19.	Nagaland	14.29	NA
20.	Orissa	54.84	10.25

1	2	3	4
21.	Punjab	54.38	65.22
22.	Rajasthan	45.89	5.68
23.	Sikkim	23.60	NA
24.	Tamil Nadu	37.85	32.53
25.	Tripura	40.51	2.12
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4.03	7.68
27.	Uttaranchal	46.18	4.15
28.	West Bengal	17.36	0.69
	All-India	37.24	15.09

NA = Not Available

* = % to the total Swarozgaris who have begun their economic activities and have reported income.

Training to AIS

1163. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of All India Services as on date, category-wise;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase their level of training and sensitivity to their work;

(c) if so, the details of such mid-career training being imparted to officers of All India Services;

(d) whether any effort has also been made to help plain their careers in various streams of services;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of steps being to raise morale of such services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The total authorized strength of Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Forest Service (IFS) is 5159, 3683 and 2756 respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) IAS Officers are sponsored for mid-career training at different seniority levels, at premier training institutions in the country. Such training is generally required to be undertaken once every two year.

IFS officers are sponsored for short-term training course

every in the premier training institutions throughout the country on forestry & wildlife and management & administration related disciplines. Advanced Forest Management Courses area also being organized for the IFS officers having 10, 17 and 21 years of service at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun. The State Governments also organize mid-career training courses for the officers.

IPS officers are imparted training at the National Police Academy in Invesgitaion of Anti-corruption Cases, Enforcement of Drug Laws, National Security, Best Policing Practices, Cyber Crimes, Police Media Interface, Gender Sensitization for Police Officers. Community Policing, Recent Trends in Economic Crimes, Coordinated approach to Criminal Justice System and Science & Technology in Police Work.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) All India Service officers are encouraged to undertake courses on various specialized disciplines, sponsored for specialized long-term courses and encouraged to take assignments with the related international institutions, Government Bodies and the NGOs etc.

(f) The mid career training provides professional upgradation, opportunity for introspection and helps improve the morale of the All India Service Officers.

Special Police Officers

1165. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Special Police Officers, presently working with the Delhi police alongwith years of working, Police Station-wise; and

(b) the specific terms of appointment of the Special Police Officers alongwith the honorarium, conveyance allowance and other perks admissible to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) The requisite information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The terms and conditions for appointment of Special Police Officer are indicated below :

(i) He should be an able bodied person not below the age of 18;

(ii) He should have good reputation to assist

police in maintaining law and order in the Capital;

(iii) He should not have any criminal record/background;

(iv) The person who volunteers for appointments as Special Police Officer should be subjected to mandatory police verification;

(v) Every Special Police Officer will be given a certificate on appointment;

(vi) He will have the same powers, privileges and immunities and perform the same duties as envisaged in Section 43 of Cr. P.C.; and

(vii) The duration of appointment of Special Police Officer will be one year which can be curtailed or extended depending on his performance;

Statement

Working with Delhi Police (Police Station wise)

S.No.	No. of Police Station	No. of SPOs	Up to 1 year	More than 1 year but upto 5 yrs.	More than 5 yrs but upto 10 yrs.	More than 10 yrs. but upto 20 yrs.	More than 20 yrs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
East District							
1.	Kalyanpuri	2	0	2	0	0	0
2.	New Ashok Nagar	5	0	5	0	0	0
3.	Pandav Nagar	3	0	3	0	0	0
4.	Mayur Vihar	7	0	4	2	1	0
5.	Mandawali	9	0	9	0	0	0
6.	Vivek Vihar	12	0	10	1	1	0
7.	Farsh Bazar	16	0	14	2	0	0
8.	Anand Vihar	7	0	7	0	0	0
9.	Preet Vihar	13	0	8	3	2	0
10.	Shakarpur	4	0	3	1	0	0
11.	Gandhi Nagar	4	0	2	2	0	0
12.	Krishna Nagar	19	1	9	8	1	0
13.	Geeta Colony	7	0	5	2	0	0
Total		108	1	81	21	5	0
New Delhi District							
14.	Parliament Street	1	0	1	0	0	0
15.	Mandir Marg	4	1	2	1	0	0
16.	Chankaya Puri	3	1	0	2	0	0
17.	Tughlak Road	1	1	0	0	0	0
18.	Connaught Place	11	4	4	2	1	0
19.	Tilak Marg	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		20	7	7	5	1	0
North East District							
20.	Seelampur	3	2	1	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	New Usmanpur	1	1	0	0	0	0
22.	Bhajan Pura	3	0	1	2	0	0
23.	Gokal Puri	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Khajuri Khas	1	0	1	0	0	0
25.	Shahdara	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Welcome	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	M.S. Park	1	1	0	0	0	0
28.	Seema Puri	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Nand Nagri	1	1	0	0	0	0
30.	Dilshad Garden	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		10	5	3	2	0	0

Central District

31.	Darya Ganj	4	0	0	4	0	0
32.	Ch. Mahal	7	0	7	0	0	0
33.	Jama Masjid	16	1	1	8	6	0
34.	Kamla Market	4	0	0	4	0	0
35.	Hauz Qazi	20	0	4	10	6	0
36.	I.P. Estate	0	0	0	0	0	0
37.	Pahar Ganj	8	0	8	0	0	0
38.	Nabi Karim	12	0	0	10	2	0
39.	D.B.G. Road	10	0	5	5	0	0
40.	Karol Bagh	11	2	9	0	0	0
41.	Parsad Nagar	7	0	0	3	4	0
42.	Rajinder Nagar	11	0	4	3	4	0
Total		110	3	38	47	22	0

North District

43.	Civil Lines	4	0	3	1	0	0
44.	Timar Pur	4	0	3	1	0	0
45.	Roop Nagar	20	0	10	4	6	0
46.	Maurice Nagar	4	0	3	1	0	0
47.	Subzi Mandi	13	0	6	5	2	0
48.	Pratap Nagar	7	0	1	4	2	0
49.	Sarai Rohilla	8	0	2	4	2	0
50.	Sadar Bazar	7	0	3	0	4	0
51.	Bara Hindu Rao	3	0	0	1	2	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
52.	Kashmere Gate	31	0	15	7	9	0
53.	Kotwali	24	0	10	6	8	0
54.	Lahori Gate	31	0	15	7	9	0
55.	Chandni Chowk	53	2	27	16	8	0
Total		181	2	86	50	43	0

North West District

56.	Ashok Vihar	15	5	2	1	7	0
57.	Keshav Puram	8	1	6	1	0	0
58.	Sarswati Vihar	17	5	6	4	2	0
59.	Model Town	10	1	0	9	0	0
60.	Adarsh Nagar	7	1	5	1	0	0
61.	Mukherjee Nagar	9	0	9	0	0	0
62.	Narela Ind. Area	14	6	2	6	0	0
63.	Alipur	25	0	16	0	9	0
64.	S.P. Badli	9	0	9	0	0	0
65.	Bawana	2	1	1	0	0	0
66.	Jahangirpuri	7	1	6	0	0	0
67.	Shalimar Bagh	6	0	4	2	0	0
68.	Rohini	8	2	6	0	0	0
69.	Prashant Vihar	14	7	7	0	0	0
70.	Sultan Puri	3	0	2	1	0	0
71.	Mangol Puri	3	0	3	0	0	0
72.	Kanjhawla	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		157	30	84	25	18	0

South District

73.	Hauz Khas	45	35	4	4	2	0
74.	Malviya Nagar	51	47	4	0	0	0
75.	Mehrauli	14	13	1	0	0	0
76.	Defence Colony	41	36	1	3	1	0
77.	Lodhi Colony	7	6	1	0	0	0
78.	Kotla Mubarak Pur	19	17	2	0	0	0
79.	Lajpat Nagar	58	47	8	3	0	0
80.	Sri Niwas Puri	5	4	1	0	0	0
81.	Hazrat Nizamuddin	30	26	2	2	0	0
82.	New Friends Colony	24	18	3	3	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
83.	Greater Kailash	21	17	3	1	0	0
84.	Chitranjan Park	33	30	1	1	1	0
85.	Ambedkar Nagar	28	24	2	2	0	0
86.	Sangam Vihar	18	14	2	1	1	0
87.	Kalkaji	15	14	0	1	0	0
88.	Badar Pur	11	9	1	1	0	0
89.	Okhla	4	4	0	0	0	0
90.	Sarita Vihar	16	13	1	2	0	0
Total		440	374	37	24	5	0

South West District

91.	Vasant Vihar	10	0	0	7	3	0
92.	R.K. Puram	4	0	0	2	2	0
93.	Sarojini Nagar	4	0	0	2	2	0
94.	Delhi Cantt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
95.	Vasant Kunj	9	0	8	1	0	0
96.	Naraina	8	0	0	8	0	0
97.	Maya Puri	5	0	0	5	0	0
98.	Inder Puri	5	0	0	5	0	0
99.	Najafgarh	1	0	0	1	0	0
100.	Kapas Hera	0	0	0	0	0	0
101.	Dabri	18	3	0	15	0	0
102.	Jaffarpur Kalan	5	2	1	2	0	0
103.	Dwarka	3	0	0	3	0	0

West District

104.	Patel Nagar	8	1	6	1	0	0
105.	Anand Parbat	5	0	2	3	0	0
106.	Moti Nagar	17	0	13	4	0	0
107.	Tilak Nagar	20	0	13	7	0	0
108.	Janak Puri	11	1	5	5	0	0
109.	Vikas Puri	6	0	3	3	0	0
110.	Uttam Nagar	8	0	6	2	0	0
111.	Punjabi Bagh	28	4	19	5	0	0
112.	Paschim Vihar	21	0	13	8	0	0
113.	Nangloi	4	0	4	0	0	0
114.	Rajouri Garden	16	4	12	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
115.	Hari Nagar	25	5	17	3	0	0
116.	Kirti Nagar	21	4	8	9	0	0
Total		190	19	121	50	0	0
Grand Total		1288	446	466	275	101	0

World Bank Funded Rural Development Schemes

1166. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has funded some Rural Development Schemes; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress made on these schemes so far and the target set for completion of these schemes, scheme-wise and state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Ministry of Finance, the World Bank, in so far as Rural Development Sector is concerned, has approved Credits equivalent to US\$ 584.16 million for 5 District Poverty Initiatives Projects during the last three years. These projects seek to improve opportunities for the rural poor to meet priority social and economic needs through community driven participatory approaches and demand based investment decisions. The details of disbursements made under these projects are as under :-

(Amount in US\$ million)

S.No.	Name of the Project	States	Donor	Singling Date	Effective from	Closing date	Project cost	LN/CR amount	Cum.disb up to Oct. 03
1.	AP District Poverty Initiative Project	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	12.5.2000	7.8.2000	31.12.2005	134.80	111.00	33.312
2.	AP-Rural Poverty Reduction Project	Andhra Pradesh	IDA	3.4.2003	13.5.2003	30.9.2008	275.00	150.00	8.496
3.	Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives	Madhya Pradesh	IDA	5.12.2000	27.2.2001	30.6.2006	134.70	110.10	14.554
4.	Rajasthan District Poverty Initiatives Project	Rajasthan	IDA	19.5.2000	7.8.2000	31.12.2005	124.80	100.50	11.689
5.	Chhattisgarh District Rural Poverty Project	Chhattisgarh	IDA	18.8.2003	13.11.2003	30.9.2008	129.35	112.56	0.000
Total							798.65	584.16	68.051

Allocation of Funds under RGDWM

1167. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the coverage of the rural habitations as on date, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated/released under the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission during each of the last three years and till date, state-wise; and

(c) the details of the funds utilised and remained unspent under the Mission so far, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) State-

wise status of coverage of rural habitations with drinking water facility, as on date, is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) To supplement the efforts of State Government for providing drinking water facilities to the rural habitations, Government of India renders financial assistance to the States under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) administered by Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission in the Department of Drinking Water Supply. The State wise details of the funds allocated/released (utilised) during the last three years and during the current year till date under the main components of ARWSP have been given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

S.No.	State	Present Status of Habitations**			
		NC*	PC*	FC*	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	2507	67225	69732
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	299	799	3200	4298
3.	Assam	343	14998	55214	70555
4.	Bihar	0	0	105340	105340
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	50379	50379
6.	Goa	3	31	361	395
7.	Gujarat	26	953	29290	30269
8.	Haryana	0	0	6745	6745
9.	Himachal Pradesh	376	8144	36847	45367
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	985	2869	7330	11184
11.	Jharkhand	77	10	100009	100096
12.	Karnataka	0	10394	46288	56682
13.	Kerala	228	7426	2109	9763
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	109489	109489
15.	Maharashtra	506	25916	59508	85930
16.	Manipur	0	86	2705	2791
17.	Meghalaya	172	593	7871	8636
18.	Mizoram	0	262	545	807
19.	Nagaland	72	744	709	1525
20.	Orissa	0	0	114099	114099
21.	Punjab	1156	1754	10539	13449
22.	Rajasthan	4534	0	89412	93946
23.	Sikkim	0	198	1481	1679
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	66631	66631
25.	Tripura	0	0	7412	7412
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	243508	243508
27.	Uttaranchal	46	503	30435	30984
28.	West Bengal	0	4988	74048	79036
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	110	394	504

1	2	3	4	5	6
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	26	223	267	516
31.	Daman & Diu	0	0	32	32
32.	Delhi	0	0	219	219
33.	Lakshadweep	0	10	0	10
34.	Pondicherry	40	69	158	267
35.	Chandigarh	0	0	18	18
Total		8,889	83,587	13,29,817	14,22,293

Number of habitations uninhabited/unpopulated/migrated/urbanized-

1	Assam	0	0	114	114
2.	Goa	1	0	0	1
3.	Meghalaya	3	0	0	3
4.	Mizoram	0	104	0	104
5.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	125	125
6.	Uttaranchal	12	12	0	24
Total		16	116	239	371
Grand Total		8,905	83,703	13,30,056	14,22,664

*NC-Not Covered, PC-Partially Covered, FC-Fully Covered

**As per the available on 1.4.1999 and subsequent coverage reported by State Govts.

Statement-II

(A) Funds Allocated and released under ARWSP (Normal) including additional release for calamity

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
		Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases (till 4.12.03)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11600.00	11600.00	13044.00	13601.10	13477.00	166481.42	11688.00	5844.00
2.	Bihar	4661.00	0.00	7274.00	0.00	7406.00	3703.00	6319.00	3159.50
3.	Chhattisgarh	1580.00	1580.00	3877.00	3977.00	2443.00	2943.00	1901.00	1623.50
4.	Goa	1404.00	888.59	1455.00	727.50	122.00	0.00	105.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	7085.00	16255.00	7837.00	9376.30	6546.00	9844.75	5537.00	6805.00
6.	Haryana	1943.00	1880.18	2200.00	2200.00	2002.00	2402.00	1694.00	847.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5091.00	5091.00	5552.00	6452.00	5635.00	8225.00	4919.00	2459.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	8788.00	3694.00	9896.00	6292.10	12324.00	11164.39	10833.00	5416.50
9.	Jharkhand	4719.00	2359.50	3619.00	1809.50	3063.00	1949.80	2575.00	1287.50
10.	Karnataka	10350.00	8165.12	12414.00	12714.00	11136.00	13568.68	10104.00	5652.00
11.	Kerala	5746.00	4022.42	6331.00	5045.00	3698.00	1899.30	3645.00	1675.26
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9529.00	9529.00	8877.00	9077.00	7159.00	9586.08	6079.00	4270.50
13.	Maharashtra	16934.00	16934.00	19159.00	19659.00	16829.00	19336.24	15710.00	7855.00
14.	Orissa	6231.00	3106.50	6522.00	4852.09	6225.00	5829.80	5303.00	3151.50
15.	Punjab	2383.00	1783.00	2277.00	1985.50	2581.00	3081.00	2269.00	1134.50
16.	Rajasthan	16361.00	16361.00	18705.00	14919.08	20731.00	18825.30	15852.00	9425.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	7308.00	7308.00	7956.00	8956.00	6358.00	7558.00	4869.00	3834.50
18.	Uttaranchal	2304.00	2304.00	3356.00	3447.88	3083.00	3683.00	2635.00	1317.50
19.	Uttar Pradesh	12472.00	10884.83	13269.00	13063.35	13022.00	11349.46	11086.00	5543.00
20.	West Bengal	7895.00	7837.31	8773.00	8947.63	8545.00	10110.00	6827.00	3413.50
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	13.00	0.00	13.00	0.00	13.00	0.00	5.63	0.00
22.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7.00	3.50	7.00	0.00	7.00	0.00	3.75	0.00
24.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Delhi	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	2.81	0.00
26.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Pondicherry	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	2.81	0.00
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	4365.00	2182.50	4476.00	2455.91	4977.00	3650.00	4962.00	2481.00
29.	Assam	7372.00	5459.78	7561.00	5357.67	8407.00	5252.50	8403.00	4272.40
30.	Manipur	1475.00	0.00	1643.00	821.50	1826.00	947.00	1833.00	916.50
31.	Meghalaya	1716.00	1644.08	1760.00	1215.51	1957.00	2935.50	1967.00	983.50
32.	Mizoram	1226.00	1161.99	1257.00	1634.10	1398.00	2097.00	1386.00	693.00
33.	Nagaland	1275.00	822.61	1328.00	1700.40	1454.00	2181.00	1453.00	726.50
34.	Sikkim	650.00	325.00	563.00	696.80	597.00	895.50	603.00	301.50
35.	Tripura	1521.00	1521.00	1559.00	2026.70	1734.00	2427.60	1743.00	871.50
Total		163996.00	144703.91	182523.00	163010.62	174765.00	181931.32	152315.00	85961.66

(B) Funds released under ARWSP (Desert Development Programme)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl No.	Name of State	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
		Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases (till 4.12.03)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1659.00	1659.00	845.68	676.54	1388.00	1342.50	1424.00	712.00
2.	Gujarat	400.00	1230.00	400.00	400.00	153.00	153.00	153.00	153.00
3.	Haryana	19.00	19.00	908.64	1275.92	944.00	944.00	968.00	484.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	587.00	293.50	7.41	5.21	8.00	4.00	8.00	4.00
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	282.00	0.00	209.88	0.00	64.00	32.00	65.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	509.00	254.50	1133.74	1147.68	1177.00	786.68	1208.00	604.00
7.	Rajasthan	4151.00	4151.00	5794.65	5794.65	6019.00	4770.66	6174.00	3087.00
Total		7607.00	7607.00	9300.00	9300.00	9753.00	8032.84	10000.00	5044.00

(C) Funds released for Sector Reform Projects

Sl.No.	District	State	Amount Released (Rupees in Lakh)			
			2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	1122.00			1122.00
2.	Khammam	Andhra Pradesh	1052.70		1000.00	1050.00
3.	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh	1122.00			1122.00
4.	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh		1122.00		1122.00
5.	Prakasam	Andhra Pradesh	1122.00			1122.00
6.	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh			1122.00	1122.00
7.	East Godavari	Andhra Pradesh			374.00	374.00
8.	Lohit	Arunachal Pradesh				
9.	West Siang	Arunachal Pradesh		196.35		
10.	Jorhat	Assam				
11.	Kamrup	Assam				142.02
12.	Sonitpur	Assam				
13.	Vaishali	Bihar	26.00	1096.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Durg	Chhattisgarh		1122.00		
15.	Mehsana	Gujarat				
16.	Rojkot	Gujarat				1122.00
17.	Surat	Gujarat				1122.00
18.	Karnal	Haryana				422.00
19.	Yamuna Nagar	Haryana				269.82
20.	Sirmour	Himachal Pradesh				
21.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir				
22.	Udhampur	Jammu & Kashmir				
23.	Dhanbad	Jharkhand	26.00	1096.00		
24.	Bellary	Karnataka				
25.	Mangalore	Karnataka				1122.00
26.	Mysore	Karnataka				
27.	Kasaragod	Kerala	1122.00			1122.00
28.	Kollam	Kerala		1122.00		
29.	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh				
30.	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	1122.00			
31.	Narsinghpur	Madhya Pradesh	1122.00			
32.	Raisen	Madhya Pradesh	1122.00			
33.	Sehore	Madhya Pradesh				
34.	Amravati	Maharashtra				592.05
35.	Dhule	Maharashtra				
36.	Nanded	Maharashtra				1122.00
37.	Raigad	Maharashtra				1042.00
38.	Ri-Bhoi	Meghalaya		272.10		
39.	Serchhip	Mizoram		74.45	74.45	
40.	Dimapur	Nagaland				166.61
41.	Balasore	Orissa	1122.00			450.00
42.	Ganjam	Orissa		1122.00		1122.00
43.	Sundergarh	Orissa	1122.00			1122.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
44.	Bhatinda	Punjab				
45.	Moga	Punjab				
46.	Muktsar	Punjab	1119.98			
47.	Alwar	Rajasthan	1122.00			1122.00
48.	Rajsamand	Rajasthan			1122.00	
49.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	1122.20			1122.00
50.	Sikkar	Rajasthan	595.81			595.81
51.	Sikkim South	Sikkim				
52.	Sikkim West	Sikkim				
53.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu		1122.00		
54.	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu		1122.00		1122.00
55.	Perambalur	Tamil Nadu	1122.00		1122.00	
56.	Vellore	Tamil Nadu		300.00	1944.00	335.20
57.	Kancheepuram	Tamil Nadu			374.00	374.00
58.	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu			374.00	374.00
59.	West Tripura	Tripura			770.07	770.07
60.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	841.50			
61.	Chandauli	Uttar Pradesh	701.25			
62.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1122.00			
63.	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	841.50			
64.	Sonebhadra	Uttar Pradesh	701.25			
65.	Midnapur	West Bengal		1122.00		725.79
66.	N. 24 Parganas	West Bengal		1122.00		627.82
67.	Haridwar	Uttaranchal		300.00	822.00	
Total			20491.99	12310.90	9098.52	25141.19

For Sector Reform Projects, yearly allocation is not made.

(D) Funds released under Three programmes of Prime Minister

(Rs. in Lakh)			
Sl.No.	Name of State	2003-2004	
		Allocation	Released 4.12.03
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2887.65	1443.83
2.	Bihar	890.73	445.37

1	2	3	4
3.	Chhattisgarh	458.46	229.23
4.	Goa	25.65	12.83
5.	Gujarat	549.19	274.60
6.	Haryana	11.80	5.90
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1245.05	622.53

1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1021.50	510.75
9.	Jharkhand	525.87	262.94
10.	Karnataka	2507.13	1253.57
11.	Kerala	811.81	405.91
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1592.46	796.23
13.	Maharashtra	3673.34	1836.67
14.	Orissa	1274.67	637.34
15.	Punjab	493.20	246.60
16.	Rajasthan	2633.66	1316.83
17.	Tamil Nadu	329.40	164.70
18.	Uttaranchal	419.58	209.79
19.	Uttar Pradesh	1350.54	675.27
20.	West Bengal	1939.60	969.80
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	21.43	10.72
22.	Chandigarh	0.27	0.14
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	51.66	25.83
24.	Daman & Diu	0.27	0.14
25.	Delhi	1.62	0.81
26.	Lakshadweep	1.62	0.81
27.	Pondicherry	23.40	11.69
Sub Total (A)		24741.56	12370.83
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	234.46	117.23
29.	Assam	4225.21	2112.61
30.	Manipur	156.42	78.12
31.	Meghalaya	402.67	201.34
32.	Mizoram	88.65	44.33
33.	Nagaland	245.61	122.81
34.	Sikkim	56.25	28.13
35.	Tripura	224.19	112.10
Sub Total (B)		5633.46	2816.76
Total (A) + (B)		30375.02	15187.59

(E) Funds released for projects sanctioned under Swajaldhara during 2002-2003

(Rs. in Lakh)			
Sl.No.	State	No. of Projects	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1661	4003.1086
2.	Assam	54	370.1227
3.	Chhattisgarh	102	131.4989
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	4.7400
5.	Gujarat	30	83.9870
6.	Haryana	2	10.9750
7.	Himachal Pradesh	471	335.7800
9.	Karnataka	55	109.0700
10.	Kerala	120	272.8376
11.	Madhya Pradesh	91	264.4870
12.	Maharashtra	782	3722.0900
14.	Orissa	287	335.8377
16.	Rajasthan	35	187.2590
18.	Tamil Nadu	390	702.0426
20.	Uttar Pradesh	655	565.9767
21.	West Bengal	8	23.8840
Total		4744	11123.7055

(F) Funds allocated and released under Swajaldhara (2003-2004)

(Rs. in Lakh)			
Sl.No.	State	Amount Allocated	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1616.00	808.00
2.	Bihar	874.00	
3.	Goa	15.00	
4.	Gujarat	766.00	382.778
5.	Haryana	234.00	110.636
6.	Himachal Pradesh	680.00	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1498.00	
8.	Karnataka	1397.00	698.520
9.	Kerala	504.00	252.020
10.	Madhya Pradesh	841.00	420.268
11.	Maharashtra	2172.00	
12.	Orissa	733.28	366.640
13.	Punjab	314.00	
14.	Rajasthan	2192.00	1095.500

1	2	3	4
15.	Tamil Nadu	673.21	336.600
16.	Uttar Pradesh	1533.00	766.450
17.	West Bengal	944.00	350.00
18.	Chhattisgarh	263.00	
19.	Jharkhand	356.00	
20.	Uttaranchal	364.00	182.000
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	448.00	
22.	Assam	754.59	377.300
23.	Manipur	154.00	
24.	Meghalaya	176.00	
25.	Mizoram	126.00	
26.	Nagaland	130.00	65.110
27.	Sikkim	54.00	
28.	Tripura	156.00	78.465
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	12.00	
30.	Chandigarh		
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8.00	4.000
32.	Daman & Diu		
33.	Delhi	6.00	
34.	Lakshadweep		
35.	Pondicherry	6.00	
Total		20000.00	6294.287

Swajaldhara programme started from 25.12.2002. Yearly allocation is being made from 2003-2004.

Proposal to wind up CAPART

1168. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAPART has reduced its financial assistance to NGOs under Rural Development Programmes in different States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to wind up the activities of CAPART;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to merge CAPART with some other organisation; and

(f) if not, the plans of the Government for the future role of CAPART in rural development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) CAPART is actively involved in the promotion of voluntary action and appropriate rural technologies for rural prosperity by implementing its programmes under Public Cooperation, Rural Technology, Watershed Development, Disability Action etc. all over the country through NGOs. In addition, CAPART is also organising numerous workshops for creating awareness about its programmes and organizing Gram Shree Melas for facilitating the marketing of rural products manufactured by the various Self Help Groups (SHGs) and rural artisans.

[Translation]

Pension Anomalies

1169. SHRI RAVINDER KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received representations from Very Important Persons and Pensioners to remove pension anomalies with regard to pensioners of Coal India Limited and its ancilliary companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether in the light of the recommendations of fifth pay commission all pensioners were given equal increase in pension, but some pensioners got its benefit and some are deprived of it; and

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The employees of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are covered under a Contributory Pension Scheme, the Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998, which is uniformly applicable to all its members. However, there is a miniscule number of employees of coal companies who were drawing Central Government salaries at the time of their absorption in CIL. Out of this category of employees, most of the representations received sought parity of pensionary benefits and DA benefits between the following two sub-categories of employees:

i. Such employees of Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries whose services were pensionable at the time of their absorption and who had opted to retain Central Pay Commission scales (Central Government Scales), even after absorption into CIL and;

ii. Such employees whose services were non-pensionable at the time of their absorption into Coal India Limited and who had opted for PSU scales after absorption.

All such references were examined in detail in the Board of Directors of coal companies and in the Ministry of Coal in consultation with Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare. Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare has categorically denied the benefits of Central Government's Liberalized Pension Scheme to employees mentioned in category (ii) above.

The issue of payment of Dearness Relief on pension was settled by an order of High Court of Patna. Ranchi Bench, which had ruled that such employees could not get Central Government Dearness Relief. These issues were also settled in the Supreme Court.

All important references received on these issues were replied to in accordance with the decisions indicated above.

(c) and (d) As per the recommendations of the 5th Central Pay Commission the pension of Ex-NCDC/Coal Board Employees who were governed under Central Government Pay Scales and had retired from Pensionable Service on or after 1.1.1986 have been revised. All other pensioners drawing pension in schemes other than the Central Government Pension Scheme are not covered under the recommendations of the 5th Central Pay Commission.

[English]

Scrapping of Coal Mining Licences

1170. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the companies sitting idle even after obtaining the coal mining licences for years;

(b) if so, the name of the companies having such idle licences;

(c) the reasons for not initiating mining activities by these companies;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to scrap the coal mining licences of these companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. About nine companies out of those who have been allocated captive

mining blocks have already obtained mining lease from the concerned State Governments for purpose of coal mining. The names of these companies are as under :-

1. Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL)
2. Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC)
3. West Bengal Power Development Corporation (WBPDC)
4. West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB)
5. Indian Aluminium Company Ltd. (Indal)
6. BLA Industries Ltd. (BLA)
7. Central Collieries Company Limited (CCCL)
8. Monnet Ispat Limited (MIL)
9. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)

Of these M/s JSPL, M/s CESC, M/s. WBPDC and WBSEB have started coal production. In case of others, they are required to set up their end-use plants first before coal is produced from the captive mine, as these coal blocks have been allocated to them for captive purpose. The cases of all the allocatees of captive mines are regularly reviewed by the Screening Committee with regard to the progress made by them on installation of the end-use plant and production of coal from the captive mine. In case of unsatisfactory progress in the matter, the captive coal blocks allocated to the parties are deallocated by the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee constituted in the Ministry of Coal, has so far deallocated three captive coal blocks already allocated in view of unsatisfactory progress made by the concerned parties. Moreover, in cases where mining leases have been granted, the leases are liable to lapse on the expiry of two years from the date of execution of mining leases. If mining operations are not started within a period of two years from the date of the execution of leases under the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957.

KVIC

1171. COL. (RETD). DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has emphasized the creation of more employment opportunities for Women in rural areas by implementing various rural development schemes through the small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the incentives provided and targets fixed by

the Government to the new industrial units for creating job opportunities in favour of women in rural areas during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the target set for setting up of such new units during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Government through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) all over the country for creation of employment opportunities in the rural areas. Under this programme, projects upto Rs. 25 lakhs are eligible for sanction. The KVIC provides the margin money in the form of grant whereas the loan component is given through banks. Self Help Groups are also eligible for this scheme.

Under the REGP Scheme, the KVIC provides margin money assistance to women entrepreneurs at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the project above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, rate of margin money is 30% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. Under this scheme, the beneficiary's contribution is 5% of the project cost. The implementation of the Scheme is being financed through Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks, State Cooperative Banks, etc. The number of projects promoted by women entrepreneurs under REGP scheme during the last three years i.e. from 2000-01 to 2002-03 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Separate targets were not set for women entrepreneurs upto 2001-02. However, during the year 2002-03, 30% of total target was set for women. 6207 projects were financed under REGP for women which is approximately 30% of the total achievement of 21024 projects during 2002-03.

Statement

No. of Projects-women Under REGP

Sr. No.	State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	872	69	606	1547
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	9	10
3.	Assam	92	17	162	271
4.	Bihar	17	3	45	65
5.	Goa	223	41	121	385
6.	Gujarat	38	7	34	79
7.	Haryana	236	44	209	489
8.	Himachal Pradesh	275	51	110	436
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	27	9	0	36
10.	Karnataka	607	112	459	1178
11.	Kerala	665	123	246	1034
12.	Madhya Pradesh	837	91	232	1160
13.	Maharashtra	1187	221	1047	2455
14.	Manipur	4	0	22	26
15.	Meghalaya	72	0	58	130
16.	Mizoram	3	0	37	40
17.	Nagaland	21	0	24	45

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Orissa	286	53	339	678
19.	Punjab	517	96	376	989
20.	Rajasthan	1227	227	717	2171
21.	Sikkim	0	0	3	3
22.	Tamil Nadu	277	53	331	661
23.	Tripura	0	0	7	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1811	391	385	2587
25.	West Bengal	321	128	311	760
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	58	58
27.	UT Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
28.	Delhi	0	0	3	3
29.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
30.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	2	2
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
33.	Chhattisgarh	2	11	80	93
34.	Jharkhand	1	16	54	71
35.	Uttaranchal	5	23	120	148
Total		9624	1786	6207	17618

Withholding Annual Report of CVC-2001

1172. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Government have since circulated the Annual Report of CVC 2002 but are withholding the circulation of Annual Report of the CVC for the year 2001 as reported in the *Indian Express* dated 18.9.2003;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and the reasons for withholding the Annual Report;

(c) whether certain chapters of the reports relate to the pending vigilance cases in which Government Departments and Ministries have either delayed in taking action against errant officials or gone against the advice of CVC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Government propose to the Annual Report 2001 in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The Government has not circulated the Annual Report of CVC for the year 2002. The Annual Report of the CVC is laid on the Table of each House of Parliament along with Explanatory Memorandum, explaining the reasons for non-consultation with/non-acceptance of the Commission's advice by the administrative authorities. The copy of the annual Report for the year 2001 was received in this Department in September, 2002 after which the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments were approached to provide justification for non-acceptance of CVC's advice in certain cases. The process of obtaining the requisite information from concerned Ministries/Department has just been completed.

(c) and (d) There are 22 such cases relating to 14 Ministries/Departments wherein the administrative authorities either did not consult the Commission or did not accept its advice.

(e) The Government is making all efforts to lay the Annual Report of CVC 2001, before the Parliament, after due consolidation.

Involvement of Public Sector in Wasteland

1173. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to involve private sector in the development of Wasteland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken in the direction in any State so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the guidelines issued by the Central Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) At present there is no specific proposal to involve private sector in the development of wasteland. However, a Task Force headed by Secretary (Rural Development) is looking into measures for promoting involvement of credit/financial institutions in mobilizing of additional funds for wastelands/ watershed development.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Commodities

1174. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increase in the smuggling from North Eastern States to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the commodities presently being smuggled out to Bangladesh;

(c) the details of different routes through which smuggling is going on; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop smuggling from North Eastern States to Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) to (d) The Indo-Bangladesh Border is porous in nature and prone to smuggling. However, major smuggling takes place from areas which are thickly populated and unfenced especially in the State of West Bengal. Cattle, sugar, phensedyl and machine parts are some of the commodities which are smuggled to

Bangladesh. The following steps are being taken to check such activities :-

(i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling.

(ii) Construction of fencing and floor lighting;

(iii) Conduct of special operations.

(iv) Upgradation of intelligence network.

(v) Use of night vision devices.

(vi) Augmentation of strength of patrolling/naka duties.

Expenditure on Sports

1175. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure on Sports Authority of India in Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Plan;

(b) the details of the Sports Administrators and Technical Experts involved in the management of Sports Authority of India; and

(c) the number of members from Non-Technical areas who comprises the total manpower of Sports Authority of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) The details of expenditure are as under :

Eighth Plan - Rs. 147.88 crores

Ninth Plan - Rs. 318.09 crores

Tenth Plan - Rs. 482.28 crores (likely to be incurred during the 10th Plan)

(b) and (c) The details are as under :

(i) Sports Scientists	-	38
(ii) Lectures	-	14
(iii) Sports Administrators	-	110
(iv) Coaches in different Grades	-	1523
(v) Others including Non-Technical Staff	-	1864
Total	-	3549

Hike in Tuition Fees

1176. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chandigarh Administration has recently hiked tuition fee, admission fee and other charges in colleges of Chandigarh UT;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the earlier fee, the date of last revision and the present hike therein;

(c) the total number of students in Undergraduate Courses in Chandigarh colleges;

(d) whether the Administration increased the fee following the State of Punjab;

(e) if so, whether the State of Punjab has rolled back the hike; and

(f) if so, the reasons for Chandigarh Administration not doing likewise?

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

(b) While the fee structure has not been changed in respect of B.A./B.Sc./B.Com Part-II and III students, it has been enhanced from Rs. 2516/- to Rs. 5505/- in respect of B.A./B.Sc/B.com Part-I students as per details given below:-

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Tuition Fee	Rs. 780.00	Rs. 2400.00
Tutorial Fee	Rs. 60.00	Rs. 60.00
Admission Fee	Rs. 150.00	Rs. 500.00
University Charges	Rs. 373.00	Rs. 415.00
College Funds	Rs. 873.00	Rs. 1700.00
Library Security (Refundable)	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 250.00
Environment Fund	Rs. 180.00	Rs. 180.00
	Rs. 2516.00	Rs. 5505.00

The fee structure was earlier revised on 28th June, 2002.

(c) The number of undergraduate students studying in the colleges in Chandigarh is 21,871.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The fee in Chandigarh was increased with a view to reducing the gap between available resources and expenditure and it did not have any linkage with the revision of fee structure in Punjab and its subsequent roll back.

Job Opportunities to OBC

1177. SHRI P. D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided job opportunities to Other Backward Communities (OBC) in the various Departments/Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the staff strength of OBC is far less than the total strength, particularly in Group A and B;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate job opportunities to OBCs;

(f) whether the Government have asked for any detailed reports from the various Departments and Undertakings under his Ministry regarding the current status of OBC representations in Group A, B, C, and D; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Reservation of OBC came into effect from 08.09.1993. Besides, the officers against most of the Group A and B posts are posted by the respective cadre controlling authorities of different All India Services and other Group A and B Services.

(e) Recruitment to various categories of vacant posts is being made as per the extant policy of reservations.

(f) Yes Sir. Current status of OBCs representation has been obtained from the Departments/Organisations under the Ministry.

(g) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

S.No.	Grade	No. of employees working in the Grade	Number of employees belonging to OBC, classes out of the total number of employees, Grade-wise
Department of Rural Development			
1.	Grade A	51	00
2.	Grade B	138	02
3.	Grade C	157	09
4.	Grade D	94	05
Department of Land Resources			
5.	Grade A	20	00
6.	Grade B	29	02
7.	Grade C	30	01
8.	Grade D	19	02
Department of Drinking Water Supply			
9.	Grade A	18	00
10.	Grade B	21	00
11.	Grade C	24	01
12.	Grade D	11	01
National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD)			
13.	Grade A	78	02
14.	Grade B	68	02
15.	Grade C	172	37
16.	Grade D	131	23
Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology			
17.	Grade A	28	02
18.	Grade B	51	04
19.	Grade C	49	07
20.	Grade D	33	11

Note :

1. Reservation of OBC came into effect from 08.09.1993
2. Information relating to OBC is as indicated in the service book.
3. Officers against most of the Group A posts are posted by the respective cadre controlling authorities of different All India Services and other Group A Services.

[Translation]

Generic Medicines

1178. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

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

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the fact that the reputed pharmaceutical companies are manufacturing medicines in the name of generic medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is fact that there is a difference of 60 to 80 per cent in the wholesale and retail prices of generic medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the effective steps taken by the Government to minimize the said price gap and to prevent exploitation of patients; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government against the manufacturers of these medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (e) For a Scheduled formulation, a manufacturer is required to follow the price fixed by the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Prices of Non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R & D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

[English]

Fencing of Indo-Pak Border

1179. SHRI C. N. SINGH :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to erect fences alongside Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the progress made so far, sector-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that more than fifteen villages have been divided by these fences creating utter confusion among the villagers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The detail of the progress made so far given in the statement.

(c) and (d) No villages have been divided due to erection of fencing on Indo-Pak border. However, facilitate access to cultivated lands, gates are being provided on the fencing which are opened 5 times during the day as per the requirements of the local people.

Statement**Fencing on Indo-Pak Border**

Sector	Length of Border fenced so far (in Kms)	Remaining length of Border proposed to be fenced (in Kms)
Punjab	457	Work Completed
Rajasthan	1048	Work Completed
Gujarat	62*	248
Jammu	87	93

*62 Kms of road and embankment and 16 Kms of fencing have been completed.

Disproportionate Assets

1180. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 3387 dated 11.12.2002 regarding cases of disproportionate assets and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) The exercise of collection of information has not been completed so far and after collection, the requisite information will be laid on the table of the House.

*[Translation]***Policy for Selection of Sports Persons**

1181. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has constituted a special Committee to formulate a fool proof policy for selection of sports persons to confer Arjuna Award and other awards;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the criteria to be followed under the said policy formulated by the special Committee; and

(d) the time by which the Committee is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been constituted on 16th October, 2003. It also includes eminent sports persons, sports journalists and administrators. This Committee has been empowered to make recommendation for improving the existing schemes/guidelines for selecting the sports persons for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Arjuna and Dhyanchand Awards.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

*[English]***Draft Policy for Street Vendors**

1182. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI S. D. N. R. WADIYAR :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government is considering to prepare a draft policy for street vendors;

(b) if so, whether any legislation in this regard is being considered;

(c) if so, the salient features of the policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) The formulation of National Policy for Urban Street Vendors is under active consideration of the Government.

*[Translation]***Funds for Rajasthan**

1183. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released funds to Rajasthan for the development and promotion of Sports activities in the State during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Union Government to monitor and ensure proper utilization of Central funds by the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The details of funds released to Government of Rajasthan under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure during the last 3 years have been indicated below:-

2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
NIL	Rs. 0.04 lakh	Rs. 10.71 lakh

(c) To ensure proper utilization of funds, approved Central assistance is released in suitable instalments. While the first installment is released after the State Government/Grantee institution has spent at least 50% of their share, further instalments are considered for release on receipt of UC/Progress Report/Audited Accounts, Photographs of the project being constructed.

*[English]***Panchayati Raj Institutions**

1184. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Panchayati Raj Institutions have been marginalized in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States have set up parallel Village Development Committees;

(d) whether reservation of weaker section in Panchayati Raj Institutions have been overlooked;

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

(f) the States where Panchayat Elections have not been held so far, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of Panchayati Raj enactment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 requires States to develop funds, functions and functionaries on PRIs including in respect of 29 subjects listed out in the Eleventh Schedule. The devolution status in respect of those subjects is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) As per the information received from the State Government, Village Development Committees, also called the Gram Vikas Samiti have been constituted for each Gram Panchayat in the State of Haryana which is chaired by the village Sarpanch and has both women, SC and backward classes Panches as its members.

(d) and (e) All the State PR Acts have made provisions for reservations in accordance with the provision of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992. However, in the State of Bihar these provisions have not been implemented for SCs/STs chairpersons as the matter is sub-judice.

(f) Elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions have not been held in the Union Territory of Pondicherry and the newly carved out State of Jharkhand so far.

(g) As the nodal Ministry for ensuring the implementation of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 the Ministry has been constantly pursuing the matter of the implementation of the provisions of the said Act with the States.

Statement

Status of Devolution of Departments/Subjects with Funds, Functions and Functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Departments/subject Transferred to Panchayats with		
		Funds	Functions	Functionaries
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	05	17	02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	29	-
4.	Bihar	8	25	Only functional Control

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Jharkhand	-	-	-
6.	Goa	6	6	-
7.	Gujarat	15	15	15
8.	Haryana	-	16	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	02	26	11
10.	Karnataka	29	29	29
11.	Kerala	26	26	26
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10	23	09
13.	Chhattisgarh	10	29	09
14.	Maharashtra	18	18	18
15.	Manipur	-	22	04
16.	Orissa	09	25	21
17.	Punjab	-	07	-
18.	Rajasthan	18	29	18
19.	Sikkim	24	24	24
20.	Tamil Nadu	-	29	-
21.	Tripura	-	12	-
22.	Uttar Pradesh	04	12	06
23.	Uttaranchal	-	11	11
24.	West Bengal	12	29	12
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	06	06	06
26.	Chandigarh	-	-	-
27.	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	-	03	03
28.	Daman & Diu	05	09	03
29.	NCT of Delhi	Panchayati Raj System is yet to be revived.		
30.	Pondicherry	-	-	-
31.	Lakshadweep	-	06	-

The provisions of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 are not applicable to the States of J & K, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland.

[Translation]

Jobs and Compensation to Next of Kin of Deceased Employees

1185. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to dispose of the cases of providing jobs and compensation to next of kin of the deceased employees, to the displaced and those declared unfit on medical grounds of each subsidiary company of Coal India Limited especially BCCL and CCL through a special campaign;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of cases involving the dependents of the deceased employees, the displaced and the medically unfit employees disposed off during the last three years including the current year, year-wise and subsidiary-wise; and

(d) the number of said cases pending till date, subsidiary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) and (b) Providing jobs or compensation (wherever applicable) to the eligible dependent of the deceased employees/displaced persons, as the case may be, is done as per the provisions of National Coal Wage Agreements or Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy of Coal India Limited. This is a continuous and on going process.

(c) The details of the cases disposed off during the last 3 years is as per the table given below :-

The total number of Compassionate Appointment during the Last Three Years (Up to 01.11.03)

	ECL	BCCL	CCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NCL	NEC	CMP-DIL	DCC	CIL(HQ)	Total
In Lieu of Death												
2000-01	855	829	482	202	424	43	56	1	3	1	1	2897
2001-02	347	808	209	216	391	33	75	2	17	1	3	2102
2002-03	422	714	515	152	459	49	88	1	14	2	4	2420
2003-04	280	388	305	223	238	33	40	1	14	3	3	1528
Medically Unfit												
2000-01	33	47	52	16	59	13	-					220
2001-02	2	15	7	21	34	13	-					92
2002-03	1	11	4	6	47	1	7					77
2003-04	-	2	3	8	27	4	4					48
Displaced (Employment Against Land)												
2000-01	410	81	67	112	246	256	16					1188
2001-02	47	29	17	60	98	124	17					392
2002-03	207	54	17	21	75	94	10					478
2003-04	55	46	8	23	20	144	4					300

(d) The number of cases pending on compassionate grounds as on 31.10.2003 is given below :

Eastern Coalfields Limited	1670
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	125
Central Coalfields Limited	457
Western Coalfields Limited	220

South Eastern Coalfields Limited	89
Northern Coalfields Limited	0
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	27
North East Coalfields	169
Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited	10

*[English]***Production of Coal**

1186. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of coal in the country at present;

(b) whether the country is self-reliant in respect of coal production;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is possibility of widening of gap between the demand and availability of coal during the current financial year;

(e) if so, the extent thereof;

(f) the details of demand and consumption of coal in each State especially in Himachal Pradesh; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the production of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : (a) Annual production of coal in the country is 341.272 million tonnes during 2002-2003.

(b) and (c) The projected coal demand for the terminal year of 10th Five Year Plan (2006-2007) is 460.50 million tonnes against which the projected indigenous coal supply/availability is 405 million tonnes. The gap between demand and supply/availability is due to non availability of good quality coking and non-coking coal owing to gradual depletion of extractable reserve of these coals.

(d) and (e) The target of indigenous coal availability is 351.40 million tonnes against the demand of 380.90 million tonnes during 2003-2004. The gap between demand and availability is likely to be reduced in the revised estimate 2003-2004 with an increased anticipated supply of 356.12 million tonnes.

(f) Despatch of coal and coal products from Coal India Limited (CIL) during 2002-2003 state-wise including the state of Himachal Pradesh is given below :-

(in million tonnes)

State		Despatch
1	2	3
1.	Bihar	0.950
2.	Jharkhand	18.463

1	2	3
3.	West Bengal	25.192
4.	Uttar Pradesh	51.892
5.	Orissa	21.111
6.	Madhya Pradesh	28.721
7.	Chhattisgarh	25.236
8.	Maharashtra	34.111
9.	Gujarat	15.379
10.	Rajasthan	9.985
11.	Delhi	4.788
12.	Punjab	10.921
13.	Haryana	5.790
14.	Tamil Nadu	13.993
15.	Andhra Pradesh	13.918
16.	Karnataka	3.728
17.	Kerala	0.095
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.103
19.	Himachal Pradesh	0.635
20.	Uttaranchal	0.017
21.	Assam	0.251
22.	Others	0.244
Total		285.523

However, assessment on demand of coal is not done state-wise.

(g) Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase the production of coal:-

- (i) 136 coal mining blocks have been identified for captive end use out of which blocks are being allotted to different parties.
- (ii) Augmenting private sector participation without restricting captive consumption by introducing the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Amendment Bill, 2000 in the Parliament.
- (iii) Revision of policy of coal mining by the State Government companies allowing mining by both underground and opencast methods in the country.

Reservation for Other Backward Classes

1187. SHRI P. D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided adequate job opportunities for the persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Ministry as well as all its Autonomous bodies/offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the OBC strength is less than the required to the total strength particularly in Group A and B;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide adequate representations for the OBC;

(e) whether the Government has asked for any detailed reports from the Ministry as well as all its Autonomous bodies/offices regarding the current status of OBC representations in Group A,B,C and D; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 328 persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are working in the Ministry/Attached Office/ Autonomous Bodies under the Ministry in various grades.

(c) and (d) As per Government Policy, reservation for OBCs introduced in 1993 is restricted to direct recruitment. At the time of recruitment, policy parameters regarding reserved posts for OBCs are kept in view. In order to fill up vacancies reserved for OBCs, various concessions like relaxation in upper age limit by three years, relaxation in standard of evaluation are given. In the event of non-availability of OBC candidate the reserved vacancy is kept vacant to be filled up in the subsequent year.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Disaster Management Authority in Delhi

1188. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi is the first State in the country to have a Disaster Management Authority;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Authority will be separate from the Disaster Management Cell which will be the apex body to prepare contingency plans;

(c) whether the Union Government is also considering to have such disaster authority in other States; and

(d) if so, the name of other States having such authority and the plans being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) The first State Disaster Management Authority was constituted by the State Government of Orissa in December 1999. The Delhi Disaster Management Authority was constituted on 23rd October, 2003.

(b) The Delhi Disaster Management Authority under the Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor of Delhi has been constituted by the Government of N.C.T. of Delhi to bring together all stakeholders in disaster management under one command and control. This apex body shall initiate measures relating to preparedness, generation of awareness, mitigation and human resource development in a cohesive and consolidated manner.

(c) and (d) The Union Government has advised all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to constitute a Disaster Management Authority. Orissa, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Chandigarh Administration, Kerala, Delhi and Nagaland have set up Disaster Management Authorities.

Additional Posts in Delhi Police

1189. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has created additional posts in the Delhi Police to strengthen the security for the City's Very Important Persons (VIPs);

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes Sir. The Government has sanctioned 700 additional posts for Delhi Police for strengthening route security of Very Important Persons in Delhi.

(b) The category-wise details of these posts are as under :

Inspector	7
Sub-Inspector	63
Head Constable	63
Constable	567

(c) These posts are likely to be filled up within a month or so.

Pending Water Supply Scheme of Maharashtra

1190. SHRI A. NARENDRA :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Union Government is providing financial assistance for water supply scheme for the small towns having population of less than 20,000 under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme;

(b) if so, whether about 20 schemes are lying pending with the Union Government in respect of Maharashtra State;

(c) if so, whether the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal have requested to make certain amendments in the norms for sanctioning the aforesaid schemes;

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

(e) the time by which these scheme are likely to be cleared;

(f) whether the Union Government propose to revise the norms paid down for providing coverage to various towns and to raise the criterion of population from 20,000 to 1,00,000;

(g) if so, whether the Union Government also propose to raise the water supply limit from 70 litres to 100 litres per day per person;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. No such request from Governments of

Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal for amendments in the norms for sanctioning of water supply under AUWSP has been received.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) This issue was raised in the Conference of Chief Ministers of States in 1998. After careful consideration, Chief Minister of Maharashtra was informed by the then Minister of State for Urban Development that per capita norms of 70 lpcd is adequate for towns having population even upto one lakh as these towns do for towns having population even upto one lakh as these towns do not have large industrial and institutional requirements of water. Moreover, unit cost of production of water will be comparatively high in case the service level is increased to 100 lpcd. Hence, with the limited Central assistance for AUWSP and narrow financial base of urban local bodies, it may not be possible to extend this basic facility to all the targeted towns.

As regards increase in population norm from 20,000 to 1,00,000, Planning Commission was of the view that it would be desirable to saturate the demands of urban population in small towns upto 20,000 population in the first instance before of extending the scheme to cover other categories of urban agglomerations.

Job Opportunities to OBCs

1191. SHRI P. D. ELANGOVAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided job opportunities for the persons belonging to Other Backward Communities (OBCs) in the various Departments/ Undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the OBC staff strength is far less than the total strength, particularly in Group A and B;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate job opportunities to OBCs;

(f) whether the Government has asked for any detailed reports from the various Departments and undertakings under his Ministry regarding the current status of OBC representations in Group A, B, C and D; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVAITION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The vacancies of OBCs are filled as per the reservation policy laid down by the Government according to which 27% reservation for OBCs has been provided on direct recruitment vacancies.

(c) to (e) The reservation for the OBCs in direct recruitment was introduced in 1993. The required percentage of reservation will be achieved in due course of time by operating the prescribed 200 point post based roster. Further, direct recruitment is banned in many offices under this Ministry.

(f) and (g) There are prescribed periodic returns about percentages of OBCs in Group A, 'B' 'C' & 'D'. The details of the number of employees and number of OBCs among them in various Groups are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

	Number of Employees	Belonging to OBC
A	2310	66
B	3613	30
C	25401	661
D	22605	518

Reservation for Other Backward Classes

1192. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ NO. 3878 on 8.4.2003 and state :

(a) whether the Government has provided adequate job opportunities for the person belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Ministry as well as its Autonomous bodies/offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is fact that the OBC strength is less than the required to the total strength, particularly in Group A and B;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide adequate representations for the OBC;

(e) whether the Government has asked for any detailed reports from the Ministry as well as its Autonomous bodies/offices regarding the current status of OBC representations in Group A B C and D; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : (a) to (f) The question seeks to elicit detailed information pertaining to Ministry as well as autonomous bodies/offices. The same is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

External AID for Development of Wasteland

1193. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposal from the NGO's to approve the external aid for development of wastelands during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the number of proposals cleared and the funds allocated so far, state-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHAB M. K. PATIL) : (a) The proposals for assistance/grant under external aid from NGOs are not received by this Ministry directly. The NGOs submit their proposals to Donor Agencies, which refer the cases to Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance for seeking government approval. DEA may further seek the comments of concerned Ministries for taking a decision on the proposals.

(b) to (d) In view of what has been stated above, question does not arise.

Indian Citizens in Indian Enclaves

1194. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recommendation of National Human Rights Commission to Government that "the Enclaves of the respective Countries be made over them and boundary be cleared delineated is still under the consideration of Government";

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking any concrete action on the recommendation of the Commission; and

(c) the time by which the recommendation is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The Government is committed to exchange of the enclaves with Bangladesh in accordance with the Land Boundary Agreement signed between the two countries in 1974. Since the matter involves discussion with a foreign government, no time frame can be given for effecting the exchange.

Law and Order in Delhi

1195. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to hand over the law and order of Delhi to the elected State Government;
- (b) if so, the time by which such a Bill is proposed to be introduced in Parliament; and
- (c) the steps taken to handover Delhi Police to the elected State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Constitution (One Hundred and Second) Amendment Bill, 2003, and the State of Delhi Bill, 2003 which were introduced in the Lok Sabha on 18.8.2003, inter alia, propose that the Union will retain legislative and executive powers with respect to 'Public Order' and "Police' in the proposed new State of Delhi.

- (c) Question does not arise.

Observations of Amnesty International

1196. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have examined the latest report of Amnesty International which the charge of persecution has been minority levelled against India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Human Rights Commission has issued a rejoinder to the Amnesty International's observations on the minority status in India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government provide free and fair access to the observers of Amnesty International on their visits to jails/prisons and detention camps; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) Amnesty International is an International NGO based in London and is one among the many NGOs based outside India which brings out reports on alleged human rights violations, from time to time, all over the world including India. The methods used by such organisations to gather information have often been questioned, particularly as they are not free from bias. It is not the policy of the Government to react to such reports by

International NGOs on internal matters of India. National Human Rights Commission has also not issued any rejoinder.

(e) and (f) Observers from Amnesty International undertake visits to India from time to time for studying Human Rights issues. However, observers of International Human Rights Organizations including Amnesty International are permitted to visit jails/prisons and detention camps only with prior permission.

[Translation]

Special Commando Force

1197. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given a permission for four new battalions of the special commando force to check the infiltration and for effectively controlling the terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds likely to be spent in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which these battalions are likely to be deployed there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) There is no proposal with the Government for raising Commando Battalions in Central Police Forces.

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

[English]

Removal of Jhuggies

1198. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has entrusted the Job of removing the jhuggies from the bank of Yamuna River to his Ministry with a view to clean the Yamuna River;
- (b) if so, whether the jhuggies have since been removed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the time by which the said jhuggies are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide order dated 10.4.2001 desired action to be taken by all executing agencies to achieve minimum desired water quality in Yamuna River by 31.3.2003. However, it also observed that keeping in view the various agencies in Delhi, no single entity can be held responsible for cleaning up the River Yamuna. Removal of jhuggies from the banks of Yamuna River was targeted as one of the actions to be taken by the concerned agency.

(b) to (d) The Slum and J J Department of Municipal Corporation of Delhi have started action for relocation of four squatter settlements located at Gautam Puri-I, Gautam Puri-II, Coca-Cola Plant Power House, Gate No. 2 and Gauspur Dumping Ground, Nizamudding Bridge in close coordination with CPWD and L & DO. This involves joint survey of jhuggi clusters by the functionaries of Slum and JJ Department, CPWD, DDA and L&DO. Relocation of Jhuggies is also dependent on availability of funds, speedy land acquisition and clearance of impediments including vacation of orders of Courts in areas of relocation.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Prime Minister has taken permission from me to give his statement tomorrow. He requested me for that in writing.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Why? Why hon'ble Prime Minister was allowed that concession? You had said that statement would be given today ...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Prime Minister should be present here. Why is he absent? This is a question of the dignity of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Sonia Gandhi ji should be called here, we have made this demand so many times...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Your leaders are speaking, now at least you people could be quiet. It is the convention that whenever hon'ble Prime Minister is busy, we make adjustments for him. I have had discussion with a few leaders in this regard.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, it was decided...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I had also requested yesterday that Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji be called ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Madan Lal Khurana, Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, Zero Hour is yet to begin.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had also raised an issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (Ambala) : We are also demanding to call Sonia ji here.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The Chief Minister of Orissa had also come in the House...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government assured you, in our presence, that since the Prime Minister is on his way to CHOGM, he would make a statement immediately on his return...*(Interruptions)* You, in your wisdom, while disposing of the notice for Adjournment Motion on Judeo tape issue, took the House into confidence and said that the Prime Minister would make a statement on his return from CHOGM. The Prime Minister returned to the Capital on 7th evening and on 8th, that is yesterday, there was a sitting of the House. We came to know that the Prime Minister would make the statement today. Now, we have just come to know that the Prime Minister would make the statement tomorrow. My question is this. Is the Prime Minister taking the House seriously on this issue or not? I am asking this because unless he takes this House into confidence, we will not know whether Shri Dilip Singh Judev has resigned from the Council of Ministers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : 'Oh Oh'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Do not say 'oh oh'. It is not a simple matter. Try to understand the seriousness of the matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, you have made your point. Please take your seat.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, you gave the ruling on this matter, but your decision is being ignored and is being flouted today. Why should it happen? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are quite prepared to wait. Of course, the Prime Minister may have his difficulties on a day. It was announced by you on the floor of the House that the Prime Minister would make the statement today. Last evening, the Secretary-General informed us that the Prime Minister would be making the statement tomorrow instead of today and I never raised any dispute on this. But this is being treated as a matter of just no moment...*(Interruptions)* Can any snide remark be made like this? The Parliament is not being taken seriously on any matter.

Sir, I have my best wishes for them. I wish them all the best, but I must tell you very frankly that they cannot come in a procession like this and occupy the first bench in Parliament. What has this Parliament come to? This is not proper. I have personally conveyed my best wishes to them, as they have got the people's mandate. I have expressed my good wishes, but that does not mean that the Parliament should be treated in this manner.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, may I complete my submission? The hon. Prime Minister wants one more day, I have no objection to that. But let the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs make a statement...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you speaking, I have permitted him only.

....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, why are these three Members seated on the front Benches?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mane ji, why are you shouting. Nothing has happened in the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Silence please.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I point out the reasons why hon'ble Prime Minister is not giving statement today, I would like to say one thing to my colleagues of opposition. The House is like a family. Our relations go beyond the party lines. We do sit separately in the House but our sorrows and pleasures are common. Therefore, these Members who have been our colleagues are now taking farewell to assume charge of Chief Ministership of three states. Now that they have come to the House, we should part with them with congratulations.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I welcome them. I have congratulated them personally. I would request the hon. Minister not to include personal things....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Before welcoming them, they should be asked to go to back benches...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Shri Mani Shankarji, decency demands that we can at least congratulate them. They have come today and will go tomorrow.

So far as the statement of hon'ble Prime Minister is concerned, as you know, I had said he would return on the night of seventh and then a time will be fixed as per his

convenience. Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday you had a talk with him on the basis of which you said that he would give his statement today. It happens many a times that we request hon'ble Speaker to change time. He talked with you and duly informed that he would give a statement at 12.00 noon here and at 12.30 PM in Rajya Sabha. He is not evading to give the statement. He sought a little change from you as per his convenience. You permitted him and that is why he will give his statement tomorrow. I do not think that anything has happened which is unprecedented or which shows that he is not taking the House seriously. He had a talk with you and on that basis you informed the House. With your permission, he informed that he would give his statement tomorrow at 12.00 noon in Lok Sabha and 12.30 PM in Rajya ...*(Interruptions)* We congratulate all the Members, who are leaving to become Chief Minister of their respective states.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, on behalf of the entire House, you congratulate all of them.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : On behalf of the whole House, I convey best wishes to the three Chief Ministers and welcome them.

12.07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 932 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2003 seeking to amend Notification No. S.O. 594 (E) dated the 20th June, 1988 issued under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT. 8117/2003)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2003-2004.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT. 8118/2003)

- (2) A copy of the Mineral Conservation and Development (Third Amendment) Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 833 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 2003 under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT. 8119/2003)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy each of following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 102 of the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 :-

- (i) The Fare Fixation Committee (Procedure) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 1074 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 2003.
- (ii) The Fare Fixation Committee (Salaries, Allowances and Other Terms and Conditions of Services of the Chairperson and Members) Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 1075 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 2003.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 8120/2003)

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 8121/2003)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH) : 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) (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8122/2003]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Madras, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Madras for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8123/2003]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8124/2003]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 8125/2003]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. 8126/2003]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 673 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 2003 under sub-section (2) of section 86 of the Madhya Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2000.
- (2) A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 2003 under sub-section (2) of section 94 of the Uttar Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2000.
- (3) A copy of Bihar Reorganisation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 675 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 2003 under sub-section (2) of section 92 of the Bihar Reorganization Act, 2000.
- (4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 356 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2003 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. 462 (E) dated the 23rd May, 2003 issued under the Central Industrial Security Forces Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8127/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : I beg to lay on the table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, 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 8128/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASABH M. K. PATIL) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 83 of the Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994 :-

- (1) The Lakshadweep Panchayats Servants (Punishment and Appeal Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. F.No. 7/5/97-DOP in Lakshadweep Gazette dated the 24th September, 2001.
- (2) The Lakshadweep Panchayats Servants (Service) Amendment Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. F.No. 7/3/97-DOP in Lakshadweep Gazette dated the 13th September, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8129/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : On behalf of Shri Harin Pathak, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section (3) of the All India Services Act, 1951 :-
 - (i) The All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 249 in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2003.
 - (ii) The All India Services (Medical Attendance) Amendment Rules, 2003 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 364 in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8130/2003]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi for the year 2002-2003

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8131/2003]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and

English versions) of the Indo-German Tool Room, Aurangabad, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indo-German Tool Room, Aurangabad for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8132/2003]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indo-German Tool Room, Ahmedabad, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indo-German Tool Room, Ahmedabad, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8133/2003]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tool Room and Training Centre, Guwahati, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tool Room and Training Centre, Guwahati, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8134/2003]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8135/2003]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust

for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8136/2003]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) : Mr. Speaker, 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 Coal India Limited (Volumes I and II), Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003.
- (2) Annual Report of the Coal India Limited (Volumes I and II), Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8137/2003]

12.11 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Twenty-first Report

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : I beg to present the Twenty-first Report (Hindi and English versions) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report (13th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Defence on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2003-2004.

12.12 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Forty-eighth to Fifty-fourth Reports

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance:

- (1) Forty-eighth Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Finance (Deptts. of Economic Affairs and Expenditure)

- (2) Forty-ninth Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)
- (3) Fiftieth Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Company Affairs)
- (4) Fifty-first Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Disinvestment.
- (5) Fifty-second Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Planning.
- (6) Fifty-third Action Taken Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- (7) Fifty-fourth Report on the Actuaries Bill, 2002

12.13 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Fiftieth Report

[English]

SHRI CHANLRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra) : I beg to present the Fiftieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development (2003) on 'The Provisions of the Municipalities (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Bill, 2001'.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, we now go to 'Zero Hour'. I would request all the Members not to be impatient. Please sit down. There is no necessity of becoming impatient. There are several notices which are pending for the last one week. I would like to take maximum notices of 'Zero Hour' today. But let every Member speak for a few minutes as we do every time. Let me go ahead with disposing of.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down when I am making my point clear. I want to help those Members who are giving notices again and again and, therefore, please cooperate with me. After every Member speaks and makes his point

clear, I permit another Member to speak. The first one is Shri Prabhunath Singh.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : I know your ruling. I have observed on a very important issue, three times in the last Session, two times in this Session, I gave the notice. It was regarding DDA Scam. Three times in the last Session in my record and this time today also, fourth time I am raising this issue. No statement is made by the Minister in the House. Nothing has been done regarding the rocking DDA Scam. Why should they not be taken up? Three times I raised the issue in the last Session and the Minister did not reply.

MR. SPEAKER : I will take it up as per rules as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI ZHA AZAD (Dharbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to associate myself with Shri Prabhunath Singh....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the former Director-General of Police, Bihar, Patna had created sensation by sending secret documents to the State Government on 5.12.2003....(Interruptions) That report include activities like creating unrest in the country by getting weapons from Pakistani Intelligence Agency, ISI, collapse the economy of the Country by getting fake currency notes through ISI, hatch the conspiracy with mafia Don Dawood in 2001, to create disturbances in the country, to organise terrorist activities with the help of Kashmir terrorists, to organise killings, abductions, robbery and bank robberies in Bihar and other parts of country and to endanger the national security....(Interruptions). The DGP was sacked because he was taking action against such criminals....(Interruptions). The State Government is protecting a criminal who is threat for national security....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasad ji, if you want to speak on this subject, I will give you permission, but you shall not disturb the House in this manner, please sit down.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are news reports that the CID has given a report in regard to Sonpur Mela. With your permission I would like to read a few lines of it.

"In the initial 273 days of current year. There 11 criminal incidents on an average per hour in which case of killings of a person and one loot in every two and a half hour, a kidnapping in every four hours, and a rape in every twelve hours was registered. This information came into light room the figures published by 'Harihar Kshetra Mela Rajya Apradh

Anusandhan' of Sonpur'...(Interruptions) Till now, 1750 murders, 259 cases of extortion....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasadji, if you continue to behave in this way, I will not give change to anybody.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, the DGP was compelled to say about this matter in regard to Bihar....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasad ji, please sit down. What will you do by standing. Whatever you have to say you can say that only after my permission. Every Member has right to express his views in the House. He is exercising his right, he is speaking only after giving notice. I too said that his notice is with me and he is speaking. Raghuvansh Prasad ji, if you want to speak, I will give you also an opportunity to speak. But if you continue to interrupt, I will not give you any chance.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the DGP has given statement in 'Prabhat Khabar' dated 20 November that the limit has been crossed on 21 November a statement was published in 'Hindustan' daily that 18 percent of Police Personnel are dishonest. In 'Dainik Jagaran' dated 21 January, it was published that Minister have beelined in jail to touch the feet of Shabuddin, the head of the criminals. I would not like to take the name of hon'ble Member....(Interruptions) Even, Supreme of RJD visited jail to touch his feet....(Interruptions). When Excise Minister said such things against DGP Public expressed its ire by throwing shoes and chappals..(Interruptions)

12.18 hrs.

At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Shri Ram Prasad Singh came and stood on the floor near the Table

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell about the observation made by Patna High Court on Bihar Government. The news item was published in 'Hindustan' dated 15 July, 2003 under the caption. 'Sharm Nahin Aati hai Bihar Sarkar Ko', on 19th July, Patna High Court said....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Ram Prasad Singh ji, you are not going to be benefitted in any way by coming here. You may suffer loss. Go back to your seat. Please go back to your seat.

12.19 hrs.

At this stage, Hon'ble Member, Shri Ram Prasad Singh went back to his seat

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, High

Court said to Chief Secretary on 24th October that to tell the ruling party not to harass the poor people 'Garibo ka katiyaam na kare'. The Rabri Government's Ministers would be summoned 'Mantri talab kiye jayege'...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr Speaker, Sir, discussion cannot be held in this way. If you want the discussion it can be asked under rule. How could such a long discussion take place in the Zero Hour?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you about the occupation of the land of a Harijan forcibly by Shri Sita Ram Yadav...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : A discussion can be held on it. You may ask for discussion. A discussion on this matter can be held. I will keep this issue before the BAC and all the Members can take part in the discussion.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all right.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chandra Shekhar ji, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad wants to speak for a minute.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has not given the notice.

MR. SPEAKER : You can participate in the discussion.

SHRI KIRTI ZHA AZAD : Sir, I would like to associate myself with him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed you to speak only one minute.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a State matter. A DGP was removed over there, against which a privilege notice of Shrimati Renu Kumari of his party is pending. Political people are being abused, the Government is of lumpens, 80 percent of police Personnel are thieves...(Interruptions)

When such a statement was made, he was segregated therefrom and he is in Collusion with Ranveer Sena there. All the criminals of Bihar are making statements in his favour in Bihar and here also. He is prima-facie guilty as per CBI investigation...(Interruptions) He is guilty. This action is being taken as he is guilty. The criminals are making favourable statement for him in Bihar and here also...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Chandra Shekhar, the hon. former Prime Minister will speak.

12.21 hrs.

(I) Re : Detention of Shri Prakash Singh Badal, former Chief Minister of Punjab

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I would like to raise an issue with heavy heart. Shri Prakash Singh Badal and his son are languishing in prison in Punjab and every day the news of their maltreatment in jail are reported. One hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs herself had visited them and she is an eyewitness to it. A new tendency to settle personal scores with a view to take revenge in politics is increasing in our country and there is a need to curb this tendency. Badal is not the person who could have fled from the country. I don't know whether he is in possession of four thousand crore or twenty thousand crore rupees but I don't find the charges levelled against him reportedly in newspapers are credible. I feel that we are turning less and less sensitive to other's sufferings. Yesterday some Members were talking about the need to release Shri Vaiko or at least to allow him to attend the proceedings of the House. I had heard that the Government propose to repeal POTA. Still more than a year has passed since Vaiko has been in jail. These things don't evoke any response from us. An engineers was killed in Bihar recently. These issues was not discussed in the House. If our political colleagues and veteran politicians keep on behaving like this, the parliamentary convention can not be carried on. I shall be grateful if you intervene in this matter.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : We are also associating with what Shri Chandra Shekhar said.

MR. SPEAKER : You are also permitted to associate in this matter.

[Translation]

DR. ADK Jayaseelan ji, you speak.

MR. SPEAKER : This issue would be taken up in the BAC and then a discussion will be allowed to take place on the subject here.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Sir, I would like to submit that the Chief Ministers of Punjab and

Tamilnadu be apprised of the sentiment of the House as has been expressed by hon. Chandra Shekharji...*(Interruptions)*
Hon. Badalji and his son who is also an MP are being maltreated in jail...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI J. S. BRAR (Faridkot) : But, Sir, the hon. House must know what are the facts. I would like to speak on that.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You ask for initiating discussion on this subject. I will allow holding the discussion on it.

SHRI J. S. BRAR : It is not a matter discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a matter of discussion. Jayaseelanji, I am allowing you to speak, you start the discussion....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Jayaseelan, you can start your speech I have permitted you to speak.

[Translation]

What Shri Jayaseelan speaks, only that will go on record.

[English]

SHRI J. S. BRAR : Sir, I want to state a small thing.

[Translation]

The action taken against the former Chief Minister of Punjab has been taken as per directive of the Court. The Government has not arrested him. Rather he has been sent in jail as per the Court's directions and action against his family...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Jayseelanji, why don't you speak.

SHRI J. S. BRAR : The case against him is related to large scale corruption misusing his political office. If the Court punishes him.

[English]

We believe in the Court and law should take its own course.

[Translation]

It is wrong to say that it is a case of political vendetta. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am of the opinion that the action against him

has been taken after conducting thorough investigation into the matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. A. D. K. JAYASEELAN (Tiruchendur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government and the entire House...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more on this subject will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in context to the issue raised by hon. Chandra Shekharji and the reaction thereon by Shri Jagmit ji, I would only like to say that the latter has talked of the Court and has said that the matters is subjudice and is proceeding as per the directive of the Court. However the issue raised by the hon. Chandra Shekharji has nothing to do with Court, he raised the issue of facilities being provided to them in jail. Hon. Chandra Shekharji had mentioned that I had visited there. I would like to say that I went there in my capacity as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs as these complaints reached to me and Sukhbeer Singh Badal is a Member of Rajya Sabha and Prakash Singh Badal is the former Chief Minister and a former MP. When I visited them in Patiala jail I found that both the convicts father and son were kept in separate cells alongwith the convicts given capital punishment. However when the matter was raised and the chairman of Rajya Sabha also intervened in the matter, both the accused were brought together. However, the main issue was that earlier there was no ban on the prisoners like the other Ministers of Akli Dal previously in jail, to meet with their relatives and friends. Rather there was a written notice which mentioned that Sukhbeer Singh Badal and Prakash Singh Badal would only be allowed to meet with friend and relatives on Tuesday and Fridays for an hour or so. Both the prisoners, father and the son and the son had not been allowed to meet with anybody and when I inquired from the Jail Superintendent in his office, he replied in affirmative about the restriction barring them to meet any other prisoner ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J. S. BRAR : It is absolutely false...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : It has been said by jail Superintendent...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J. S. BRAR : I dare say that I will resign from my

Lok Sabha seat if it is proved that another prisoner in the past has been given that much facilities in jail which have been given to them...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

This is wrong. He has been given all the privileges. He has been given geyser, he has been given heater and he has been given a cot specially made for him...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

They are being allowed to meet other persons as per the laws governing the prisoners. It is absolutely false. We have also visited other jails. Hon. Chandra Shekharji has himself been in that condemned cell. However, I would like to apprise hon. Chandra Shekharji that he would be surprised to see the kind of facilities given there that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, later Captain Amrinder Singh said the same things that have been mentioned by him. He said that they get coca-cola, pepsi and potato chips to eat...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

..*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI J. S. BRAR : She is not right. Five Ministers of our country went to meet him in jail and all of them have given statements...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. See Shri Raghuvansh Prasad has also taken his seat, why don't you.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the facilities about which he is talking...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice for adjournment...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Vilas, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has the right to speak in the House and, whenever she wants, can also make a statement. She is making a statement. If you have any

objection, you can always object and speak against what was said in the statement. However, let the Minister complete her statement because she is on her legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J. S. BRAR : She is making a political statement that is one-sided.

MR. SPEAKER : It may be a political statement, but you can always oppose it politically.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, I would like to have my say...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Capt. Amrinder also mentioned the facilities which Shri Jagmeet ji is talking about. He stated that they get Cola, Pepsi and Potato Chips. I am speaking about the things which I inquired from the Jail Superintendent and not because both of them have mentioned them. He stated that a notice has been displayed that they can meet for an hour only on Tuesday and Friday. He also stated that they cannot meet other prisoners... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You must allow her to speak, when I have permitted her to speak. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : They can not meet other prisoners. Only the Father and son have been imprisoned together...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, there is nothing to speak now. She is on her legs and please allow her to speak. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Shri Tohraj also went with us he wanted to go inside. He is a member of Parliament but he was told that he could not go inside as they have information regarding four people only. Therefore, he remained outside for about 1-1½ hour. He said that he was not even offered a chair to sit. Such an ill-treatment was meted to him. No court states about the treatment...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The floor of the House should not be used in this fashion...(Interruptions) We would like to have our equal say on this...(Interruptions) How can she raise it on the floor of the House?...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : How is the Parliament involved in this?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : How is the Government of India involved in this?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point raised by Shri Jagmeet ji...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How can it be done?

[Translation]

SHRI J. S. BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as Sushma ji is speaking, therefore, I may please be allowed to speak after her....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Jagmeet ji has given logic about the Court's action but the Court does not decide the treatment given in jails. It is really inappropriate if such an ill-treatment is being given and a restriction is being imposed that they can meet Shri Badal only on Tuesday and Friday and will not be allowed to meet other prisoners. We are talking about this ill-treatment. Court is not putting any impediments in it...(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South, Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, emergency is being imposed in the jail. Any one can meet Shri Shahabuddin in jail but not to Shri Badal. It is inappropriate. Shahabuddin is enjoying all relaxations in the jail, he can meet 100 persons in a day but nobody can meet Shri Badal. What is this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our submission is that every prisoner should be given good treatment as per the rules and regulations of the jail. There is no two opinion that any politically motivated action should not be taken against him. Is the Minister informed of what is happening there? We can reply to it. Can the floor of the House be used in this way? She is Parliamentary Affairs Minister, that is why she is given permission to speak, to raise

such an issue. Is it appropriate? We can reply to what she is asking. What Shri Chandra Shekhar has stated should be implemented on Shri Laloo Prasad in Bihar also. It should be implemented in Tamil Nadu and Punjab also. Is it appropriate to use the House in such a manner to raise such type of a question? We do not have information. It is a state matter and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs herself is raising this issue and using the House for political purpose but we are not being allowed to speak. It is inappropriate...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No more discussion on this issue. I go to the next Member now.

DR. A.D.K. Jayaseelan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted anybody.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): Sir, I want to make one point. Hon. Chandra Shekharji raised two issues in this House in a very responsible manner. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs reacted to the issue of Shri Badal and his son. I would like to know through you from the Minister as to what is her reaction on the issue of Shri Vaiko ... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : All Members are trying to bring him here...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Jayaseelan, you make your statement. The next Member is Shri P. Mohan.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all want that he should come here and we have given our signatures for approval in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If the Minister wants to make a statement on the issue of Shri Vaiko, she is free to do so. I cannot force her to make a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have no problem with it if she makes a statement on the issue of Shri Vaiko also.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank Shrimati Sushma Swaraj for having expressed her concern for Shri Prakash Singh Badal and his son. I want to know why she said nothing about Shri Vaiko, a Member of this House; Shri Rajo Singh, a Member of this House; and Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav, a Member of the Upper House, when he was in jail. I request the Minister to kindly brief the House as to what was done in those cases?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member has asked a straight question and the Minister wants to reply to it. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Parliamentary Affairs Minister has some responsibility. I may tell the members of Parliament...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down. You must listen to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may tell the members of Parliament...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you must listen to the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs whether she took any initiative to see how the then Government of Uttar Pradesh treated Shri Raghuraj Pratap Singh who had been the Cabinet Minister and the Member of Uttar Pradesh Assembly when he was booked under POTA. I would like to know her reaction in this regard...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, various members of Parliament named different members and asked whether I went to see them. First of all I would like to clarify that it was not that I, being the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, went to see Mr. Badal on my own...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Then, why did you make a statement here?...(Interruptions) Sir, why did she make a statement here?...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : No, Sir, this is not the way...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : If the question has been raised, let me explain the things. Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal is a sitting MP of Rajya Sabha. His wife met the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and complained him. Then Chairman, Rajya Sabha called me and said that she wanted to raise the matter in the House. That's why he wanted that I being the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, should go to Patiala. Being Speaker of the House, had you directed me or even today if you direct me to go to see someone, I will certainly obey you...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : How shall we come to know as to who is right and who is wrong...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Chairman, Rajya Sabha directed me and I went to Patiala on his direction...(Interruptions) I am in charge of the Parliamentary Affairs of both the Houses.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, enough discussion has taken place on this subject. Now, Shri P. Mohan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri P. Mohan, you may make your submission.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Let her do politics outside the House and not inside the House...(Interruptions)

DR. A. D. K. JAYASEELAN : Sir, please allow me also to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Jayaseelan, I gave you a chance. I

called your name. But you did not speak. I asked you to speak, but you did not speak. Why did you sit down? While Shri Palanimanickam was standing, he asked you to sit down, and you sat down. Why did you sit down? You should have spoken at that time.

Now, let the other Members speak. Let the other notices be also taken up.

DR. A. D. K. JAYASEELAN : Sir, please give me a chance to speak. I would not take more than two minutes. My matter is very urgent and important...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri P. Mohan, please sit down. Let Dr. Jayaseelan make his submission. After that, I will call your name.

Nothing will go on record except the submission of Dr. A.D.K. Jayaseelan.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Sir, Shri Vaiko is the respected Member of the House and is also a Member of his party. Therefore you ought to direct him to look into it...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may meet me in my Chamber. We will consider this issue subjectively. Now you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. A. D. K. JAYASEELAN : Sir, through you, I want to bring to the attention of the entire august House and the Government a very important matter. There are large scale human rights violations taking place in Maldives and Malaysia against some Indian workers who have gone from the State of Tamil Nadu seeking employment. Recently, an employee by name Saravanan who was hailing from Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu was taken into custody on a fabricated case by the Maldivian Police. He was tortured by them. He died in the police custody, and his body was disposed of in Maldives itself.

Sir, he was the only bread winner for his family. His aged parents are shocked and bewildered.

Sir, one more person by name Kamalahasan is still in the police custody there in Maldives and his fate is also not known.

Similarly, there is another shocking incident. There are eight innocent Tamil youth languishing behind bars and are likely to face death sentence in Malaysia. It is also very serious matter. They went there for employment. But now they are implicated in a false case. They have been put behind bars. They do not have money to defend themselves, to fight their cases. They do not have any legal aid.

Sir, I think, it is the duty of the Central Government to come to the aid of these people who are languishing there. Because of lack of money, they should not be given the death penalty. Therefore, Sir, I once again plead again with the Government on behalf of the leader of my party who is the leader of Tamils all over the world, Dr. Kalaignar to rescue these youths who are languishing in Maldives and Malaysia...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Sir, please permit me to make a small submission today...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have told you that your information is under my consideration, and I will let you know about that.

12.41 hrs.

[English]

(ii) **Re : Need to take measures for protecting the interests of the textile industry in the country**

*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the acute problem that is being faced by the textile sector of this country. Government of India is allowing indiscriminately the export of all varieties of cotton and cotton yarns which is nothing but a dastardly act as it would seriously hamper the interests of the weaving sector. Both handloom and powerloom industry would be seriously hurt by this his indiscriminate act of the Centre in not plugging the export of cotton and cotton yarn that is required for the sustenance of these two sectors. Free export of cotton and cotton yarn has given rise to steep price increase. I also urge upon the Union Government to rescind immediately the 10 per cent levy as CENVAT on finished products that affect yarn and weaving industry both. I urge upon the Union Government to forthwith withdraw the imperative need to furnish 'C' form in small units which ensure committed price increase. There must be an immediate ban on the indiscriminate exports of cotton and cotton yarn that will cut into the vitals of our textile economy. There is also a need to the setting up of cotton yarn banks of benefit the small weavers to carry on with handloom and powerloom.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also submitted Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : This is a very serious and a very important matter. I request the hon. Minister to kindly take note of this.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I will definitely inform the Minister concerned regarding this.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the anti-national Maoist activities taking place in India-Nepal border areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Because of it, India-Nepal border has become very sensitive. Large scale smuggling of explosive materials and sophisticated weapons is taking place through Nepal in that area. The whole region has become sensitive because of riots in certain areas of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and also due to shelter given to anti national elements by certain people's representatives. An hon'ble Member have Mentioned the report of Ex. DGP of Bihar, wherein serious allegations have been levelled against an hon'ble Member of the House. The report submitted to Bihar Government also speaks about various criminal activities including his links with the ISI, the Pakistani intelligence agency...(Interruptions)

It is serious thing if a DGP of Bihar levels the allegation regarding link of senior Member of the House with the intelligence agency of Pakistan, this issue relates to the issue of national security. Government of India should get this matter inquired and any Member of the House is found involved in anti-national activities...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : This allegation is quite baseless, it should be removed from the record...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will remove all the things which are unconnected with the notice.

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Sir, the situation in certain areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has become sensitive only

because of protection provided to such elements, therefore notice be taken of this fact and action be taken against those elements...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Today is the birthday of Mohan Rawale ji, therefore, let him speak.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I wish to congratulate him. Many many happy returns of the day.

MR. SPEAKER : I also would like to congratulate him.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the House. I am very happy today as two of my sisters and one of my brothers have become Chief Minister, this is my birthday gift.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, now Shri Mohan Rawale is congratulating them. In the light of that, now are withdrawing your congratulations which you gave to him.!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, may I make the position clear? Outside this Chamber, I met the hon. Chief Ministers; I congratulated each one of them. I only said that coming in a procession and sitting in the front benches is not looking good. I am only talking of the tradition of the House and nothing else.

I have given them very best wishes. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was wrong in understanding that. There was no question of criticising them. They have won a great victory for themselves. Although I am unhappy that they have won, I congratulate them. They have got the people's mandate. Naturally people have expectations from them. I am not withdrawing it. I am still maintaining my congratulations. Shrimati Swaraj was wrong in understanding that.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is also the birthday of the Leader of the Opposition Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. I wish to congratulate her.

I would like to raise a serious matter. When the House was discussing Bihar, you had said that the debate should be conducted in peaceful manner. At that time all the Members listened to and complied with that. Only one or two Members were agitated, but all the other Members listened to you calmly. But today the leader of Samajwadi Party, who is also the Member of Parliament..*...(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this allegation is totally baseless...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Please listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra) : He is stating the truth...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : What are they saying...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is quarrel among sons of the soil. I only demand my right own state...(Interruptions). At least in our own state, we would get priority. In all the states, natives of that state should get priority...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Sir, how can it go on record?....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It has been reported in the newspapers, but I do not know whether he is in possession of facts or not.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawale, have you made enquires regarding what has been reported in newspapers? Do you know whether he said such things?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If it is not so, it will not go in record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : We will not not remain quiet when he uses such language ...(Interruptions). We will not remain quiet ...(Interruptions)...* If he says such things how can we remain silent...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have full respect for Mulayam Singh ji...(Interruptions). I would only like to say that this fight is between sons of the soil...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mohan Rawale ji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would only

like to say that the quarrel is between sons of the soil...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have permitted Shri Akhileshji to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the agitation of Shiv Sena was limited to Mumbai...(Interruptions) Not a single Bihari of Mumbai was touched and none of them have left Mumbai as a result of agitation...(Interruptions) Why is he defaming?...(Interruptions) They are vitiating the atmosphere...(Interruptions). They give provocative speeches ...*...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Rawale ji, you have introduced your issue before the House, now you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rawale ji mentioned about him. When discussion on Assam, Maharashtra and Bihar was going on in this August House, I had quoted 'Day After' magazine wherein Shri Bala Saheb Thackeray has been reported as saying that he drive out both bhaiyya's and Biharis from the land of Maharashtra ...*(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : It is not that...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : What are you saying? ...*(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Akhilesh Singh Ji, he has nothing more to say, therefore you may continue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Baba Saheb Thackeray has vitiated the atmosphere...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he never said those things ...*(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Akhilesh ji do you want to say anything?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Baba Saheb Thackeray did not say any such thing. Biharis are our brothem...(Interruptions).

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Mr. Speaker, Sir,...*(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the question of our sustenance. This is my demand... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had quoted 'Day After' magazine that....*(Interruptions)

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they should apologise...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You need not enter into argument with each other.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are the party leader, at least you should Understand.

As per Zero Hour rules, you have to put forth your views within two minutes. No one need to comment on the views expressed. He said what he had to say. Even I do not know, whether what he said was true or otherwise. Though I have read reports to this effect the newspapers. That is why I told him that he can raise the issue only if he has some proof and not otherwise. Now that subject has been raised. Now Kunwar Akhilesh Singh ji would speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, are all these statements, made by the hon. Members, going on record?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Unless it is authenticated, it will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : More so, it is coming from the Chair...(Interruptions)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : I said that I also had read it in the Press.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am sorry, it cannot go on record...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not said that he has made a statement.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It is enough to indicate that such a statement has been made. Please do not do that.

MR. SPEAKER: That is in the Press and nothing more than that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh, if you do not want to speak, then I will call the name of the next speaker.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have closed this issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, let it not be part of the records...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you that it need not be taken on record if it is not authenticated.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, there are no rules to govern the 'Zero Hour'. We understand that. But that does not give licence to any Member to say anything against anyone...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I agree to that.

Shri Akhilesh, I do not want you take the time of the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I have called your name.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have done away with that subject. Now no discussion would be held on that subject.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have put an end to this subject. There would be no further discussion on this. Those words which are not true will be removed from the records.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, during the last one year, now and then, through newspaper reports, a very high rocking scam in Delhi, known to be the DDA scam, has been exposed. Not only officials were removed, but no less than a judge of the High Court had to resign because of this.

In the primary report it has been brought out the way a sitting judge of the High Court manipulated the judgement in collusion with the interested parties and also had links with the administrative personnel of the DDA. Apart from this, it has been reported in the newspapers that there were other links as well. I would not like to go into that because I do not have authenticated documents with me.

Sir, after the scam was exposed, I gave several notices to this effect in this House. The Minister concerned did not come forward to make a statement in the House about the state of affairs in this matter. I was told that just on the eve of the Delhi elections, last week, the main culprit in the case had been singularly reinstated and others have been allowed to go scot-free. The House would like to know as to what is the link and what are the reasons for this? I gave notices on this many times. Today, I have given notice on this subject with the objective that the Urban Development Minister must come to the House and explain as to who are the beneficiaries of this scam.

Sir, several lists appeared in the newspapers; several lists appeared in the internet and several names also had figured. I would not like to take any name till I hear the official version of the Government. After this scam came to light, everyone in the country, particularly the Media demanded that the Government should clear its position on this issue. The Government, on all matters, on the insistence and pressure of the opposition comes forward with a statement. But in this case, surreptitiously the Ministry of Urban Development is avoiding the issue and is not coming forward with a comprehensive statement.

Sir, I was further told that a few investigating officers, who initiated the process of investigation, of this case has

been shifted, transferred and changed. I said the other day, CBI stands for Central Bureau of Investigation. But now the CBI has assumed two connotations for itself. One, if there is involvement of the ruling authority in a case, then the CBI assumes the connotation 'Clear Before Investigation'.

If the involvement is of the Opposition, they will charge it before the investigation. That is how the CBI is working. I demand the Urban Development Minister to state the full facts of the scam to the House including the process of investigation, who began the investigation, who are doing the job and so on. All these details should be spelt out including the link of the former judge of the Delhi High Court, Shri Mukherjee who had to tender his resignation. All these things should be made clear to the House. I demand the Minister for Urban Development to make a statement on this matter. I think he is missing now. Today morning, I drew your attention as today is the Question day for the Urban Development Minister. I gave notice to the Urban Development Minister but he is avoiding it..(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Sir, my issue may also be taken up...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say something...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, everyone would not speak.

...(Interruptions)

12.56 hrs.

(iii) **Re : Need to relax norms for procurement of paddy in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar**

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have fixed the minimum support price of paddy at rupees 550 per quintal and different policies have been adopted for the purchase of paddy by the Union Government in many States. The Central agencies of the Union Government are directly purchasing paddy in many States, however in States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar purchase of paddy is being made by State agencies. The Union Government have not as yet given any relaxation in the norms for the purchase of paddy in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar although in many States where the Central agencies of the Government are making purchases, relaxation has been given in the norms fixed for the purchase of paddy as a result of which the purchase of paddy in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is very slow which has created acute resentment amongst the farmers.

When BJP Government was in Uttar Pradesh and State agencies were making purchases then relaxation was given in the norms fixed for purchase of paddy but today

discrimination is being committed against the farmers of U.P. and Bihar as the Samajwadi party is in the power in Uttar Pradesh and RJD Government is in Bihar. No relaxation is being given in the norms fixed for purchase of paddy in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Therefore, through you, I would urge upon the Government that the way Union Government are giving relaxation in the norms of purchasing paddy in other States through its agencies, similarly, relaxation should be given in the purchase of paddy in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my notice is also on the same subject....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received notices for Adjournment Motions from different Members.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have received six notices for Adjournment Motions and I have disallowed all of them. But I have decided to permit Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to speak.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, I have given notice on a very important matter. It is about the National Highway Authority of India and the murder of a person. I will take only one minute to place my views... (Interruptions) Sir, this is a matter which we believe the House should take up immediately and we want a statement from the Government with regard to the affairs of the National Highway Authority of India. Serious allegations of mismanagement of funds, wastage of funds and improper quality of work are coming out. But there is no response from the Government and the situation has been such that even after a letter was written to the hon. Prime Minister with a request not to divulge the name, the engineer's name was divulged. Somehow it came out. It went to the Ministry from the Prime Minister's Office. We do not know who is responsible. Ultimately, he was murdered. This was what was apprehended by him. There were serious allegations and charges against the functioning of this project.

Now, it is being said everywhere that this is a dream project of the hon. Prime Minister. Throughout the country, there are signposts and posters about it. I am not trying to minimise the commitment of the Prime Minister to this project. The point is, he is talking of his dream project. But how is it being implemented? The allegations of corruption and mismanagement are being kept under the carpet and no action is being taken. We expected that the Government will come out with a statement immediately after things came out. Earlier also, we had mentioned it in the House. I want to raise

it specifically so that we may get a reply from the Government and I demand that this should be done....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Hon. Minister of Agriculture should express his view. Paddy is not being purchased(Interruptions). This problem has been deliberately created in Uttar Pradesh. It is a very serious issue....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Hannan Mollah, your name will also be associated with him.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue....(Interruptions) Please ask the hon. Minister of Agriculture to give statement....(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : It is a very serious issue.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Hon. Minister of Agriculture should give reply to this....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you interrupting when the hon. Minister has risen to speak.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to look into the matter of purchase of paddy which has been raised by Akhilesh Singh ji and Shri Ramji Lal Suman(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shri Ram Vilas Paswan would speak, nobody else.(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj) : The Ministry of Agriculture does not deal with the procurement of paddy. This matter relates to the Ministry of food, therefore he should be asked to look into this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Concerned Minister would look into this matter.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir my name is also there.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, your name would also be associated.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : I also support it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of Adjournment Motion that 7th November would be remembered as black day' in the history of the country. On that day an attack was made not only on the journalists and Editors of the Newspapers, 'The Hindu' and 'Murosoli' but it was also attack on the freedom of press in Tamilnadu. It was a very unfortunate day for our democracy. We talk of four pillars in our democracy. Press is fourth one. Hon. Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, leader of opposition and intellectuals of the country criticised the attack made on the freedom of Press by the Tamil Nadu Government.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram) : The matter is *sub judice*... (Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : The matter is *sub judice*... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We are supporting Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : You are speaker. This matter some way or other relates to the hon. speaker. We you therefore urge upon you to look into this matter as speaker so that freedom of Press may not be taken away.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at
four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Rattan Lal Kataria.

- (i) **Need to develop Adibadri in Ambala Parliamentary Constituency, Haryana, as a tourist resort**

[Translation]

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (Ambala) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Adibadri in Sadhaura Assembly constituency in my Parliamentary Constituency, Ambala has been identified as the origin place on River Saraswati. Even Satellite pictures have also confirmed that river Saraswati has originated from Adibadri and passing through Kurukshetra, Pehwa, Rajasthan flowed down into the sea in Gujarat. Hon. Minister of Tourism and Culture himself has visited this place. I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government to resurrect this river. And the schemes evolved by the Government to develop this spot. Hon. Minister had also reiterated his promise of developing this spot on the occasion of 'Geeta Jayanti Utsav' held on 1st December, 2003 in Kurukshetra. I would request the hon. Minister to give a statement in the house and to take action immediately in this regard.

- (ii) **Need to provide adequate facilities for the benefit of ST students in Navodaya Vidyalaya at Borkadi in Gujarat**

SHRI MANSINH PATEL (MANDVI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the dilapidated condition of Navodaya Vidyalaya located in Borkadi in tehsil Vyara under my Parliamentary constituency. This school does not have a boundary wall around the building, nor does it have any play ground, lab etc. there is no arrangement for computer education. Promising Children of tribals study in this school. Lack of these amenities is leaving adverse impact on the education in this school. Sir, through this august House, I urge upon the Government that all kinds of facilities be provided in this school so that tribal children could get proper education.

- (iii) **Need to expedite four-laning of Jhansi-Lakhnadaun part of National Highway No. 26**

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (SAGAR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after extending National Highway No. 26 in my Parliamentary Constituency, Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) the Union Government have declared it as 'North South corridor lane four line Express Highway'. Due to torrential rains this year, the road conditions from Jhansi to Lakhnadaun have become very bad and consequently it takes a lot of time and vehicles get damaged. This is the most important highway linking northern part of the country with that of the Southern part. The stretch from Kms. 132/800 to 215 of the National Highway No. 26 is under the National Highway Development

Authority. The Public Works Department has been entrusted with the work of widening it to four lane till February 2005 and Rs. 33.28 in the year 2002-2003 and again Rs. 33.28 in the current financial year have given to the public works department to streamline the traffic in this stretch of the highway.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to expedite the work of widening this highway to four lane keeping in view its utility and importance.

- (iv) **Need to provide the benefit of rehabilitation package to the families settled in forest areas in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

[English]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Sir, there are more than 4000 post-78 forest encroacher families who are literally starving in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Sixty per cent of these encroachers are pre-78 but the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has wrongly marked them as post-78.

In July, 2002 their land and crops were destroyed. They have not been given benefit of the Rehabilitation Package granted by the Government of India.

- More than 10,000 students are dropped from the schools because their parents do not have the means to bear expenses of books, but fare etc.
- *Katchcha* houses are worn out and broken because they cannot get the minimum forest products like canes, bamboos, ballis etc.
- Children are living on wild fruits, roots, sometimes boiled rice only.
- DRM jobs in the forest are no longer available. The provision stores stopped providing them credit with the result they do not have the means of getting the essential commodities for health and hygiene.
- Despite the Government of India's direction, BPL survey has not been conducted here.

They are living in starvation, poverty, distress, and in inhuman condition. I would request the Government to take immediate steps to reach the benefits of the Rehabilitation Package to the people.

- (v) **Need to take concrete steps to mitigate the problem of unemployment in the country**

[Translation]

SHRI BHERULAL MEENA (Salumber) : Mr. Deputy

Speaker, Sir, I have also raised this matter even earlier also but I am raising it again as no action has been taken by the Government in this regard.

Unemployment is continuously increasing since the Government have made disinvestment in Government undertakings under the policy of economic liberalisation and consequently have given VRS to the employees or retrenched them. The youth are not getting jobs despite being educated. Recruitments are being made in the disinvested undertakings by the management arbitrarily. It is due to this that the atmosphere of anarchy has been created in the country and people are not getting jobs easily. Employees working even after disinvestment are being harassed by the new management and they are being compelled to quit their job. Private entrepreneurs are utilising the industries only for their personal benefits, they are not concerned with the country or the employees working in these industries. As a worker representative, I with full responsibility, would like to draw the attention of the Government that despite disinvestment, the labourers are performing their duties with full dedication. Therefore, it is important to have Government intervention and monitoring in these companies, I therefore, urge upon the Government that all the above facts be considered seriously and measures immediately be taken to eliminate the problem of unemployment.

- (vi) **Need to prepare a perspective plan for the all round development and to check recurring drought in Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh.**

[English]

SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU (Anantapur) : Sir, Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh receives the lowest rainfall. Agriculture is the only source of livelihood for the people in the district. There are no industries, small or big, in the district to provide alternative source of livelihood.

Every year drought forces thousands of agricultural workers to migrate to far off places in search of employment. This pathetic condition needs more than routine drought relief work. The Central team, which recently visited the district, also felt the need to evolve a permanent survival strategy for the rural poor of the district.

I request the Government to dispatch a team of experts consisting of sociologists, economists, etc. under the supervision of a professional body to study the conditions and resource potential of the district and make suitable suggestions to launch such projects which will tackle the problem of rural unemployment once for all. Now, it is high time the Government thought of diversification of agriculture in the district in to other sectors like food processing, silk garments making etc.

I also request the Government to take up the matter with the Planning Commission to prepare a perspective plan for the overall development of the district which, due to adverse natural conditions, has been placed at an agriculturally disadvantaged position.

- (vii) **Need to provide adequate funds for de-silting of Varuna river in Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh with a view to check recurring floods**

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my Parliamentary constituency, Phulpur, thousands of villages get submerged due to inundation of Varuna river during rainy season every year. During this year i.e. 2003, thousands of Handiya Tehsil under Phulpur got submerged during rainy season. Thousands of cattle died. Five- six persons died due to the collapse of their houses. Thousands of houses get destructed and many families became homeless, their belonging viz. beds, food etc. were drowned. Due to water logging in the fields crops cannot be harvested and wheat cannot be sown. There is no fodder for the animals.

Every year water logging takes place in the absence of de-silting of Varuna river. The river flows from Phulpur, Allahabad to Varanasi so its de-silting is very necessary.

I urge upon the Government that funds be provided by the Union Government itself or through World Bank during 2003-2004 so that river Varuna could be de-silted before the rainy season of 2004.

- (viii) **Need to set up proposed Navodaya Vidyalaya in Manvat Taluka in Parbhani Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra**

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : The Government have taken decision to establish a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Gram Balsa, Taluka and district Parbhani in my constituency Parbhani. Some persons have taken stay order from the court against the acquisition of land which was allocated by the Government of Maharashtra for the said school, it may cause delay in the establishment of the school. Substantial land is available in Manavat Taluka of my constituency and the Government of Maharashtra is also willing to provide land there.

I, therefore, through this august House, urge upon the hon. Minister of Human Resources Development to issue directives for establishing Navodaya Vidyalaya in Manavat Taluka instead of Gram Balsa in my constituency Parbhani.

- (ix) **Need to constitute "Bundelkhand Development Autonomous Council" and provide funds to the Council for Enabling Development of Bundelkhand region**

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, U.P.) : Sir, along with the most backward districts Hamirpur and Mohaba in Bundelkhand of Uttar Pradesh districts of Banda, Chitrakut Dham, Jalaun, Jhansi and Lalitpur are also in the list of most backward districts. Even after around 55 years of independence, infrastructural facilities like power, communications, water, education, industry, agriculture, Railways required for social and economic development have not been provided to the people in these districts due to which this area of Uttar Pradesh is alienated from the other States of the country.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Prime Minister that a Bundelkhand Development Autonomous Council should be constituted comprising all the districts of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Sagar, Chhatarpur, Panna, Satna Bhind etc. districts of Madhya Pradesh an amount of Rs. 5000 crore be given to this autonomous council so that the basic infrastructure of Bundelkhand region could be developed.

- (x) **Need to withdraw restrictions imposed on Haj air-fare subsidy**

[English]

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has imposed several conditions on Haj air-fare subsidy. Those who pay income tax, those who go for Haj the second time or those who do not avail of the accommodation provided by the Haj Committee are now debarred from the said Haj subsidy. Thus, even one who pays a small or nominal income-tax is debarred. A tax-payer may also be taking his family for Haj. Women therefore, will suffer the most. Most poor people prefer to stay in free *musafir khanas* or 'Rubats' in the holy places. The conditions imposed are not justified and highly objectionable. Earlier, I had written twice to the hon. Prime Minister in this matter. These conditions will deprive a large number of persons from performing the religious function. There is considerable unrest and resentment against these conditions. It will also be appreciated that it is the duty of the Government to facilitate the people in performing their religious functions. Accordingly, the Government incurs huge legitimate expenditure in facilitating religious rituals of every section of the society.

I would request the Government to withdraw these conditions and make an immediate announcement to this effect.

(xi) Need to take steps to check increase in the price of Natural Gas following the dismantling of Administered Price Mechanism

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a group of Ministers (GOM) under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has considered the question of gas pricing. I would like to know the views taken on the recommendations made by the GOM and the steps taken, if any, so far to check the increase in the price of Natural Gas after dismantling of the Administered Price Mechanism.

(xii) Need to depute a Central team to review the rural development work in Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh) : Sir, the Union Government allot crores of rupees for the rural development, but the district administration does not follow the rules prescribed by the Union Government due to which the work of rural development which has to be carried out, is not being done. In my Parliamentary Constituency Pratapgarh new proposals have been formulated by rejecting the old proposals and no work is being done on the recommendations of MLA's and MPs though as per the norms of the Union Government it is necessary to seek the views and suggestions of these representatives of people.

Through this House, I urge upon the Government to immediately send a team to review the rural development work in Pratapgarh district.

14.22 Hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF
TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE
AND
TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2003-contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up items nos. 16 and 17 - Further discussion on the Statutory Resolution and further consideration of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

The time allotted was two hours and 27 minutes had already been taken. Now, the balance time is one hour and 33 minutes.

Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan.

SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Silvanga) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003 has been moved by the hon. Finance Minister further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 and the Expenditure-tax Act, 1987. It is amending certain provisions for the benefit of certain groups of people. In no way we can appreciate it. This Government is proclaiming itself that it is working for the development of India but they are just focussing upon the groups of people who are lobbying for certain concessions.

We can very easily find out from the very provision in which certain exemptions were given for ship-breaking. No doubt we can appreciate the feeling of the hon. Finance Minister when he said that in Gujarat, the industry is coming up and to compete in the competition of Karachi it is given. We appreciate that but at the same time, you kindly see how we are dealing with new Section 10 (b) (a) which gives a colour as if it is going to help the people, especially who are having the industry based upon the forest produce or any other handicrafts. If we read the Clause, you can very easily find out that the income-tax is deductible from such profits and gains of particular persons. The persons who are going to benefit are the class of people who are exporting and who are having 90 per cent and above export quality goods. We appreciate it but we would like to know whether the focus of the Government is upon the entrepreneurs, the focus of the people who are unemployed, who are going for handicrafts and who are utilising the materials which are available in the remote villages and forests. We would also like to know whether the income-tax deductions are being given to their production and creativity. We can very easily say 'no'. There is no class which wants to help the people. We know very well that 45 per cent of the software industry in India is being handled by the people who are entrepreneurs and small scale industry.

Even WIPRO could not compete with them. Such is the competition because the educated unemployed people, who are skilled, are ready to have their own small-scale industries and they are ready to have the proprietorship. They want to come up and compete with any industry, whether it is a multi-national company or any such other company. Is that type of focus given on this amendment? No. The amendment very clearly excludes the people who are suffering a lot in the villages but they are ready to earn more by way of getting some subsidy or some concession from the Government of India and the State Governments.

I can very easily explain how they were excluded by

[Shri E. M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

putting two clauses on focus. This is clause 3 wherein 10BA of the Income-tax Act is to be included, that is sub-clause 2, Explanation (e) says, "An industry employs twenty or more workers during the previous year in the process of manufacture or production." This gives a leeway for the people who are employing more than 20 people. That means, the people who are employing 19 people or who are self-employed or who are having a co-operative or who are employing only five persons or 10 persons, will not get this deduction.

In the same way, clause 7(d) says : "Export out of India shall not include any transaction by way of sale or otherwise, in a shop, emporium or any other establishment situated in India, not involving clearance of any customers station as defined in the Customs Act, 1962." This means even the Gram Udyog Bhavan or the Khadi Udyog Bhavan, the small people who are producing the materials but selling them to the foreigners or who want to oblige foreign orders cannot get it because they are selling in their own shop or in their own emporium. If such is the situation, how are we going to help the ordinary people who have got the handicraft skill, who have got the artistic mind, and who are ready to bring new things for the welfare of the country? No doubt, I am not telling that all the income-tax assesseees should be having this concession.

But the wages for the ordinary craftsman are going to be reduced if these clauses are not properly amended. These clauses give way only to the rich people who are trading by taking all our wood and having the craftsmen skill in lesser wages. They produce very beautiful things, handicrafts and sculptures which are very much having a good market in foreign countries. They are going to grab this situation. No doubt, there is a clause which says that if you are exporting for the purpose of trading, this exemption will not be there. But where are they going to export it? Are they going to gift it to the entire world? They are going to purchase it. They are going to have it. The buyers are going to have it just for trading outside the country. When they have gone out of the country, nobody can control it. But here we are putting a condition that if it is for trading, then this exemption will not be there. At the same time, we are allowing people who are having industry. In the name of industry, they are catching plenty of people in groups and they are getting all their skills in their own way. They are taking away all the timbers from the forest. They are utilising them and getting the profit. They are also getting deduction from income tax. Such is the thing happening.

We can easily find out this from the tables given in the Bill. They are now amended for the lesser percentage of tax.

Clause 9, Section 206C of the Income-Tax is amended. The table shows that the percentage of tax exemption in respect of alcoholic liquor for human consumption is going to decrease from 10 to down one. We are losing nine per cent. In regard to Tendu leaves, it is reduced from 15 per cent to five per cent. Then in case of timber obtained under a forest lease, it is decreased from 15 per cent to two-and-a-half per cent. In case of timber obtained by any mode other than under a forest lease, it is coming down to two-and-a-half per cent from five per cent.

Any other forest produce not being timber or tendu leaves from 15 per cent to two and one-half per cent and scrap from ten per cent to one per cent. I would like to ask why you have reduced so much for the timber. We are already having the forest wealth devastated by the local traders. They have already cut the timber, all the woods were wasted and we are not having the proper rates. So, forest wealth is stolen away. If such is the situation, then why have you reduced it from 15 per cent to one per cent or two and one-half per cent? With these things, in one way we are telling that if you are importing certain things, certain timber or any such thing from other countries, you are not going to get deduction for that particular production. The other countries' wealth can be brought here and other countries' timber can be brought here, but at the same time, our timber should not go out of the country which is the wealth of our country. But here, the vice-versa is happening. If a person is utilising foreign timber, then he is not going to get the deduction from income tax. But, at the same time, if he is utilising the local timber or if he is not at all using the local timber and if he wants to export the timber for the purpose of any such trading, then they are allowed and given the concession. This is totally topsy-turvy. It is against the development of the country and also the wealth of India is going to be totally stolen away by a certain group of people.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the way in which the hon. Minister is thinking to help the small-scale industries who are now suffering in the hands of this NDA Government. The small-scale industries already could not compete with others because of the tax and also the exemptions which are given to other companies. Corporates are getting a lot of financial help and other concessions, but the small-scale industries are getting less and less focus by the banks especially by our public sector banks. They are not ready to give help to small-scale industries. You can very easily look at the data to see how financial help is given to small-scale industries. They are dying, crying for help from the Government of India, but they are not getting any help. So, by this exemption, again, we

are going to put the small-scale industries into the coffin. We are allowing the people who are exploiting the artists and handicrafts people, who have got the skill, especially the village folks who are doing these jobs for very minimum wage. They are not going to get the help. But the people who are going to trade through their skill, they are going to get the profit and they are going to have the deduction even in the income-tax and other gains. So, when such a thing is happening. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister to have a new focus upon this and see that the amendment should be brought forward by the Government so that the small-scale industries who are employing less than 20 people are also benefited. The proprietors, small entrepreneurs who are working under the hon. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana or through other schemes, should have the deduction as they have to pay the income-tax. That type of encouragement should be given to each and every family of the villages. They are worried as to how they are going to live tomorrow. That is the situation now prevailing.

With these few words, I would like to comment upon only two other aspects, that is, regarding the deduction made in the wealth tax. I know very well that this Government is focussing upon the wealth tax also. They are exempted from paying the delayed payment and also the income-tax, wealth-tax payments by way of reducing the ratio percentage from one one-fourth to one per cent and, at the same time, they are also having less expenditure tax, from four per cent to one per cent. These are all in one way appreciable because the people who may not have the catch with the wind, may be helped by this reduction.

So, to sum up, the Government should have the feeling that when exemptions are given these should be beneficial for the growth of the industry, for the growth of the individual capacity, for the human resources and not for the exploitation of the human resources and the skill which was developed by the people of this nation for the past 50 years with their hard work.

With these few words, I would like to conclude.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Kirit Somaiya to speak now.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, please give me one minute. I want to draw your attention to the appalling conditions of the people who are working in ship-breaking industry in Gujarat. I will be very happy if the hon. Minister can also draw the attention of different Departments to this aspect. There are Supreme Court judgements in this regard. The labourers are working in

appalling conditions in the ship-breaking industry. The same is the case of Tendu leaf-pluckers. We have given an exemption to the Tendu leaf-pluckers. The Tendu leaf-pluckers are in the entire country constituting a large percentage. They have to be helped...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to welcome the hon'ble Finance Minister...*(Interruptions)* Recently, in the test match between Australia and India, Saurav Ganguly made a century and therefore he was declared the man of the match. My observation is that during the tenure of hon'ble Finance Minister, the foreign exchange reserve will cross 100 billion dollar within a few coming days and I would like to congratulate him for this century.

I would like to thank hon'ble Finance Minister for being considerate towards the refunds of honest tax payers. Infact the ordinance or the Bill which has been introduced is a part of budget.

[English]

It is a routine process.

[Translation]

Every year budget is presented and some different kinds of provision are included in it and later on some technical corrections are made in it in subsequent sessions but I would like to draw some attention towards the subject of refund mentioned in the bill. As I have said earlier, a newspaper has given a very good heading,

[English]

"Jaswant to resolve refunds row."

[Translation]

Refund has been the topic of discussion and cause of concern for the honest tax payer for the last 10-15 years. Senior citizens, salaried class people are those who pay income tax. Infact, tax is deducted from their salaries and pensions but they do not get refund in time. It takes 2-3 years to get refund. I want to congratulate hon'ble Finance Minister for declaring to the clear the backlog of cases of all refunds and infact, the backlog is almost clear. I would like to congratulate him on behalf of honest tax payers also. Another myth is that refund causes declines in the tax collection. We can see the tax collection of this year.

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[English]

The latest figures are in our hands.

[Translation]

It can be possible that the opposition may say that the ruling class talks about feel good factor but if we see the figures which we have got, we find that,

[English]

The net collection has growth by almost 18 percent that the previous year.

[Translation]

One good thing in this is that the corporate tax has increased by 31 percent which means,

[English]

India is on the move.

[Translation]

Today not only in India but in entire world brand India is being developed.

[English]

Thirty one percent growth in the industry and the corporate tax is a remarkable one.

[Translation]

When I tried to see as to what happened in these 50 years, I found that there are only 1-2 years in which corporate tax has grown in this way. The corporate sector gives tax only when it gets profits and gets profit when there is increase in their turn over. If the turnover increases then there is economic growth and employment opportunities also increase. The figures shows 17% growth and

[English]

The amongst is also not small.

[Translation]

Besides refund, I would like to draw attention towards one more point. I would like to tell hon'ble Finance Minister that I am supporting this Bill and I am going to conclude my speech after speaking on the matter of refund.

[English]

Why refund is generated?

[Translation]

You have done a very good task, what is the correction in this Bill?

[English]

There was a tendency being developed during the past few years with the Industry for parking their surplus funds with the Income Tax Department.

[Translation]

Corporate sector had developed a practice of keeping surplus money and giving more advance tax since the Government of India pay 10%, 11% and 8% interest. If refund is received after two years then what would be the other source than this to secure the money for two years. They used to get 8 to 9% tax free return. The hon. Finance Minister objected to it and many people opposed it. Many lobbies approached him. Newspaper were reporting different stories but the Finance Minister said nothing doing.

[English]

There will be only six percent interest on the refunds.

[Translation]

What will be the consequence. As I have said, this year also the tax growth has been adequate. I may read the figures.

[English]

Refunds to the tune of Rs. 19,550 crore have been disbursed during the first six to seven months.

[Translation]

But out of Rs. 19,554 crores, an amount of Rs. 14,287 crores have been given to the corporate as refund. The Corporates were abusing or misusing the funds? This amendments has been made to check this only. It seems to me that the entire House will support this.

[English]

We will not allow you to use the Government system.

[Translation]

Secondly, I would like to draw your attention towards the main subject.

[English]

Why so much refund is being generated? Let us study why, when, how and where.

[Translation]

There are different reasons why refund is generated. One is TDS, second is advance payment of tax, third is assessment tax and fourth Tax Authorities charge hotter tax. For this people make appeal. At some places, there is double taxation. I will simply appreciate the hon'ble Minister for doing a very good job. He has made one more announcement and I would like to draw attention towards that also. He and his department are going to move a proposal regarding refunds to the effect that if the tax payer will intimate his bank account to the department, he will neither have to go to the department nor will have to wait for 6 months for getting refund cheque and it will be directly credited to his bank account at the same juncture of tax return process.

I would like to submit to the hon'ble Finance Minister that he is not talking about stamp paper scam but he said that he is considering to demit that. In this way we should expedite the process of direct crediting of refund because we all know that the system is like this. The cheque lies with them for 6 to 12 months. Alongwith this I would like to draw your attention towards other thing also. We have to think as to

[English]

Why so much refund is generated? I would like to give only one figure about how much refund is generated. During the last six to seven years since 1996, the refund disbursement is almost 24 per cent or 25 per cent in few of these years.

[Translation]

We have to repay Rs. 6 crore to Rs. 8 crore if the growth collection is Rs. 32,000 crore. I feel that it is essential to study the system. Whatever may be taxation system.

[English]

There is a need to study the system.

[Translation]

You have taken a very good step. Secondly you are making effort so that the tax payer get refund at the earliest.

[English]

The third important point is to study why so much refund is generated. The system, which generates 25 per cent of the refund, needs to be studied and correct.

[Translation]

There are some reasons why refund is generated.

[English]

One is TDS. Second one is payment of advance tax. The third one is illegal parking of funds or abuse of parking of funds.

[Translation]

I would like to draw your attention towards fourth point also. While making study it came to my notice that while making payment of advance tax instalment on 15th March, the Government PSUs make extra payment of tax, hence we should implement accountability system in Government PSUs. Secondly, there is need to re-consider the TDS system. TDS should be there but in cases where more return is generated in TDS,

[English]

On that particular issue, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to do this. In today's scenario it is not a necessary step and there is no such emergency for it to be executed. But, I would request him to appoint some group or committee.

[Translation]

You had appointed Naresh Chandra Committee on two different subjects. I request you to appoint one small Committee as there is a need to study the entire system of refund.

Since 1995-96 there was total collection of Rs. 3 lakh 93 thousand crore out of which we had to refund back about 91,000 crore. It's a matter of advance tax, on 15th March we ask SSC to pay 100% Advance tax by 31st March.

[English]

Why should the date be fixed as 15 March? We can fix the date as 15 April and

[Translation]

after that if someone pays advance tax then

[English]

It will not only result in the reduction in the interest, but we should evolve a system so that it acts as a disincentive to a person who is paying more tax or parking his funds. There should be some sort of disincentive in the process also.

[Translation]

If you start this from corporate sector that the

[English]

last instalment will be made by 15 April

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[Translation]

and if any corporate sector pay advance tax then it will not get any interest on refund amount. Today since we have computerised system, the balance sheet of every company gets prepared by 5th April.

Finally, I would like to say that the Government have initiated a very healthy process. I request the Government to provide relief to the tax payer by making thorough study of the system.

SHRI C. N. SINGH (Machhlisahar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have risen to oppose the Taxation Laws (amendment) Bill, which has been presented today for passing. A Bill can be effective only if it is presented honestly, sincerely and efficiently and Government have the capability to enforce it. This Government has failed completely in the last four years. About Rs. 1,16,000 crore in taxes are lying idle as disputed and the Government are unable to recover it. So many disputes are there and Government are unable to dispose them off. In this scenario, if this money had been available, it would have been beneficial for development works.

I would like to quote the figures that at present 4610 case are pending with the Supreme Court, which the Government are unable to dispose. Similarly, 28,840 cases are pending with High Courts in various States. Their disposal also seems distant. At the same time more than 1.13 crore other disputed cases are there still to be disposed by the Government. With regard to taxes, I would like to say that officials impose huge amount in taxes which is later recovered from the tax payers. Then they are being provided concessions. Government are thus able to get only half the amount in taxes it would otherwise get. Therefore, I would like to say that Government ought to improve their efficiency first, the officials should be controller better. There is so much black money in the country, which the Government are unable to lay their hand on. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Finance Minister about the corrupt officials of his department and what action has been taken against them? Merely bringing Bills would not improve the efficiency of the Government. Government should first clean its own house, and hon'ble Finance Minister should initiate actions that would make us feel that there is some sort of Government in the country. In my opinion, there is large scale tax evasion in India. I would like to point out a few facilities that are being provided. The Bill is being introduced under pressure from Nordic Investment Bank. The shipping component is being provided special concession that interest would not be

charged on the goods being brought from outside. In my opinion, this is not appropriate. The Government want to give undue advantage to foreign banks and foreign powers, which is against our own interest. Therefore, I would like to request hon'ble Finance Minister to either withdraw the Bill or refer it to standing Committee on Finance for reconsideration. Foreign goods are coming in the country in huge quantities, and as Finance Minister, has he ever thought of increasing our own production and export particularly as we have so much qualified manpower. We should not import, on the contrary we should encourage exports. In the last four years we have seen that both Government and the Finance Ministry have failed, that is why I oppose the Bill and request the hon'ble Finance Minister to withdraw this Bill.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has claimed that he has given serious consideration to representations of various State Governments and business organisations. The Wealth Finance Bill, passed in 2003, ran into problems due to amendments made in it. To remove those problems, as per their claims, various State Governments and business organisations gave representations. They have also claimed that this Bill has been brought to implement the agreement made by the investment Bank with five nordic countries, viz., Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland and Iceland. Besides, concession has also been provided on the tax imposed on the income from selling wooden products. They have made claims about three things.

I would like to know from the hon'ble Finance Minister as to which State Governments and business organisations have given representations? The Bill was passed in March, 2003. Whether Government are so sensitive that immediately after the representations, it introduced the amendment? In case of matters relating to the poor and farmers, Government does not act even after representations and agitations but they are so sensitive to the demands of businessmen that they lost no time in bringing legislation. The distinction is too obvious. The Bill was passed in 2003, then representations were made and immediately amendment was introduced. Secondly they claim that MoU was passed in 1986 and in 1999 five countries entered into an agreement with Investment Bank, and this Bill has been brought with a view to implement the agreement and to provide concessions. Whether tax concessions are being provided from the date MoU was signed or not? He said that this step is being taken on the advice of Finance department. The Bill has been brought to implement the agreement. Four years have passed since 1999 and so many years have passed since 1984, but the

Bill has been brought only now, why it was not brought earlier? We would like to know that. Three laws would be amended by one law. The three laws are Income tax law, Wealth tax, and Expenditure tax law. This is three-in one, not two-in-one.

Then there is the aspect of concession on taxes on alcoholic liquor. I would like to know the reasons behind it. I am aware of a general principle of taxation that taxes on goods consumed by poor and common people should decline so that goods of mass consumption cost less. And the luxury goods consumed by the rich, should be taxed more. I would like to know whether Government concurs with it or not? Hon'ble Minister should make this clear. Goods of mass consumption should be made less expensive. It would be so only if taxes are reduced. Goods used by the capitalists and millionaires should be taxed more. But the reverse is happening here. I cannot understand properly the meaning of alcoholic liquor. It must be meaning intoxicating liquor—be it Indian or foreign, in plastic packs or toddy, there are many varieties. He has made provisions for amending section 206C of Income Tax Act, 1961 so that rate of taxation on source is reduced on alcoholic liquor, scrap, timber and other foreign products, tendu leaves etc. Not only that, it will also exclude Central Government, State Government. Various clubs and embassies from being covered under the definition of 'Buyers'. It means that these categories would be given relaxation and no law would be applicable in their cases. There will be no limit for Government of India Ministers and Officials. I would like to know from the Government as to what its implication would be? Why tax concession is being given to the officials of Union Government, State Governments and embassies. Poores are denied concessions on the ground of lack of funds, but higher ups are being provided concession. How it would improve the economic condition of the country. This amendment has been brought on the basis of representations received from State Governments, certain business organisations and Nordic Investment Bank. All these are being given concessions. Government ought to tell us as to how the loss suffered by the Government as a result of these concessions would be recovered, once the Bill is passed. If Government had brought any Bill to give concessions to the poor, I would have advocated its passage without even reading the Bill, but this exercise is meant to benefit rich. We can not support the Bill. Besides, this step has been taken to implement the MoU with Nordic Investment Bank on 25 November, 1986 and the commitment made by the Union Government through the supplement it signed on 18 March, 1999, we would say that the agreement pertains to foreign relation and they can't go against it.

15.00 hrs.

On the plea of traders two points have been included in

it. The House wants to know as to which State Government and which Chambers of Commerce has stated that concessions should be granted and how much loss or profit will be earned thereby. Moreover, there is no mention about timber. Through it, the Government are set to give excise exemptions to liquor. So, he should clarify all three things here. But we are against this. As such, how the Bill will be got passed? It is simple that the items of common use should be cheaper and luxury items which are used by rich people should be costlier. It is a common thing and it was in vogue in the past. And it has been in vogue since Kautilya's time. Kautilya's Arthashastra also mentions as to what type of tax policy should be adopted. The Government are doing it under pressure from the business community without giving a proper thought. We want clear reply to every issue.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Finance Minister.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, please give me just two minutes. I did not get the chance to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Madhusudan Mistry, on whatever you had said earlier, I have asked the hon. Minister to reply on that also.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, I have to draw his attention to the entire use of forest produce and labourers in the entire country which constitutes nearly 7.4 millions who are engaged by the cooperatives, by the State Government and also by the National Forest Development Corporation. The traders of tendu leaf pluckers do not pay anything. Not only that, they make huge profits at the cost of the State Exchequer. If they are giving permission to reduce the tax exemption, they must give some benefit to the labourers in the forest development corporations in the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever you have spoken has gone on record, and the hon. Minister would be replying on that also. Let the hon. Minister speak now.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : I am just concluding, Sir.

I also want to submit about the appalling conditions of the ship breaker, shipping workers. They are living in appalling conditions in that region. If the traders are given such benefits on the tax exemption, why is this Government not taking any interest to improve the conditions of these labourers working in the shipping industry in Gujarat? That is what I just wanted to draw his attention.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for their wise interventions and observations. The principal observation which does not favour the path or route of Ordinance making is perfectly understandable. The Ordinances are resorted to only as a last option.

Sir, the Budget Session ended in May. Between May and July, on the basis of experience gained, representations received in every Budget, certain modifications are carried out in the Monsoon Session. In this particular case, we had a Bill ready. But unfortunately because of various circumstances, in the Monsoon Session, the Bill could not be presented. Hence, it became necessary to issue the Ordinance.

Sir, a number of hon. Members have spoken about the Nordic Bank.

[Translation]

Hon. Raghuvansh Babu in his well known style has said that there is a great and serious difference in it. While there is no difference.

[English]

Sir, the agreement with the Nordic Bank was signed in 1986 by the then Government. In fact, the Nordic Bank is an investment bank which gives multilateral finance. It is being step up jointly by the Nordic countries -- Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

An MoU was signed with the Nordic Bank by the then Government in November, 1986 by which the Bank was to advance long-term project loans to the Indian concerns. On these long-term project loans, because it is a combined bank of various countries, the interest that is paid to the Nordic Bank by the Indian concerns inadvertently had remained subject to tax deducted at source.

To correct this situation, we made this correction through an Ordinance because this could not be done in the Finance Bill of 2003; and to delay it till the Finance Bill of 2004 would needlessly penalise the Nordic Bank which has a status similar to that of the Asian Development Bank and also to that of the IMF. Neither the Asian Development Bank nor the IMF on their loans and interest received - is subject to tax deducted at source. Therefore, the Nordic Bank was also placed on the same footing through the Ordinance.

[Translation]

Raghuvansh Babu should tell that there is a deep rooted conspiracy behind it and if there is any difference in it then what should be done.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Now Bill No. 84 of 1999 has been brought. I want to know as to what kind of circumstances were prevailing during these four years.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He is aware of the condition prevailing in 2003. Several agreement, MOU, were signed during 1999 and tax was imposed on it in 2001. Nordic Investment Bank started giving loan in 2003. Then it was observed that it was missing. Nordic Investment Bank is of equal status of Asina Development Bank of IMF, because there is no provision of TDS on interest, which is charged on the loan. Therefore, it has been kept in this category. There is an old saying and Raghuvansh Babu knows it well.

"Jaki rahi bhavana jaisi, prabhu moorat dekhi tin taisi".

[English]

A point on the wood based handicraft industry was raised. I would not go into that particular section. Section 10B provides for this. The provision of wood based industry are that if you to engage in wood based industry then you have to import wood to save the wood from excessive utilisation in India. A number of handicraft units have protested against this.

[Translation]

It was asked whether representations have been received from some States wherein it was stated that States like Gujarat, Rajasthan do not pay tax and small scale industries also do not pay tax.

SHRI C. N. SINGH : Imported timber is being used for housing, instead of handicrafts. Since large number of people use it, it should not be taxed.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : It is no more for timber, it was so earlier. If timber is imported then only exemption will be provided. Take it this way, if domestic wood is used in handicrafts and exported, then exemption will be provided. There is no exemption for imported wood. We can say, in fact, on business is involved in it. It would create immense employment opportunities. Thousands of villagers especially rural carpenters are earning livelihood through it. People from Gujarat and Rajasthan are well aware of it. This business is being done especially in Kutch, Saurashtra and Kathiawad and Western Rajasthan. It provides job to large number of people. Thousands of people will get employment through it. My submission is that since it has been done to make sec-80 C more effective, hon. Members please consider it.

[English]

It is very clear that the ship breaking industry is a high

employment generating industry. It is an industry that has flourished only in Gujarat because of the coastal nature of that industry. I agree that those that are in the ship breaking industry or perhaps the labour there is not receiving the benefits that ought to be fully provided to them. That is somewhat of a different concern. The Government is engaged with that. We take on board the concerns of the hon. Members in that regard.

But so far as the ship breaking companies that have been set up in India are concerned, they are required to pay usance interest to non-resident shipping owners on the purchase price of ship that is purchase. If a ship is purchased for breaking, the money is advanced by the owners of those ships and then you have to pay an interest on that. We wanted to correct this anomaly. Then there were certain decisions which varied. For example, the decision of the Gujarat High Court is at variance from certain other States which I would not mention. According to the judgement of the High Court, the interest which was paid without tax deduction at source was disallowed. An assessment was needed because it led to a very crippling tax demand on the industry as such. That is why, this clarification in the Ordinance had been issued.

Now I come to liquor.

[Translation]

Hon. Member Raghuvansh Babu made a mention of State Governments. In this regard, I made a request to Karnataka. A provision for Tax Collection at source was made in last year's Budget, so that tax on country made liquor can be collected from manufacturing unit itself. Tamil Nadu and Karnataka opposed it since as per them, profit margin of whole sellers is 2-4 percent more than that of retailers. Therefore, it should be fixed at 1 to 2 percent with a view to lower the tax.

Some hon. Members wanted to know as to why the Government do not charge tax from clubs and embassies. I would like to tell that Embassies and clubs are not whole sellers of liquor. Hence, tax is not collected from them at source. I have already replied the question relating to wood based industry.

[English]

There was an interesting query from hon. Shri Kirit Somaiya as to why there is so much refund. I think he himself identified the source and said, it is because of the tax deduction at source. Then the relief is obtained by the taxpayer at the appeal stage. He has asked as to why not do away with it altogether. The tax paid was being employed by

certain corporate bodies in the Leave Fund in the cure of the revenue department which earned the higher interest. Then it came back to them at the appropriate time. We have corrected that. But TDS is a major tax collection source and a revenue raising resource. It will not be possible for me to lightly do away with TDS. But we are in the process of examining every aspect of the taxation regime. No doubt, we will be looking at it afresh during these days. These were some of the main points.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Why are we giving exemption to the *tendu* leaf traders?

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He has told about *tendu* leaf. Different States deal with it differently. This is related to labour Ministry. One is in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

I wish to assure the hon. Member about this. We are at the stage of formulating what we intend to bring to Parliament in the month of February. We will examine all such aspects also as we are examining other issues. We will examine whether we should give exemption to *tendu* leaf traders, whether we should give exemption on *bidi* or not etc. We will be examining all these aspects afresh.

SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : What is the quantum of revenue loss by this particular amendment?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I think the revenue loss so far, whether it is tax deduction at source on Nordic Bank or whether it is usance charge, there is no revenue loss. There is marginal revenue loss in correcting the tax collection at source which we had, in any case, corrected.

On wood-based handicraft industries, as it is export-oriented, again the revenue loss is marginal. We are not talking of major revenue losses in any of these measures.

Sir, with these words, I commended the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Basudeb Acharia
Not present

I shall put the Statutory Resolution to vote.

The question is :

"That this House disapproves of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 (No. 2 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 8th September, 2003".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-Tax Act, 1961, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 and the Expenditure-tax Act, 1987, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 23 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 23 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I bet go move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.17 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE AND REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House would now take up item nos. 18 and 19 together.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia Not present

Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi Not Present

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (No. 5 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 29 October, 2003."

Sir, I gave this notice of disapproval not because this

Bill is not required. But issuing ordinances have become a practice of the Government and the Government always tends to think a little later than before. The Government was aware of the fact that Delhi elections will be held at such and such time and the Government did not think it proper during the last days of the last Session to bring this legislation in that House and get it passed. The Government knew about it. The Government has now given an explanation in the note that since there was Delhi elections they had no other option but to bring this ordinance. As if the Government was not aware that there will be elections held in Delhi and that this was a requirement that was needed to be fulfilled insofar as the District Election Officers were concerned. I want to strongly object to this casual way of functioning of the Government and to their not wanting to understand the implications of this and forcing the hon. President to sign the ordinances. This is most unfortunate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may now move his motion.

SHRI A. C. JOS (Trichur) : Sir, we also have given notice on this Resolution...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are taking up both the items together. The hon. Minister has to move the Bill. Then Shri Dasmunsi will speak and then again the hon. Minister will reply.

SHRI A. C. JOS : Sir, I am not talking about the Bill. I am talking about the ordinance. Six of us have given notices for speaking on this disapproval motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The usual practice is that mover of the Resolution first moves the Resolution. Shri Basudeb Acharia was the first person. He was absent. Then the next Member was also absent and then the third Member in the list, Shri Dasmunsi has moved the Resolution. Now, the Bill has to be moved. There is a procedure to be followed.

The hon. Minister may now move the motion.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the people Act. 1950, and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I would repeat the reason as to why I gave the notice. The Government's explanation today is really amusing to the entire House. The Government has given this explanation:

"The Commission has recommended amended of section 13AA to provide for designation or nomination of district election officers in the Union Territories including the National Capital Territory of Delhi, which will facilitate better management of elections in the Union Territories. The Election Commission has also requested that in view of the ensuing general election of the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, urgent action may be taken to carry out the proposed amendments."

My question to the hon. Law Minister is this. Please tell us the date when actually the Election Commission advised the Government of India and its appropriate Ministry, that is, the Law Ministry that these amendments are required on the eve of the elections. Was it during the course of the Last Session or was it given later on? If it was given after the Session was over, I could understand the urgency. If it was not so, then the Government had deliberately kept avoiding the Parliament to bring the amendment in time and used the course of Ordinance. This is my first point.

Secondly, was not the Law Ministry aware of the fact as to when the Delhi elections were coming and the time of expiry of the life of the Delhi Assembly? There was a tall claim of the Union Government that they will provide statehood to Delhi. I was expecting an Ordinance for statehood for Delhi. The Government deliberately chose the route of ordinance because they thought that they can use this course and there is no point of bringing it to the House in advance. Therefore, I feel that the Law Ministry and the Government as a whole did not study the implications carefully during the course of the Session which may be applicable to the district election officers enactment on this provision and advised the Election Commission as far as Delhi is concerned. Therefore, we think that this is not the way to function and the Government lacks competence in judging the issue. That is why the Ordinance was brought and hence, I moved the motion for disapproval of this Ordinance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may speak on the Bill now.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, the limited scope of this Bill is that, in the year 1966, Section 13AA was introduced in the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1950. The language of Section 13AA as it was then introduced is like this. I would like to read the sub-Section.

"For each district in a State other than a UT, the Election Commission shall, in consultation with the Government of the State, designate or nominate a district election officer who shall be an officer of the Government."

Therefore, in 1966, when this Bill was introduced and this Act was passed, there was only a provision for a district election officer in a district of a State but not a Union Territory because the Union Territory was deemed to be one district itself and there was only one district election officer for the entire Union Territory. Subsequently and recently, the Union Territories themselves have been split up into various districts. And on account of this contingency which has arisen, you require to have district election officers for each of the districts within the Union Territories.

Now, the Election Commission, when it must have been preparing for the elections in the Union Territory of Delhi, on the 9th June, must have realised that there was a legal embargo and that this could not be done for each district in the case of Delhi. So, as Mr. Dasmunsi asked as to when it was brought to notice, they said that it may not be addressed to the Government, that it may not be possible for us to have in every district because of the work load on the main election officer and otherwise. At this stage, the Department of Legislation which administratively deals with the Election Commission held consultations with the various Departments of the Government, particularly the Home Ministry whose views were very important because the Home Ministry deals with the Union Territory itself. The response from the Home Ministry was received by us towards the end of 21st August 2003. Therefore, on account of this exigency, since elections were to be held on the 1st December in Delhi, it became extremely important during September-October, when the election work was being done, to bring this change by virtue of an Ordinance and that is why, it was brought by virtue of an Ordinance. And today, this is a constitutional and legal requirement. It is for this reason that this Ordinance was brought about.

Let me also remind my good friend, Shri Dasmunsi, that while he is rightly concerned about the statehood of Delhi, statehood of Delhi requires a Constitutional Amendment. And Constitutional Amendment is not possible through an ordinance. Ordinary legislation can be brought in through an ordinance but not the Constitutional Amendment. Therefore, for the purpose itself the Government has already announced its decision and taken adequate steps in that direction.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The hon. Minister himself has admitted that the Election Commission had brought this to the notice of the Government on 9th June. The hon. Law Minister stated that from 9th June to 21st August various Departments spent time as to whether this Act could be amended. Then only it was brought before the House. The Election Commission explained the urgency, I use the word 'urgency', and the Government sat over it till 21 August. It deliberately ignored the Parliament and brought an Ordinance

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

to suit its purpose. This is unpardonable. I think the Government should not function in this manner. This is absolutely wrong.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (No. 5 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 29th October, 2003".

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act., 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration".

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as our hon. colleague, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi explained that this Government perhaps works only through ordinances, I would also like to repeat this point more for the sake of adding emphasis to it. It is because of the route of ordinance adopted by this Government, a good bit of time of the Parliament is wasted on matters which could have been utilised for other purposes. It is only a sort of repetition again that I refer to the dates mentioned by the hon. Minister. He says that it was on 9th June, 2003 that the Election Commission had recommended to the Government this Amendment. It was on 21st August 2003 that they had got the approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs. I do not really know and I just wonder as to why that much time was taken for this small Amendment by the Home Ministry to clear. There are many matters in which we want the Home Ministry to rather act but the matters are not referred to the Home Ministry for very long and there is some sort of shuttling of files from one Department to another.

As the hon. Minister says, it was to expedite the work of the Election Commission that they had thought of including the Union Territories in the scope of Section 13AA of the Act to provide for the appointment of district election officers. That is a step which I would welcome because I have myself seen the enormous amount of work which the persons charged with the responsibility of carrying out the elections work in the Union Territories have to handle.

Our precise objection was that, as it has been said out earlier also, in the last Session, which was the Monsoon Session, once the recommendation had come from the Election Commission, immediately thereafter a Bill could have been introduced in the Parliament and it could have been passed. There were as many as nine Ordinances that were issued this time. The summons for the present Session were delayed. During that period different reasons have been offered for giving justification for the Ordinances and this is one of them.

I would only wish that in future, whatever little this Government has with it, it does not resort to promulgating ordinances. I would like to make a pertinent point, though it is out of context. One of the Ordinances that we have before us relates to a matter which in the form of the Bill had been referred to the Standing Committee. The matter was with the Standing Committee, but the Ordinance was issued. Now, we will be told that there is a Constitutional requirement, please pass the Ordinance or clear the Ordinance. Is this the way the Parliament should work? Is this the way the Government should deal with the Parliament?

Having said that, I come to the scope of the Bill. The hon. Minister says that it has a limited scope. The Government itself has a limited scope. The Government of the day is functioning with a limited scope. Nevertheless, be that as it may, we would support this particular aspect of the Bill as such.

There was a requirement of appointing more election officers dealing with elections in the Union Territories, as you would also have seen yourself. But I would not like to expand the scope of the debate on this Bill. I would like to limit myself only to the conduct of elections and the preparation for the elections by the Election Department.

One very important function which is the primary responsibility of the Election Department is the preparation of electoral rolls. I am not saying about the Election Commission now because that function is delegated by the Election Commission of India to the various offices in the State Government. That function is the preparation of electoral rolls. There is a cause of concern of any person who wants democracy to thrive in a democratic society. What is happening now? We have intensive revision of electoral rolls once in a while. People go from house to house for door to door survey to include or exclude the names of people from the electoral rolls which is considered to be a very important constitutional right. But people are disenfranchised. Without their knowing, their names are deleted and knocked out from the list. There are cases where people have the electors photo-identity card issued to them on the basis of their earlier enrolment as voters. But suddenly they find that their names are not there. This is a matter of very serious concern. The Government just does not seem to be worried about it.

I have seen that in a large number of cases in Delhi itself rows and rows of houses were deleted from the electoral list...(Interruptions) If this concerns the hon. Minister, if he could really exercise his authority also is seeing to that or at least prevailing upon the officers all over the country-I would seek his indulgence to kindly listen to me on this point-I was saying that in a large number of cases, rows and rows of houses were deleted. I am sure, he must have heard about it otherwise also.

There are a large number of cases where names of the voters were deleted from the list despite the fact that they have their electors photo-identity card with them. What are our officers doing? I have a valid reason even to allege that in Delhi and in my own place - these were the two places which fell victim to the machinations of this Government- they decided that colonies should be bulldozed and razed to the ground. Under a different policy, they have done it. We are taking up that matter differently. But this is what is happening consequently. The basic intention has been to disenfranchise the residents of those areas. There is no requirement in law whatever expect the requirement of an "ordinarily resident" clause. A person who is ordinarily resident of a place is entitled himself as a voter therein. There is no provision in law besides that. There is nothing in the election Form-6 prescribed by the Election Commission for purpose. But, Mr. Minister, what are your people down stairs insisting upon? They are insisting upon the birth certificate. What are they further insisting upon? They are insisting upon the residence certificate. In a large number of cases, I have come across this. If I am a residence or tenant of somebody's house, the landlord would not even issue me a resident certificate because of various implications it could lead to. I am thereby deprived of the right of getting myself enrolled because I do not attach the residence certificate therein.

Then, they insist upon the employment certificate. Has the Government assured employment to everybody in the country in though the hon. Prime Minister says that one crore jobs are being provided every year? The field staff insist on the employment certificate irrespective of the fact whether a person is employed somewhere or not. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these are the grounds for denyings some body the right to get himself enrolled as a voter. I have seen this these days. The date came to an end only yesterday. It is special process.

SHRI A. C. JOS : That has been extended.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I wish it were extended. I am happy to know that it has been extended. What is happening is that the staff deployed for the purpose insist on these things with the result that a person who is unable to give the proof, is deprived of his vote. His name is not included in the list.

What for do we have more officers? It is for the purpose of bringing about efficiency in the working of the department as the hon. Minister has said in his Statement of Objects and Reasons, but then we must see that, after 55 years of Independence, not a single citizen of the country is deprived of his right to be enrolled as a voter.

Sir, there is a move afoot to start issuing a Citizenship

Card, a common card for the entire populace of the country. Here, if somebody's name is missed out, the consequence is, he is deprived of his right to vote. While preparing the National Identity Card for the citizens of India, if somebody's name is deleted in the same way as the names are deleted from the Voters' List, what would happen to those people? They would not even be treated as citizens of the country. Is this the way the Government should function? This is the cause of concern which I would like to express.

Sir, there are many other functions which the staff deployed for the purpose is supported to be performing. I would not refer to them. But I would now refer to one point on behalf of those people who are deployed for election duty in different parts, sometimes in their own States and sometimes in other States. The Government was very eager to provide proxy voting to the people in the Armed Forces. But they have not taken care of those people who are posted on election duties. This happens all the time. I am not accusing just this Government only. This is the practice which has been there all through. The lower level staff deployed for election duty always ask for their right to vote where they are put on duty. That right is not granted to them. The response given to them is that they must submit their requisition well in advance so that they would get a postal ballot and like other they would only exercise their voting right through postal ballot. I am not advocating proxy voting for them, but I certainly say that if a person is deployed in a city other than his own or at a polling station other than his own, which, invariably, is the case, he should have the right to vote from that very place.

With these few observations, I hope that the hon. Minister would take note of the points raised by me so that the entire conduct of elections, beginning with the presentation of electoral rolls and ending with the declaration of results, is conducted properly and I would also request the hon. Minister that it must be ensured that the election staff carry out their duties and functions with full sense of responsibility to see that the process of election is clean.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : I rise to support Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003 which provides for further amendment in Representation of the Act, 1950 and Peoples, Representation Act of the 1951. I express my disagreement with hon. Members from the opposition such as Shri Basu Deb Acharia, Bansal ji, Priya Ranjan Dasmunsiji. On the disapproval of the Bill through statutory resolution. And I request them to desist from at least disapproval of statutory resolution in such important matters. All of us have not only been demanding but also expecting from the Government to hole free and fair

[Shri Talwar Chand Gehlot]

elections in a peaceful manner. Such system should be evolved whereby District Election Officer can dispel any sort of fear of hooligans during elections and that electoral process is completed peacefully. Though such arrangement exists in States but not in Union Territories. Elections were to be held in Delhi and if no such provision was made over there through issue of ordinance, it would have been difficult to keep a cap on expenditure incurred by the contesting candidates.

15.39 hrs.

SHRI P. H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*

And it would been difficult to control electoral process as in earlier law, there was a provision that a sole Election Officer will conduct electoral process in entire UT, i.e. Delhi. If the same provision existed candidates from all 70 constituencies would have visited him 2-3 days after the completion of elections with the details of expenditure incurred by them and regarding the amendment made in the electoral roll before election, it would have been burdened him a lot. And perhaps, it would have been difficult to complete election process smoothly. Therefore, it was felt necessary to amend those provisions and appoint Election Officer in each district. They will prepare election programmes of their respective areas and act accordingly. The proposed amendment is being brought for this purpose. I know that after 1966, number of voters have increased enormously in States like Delhi and if number of Election Officers is not increased commensurately then for one officer it would have been very difficult to complete this task smoothly. To avoid this problem the system has been decentralised and each district is provided with separate Election Officer. It proved immensely helpful in holding of free and fair elections peacefully. Election Commission of India issue instructions from time to time and appointment of more officers has facilitated compliance of these instructions and they faced less difficulty in holding elections. I would like to urge hon. Minister to do away with small lacuna, such as bunglers, money-power, muscle-power and several other tricks to wire the election. The Government should give a serious thought to it and make such legal provisions whereby only persons interested in public-service and honest and devoted towards it should not be influenced by money or muscle-power and they can stay in the politics fearlessly. The Government should endeavour to make such legal provisions for better management of electoral process. I support issue of ordinance for increasing number of election officers area-wise and oppose the move for disapproval.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I oppose the Representation of the People (Second

Amendment) Bill, 2003. I am not opposed to the changes that are being made in the election process, but the thing is that laws originate in the House and ordinance is only an exception. The power of issuing an ordinance is provided in the Constitution to meet the contingent and exceptional situations. It should not be a casual matter and, it should not be a routine matter. It must be in the true sense of the word exceptional cases.

It is there in the Constitution under article 123 for the President of India and article 213 for the Governments of the State. Reading these two articles, it is crystal clear that there must be a contingent satisfying and emergent situation. Otherwise, making a law through ordinance is more or less making the legislature a rubber stamp of the Executive by using the majority.

Here is a case that the law was changed as early as 1966. The original statute was passed in 1950. The amendment was effected in 1966. We all know that for administrative purposes, in Union Territories, one single district may be divided into two or three. As early as in 1966, there was a provision that for every district there should be an Election Officer. So, it is quite natural that for administrative purposes the Union Territories are divided into more than one district. It was the duty of the Law Department to see that the election law is also amended in such a way so as to suit their administrative convenience. That was not done. What was the emergency? I have already referred about the two conditions. One condition is that there must be an emergent situation. Secondly, in the coming Session, it should be ratified by this House, otherwise it will lapse. So, for preventing the process of lapsing, they have come with the Ordinance. If that provision was not there, they would not have come with an ordinance. This is the position. It is an important cardinal principle of Parliamentary democracy that law should originate in the House, not in the Central Secretariat or elsewhere. But, there was an occasion and this Government had ample time to originate the law at the proper time. What was their urgency? You are quite aware that for each and every district, there should be an election officer. You were sleeping. Then, all of a sudden they thought that the Election Commission should advise these people. They have urged the Central Government to see that the separate officers were appointed for each and every administrative unit in the Union Territory. Were they not aware of it? Should the Election Commission advise you in this matter? You could have done it earlier. Do you contend that you will always accept the advice of the Election Commission? In those days, the Election Commission had given you an advice that each and every candidate should file his return at the time of nomination regarding his assets, his educational qualification. That was the suggestion from the Election Commission to the Central

Government. The Central Government rejected it. But, they were forced to accept it because the Supreme Court gave a direction that the Election Commission's stand is correct. That is why we are now filing returns. In the past also the Central Government did not accept the advice of the Election Commission in those matters. So, the Election Commission's advice as the only criteria for issuing an Ordinance will not hold water.

Moreover, we all know that there would be elections in Delhi. It is not a new thing. There is no urgent situation. The Central Government as well as the people of India, everybody knew that there will be elections in four States out of which one is the Union Territory and not only that it is, a Capital Union Territory. All of us know that there must be an election officer for each and every district. I can understand if it is in far off or remote Union Territory. It is their view that every Union Territory is divided into many administrative districts. Were you sleeping? What happened to you? It is because you have the audacity that we have got the majority and we will get a rubber stamp legislation. That is the purpose for which it was done. In the normal course, they ought to have preferred a Bill not an ordinance. This is very unfortunate. Not only this, I am coming to another one where also the same thing is being repeated. Everybody knew that there will be Winter Session of Parliament. The Central Cabinet decided long before that the session will begin on such and such date. Even after writing a decision, they have issued this ordinance. I do not understand. If the Central Government had taken the decision to hold the winter session at second of this month, they would not have issued this Ordinance. Not only this ordinance but many other ordinances were also issued. Are you making a mockery of the rubber stamp?

Are we here to approve everything whatever you do and to put in our signature? Is it a rubberstamp? It is being usually done by the Central Government. I can understand it if there is an emergent situation. Unforeseen circumstances are coming. There were reasons for unforeseen circumstances. For unforeseen and unexpected circumstances, this provision is made in the Constitution. It is not for appointing an Election Officer, not for having a simple statute but it is for unforeseen and very emergent situation, which will affect the nation. In those circumstances, the power of Ordinances can be made use of.

In a very casual way, for each and every purpose, you are bringing in an Ordinance and making mockery of the Parliamentary democracy. The decision of the House is made more or less a rubberstamp.

We have a very great Prime Minister, who is well versed with these matters and he has the Parliamentary experience

for nearly 50 years. It is very unfortunate that during the regime of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, you are doing it. This is very unfortunate. I do not agree with you. I can understand if a new man, without much experience, doing it. During his period, something may have happened but it should not happen during the time of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who is in this House for a very long time and who knows the methods of issuing Ordinances. You are doing it and we will have to suffer and we will have to say goodbye to all these things. That is what you expect.

You were quite sure that the House would meet on such a date but on the presumption that we are the National Democratic Alliance and so we can do anything and everything. That is why, you issued the Ordinance and now you are coming with a Bill replacing the Ordinance and asking us to give our Assent.

Sir, I give my Assent because there is no other way and I cannot escape. But, even our learned Law Minister cannot answer my question. It is a fact. I am not expecting any reply from him but let it be on record that there was an old man who spoke all these things.

With these words, I strongly oppose this move of issuing the Ordinance.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, I rise to support the Ordinance and also support the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003.

I agree with the hon. Minister that as there was urgency that the Union Territory and the Capital Delhi was going for polls and this Ordinance was necessitated.

I disagree with the hon. Member, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal's contention that the Government of the day is running on the Ordinances. The entire country knows as to which was the party and which were the Governments that were running on the Ordinances. I do not want to go into the list. Sir, the country knows. That is why, I do not want to go into the details...*(Interruptions)* The country knows. We are also a part of the country. We, the Members of Parliament, are also a part of the country and citizens of the country.

Sir, this Bill seeks to appoint the District Election Officers in the districts of the Union Territories like any other district in the State by amending Section 13 AA of the election processes.

At that time, since Independence, we had one Chief Election Commissioner. As the time passed, we have appointed two more Election Commissioners to oversee the entire election work of the country. Likewise, though the

[Dr. Manda Jagannath]

provision was not there at that time, as the time passed, it was necessitated because the election process has changed a lot and it is getting metamorphosed. That is why, we had this necessity. In my opinion, the appointment of District Election Officers should not be just on the paper as a job to be done. Nowadays, the election is becoming very costly. It is because of non-supervision of the election process, as Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal said, in the voters' list, there are so many discrepancies in the work of addition and deletion. If this work is given to the District Election Officer or he takes it up, the mistake of deletion of people who have got the I-cards will not take place and all these things would be corrected.

As I said earlier, as the time passes, the election is becoming very costly. As we all know, the people are not adhering to the election guidelines. They are seeking so many ways of spending and making the election process costly. So this is causing a lot of inconvenience to the people who are from the weaker sections of the society. They cannot stand in the election. Suppose those officers are appointed, if they take care of these aspects, if they adhere to the rules of the Election Commission and if this chapter is taken care of, then the expenditure will come down drastically. It will give an opportunity for the people from the weaker sections of the society to contest.

This also reduces the burden on the Election Commission. Before this Ordinance was brought in, it seemed there was only one Chief Election Commissioner in the Union Territories and it put a lot of burden on him to oversee the election process. This will give an opportunity to share the burden and see that the election process is carried on very well.

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram) : At the outset, I do not like to go into the merits or the demerits of the case in promulgating the Ordinance. I am neither there nor here. I am in between the two.

Coming to the scope of the Bill, as rightly said, it has got a limited scope. The very purpose of Ordinance, which is being replaced now by a Bill, is to empower by designating or nominating a particular officer to be a District Election Officer. Till now, every State is having this designation of District Election Officer. The District Head, namely, the District Collector or the District Magistrate used to be appointed as the District Election Officer in every State, whereas in the Union Territories, since the Union Territories did not have the terms of districts, they did not have this designated officer. Hence, now the Union Territories have been divided into districts. As such, they want to go along with the other States. It has rightly come up first with an Ordinance and then to replace it; now it has come as a Bill.

Coming to the merits of the Bill, our Indian democracy stands on three pillars of Executive, Legislature and Judiciary operating through bureaucracy and assisted by the Fourth Estate. So these are the limbs of our Indian democracy. As we know, the political executives enjoy the power in parliamentary democracy and the bureaucrats are working under them. What to do is the function of the political executive and how to do is the function of the bureaucracy. Now, as we know, as the Chairman very well know, the entire district administration is in the hands of the District Head, namely the District Collector or the District Magistrate.

16.00 hrs.

Under him the revenue division is there and under him the *Tehsildars* are there. So, the hierarchical discipline is already there. It starts with the Collector and ends with the *Tehsildar*. It is a well-knitted link and the hierarchical layer and discipline is well-established from the days of the colonial rule and we have been strictly following it.

Now, as far as the district election officer is concerned, he must be not only the district head but he must be a coordinating agency. Rightly the District Magistrate or the District Commissioner or the District Collector will have a coordinating function with all the other Departments and he has got a super say in all these matters. That is why he has been rightly appointed as the district election officer. After having done it in the States and in the Union Territories now, what is going to be the effect? Many of our friends have said that a number of reforms are to be done. I am one who always wish for a comprehensive electoral reform to have a free and fair poll and a peaceful poll and to have an excellent election process. Unfortunately, many complaints are forthcoming despite the fact that several reform measures are done.

In this connection, if I am not mistaken, can I suggest or make certain observations? The district election officer who has been appointed is none other than a part of the State machinery. As you know, the Election Commission of India is an independent and a constitutional authority. But he cannot operate directly. On the other hand, he has to operate through the State machinery only. In the State machinery, the District Collector or the Commissioner is a Government servant of that particular State. Though they are working for that particular period directly under the Election Commission and though the law says so, but still their transfers and postings and disciplinary proceedings are with the concerned State Government or with the Union Territory. In that case, I want to know whether the district election officer who has been designated or nominated now can afford to be independent as the Election Commission can afford to be independent. This is my first point.

In this connection, can your law or your process afford to appoint a district election officer from outside the State. In other words, all the district election officers or District Collectors are officers belonging to the Indian Administrative Service. Can you bring them from one State to another? In a sensitive area whether a particular officer from the other State can be posted as district election officer? Assuming that this is not possible, even from within the State can you select your district election officer or can you think of a right person for a right job? I want to know whether this could be possible. This is my second observation. Thirdly, I want to know whether your procedure and other things can be simplified and rationalised in such a way that it will not give room for any misuse or malpractice.

Further, I want to know whether you can enhance the powers of the Election Commission in such a way that they can monitor and supervise electoral process directly because they are entitled to have the superintendence, direction and control. This is the basic function of the Election Commission. I want to know whether they can afford to have superintendence or control or direction directly and if it is not possible, how their direct monitoring and supervision could be improved.

Finally, the observers who have been appointed do not have the legal sanction of powers. On the other hand, they come and observe and report. They do not really exercise the powers. Of course, they come from far away States and they are totally independent. In such a situation, it is up to you to think of whether you can afford to give more powers to the observers during the time of election so that more fair and free elections can be ensured.

To conclude, I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister of Law and Justice not to have this kind of piecemeal reform or piecemeal amendment. On the other hand, can he think of a comprehensive electoral reform so that our elections will be total and free and fair.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister has brought a Bill seeking to amend Representation of People Act, 1950 and Representation of People Act, 1951. He claims that it seeks to make very small change. The amendment made in 1996 mentions the phrase "other than a Union Territory", that is, at that time Union territory did not have districts hence all the districts had a district election officer. Therefore, this phrase was used there. But now even union territories have districts so there is no need of that phrase. They also claim that the ordinance was promulgated on the instruction of Election Commission especially in view of Delhi election.

Sir, every district has a district election officer whose functions are to prepare electoral rolls and set up booths. Thereafter returning officer for both would be appointed, electoral officers and presiding officers would be appointed and identity cards would be prepared. All these functions are of district election officer.

Sir, with regard to the present amendment which seeks to delete the phrase, "other than a Union Territory", I would like to know as to who discharged the functions of district election officers where there were no districts in Union Territories. As per the amendment brought :

[English]

Sir, section 26 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 deals with appointment of Presiding Officers for polling stations. Section 26 (5) reads:

"Any reference of a district election officer in section 25 and in this section shall, in relation to a constituency in a Union Territory, be construed as a reference to the returning officer for that constituency."

[Translation]

Now he says that it has been deleted. If it is so, then why they have used word returning officer in it. Moreover it will be possible to conduct election with returning officer, despite there has been no provision for returning officer in the amendment. How entire functions will be conducted? How returning officer would conduct elections? One provides for appointing collector as district election officer, while it makes no mention of it except the phrase, "other than a Union Territory". District election officers have been appointed as a result of formation of districts, but in the recently held elections, it was seen that identity cards could not be made at many booths. Poors were not allowed to vote and turned away. Some were asked to produce ration cards while others were asked to produce election identity cards. Names of many people did not figure, the entire scenario is confusing and chaotic. Identity card for all the voters were not made in some States and names of some were missing. At some places their name figured but were asked to produce ration cards in proof. Therefore, my opinion is that there should be uniformity in rules. People have right to vote democracy. Therefore, there should be introduced a comprehensive bill on electoral reforms. He is a clever Minister. Had he ever contested elections, he would have known how elections are conducted and what kind of difficulties crop up. Therefore, a comprehensive bill on electoral reforms be introduced. Electoral rolls are being prepared, there is controversy on booths. Even Election Commission is giving conflicting instructions. Recently Election Commission issued

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

instructions that booths be located in community halls. Earlier booths were located only in Government buildings, it again has become a cause of controversy among political parties. Why all the political parties were not consulted and taken in confidence in this matter. The name of poors are missing in electoral rolls. When Mr. Seshan was the CEC, he had said every voter will be issued an identity card and nobody would be allowed to vote without an identity card. It was challenged in Court which ruled that those whose names figure in electoral roll but do not have identity cards would be entitled to vote. Thereafter the process for identity cards was started but the process was not uniform in all the States. Total cost of photograph and identity cards is about Rs. 18-20. Hon'ble Minister, this problem affects masses, therefore, it should be properly investigated. Those whose identity cards were not made, had to pay Rs. 18-20 as penalty. Some of them were turned back from booths because their name was not printed right. All these problems are there, how management of booths would be done? Before passing, all the required amendments should be incorporated. Even the district election officer has to face problem in discharge of his duties. I do not know whether the Government are consulted before Election Commission issues its instructions. Name of poors should be there in electoral roll. Every voter should be issued identity card and if it is not possible then the provision be made that whosoever name figures in the voter list will be allowed to vote. Nobody listens to the poor on the day of elections.

Sir, during recent bye-elections in Fatuha, the poor were not allowed to vote. Newspapers reported that he was not allowed to vote because he did not have identity card. Voters are turned back even in case of misprinting or spelling errors. Therefore, for the purpose of reforming election process, the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 should be properly studied and convenience of the people in voting should also be kept in mind. Democracy means rule of vote and unless the voting system is improved then, in my opinion, other related system will not be strengthened either. Therefore, for a strong and vibrant democracy elections should be free and fair and peaceful so that every voter can cast his vote and no one suffers any difficulty. Earlier there used to be 500-700 voters on every booth and now there are 1500 voters in every booth. The reason is the use of electronic voting machines which have the capacity of 1500 voters. Now greater area would be covered in one booth and thus distance for them would increase. Voters of weaker sections would face difficulty in casting their vote. Whether Election Commission issues its instructions arbitrarily or does it consult the Ministries concerned? May be the officials of Election Commission are frightened at the local level. As such why all these aspects

were not discussed before taking the decision to cover 1500 voters at one booth. One existing booth would cover three hamlets which are spread over four kilometers where the number of voters is 200,400 or 500 who may have to travel greater distances to cast their vote.

The instructions relating to polling booths should be received and such instructions should be withdrawn as they would cause difficulties to poors, weaker sections and rural folk in casting their vote or would deprive them of their voting rights. Arrangements of their security be made. I have suggested amendment to provide for paramilitary force everywhere. It would check malpractices. In this way, election has been held in three States, including bye-election to three assembly constituencies in my constituency. Electronic Voting Machines were used in Chandi for the first time which takes less time at many places people voted but the Machine registered nothing. Elections have been held in Delhi, Malhotraji would have experience of it. All these problems are there and any legislation should address all these problems and Election Commission should issue instructions to implement reformed system. Just deleting the phrase, "other than a Union Territory" would not be enough, only a comprehensive Bill can achieve the goal of electoral reforms. I feel that Government is not serious on the issue. Gone are the days when elections could be conducted in any manner. It has to be free and fair. As long as elections are not free and fair, further processes would also be affected.

With these words, I support the passage of the Bill, but the points which were raised during the debate should be considered seriously and follow up action on them is needed in consultation with Election Commission so that the common voter is not deprived of his voting right in the name of identity card. Voting booths should be provided proper security and the distance of the booth from settlements should be much so that people may cast their votes conveniently. The Bill may be passed but all these aspects should be given serious consideration.

[English]

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (Cuddalore) : Sir, I rise to support the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

The District Electoral Officers coordinate and supervise the work relating to the preparation and revision of electoral rolls and conduct elections to all Parliamentary, Assembly and Council constituencies within the Districts concerned. It is a welcome measure.

The work of revision of electoral rolls is now going on. The Chief Election Commission's instructions are very clear

and helpful to the citizen. But the State Electoral Officers are acting according to the instructions given by the ruling parties in the States. For example, in Tamil Nadu, they displayed the voters' lists one week after the scheduled date...(Interruptions) They distributed the voters' lists to the recognised political parties after ten days. In the normal course, all political parties are allowed to print Forms 6, 7 and 8. Now, the State Electoral Officer strictly warned the political parties not to use printed forms.

After the DMK party office bearers met the Chief Election Commissioner in Delhi and convinced him, instructions were issued to the State Electoral Officers to allow printing of Forms 6, 7 and 8. This is a welcome measure taken by the Chief Election Commission.

In Tamil Nadu, they have reduced the number of polling booths by thousands. Nearly five thousands to six thousands polling booths are removed now. Without consulting the recognised political parties, this was done by the Tamil Nadu State Electoral Officer.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram) : That was not done by the Government; that was done by the Election Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Election Commission is an independent body.

SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : It will help the DMK party also.

Sir, in my State, most of the voters' lists are not clear. Thousands of voters' name have been deleted from the voters' lists with the intention of the ruling political parties ...(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : Sir, we have a strong objection to it...(Interruptions) Anything he speaks cannot go on record...(Interruptions)..My State is strongly objecting to it...(Interruptions) It should be deleted.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : Sir, we were told that thousands and thousands of applications have gone from the party functionaries of the DMK. They are pressurising the officers and they are getting the things done also...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both these things should be on record.

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, in most of the voters' lists, the serial numbers and the door numbers are not clear. In most of the places, there is a double entry...(Interruptions) The entire process must be regularised...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not concerning Tamil Nadu. It is concerning the Union Territory.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : In Tamil Nadu, the voter's lists are in confusing manners...(Interruptions) About 60 per cent of the voters' lists are not clear. It must be rectified(Interruptions) All steps should be taken to improve the system.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : Sir, the electoral rolls were got prepared by them. Now, we are trying to improve upon that...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, at that time, he was the Election Officer.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : No, I was not the Election Officer(Interruptions) I was only a State Election Commissioner.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I on behalf of my support Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2003. Lot of discussion has taken place on the Amendment Bill. Representation of the People Acts of 1950 and 1951 are sought to be amended through the Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I won't speak much on the Bill. I would speak only on 2-3 points. Elections in our democracy should be held in a free and fair manner. There cannot be two opinion on it. The most important things in a democracy are vote, voting procedure and voter's lists which are the soul of democracy. If elections are held in free and fair manner, then our 55 years old democracy will be further strengthened.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in my opinion, voter's list is the most important. All the citizens should have voting right. Their votes should be in ballot boxes. However, due to any error if the name of a citizen, fails to appear in the voting list he is deprived of his fundamental right of vote. At the time of preparation of voter's list, names of all the citizens should be entered meticulously. But it does not happen. So, Domicile or some other certificate is demanded for the purpose. If, for any reason, people of weaker sections fail to submit required papers in the office of either OM or District Election Officer, their names are not included in the electoral roll.

Through you, I would like to say that on 21 November, widespread Hindu-Muslim riots took place in 31 Lok Sabha constituencies of my State. Curfew was imposed for 8-10 days in succession from November, 21. At that time, no one was permitted to venture outside, thus there was no question

[Shri Suresh Ramrao Jadhav]

of any voter going to DM's or District Election Officer's Office. Even, I as the local MP, could not meet the DM. It was a strange situation then, Hindus and Muslims both had no trust in each other. Everyone was busy in the task of creating a good environment. In the meanwhile the time for preparation of voter's list expired. When the MPs and MLAs could not approach the authorities, how was it possible for the common people? After the expiry of the period, I met the DM but he expressed his inability as the time had already expired. We were advised to contact Election Commission. The names of about 70000-80000 voters from 31 Lok Sabha constituencies of my state are missing. Elections are round the corner. In my constituency alone, there are 6 assembly segments and in one of them, names of 15000 voters are missing. They ask me to contact Election Commission. Through you, I request the Government to extend help in special cases where voters are deprived of their democratic right.

There had occurred a wide spread Hindu Muslim strife. There had been a bomb blast in a mosque. Shops of both Hindus and Muslims were gutted. The preparation time of voters list expired in the meanwhile. In such a scenario, they could not submit domicile or employment certificates. We could not even approach either the DM's office or the office of District Election Officer. In such circumstances, we should be extended help and I hope that hon'ble Minister would help us by extending the date in consultation with the Government and to Election Commission.

Voters list is basic and if the names of voters are missing from it, how people would vote? I would like to give examples from my own constituency. When names of 70,000-80,000 persons are missing from the voters list, how would they vote? For free and fair elections, voters list should be prepared and for that I believe that hon'ble Minister would give instructions to the officials concerned. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola) : Sir, I am here to make certain suggestions. I am not going to give a speech. It is an innocuous amendment brought about due to changing circumstances of the Union Territories. One of the suggestions - many persons have spoken about it - is that in many of the States the voter identity cards have been issued. Once the card is issued, it is expected that he is on the voters' list. I would like to the Minister to take up this matter with the Election Commission. In the revision, many names are omitted. Once a name is omitted, he does not have a right to vote despite having the card. I would like the Minister to take up this matter with the Election Committee that if he has a card, which is a valid card and which has been issued by the Election Commission, he should be allowed to vote. Only

because in the revision one's name is missing, he is deprived of the right to vote. He is having a photo identity card. It is a visible photo which is there. If that is there, he should be allowed to vote. This is one of my suggestions.

The other suggestion is - Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has also spoken about it - that where the constituency is rural, the major problem is that Election Commission has fixed the minimum number as 1000 voters for a polling centre. With the electronic system coming up, they have fixed the minimum number at 1500 votes for each centre. Most of the villages in the rural areas have only 1000 voters. Sometimes the total population is around 600 to 700 persons. The distance between each village is around six to seven kilometres. If I have to speak of my constituency, it has nearly about 1200 villages. Out of 1200 villages, 900 villages are such that the population itself is not more 750 and the distance between one village and the other is not less than six to seven kilometres. If this is the situation and if they are going to fix the minimum number at 1500 voters per Centre, the voting percentage is going to go down. Otherwise, you will have to raise the expenditure limit for the Lok Sabha elections as you will have to transport people from one village to the polling centre. My suggestion in this case would be that every village should have a polling centre. I do not think that there is a shortage of staff for implementing it. There is enough staff. The only thing is that a conscience decision has to be taken saying that to increase the voting percentage every village should have a polling centre.

The third suggestion is that with the 74th Constitution amendment, normally the Electorate Officer was himself the Chief Officer looking after the local body elections. We have intervened into the State Election Commission. The question is that there is no governance of the State Election Commission. He has no powers to govern the officers who are employed there. This is a very grey area.

Sir, I would like the Government to amend the People Representation Act so as to include the Zila Parishads and the local bodies so that they become functional. Or, to bring about a legislation at the national level by which the State Election Commissions could be strengthened so that there could be free and fair elections.

Sir, lastly, there is one more area where there are conflicting opinions and I thought, I should bring up this issue while participating in the discussion on this Bill. What are basically the powers of the Election Commission? Is it superintendence? If so, does that superintendence include deciding as to when to conduct elections? During the Gujarat elections, this matter was referred to the Supreme Court. But the Supreme Court refrained from giving a judgement for its

own reasons. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that everything cannot be decided in a court of law. In some cases, one has to go by conventions as well. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that he should convene a meeting of all the recognised and registered political parties and decide about it. For example, if an Assembly is dissolved, or say, if the Parliament is dissolved and if the Election Commission says that they would not hold elections to these bodies for six months, then are we going to have a situation in this country where the elections would be held according to the whims and fancies of the Elections Commission? This needs to be decided.

My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that the Government should convene a meeting of all the recognised and registered political parties to decide- if an Assembly or the Lok Sabha is dissolved - within how many days elections to those bodies should be conducted. The Election Commission might say that they would take up revision of electoral rolls and all that. Revision of electoral rolls is a routine matter and I do not think that this should come in the way of holding of elections to various constitutional bodies. These are my suggestions and I think the hon. Minister would take note of my suggestions.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, I am extremely grateful to the hon. Members who have expressed their views in detail on various facets of the conduct of free and fair elections in India.

Sir, first, a word about the objection that was raised by some hon. Members with regard to issuance of ordinances when the Parliament was not in Session. Let me assure Shri Dasmunsi that at times, when he said that the Government is not working, even the power of ordinance is resorted to during the inter-Session period when you realise that some contingencies have occurred that necessitates a legislation. We would like to uphold the supremacy of this Parliament. Hon. Members are right that the normal rule is to come through the route of an ordinary legislation by introducing it in the House. It is only when there is some grave emergency that the legislation on account of that urgency cannot await the next Session of the House that you resort to the route of ordinance.

Sir, in this case, for instance, the Election Commission wrote to the Government in the month of June that this amendment would be necessary for the conduct of elections, particularly in the context of the Union Territory of Delhi. Thereafter, a discussion took place between the various departments of the Government and the view of one of the departments of the Governments was that this would arise only in such Union Territories which have State

Assemblies. Those Union Territories which do not have a State Assembly, why should this amendment apply to them? Shri Pawan Bansal was in the forefront of raising this objection. Delhi is divided into various districts and each district of Delhi would require a District Election Officer. But what would happen in case of Chandigarh where there is no State Assembly. Therefore, this was not such a casual matter that the Election Commission has requested and this should immediately have been legislated. It was to be done only after a detailed discussion. This counter view was conveyed to the Election Commission. They analysed the view and said that even electoral rolls are, at times, even required for municipal elections. But finally a view was reached after consultation in the Government that we would require a District Election Officer in each district even in a Union Territory, a provision which had been excluded in the 1996 Amendment in section 13A of the 1950 Act. Because of that, two consequential amendments are required in the 1951 Act which are being mentioned in this. There were several important questions which have been raised with regard to individual constituencies. I request Shri Jhadav that with regard to those issues, he would easily request the Election Commission, and I am sure the Election Commission would take a reasonable view if there has been some kind of a social tension in that constituency and voters could not register in that period and what system they would devise there.

The power of the Election Commission is very wide. Shri Ambedkar wanted to know as to what would really be the width of the power under article 324. The power under article 324, in our reading, is very clear. It is the power of superintendence which is to be exercised in aid of conduct of free and fair elections. This power is so wide, Mr. Jos, as it has been called the reservoir of residuary power. Reservoir of residuary power means that wherever space is occupied by a primary legislation or a subordinate legislation, that space cannot be eroded by a power under article 324. And curiously enough, a case where the Supreme Court has decided this, is also titled Jos's case which is in relation to the machines, the EVMs. Therefore, wherever there is a specific space which is occupied by primary legislation or subordinate legislation, the Election Commission, under article 324, cannot go against that. But where there is a vacuum and the Election Commission feels that orders are required to be passed for the purpose of conduct of free and fair elections, the Elections Commission can always use that power under article 324 and that is why, it is called a reservoir of residuary powers of the Election Commission.

Questions were raised by my hon. friends from the AIADMK. It was a very important question. When you appoint district election officers, who are otherwise officers of the State

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

Government, how would it ensure that there is free conduct of elections because these Government officers would be accountable to the State Government, their ACRs would be written by the State Government, their promotion would depend on what the State Government have to really say. The disciplinary power would be that of the State Government. Therefore, if that situation remains, this would somewhere indirectly affect the conduct of fair and free elections even though, for the purpose of elections, they are under the supervisory jurisdiction of the Election Commission. This problem had continued to remain for a very long period.

About three years ago, I remember that when Shri Gill was the Chief Election Commission, there was also a case in the Supreme Court to that effect. Members from all the political parties may know this that Shri Gill and myself arrived at a particular formulation. The formulation was finally put across to the Supreme Court, it received the judicial approval of the Supreme Court and the legal provision now is that all officers who are involved in electoral duty, for the limited purpose of that electoral duty, would be accountable to the Election Commission. Orders in relation to election with regard to even transfers and postings can be passed by the Election Commission. The Election Commission may have the power to remove them but it can only recommend disciplinary power to the State Government or the appropriate disciplinary authority. That residuary power would remain only with the State Government. There is a detailed order passed by the court in terms of how disciplinary matters of these officers would be dealt with. Now this is the law of the land and the Election Commission continues to function on those lines.

I hope that with the experience in the conduct of elections that our Election Commission has gained, these problems would be solved. For instance, in Jammu and Kashmir, it was a multi-party democracy which would remain like ours. But the system would also cure itself that it would eventually have the capacity to resolve those problems in terms of constitutional framework which we have created.

With these words, I commend to this House to accept this Bill.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, in response to what the Law Minister just now has stated, the argument that he provided to us is that the 9th June communication of Election Commission took a long time and till August, by inter-Ministerial dialogue, they could not find a solution, and that is why, there has been a delay. This explanation is not convincing enough. I think he himself understands that the recommendation of the Election Commission was very specific.

It was just to separate the whole issue whether electoral officers of the Union Territories should be treated equally or National Capital Territory of Delhi should be treated as a special case.

I do not like to argue any more now because the whole argument is not convincing even to own constituents as to why this Ordinance route was chosen instead of bringing in a Bill in the last Session itself. Taking this opportunity, I would only humbly submit to the hon. Law Minister to consider the following four points. I understand the importance of this legislation. Only day before yesterday, I came back from my constituency. I found how important is the role of the district election officers during enrolment time. I would appeal to the Law Minister that if necessary to consult the Election Commission and to give a direction through the Election Commission to the respective States on these points. There is a big confusion going on. The confusion is that; (1) the recent circular we got in that meeting of State electoral officers recognises that political parties can submit the enrolment form in a bunch with an affidavit to the BDOs or the local authorities. They will fix a date for hearing and then they will decide the electoral rolls. As the Law Minister has rightly pointed out, the fear is that district electoral officers under whom the BDOs are working - they are junior officers - are the masters to decide the final role. If I give a bunch of 5,000 electoral forms, BJP gives a bunch of 4,000 forms, and the Left parties give a bunch of 5,000 forms - I am not mentioning the name of the State - if the pressure comes from the party in power that you include this bulk, depriving the other parties of any fair trial, where the grievance should be addressed thereafter? This is a big question.

Second question is determination of age proof for determining that a particular person is of the age of 18. In large number of villages in India, children are born not in municipal hospital or in the district hospital. So, they cannot give the exact date of birth. Children in the villages are born in their own homes, in *daima's* lap. Some of them have gone to school, up of fifth or sixth. It is impossible for the hospital authorities to give them the birth certificate. There are only three institutions which can do that. One is the local *panchayat*, the second is the *Tehsildar*, and the third is the parents themselves whose name figures in the voters list. The parent certify that my son was born on so and so date. How will they prove that they are 18 or 19 years of age? I am faced with this problem in my constituency and in the constituency of Shri Shah Nawaz Hussain, Cabinet Minister in this Government. These type of problems are being faced by the villagers.

Another complication is that Voters Identity Card has been issued and the person went to vote, but his name is not in the list. The name is in the list, but Voters Identity Card is not

there. They are being harassed by the presiding officers there and they come back to home. These kind of difficulties are being faced by the voters.

On the following point, I would request the Law Minister to kindly enlighten us. It is said that informally, not formally, the electoral officers have got direction not to increase the inclusion rate more than two per cent. If genuinely the number of youngsters who have reached the age of 18 or 19 have increased by more than two per cent, and if this informal direction of not to increase the inclusion rate more than two per cent, how can they really exercise their right to franchise? How can our country ensure that right in the existing system? These things are very much there.

I fully share with the point raised by Shri Ambedkar that the voting machines used recently and the re-organisation of booths have created new problems. You are combining two booths into one. When you are combining them into one, when it comes to voting, you are not choosing the central point. They are choosing a purposeful point, again inspired by the party in power in the local area. This deprives the voters of the other part to go to the booths on that day. Therefore, I feel that the voting rate would be going down in the remote areas, of course not in the urban areas, because they cannot go to the polling booths. I know at least a few booths in my constituency and for example, Shri Shah Nawaz Hussain's constituency one has to cross the river. It is impossible. The booth is on the other side of the river. How can they go? I feel that the Election Commission can give a new direction in this regard. If necessary, the number of booths can be increased.

But let the booth be in the *gram panchayats*. Let the *gram panchayat* members, who are in the villages, choose to vote. But this is creating another problem where the mechanism itself will deprive the electorate of exercising their franchise. I think a comprehensive review right from the inclusion of the electoral roll programme up to 31st December down to the direction on the issue of the age, bunch collection of forms and giving a decision *sub motu* one day, should be reviewed. Suppose people do not come on a particular date, what does the officer do? The BDO fixes a date of hearing. Thousands of people enrol their names. Let them belong to any party. I am not questioning about any particular party. Half of them are engaged in the field with harvesting work. If the parties have to collect those people, go to the places and justify with the affidavit, it would be come difficult. So, the political parties' submitting a bunch of forms might create another disorder. Therefore, the direct submission to the lower level authorities would be much more acceptable. It is my understanding of the situation. I hope the Law Minister shall very quickly come with a comprehensive electoral reforms

Bill consulting all the political parties. I further hope that he will provide at least another stage of improving the electoral process.

I appreciate the Election Commission. I have no personal grievance against it. Under what difficulties do they work? They have no independent machinery. We do not question their *bona fide*. They are improving the teeth provided to them. They are doing well. I must say that right from Shri Seshan to Shri Lyngdoh, the Election Commission itself has become an acceptable and credible institution. People feel that at least there is an Election Commission which will ensure justice. What can be done to give them more strength? I am glad to hear from the Law Minister about the arrangement they made about the accountability part of it. My suggestion would be that accountability should right from the District Electoral Officer. When election is announced, the officer in charge of the police stations, the Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate are involved in the process. If you make another mechanism saying that the person who is a Returning Officer is the Collector, the person, who will be the Additional Returning Officer, is the Additional District Magistrate, the person in charge of law and order, the Superintendent of Police, the persons who will be in charge of the law and the order of the local police stations- all of them should be answerable and the ACR should be verified for the period by the Election Commission's representatives, that would go a long way. Then, the teeth will be much more stronger. Otherwise what happens is that the Superintendent of Police cannot tour the entire district on the day of election. Therefore, he depends upon his subordinates. The subordinates claim that they are not exactly under the Election Commission and the Superintendent of Police would answer. The real mischief is taking place there. Therefore, these things should be thought of in-depth. If possible, the Law Minister can have another meeting with the political parties and help the Election Commission with our suggestions and recommendations to strengthen the democratic system in a much more superior way.

With these words, I would like to say that the reply given by the hon. Minister was not very convincing. However, in future, if the Law Minister comes forward with many more amendments based on any recommendation that comes from the Election Commission in regard to improving the situation, they should be expeditiously disposed of in a proper forum and not like in a Round Table Conference or an Inter-Ministerial Conference. I do not understand the logic in discussing it in the Inter-Ministerial Meeting. This logic does not hold good.

The hon. Minister said that the advisory instruction of 9th June took time; it went event after 21st of August; there was not enough time and hence the Government have brought forward the Ordinance. I have responded to the hon.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Minister's reply. I still insist that the statutory Resolution that disapproves of the ordinance should be accepted by the House. Let the Law Minister bring forward the legislation again. That is what I wanted to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House disapproves of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (No. 5 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 29 October, 2003."

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill

Clause 1, the Enacting formula and long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.55 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF DELIMITATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE

AND

DELIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up item nos. 20 and 21 together.

Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi—Not Present.

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (No. 6 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 31 October, 2003".

Sir, the course of taking the ordinance route by the Government in this case also was not justified because if you kindly see the interpretation and justification given by the Law Minister, in his own explanatory statement, it says that the Commission was also to refix the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes on the basis of 1991 Census. It also says that the Chairman of the Delimitation Commission, Justice Kuldip Singh, in his letter addressed to the then Minister of Law and Justice, expressed the view that the general feeling was that delimitation should be done on the basis of 2001 Census instead of 1991 Census. But the Law Minister did not mention as to on which day and which month the Chairman of the Delimitation Commission apprised the Law Ministry about it. Is it before 3rd March, 2003 or afterwards? If it long before 3rd March, 2003, then, I think, the Law Minister could have informed the House about it before bringing the Constitution (Amendment) Bill and the task could have been made easier. However, I do not question the *bona fide* of the Law Minister. He consulted all the political parties and thereafter he brought the Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

Sir, the moment the Constitution (Amendment) was passed, the legal implications were known to the Law Ministry that to accommodate the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the nominations of the Governors in the North Eastern States are also required. So, he should not have sat on it for so long and then come out with this ordinance. The urgency was not there. There is no election in any of the North Eastern States now. He could have straight away come with this Bill in this Session. Who is opposing him? We are all supporting him. What was the urgency to bring about an ordinance instead of bringing the Bill in this Session? I could not understand the reason for this. I can understand the case of Delhi even though I was not fully satisfied.

Sir, the Assembly election was held in the State of Mizoram recently. Is it because of Mizoram Assembly election that delimitation was required? No. the Mizoram Assembly election was held in the normal course without delimitation of constituencies. So, what was the urgency to bring about the ordinance? That is the point he did not explain in his statement and that is why I gave the notice for disapproval of this ordinance.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND
MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN
JAITLEY) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002 be taken into consideration.

Sir, the amendment with regard to the base year in accordance with which the delimitation has to be carried out is a two phase amendment. In the first phase, the Constitution of India is required to be amended. This house as also the other House had amended the Constitution providing for 1991 to act as the base year for delimitation. This was on the premise that the Census data of 2001 would only be available towards the later part of this year. However, after the Constitution (Amendment) Bill was passed, the Delimitation Bill, 2002 was also approved by this House. Thereafter, the Delimitation Commission was constituted and the Delimitation Commission started conducting its exercise in various States, particularly in those States which were to go to polls this year.

17.00 hrs.

When this exercise had started, representations started coming from almost all political parties in this House as also in the States with regard to certain procedures being followed by the Delimitation Commission. One issue on which a larger consensus developed in this House was that it would better to wait for the Census report to be notified and on the basis of that Census report, to be notified, to conduct the delimitation on the basis of 2001 Census because the next delimitation would only take place post-2026. It was because of this factor a Constitution amendment was introduced in this House, approved by both the Houses of Parliament and thereafter, after the consent of the President was taken, after the due procedure was followed, the Constitution amendment was duly notified.

Once that Constitution amendment became a part of the Constitution itself, we held consultations with the Delimitation Commission and one, of course, was a matter of formality that what was the Constitution amendment itself, that is, the 2001 as the base year. A consequential amendment in three sections of the Delimitation Act had to be done where the numerical 1991 had to be replaced by 2001.

Secondly, it was noticed in relation to three States, namely, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland that there was no State Election Commission appointed by the Governor. Therefore, a difficulty was arising as to who would be the nominee, the third nominee for delimitation in the context of those States. Therefore, a special provision was required

and after consultation the provision was introduced, which is a part of this Ordinance, that in the context of three States, it would be the persons nominated by the Governor of that State for that particular purpose.

Since post-Constitution amendment, it was the necessity to give effect to this and one of our efforts is to complete the delimitation exercise as soon as it is possible. So, in order to expedite the delimitation exercise an Ordinance was necessary. Otherwise, we had the Constitution amendment, we had the Delimitation Commission, but in the absence of this amendment, that is, amending 1991 to 2001 in this Act, the Delimitation Commission was not able to proceed with this exercise and its activities. Therefore, to give effect to that, this Ordinance was necessary and that is the necessary of bringing this Ordinance in the inter-Session period.

I, therefore, commend to this House that this Bill be approved by this House.

SHRI K. A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, only last year I was talking on this amendment Bill, that is Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2002.

The State of Nagaland had a lot of problems after the cut off Census year as 1991 because when the Election Commission tried to carry out an exercise to find out the size of the Assembly segments, there were lot of protests because Nagaland State is a very sensitive State. It has got a variety of tribals and there are different languages spoken. People do not want to go from one polling station to another polling station where another tribal is staying and another language is spoken. Thereby, they protested vehemently and the complete State machinery was brought to a standstill. So, having this kind of problem, this Act, which has been brought in, was very essential.

I would like to say here that in Nagaland, there are 17 tribes with more than 25 languages spoken. Keeping in view, in a small State like that, if we do not take care of the sentiments of the people, there could be a lot of problems, problem within the community, problem within the districts and the matter with go on unresolved, thereby, it will be very difficult for any one to survive peacefully.

When this State was created in 1961, it had a population of 3.5 lakhs and today we have a population of two million. The Nagaland State had only three districts at that time and today in 2003, it has 11 districts. Looking at that, the Nagaland State actually requires more Assembly constituencies, which was formed in 1961 having only 60 Assembly segments. Today, the Nagaland Assembly has also recommended that

[Shri K.A. Sangtam]

these 60 Assembly segments should be increased to 80 Assembly segments. That is one aspect.

With a population of two million and the rugged mountainous terrain, it is very difficult for a single legislator of the State to cover up because to go from one end to another takes days together. The distance may be one kilometre but if you go by road, by the time you meander around those mountains, it goes to about 20-30 kilometres and it is also very very narrow roads. It becomes very difficult for a single Member of Parliament to cover it. So, I would like to suggest that in the near future the number of the assembly constituencies should be increased from 60 to 80 and from one Parliament seat to two Parliament seats.

Now, having a tribal population of a little over 85 per cent, today the Nagaland Parliamentary seat is kept as an open seat which is very amazing because tomorrow somebody can just walk in and say that he can buy of the whole State and get himself elected. But to give protection to the tribal population of that State I think the Nagaland State should be made into a Scheduled Tribes reserved seat. If you look at it, today nobody even has brought this issue to the House. So, I would like to reiterate that Nagaland Parliamentary Constituency seat be taken as a Scheduled Tribe reserved seat. The previous associate Members have also represented to the Delimitation Commission, the State Government also has passed the memorandum and has put up to the Election Commission for recognising the State of Nagaland Parliamentary seat as a Tribal reserved seat.

Then, there are other aspects where we need to look into. Those districts which have been newly created do not have sufficient assembly segments. On 15th of August, three more districts have been created in the State of Nagaland. In each one district, there is only one assembly seat having population of more than one lakh. So, in a tribal belt like this, I think we need to look into it very carefully. Going by the number of population that has increased from 1961 till date, it is a tremendous increase, from 3.5 lakh to 2 million population till date. So, I would like to put across the difficulties and problems of a small State like Nagaland where many different tribes are there, where so many languages are spoken. Not only that the different tribes who are living in different places are divided by the rivulets or streams or by mountains. So, keeping in view of these factors, if we go directly by the Delimitation Commission's guideline, we will never be able to achieve what we intend to do in a place like Nagaland. Therefore, the Governor should be given full power to looking into the sentiments of the people. The Commission should not go strictly by the number of population, that is by 2001 census of the population divided by the number of assembly constituencies. It should be adjusted

according to the people's sentiments and where they can be adjusted within their own community and the language spoken in that particular place.

With these few words I would like to support the amendment of Part II of the Explanation of the Section 3 of the Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and support this Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2003. With these few words, I would like to end here.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen to speak in support of the Bill introduced for consideration by the hon'ble Minister and for which ordinance has already been issued. If this amendment Bill was not in the way, then the Delimitation Commission constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Kuldeep Singh would have completed its work before Lok Sabha elections.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister informed us that ordinance was required so that the Delimitation Commission is able to continue its work. Earlier the exercise was proposed to be undertaken on the basis of 1991 census, now the census of 2001 is being taken as the base. I welcome it. But I doubt whether the commission would be able to finish its work before the term of Lok Sabha expires, that is, about one year from now. Figures have now been made available and on their basis the Commission also held a meeting. But I do know whether it has been authenticated or not. Through you, I would like to request hon'ble Minister to ensure that the Commission finish its task within the tenure only.

I would like to say one more thing. An hon'ble Minister from Nagaland pointed out one of his problems. I come from state having an area of 55000 sq. km and which contained three tribal areas represented by me. One parliamentary constituency contains 17 assembly constituencies. Mandi parliamentary segment alone has an area of 32000 sq. km. Three MPs represent 23,000 sq. km. While 32000 sq. km. is represented by the one MP only. She said, in the current scenario, it would not be possible to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of voters that their representatives visit every village. So far as tribal areas are concerned, these remain cut off from other parts of the country for nine months, especially the Lahaul Spiti region. When Rohtang pass is closed, they can't even venture into their own State, and they have to move out with the help of helicopters. Officially, they are cut off from other parts of country from 15 October to 15 June. Therefore, as per the latest available census of 2001, their population stands still at 32,224 and that is an exclusive tribal constituency on its one side in Kunjum pass. I represent this region and along the Kinnaur and Spiti lies the China

border whereas along Bharmaur lies the Pakistan border, thus it is also located along the international border. Thus the area I represent in the border area. He was quite right. Whether only census can be a ground, this is the pertinent question. If the topography and the contiguity are not kept in mind, how a representative would be able to do justice with his constituency. If I have to go Bharmaur then I may not find a way for nine months. If I decide to go on foot, there is Kugati pass. I have to travel 400 kms. of dead distance from Dhatta to Khara Mukh via Chakki bank of Kangra constituency. All through the stretch, there is not even one village and I have to travel a dead distance of 700 kms. If I have to go to Kinnaur then I have to go via Rampur which falls partially under Hamirpur and Shimla. Thus, it is my demand also that separate rules be made regarding representatives for tribal areas. Their population is not less than two lakhs. As per the tentative figures quoted here, there are 1,77,000 voters who are all tribal. Therefore, apart from population, topography and continuity should also be the criteria. Either it should be separate constituency or Bharmaur, which is a part of Chamba district and is close at Kangara, should fall under Kangra constituency and not in Mandi. Similarly, Rampur is part of Shimla district, but as parity exercise, it falls in Mandi constituency. On the basis of 1991 census. One Parliamentary constituency represented 12,92,719 persons whereas this figure has gone up to 15,19,312 according to 2001 census. Therefore, my request is that there should be separate constituency for tribals so that they may send their own representatives. Though their population is less, but if one MP per one lakh or 1.5 lakh votes can be elected from North-East then why the same cannot happen in Himachal Pradesh also, which is border state, too? My submission is that both contiguity and problems we face should be kept in mind. There is no other region in the world, as my Pangi Bharmaur region having Chamba as its headquarter, where people have to travel 900 kms to reach their district headquarter. Therefore it should be kept in mind. Whether the commission will address the concerns I have raised? Whether the delimitation exercise will be implemented before the coming Lok Sabha elections? It would be better if my concerns are addressed and a response is made by the Government.

I would to conclude by pointing out one more thing. So far as assembly constituency is concerned, Bharmaur, is a tribal region, where non-tribal areas have been assimilated with a view to maintain balance; when Lahual-Spiti having a tribal population of 33224 can have a separate identity, Bharmaur tribal area should also exclude non tribals. Their demand is either they should be given facilities at par with tribal areas or they should not be covered in the tribal area. With these words, I conclude and once again thank you for giving me opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : I support the Bill in principle, but I am opposed to the way in which it was brought here.

17.18 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER in the Chair

When I opposed the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, I had stated some reasons for opposing it. The same reasons are applicable in the instant case also. So, I do not repeat the arguments which were advanced during the previous Bill.

Here, the main question I would like to discuss is about the urgency. Was it urgent for the Government to issue an Ordinance in the instant case? In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, under rule 71 sub-clause one of Rules of Procedure, the hon. Minister has stated that as the final report of the census for the year 2001 was likely to be published before the Winter Session of Parliament and in consonance with the above general consensus, the delimitation Ordinance was issued. So, at the time when this Ordinance was issued, there was no final report of the census for 2001. Then what is the urgency? It is because the Commission will have to act only when there is a Census Report for 2001.

At the time when this Ordinance was issued, no report was available. The report would be available only during the Winter Session of Parliament. Then, why did the Government not wait for bringing a Bill in the House? It is an admitted fact that the Delimitation Commission can function only on the basis of the Census report for 2001. That has been expressed during the discussion in the House on the Delimitation Act. We also definitely were of the opinion that the delimitation should be on the basis of 2001 Census report. But that Census report was not available at the time when the Ordinance was issued. It is crystal clear that it would be available only during the Winter Session. Then, what was the necessity of bypassing the Legislature? They could have waited till the publication of the report. Without the report, the Delimitation Commission cannot function. They were doing their job on the basis of 1991 Census report. We found that it is unjust to have the delimitation on the basis of 1991 Census report. Parliament was also of that opinion. We were also insisting that the 2001 report should be the basis. When that data is not available, I do not understand the logic behind issuing an Ordinance. What was the urgency when that was the position?

As I said, the Delimitation Commission cannot function without 2001 report. The persons who are nominated by the

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

Government cannot function. They can function only when the report 2001 Census is made available. That is not available even now. The Government has taken a stand to bypass the Legislature. Why should it do so? After all, it is not a disputable fact. The entire House is with the Government in passing this legislation because it was the House which opined that the 2001 Census should be the basis. On that basis it would have been much more fair and just for the Government to wait and bring in the legislation in the normal course and get it passed because the House is in their favour. I do not understand the logic. That is why, I oppose the way in which the Bill is introduced.

Regarding the contents of the Bill, I would like to make some suggestions. When the Delimitation Act was passed, we had a thorough discussion about the population growth. The Government of India have consistently implemented the policy of family planning. But the family planning process was effectively implemented only in the Southern States. The States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have implemented it. In Bihar and in the Northern States, the population grew. The growth of population has become unlimited. There was unlimited growth of population in the Northern States. We have discussed on this issue. If the delimitation is to be on the basis of population, the Southern States will lose the number of seats represented in the Lok Sabha. Thirty to forty seats would be lost by the Southern States because they have implemented the decision of the Government of India regarding family planning. But the Northern States did not do it. Bihar and other States were very particular of increasing the population. The net result is that the seats which are likely to be lost by the Southern States will go to the Northern States...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : But that is not happening now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It did not happen because we have decided not to change it till 2025.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, that is not correct.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajanj, U.P.) : Sir, the argument that he is giving is not correct. They could control population growth by way of increasing the percentage of education. North Indian States are deprived of education. Less funds were allocated to these States and as a result of this it remained economically backward and the population of these States increased. Let us discuss the solution to the basic problem.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It is because we have taken a decision. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete my point.

Now, we have taken a decision not to change the number of seats in each and every States till 2025. Why is it so? That decision was taken simply for the reason that the Southern States that would have implemented the family planning programme would lose the number of States. Now the number of seats in the States as well as in the Lok Sabha will remain as it is.

If it is decided on the basis of population, then Southern States will lose. It is admitted. Maharashtra will lose; Karnataka will lose; Kerala will lose; Tamil Nadu will lose; Andhra Pradesh will lose; and Pondicherry will lose because the growth of population is low in these States. The population is the criterion for deciding the number of seats. If that be the case, this will be the result. That is why, they have taken a decision not to change it till 2025. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, it is not correct...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I remember that I had taken part in that decision. I had brought this point. It was unanimously decided not to change the number of Assembly seats as well as Lok Sabha seats till the year 2025.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : It has been accepted by all. Why are you creating a divide ?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : It was decided in the all-party meeting...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : In the House also, we have decided that that Delimitation Act will be applicable till the year 2025. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Palanimanickam, do not disturb him.

Please conclude now.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Now, there is another difficulty. When the Delimitation Commission takes up delimitation of Assembly seats, the same question will arise because the family planning is not evenly implemented in the districts. In my State, there are certain districts where there is growth of population and there are other Southern States where there is decrease in population. So, the number of seats will change. That will create a very difficult situation. The Delimitation Commission should take abundant caution

to see that changes do not take place in the number of seats district-wise also. Of course, the reservation in seats and all that will have to be changed, but in the process of delimitation, the principle that was nationally adopted, should made be applicable district-wise also when delimitation is taken up for Assembly seats.

I think, the Commission will have to bear it in mind. Otherwise, there will be tension, there will be trouble in the State and also among the political parties. There will be tension among the communities also. Even communal tension can prevail if this process is adopted without an intelligent approach, without a cautions approach, if I may put it.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to give direction to the Commission or to express an opinion that such a thing should never take place in the process of delimitation of Assembly constituencies.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say something about the delimitation (Amendment) Bill that has been moved in the House. When the Bill was introduced, we had time and again cautioned the Government that delimitation would be done on the basis of Census 1991 with the condition that there would be no increase in seats. However, the seats reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes could be reviewed. The Constitution amendment will be taken up with this condition. Every one agreed to this point that there would be no increase in seats till the year 2025. However, the Government did not agree to that. We had demanded that there is provision in Constitution that delimitation will be done after every census and that is in tune that delimitation will be done after every census. The Delimitation Bill was introduced after the year 2002 which was on the basis of Census 1991 and I had remarked that it was ludicrous. After 2001, Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2000 has been moved in which 1991 census has been taken as base. The Delimitation Commission was constituted on the basis of the Census 1991 and it started its work. The sittings of representatives of various states were held in which it was felt that it should be on the basis of Census 2001 however, it was said that as the report of Census 2001 was not published so it could not be used as base. If the data is not available then how the Delimitation Commission will start its work. It will take two years to finish work. In this way what will be the basis for the election to be held in 2004. The Government should clarify it. Whether the Government feel that voting will be done on previous basis.

Thus the delimitation work will extend little more beyond 2004. The later election can be held on that basis.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the most dangerous thing in this regard will be that has been mentioned in the objective of the Bill, the seats reserved through 87th Constitution Amendment for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, under the Parliamentary constituency were enacted for readjustment. It means that it was projected on the basis of Census 1991. It was expressed that there will be increase 3-4 seats in Maharashtra and the increase of one or two seats was expected in other States. However, the Government acted in such a way that we are discussing amendment of 2001 while the election due in 2003 will be held on the basis of Census 1971. The seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were to increase but that did not happen. The present Government is anti-Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is on account of this that there is serious discontent among them. Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan also submitted that population growth in Southern States has been checked and large number of people have migrated from Kerala and their population is not increasing on the paper. Thus their population is declining. They are apprehensive that their seats may not reduced. Unreserved seats may get reduced and we are worried for non increase of the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people by way of doing so. If the Commission will function on the basis of 1971, then there is possibility of reduction of their seats. The Government should clarify as on what basis the election for 2004 will be held. Whatever may be the reasons but delimitation will not be implemented. So by what time will it be implemented.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram) : Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

As I understand, the purpose of the Bill is two-fold, namely, (1) to readjust the division of territorial constituencies of seats without increasing or decreasing the total number of the Legislative Assembly constituencies based on the 2001 census instead of 1991 census as stated earlier, and (2) to include Governor's nominee, in case there is no State Election Commissioner, as one of the members of the Delimitation Committee.

It is high time we take into account the 2001 census instead of the 1991 census. I can appreciate the background with which this Bill is brought forward. The Chairman of the Delimitation Commission himself had written to the Government that an amendment is needed. All the political parties wanted to go with the 2001 census. In that situation, the Government is right in bringing this amendment to take

[Shri K. Malaisamy]

into account 2001 census. I would like to raise a few points. The hon. Minister may kindly reply to those points while replying to the debate.

I would like to know the criterion adopted by the Delimitation Commission. Do they follow different yardsticks in different places or are they following a uniform yardstick everywhere? Are they doing it based on population, the geographical features, or other constraints and compulsions? What is the criterion the Government have fixed for them to go ahead?

Secondly, as rightly pointed out by many of the Members, the census figures are not available till today. I would like to know the timeframe within which the Government wants to adopt the figures of 2001 census, and the time within which the whole delimitation process will be completed. I need a specific answer from the Minister as to whether there can be timeframe for obtaining the 2001 census and completing the whole process of delimitation.

I was told that the Delimitation Commission was eliciting views from various quarters, including the political executives and the politicians, based on the 1991 census. But the complaint was that hearing was not given and even if given the opportunity was not adequate. Now, they have to redo the whole process based on 2001 census. I would like to know whether they would go through the whole process *de novo* or afresh. I need a specific answer to this point.

When you readjust the assembly constituencies, you can carve out a portion of a particular constituency and annex it with the adjoining constituency. That is workable. If the two constituencies are equal in all respects, you can neither add nor subtract from any of the two constituencies. In another situation, can you carve out an excess portion from one constituency and annex it to a far off constituency by passing one or more constituency? Can you bypass? Can you overlap? The Delimitation Commission itself is not very clear on that. How do you get about it?

Finally, I would like to make a suggestion to the Minister if it is participable to keep an Assembly constituency intact taking into account the revenue District as a unit. We have seen in many cases in which one assembly constituency, comes under two or three Districts. Can we afford to devise some method to ensure that an Assembly constituency comes under only one District? Can the District be taken as one unit? Is it practicable?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important issue and I feel that the House and the

Government should take it seriously. This matter is not concerned with any one individual. It is different thing whether Ram Vilas Paswan contests from reserved constituency or un-reserved constituency, my seat is reserved or unreserved, however this matter is concerned with entire Dalit and tribal communities. There is a mass resentment all over the country on this issue and next months agitation is going to be launched for it. Three years i.e. 1971, 1991, 2001 are under consideration. If it is done according to 2001 then at least 18 to 20 seats to Lok Sabha and 60 seats of Legislative assemblies all over the country will increase. Maximum increase will be of the scheduled castes seats in Maharashtra. This increase will not be for the reason that the population of Scheduled Castes have increased or they are breeding fast, rather it will be because new castes have been included in it. Earlier nine Budhas were not getting reservation. While I was a Minister in 1990, they were assigned the status of scheduled castes and it was the only reason that SC population of Maharashtra increased by six percent. Similarly things have happened everywhere in Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

Sir, earlier delimitation was done every ten years. It was frozen after 1971 and was decided that it will not be done till 2000 and the number will remain the same. When the Government was formed after 2000, then this issue surfaced again and I remember that the Delimitation Commission was constituted on 12 July. The Chairman of the Delimitation Commission Shri Kuldeep Singh wrote a letter to the Government of India in December and demanded that the Government should base it on Census 2001 and provide Census report at the earliest. There are three bodies involved in it. One is R.G.I. next is Election Commission and the third one is Delimitation Commission. At that time Shri Jana Krishnamurthy was the Minister. On 24 January he wrote a letter stating that it was not possible to base on Census 2001. The Government have decided that it will be done on the basis of 1991. Thereafter on March 13, a meeting was called by the Minister of Laws, Shri Arun Jaitley. I was present in that. I raised the issue that why was it going to be held on the basis of 1991 while at present it is 2003 and the election is going to be held in 2004. He asked me whether I wanted increase in it or not. He said that honestly speaking Census Report is not going to be published before October-November 2003 and after the publication of the Census report one or two year period will be required for this. So, if 2001 is taken as base, it will not be possible and as a result of this it will be on the basis of 1971. So, it is practical to base in on 1991 and let it be so. I did not say anything and told that it was ok.

Thereafter, all of the sudden it was decided that it should be based on 2001 and not on 1991. You might be recalling that at that time. I had opposed it in the House. Then the hon'ble Minister had assured that since new technology was

in practice so the report would be published by September. Everything would be completed within two three months. At that time I told that I had talked to RGI. They told that it was not mandatory for them to collect Census report from every place. That is why it is not possible. However the Government had been time and again saying that it would be completed by the year 2001. Now it is December 2003. The Census report has not yet been officially published. In this situation the Government are going to amend the Act not on the basis of Census of 1991 but on the basis of 2001. I agree with the Government however, if the next Lok Sabha election is not held on the basis of Census 2001, then ultimately it will be held on the basis of 1971. The population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has already increased during the last thirty years. They are already suffering and the Government are deliberately putting them in disadvantageous position. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi Ji, you please excuse me but whenever I talked to the Government then it was said that everything has been done with the consent of the opposition party. It is a serious issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that I will sit on hunger strike in the Parliament premises. Where else can I go?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. So the Government should clarify it. I am silent because the Government want to delimit on the basis of Census 2001. If it is so then it will be an added benefit. However, if it is neither on the basis of 2001 or 1991 but on the basis of 1971 then it will not be appropriate.

Sir, Dalit Members are being told that their seats will be dereserved. As per the law, the constituency where the people belonging to these communities are in majority will be reserves. No one can change it. That means the earlier reserved seat will remain reserved. Even if the present seats are dereserved, it is not binding for any one to contest election from the same seats. I can contest election not only from Hajipur but some other place also. It must not be made mandatory that I should always contest election from Hajipur. Other persons should also get opportunity. Sasaram is Babu Jagjivan Ram's area. It should not be that only reserved candidate will contest election from that constituency. Opportunity should be provided to other candidates also.

Sir, main issue is not this that the reserved seats of Dalit candidates will be reserved, rather the main problem is that the seats which are dereserved will be reserved. The prominent leaders who are presently contesting from dereserved seats are worried and afraid that their seats may get reserved. If the reserved seats are dereserved then dereserved seats may also get reserved and if it is so

happens then they will not be able to contest election from those seats. They are worried only for this.

Sir, through you, I would like to clearly submit to the Government that it should clarify as to what the Government is going to do in this regard. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to clarify it in his reply as it is not the question of only one organisation. One is election commission, other is Delimitation Commission and the third one is RGI there is no coordination among them. The coordination is being done by the Government. So the Government should inform the House whether the delimitation is being done on the basis of census 2001 or not and if the delimitation is not going to be done on the basis of the Census 2001 then it is not good. It should not be that the Minister succeeds in getting the Bill passed and thereafter if the delimitation is not done on the basis of Census 2001, the hon'ble Minister may take excuse that though he wanted so but now he could not do anything he is helpless in this regard. If it so happens then that will be the most unfortunate day for India.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to frankly submit to Shri Arjun Jaitley that he is a learned person and is a prominent lawyer and he is well aware of all these things. He knows it very well how to make right wrong and vice versa. He is well capable of doing all these things. So I would like to submit to him that he should make reply in clear terms. I would not like to go in detail about its technical aspect.

Sir, I do not doubt the integrity of Kuldeep Singh ji. He has time and again submitted in clear terms that he needs some more time. He had submitted earlier also and asked for atleast 6 months time after notification. If six month time is given he would certainly do it. Whenever elections are held, say in March or April, May or in June it will be appropriate only if it is on the basis of Census 2001. However it is not being done. There is a big conspiracy behind it. So, I would like to allege the Government that the Government is working against the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as even after passing the Bill the Government are intending to hold elections on the basis of Census 1971. I criticise it. Though I support the Bill in which it has been stated to hold election on the basis of Census 2001 however, I would like to criticise the Government for its intention to hold elections on the basis of Census 1971.

MR. SPEAKER : Paswan ji why did you not move amendment in it?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, the Bills that is before you is not at all concerned with it. I will raise this issue in the House under Rule 184 or in some other form.

MR. SPEAKER : That can be done however one option before you was to move amendment in this regard.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir even if amendment was moved by me I would have spoken what I did. There is one saying in my area—"Chor ke samne tala kya aur beyiman ke samne kabala kya"

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, there was not scope for amendment as what ever is being demanded by him already covered in this Bill.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir my demand is that delimitation should be done on the basis of census 2001 and the Bill states that delimitation should be done on the basis of census 2001.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Bansal ji, he could say that this should be passed with a condition that reservation, as per population, should be given by following due process.

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, the Government should accept your suggestion. Sir, I propose that the Government should accept your suggestion.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I had consulted lawyers, they said that it is sufficient and then there is no scope for amendment. The amendment will be moved on the basis of 2001 ...*(Interruptions)* Arun ji is telling that he will do it on the basis of 2001...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : While speaking about Arun ji you told us about the characteristics of a lawyer.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : All lawyers are of the same type.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : Sir, I had actually left out one point. The Nagaland Government and we, the associated members, had represented last time to the Delimitation Commission and the Government of India that if the Delimitation Commission continues to keep this guidelines of population divided by the number of population, it will be a big headache for the State of Nagaland. So, if the Commission continues to do that, I am afraid that there will be a lot of commotion, trouble, and the associated members may be failing in their duty. I am afraid that it may also compel the associate members to withdraw from the associated membership of the Commission.

17.52 hrs.

(Dr. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH in the Chair)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajan, U.P.) : Sir, the Government have introduced the Delimitation Amendment Bill, 2003 in the House today. This Bill is an indication of the short-sightedness of the Government. The apprehensions raised by Paswan ji would not have occurred, had the Government accepted suggestions of the Members of opposition at the time when the Delimitation Bill, 2002 was passed in the House and thus we would have been definitely able to hold the Lok Sabha elections of 2004 on the basis of 2001 census after completing the process of de-limitation. I fully agree with Paswan ji that the intention of the Government is not good and as a result of that the Government have not fulfilled the assurances given by them in the party meeting held nine months back and have come today with this Delimitation Amendment Bill, 2003.

Sir, the main point which has come out in this Bill is increase in population which has been discussed by our colleagues. One of the basic reason behind this population explosion is 'education'. Increase in the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has taken place because we have not fulfilled our duty for their development in the 56 years of history of our independence and have definitely neglected them. Therefore, the Government should take concrete steps to ensure that all sections of the society may get education in order to control the increase in the population. It is very unfortunate that even after 56 years of our independence we have not been able to provide education to all....*(Interruptions)* Now the present Government should also present the figures. The report of the Ministry of Human Resource Development presents the true picture. We have not prepared it.

Sir, in the context, I would like to say that the Government, especially our hon. Minister of Law should given clear and specific assurance that they really have good intentions for the development of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Sir, it is a comment on illiterate people...*(Interruptions)* They have even nine to twelve children. How does it relate with educated people? ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : How is he involved in this. He should not make a personal comment on any of the

hon. Member. He is a honourable Member of this House and so no such allegations should be made against him atleast by you...*(Interruptions)* No persons comments should be made ...*(Interruptions)* You should not take any one's name...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This name would not go on record.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : I have not made any allegation but have only told the real position ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : He is totally against the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : ...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : This word would not be included in the Proceedings.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to have a clear assurance from the hon. Minister of Law in the House on behalf of the Government that they would accomplish the work of de-limitation on the basis of 2001 census and hold elections. And the Government would not deprive the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of their privilege of increase in seats.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir the Bill introduced by the Government is very important. Shri Arun Jaitley has introduced a good Bill which proposes for increase in the seats of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as per the 2001 census. But the apprehensions of Paswan ji and Akhilesh ji are also right as they put that the Government have got success in three States and Lok Sabha elections are to be held in September 2004, but it would be injustice with the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and scheduled Tribes if elections are held in the month of February, March or April. I, therefore, want to seek assurance from Arun Jaitley ji for increase in the seats as per the 2001 census.

As per my information, 118 seats of Lok Sabha are reserved and 24 seats are required to be increased. So far as Maharashtra is concerned, Paswan ji has told that the percentage of reservation for the dalit community people has decreased after Babasaheb Ambedkar took 'diksha' of Buddhism of 14 October, 1956. Earlier 6 Lok Sabha seats

were reserved in Maharashtra, and three seats out of these were reduced. 36 seats were reserved in the Legislative Assembly and 18 out of these were reduced. In 1990, the Parliament passed a law for giving complete reservation to new buddhist on the lines of reservations to SCs and STs and this automatically required for an increase in seats. There was no need of delimitation, but those seats were not increased and that is why, I urge upon the hon. Minister that he may fulfill the assurance that he gave regarding increase in Legislative Assembly seats by 18 and those in the Lok Sabha by 3. If we consider the 2001 census then 6 more seats in Maharashtra Legislative Assembly should be increased and one more seat for scheduled castes should be increased in the Lok Sabha. There are 23 seats for Scheduled Tribes in Maharashtra Legislative Assembly seats, 6 more should be added. Besides, there are four seats for STs of Maharashtra in the Lok Sabha, one more should be increased. There is a need to increase it.

I have one more request, there should be reservation for SCs and STs in the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council too on the lines of reservation in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. A new Bill to this effect may kindly be introduced. This assurance may also be given in the House.

I support this Bill but these seats should be increased before the ensuing elections and I also demand that till then elections should not be held. Arun Jaitley ji should give assurance for this too. I support this Bill.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, on behalf of my party support the De-limitation Amendment Bill, 2003.

The De-limitation Commission has been constituted and is performing its duties. De-limitations of seats would be done on the basis of population and area. I do not want to speak much on this Bill but would like to have one clarification from the hon. Minister that people are confused as to whether the Lok Sabha elections would be held in September, 2004.

18.00 hrs.

Even the people's representatives and common people are confused that as to whether the Lok Sabha elections would be held on the recommendations of the de-limitations Commission or 1991 census...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is six o'clock. If the House agrees then proceedings of the House may be extended till the Bill is passed.

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : There is one more bill of one word only that is Marriage Law (Amendment) Bill along with this. There is no need of discussion on this... *(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Please get it passed tomorrow ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : My problem is that tomorrow I have to go in the meeting of WTO. This Bill would be passed in no time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House agrees on it.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Mr Chairman, Sir, I seek just one clarification that what would be the basis of the coming Lok Sabha elections. Census for the 2001 has been conducted, but the final report on this has not come as yet. One thing is thus clear that the coming Lok Sabha elections would not be held on the basis of 2001 census. This means the said Lok Sabha elections would be held on the basis of 1991 Census. People are confused over this... *(Interruptions)* This would be more retrospective if it is done on the basis of 1971 Census. People are confused on this. There should be a clear cut message from hon. Minister's side to the common people that whether the coming elections would be held on the basis of the 2001 or 1991, or 1971 Census. This is my only request.

(English)

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, several important points have been raised. Let us first of all understand that this amendment is to fill up the vacuum which exists in the three North-Eastern States where there is no State Election Commission. So, a nominee of the Governor has to be introduced as the third member of the Delimitation Commission. The second part of the amendment is a consequential amendment where, in the Delimitation Act, 2002 it replaces the numerical 1991 by 2001. This consequential constitutional amendment has already been passed by both the Houses of Parliament. Therefore, all these questions that are being raised today are not new questions. The basis question had to be raised when the House passed this constitutional amendment. This is a consequential amendment. Now, if you do not approve this, the effect would be that the Constitution says, "Do delimitation on 2001 census". But the Parliament will say, "No, do it on 1991 census." Parliament cannot create such an incongruous situation. And therefore, acting in harmony, the consequential amendment has to be passed.

Secondly, we may understand that what is it that necessitated the change of date from 1991 to 2001. The Government earlier was very clear, even when suggestions were made with regard to 2001, when this Bill was initially

passed, when the first constitutional amendment was passed, that we will endeavour to complete the delimitation exercise as quickly as possible and implement it. I have not the least hesitation in saying it. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has said it on the last occasion also. We had an all-party meeting where several views were expressed and after that, if not unanimity, there was a very large consensus that the date must be changed from 1991 to 2001. Let me say that it was an overwhelming consensus.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : When he said that this would be done on the year 2001 then I agreed.

SHRI RAM JAITLEY : Ram Vilas Paswanji. I would like to remind you what you had said. When the first All party meeting was held, he was the first amongst those who had supported the year 2001... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I support it even today ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Thereafter when he was told that this would create uncertainty, he said that it should be reconsidered. Other political parties were also the same view that efforts should be made to complete the 2001 census as quickly as possible. Even today these parties as also the Government stand on the same view. So, today the question is that as to who would perform the work of de-limitation and as to how the arrangements would be in this regard. Census report, whenever received, would be notified. And the Government are making efforts that the report be presented as early as possible. I have personally talked to the Chairman of De-limitation Commission. He also said that the Constitution amendment has been carried out but no change has been made in the law, so we are sitting idle. They have placed, a good logic in the draft figures of the Census that they have developed software model as a result of the work they did on the basis of 1991 Census and I think that he would be satisfied with that. Thereafter we intensified our activities in this direction. We try to get draft figures from the Census officers. And they make required improvement in their model. We are taking action in this matter whatever is required and would continue this work when we get notified figures irrespective of difference of two or four percent. It would be better if we carry this work slowly, so that this task could be completed within a short time span. He is in the opposition hence it is very easy for him to say that the Government do not intend to do delimitation but I would like to know as to what is the base of it. He, as a very senior member, is well aware that the Government do not perform the work of delimitation. He would also be in the De-limitation Commission. It comprises one representative from the

Election Commission, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court as Chairman, one nominee of the State Election Commission and then Members from the ruling party and the opposition in Lok Sabha and the members from ruling party and opposition of Legislative Assemblies are also there in the case of State legislative Assemblies. Each State has Governments of different political parties. As soon as the Government receive report from the Associate members and members, they would notify it immediately. Therefore merely saying that the Government do not intend to do so...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have been member for the last nine months.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : He is sitting like this for the last nine months because we respect the consensus of the House and the reason behind this feeling is that the hon. Members during the Budget session questioned the way in which this work was being done. Please try to understand the other reason too. The logic which was placed and the cause being advanced by him also goes in that favour. The de-Limitation to be done this time would apply till the year 2006. Only the election of 2031 would be conducted on the basis of fresh de-limitation. If we take 1991 census as the base of de-limitation, keeping in view the forthcoming election the next six elections would be held on the lower number...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Whether de-limitation would not be done after ten years...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Not under the present law....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The number of seats would not be increased but de-limitation would be done after every ten years...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : At that time the House would decide in regard to increase the number of seats, or to do delimitation and would depend upon the prevailing situation. Today, the situation is that if de-limitation is done on the basis of 2001 Census, the number would increase for a few elections. This task should, therefore be done by 2004, and that is why from the beginning the Government are making efforts in this direction that the work be completed by 2004. So far as the attitude of the Government is concerned I can tell him the stages. We asked the De-limitation commission that they should start their work on the basis of data which are being provided. Therefore, the Government have brought an ordinance. They have contacted the registrar General. They would start their work, public hearing and other activities on the basis of the final notified figures which would be provided. As soon as they expedite the work and present

their reports to the Government, the Government would notify it for public notice and to seek their objection. This subject does not involve an independent decision by the Government, we convene All party meeting at every level in this matter and discuss with them. If the Government receive the report before four or six months of the election then we would discuss it with all of you with regard to notify it, and if it is received before one or one and a half month of the elections then a consensus would be evolved on it as hon. Members like Jadhav ji would seek seat as per their choice. This issue not only relates to the Government or NDA, but all are associated with it. After evolving consensus, it would be notified as he has rightly said that the progress of work in this regard involves a genuine problem, and if I say in English.

[English]

It is at the eleventh hour.

[Translation]

and because of that a strange situation has crapped up. The De-limitation commission made it amply clear that they would give its report before one year, if 1991 census is taken the base of de-limitation. But we respect this august house which decided that instead of 1991, 2001 should be made the basis of it and that is why are facing such a problem. The Government immediately need co-operation for taking decision and making recommendations in this regard. Now please listen to the problem of De-limitation Commission. It was said with regard to many places like Nagaland that a word was used.

[English]

There is an emotional logic also which is involved in that. That is what the hon. Member said. These kinds of factors for the change of constituencies are involved. There are protests in some areas.

[Translation]

I remember that 'Bandh' was observed in an area of Himachal Pradesh in the protest of de-limitation when I visited the state last time. The Government would not be able to speed up the work if such problems are created in the process. The Government would not be able to control that speed. We are trying to notify as soon as the report comes and after consulting all of you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : By when it would take place? You had said last time that its deadline would be September...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : You people are in the Delimitation

Commission and expect the Government to tell about the time?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I am not sitting in or participating in its proceedings...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : You are free to take up a political issue in it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : By when the census report is likely to be submitted?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : We are trying to maintain the accuracy of the report and ensure that it is based on comprehensive data. The report is likely to be received by the end of the year. We are trying to get it submitted at the earliest. As far the questions raised by other hon. Members as to what criterion would be followed for delimitation. I would like to state that-

[English]

There are several bases which are mentioned in 2001-2002 Act itself. There is no one basis. The basis are that you will make the constituencies nearly as equal as possible.

[Translation]

Though it can not be strictly in mathematical sense but the emphasis would be to make them nearly as equal as possible. Secondly all other features like the topography of the region, the means of communications available throughout the region and also from one area to another and also the administrative limit i.e. not to divide into two districts if it is possible to accommodate in one district etc. would be taken as the basis for carrying out the delimitation and all these criterion have been mentioned in the Bill that has been passed to become an Act. We have brought this constitutional amendment Bill. If all the political parties cooperate with us in the centre as well as at the State level then.

[English]

the sooner we get the Delimitation Commission Report, the happier we will be to implement it earlier.

SHRI K. A. SANGTAM : If the sentiments of the people are expressed, then only you should increase the Assembly Constituencies and make the adjustment. Otherwise, *status quo* should remain.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : I respect you views. Unfortunately, though you are raising it in the case of Nagaland where we would like things to be done very harmoniously for many good reasons, once you frame an Act

and the Constitutional amendment, the Delimitation Commission has to go by that. Once we introduce that in some States, the sentiments of the people will be taken into consideration while determining the constituencies. What will happen? It may have one logic in the case of Nagaland. It may have a different kind of logic in other States. Somebody will say that the sentiment in my area is that you should do it in such a manner that the caste dominates this constituency; then religion dominates this constituency. The argument based on sentiment is extremely important in public life and politics. But to give it a constitutional shape itself will be extremely difficult. I hope the hon. Member, with his seniority and wisdom, will understand it. When the Delimitation Commission goes there, your representatives are going to sit as a part of it. I am sure, whatever you have to say with regard to any constituency, your representatives will say about it.

SHRI K. A. SANGTAM : Suppose, there is a demand that you should do it only when the request comes from the Government and the people; till the number of seats is increased - Assembly as well as Parliament - you should not touch it. If there is such a thing, can you go against that? The sentiments of the people have been expressed in my constituency.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : You raise it before the Delimitation Commission. If it is possible for them to consider this argument, they can. I would suggest what Shri Paswan has said. His intentions are that the effect of this is that representation and reservation must have proportional representation to the constituency. I remember that we had passed it in the Cabinet. He was very jubilant when we adopted it. Now, it is getting delayed because of reasons that are out of our control. We try to expedite as far as possible so that we are able to notify it as quickly as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It can be done if you use both your personal as well as official powers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : I said that the report is yet to be submitted but I have asked the Chairman of the Delimitation Commission to start working on the basis of the draft data.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It would be done if you ask for it.

[English]

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : With these words, I commend to the House that this Bill be passed.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would again like to reiterate my point that there is no justification for bringing this ordinance. In the absence of authenticated Census data the Delimitation Commission cannot proceed further and, therefore, the course of the Government taking the ordinance route was not required. So, I strongly defend that my act of giving notice for disapproval of this ordinance is justified.

Sir, as far as the other interpretations of the Law Minister about the process of delimitation are concerned, as I understand from Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, in December, 2002 itself the Delimitation Commission desired that delimitation of constituencies should be done as per 2001 Census. But that information was kept secret from all of us.

Sir, during the course of functioning of the Delimitation Commission, the Associate Members felt that things are not being done in a proper way. Then, an all-party meeting was called and some of us have informally come to the view that 2001 Census would give more justice to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the delimitation would be proper in 2004. In the all-party meeting, the overwhelming consensus was to do delimitation on the basis of 2001 Census, but even in that meeting we were not told that the Delimitation Commission was also in favour of 2001 Census, on their own, as per the letter of Justice Kuldip Singh. So, I strongly feel that the number of seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes deserves to be increased in accordance with their population. They are not demanding for not dereserving their constituencies. They say that dereservation of constituencies should be done where it is necessary, but they also say that seats should be reserved where it is necessary and where there is a demand for it.

Now, I would like to put forward four apprehensions for his consideration. My first apprehension is, how will the Associate Members function? There is no modified arrangement for the functioning of Associate Members and Associate Members are treated as invitees for a cup of tea. I would like to know whether their contribution will stand any merit.

My second apprehension is a very important one. The moment the Census Data is available, that should be given to the Delimitation Commission. I do not deny that, but instantly that should also be given to the Associate Members of the Delimitation Commission so that they can do their homework to compare the draft proposed by the States and to be given to the Delimitation Commission.

My third apprehension is about reorganisation of districts. Since the Delimitation Commission said very rightly

that they want to accommodate equal proportion of the population to the constituencies and at least accommodate them in one district, will the Government ensure that no reorganisation of any district is done in any State till delimitation is completed on the basis of 2001 Census? Otherwise, it will again hamper the whole process of delimitation. Some people will be represented in four districts. I am told that in the State of Nagaland, one Assembly is one district now. These kind of things are there.

My fourth point is that the Registrar General of India should be taken into confidence about the urgency of this amendment so that he can use his office to expedite the release of Census data. I have high regard for the Chairman of the Delimitation Commission. He is a distinguished jurist of the country with very high integrity and reputation. I congratulate the Government for having chosen him for this job because he is a man free from all controversies and above board. He will definitely ensure justice to every quarter provided he gets the input. So, I would request the Government to talk to the Delimitation Commission and strengthen the arms of the Associate Members.

Sir, I would also like to know whether the Associate Members of the Delimitation Commission will continue in their position now after it has been decided to carry out delimitation on the basis of 2001 Census or they will have to be changed because they were appointed to carry out delimitation on the basis of 1991 Census.

These are my apprehensions. Finally, I would again reiterate my point that the ordinance route taken recourse to by the Government was not justified and therefore I plead that the Statutory Resolution disapproving the ordinance be approved by the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House disapproves of the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2003 (No. 6 of 2003) promulgated by the President on 31 October, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002, be taken into consideration."

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 to 6 more added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.21 hrs.

MARRIAGE LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we move on to Item No. 23.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman Sir, this is a very small amendment which is being made pursuant to some observations made by the Supreme Court in some judgements.

In the Special Marriage Act and the Hindu Marriage Act, there is a provision with regard to the place where the petition for a matrimonial dispute can be presented at High Courts or otherwise. It does not include the place where the wife resides at the time of the presentation of the petition. As a result of which, at times she has to go to the place where the marriage took place or where the husband is residing, travel long distances and we know women in India are, in terms of economic and social factors, handicapped on account of this fact. So, it was a suggestion in some of the judicial views that this should also be taken into consideration and acting upon that we have decided to amend both these Acts to say that where the wife is now residing is also one of the places where a petition can be presented. The earlier places, which were there, all continue to be there.

Secondly, instances of *ex-parte* divorce by either

wrongly serving the other spouse or not serving them or through this kind of mischievous tactics have been increasing. The period for filing an appeal after that divorce is only 30 days. What has been happening is that after obtaining an *ex-parte* divorce behind the back of the other spouse, the person who obtains a divorce can get married and it is only then that the other spouse comes to know of this. So, it has been recommended that this period of 30 days be increased to 90 days so that the possibility of larger information being obtained with regard to this and the aggrieved party can move to court. Therefore, the second part of this amendment is that the 30-day period for filing an appeal, in both the laws, is proposed to be increased to 90 days.

These are essentially beneficial legislations, which help the women and therefore, I propose to this House that this Bill can be passed, if necessary, even without a discussion, if my friends agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Mr. Chairman Sir, this amendment will certainly help those women who because of the prevailing circumstances against women in our society found it extremely difficult to present a petition at a place where the marriage was solemnised or at a place where they last resided together or even, as the hon. Minister said, if the petition was to be filed by the husband, to travel to those places. So, this provision is certainly a beneficial one. I suppose everyone would certainly support it as also the one relating to enhancing the period of appeal.

Sir, while I support these two provisions, I fail to understand why he has included proviso to this clause 6. Once you have agreed that even the pending cases would be covered by this, then I think even those cases where on the date of the commencement, when the Bill commences, even if the period of 30 days had expired but still 90 days had not expired, in that I suppose the benefit of this Bill should have been extended to them also as he has done in the main provision of clause 6. This proviso should not have been included and if somebody could get the benefit, he should have got the benefit of it.

I understand you will go by the legal interpretation of the existing provision. I am saying something more than that. By an explicit provision, you should have extended that period of 90 days to all the cases beginning from the day of the passing of the judgement. Anyone who could get the

benefit of it should have been given the benefit thereof on the basis of the merit of the provision you thought of giving that benefit.

Having said that I would only like to say one thing more. It is fine that we are making provisions like this. But we do find in real practice that in a large number of cases, women find it extremely difficult to pursue their cases because of the hardships of life. They are discarded by their husbands. The interim relief is not given to them and they are, in fact, on the verge of starving. For those cases you have got to strengthen your legal aid system. That is not being done. If we mean business, if we want these beneficial provisions to be extended to women, who are somehow dragged to litigation for no fault of theirs, there should be some provision to ensure that they are able to fight out their cases in the court unhindered by their economic conditions. That certainly is not a part of this it could not have been a part of the Bill. But, I do want to take the opportunity to say so. I would like the hon. Minister to make a solid provision in that regard in the other relevant provisions.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand on the combined strength of the Shiromani Akali Dal Badal and Mann to oppose this Bill because this Bill governs the Hindu religion. It is a revolutionary step for us, both the Akali Dals to get together and the leader of the Akali Dal Badal, Sardar Tirlochan Singh Tur has written to you that I will represent the case of the Sikhs on this matter. We are thoroughly opposed to this Bill because it ties us without our consent to the Hindu religion. Sikhism is a separate religion having a separate history, culture, language, script, traditions, territory and all the other requisites that make us a complete and wholesome religion. We may have some similarities with Hinduism but, on the other hand, Ibrahim and Moses are the common Godfathers of the Christians, Muslims and the Jews, yet they do not constitute one religion. They are poles apart. The history of the Middle East today will show you that all these three religions who accept Moses and Ibrahim as their Godfather are at daggers drawn and fighting with each other. Though we are not fighting with one another we are as different with each other. Though we are not fighting with one another we are as different from Hinduism as the Muslim is from Judaism or of Christianity. How can Hindu leadership arbitrarily, without proof of convention, tradition and history include a separate Sikh religion within the folds of Hinduism? We consider this an insult to our pride and religious feelings. We fear that if legally and constitutionally we are not detached from the folds of Hinduism, we will be devoured into the omnivorous belly of Hinduism. To give you an example, Mr. Chairman, in the preparation of the Census population totals in the country,

Sikhs are classified separately. Under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, Sikhs are the distinct minority in the country...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : What you have stated does not fall in the scope of the Bill. It does not have any connection with how much the appeal period of the women is.

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : We are separate from you. I am trying to plead my case.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : You plead it at the appropriate time. But whether women should have 30 days to appeal or 90 days to appeal is not an issue as to what the larger view of the religion is.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Mr. Law Minister, you can have your views after I have spoken...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : You can speak on the Bill. You cannot give an essay on some other subject which is not the subject of this Bill...(Interruptions)

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : You cannot muzzle up our voices...(Interruptions)

*SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Phillaur) : You should accept the facts regarding women...(Interruptions)

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Madam, our women are affected. How can be a part of your religion? ... (Interruptions)

*SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY : Whenever there is a case regarding women, you divert it...(Interruptions)

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Do you want to muzzle my voice?... (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is extraordinary. This is a dictatorship by the Hindu religion that if we want to break the umbilical cord, they just stand up and muzzle our voices...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, I take strong objection to that sentence...(Interruptions)

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Sir, I am speaking and building up my case to be separated from the Hindu

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi

[Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann]

Marriage Act and by so doing, why should the Congress people always oppose us? You have trespassed into our Golden temple. you have destroyed our culture, you have committed out genocide....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : Whatever you are saying is not written the scope of the Bill...*(Interruptions)*

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Maybe it is not but what I am talking is within the scope and ambit of the Bill...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Speech be restrained within the confines of the provisions of the Bill.

[English]

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Yes, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking according to the fact that we do not want to be a part and parcel of the Hindu religion. And for Heavens' sake, just detach us. That is what I am saying. That is why, I am saying that the Sikhs are a distinct minority in the country. Under various legislation relating to religion, the Punjabi language in *gurmukhi* script spoken by the Sikhs is recognised. The Constitution of India recognised separate status for the Sikh religion. Whatever anomaly is there in Section 25, the Constitution Review Committee has proposed that such anomaly should be removed and the Sikhs should be given the separate status and recognition. This proposal has been made in the early part of 2002.

Sir, my Party and I have demanded many times in Parliament and outside the premises that the NDA Government introduce a Constitution (Amendment) Bill to amend article 25 of the Constitution and alter it to include the recommendations of the Constitution Review Committee, which was constituted by the NDA Government. We are not asking for something more and we will not accept anything less. Why is this reluctance by the Government and you, Sir? If all religious denominations in India, the Hindus, the Parsis, the Christians, and the Muslims have separate and their respective marriage laws, why not the Sikhs? Therefore, I pray that the Anand Marriage Act of 1909 become a legal tender for the Sikh marriages and we be separated from the Hindu Marriage Act once and for all and for all times to come.

The Sikh people all over the world want this forcefully tied umbilical cord unilaterally by the Hindu religion to be cut for ever, and legally and constitutionally we wish to be freed as we were by our first Guru Nanak in the 15th and 16th Centuries. That is all I demand. We will not accept to be

governed by the Hindu Marriage Act at all. You may call it a rebellion or revolt or anything but we will not accept to be governed by an alien religion, another religion and have our marriages solemnised under an alien religion.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Bill further to amend the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. This Bill seek to amend the Marriage Act. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister on my own behalf and on behalf of my party. This Bill has two features and it has extended the jurisdiction of law. And harassed and suffering women can file the writ petition in the some court in which petition has been filed by his husband. Besides the writ petition can also be filed by the parents of the aggrieved woman. The Bill also seek to extend the ambit of appeal. I strongly both points on behalf of my party Shiv Sena. NDA Government has taken this step to empower the suffering women and both the Government and hon. Minister deserve accolade for this step.

[English]

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, a few questions have been raised by the hon. Members. But one important question, which requires a response, which was raised within the ambit of this Bill by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal is to why the proviso to Section 6 is there. The legislative reason why the proviso has been introduced, excluding those cases where decrees have already been passed annulling marriages or otherwise, and time for appeal has expired, that this will not apply to them because the rights of parties would have been created under the old law. Now, by this legislation to take away those rights, which have accrued themselves, would create a legal complication.

I give an example. Supposing 30-day period, after the divorce has expired, and the person who has obtained a divorce decree has gone and re-married on the 50th or 60th day, then what will happen? Now, by retrospectively extending the limitation, you are giving to the other spouse, who is aggrieved by that divorce, to challenge that divorce itself which would have complications on subsequent rights and the third party rights which have been created. Therefore, very carefully the proviso has been introduced. It does not take away the existing rights that have been created on the basis of decrees that have already been passed. That is the rationale behind the proviso of Section 6.

Sir, some other views have been taken. I respect the hon. Member who has given this view. There is no question of anybody trying to throttle anybody's voice. Since those views are wholly outside the ambit of this Bill, I do not think there is any necessity for me to respond to that.

With these few words, I commended to the House that the Bill be accepted.

SARDAR SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN : Mr. Law Minister, you respond to our demand. You say yes or no. This is the tyranny of the majority. We do not accept it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 6 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHARIMAN : The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

18.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the clock on December 10, 2003/Agrahayana 19, 1925 (Saka)

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**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in
Lok Sabha (Tenth Edition) and Printed at Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006**
