

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 25, 2000/Bhadra 3, 1922 (Saka)

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

11.02 hrs.

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri N.K. Shejwalkar.

Shri N.K. Shejwalkar was a Member of Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1984 representing Gwalior parliamentary constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Shejwalkar was a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1968 to 1974. He was a Member of Gwalior Municipal Corporation for eight years and was elected Mayor of Gwalior three times during 1960, 1970 and 1971.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Shejwalkar was a Member of Estimates Committee and House Committee. He was also a Member of Panel of Chairmen in Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979.

An advocate by profession, he was associated with various social organisations in different capacities.

Shri N.K. Shejwalkar passed away on 23 August, 2000 at the age of 77.

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

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

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

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Question No. 441, Shri Ajay Singh Chautala.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to deep depression in the Bay, there have been heavy rainfall in the whole of Andhra Pradesh due to which 116 people have been killed...*(Interruptions)*... Even the Hyderabad city is worst hit and is in water...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K. Yerrannaaidu, I will allow you to raise this issue during 'Zero Hour.' Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (Adilabad) : Due to torrential rain, the situation is very serious there...*(Interruptions)*... Farmers have been killed.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Ajay Singh Chautala.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, all the national highways from Chennai to Calcutta, and Guntur are damaged...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it is the most important issue. Hyderabad, the capital city of Andhra Pradesh, is under water...*(Interruptions)*... All the areas are marooned...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) : Sir, we have given the Adjournment Motion on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K. Yerrannaaidu, please hear me first. I will allow you to raise this issue during the 'Zero Hour'. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, all the national highways have been damaged. 116 people have been killed and 29 people are still missing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear me. Today is the last day of this Session. You can raise whatever you want to raise in the 'Zero Hour', but not now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have given a notice of an Adjournment Motion but due to lack of time it has been decided not to take it up.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the Centre should provide some financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yerrannaaidu, please understand. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : The Government of India should come to the rescue of the State of Andhra Pradesh. The State of Andhra Pradesh is in distress due to heavy rains...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : You can raise it in the 'Zero Hour'. I will ask the hon. Minister of Agriculture to come and respond to you. ...*(Interruptions)* Please do not create problems during the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, we have given an Adjournment Motion notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have told you already that though you have given a notice of an Adjournment Motion, adjourning the Question Hour and discussing the matter today is not possible because of lack of time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Today is the last day. You can raise it in the 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, Hyderabad is affected by floods. ...*(Interruptions)* They are doing a commendable service. ...*(Interruptions)* It is the most important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Government is also responding. You can raise the matter in the 'Zero Hour'.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, one lakh people have been evacuated, and 50,000 houses have been damaged...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record now.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yerrannaaidu, I am appealing to you. The Government is also responding.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Please wait for fifty minutes. You have to wait only for fifty minutes. Now it is

ten minutes past eleven o'clock. The hon. Minister of Agriculture would come at exactly twelve o'clock. He will respond to you. Why do you disturb the Question Hour for this? This is my appeal to you.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Thank you...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 59 Members have given in writing about Apollo Hospital and Shri P.R. Kumarmanglam, I would like the hon. Health Minister be called during zero hour ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Bettiah) : Sir, the Minister of Health should also be called during zero hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.08 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Cooperative Credit System

+

*441. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the task force set up by the RBI to study the cooperative credit system has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations made by the task force;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the time by which the action is likely to be taken thereon?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The report of the task force has been submitted to the Government on 24.07.2000.

(b) and (c) The task force which was constituted by the Government in April 1999 studied the functioning of the co-operative credit structure in the country as well as

the supervisory and regulatory mechanism and held wide ranging discussions with all concerned, recommended various measures for revitalizing the co-operative banks in the country. Some of the major recommendations of the task force are as under:

- (i) Removal of duality of control over the co-operative banks of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)/ National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) on the one hand and the State Governments on the other to bring all banking functions completely under the Banking Regulation Act.
- (ii) Amendment of the State Co-operative Acts for adoption of the essential features of the Model Co-operative Societies Act to reflect the spirit of the democratization and self-reliance enshrined in the Model Act.
- (iii) Constant review of all guidelines issued by Government of India/RBI/NABARD/State Governments with a view to removing needless control over co-operative banks
- (iv) Effective supervision of and support to lower tiers of co-operative credit system by the higher tiers and introduction of audit of cooperatives by chartered accountants first at the State and District level and thereafter gradually at Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) level.
- (v) Rehabilitation of potentially viable units by way of one time assistance, with the financial burden of rehabilitation being shared amongst members, State Governments and Central Government in the ratio of 20:40:40. The members' contribution to be in the form of additional share capital while assistance from Central and State Governments will be by way of soft loans
- (vi) The societies should be run professionally on sound business principles and decisions about interest rate, investments etc. to be taken internally so as to meet the costs and leave some surplus
- (vii) Setting up a Mutual Assistance Fund at State level by contribution from co-operative institutions in the State concerned.

(d) and (e) The report is under examination of the Government

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the task force formed for co-operative credit system has submitted its report to the Government on 24 July, 2000. I would like to know the terms of reference of this task force and whether they are completely covered in the recommendations.

My next question is that it is stated in the reply that the report of the task force is under the examination of the Government. I would like to know the period of the examination and the number of recommendations the Government is going to implement from the report of the task force?

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terms of reference of the Task Force were to find out how the co-operative institutions could be revitalised with more responsibilities for the social sector and to find out the weaknesses and the strengths of the co-operatives so that the co-operatives can become a movement of the people. The Report has been recently submitted and that is under the consideration of the RBI and the Government of India. I think, at the very earliest, we will try to finalise this for the benefit of the country as a whole.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the time span of it. Hon. Minister is saying as early as possible but it is not the precise answer. Please make it clear that, by when its examination will be completed. Kindly also clear the position regarding overall performance of the cooperative credit system during last three years in the country and the economic aid provided by the Central Government to various States through financial institutions of co-operative sector in this period.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the report for the last three years has been referred to but on this point I would only like to say that the report was submitted in July. We also want this decision be taken at the earliest so that people get benefitted.

The aid we provided in last three years is the maximum. The details of previous years accounts for 51000 and till date we have provided 17000, 25000 and total 84.90, 99.46, 78.35, 57.647 and 154.388 upto 31st March, 1999. For your information I would like to tell you that till

date 69 per cent of the rural aid has been distributed through co-operative movement and out of this more than 45 per cent money has gone to the farmers. Therefore, we are trying to provide this money through NABARD for the development of maximum number of villages and farmers.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply hon. Minister has stated in point No.3 that the cooperative bank is likely to be brought under Banking Regulation Act. If it is brought under the Banking Regulation Act the level of the commercial bank and the cooperative bank will be at par. The functioning of the commercial bank covers the maximum urban area. It finances big industries and its turnover is in millions whereas the cooperative bank covers the maximum rural area. It disburses small savings and small loans. My question is if the cooperative bank is brought under the Banking Regulation Act, first of all a task force be constituted for the revival package of cooperative bank. If both of them are brought at par, it is a fact that cooperative bank will not be able to compete.

[English]

This is the fact. My question is this. How does the Government propose to protect the interests of the cooperative banks under the umbrella of Banking Regulations Act?

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it's a fact that today all the cooperative banks and institutions are the subject of State government but as the banks are concerned they are under dual control. They are registered through State Government and bank regulation is done by RBI. That's why their controlling becomes cumbersome. There are many examples where RBI has permitted the bank to open its branch somewhere but it is not being allowed by the Registrar due to which the bank is unable to open its branch. Therefore if the dual control is minimised and banking business is brought under banking law, the question of commercial bank will not arise and in this way cooperative banks will be protected. At present or so no elections in cooperative banks are taking place because whenever the Government changes it appoints a new administrator. To put end to the present bureaucratization of the cooperative banks, we want that elections in these banks should take place after every five year. This is a members given society, members want to govern it themselves. You should assure and the Government also wants that these elected members should form a committee and govern the functioning of the banks or institution themselves. But you will be surprised to know that the administrators have been appointed in

many banks and these Government officers are running them. Thereby the concept of cooperative is gradually becoming feeble. Therefore, we want that besides removal of dual control, cooperative banks be brought under banking law, election process in these banks be strengthened, election be held in time and the interference of the bureaucrats be decreased and participation of the people be increased.

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as stated by hon. Minister just now that the report submitted by the Ch. Brahma Prakash Committee to the Government of India contained seven recommendations. One of the recommendations was regarding enactment of a Model Act Cooperative in the country which may put check on the State Government and promote such a system which may bring reforms in the rural economy and thus the rural people may get the necessary assistance as due from the cooperative under this system and simultaneously timely recovery of the loan/assistance provided also could be undertaken. Through you I would like to know from hon. Minister the reaction of the Government in regard to this recommendation of the Committee.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the recommendations of the Ch. Brahma Prakash Committee was that a Model Act should be enacted and as I said earlier, this is a subject of the State Government. Therefore, we are writing them, suggesting them to enact and introduce a cooperative Model Act in their own States so that the people may be benefitted through this cooperatives and the cooperative movement can be accelerated in its true sense. The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Bihar have enacted laws in this regard but no further action has been taken on them. Some States have not enacted any legislation whereas some States have constituted committees to enact legislation in this regard. On the basis of the recommendations of the Ch. Brahma Prakash Committee we have been continuously in the contact of the State Government and asking them to enact a Model Act and enforce it as early as possible.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, flow of credit from institutional source is a competitive field. Now, these cooperatives have to compete with commercial banks in lending credit, in which case most of the cooperative institutions have been falling behind since they are not able to compete with the commercial banks. The Banking Regulation Act, 1949 provides for the applicability of law that income-tax is to be paid on the rate of interest that would be earned on the securities

made by the cooperatives also. But it is exempted for the securities made in the Government by the commercial banks.

Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether the Government is thinking of relaxing and granting of income-tax exemption for the cooperative banks on the interest and income earned by them, if necessary by amending the Income-Tax Act to eliminate the restrictive provisions that are available there. Unless this is made, the cooperatives will not be in a position to compete with the commercial banks. If the Government can think of exempting these cooperative banks from payment of income-tax on the interest earned, that would be useful. Are the Government thinking in those terms ?

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have not received any such proposal till date. We will examine it.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, two years back hon. Finance Minister stated in his budget speech that he would bring a Model Cooperative Act and after getting it passed in the House he would get it introduced. We had received the information about it at the time. I would like to know from the Government whether they have drafted a Model Act on the basis of the report of Ch. Brahma Prakash Committee and as promised by the Government the time by when they are likely to introduce and get it passed?

Sir, secondly I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering or have any scheme to revive the cooperative institutions which have become defunct due to the burden of debt.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true. As I said earlier in my reply that it is a State subject. The Model Act has to be enacted out by the State. As in the case of Bihar the Model Act was enacted in 1996 but no implementation has been done so far.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Where it has been passed?...*(Interruptions)* it has not come in this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : I am telling you hat :

English]

"The Bihar Government has passed the Bihar Self-Supportive Cooperative Act, 1996. Bihar is the second State of India to recognise and provide the economics of those cooperatives which are self-reliant and self-supportive."

[Translation]

The names of rest of the States are also included.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Finance Minister had stated in his budget speech that he will get the Model Cooperative Act passed in the Parliament here. I would like to know as to what happened to that Act?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is regarding the cooperative credit system.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : We cannot take back the rights of States and it is not fair either...*(Interruptions)* in fact we are providing rights to the States...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill is ready. We were informed that it will be passed in this session but it has not been laid. I would like to know that by what time it will come?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : It depends on the States. It is thoroughly on the will of the States, we cannot compel them ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the hon. Minister hails from the village cooperative background. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Chairman of the Parliamentary Forum for Cooperatives has submitted any memorandum to the Government of India for the revival and the better functioning of the cooperatives.

MR. SPEAKER : Who is the Chairman of the forum?

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : I am the Chairman of that forum. Not only me, a number of other Members sat together and prepared a memorandum which was submitted to the Government of India. I would like to know from the Government, has so far any justice been made to the demands or the items being incorporated in that memorandum.

Secondly, the former Agriculture Minister Shri Devi Lal, announced a moratorium on recovery of loans from the nationalised banks on account of which the Union Government suffered a loss to the tune of Rs. 20,000 crore. So far the same facility has not been extended to the cooperative banks. They are giving credit in the rural areas since the last 100 years. The cooperative banks are not

functioning properly. They are not lending credit to the small and marginal farmers. So far we have not bridged the gap so as to bring them at par with the nationalised banks. What steps the Government of India has taken so far to equalise the balance sheet?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Precisely as the respected Chairman has said, the main purpose to appoint a Committee was to revitalise the cooperatives. The Committee noticed that there were losses to the tune of Rs. 6,600 up till March, 2000 - this may be Rs. 10,000 up to now - and it recommended certain measures. I will be happy if the hon. Speaker and the House agree for a discussion. The hon. Member can give a number of suggestions. If the House wants to have a discussion on the Report, it will be a more contributory factor. It is a vital subject, because as a result of it, the country's rural economy will be strengthened. I do agree with it.

We have received the memorandum and it is under active consideration on the Government. We have been examining as to how we can boost the cooperatives by giving some financial assistance.

[Translation]

Neglected Monuments

*445. **DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several monuments of historical and architectural heritage under the control of Archaeological Survey of India are lying in a state of neglect in the country.

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

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to restore the monuments which are lying neglected; and

(e) the number of monuments restored with the support of World Monuments Funds in the country, State-wise, particularly in Rajasthan ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) It is the constant endeavour of the Archaeological Survey of India to maintain its monuments in a proper shape. The conservation and preservation of monuments is an ongoing process, depending on the actual attention required, subject to the overall availability of resources.

(e) No monument under the Archaeological Survey of India has been restored with the support of the World Monument Fund.

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, monuments are the heritage of our nation and all the foreign tourists who visit India come here to see the monuments maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. Today the number of tourists are decreasing particularly in Rajasthan. The primary reason for this situation is the deterioration in the maintenance of these monuments. The negligence is being shown in their maintenance. My question is that during last three years what is the amount of fund allocated and spent for the maintenance and development of the various monuments of Rajasthan which are preserved by Archaeological Survey of India?

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, maintenance of the Archaeological sites is the mandate of Archaeological Survey of India. This year, we have provided Rs 31 crore to it. For the State of Rajasthan, in the year 1997-98, we had provided Rs 1,73,000.00 in 1998-99, Rs 1,22,000.00 and for the year 1999-2000 we have provided Rs. 1,61,000.00

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : The 'A' part of my second supplementary question is that how many monuments in the country have been given international status as far as facilities are concerned from tourism point of view and the names of such monuments situated in Rajasthan?

The 'B' part of the question is that how many monuments have been chosen by Archaeological Survey of India for upgradation and the number of monuments of Rajasthan included therein? Besides that the time by when the work of upgradation will be completed?

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, in the entire country in total we have taken up 50 sites—34 heritage sites and 16 world-heritage sites—for upgradation. We have taken up the following sites for upgradation in the State of Rajasthan: Fort Jaisalmer, Fort Kumbhaigarh, Monument at Bhungar, Kalvi caves, Fort Bhasmer, Somnath Temple at Dungarpur, Fort Chittorgarh, Palace at Deegh and a Fort at Bharatpur. We have taken up these sites this year itself and the period for upgradation of the monuments is between 18 months.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : You have mentioned the Somnath Mandir in Dungarpur whereas it is in Gujarat.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : There is another Somnath Mandir which is situated in Dungarpur.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Sir, first of all, through you, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that Patan in North Gujarat is one of the ancient towns of Gujarat. In good olden days it was the Capital of Gujarat. It was established about 1200 years back. We have Ranki Vav (Step Well) at Patan in North Gujarat which is world famous. We also have the Sun Temple at Modhera. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many sites in Gujarat are covered in the heritage sites selected by the Government of India for protection and improvement. In Ranki Vav at Patan, there are not even the minimum facilities available for the visitors. I would like to know what action the Government of India is going to take to protect that particular monument. In rainy season water goes into the monument. There is no corridor there. There is no boundary wall. Every time some or the other demolition is taking place. It is the most ancient place in Gujarat. I would like to know what the Government of India is doing in this regard.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. Regarding various upgradation programmes in the State of Gujarat, since this question directly pertains to the State of Rajasthan, I will be supplying the information to him.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was a member of the National Monuments and Heritage Committee under the HRD in the 12th Lok Sabha. As we went around, we found that the Archaeological Survey of India has three aspects and three sorts of problems. One is, maintenance for which they need very expert technique that is very expensive; and number two is, how to stop vandalism. Unfortunately, we are not so history-oriented. We go and inscribe our names on the beautiful marble slabs. To avoid that, they need more security personnel.

Last point is directly related to the Minister's Department, viz., Department of Tourism. Our national monuments and heritages can attract international tourism. But in order to attract that, you need civic amenities like eating places, drinking water, toilets, etc. around that place which we do not have. I would like to ask the Minister if he would have a National Heritage Policy which will coordinate all these three aspects.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, the question is related to the neglected monuments.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Sir, I am talking about that. If you have revenue, you can have your expenditure on the security personnel and also on the maintenance.

So, can you have a policy which will relate these three? It is because, I know that the ASI has this problem.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. We have got 3602 monuments which are centrally protected and tens of thousands of monuments are protected by the various State Governments. The allocation is meagre. We have got only Rs. 31 crore for upgradation that works out hardly to Rs. 5000 to Rs. 6,000 per monument per year. Actually, we require more.

Secondly, I entirely agree with the hon. Member's perception that the maximum tourism into India is cultural tourism. In the year 1998, 84,91,962 tourists visited these monuments. During this year 1999, 96,20,485 tourists visited these monuments. We have taken up two specific activities, one of them is through Archaeological Survey of India.

Secondly, we have floated one corpus which is known as National Culture Fund. For that fund, The Union Government has provided a corpus of Rs. 19.6 crore and the rest is being taken through private donations. It has hundred per cent IT exemption and it is donor specific. The executive agency is the Archaeological Survey of India. It allows corporate advertisement. Therefore, various sites like Humayun Tomb, Konark Temples, Golkunda Fort, Shanivarwara in Pune will be taken care of.

Sir, thanks to Indian Oil Corporation, they have come forward to take up the upgradation of 14 heritage sites throughout the country. It will have a corpus of Rs.25 crore with an additional allocation of Rs. 10 crore every year.

Lastly, regarding having a National Heritage Policy for the preservation, conservation, and upgradation of the monuments as well as for providing amenities that the required, I will look into the matter.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has received any request stating therein that the last fort of the successors of Prithvi Raj in Neemrana, Rajasthan was disposed of by the king of that region as a distress sale for 3.5 lakhs rupees to a rich man. Today, that a hotel is being run in that Fort and the seal of Prithviraj is being marked in the stationary, napkins and in matings as well. Two queens of the successors of Prithviraj are living in a decayed guest house nearby without proper arrangements of their food and other facilities. I am not telling you just a story, I have visited that place twice. I have also requested the Chief Minister of Rajasthan to visit that place and consider to develop it as a monument of national

heritage. They have started some work in this direction. Should I request the hon. Minister to visit Neemrana personally and ask the people of that area in this regard. Prithviraj was the only emperor who had established a democratic set up before independence. And Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had also mentioned this fact in his first speech. Today this is the pathetic condition of the fort and the people living there which speaks itself the tragic story of India's independence. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to request the hon. Minister to visit that place personally and make efforts for its renovation.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is my pleasure that Mr. Chandra Shekhar is asking question here. He has talked about a fort in Rajasthan but there are many such forts which have been converted into heritage hotels.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The question is whether you are going there or not.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I am telling the same. The question of Shri Chandra Shekhar is enough. The issue that has been raised by him, whatever information will be required regarding that I will collect and appropriate action will be taken on the basis of that.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will you go there or not?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I will go.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : As per my knowledge the Archaeological Survey of India protects 5000 historical monuments within the country. In Delhi it protects 3000 such Monuments. This number is five lakh in England where Archaeological department provide protection. From the reply given by the hon. Minister it seems that neither there should be monuments nor there should be a need to protect them. He has not accepted it at all.

MR. SPEAKER : This question is related to Rajasthan.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It is regarding the neglected monuments, it is a question concerned with the entire nation.

MR. SPEAKER : First you see the question.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : My submission is that the condition of Archaeological department is not good and I feel that the Minister should not feel uncomfortable in accepting the fact. He is being in the office for one year while the department of Archaeology is in existence for last 50 years and it does not have funds. I represent Chandni Chowk constituency where more than half of the monuments are located. Will your Ministry allocate any funds for the historical Chandni Chowk? Daily thousands

of tourists visit there. Lal Qilla, Jama Masjid, the house of Mirza Ghalib, the monument of Shrimati Kamala Nehru, the wife of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and several other monuments are located there. Will you provide special fund for that? The funds amounting thirty one crore rupees is not enough. You are telling that the monuments of Rajasthan are being maintained in one crore rupees. I feel that it is not possible even to broom those monuments in that amount. Half of the revenue of the country can earn from the tourism and the historical monuments. The Minister is doing well in the Department of Culture but nothing substantial will come up if the heritage of historical monuments of Chandni Chowk is not restored for archaeology by the Department of Tourism. I would like to know whether any fund will be allocated, any committee will be constituted, any task force will be formed or this historical city will continue to be a neglected lot.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I have constituted a Review Committee under the Chairmanship of an eminent archaeologist Shri B.V. Lal to review the performance of the Archaeological Survey of India and to restructure and to reorganise it professionally and financially.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : But in your reply to the question you have denied that you are not preparing any policy.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : A Review Committee has been constituted. There are 165 historical monuments in Delhi. In 1997-98 Rs. 2 crore 61 lakh and in 1998-99 Rs. 3 crore 41 lakh have been given by us for the upgradation of those monuments.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : What will be done in two crore rupees, that is not more than the fund allocated to a Member of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : First you please listen.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : I am not wanting answer for merely answer's sake.

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The entry fees we are collecting are Rs. 2 and Rs. 5. Therefore, there is a need for the revision in the entry fee of these heritage sites. Not only that, I request the hon. Finance Minister through both the Ministers of State for Finance who are here that as there is a dedicated road fund, we also require a dedicated fund for the upkeep of the heritage sites in this country. Therefore, whenever we go for the revision of the entry fee of the archaeological sites of the entire country...

SHRI ANIL BASU : Why do you not go in for this revision in the entry fee of heritage sites?

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the way to ask supplementaries in the House?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Whatever we accrue, if that does not go to the general exchequer and instead if it comes to the dedicated fund for the upkeep and upgradation of the heritage sites, then more can be done.

It is a meagre allocation of Rs. 115 crore made now. In that, only Rs. 31 crore is for the upgradation programme.

Finally, regarding Chandni Chowk and various other sites. I will give due attention.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir the tourism has vast scope in our country because there are so many monuments and if the Ministry of Tourism seriously works towards the development of tourism then the deficit of our budget can be compensated by the tourism only. Through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that my parliamentary constituency Amroha is the only place in the world where there is a grave of Shah Vilayati.

[English]

There is a grave of a great saint Shah Vilayati.

[Translation]

The speciality of that place is that there are thousands of scorpions:

[English]

There are thousands and thousands of scorpions. If anybody puts the scorpion on his palm with the permission of that great saint, then that scorpion will not harm him.

[Translation]

The scorpions will not bite you if you put them on your palm and it is happening there for thousands of years. You can take scorpions to the home with the permission of the saint and thousands of persons visit there. I have also written letter to you regarding this that you may develop tourism there and people may be attracted to that spot. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has any programme to develop this place as tourist spot, will you allocate the fund to the State Government or would you like to do anything in this field by yourself?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : His question is not related to this, however if the hon. Member sends the proposal through the State Government, then we may provide some facilities.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : While we do have protected monuments, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the most damage to these monuments is caused by the people who are in charge of maintaining these monuments and looking after them. There are encroachments inside the heritage sites. We have seen that cooking is going on and people are living inside the monuments in the name of looking after the place. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a survey has been made about the encroachments and other misuse of these monuments by those in charge of them.

Secondly, in many cases, some of the best items within the archaeological sites and other heritage items like carvings and other things are being taken out and smuggled in collusion with the people who are in charge of these monuments. I would like to know whether the Government will do something to protect them from the vandalism of those who are supposed to protect the monuments themselves.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I totally disagree with the hon. Member's perception...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I do not include the hon. Minister in that. I am sorry. . .(Interruptions) I did not mean that.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is not a question of the Minister. Coming to the point, in the last hundred years, the Archaeological Survey of India has done monumental work. It is preserving, conserving and has upgraded more than 3602 monuments in the country. Any time, if the hon. Member comes to the Ministry of Culture or to the office of the Archaeological Survey of India, I can show her how the sites were first discovered; how they were cleared and how they have been upgraded with a lot of scientific conservation activities. It is not true that the people who have been given the mandate by the Government of India themselves are ruining these monuments.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I am sorry, I talked about the watchman, the people in charge of security things and others...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I am coming to that. I am not defending anybody. But I am only stating the facts. It is not only that. We have got 3463 monument attendants and 671 private security guards who have been deployed in various heritage sites to look after them. But there are 298 reported encroachments which exist out of the 3602. This is the bane of the problem of urbanisation. This does not come directly under the purview of the Archaeological Survey of India. It is because the *jhuggi-jhonpris* and various other things are there and encroachments are happening. We are continuously battling in the courts of law to get these encroachments taken away.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, every third tourist out of the total tourists visiting India come to Rajasthan and have ardent desire to see the historical monuments of Rajasthan. The fort of Ranthambhor located in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan has an important place in the history of India and this fort has neither been included in heritage hotels nor there is any arrangement for its maintenance. The national tiger project is also available there for the world tourism. increasing pressure on the wild life is a danger to the environment. I would like to know whether you have any programme to maintain the fort of Ranthambhor and to make it a tourist place through the archaeology department.

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Already, we are taking care of the Ranthambore Fort. It is not only that. I have already stated that out of the 34 heritage sites and 16 World Heritage Sites, Ranthambore Fort has also been taken up this year for the upgradation programme. I am ready to send the details of the upgradation programme to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

Weak Banks

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*446 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Action plan to pep up weak banks" as reported in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 14 July, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to adopt a new strategy to tackle the weak banks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how its effective implementation would be done; and

(d) to what extent the weak banks in private/public sector are likely to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The three identified weak public sector banks viz. Indian Bank, UCO Bank and United Bank of India have drawn up comprehensive restructuring plans covering operational, organizational, financial and systemic restructuring. The proposed restructuring plans include improvement in operating income through significant recovery of NPAs, reduction of costs by rationalizing organizational/administrative structure/branches, mobilization of low cost deposits, reduction of staff cost and generally keeping all operating expenses under control. The implementation of these measures is expected to improve the viability of the weak public sector banks on a sustainable basis. These restructuring plans do not cover private sector banks. Reserve Bank of India monitors the health of private sector banks also and takes corrective measures, as required.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of hon. Finance Minister towards the matter that a few days back, our Finance Ministry had issued a statement. "Action Plan to pep up weak banks by August." Entire House as well as the entire country is well aware of the fact that Shrimati Indira Gandhi during her Prime Ministership had got various banks nationalised so that money of the common people could be used by the people themselves and thus may not be used by a few capitalists. But during the last few years, state of these banks, particularly three viz. Indian Bank, UCO Bank and United Bank has deteriorated and RBI and Finance Ministry are not able to have proper control on these banks. Few capitalists and industrialists of the country take money from these banks in the name of industry and do not repay this money due to which these banks are becoming sick units. Sir, through you, I would like to know from hon. Minister that Rs. 51000 crore has to be recovered from these industrialists. But on the one side Government wants to provide crores of rupees to the Public Undertakings in the name of disinvestment, but the recovery of banks..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Naresh Puglia, what is your supplementary? You please put your supplementary.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : This is an important question. The whole nation is watching this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Of course, this is an important question. That is why you should also put an important supplementary and not an unimportant supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : I would like to know through the hon. Minister that Yashwant Sinhaji had called a meeting to recover the entire amount of Rs. 51000 crore of Banks credited on the capitalists/Industrialists and had said that an early decision shall have to be taken. I would like to know through you that which person and which financial experts would be included in the plan for appointing Big Banks Separate Financial Re-construction Authority mentioned in my questions Part 'A'? In the 'B' Part it is asked that some plan may be initiated after proper discussion of Yashwant Sinhaji with Chiefs of Banks, CMDs for taking action against the people who take money from the banks and do not feel necessary to repay it and in Part 'C'...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is your second supplementary question. Please ask only one supplementary question.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : I have three more parts in the second supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : Ask only one supplementary.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Banks are committing irregularities, whether they are nationalised ones or private ones, whether any plan is being made to appoint consultants in these banks. These are my three supplementary.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very right regarding all the three weak banks that hon. Finance Minister had given an assurance regarding this. In this connection, a law is being enacted regarding the Financial Restructuring Authority and structuring fund and which shall very soon be introduced in the Parliament. But each bank has given its separate proposal which means that no bank would be closed, all the three banks would continue to operate. I feel that comparatively lesser loss is occurring during the last three years and this year the operation cost of these banks is better. I can give datas to the House regarding every bank. Entries of Indian Bank have reduced to 32 from 39, those of UCO Bank have reduced to 18 from 28 and those of United Bank have

reduced to 27 from 36. So due to this very reason. I would like to give information to the House about structuring as per the parameters given by them. They have asked for rupees three thousand crore for recapitalisation. Moreover, there is VRS Scheme also and in all a request for restructuring process costing Rs. 2700 crore has been made. They will give interest subsidy on the amount which would be given to them, so that they could be revived. He has said that they would run the bank by giving less interest on our deposits or by lessening the restructuring operation cost. This is their proposal.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not received an appropriate answer of my question. I had asked as to which experts or persons would be a member of Financial Restructuring Authority? Sir, this is an important question. Our hon. Finance Minister Shri Yaswant Sinhaji is not present here but I am also making a comment that our Minister of State for Finance is not capable, but it seems that Finance Minister does not want to face this situation. I urge that hon. Minister may kindly answer this question.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Sir, hon. Finance Minister has not come due to some work, so please do not get angry in this regard. Secondly that there would be professionals and experts in the Restructuring Authority and Reserve Bank shall have a control on this, moreover work would be done according to decided parameters. So no bungling is possible in this. So far as names are concerned, they would be revealed only when they are decided. Presently, we are concerned with the restructuring package.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have asked your second supplementary.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : No, Sir, I have not asked my second supplementary...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, please sit down.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my Starred Question, two months back, I had asked the hon. Finance Minister to give me the names of the defaulters of the NPAs, and he had promised to lay it on the Table of the House. The NPAs are to the tune of Rs. 51000 crore. This money is locked up in the bank. We could have a parallel economy which would help this country in a very big way. Could the hon. Minister tell me who are the defaulters of the non-performing Assets? Could the hon. Minister reveal the names?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : As per the law of secrecy, those who have filed the petitions, civil suits or those who are under DRT, their names are published, and they are put on website...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record except the reply of the Minister.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister complete his reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand. This is Question hour. What is this? Please understand. If you want to seek any clarification, you can ask supplementary, not like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : May I ask, whether the CII...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are not allowing your Member to ask supplementary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand. If you are not satisfied with the reply of the Minister, you can ask supplementary, not like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Anil Basu, what is this? I have called Shri Sunil Khan . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : May I know from the hon. Minister why the Confederation of Indian Industry...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sunil Khan, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : The list of the NPAs is already published by the Reserve Bank of India. The list, which is published by the RBI, would be sent to the hon. Member...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : May I know from the hon. Minister why the Confederation of Indian Industry, who are NPA defaulters to the tune of 90 per cent, that is, above

*Not recorded.

Rs. 50,000 crore, have persuaded the Government to close down three banks. The Government is hiding the facts. The Government is being compelled by the Confederation of Indian Industry. I would like to know the answer...
(Interruptions)

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Technically, this question does not arise...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Government does not want to conceal anything. Everyone is well aware of the names on which action has been taken. These names have been put in the Website. Hon. Minister has said that if we would go to the courts for rupees 10 lakh...*(Interruptions)*. Indiscriminately recovery is being done on an amount from rupees one crore to rupees five crore and for the cases above rupees five crore, court would give decision case by case. There is nothing to conceal here. We are interested in curtailing the NPAs. If it is essential in some cases, we have given right to properly auction also to these people. Therefore, there is nothing to conceal here.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government as to whether it has ever tried to know the reasons behind the weak state of United Bank of India, Indian Bank or UCO Bank. If so, the reasons thereof and amount of loss being faced by these banks, through you, I would like to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Sir, Verma Committee was appointed and it has investigated into all these matters. It has given the suggestion of restructuring package. Reason is that sometimes due to over finance and sometimes project restructuring has not been implemented properly. This problem is persisting since long that is why he has given a suggestion of restructuring. Banks have given a restructuring package according to this only I have told that banks have demanded for a capitalisation of rupees three thousand crore and for VRS and other works, they have demanded for rupees 25,000 crore.

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, regarding the revival of the public sector banks, three banks names—the Indian Bank, the UCO Bank and the United Bank of India - have been mentioned here. There are several measures that are being contemplated by the Government. But it seems that the Government is giving thrust to one particular measure, that is, reduction of staff force. What does it mean? It means that the Government is planning to do away with a large number of ordinary employees of these public sector banks. I fail to understand as to what is the role of the

ordinary employee in making these public sector banks weak, and in accumulating a large amount of NPAs over the years. As a bank employee, I feel for them.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government would reconsider the present policy to do away with a large number of public sector ordinary bank employees since these NPAs have been created by the decisions of the Board, and by the bad decisions of the higher echelons of these public sector banks.

So, I would like to know whether the Government will reconsider the present policy of giving effect to compulsory retirement and voluntary retirement of ordinary bank employees. I would like to get a positive answer from the hon. Minister. As an ordinary bank employee, I request the Minister to reconsider the present policy of the Government.

SHRI BALASAHAE VIKHE PATIL : Sir, this is a Voluntary Retirement Scheme. It is not compulsory. So, naturally those who want to take advantage of this scheme can do so. It is applicable in other banks also. It is not specifically meant only for the weak banks because the banks themselves are implementing Voluntary Retirement Schemes. Since the bank has suggested the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, the Government is considering that. But the Voluntary Retirement Scheme is definitely there and they demand provision of additional funds for that. So, they will themselves manage these funds.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

12.00 hrs.

[English]

Import Duty on Sandiman Neoral

2. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item published in the 'Jan Satta' Delhi in its New Delhi Edition dated 13.8.2000 under the caption "Udhar Ka Gurde Lekar Jeene Walaon Ki Jindagi Vitta Mantralaya Ne Khatre Mein Dali" wherein it is reported that the Kidney patients are facing lot of financial difficulties due to levying of 40 percent duty on the medicine, 'Sandiman Neoral' which is a life saving drug for them;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw the said 40 percent duty on the above life saving drug;

(c) whether the Government have received requests from the Kidney patients also in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V.DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A number of representations have been received from kidney patients requesting for withdrawal of the duty imposed on cyclosporine, which is the generic name for Sandimmun Neoral and several other formulations.

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

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a newsitem was published in 'Jan Satta' dated 13.8.2000 under the caption "Udhar ka gurma lekar jeene walaon ki jindagi vitta mantralaya ne khatre mein dali". In our country there are thousands of kidney patients and they require 'Sandiman Neoral' which is a life saving drug for them. Since this medicine is manufactured in Switzerland and we import it from there. In 2000-2001 budget, the Government levied 40% duty on this medicine. I would like to request the Government that such patients also have the right to live. Due to levying of this 40% duty its price has increased by Rs. 1200/- whereas earlier it was available at Rs. 3000/- in a month. Its price should be reduced. Prior to budget, such duty was not levied. More than 25,000 people have submitted a memorandum to hon. Prime Minister in this regard. This 40% duty should be reduced. I would like to know from hon. Minister as to whether the Ministry of Finance is considering to reduce the said 40% duty on the above life saving drug?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to ask the hon. Lady Member... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : What are you talking about? I have beard and moustache but you do not have... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Hon. Minister, Sir, please put on your specs before replying because you are addressing hon. Member as hon. Lady member.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I would like to tell the hon. Member that price has not increased due to levying of duty. Your are talking about 'Sandiman Neoral'...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Hon. Minister, Sir, do not remove your specs...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Let me complete my reply...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should appreciate the Minister. He is trying to answer him in Hindi. What is wrong in it?

[Translation]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country the institute called M/s R.P.G. Life Sciences is making all effort to manufacture this medicine and it is being manufactured in large quantity also. I would like to tell the hon. Member that this duty has been imposed to give protection to the manufacturers of this medicine and that the price has not increased due to levying of duty.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the kidney patients have filed their complaints in Human Rights Commission and the Commission has admitted their complaints and have given assurance to them. I would like to know from the Government as to whether it is making any effort on the complaints of patients lodged with Human Rights Commission or the Government have any knowledge about it. If so, what efforts the Government is making to reduce the 40% duty?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister is speaking in Hindi, I congratulate him for that but I would request him to reduce this 40% duty.

MR. SPEAKER : He has said that there is no duty on it.

[English]

Is there any duty there or not?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, there is a duty.

[Translation]

Many Institutions and kidney patients have requested the Government not to increase the prices. M/s Navrati Company has also requested the Government in this connection.

[English]

Welfare Association and prominent persons. VIP representations have also been received. The Government is actively considering all these representations. We are also having interactions with the nodal Ministry, that is, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The representations are under the active consideration of the Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is all right that we should encourage our own research and development and we should have a substitute medicine. But just now he said, we are trying. Attempt is being made to manufacture substitute medicine here.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : It is already being manufactured.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Is there sufficient quantity available in the country indigenously?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : There is a capability; the annual demand is 465 kgs. The domestic manufacturing capacity of bulk drugs is 600 kgs. and the total production of bulk drugs in the year 1999-2000 was 263 kgs. In the first four months, in the current financial years, that is, between April and June, already the RPG Life Sciences have produced 130 kgs.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Sir, we will appreciate the Finance Ministry to encourage Indian industry. I would just like to know whether there is any rate difference between the drug available supplied by the multinationals and Indian indigenous companies. Has the hon. Minister received representations from Indian industries and associations to impose such duty? At the same time, I would like to know will the hon. Minister encourage Indian pharmaceutical industries in similar manner in other products also.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, for the information of the hon. Member, the current price of formulations as provided by M/s RPG Life Sciences shows that the MRP per capsule of 50 mgs. Sandiman Neoral of Novartis, which is imported, is Rs. 61.66. The MRP of another equivalent Peniman Neoral of Panacea, which is domestically manufactured, is Rs. 45. There is another domestic production by Cipla. The price of that is Rs. 48.

The produce of RPG Life Sciences which is being domestically manufactured is priced at Rs. 38. So, that being the situation, to give protection to the indigenous manufacturers, the duty is laid.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Policy on Historical and Heritage Places

*442. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new policy on historical and heritage places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Archaeological Survey of India protects, maintains and conserves monuments and sites as per the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 and rules made thereunder. There is no proposal to change the existing policy in this regard.

[Translation]

Smuggling Activities

*443. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the smuggling activities have been increasing for the last few years in Delhi, Mumbai and Goa and airports of these cities are becoming hub for smugglers;

(b) if so, the quantity of contraband material recovered and seized by the D.R.I. during the last two years; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with the activities of smugglers in the country, particularly at Delhi, Mumbai and Goa airports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The reports available indicate an increasing trend in the seizure of smuggled goods, effected by the DRI and other field formations of the Customs Department, in Delhi, Mumbai and Goa including airports of these cities. However, the intelligence available do not indicate that the airports of these cities have become hub for the smugglers.

(b) The value of contraband goods seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) during last three

years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto 31.7.2000), at Delhi, Mumbai and Goa including the airports of these cities, are as under :-

S. Place No.	Value of Goods Seized		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (upto July, 2000)
			(Rs. in Crores)
(i) Delhi	15.29	15.40	10.78
(ii) Mumbai	37.78	86.32	8.56
(iii) Goa	2.29	0.83	0.36

(c) All the field formations of the Customs department including DRI are ever vigilant and alert to detect and prevent smuggling of contraband goods, all over the country including the international airports. All the international airports including air cargo complexes have been provided with X-ray baggage machines for scanning of cargo. Besides Narcotics-cum-explosive detectors (IONSCANS) have been installed at four major international airports viz. Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Calcutta.

[English]

Surplus Stock of Sugar

*444. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a surplus production of sugar during 1999-2000;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the export of sugar in 2000-2001 in view of surplus stock of sugar in the Central Pool;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the sugar is being exported at prices lower than the prices of Public Distribution System;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the other steps being taken to utilise the surplus stock of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) The sugar production during the current 1999-2000 (October to September) sugar season as on 31.7.2000 is estimated at 179.44 lakh tonnes (Provisional). The sugar production for the 1999-2000 sugar season is estimated to cross 180.00 lakh tonnes (Provisional). Taking into account the carry over stocks from the previous season, the total availability of sugar is of the order of 247.00 lakh tonnes against estimated internal consumption of 155 lakh tonnes. State-wise breakup of sugar production during the current 1999-2000 sugar season up to 31.7.2000 is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) There is no central pool of sugar. However, in order to enable the sugar factories to reduce their stocks, Government have allowed export of 10.00 lakh tonnes of domestically produced sugar by the sugar mills/exporters. In order to reduce the losses in exports and to make sugar exports viable the Government have exempted the sugar factories from levy obligations on the quantity of sugar exported by them. This exemption is available for a period of six months with effect from 01.06.2000.

(e) and (f) The exports are to be made by the sugar factories/exporters as per their commercial judgement. This being commercial exports by the exporters/sugar factories, the Government have no role to play in deciding the price of export.

(g) During the current sugar season, as compared to the previous sugar season, the releases made by the Government both under levy and freesale are higher by 13.52 lakh tonnes.

Statement

State-wise production of sugar during the current season 1999-2000 (upto 31st July, 2000)

(Provisional)

State	Qty. in Lakh Tonnes
1	2
Punjab	3.90
Haryana	4.74
Rajasthan	0.14
Uttar Pradesh	45.76
Madhya Pradesh	1.03

1	2
Gujarat	11.41
Maharashtra	64.68
Bihar	3.70
Assam	0.04
Orissa	0.53
West Bengal	0.07
Andhra Pradesh	11.78
Karnataka	14.97
Tamil Nadu	15.96
Pondicherry	0.48
Kerala	0.10
Goa	0.15
All India	179.44

Industrial Backwardness

*447. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken serious note of the industrial backwardness of several States;

(b) if so, the States which are still backward in the field of industrial growth alongwith the reasons for their backwardness;

(c) the share of each State in the industrial growth for the last five years, year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any schemes for the removal of industrial backwardness of these States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the financial/technical assistance provided to each State during the above period, scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Eighth Schedule of Income Tax Act [Section 80-1A(iv)(b)] 1961, lists the following States and Union Territories as industrially backward :

1. Arunachal Pradesh, 2. Assam, 3. Manipur,
4. Meghalaya, 5. Mizoram, 6. Nagaland, 7. Tripura,
8. Sikkim, 9. Himachal Pradesh, 10. Jammu and Kashmir
11. Goa, 12. Andaman and Nicobar Islands,
13. Dadra and Nagar Haveli, 14. Daman and Diu,
15. Lakshadweep, and 16. Pondicherry.

In addition to the above, Govt. of India has notified 123 districts as industrially backward and classified them as Category 'A' and Category 'B' for grant of concession under the Income Tax Act, 1961 vide Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Revenue's Notification No. S.O. 714(E), dated 7.10.97. State-wise list of these districts is given in the attached statement-I

Reasons for their industrial backwardness are poor infrastructure facilities, insufficient access to finance from financial institutions, lack of skilled manpower, low level of urbanisation, etc. Perceptions of security problems in some of the States has also been a reason for low level of private investment.

(c) As per the Annual Survey of Industries' (ASI), the share of each State in the industrial growth (value of gross output generated by industrial units) for the last five years is given in the attached statement-II.

(d) Under the New Industrial Policy of 1991, the initiative for industrial development of backward areas lies primarily with the State Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts through various schemes and incentives which are listed below :

Initiatives for Infrastructure Development

- (i) **Growth Centre Scheme** : Announced in June, 1988 the Scheme's objective is development of basic infrastructure like power, water, telecommunication, banking, sewage, effluent disposal etc. in selected backward areas to enable the States to attract industrial units. 71 Growth Centres are proposed to be developed throughout the country under the scheme of which 68 have already been sanctioned.
- (ii) **Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme:** The Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries is implementing this

scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for small industries to facilitate location of industries in rural/backward areas.

The Ministry also administers the National Programme for Rural Industrialisation, setting up 100 rural clusters for boosting rural industrialisation.

Subsidy Schemes :

- (i) **Transport Subsidy Scheme** : Introduced in July, 1971, to promote industries in hilly, remote and inaccessible areas, subsidy ranging from 50% to 90% is admissible under this scheme on movement of raw materials and finished goods from designated rail heads/ports upto the location of industrial units.
- (ii) **Industrial Policy Package for the North East** : Keeping in view the Geographical conditions and continued backwardness of the North Eastern region, a new industrial policy was announced for this region in December, 1997, which apart from having Growth Centre Scheme, IIDC Scheme and Transport Subsidy Scheme, as well as excise and income tax exemptions for a period of 10 years, also has the following subsidy schemes exclusively for the region :
 - (a) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme;
 - (b) The Central Interest Subsidy Scheme;
 - (c) Comprehensive Insurance Scheme.

Tax Concessions :

- (i) Under the Income Tax Act, 1961, Ministry of Finance has notified 123 industrially backward districts classified as category 'A' and category 'B' (vide Notification No.714(E) dated 7.10.97 for grant of tax concessions).
- (ii) Industrially backward States and Union Territories in Schedule eight of the Income Tax Act, 1961 are also entitled to an identical benefit for undertakings set up on or before 31.3.2002.
- (e) Details of the schemes are given in part (a) of the reply. The financial assistance provided under various schemes is given in Statement III A to III D.

Statement-I

List of Industrially Backward Districts in the Country, as Notified by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue vide Notification No. 714(E) dated 07.10.97

Category 'A'	Category 'B'
1	2
BIHAR	ANDHRA PRADESH
Godda	Srikakulam
Gumla	Mahbubnagar
Araria	BIHAR
Madhepura	Katihar
Dumka	Bhagalpur
Khagaria	Gopalganj
Kishanganj	Darbhanga
Palamau	West-Champaran
Madhubani	Saran
Jehanabad	Bhojpur
Saharsa	Samastipur
Nawadah	Deoghar
Sitamarhi	Nalanda
Sahebganj	Gaya
Aurangabad	Muzaffarpur
East-Champaran	Rohtas
Purnia	GUJARAT
Siwan	Banaskantha
Vaishali	Sabarkantha
Lohar-dagga	KARNATAKA
GUJARAT	Bidar
The Dangs	
KERALA	
Idukki	
Wayanad	

1	2
MADHYA PRADESH	MADHYA PRADESH
Mandla	Seoni
Panna	Tikamgarh
Bastar	Shivpuri
Sarguja	Balaghat
Chhatarpur	Jhabua
MAHARASHTRA	Sidhi
Gadchiroli	Vidisha
ORISSA	Raigarh
Phulbani	Morena
Kalahandi	Betul
RAJASTHAN	Rajgarh
Jalbre	Rajnandgaon
Barmer	Sagar
Jaisalmer	MAHARASHTRA
Churu	Beed
Banswara	ORISSA
UTTAR PRADESH	Bolangir
Sidharthanagar	Mayurbhanj
Baharaich	Balasore
Pratapgarh	Ganjam
Maharajganj	RAJASTHAN
Banda	Dungarpur
Basti	Dholpur
Chamoli	Sawai-Madhopur
Uttarkashi	Tonk
Almora	Nagaur
Pithoragarh	Sikar
Tehri Garhwal	Jhalawar

1	2
WEST BENGAL	UTTAR PRADESH
Malda	Mau
West-Dinajpur	Hardoi
Murshidabad	Lalitpur
Coochbehar	Hamirpur
Bankura	Badaun
Jalpaiguri	Fatehpur
	Azamgarh
	Etah
	Barabanki
	Etawah
	Deoria
	Ghazipur
	Ballia
	Jaunpur
	Sitapur
	Jalaun
	Unnao
	Faizabad
	Kanpur-Dehat
	Mainpuri
	Gonda
	Farukhabad
	Sultanpur
	Mirzapur
WEST BENGAL	
	Purulia
	Midnapore
	Birbhum

Statement-II

*Value of Output generated by Industrial Units
covered in Annual Survey of Industries*

States Industrially backward States/UTs	Percentage				
	Year				
	1997- 98	1996- 97	1995- 96	1994- 95	1993- 94
1	2	3	4	5	6
Arunachal Pd.	Not covered in the Annual Survey of Industries				
Assam	0.91	0.86	0.85	0.83	0.87
Manipur	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0
Meghalaya	0.03	0.02	0.02	0	0
Mizoram	Not covered in the Annual Survey of Industries				
Nagaland	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Tripura	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Sikkim	Not covered in the Annual Survey of Industries				
Himachal Pd.	0.54	0.57	0.47	0.47	0.46
J and K	0.15	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.18
Goa	0.52	0.48	0.39	0.34	0.45
A & N Islands	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
D & N Haveli	0.78	0.57	0.36	0.35	0.31
Daman & Diu	0.42	0.46	0.33	0.3	0.18
Lakshadweep	Not covered in the Annual Survey of Industries				
Pondicherry	0.46	0.43	0.25	0.28	0.25
Other States/UTs					
Andhra Pradesh	6.88	6.42	6.9	7.26	6.66
Bihar	3.51	3.62	3.29	3.7	4.6
Gujarat	12.87	11.81	12.65	10.9	11.02
Haryana	3.94	4.48	4.09	3.93	3.62
Karnataka	5.17	5.38	4.6	4.73	4.41

1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerala	2.42	2.41	2.32	1.81	2.07
Madhya Pradesh	5.36	5.77	6.24	5.56	5.77
Maharashtra	21	20.73	22.21	21.13	21.66
Orissa	1.81	1.78	1.81	1.87	1.96
Punjab	3.88	4.14	4.02	4.31	4.52
Rajasthan	3.45	3.4	3.3	3.46	3.27

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamil Nadu	10.01	10.71	10.5	11.64	10.72
Uttar Pradesh	8.7	8.74	8.51	9.4	9.44
West Bengal	5.08	4.99	4.68	5	5.38
Chandigarh	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.16	0.12
Delhi	1.86	1.91	1.84	2.35	2.03
All India	100	100	100	100	100

Statement-III A*Release of Central Assistance to Growth Centres*

Sl. No.	Name of the Growth Centre	Year						Total amount released
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total 5 Yrs.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I. Andhra Pradesh								
1.	Hindupur						—	200
2.	Khammam						—	50
3.	Vizianagaram-Bobbilli	100	140		100	11	351	551
4.	Ongole	100		150	200		450	650
II. Arunachal Pradesh								
5.	Niklok Ngorlung		50		48	50	148	148
III. Assam								
6.	Chariduar		50			150	200	200
7.	Matia			50		100	150	150
8.	Chaygaon*							
IV. Bihar								
9.	Begusarai	250	50				300	300
10.	Bhagalpur		50				50	50
11.	Chhapra		50				50	50
12.	Darbhanga			50			50	50
13.	Hazaribagh	150	50				200	200
14.	Muzaffarpur		50				50	50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
V. Goa								
15. Electronic City				150			150	674
VI. Gujarat								
16. Gandhidham							—	100
17. Palanpur							—	100
18. Vagra		40					40	1000
VII. Haryana								
19. Bawal							—	1000
20. Saha				50			50	50
VIII. Himachal Pradesh								
21. Kangra			450				450	450
IX. Jammu & Kashmir								
22. Lassipora				50			50	50
23. Samba			400		50	200	650	850
X. Karnataka								
24. Dharwad		380	200				580	1000
25. Raichur		140	220		120		480	800
26. Hassan		500	140	60			700	1000
XI. Kerala								
27. Alappuzha-Malappuram		100		200	532		832	1000
28. Kannur-Kozhikode		400	116				516	1000
XII. Madhya Pradesh								
29. Borai		200	100			125	425	793
30. Chainpura							—	100
31. Ghirongi							—	1000
32. Kheda		577					577	1000
33. Satlapur		135	250				385	435
34. Siltara		134					134	1000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
XIII. Maharashtra								
35. Akola			100	450		200	750	950
36. Chandrapur	100			100	200	60	460	650
37. Dhule					50	200	250	450
38. Nanded				550		200	750	750
39. Ratnagiri			40	200			240	440
XIV. Manipur								
40. Lamlai-Napet				50			50	50
XV. Meghalaya								
41. Mendipathar			50				50	50
XVI. Mizoram								
42. Luangmual			50				50	50
XVII. Nagaland								
43. Ganeshnagar					500	500	1000	1050
XVIII. Orissa								
44. Chatrapur							—	50
45. Kalinganagar-Duburi					50	50	100	150
46. Jharsuguda							—	50
47. Kesinga					50		50	50
XIX. Pondicherry								
48. Polagam				50		250	300	300
XX. Punjab								
49. Bhatinda	100						100	1000
50. Pathankot	200						200	1000
XXI. Rajasthan								
51. Abu Road	360		140				500	1000
52. Bikaner				50		100	150	450
53. Bhilwara					100	150	250	300
54. Dholpur	50			70			120	320
55. Jhalawar							—	300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
XXII. Sikkim								
	56. Majhitar*						—	
XXIII. Tamilnadu								
	57. Erode						—	1000
	58. Tirunelveli						—	930
	59. Oragadam					50	50	50
XXIV. Tripura								
	60. Bodhjung Nagar						—	50
XXV. Uttar Pradesh								
	61. Bijauli					100	100	150
	62. Jamaur						—	50
	63 Chaudharpur						—	50
	64. Dibiapur			50			50	50
	65. Khurja	200		170			370	420
	66. Satharia	400					400	450
	67. Sahjanwa						—	1000
	68. Shivrajpur-Padampur*						—	50
XXVI. West Bengal								
	69. Bolpur		50				50	50
	70. Jalpaiguri		50				50	50
	71. Malda		50				50	50
	Total	4616	2896	2500	2000	2496	14508	29871

Statement-III B*Progress of IID centres*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

No. of IIDCs	Project cost	Govt. grant	
		Total	Released
46	24229.53	8954.58	3588.31

Note : Besides the 46 IID centres. 7 centres one each in MP, UP, HP & Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and 2 in Haryana were approved but were abandoned by the concerned State/UT.

Statement-III C

Year-wise Reimbursement made under Transport Subsidy Scheme upto 31.3.2000
(Rupees in lakhs rounded off)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	1976-77 to 1979-80	1980-81 to 1984-85	1985-86 to 1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1.	Assam	3.73	438.22	897.00	1604.90	662.93	643.14	980.05	2217.90	3861.10	2061.89	2548.61	1250.54	1195.24	18361.90
2.	Manipur	0.3	0.84	6.50	16.78	-	64.14	58.87	128.70	-	-	18.96	24.40	4.00	323.49
3.	Tripura	2.00	3.36	55.41	57.86	-	43.92	23.64	132.99	2.60	203.15	78.19	51.39	26.19	479.86
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6.37	225.14	212.71	-	-	-	47.66	-	267.42	1243.55	277.21	606.47	2886.53
5.	Meghalaya	-	19.12	83.82	50.27	-	7.00	136.21	250.10	195.88	190.86	506.55	127.45	703.96	2271.02
6.	Nagaland	-	-	223.51	217.32	205.73	-	145.95	67.80	-	-	970.01	1169.19	649.02	3576.45
7.	Mizoram	-	-	-	23.58	-	26.00	322.48	272.32	405.30	-	-	103.30	347.22	1494.38
8.	Sikkim	-	1.06	171.60	66.64	52.33	55.33	-	-	123.24	36.43	129.82	-	-	636.45
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.46	7.12	1904.11	513.04	116.50	66.60	690.74	1809.57	36.88	973.19	824.77	4815.06	4650.79	16408.83
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.55	15.11	281.92	252.84	71.34	-	151.45	334.79	-	466.30	138.62	594.51	280.23	2598.66
11.	Uttar Pradesh	-	55.77	318.53	106.94	64.35	66.60	842.19	85.35	-	600.95	0.92	45.14	-	1582.44
12.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	55.48	544.72	152.51	256.82	245.52	452.19	1.49	375.00	197.48	-	-	-	2281.21
13.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	West Bengal (Darjeeling)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42.81	36.88	79.69
Total		8.04	602.45	4712.26	3275.39	1430.00	1218.25	3199.47	5348.67	5000.00	4822.82	6460.00	8500.00	8500.00	53077.35

*Statement indicating releases made to various States/UTs during the last
Five Years, under Transport Subsidy Scheme*

(Rs. in lakh rounded off March 2000)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1.	Assam	3861.19	2061.89	2548.61	1250.53	1195.24	10917.4
2.	Manipur	—	—	18.96	24.41	4.01	47.38
3.	Tripura	2.60	28.50	78.19	51.40	26.19	186.88
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	267.42	1243.55	277.21	606.46	2394.64
5.	Meghalaya	195.88	190.66	506.55	127.45	703.96	1724.5
6.	Nagaland	—	—	970.01	1169.19	649.02	2788.22
7.	Mizoram	405.30	—	—	103.29	347.22	855.81
8.	Sikkim	123.24	36.43	129.82	—	—	289.49
9.	Himachal Pradesh	36.88	973.19	824.77	4814.06	4650.79	11299.7
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	466.30	138.62	594.51	280.23	1479.66
11.	Uttar Pradesh	—	600.95	0.92	45.13	—	647
12.	Andaman & Nicobar	375.00	197.48	—	—	—	572.48
13.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	0
14.	West Bengal (Darjeeling)	—	—	—	42.82	36.88	79.70
Total		5000.00	4822.82	6460.00	8500.00	8500.00	33282.8

*Statement indicating reimbursement made under the
Transport Subsidy Scheme during the current
financial year (upto 15.8.2000).*

(B.E. : Rs. 86.00 crore)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount in Lakhs (Rounded off)
1	2	3
1.	Assam	—
2.	Manipur	—
3.	Tripura	—
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
5.	Meghalaya	—
6.	Nagaland	—

1	2	3
7.	Mizoram	—
8.	Sikkim	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	437.26
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
11.	Uttar Pradesh	—
12.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—
13.	Lakshadweep	—
14.	West Bengal (Darjeeling Distt.)	—
15.	NEDFI	2000.00
Total		2437.26 Lakhs

Statement-III D

The three new schemes introduced in the 9th Plan by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for accelerating industrialisation in the North Eastern Region are :

(i) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme

The scheme to be operated through State Governments provides for payment of subsidy for units to be set up in the North East region in identified locations at the rate of 15% of their investment in plant and machinery subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 30 lakhs. Subsidy would be released to the eligible units by North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFI) on the basis of recommendations of State level Committee

The scheme was notified on June 1998. The allocation for current financial year i.e. BE 2000-2001 is Rs. 2 crores. There has been no expenditure incurred as the scheme is yet to take off.

(ii) The Central Interest Subsidy Scheme

The scheme notified on 18.2.99 provides for interest subsidy at the rate of 3% to the new industrial units in the North Eastern Region on working capital loans for a period of ten years after commencement of commercial production. The scheme is to be operated through the State Governments and to ensure timely payment of subsidy to eligible units. NEDFI has been designated as nodal agency for disbursement and subsidy. A token budgetary provision of Rs. 1 lakh was provided for the scheme in 1999-2000 and the same amount has been retained for the current financial year i.e. 2000-2001 also. No expenditure has been incurred under the scheme so far.

(iii) Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme 1997

A scheme for comprehensive insurance for industrial units in the North Eastern Region has been notified by the Ministry of Industry on 14th July, 1999. The scheme is effective upto 13.07.2009. All industrial units set up in the North Eastern Region after 24.12.1997 and included in the fire policy "C" (As per All India Fire Tariff) are eligible for subsidy under the scheme.

The scheme was devised after detailed discussions with concerned State Governments in the North East.

This scheme envisages reimbursement of the insurance premium paid by the eligible units through a revolving fund maintained by the nodal insurance company which is the National Insurance Company. The fund for the revolving fund shall be contributed by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. Since the scheme was announced in 1999 a token budget provision of Rs. 1 lakh was been made in the year 1999-2000. A budget provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made in the current year 2000-2001. No expenditure has been incurred under the schemes so far.

[Translation]

Ombudsman in Banks

*448. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has appointed Ombudsman for redressal of the complaints of the customers of the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases lying pending with him and the number of cases disposed of during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the number of disposed of cases in which the decision was against the banks and the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of Ombudsmen appointed by Reserve Bank of India are given in the attached statement.

(c) The number of cases disposed of and lying pending for the last 3 years (latest available) is as under :-

Period (April-March)	No. of cases disposed	No. of cases pending as on 31st March
1996-97	1441	422
1997-98	2722	1398
1998-99	2807	1340

Disposal of maintainable complaints is by way of conciliation, mediation and passing of awards.

(d) The information regarding number of Awards given against the banks since operationalisation of the Scheme is as under :-

No. of Awards given since operationalisation till 31st March, 1999	Awards implemented by banks
266	180

Statement

List of Centres and Jurisdiction of B.O. Offices

Centre	Jurisdiction/States	Date of Operationalisation
1. Mumbai	Maharashtra and Goa	14.6.1995
2. Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	14.6.1995
3. Delhi	Delhi, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir Distt. of Ghaziabad in U.P.	14.6.1995
4. Bangalore	Karnataka	24.6.1995
5. Chandigarh	Himachal Pradesh	24.6.1995
6. Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	4.10.1995
7. Patna	Bihar	9.10.1995
8. Jaipur	Rajasthan	15.1.1996
9. Kanpur	U.P. (excluding Dist. Ghaziabad)	24.5.1996
10. Guwahati	Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Tripura	5.6.1996
11. Bhubaneswar	Orissa	28.9.1996
12. Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, U.T. of Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.4.1997
13. Calcutta	West Bengal and Sikkim	12.5.1997
14. Ahmedabad	Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	7.7.1997
15. Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala and Lakshadweep	8.9.1997

Violation of FERA

*449. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cases pertaining to the violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 by the individuals, the corporate bodies and other organisations;

(b) the position in respect of inquiry into each of the cases;

(c) the details of persons found guilty for the violation of said Act during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) As on 1st June, 2000 a total of 9154 cases were pending under investigation and adjudication under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. Out of these cases, 4651 cases are at the investigation stage while 4503 cases have been taken up for adjudication after issue of Show Cause Notice.

In the cases relating to violation of the provisions of FERA, three types of action is taken. The first is preventive detention in terms of the provisions of COFEPOSA, 1974. The second is adjudication in respect of cases in which Show Cause Notices have been issued and the third action is filing of prosecution in Courts of law under section 56 of FERA for substantive violations of the Act and under section 57 of the said Act for non payment of penalty imposed after adjudication.

During the last three years, detention orders were issued against 116 persons under COFEPOSA. 7938 cases have been adjudicated during this period wherein a total penalty of Rs 451.22 crore was imposed. During the last three years, prosecution was launched in 379 cases under Section 56 of FERA, and in 119 cases under Section 57. During the aforesaid years, the Courts found 73 persons guilty under Section 56 and 38 persons under Section 57 of FERA.

[English]

NABARD

*450. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the thrust areas of the NABARD and the details of the national priorities before NABARD;

(b) whether NABARD has been successful in implementing its national priorities in these thrust areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Since its inception in 1982, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been making concerted efforts to provide and facilitate adequate credit support to agriculture and other rural activities. Its main thrust areas are to facilitate credit flow for agriculture and rural development, promote and support policies, practices and innovations conducive to rural development, strengthen rural credit delivery system through institutional development measures, supervise rural financial institutions like cooperative banks and regional rural banks, etc.

NABARD has also been implementing programmes of national priorities as reflected in the Government's policy announcements from time to time like Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Watershed Development, Micro-finance through Self-Help Groups (SHGs), introduction of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, Self-employment schemes, etc.

(b) and (c) During the last few years, NABARD has been playing an active role to fulfil objectives enshrined in the preamble of the NABARD Act, 1981. It has also been pursuing the national priorities by way of designing appropriate schemes, advising the banks, monitoring and reviewing their progress and reporting to the Government. The achievements of NABARD under various programmes of national priorities have been indicated in the attached statements indicating its performance in the flow of ground level credit for agriculture (Statement-I), assistance under RIDF (Statement-II) and Kisan Credit Card Scheme (Statement-III).

Statement-I

The State-wise flow of credit to agriculture by NABARD during the last three years

(Rs. lakhs)				
S. No.	State/Union Territory	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Estimated)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	A & N Islands	298	335	388
2.	Andhra Pradesh	407635	481124	537173

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	346	425	551
4.	Assam	15410	17078	9562
5.	Bihar	41988	48721	30268
6.	Chandigarh	6474	17471	12209
7.	D & N Haveli	107	155	414
8.	Daman & Diu	90	126	415
9.	Goa	3364	3308	3303
10.	Gujarat	230785	233992	286543
11.	Haryana	211094	250307	314773
12.	Himachal Pradesh	9561	15973	18836
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	2204	3020	4146
14.	Karnataka	256663	279405	358410
15.	Kerala	147936	157080	205273
16.	Lakshadweep	43	56	95
17.	Madhya Pradesh	198599	189601	221393
18.	Maharashtra	312168	381773	454701
19.	Manipur	292	185	266
20.	Meghalaya	523	515	696
21.	Mizoram	197	157	233
22.	Nagaland	411	430	574
23.	NCT of Delhi	21542	12965	7260
24.	Orissa	48426	62286	77640
25.	Pondicherry	2730	2797	2907
26.	Punjab	288104	383022	458590
27.	Rajasthan	146208	178759	211403
28.	Sikkim	191	223	341
29.	Tamil Nadu	363237	361578	443187
30.	Tripura	1114	830	1064
31.	Uttar Pradesh	285498	349147	387973
32.	West Bengal	67281	75144	105873
Total		3195560	3689745	4176460

Statement-III

Progress in Kisan Credit Card Scheme As on 31.3.2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Public Sector Banks		Regional Rural Banks		Cooperative Banks		Total	
		Cards Issued (as on 31.3.2000)	Amount sanctioned	Cards Issued (as on 31.3.2000)	Amount sanctioned	Cards Issued (as on 31.3.2000)	Amount sanctioned	Cards Issued	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	333552	52133.61	10349	1601.20	1664673	139625.90	2008574	193360.71
2.	Assam	1030	154.22	181	34.12	—	—	1211	188.34
3.	Bihar	66073	10492.55	2274	371.10	1629	264.47	69976	11128.12
4.	Gujarat	110279	28562.45	5226	1208.40	6042	1798.68	121547	31569.53
5.	Haryana	51086	18405.02	5788	2993.21	—	—	56874	21398.23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	7009	1616.41	140	56.92	468	90.02	7617	1763.35
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	385	52.76	269	36.85	1042	166.49	1696	256.10
8.	Karnataka	241505	73986.68	39896	9260.58	13138	3097.79	294539	86345.05
9.	Kerala	110584	19128.76	53688	9930.55	33469	2714.67	197741	31773.98
10.	Madhya Pradesh	73754	21237.29	5468	1461.68	75788	14650.79	155010	37349.76
11.	Maharashtra	102178	31075.78	3500	875.00	339624	39103.30	445302	71054.08
12.	Orissa	30346	3584.51	17225	1947.19	602029	106332.58	649600	111864.28
13.	Punjab	129627	54826.54	3436	1704.76	—	—	133063	56531.30
14.	Rajasthan	42239	13725.99	6720	3295.09	989543	130900.00	1038502	147921.08
15.	Tamil Nadu	216971	40164.27	1762	347.97	19587	3849.52	238320	44361.76
16.	Uttar Pradesh	254248	103363.15	23164	6395.89	—	—	277412	109759.04
17.	West Bengal	38465	5172.81	633	88.25	2732	491.34	41830	5752.40
18.	Tripura	179	30.45	3	0.31	66	2.62	248	33.38
19.	Goa	447	129.06	—	—	157	62.00	604	191.06
20.	A & N Islands	30	5.88	—	—	235	23.50	265	29.38
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	1.70	—	—	—	—	9	1.70
22.	Delhi	80	98.48	—	—	—	—	80	98.48
23.	Manipur	43	4.30	—	—	—	—	43	4.30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
24. Meghalaya		291	22.92					291	22.92
25. Mizoram		3	0.30					3	0.30
26. Nagaland		10	0.50					10	0.50
27. Sikkim		18	4.14					18	4.14
28. Chandigarh		-	-						
29. D & N Haveli		-	-						
30. Daman & Diu		-	-						
31. Lakshadweep		39	8.99					39	8.99
32. Pondicherry		882	382.06					882	382.06
Total		1811362	478371.58	179722	41609.07	3750222	443173.67	5741306	963154.32

Note- 1. One farmer is issued one Kisan Credit Card.

2. Total number of Kisan Credit Card issued by the Banks is 5939318 as on 31.3.2000. The difference between Statewise and Bankwise figures is because the complete information from States is not available.

[Translation]

Disinvestment of PSUs

*451. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether national consensus has been reached at the annual meeting of the Standing Conference on Public Enterprises (SCOPE) about privatisation of PSUs;

(b) if so, the target fixed for disinvestment of public sector undertakings; and

(c) the time-limit fixed for completing this disinvestment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The issue of privatization of Public Sector Undertakings was not discussed in the Annual General Meeting/Governing Council Meeting of SCOPE held on 16th February 2000.

(b) and (c) Government has fixed a target of Rs.10,000 Crore through **disinvestment** in Public Sector Undertakings for the year 2000-2001. The time limit fixed in this regard is 31st March 2001.

Setting up of Monitoring Committee

*452. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether several State Governments have not constituted Monitoring Committee for Public Distribution System as on date;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have had any interaction with the State Governments who have not constituted the Monitoring Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The concept of Monitoring Committee in the form of Vigilance Committees has been an important constituent of Public Distribution System (PDS) since long.

All the State Governments/UTs except Goa and Daman & Diu have informed regarding constitution of Vigilance Committees at various levels viz., Block, District and State for monitoring the functioning of TPDS.

(c) and (d) As per PDS guidelines issued in March, 1987 and TPDS guidelines issued in February, 1997 State Government have been advised to constitute Vigilance Committees as a measure of social audit of the working of PDS in the country. In the Model Citizens' Charter issued in November, 1997 for adoption by State Governments, constitution of Vigilance Committees by State Governments at the level of Panchayat/Ward, Taluk, District and State/UT has also been emphasised. Panchayati Raj Institutions guidelines issued in June, 1999, also state that the Gram Panchayat/Gram Sabha should be encouraged to form FPS committees which should include members of existing Vigilance Committees from the FPS of the area and also representatives of consumer groups, women, as well as members of SC/ST/OBCs. Under the TPDS monitoring system the State Governments are required to furnish information on the number of meetings of the Vigilance Committees held during the month at FPS, Block and District level. This issue was also discussed in the recently held advisory council meetings on foodgrains management and public distribution amongst other issues relating to monitoring of PDS in the country.

[English]

Industrial Development

*453. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made by the country in the field of industrial development during the last two years;

(b) the contribution of Indian companies and companies with the foreign collaboration in the total industrial production; and

(c) the sectors in which the Indian companies registered the maximum rate of development during the period after liberalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The latest official data on industrial development is available with respect to Index of Industrial Production. As per this, industry has grown by 8.1% in 1999-2000 as compared to 3.8% in 1998-1999. During April-June 2000-2001 however, industrial growth was 5.4% as against 5.7% in

April-June, 1999-2000. The details of sector-wise growth during the last two years are as under :

*Index of Industrial Production-Sector-wise
Growth Rates Base 1993-94 =100*

Sector	Weight	1998-99	1999-2000	(In percentage)	
				April-June 1999-2000	2000-2001
Mining	104.73	-1.7	0.8	-1.1	4.0
Manufacturing	793.58	4.1	9.3	6.7	5.5
Electricity	101.69	6.5	6.1	4.5	4.9
Overall	1000.00	3.8	8.1	5.7	5.4

The above table indicates that there was an acceleration of overall industrial growth in 1999-2000 compared to 1998-1999. In the current year there is marginal slow down in overall industrial growth in the first quarter.

(b) The contribution of Indian companies and companies with foreign collaboration is not separately maintained because data regarding industrial production are collected and compiled from industrial units (called factories) who are engaged in production activity only. Companies on the other hand are engaged in all kinds of commercial activities manufacturing being only one of them.

(c) 2,43,041 companies limited by shares with an aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 70,192 crores were at work in the country as on 31st December, 1991. As against this 5,32,580 companies limited by shares with an estimated aggregate paid-up capital of Rs. 2,72,865.2 crores were at work in the country on 1st January 2000.

The sectors in which the maximum number of companies were registered after liberalization (from 31st December, 1991 to 1st January, 2000) (in descending order) are as under :

- "Manufacturing Metals, Chemicals and Products thereof, Machinery and Equipment".
- "Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services".
- "Wholesale and Retail Trade and Restaurants and Hotels" and

- "Manufacturing of Food stuffs, Textiles, Wood products, Leather and Products thereof".

Performance of PSUs

*454. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of Public Sector Undertakings in terms of profit had declined during the first quarter ended in June, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of PSUs earned profit and losses during the said period;

(c) the reasons for decline in the profit; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) As per the available provisional information from 217 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) as on 31.3.2000, their performance in terms of profit in general has improved to about Rs. 13940 crores from Rs. 13377 crores earned during the corresponding period of the previous year. Out of 217 CPSUs, 116 earned profit, 98 incurred losses and 3 earned neither profit nor incurred loss during 1999-2000.

(c) and (d) Although the PSUs in general have recorded improvement in profit, there are certain PSUs where the profitability has declined. The reasons for such decline are enterprise specific. However, some of the common reasons include low capacity utilisation, low productivity, higher input costs, low order book position, weak marketing strategy, obsolete plant and Machinery, outdated technology, resource crunch, high interest burden, excess manpower, etc. Performance improvement is a continuous process and the Government and the Management take enterprise specific measures from time to time for improving the performance.

Import of Tea from Sri Lanka

*455. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to import of tea in large quantity from Sri Lanka, the domestic tea industry has been affected very badly;

(b) if so, the total quantity of tea imported from Sri Lanka during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, till date;

(c) whether the Government are considering to impose ban on import of tea, particularly from Sri Lanka; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Quantities of tea imported from Sri Lanka are negligible and less than 0.5% of our production. No adverse affect on the domestic tea industry has been noticed due to such imports.

(b) Import of tea from Sri Lanka during 1999-2000 and April to July, 2000-2001 was 2.91 mn. Kgs. and 0.70 mn. Kgs respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does Not arise.

Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings

*456. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to disinvest some of the Public Sector Undertakings in the oil sector including Hindustan Petroleum, Bharat Petroleum etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas have opposed the decision of disinvestment in the oil sector;

(d) if so, whether the concerned Ministry was not consulted before taking the crucial decision on disinvestment; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Some of the Public Sector Enterprises in the oil sector, where the Government has taken the decision to disinvest a part of its equity are Indian Oil Corp. Ltd., Gas Authority of India Ltd. and Engineers India Ltd. No decision for disinvestment in case of Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd. and Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd. has so far been taken.

(c) to (e) Before taking a final decision regarding disinvestment in a Public Sector Company, the views of all the concerned departments / Ministries, particularly the Administrative Ministry are considered by the Government through the process of inter Ministerial consultations. The Ministries often suggest amendments and improvements to the specific proposals under the consideration of the Government. The decisions referred to above in three companies of the oil sector were taken after such inter Ministerial consultations. There is no disagreement on the policy of the disinvestment.

[Translation]

ADB Loans

*457. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of loans due from Asian Development Bank which was suspended due to the testing of nuclear weapons;

(b) the projects which have been affected due to the non-release of funds by ADB;

(c) whether the Asian Development Bank is likely to start lending loans to India; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) No loan was suspended by the Asian Development Bank as the Charter of the Asian Development Bank does not provide for such suspension. However, after Pokhran Test in May, 1998, some members of the Board of Directors of the Bank did not support loans

for non Basic Human Needs Projects for India. Despite this, loans for India have been approved by the Bank after May, 1998.

[Translation]

Export of Flowers

*458. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of flowers exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, State-wise;

(b) the top three companies in the field of export of flowers and the facilities given by the Government to them for boosting exports;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct cold storage near Mumbai Airport for flowers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are negotiating with Netherlands for increasing export of flowers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The quantum of flowers exported is not reflected in a uniform unit. Export figures are maintained by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta for the country as a whole and not State-wise. The value of flowers exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as follows:

Year	Value (Rs. Crores)
1997-98	81.21
1998-99	96.61
1999-2000*	90.63

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta/APEDA, New Delhi.

*Provisional.

(b) The top three exporters of flowers are: (i) M/s Ramesh Flowers Ltd., Tuticorin (ii) M/s. Deccan Florabase Ltd. Mumbai and (iii) M/s. Vasavi Florex Industries Ltd., Bangalore. They have been given financial assistance under APEDA's schemes for development of infrastructure, export promotion and market development and airfreight subsidy and packaging develop-

ment to the following extent during the last three years:

Name of the Company	Amount (Rs. Lakhs)
M/s Ramesh Flowers Ltd., Tuticorin	3.00
M/s Deccan Florabase Ltd. Mumbai	62.35
M/s. Vasavi Florex Industries Ltd., Bangalore	16.68

Source : APEDA, New Delhi.

(c) and (d) A 70,000 M.Tons capacity cold storage plant over a 2484 sq.mts. area in the Chatrapati Shivaji International Airport Mumbai is proposed.

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

ADB Loan to Financial Institutions

*459. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has come forward to finance low cost housing by funding HUDCO, National Housing Bank and other financial institutions;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down by the Asian Development Bank;

(c) the time by which the loan is likely to be disbursed;

(d) whether any specific schemes have been selected by the ADB for such finance;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of houses likely to be constructed by HUDCO under this scheme over the next ten years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) The Asian Development Bank is considering a loan of US\$ 300 million for Housing Finance Project to Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd., (US\$

100 million), National Housing Bank (US\$ 40 million), Housing Development Finance Corporation (US\$ 80 million) and ICICI Ltd. (US\$ 80 million).

(b) The terms and conditions and other details of the loans are presently under negotiations.

(c) The timing of disbursement of loan will be decided after the loan is sanctioned by the ADB.

(d) No specific schemes have been selected by the ADB for funding.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Number of houses to be constructed by HUDCO over the next ten years will be decided only after finalization of the loan.

Central Interest Subsidy Scheme

*460. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme known as "Central Interest Subsidy Scheme" to promote industrial development is being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the States where it is applicable and the details of the incentives being given under the scheme;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the scheme to backward pockets of Orissa like KBK districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) In December, 1997 the Government announced a New Industrial Policy and other concessions for accelerating industrial development of the North-Eastern Region. The policy, inter alia, includes a provision for Central Interest Subsidy Scheme.

(b) This scheme is applicable to the States in the North-Eastern Region comprising of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram. Under the Scheme, interest subsidy @ 3% is admissible on the working capital loan to the new industrial units set up in the identified locations in the Region for a period of 10 years from the date of commencement of production.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Department to extend the scheme to the backward pockets of Orissa like KBK districts.

(d) Does not arise.

Tax Evasion by ITC

4913. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ITC Ltd. owe crores of rupees to the Government on account of payment/evasion of taxes, i.e. central excise, customs, income-tax etc;

(b) if so, the details of taxes owed by ITC/evaded payment of ITC so far, department-wise;

(c) since when the company has been evading the payment of taxes; and

(d) the details of measures taken by Government in this regard including attachment of properties, bank accounts owned by ITC Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In 28 cases, registered during the period 1973 to 1991, M/s ITC Ltd. owes an amount of Rs. 153.5 crore (approx.) on account of central excise duty evasion. Another case was registered against 5 units of M/s. ITC and their job-workers in 1987, for alleged evasion of central excise duty to the tune of Rs. 803.76 crore. Out of this, in adjudication, Rs. 799.34 crore was confirmed (Rs. 681.54 crore against M/s ITC and Rs. 117.80 crore against job-workers) and a penalty of Rs. 66.50 crore was imposed on M/s ITC, Rs. 7 crore on job-workers and Rs. 3.15 crore against Directors of the Company. On a pre-deposit of Rs. 350 crore, CEGAT heard their appeal and dropped the case against the job workers, quashed all the penalties, and ordered for re-determination of duty relating to remaining amount against M/s. ITC Ltd. confirmed in adjudication. But this case is also a subject matter of appeal in the Supreme Court, preferred both by the Department and M/s ITC Ltd.

With respect to income tax, a penalty amounting to Rs.1 crore and interest amount of Rs. 10,79,562 was levied/charged during the year 1998-99, to M/s. ITC Ltd., for late deposit of TDS. The Company has filed an appeal against these orders.

As regards customs duty, an amount of Rs. 0.70 crore (approx.) is outstanding in two cases relating to the years 1992 & 1997-98.

(d) The above cases are at different stages of appeals, and measures to effect recoveries will depend upon the decisions of the appellate authorities.

Unfair Trade of Anti-TB Drug

4914. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether unfair trade practice has been made in supplying 2-Cynopyrazine (an anti-T.B. intermediate) to manufacture Anti-T.B. Drug Pyrazinamide by a Japanese company recently;

(b) if so, the price at which this Japanese company is selling 2-Cynopyrazine in South Africa, Thailand etc. vis-a-vis price to India;

(c) whether small scale manufacturers which are manufacturing Pyrazinamide from other routes have been forced out of competition as a result of unfair trade price of Japan;

(d) whether the Government propose to impose anti-dumping duty to crush unfair trade practices by Japanese companies to protect Indian manufacturers and take up the matter with Japanese Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (e) Data regarding the prices at which companies in other countries sell drugs abroad are not collected by Government. However, the Government initiates antidumping investigation in India when the domestic industry files a petition to the Designated Authority with prima-facie evidence of injury, and casual link between the dumping of the imported goods and injury to the Domestic industry. A list each of cases where final (definitive) duty has been recommended, where provisional duties have been recommended and where the case has been initiated in so far as anti-dumping investigations against imports from Japan are concerned is given in the attached statement.

Statement

1. Cases where Definitive (Final) Anti Dumping Duties recommended

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country	Name of the Petitioner	Date of Pre-Findings	Date of Final Findings	Range of duty (Rs. per unit) (Preliminary)	Range of duty recommended (Rs. Per unit) (Final)	Date of Imposition	Review held	Amount levied by Deptt. of Revenue after review
1.	Bisphenol A	12.08.92	Japan	M/s Kesar Petro-products Ltd.	10.8.93	18.2.94	28.9% CIF value of exports	Rs.7477/MT	11.3.94	29.9.96(M) 11.8.99(S)	Nil
2.	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	28.10.94	Japan	M/s Gujarat Apar Ltd.	-	19.10.95	-	Rs.19036/MT	14.11.95	1.4.99(M)	Rs.7882 PMT
3.	Vitamin-C	26.05.97	Japan & China RP	Ambalal Sarabhai Pvt. Ltd.	11.3.98	25.5.98	Rs. 27.59-61.96/KG	Rs.27.59-61.96/KG	24.07.98	13.6.2000 (M)	US\$12.17- US\$12.62
4.	Polystyrene	16.9.97	Korea RP, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia	Asso. Of Polystyrene (Supereme Rajasthan, McDowells	12.5.98	14.9.98	Rs.2677/MT- Rs.11388/MT	Rs.1963-13493/MT	17.11.98		
5.	Acrylic Fibres	7.1.98	Italy, Spain Portugal & Japan	Indian Acrylics Ltd.	20.10.98	24.12.98	Rs.2.69/KG- Rs.82.00/KG	Rs.2.69/KG- Rs.82.00/KG	22.1.99		
6.	Industrial Sewing Needles	16.1.98	Japan, Korea, China	M/s Altek Lammerz Ltd.	2.12.98	12.4.99	Rs.126 to Rs.1924 per thou- sand Needles case)	Withdrawl of Duty (Closed case)	20.5.99		
7.	EPDM	20.5.98	Japan	M/s Herdillia Unimers Ltd.	24.12.98	14.5.99	Difference between Rs.10716 to Rs.114446 and landed price of imports/ kgs.	Difference between Rs.100644 to Rs.104725 & landed price of imports/kgs.	13.7.99		
8.	SBR	7.4.98	Japan, Korea, Turkey, China Taiwan, USA, Germany & France	M/s Synthetic Chemicals Ltd.	21.1.99	2.6.99	Rs.48.20/Kg. to Rs.62.16/Kg	Rs.48.20/kg. to Rs.62.16/Kg.	24.8.99		
9.	Thermal Sensitive Paper	9.3.99	European Union, Japan	All India Paper Coaters Association	18.8.99	3.3.2000	Rs. 5.84- Rs.6.53/sq.m.	Rs.1.61- Rs.1.84/sq.m.	6.4.2000		

Note : 1. Sunset review & Mid terms reviews are conducted as required in the rules.

2. Final duties recommended by the Designated Authority are under the consideration of the Central Government (Ministry of Finance)

II. Cases where preliminary duty notified and pending final duties

S. No.	Product	Date of Initiation & Completion	Country	Name of the petitioners	Date of P. Findings	Rates of Prov. duties
1.	Aniline	13.9.99 13 Sept. 2000	USA and Japan	Narmada Chematur Petrochemicals Ltd.	8.3.2000	Rs.3.43– Rs.7.88/kg.
2.	Hydroxy Amine Sulphate	2.3.2000 2 March, 2001	USA, Japan, EU	Deepak Nitrite Ltd.	4.8.2000	US\$ 1709.34– US \$ 1751.33 per MT

III. Cases under investigation for provisional duties

[Translation]

S. No.	Product	Name of Petitioner	Date of Initiation & Completion	Country
1.	Caustic Soda	Caustic Soda Manufacturers Association	26.5.2000 26.5.2001	Iran, S. Arabia, USA, France & Japan

Export Scam Unearthed by CBI

4915.SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has unearthed a major export scam of over Rs. 100 crore involving a Mumbai based business group and senior Income-tax officials;

(b) if so, the details of *modus operandi* of the scam;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an enquiry in the whole affair; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The CBI had registered cases against two private limited companies of Mumbai. These companies were alleged to be engaged in large-scale over invoicing of exports causing wrongful loss to the Government to the tune of hundreds of crores of rupees. Searches were carried out by the CBI on these companies and the cases are under active investigation. Allegations of abuse of official position by certain Income tax officials, by suppressing evidence in the matter and showing undue favour to the Directors of these companies, are also under enquiry.

Financial Assistance Under Grid Godown Scheme to U.P.

4916 SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh has demanded financial assistance for the construction of godowns under the Grid Godown Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Government of Uttar Pradesh has sought financial assistance of Rs. 822.78 lakhs for construction of 20 godowns under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for construction of godowns for strengthening the PDS infrastructure in the State.

(c) Decision is pending certain clarifications sought from the State Government about justification for additional storage capacity in some locations and high cost estimates.

[English]

Waiver of Loan

4917.SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 8,400 crore Central loan given to Punjab to fight terrorism during 1984-94 has been waived off;

(b) if so, the year-wise grant of loan during the above period alongwith the specific purpose for which the loan was granted;

(c) whether the Centre has granted loans to another States too during the last three years;

(d) if so, the State-wise and year-wise details alongwith the purpose of the loan; and

(e) the amount of Central loan granted to Orissa since the devastating cyclone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) As per the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission, one-third of the repayment of principal for the period 1995-2000 amounting to Rs. 495.22 crores, in respect of the special term loans given to Punjab had been waived. Besides, Government of India had waived repayment obligations (principal and interest) of the Government of Punjab in respect of special term loans, amounting to Rs. 2917.89 crores during the same period. The Eleventh Finance Commission whose report was placed in the Parliament recently, has recommended for a moratorium on the payment of instalments of debt and interest on the special term loans given to Punjab during 1984-94, due for repayment from the State of Punjab during the period 2000-05.

(b) Year-wise details of special term loans released as part of Central assistance for State plan to the Government of Punjab during the peiod 1984-85 to 1993-94 are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) to (e) Central assistance is generally released to the States in monthly instalments in the form of Block Loans and Block Grants for financing their Annual Plans. Details of release of Block Loans to States including Orissa, during the last three years are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement -I

Special Terms Loans given to Punjab

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount
1	2
1984-85	290.25
1985-86	281.31

1	2
1986-87	349.35
1987-88	650.00
1988-89	730.00
1989-90	560.01
1990-91	800.00
1991-92	600.00
1992-93	600.00
1993-94	939.00

Statement-II

Block Loans released during 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1529.77	1360.58	1832.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.64	51.69	51.60
3.	Assam	131.67	146.38	150.70
4.	Bihar	959.21	1383.32	1577.25
5.	Goa	54.41	48.46	47.73
6.	Gujarat	651.67	906.80	1050.15
7.	Haryana	316.31	288.03	348.76
8.	Himachal Pradesh	60.50	79.94	103.99
9.	J & K	224.89	235.19	289.59
10.	Karnataka	620.68	726.57	900.73
11.	Kerala	381.10	469.09	495.29
12.	Madhya Pradesh	885.65	982.63	1335.09
13.	Maharashtra	1306.14	1073.09	849.09
14.	Manipur	62.37	51.08	66.41
15.	Meghalaya	25.77	32.50	36.18
16.	Mizoram	31.98	32.25	36.76

1	2	3	4	5
17. Nagaland		29.49	36.40	47.27
18. Orissa		830.75	850.19	845.17
19. Punjab		391.95	299.18	285.83
20. Rajasthan		628.54	806.96	763.77
21. Sikkim		20.96	24.94	30.35
22. Tamilnadu		967.09	794.05	986.97
23. Tripura		41.56	54.84	90.69
24. Uttar Pradesh		2035.08	2050.57	2411.78
25. West Bengal		1072.38	1468.86	1460.80

[Translation]

National Tourism Policy

4918. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the draft of the new national tourism policy has been approved by consensus in all the States and the Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above draft has been cleared by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The draft of the National Tourism Policy was circulated to all the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Comments received from a few of them were considered while redrafting the policy.

(c) to (e) The draft is under consideration of the Government. The policy will be announced after the approval of the Government.

Export-Oriented Units in J and K

4919. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any

proposal to set up cent percent export oriented units in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these units are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Under the Export Oriented Unit (EOU) Scheme, units are set up by entrepreneurs and the applications are submitted to the concerned Development Commissioner. So far three proposals have been approved for setting up EOUs in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Out of these, one unit has already been set up and remaining two are under implementation and are likely to be set up within one year.

[English]

Wastage of Foodgrains

4920. DR. S. VENUGOPAL Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Post harvest losses enough to feed 70 million" appearing in 'The Pioneer' dated July 20, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the amount of money is spent annually on storage of foodgrain.

(d) whether the Government have ever monitored that the amount of money earmarked for storage is properly deployed;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the remedial measures the Government propose to take to avoid loss of a huge quantity of foodgrains;

(g) whether there is any storage problem in Punjab due to sub-standard paddy which has no buyers; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gist of the matter reported in the news item is as follows :

- (i) Although the Food Corporation of India (FCI) spends approximately Rs. 4 crores/day on storage and handling of foodgrains, the country suffers heavy losses in post harvest period.
- (ii) A World Bank report has revealed that wasted grains are enough to feed 70-100 million people. Even in the State like Punjab, the post harvest handling of paddy and wheat is poor and there are 15 to 20% losses. —
- (iii) A scientist from International Rice Research Institute, Philippines has suggested that FCI must generate resource from grain trade to improve the grain storage warehouses.
- (iv) By year 2020 the country will require at least 200-230 million tonnes of foodgrains and unless wastage is avoided, PDS would be impaired.
- (v) In the open storage, the foodgrains are damaged by rain and other biotic factors. Losses are also there in transportation.
- (vi) Purchase centres located at kuccha grounds also contribute to losses.
- (vii) The cost of handling of foodgrains by FCI is quite high which requires to be reduced.

It is clarified that the exact quantum of foodgrain losses during post harvest period at farm level due to insects, rodents, moisture, birds, micro-organisms etc. is not known. However, a committee headed by Dr. V.G. Panse, in its report submitted in 1968, had estimated annual post harvest losses in the foodgrains in various stages at 9.33%. These included losses during threshing (1.68%), transportation (0.15%), processing (0.92%), rodents (2.50%), birds (0.85%), insects (2.55%) and moisture (0.68%). A survey conducted by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Government of India, during 1973-74, had estimated post harvest losses in foodgrains to be about 5% out of which the storage losses were estimated at about 2.7%. A joint survey conducted by the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute and Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute during 1985-88 in Bulandshahr district of UP had estimated total foodgrain losses at about 4.12% due to different factors at various post harvest stages.

(c) The details of annual expenditure on storage of foodgrains by the FCI for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (Revised Estimates) are given below :

(Rupees in crores)		
	1998-99 (Provisional)	1999-2000 (RE)
Storage charges	730	790

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Regular monitoring at monthly/quarterly intervals is carried out in the Ministry on construction of godowns by the FCI.

(f) With a view to avoid losses in handling, storage and transportation, the Government has announced a national policy on bulk handling storage and transportation of foodgrains in the country. The policy envisages encouragement of private sector participation for the integrated bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains.

Since the house-hold sector retains about 70% of the total production and substantial quantity of foodgrains are wasted due to improper storage, in order to reduce post harvest losses at farm level, the policy provides for :

- (i) Introduction of a scheme to encourage use of metal bins as well as non metallic storage structures at individual farm level and construction of RCC bins at community level with appropriate financial incentives.
- (ii) Strengthening of the existing training and research components of the Save Grain Campaign Scheme for scientific storage and preservation of food-grains and their propagation among farmers.

(g) and (h) No Sir.

[Translation]

Ongoing Projects

4921.PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether many ongoing projects of Rajasthan are lagging behind their stipulated time and this State is comparatively neglected in the field of electronic media network;

(b) if so, whether any review of implementation of various projects in State has been made;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Project-wise and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the details of action plan adopted finally for expanding/strengthening the electronic media network in this region during 2000-2001 alongwith the proposals received in this regard and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Progress of implementation of AIR and Doordarshan projects in Rajasthan has generally been satisfactory. Only one AIR project and seven Doordarshan projects are lagging behind schedule out of 3 AIR and 15 DD projects under implementation. The State is covered by AIR to the extent of 91.5% by area and 98.8% by population which compares well with national average of 90% and 98.8% respectively. The terrestrial coverage by Doordarshan is 70.1% by area and 76.2% by population, which is some what lower than the national average of 75.6% by area and 88.2% by population.

(b) It has been informed by Prasar Bharati that progress of implementation of ongoing projects of AIR and Doordarshan in different parts of the country including Rajasthan is being reviewed regularly.

(c) and (d) The details of ongoing projects for expansion/strengthening of AIR and Doordarshan network alongwith reasons for delay in the State are given in statement. Requests for setting up of new Radio Stations and TV Transmitters are received from time to time from various quarters. These requests have been noted for consideration while formulating the expansion plans, subject to the availability of adequate financial resources and inter-se priorities.

Statement

AIR and Doordarshan Projects under implementation in Rajasthan

S. No.	Project	Reasons for Delay, if any
1	2	3

All India Radio

- Jaipur – 6 KW FM Tr. and Stereo playback facilities

1	2	3
2.	Jodhpur – 300 KW MW Tr. (Repl. of 100 KW MW Tr.)	–
3.	Kota – 20 KW MW Tr. (Repl. of 1 KW MW Tr.)	Problems in the survey of site. Now the site is being fenced and estimates for civil works is being prepared

Doordarshan

HPTs

1.	Ajmer	–
2.	Barmer (pmt. Set up)	Delay in construction of 300 m. tower.
3.	Jaipur (DD2)	–
4.	Jodhpur (DD2)	–

LPTs

5.	Bhinmal	Delay in site acquisition
6.	Kishangarh (Ajmer)	-do-
7.	Nasirabad	–
8.	Vijaynagar	–
9.	Pirawa	Delay in site acquisition
10.	Sanchor	-do-
11.	Sojat	-do-
12.	Ajmer (DD2)	–
13.	Bikaner (DD2)	–

VLPT

14.	TIBI	–
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Studio

15.	Udaipur	Site under dispute, there is a court case pending
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[English]

Foreign Exchange Quota to Travel Abroad

4922.SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for raising foreign exchange quota to travel abroad is pending since long;

(b) if so, the proposal mooted in this regard;

(c) whether the ceiling of foreign exchange while travelling abroad has been reviewed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) - No Sir.

(c) and (d) While there is no proposal to raise foreign exchange quota for travel abroad, the quota has been raised under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 which has come into force from 1st June, 2000. Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) Rules, 2000, have been framed under FEMA and notified by the Government vide Notification No. GSR-381(E) dated 3rd May, 2000, which deals with Basic Travel Quota. The quota has been increased upto US\$ 5,000/- per calendar year for travel abroad and US\$ 25,000/- for business travel etc. If the amount of foreign exchange exceeds the above limits prior approval of Reserve Bank of India is necessary as indicated in schedule III of Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) Rules.

[Translation]

Benefits of PDS to Hilly and Desert Areas

4923.SHRI PUSP JAIN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the benefits of the revamped Public Distribution System to various States, particularly to hilly and desert areas;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed scheme, particularly in the context of Rajasthan; and

(c) the details of items of PDS allocated under this scheme by the Union Government to Rajasthan during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) No, Sir. With the introduction of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in June, 1997 which covers "poor in all areas", the Revamped Public Distribution System with its emphasis on "all in poor areas" became redundant. The Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS), under which foodgrains to 1775 identified blocks in the country were issued at 50 paise per kilogram below the normal Central Issue Prices has ceased to exist.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Exhibitions by ITPO

4924.SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) organize exhibitions on different themes;

(b) if so, the number of exhibitions organised by the ITPO during the last three years alongwith the name of the themes and places;

(c) whether ITPO propose to organise exhibitions in other parts of the country outside Delhi during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The details are given in the statement attached.

Statement

List of Specialised Exhibitions/Fairs Organised in India during 97-98

S No.	Name of the Fair	Dates	Theme/Items	Venue
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Social Development Fair	APR 12-20, 1997	Social and Community Development Project	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
2.	Delhi Intl. Shoe Fair	JUL 28-31, 1997	Shoes and Accessories	-do-
3.	Film Fair	AUG 23-31, 1997	Films related equipment	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Delhi Book Fair	AUG 09-17, 1997	Books and Publications	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
5.	Mystique India	OCT 20-28, 1997	Indian Medical System	-do-
6.	Intl. Security Exh.	DEC 18-21, 1997	Security Equipment	-do-
7.	National Children Fair	DEC 20, 1997 – JAN 4, 1998	Children items, Books, Sports Goods Etc.	-do-
8.	Ahara	MAR 16-20, 1998	Processed Food	-do-
9.	Tex-Styles	JAN 29-FEB 1, 98	Textiles, Home furnishings, made-ups and related product	-do-
10.	India Intl. Leather Fair	FEB 5-9, 1998	Leather and Leather Products	Chennai
11.	Intl. Leather goods Fair	MAR 7-9, 1998	Indian Leather goods.	Calcutta

List of Specialised Exhibitions/Fairs Organised in India during 98-99

S No.	Name of the Fair	Dates	Theme/Items	Venue
1.	Social Development Fair	MAY 08-17, 1998	Social and Community Development Project	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
2.	Delhi Intl. Shoe Fair	JUL 02-05, 1998	Shoes and Accessories	-do-
3.	Delhi Book Fair	AUG 08-16, 1998	Books and Publications	-do-
4.	Ujala	AUG 08-16, 1998	Lighting Equipments	-do-
5.	Mystique India	OCT 07-15, 1998	Indian Medicine System	-do-
6.	National Children Fair	DEC 02, 1998 – JAN 02, 1999	Children items, Books, Sports Goods Etc.	-do-
7.	Print Pack India	JAN 07-12, 1999	Printing and packaging material	-do-
8.	Film Fair	JAN 11-17, 1999	Films related equipment	Hyderabad
9.	Ahara	MAR 22-26, 1999	Processed Food, Processed Food Machinery Hotel equipments	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
10.	Tex-Styles	FEB 01-04, 1999	Textiles, Home furnishings, made-ups and related product	-do-
11.	India Intl. Leather Fair	JAN 31-FEB 4, 1999	Indian Leather goods	Chennai
12.	Intl. Leather goods Fair	MAR 06-08, 1999	Indian Leather goods	Calcutta

List of Specialised Exhibitions/Fairs Organised in India during 1999-2000

S No.	Name of the Fair	Dates	Theme/Items	Venue
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Social Development Fair'99	MAY 15-23, 1999	Social & Community Development Projects	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Shoe Comp/Shoe Fair'99	JUL 01-03, 1999	Shoes and Accessories	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
3.	Delhi Book Fair'99	AUG 14-22, 1999	Books and Publications	-do-
4.	Stationery Fair'99	AUG 14-22, 1999	Stationery items	-do-
5.	Mystique India'99	OCT 08-12, 1999	Indian Medical Systems	-do-
6.	Prakash'99	OCT 29-NOV 3, 1999	Lighting Equipments	-do-
7.	Intl. Security and Fire Exh.'99	DEC 8-11, 1999	Security and Fire Fighting Equipments	-do-
8.	National Children's Fair 2000	DEC 24, 1999 – JAN 3, 2000	Children Products and Sports Goods Etc.	-do-
9.	Krishi Expo'2000	JAN 26-FEB 1, 2000	Agriculture products and Machineries	-do-
10.	Ahara'2000	MAR 02-06, 2000	Food Processor and Processing and Hotel equipment etc.	-do-
11.	Tex-Styles India-2000	FEB 02-05, 2000	Textiles, Home furnishings, made-ups and related products	-do-
12.	India Intl. Leather Fair'2000	JAN 31-FEB 04, 2000	Leather and Leather Products	Chennai
13.	Intl. Leather goods Fair'2000	MAR 02-05, 2000	Indian Leather goods	Calcutta
14.	Krishi Expo.	JAN 26-30, 2000	To project India's progress in agriculture sector	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

16th India International Leather Fair-2001 is scheduled to be held at Chennai from January 31st to February 4, 2001.
7th International Leather Goods Fair-2001 is scheduled to be held at Calcutta from March 3-5, 2001.

Setting up of more DD Centres in Kerala

4925.SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of Doordarshan Centres set up in Kerala during the last three years, location-wise;
- (b) the amount spent thereon, Centre-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up more such centres in the State during the Ninth Plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Two Low Power Transmitters one each at Cannanore and

Pala, were set up by Doordarshan in Kerala during the last three years at a capital cost of Rs. 51.70 lakhs and Rs. 76.00 lakhs respectively.

(c) and (d) Two studios and 8 transmitter projects are presently under implementation in the State and are scheduled to be completed in phases by the end of 9th Plan period. The location-wise details are as under :-

Studios	HPTs
Calicut	Calicut
Trichur	Cannanore
	Cochin
	Trivandrum
LPTs	VLPTs
Kottarakara	Eraatupetta
Mangeri	Mundakayam

[Translation]

Exhibition of Artefacts

4926. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian artefacts have been exhibited in foreign countries during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries where these exhibitions have been held ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom (UK) and United States of America (USA).

[English]

Eleventh Finance Commission

4927. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Eleventh Finance Commission has suggested that there is no need to set-up any Pay Commission for the Central Government Employees after every ten years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the alternative mechanism proposed to be prepared by the Government to revise the pay scales of Central Government employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The Eleventh Finance Commission has, in the context of bringing about desired expenditure pattern, inter-alia, suggested that as full neutralisation for the increase in the prices has been given to all categories of employees, there is no need to appoint any new Pay Commission as a matter of routine and at intervals of ten years and that the same should be appointed only when warranted by special circumstances.

NABARD Loans for construction of Roads

4928. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD is providing financial assistance to the State Governments for construction of roads and bridges;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance provided for this purpose, during each of the last three years, State-wise, particularly in case of Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka have sought any loan for construction of approach roads to tourist centres in the State;

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

(e) the number of roads and bridges taken up under the NABARD assistance in Karnataka and Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides financial assistance to the State Governments for construction of roads and bridges under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF). The State-wise, including the State of Maharashtra and Karnataka, details of the amount of assistance provided for roads and bridges during each of the last three years are given in the statement attached.

(c) NABARD has reported that the State Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka have not sought any loan for construction of approach roads to tourist centres in the States.

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

(e) As reported by NABARD, the total number of roads and bridges taken up in Karnataka and Maharashtra under NABARD assistance are as under :

State	No. of Roads	No. of Bridges
Karnataka	1407	299
Maharashtra	2572	598

Statement

State-wise details of amount of assistance provided by NABARD for roads and bridges during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

(Rs. Crores)

State	Road Projects			Bridge Projects		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Andhra Pradesh	44.81	96.70	66.37	5.65	21.05	26.41
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	1.17	—	—	4.85
Assam	—	—	—	—	36.81	43.84
Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	—	—	—	—	—	1.87
Gujarat	5.00	14.80	78.64	2.70	0.00	11.58
Haryana	2.69	2.07	6.07	0.31	0.47	1.14
Himachal Pradesh	13.15	28.14	33.91	0.88	1.79	4.56
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	44.38	—	—	4.28
Karnataka	12.80	67.38	90.74	10.82	27.42	19.65
Kerala	—	—	9.37	17.05	18.44	22.66
Madhya Pradesh	8.92	13.27	21.72	3.11	16.35	13.91
Maharashtra	25.10	11.87	233.46	1.02	0.46	13.03
Meghalaya	2.04	0.43	6.84	0.75	0.17	3.69
Mizoram	—	—	6.89	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	0.15
Orissa	3.54	—	4.37	31.67	0.00	66.39
Punjab	—	7.71	24.50	—	0.52	1.66
Rajasthan	35.60	38.63	47.68	4.62	6.64	7.87
Sikkim	—	—	6.57	—	—	0.38
Tamil Nadu	84.03	111.36	184.83	—	0.02	29.16
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	4.31
Uttar Pradesh	20.99	99.20	154.93	16.05	44.84	33.64
West Bengal	24.32	42.74	88.08	4.68	4.94	8.11
Total	282.89	534.30	1110.72	99.31	179.92	323.14

[Translation]

Rights of Telecast of World Cup Cricket Matches

4929. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the influence of the apartheid policy is on the rise in awarding the rights of telecast of world cup cricket matches resulting in the disgrace of the asian countries;

(b) if so, whether the asian countries have organised a meeting in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government against the apartheid policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Government has no role to play in the award of telecasting rights by the International Cricket Council to various broadcasting organisations.

[English]

Printing Presses

4930. SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Government printing presses in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total capital involved therein;

(c) the number of workers employed therein, press-wise;

(d) the total output of these presses for the last three years and the percentage share of these presses in the nation's GDP; and

(e) the classification of presses on the basis of form of organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (e) At present there are 21 Government of India Presses, which fall under the Administrative control of Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation. The total capital investment made in these Presses is Rs. 3559.40 Lakhs. A statement indicating the State-wise location of these Presses, alongwith information relating to number of workers employed; total output of these Presses during last three years; and the classification of these Presses on the basis of form of organisation, is attached.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Press	State in which located	No. of Employees as on 1.3.1999	Output of the last 3 years in sheet impressions in Lacs			Classification
				1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	GIP (PLU), Minto Road	New Delhi	510	280	344	326	1. Govt. of India Presses have been established to meet with the printing requirement of Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India.
2.	GIP (LPU), Minto Road	New Delhi	722	128	76	120	
3.	GIP, Ring Road	New Delhi	1099	377	378	515	
4.	GIP, Rashtrapati Bhawan*	New Delhi	69	*	*	*	
5.	GIP (LPU), Faridabad	Haryana	838	423	376	388	
6.	GIP (PLU), Faridabad	Haryana	189	174	298	307	
7.	GIP, Nilokheri	Haryana	433	376	337	387	
8.	GIP, Chandigarh	UT	264	350	341	654	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	GIP, Shimla	Himachal Pr.	366	125	165	156	2. Besides, meeting with printing requirement of Govt. of India Ministries/ Departments, GIP Minto Road and Ring Road also cater to the printing requirement of both Houses of Parliament etc.
10.	GIP, Aligarh	UP	665	417	515	445	
11.	GIP, Temple St., Calcutta	West Bengal	285	442	380	455	
12.	GIP, Publication, Santragachi	West Bengal	646	199	152	139	
13.	GIP, Forms Unit, Santragachi	West Bengal	693	408	346	357	
14.	GIP, Gangtok	Sikkim	46	48	55	55	
15.	GIP, Bhubaneshwar	Orissa	181	142	141	157	
16.	GIP, Ptg. Press Mumbai	Maharashtra	46	29	31	27	
17.	GIP, Nasik	Maharashtra	788	826	790	742	
18.	GIP, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	614	384	438	435	
19.	GIP, Wellington*	Tamil Nadu	30	*	*	*	3. The Govt. of India presses operate on no profit no loss basis, since the work being executed is for Govt. of India only.
20.	GIP, Mysore	Karnataka	132	307	167	329	
21.	GIP, Koratty	Kerala	326	717	753	889	

* GIP, Rashtrapati Bhawan & Wellington are captive presses for President Secretariat and Ministry of Defence respectively and therefore their output are not measured.

DD Towers for Expansion of Communication Services

4931. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given permission to the Ministry of Communications to utilise Doordarshan towers for expansion of Communication services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of utilisation of Doordarshan towers made in various States, particularly in Maharashtra; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Doordarshan towers are designed for the specific purpose of hoisting TV antennae. Requests from outside agencies for utilization of Doordarshan towers are examined on a case-by-case basis, vis-a-vis the capacity of a parti-

cular tower. Except for one tower at Ajhu Fort in Himachal Pradesh, no Doordarshan tower in any part of the country is at present being used by the Ministry of Communications.

[Translation]

Telecasting of DD-2 in Gwalior

4932. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programmes of Doordarshan-2 are not yet telecast in Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to start metro channel in Gwalior?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Programmes of DD-2 channel of Doordarshan are available throughout the country, including Gwalior, via satellite, and

can be received using appropriate dish antenna system or through the Cable TV Network. However, the terrestrial telecast of DD-2 is not available at Gwalior at present.

(b) and (c) Expansion of the terrestrial transmission of DD-2 service of Doordarshan is being carried out in a phased manner, depending upon availability of resources. A scheme to set up a transmitter for DD-2 service at Gwalior has also been approved recently and would be completed in about 2-3 years depending upon availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities.

Export of Tyres

4933. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the export of tyres has declined;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this declining trend is continuous for the last several years;
- (d) if so, the year-wise value of tyres exported during the last three years; and
- (e) the position with regard to the export of tyres of trucks, buses and cars?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) There has been no continuous declining trend in export of tyres during the last five years. However, during 1998-99 alone there was a decline in the export of tyres from Rs. 916.51 crores in 1997-98 to Rs. 787.26 crores. General recessionary tendencies in the world market and currency devaluation in the South Eastern Countries are among major factor responsible for the decline in the export of tyres during 1998-99. The export of tyres during the last five years is as indicated below :-

YEAR	EXPORT (Rs. Crore)
1994-95	711.41
1995-96	756.66
1996-97	822.11
1997-98	916.51
1998-99	787.26
April'99-June'99	198.03

(e) The position with regard to the export of Bus, Truck and Car tyres during last five years is as follows:-

YEAR	EXPORT (Rs. Crore)*
1994-95	574.58
1995-96	610.12
1996-97	670.02
1997-98	774.81
1998-99	618.74
April'99-June'99	135.63

*Source : DGCI&S

[English]

SEBI

4934. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of companies which have not filled Balance Sheet and Annual Report during the last three years for which SEBI has issued the default notice and prosecution launched under section 220 of the Company Act, specially Jayanti Business Machines Limited, Nova Pumech Limited, Uniliv Food Limited, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken/proposed be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reconstitution of MPEDA

4935. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the MPEDA has been reconstituted;
- (b) if so, the date on which it was reconstituted;
- (c) whether adequate representation to exporters from Andhra Pradesh has been given in the Board;
- (d) the additional functions awarded to the Board;
- (e) whether any target has been set for the coming year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A twenty-member Authority was reconstituted vide a Gazette Notification Dated 10th February, 1999. Subsequently two more members were notified vide Notification Dated 4th August, 1999.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) As per Section 9 of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) Act, 1972, following are the major functions of the Authority:-

- (i) The development of the marine products industry with special reference to exports.
- (ii) Developing and regulating off-shore and deep-sea fishing and undertaking measures, for the conservation and management of off-shore and deep-sea fisheries.
- (iii) Registration of fishing vessels, processing plants, exporters and conveyances used.
- (iv) Regulating the export of marine products.
- (v) Improving the marketing of marine products outside India.
- (vi) Collection of statistics relating to the marine products industry.
- (vii) Training in various aspects of the marine products industry, etc.

(e) and (f) The MPEDA would continue to implement various schemes relevant to promotion of exports of marine products from India. The schemes/programmes of MPEDA are covered under four major plan schemes which are as under:-

- (1) Export Promotion - Capture Fisheries
- (2) Export Promotion - Culture Fisheries
- (3) Induction of New Technology and Modernisation of Seafood industry
- (4) Market Promotion.

The target is to export marine product worth US \$ 1250 Million during the year 2000-2001, while the target for the year 2001-2002 is yet to be fixed.

New Variety of Coffee

4936. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coffee Board is making attempts to introduce new types of coffee which will resist the pests and other problems;

(b) whether some international organisations are also cooperating in introducing this new variety of coffee;

(c) if so, the names of such international organisations;

(d) whether assistance has been sought by these international organisations for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the acreage of coffee would be covered by this new strain in the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Coffee Board has taken up a collaborative project on coffee breeding against leaf-rust and coffee-berry disease with assistance from Coffee Rust Research Centre of Portugal to develop pest/disease resistant varieties of coffee suitable to Indian coffee tracts. A project to develop transgenic plants against major coffee pests viz. Coffee-Berry Borer and Coffee White Stem Borer with the collaboration of the International Centre for Agricultural Research and Development, France is under process of implementation.

(d) No, Sir. Instead, the Board has been availing expertise of the International Organisations for evolving disease resistant varieties of coffee.

(e) The acreage of coffee to be covered by the new strain can be quantified only after the suitability of new pest resistant varieties of coffee in different agro-climatic conditions are assessed before releasing them.

[Translation]

Pending FDI Proposals

4937. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals pending before the Foreign Investment Promotion Board regarding foreign

direct investment alongwith the time since when these are pending;

- (b) the reasons for their pendency;
- (c) the time by which these are likely to be cleared; and
- (d) the amount involved in each proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) Receipt and disposal of proposals for foreign direct investment is a continuous process. Normally these proposals are cleared within the prescribed time frame. There are some proposals on which the Administrative Ministries seek deferment for further examination or for policy finalisation or on which some information is required to be obtained from the applicants. As on date there are 36 such proposals pending consideration of Foreign Investment Promotion Board.

[English]

Import of Drug

4938. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the price at which 2 Cynopyrazine Drug Intermediate has been cleared at various ports during last six months till date;

(b) whether the price in the world market is around US \$ 36 per kg;

(c) if so, whether the customs authorities have cleared 2-Cynopyrazine Drug Intermediate at much lower prices than the prevailing international prices;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government has verified the prices of 2-CPZ in Japan, Korea and other international markets before allowing clearance of such consignments;

(f) if so, the details thereof

(g) the amount of customs duty/ revenue lost by the Government in clearing such clandestine imports; and

(h) the action propose to be taken by Government against the guilty officials and importers, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a), (c) and (d) The price at which 2-Cynopyrazine Drug Intermediate has been cleared at various ports has been in the range of US \$ 36 to US \$ 40 per Kg. (approx.). However, it has also been reported that 8 consignments of the above mentioned drug intermediate were cleared through one port under declared values ranging from US \$ 20 to US \$ 24 per Kg. (approx.). The aspect relating to suspected under valuation of the aforesaid intermediate drug is under investigation and protective less charge demands have been issued.

(b) Government is not aware of the price of the above mentioned drug intermediate.

(e) No Sir,

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (h) No clandestine import of the item has been reported. However, less charge demands for differential customs duties for the 8 consignments mentioned in paras (c) and (d) above, have been issued by taking the value to be US \$ 36 per Kg.

[Translation]

Trivandrum DD Centre

4939. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Trivandrum Centre of Doordarshan continued broadcast of such sponsored programmes of various agencies which defaulted payments from time to time in connection with their advertisements as per the terms and conditions of the contract which resulted in revenue loss to the tune of crores of Rupees as their programmes were not suspended;

(b) if so, whether it was a result of the nexus between the Government officials and the advertising agency; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Doordarshan Infested with Scams

4940. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan is infested with a number of scams e.g. Television rights for cricket match, incomplete construction of building of Mandi House, etc.;

(b) whether the Government have taken notice of these scams in Doordarshan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or contemplated by the Government involving a huge public money and loss to exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Certain irregularities relating to purchase of rights of cricket matches, award of marketing rights of sports events during the period 1998-99 have been detected and they are being examined by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. As regard construction of building Doordarshan Bhavan, Prasar Bharati has informed that the progress in construction of the said building has not been satisfactory due to the failure on the part of the construction agency and appropriate action has been initiated against the agency in accordance with the contract provisions.

DCM Financial Services

4941. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether DCM Financial Services Ltd., Amrit Nagar, New Delhi has not paid fixed deposit amounts to the depositors after the maturity date despite repeated representations during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Company Law Board has received a large number of applications from the depositors under Section 58A(9) of the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India has received complaints that DCM Financial Services Ltd., Amrit Nagar, New Delhi has not paid some of the Fixed Deposit amounts to the depositors after maturity, despite representations during the last three years.

(c) to (e) Company Law Board (CLB) has also received number of complaints from the depositors. CLB has issued an order dated 17th July, 1998. Under Section 45QA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 directing DCM Financial Services Ltd. to repay the deposits as per a schedule fixed by the Board. According to the Reserve Bank of India the company has embarked on a restructuring exercise with infusion of fresh funds from its parent company and the Hon'ble High Court has granted its request for placing the above proposal before its creditors.

[Translation]

Medicinal Plants

4942. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether possibility of medicinal plants becoming extinct has increased which are otherwise found in abundance in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any concrete steps for the conservation of the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, the following steps have been taken by the Government to conserve the endangered plant species:

(i) The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has prepared a Red Data Book listing the threatened and endangered species of plants including Medicinal Plants.

- (ii) Collection of certain Plants species covered under Schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.
- (iii) Export of 29 species of plant portion and their derivatives obtained from the wild have been prohibited under the Export Import Policy of India. However, cultivated variety of plant/plant portions of the 29 banned species can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable.
- (iv) Programme for Conservation of Medicinal Plants in the protected areas has been initiated.
- (v) In-situ regeneration of plants by National Afforestation and Eco-development Board (NAEB) under the Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) scheme including medicinal plants. Regeneration of medicinal plants in degraded forest areas under the Joint Forest Management (JFM) scheme of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

[English]

ATCO Industries

4943.SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received complaints against the ATCO industries, Daman, about defrauding the public and the Government to the tune of crores of rupees;
- (b) if so, the details of the complaints;
- (c) the time by which these are pending; and
- (d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the ATCO industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) According to the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the market regulator, upto 22.8.2000, 40 complaints were received from investors against M/s. ATCO Industries Ltd., Mumbai. As on date, 8 complaints are pending against the company. Most of the pending complaints pertain to transfer of shares and related matters.

[Translation]

Budgetary Provisions

4944.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that budgetary provisions have been made for various schemes/projects under various Ministries but the same are not being utilised to the optimum level thereby defeating the very purpose of budgetary allocations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action, the Government propose to take against the officials responsible for faulty budgeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Sometimes, Ministries/Departments are not able to fully utilise the sanctioned budget provision resulting in savings. These savings are commented upon in Audit Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India which are examined by Public Accounts Committee of Parliament. Action is taken on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee.

Unpaid Money Against LIC Policy

4945.SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the mode of payment of insurance money by the Life Insurance Corporation of India;
- (b) the number of cases came to light in which payment was not made to the insured person in his life time or after his death during the last five years;
- (c) the year-wise amount of unpaid money including interest thereon; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government propose to utilise this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has informed that they make payment of insurance money through account payee cheque in the name of the life assured/ the nominee/ claimant under the life insurance policy.

(b) to (d) The LIC has informed that they make efforts to reach the policy holder through letters and personal

efforts. Inspite of this if no response is received from the policy holder or his whereabouts are not known, the amount is transferred to the "Written Back Account" so that as and when the policy holder approaches the LIC, the amount could be paid to the policy holder. Even after making these efforts still if the LIC is unable to reach the policy holder, the amount in the "Written Back Account" is credited to the Life Fund and the benefit is given to the other policyholders until the amount is claimed by the policy holder. Thus the amount due to policy holders will not get time barred simply because it is not claimed by them in time.

The information for the last five years is as follows:

Year	No. of Claims	Amount of claims written back to Life Fund (Rs. in Crore)	Amount Paid out of written back amount (Rs. in Crore)	Net written back amount transferred to Life Fund (Rs. in Crore)
1995-1996	20240	19.50	07.49	12.01
1996-1997	23054	28.43	09.43	19.00
1997-1998	18373	31.58	12.09	19.49
1998-1999	16975	29.13	13.65	15.48
1999-2000	18593	31.31	12.32	18.99

[English]

Decline in Export of Organic Foods

4946.SHRI RASHID ALVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether exports of organic foods has not picked up under APEDA on account of its misguided policies and lack of indepth knowledge and background;

(b) if not, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have seen a recent book published by Vigyan Prasar in which measures to deal with this problem across the world have been mentioned;

(d) if so, the details of alternative measures mentioned in the book;

(e) whether the Government are considering to set up a Task Force to implement various pragmatic findings in the above book; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The role of APEDA is to promote the export of agricultural and processed food items which includes organically produced items also. Organic production and its commercial marketing is a comparatively new area of commercial interest and export potential. From available information, exports of organic food items handled by APEDA have increased from an estimated Rs. 26.06 lakhs in 1998-99 to an estimated level of Rs. 2.82 crores during 1999-2000.

(c) The book published by Vigyan Prasar titled "Alternatives to Pesticides in Tropical Countries" does not specifically deal with the problem of export of organic food not picking up under APEDA.

(d) The book pertains to alternative methods of farming including natural, organic, permaculture and biodynamic, followed in different parts of the world. It also refers to the development of Integrated Pest Management as an alternative to control pesticide problems.

(e) and (f) There is no specific proposal for setting up a Task Force.

[Translation]

Loan to Farmers by Financial Institutions

4947.SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial institutions have been given instructions that loan should be given to the farmers against their foodgrain stock;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the financial institutions have started complying with these instructions; and

(d) if so, since when and if not, the time by which it is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) As per the extant guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to commercial banks, banks sanction short-term loans/crop loans to farmers for raising crops. In addition,

banks have also been advised to grant advances upto Rs. 1.00 lakh to farmers against pledge/hypothecation of agricultural produce (including warehouse receipts) for a period not exceeding 6 months, where the farmers were given crop loans for raising the produce provided borrowers draw credit from one bank. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) also extends refinance facility to co-operative banks for marketing of crops which include advance against pledge of agricultural produce belonging to members and outright purchase of agricultural produce of members.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that the banks have been granting loans against the produce as per the above guidelines under the priority sector. The limit for granting such loans has been increased from Rs. 5000/- in 1984 to Rs. 25,000/- in 1993 and further to Rs. 1.00 lakh in 1995.

[English]

ILL Effects of Lemonade and Cola

4948 SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Lemonade and Cola may well be damaging for bones as per Research carried out at Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts; and

(b) if so, the views of the Government on the above observation keeping in view the trade as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any research carried out at the Harvard School of Public Health in this regard.

Ancient Monuments in Prachi Valley

4949. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the ancient monuments in the "Prachi Valley" of Orissa have been registered and preserved ASI;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures taken by the Government to register and preserve these ancient monuments during the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Three ancient monuments viz., Churungarh Fort, Varahi Temple and Sun Temple situated in 'Prachi valley' region of Orissa have been declared as monuments of national importance and are protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.

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

Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate Scheme

4950. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have lost Rs. 39000 crore under Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate Scheme between 1990 to 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons for irregularities not being noticed and the nature of those irregularities;

(c) whether there is any proposal to get those irregularities enquired into by CBI;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the years 1990-1995, 5453 cases of irregularities involving revenue of Rs. 1426 crores were detected under DEEC Scheme. The nature of irregularities was as follows;

- (i) Availment of MODVAT benefit in addition to benefit of customs duty exemption
- (ii) Forgery of Advance Licences.
- (iii) Bogus/junk exports to show discharge of export obligation.
- (iv) Mis-declaration/over valuation of export goods so as to show discharge of export obligation.
- (v) Non-fulfilment of specified export obligation.
- (vi) Under-valuation of import goods so as to import larger quantity under value Based Advance License Scheme.
- (vii) Diversion/sale of imported goods in domestic market.

(c) and (d) AI cases of such irregularities are dealt with under the provisions of Customs Act which provide for confiscation of goods, imposition of fines & penalties and also prosecutions. In addition, detention under Conservation of Foreign Exchange & Prevention of Smuggling Act (COFEPOSA) is also resorted to. Penal proceedings under Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1991 are also initiated separately by DGFT authorities. In appropriate cases, CBI also takes up investigation.

(e) Departmental proceedings against delinquent officials have been initiated and one of the officers was also detained under COFEPOSA Act.

Transfer of Clerks of SBI

4951. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the transfer policy of clerical staff belonging to General/SCs and STs in the State Bank of India whose wives are working in other State Government offices;

(b) the zone-wise details of employees transferred from one zone to another who have not completed three year service in clerical cadre during the last three years;

(c) the zone-wise details of representations for transfer received from the employees belonging to General/SC and ST category who have completed three years of services and whose wives are working in other State Government offices and the action taken thereon; and

(d) by when these employees are likely to be transferred?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Reliance Group of Industries

4952. SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of income tax outstanding against Reliance Group of Industries; and

(b) the measures being taken by the Government to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The details of income tax outstanding against Reliance Group of Industries are given in the attached statement;

(b) The recovery of tax is a continuous process involving detailed statutory procedures. These include charging of interest, levy of penalty, attachment of bank accounts, attachment and sale of movable and immovable properties, etc. Periodical review and monitoring of cases involving high demands are made by higher authorities on a continuous basis and necessary instructions are issued from time to time for effecting the recovery of taxes.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Industries	A.Y.	Demand outstanding as on 31.3.2000 (Rs. in lakh)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. (M/s. RIL)	1995-96	1549.00	Similar issues in earlier years decided in favour of assessee. These demands are, therefore, stayed till the disposal of first appeal.
2.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	1996-97	5818.00	Similar issues in earlier years decided in favour of assessee. These demands are, therefore, stayed till the disposal of first appeal.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	M/s. Reliance Polypropylene Ltd. (Now merged with M/s. RIL)	1993-94	241.00	Matter is pending before High Court in a Writ.
4.	M/s. Reliance Polypropylene Ltd. (Now merged with M/s. RIL)	1994-95	333.00	Matter is pending before High Court in a Writ.
5.	M/s. Reliance Polyethylene Ltd. (Now merged with M/s. RIL)	1993-94	139.00	Matter is pending before High Court in a Writ.
6.	M/s. Reliance Polyethylene Ltd. (Now merged with M/s. RIL)	1994-95	380.00	Matter is pending before High Court in a Writ.
7.	M/s. Reliance Capital Ltd.	1997-98	2973.00	The demand has been collected.
8.	M/s Reliance Industrial Infrastructure Ltd.	1996-97	174.00	Second appeal is pending before ITAT.
9.	M/s Reliance Industrial Infrastructure Ltd.	1997-98	109.00	First appeal is pending before CIT (A).
10.	M/s. Reliance Consultancy Services Ltd.	1996-97	2.00	Rupees one lakh has been collected. First appeal is pending.
11.	M/s. Reliance Consultancy Services Ltd.	1997-98	11.00	First appeal is pending.

*[English]***Statement-I****Form No. 52-A of I.T. Act***List of Producers who have not filled Form No. 52A*

4953. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether film producers are not filing Form No. 52-A of I.T. Act regularly;

(b) if so, the details of the producers who have not filed that form during each of the last three years, producer-wise; and

(c) the details of penalty that has to be recovered from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Generally film producers are filing Form No. 52A. However, in some cases film producers have not filed Form No. 52A

(b) and (c) On the basis of information received, the list of producers who have not filed Form No. 52A is enclosed at Statement-I and the amount of penalty outstanding against them is enclosed at statement-II.

1. Shri Girish Ghanekar, Mumbai
2. M/s Metavision (P) Ltd., Mumbai
3. Shri Kamlesh V. Doshi, Mumbai
4. Shri K. Papoo, Mumbai
5. M/s Shalimar International, Mumbai
6. Mr. Bootasingh Shaad, Mumbai
7. Ms. Pallavi Joshi, Mumbai
8. M/s Multimedia Production (P) Ltd., Mumbai
9. Mr. Anil Sharma, Mumbai
10. M/s Treesshakti Film, Mumbai
11. M/s Navketan, Mumbai
12. M/s Saptrishi, Mumbai

- | | |
|---|---|
| 13. M/s R.V.Film, Mumbai | 44. M/s Navadarshan Productions, Secunderabad. |
| 14. Mr. Rajiv A. Tolani, Mumbai | 45. M/s K.M. Films, Hyderabad. |
| 15. M/s Grace Films (Prop. Pankaj Kapoor), Mumbai | 46. M/s Amigose Creations (P) Ltd., Hyderabad |
| 16. M/s Sidhi Vinayak Movies, Mumbai | 47. Shri Nati Kumar. Hyderabad |
| 17. M/s K.P.S. Films, Mumbai | 48. M/s Snehita Creations, Hyderabad |
| 18. Mr. Appaswami Krishnamurthy, Mumbai | 49. M/s Dasari Communication, Hyderabad |
| 19. M/s N.N.Sippy Production, Mumbai | 50. M/s Sree Venkata Krishna Film, Hyderabad |
| 20. Shri Y.S. Shetty, Mumbai | 51. M/s B.R. Enterprises, Hyderabad |
| 21. Mr. Abu Malik, Mumbai | 52. M/s R. Narayana Murthy, Hyderabad |
| 22. Mr. Murali Nallappa, Mumbai | 53. M/s R.K. Films, Hyderabad |
| 23. M/s Jenma Films, Mumbai | 54. M/s Life Line Film, Hyderabad |
| 24. Shri John Mathew Prop.M/s Cinematt Production, Mumbai | 55. M/s Sree Lakshmi Prasanna Pictures, Hyderabad |
| 25. M/s Sapna Arts, Mumbai | 56. M/s Sumathi Art Production, Hyderabad |
| 26. Mr. Mukesh Bhatt, Mumbai | 57. M/s Deva Productions, Hyderabad |
| 27. Mrs. Sudha Srinivas, Bangalore | 58. M/s Kondayya Films, Hyderabad |
| 28. Mrs. Yashoda Shivalingaiah, Bangalore | 59. M/s Ravindra Arts, Hyderabad |
| 29. M/s Balayesu Productions, Bangalore | 60. M/s R.K. Movies, Hyderabad |
| 30. Mr. B.S. Krishna Made Goevda, Bangalore. | 61. Shri Vijay Bhaskara Chitra, Hyderabad |
| 31. Mr. B.S. Sathyanarayana, Bangalore | 62. M/s Rajya Lakshmi Films, Hyderabad |
| 32. Mr. J. Ramesh Kumar Alias Ramesh Jain, Bangalore | 63. M/s Sana Creations, Hyderabad |
| 33. Mr. P. Gopal, Bangalore | 64. M/s Renu Arts Production, Hyderabad |
| 34. Vybhavlakshmi Production, Bangalore | 65. M/s Surya Vansi Films (P) Ltd., Hyderabad |
| 35. Mr. Seshu Chakravarthy, Bangalore | 66. M/s Srinigar Films, Chennai |
| 36. Mr. K. Ganeshan, Bangalore | 67. Mr. K. Ventkateswara Rao, Chennai |
| 37. Mr. B.S. Dwarakish, Bangalore | 68. Ms V. Jyothi, Chennai |
| 38. M/s Rambabu Film, Bangalore | 69. Mr. Manohar Burad, Chennai |
| 39. Shri P. Venkatasayam Prasad, Hyderabad. | 70. Mr. Mahendra Dhariwal, Chennai |
| 40. Shri K. Raghavendra Rao, Hyderabad. | 71. Mr. Ravi Chandran, Chennai |
| 41. Shri N. Surya Prakash, Hyderabad. | 72. M/s Prasad Movie Makers, Chennai |
| 42. M/s Bhagwan Production, Hyderabad. | 73. Mr. K.P. Ramakrishnan, Mumbai |
| 43. M/s Sree Chamundi Chitras, Hyderabad. | 74. Mr. Madan Mohan Sharma, Chennai |

75. Mr. Goutam Ghose, Chennai
76. Sri Sai Deva Production, Chennai
77. M/s Brahmaputra Art Productions, Chennai
78. Ms. Sarita Rajiv, Trivandrum
79. Chimbu Cine Arts, Chennai
80. M/s Aishwarya Film Makers, Chennai
81. Mr. Mohan, Chennai
82. Mr. V. Thiagarajan, Chennai
83. M/s Anand Movie Land, Chennai
84. Mr. T.C. Pandian, Chennai
85. Sri Mahaganapathi Combines, Chennai
86. Mahalakshmi Cine Circuit, Chennai
87. Mr. P.R. Kutumba Rao, Chennai
88. M/s Alwarammal Movie Makers, Chennai
89. Mr. D.N. Joshi, Chennai
90. Nikaba Film, Chennai
91. Mr. Vajja Srinivasa Rao, Chennai
92. Mr. Sajan Varghese, Aluva
93. Mr. Shankar, Chennai
94. Mr. S. Thiruvengadan, Chennai
95. M/s Malar Films
96. Mr. D. Antony, Chennai
97. Mr. G. Sivasankar Rao, Chennai
98. Mr. Yadde Ramesh, Chennai
99. Mr. Dharmchand Dunkad, Chennai
100. Mr. Vaddi Veerakathra Rao, Chennai
101. Mr. Puram Radhakrishna, Chennai
102. Mr. D. Srinivasa Reddy, Chennai
103. Maa Sherawali Productions, Chennai
104. Mr. Hariharan, Chennai
105. Mr. Suresh, Chennai

106. Chinthamani Cine Arts, Chennai
107. Mr. Manoj Bhatnagar, Chennai
108. Mr. P. Srinivasalu, Chennai
109. Mr. Suresh, Chennai
110. Mr. C.C. Antony, Chennai
111. Perfumed Garden Productions, Chennai
112. Ms. Lakshmi Raju, Chennai
113. Om Muruga Mandhiram Films, Chennai
114. P. Subba Rao, Chennai
115. Mr. V. Kalyan Babu, Chennai
116. Three Star Enterprises, Chennai
117. Mr. C.M. Vijesh, Chennai
118. Mr. M. Gautam Chand Gothi, Chennai
119. Mr. M. Gautam Chand Gothi, Chennai
120. Metro Pictures, Chennai
121. Mr. M.V. Ramesh Naidu, Chennai
122. Mr. Vijay, Chennai
123. Mr. Ashok Honda, Chennai
124. Mr. Ajit Kumar, Chennai
125. Shri Surya Entertainments, Chennai
126. Mr. A.M. Raja, Chennai
127. B. Malar Babu, Chennai
128. Ms. S. Sivakami, Chennai

Statement-II

*Penalty Outstanding against Film Producers
for not filing Form No. 52-A*

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Shri Girish Ghanekar, Mumbai | Rs. 5,400/- |
| 2. M/s Matavision (P) Ltd., Mumbai | Rs. 10,000/- |
| 3. Shri Kamlesh V.Doshi, Mumbai | Rs. 34,500/- |
| 4. M/s Bootasingh Shaad, Mumbai | Rs. 2,300/- |
| 5. M/s Pallavi Joshi, Mumbai | Rs. 57,500/- |

6. M/s Multimedia Production (P) Ltd. Mumbai	Rs. 23,100/-
7. Mr. Anil Sharma, Mumbai	Rs. 1,200/-
8. M/s Treshakti Films, Mumbai	Rs. 1,300/-
9. M/s Navketan, Mumbai	Rs. 1,900/-
10. M/s Saptrishi, Mumbai	Rs. 2,000/-
11. M/s R.V. Films, Mumbai	Rs. 4,000/-
12. Mr. Rajiv A. Tolani, Mumbai	Rs. 36,700/-
13. M/s Grace Films, Mumbai (Prop. Pankaj Kapoor)	Rs. 5,400/-
14. M/s Sidhi Vinayak Movie, Mumbai	Rs. 1,100/-
15. M/s K.P.S. Films, Mumbai	Rs. 10,500/-
16. Mr. Appaswami Krishnamurthy, Mumbai	Rs. 4,500/-
17. M/s N.N. Sippy Production, Mumbai	Rs. 1,800/-
18. Shri Y.S. Shelly, Mumbai	Rs. 6,900/-
19. M/s Jenma Films, Mumbai	Rs. 1,00,000/-
20. Shri John Mathew, Mumbai (Prop. M/s Cinematt Production)	Rs. 18,500/-
21. Mrs. Sudha Srinivas, Bangalore	Rs. 1,51,200/-
22. Mrs. Yashoda Shivalingaiah, Bangalore	Rs. 1,19,600/-
23. M/s Balayosu Production, Bangalore	Rs. 13,000/-
24. Mr. B.S. Krishna Made Gowde, Bangalore	Rs. 1,89,600/-
25. Mr. B.S. Sathyanaryana, Bangalore	Rs. 1,41,400/-
26. Mr. J. Ramesh Kumar alias Ramesh Jain	Rs. 1,20,200/-
27. Mr. P. Gopal Bangalore	Rs. 74,300/-
28. M/s Vybhavlakshmi Production, Bangalore	Rs. 10,200/-
29. Mr. Seshu Chakravathy, Bangalore	Rs. 12,500/-

30. Mr. K. Ganeshan, Bangalore	Rs. 48,500/-
31. Mr. B.S. Dwarakish, Bangalore	Rs. 61,600/-
32. M/s Rambabu Films	Rs. 48,800/-
33. M/s Renu Art Production, Hyderabad	Rs. 6,000/-
34. M/s Surya Vansi Film (P) Ltd. Hyderabad	Rs. 31,200/-
35. Mr. B.Malar Babu Prop. Malar Film Chennai	Rs. 78,800/-
36. Mr. S. Sivakami, Chennai	Rs. 46,800/-

[Translation]

Insurance Facility to HIV/AIDS Affected Persons

4954.SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any meeting was held with Insurance Companies in April, 2000 to provide insurance facility to HIV/AIDS affected persons;

(b) if so, the points discussed in the meeting; and

(c) the details of decisions taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organised a meeting on 19th April, 2000 to discuss the various issues related to insurance coverage of people living with HIV/AIDS in which officers of Insurance companies participated.

(b) and (c) The discussion related to provision of insurance coverage to people with HIV/AIDS. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) explained that they do not cancel the in force policy if the life assured contracts HIV/AIDS during the currency of the policy. However, LIC do not accept proposals where the life to be assured is suffering from serious diseases which also include HIV/AIDS.

The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) explained that the HIV/AIDS is a general exclusion under the Health Care Policies not only in India but abroad also because of manifold difficulties in measuring the exposure, its consequence in financial terms and non-availability of international reinsurance support to

the grant of insurance cover to HIV/AIDS affected persons. Therefore, GIC do not provide benefit to individuals having HIV/AIDS related illness under their medi-claim policy.

**Acquisition of Residence of Rishi
Rajnarayan Basu at Deoghar**

4955.YOGI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee constituted for the 125th anniversary of Shri Aurobindo has received the proposal regarding acquisition of the residence of Rish Rajnarayan Basu, situated at Deoghar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the grant provided by the Union Government to the Committee for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Heritage Buildings

4956.SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any fresh initiatives to check the deteriorating heritage buildings and sites, particularly controlled by Trusts and Wakf Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular;

(c) the details of Central and State assistance made available to protect these heritage buildings, State-

wise and Maharashtra in particular during the last three years; and

(d) the details of proposals received in this regard and the action plan formulated for 2000-2001 for Maharashtra and other States including assistance from international funding agencies ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) It is the constant endeavour of the Archaeological Survey of India to maintain the centrally protected monuments in proper shape.

(c) The State-wise allocation of funds and expenditure incurred on the centrally protected monuments under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India during the last 3 years including the State of Maharashtra is detailed at statement enclosed.

The details of assistance received from the State Department of Tourism and other State agencies is as follows :-

1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 93.00 lakhs
2.	Bihar	Rs. 9.00 lakhs
3.	Delhi	Rs. 2.15 lakhs
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 34.38 lakhs
5.	Orissa	Rs. 24.50 lakhs
6.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.79 lakhs
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 133.30 lakhs

(d) During the 2000-2001, a Plan allocation of Rs. 31 crore have been made to the Archaeological Survey of India for all its activities.

No external funding has been received so far in the current year.

Statement

*State-wise Allocation/Expenditure including State of Maharashtra
for the last three years*

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1997-98	1998-1999	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 83,93,000	Rs. 84,98,038	Rs. 1,23,40,000
2.	Assam	Rs. 31,82,729	Rs. 32,78,037	Rs. 62,05,661

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	Rs. 74,711
4.	Bihar	Rs. 1,38,67,300	Rs. 60,91,473	Rs. 1,15,69,951
5.	Delhi	Rs. 2,61,00,000	Rs. 3,41,98,128	Rs. 3,00,48,689
6.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 23,70,132	Rs. 15,91,791	Rs. 20,25,000
7.	Goa	Rs. 32,91,000	Rs. 24,56,771	Rs. 47,35,000
8.	Gujarat	Rs. 59,18,855	Rs. 72,95,718	Rs. 79,63,075
9.	Haryana	Rs. 81,13,353	Rs. 73,20,093	Rs. 63,21,837
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 42,51,424	Rs. 81,83,658	Rs. 1,05,75,016
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 73,79,000	Rs. 77,99,992	Rs. 96,00,000
12.	Karnataka	Rs. 1,67,44,275	Rs. 1,71,12,209	Rs. 2,52,12,000
13.	Kerala	Rs. 45,78,000	Rs. 54,00,329	Rs. 50,67,937
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 1,43,44,901	Rs. 1,42,17,372	Rs. 1,88,99,884
15.	Maharashtra	Rs. 81,47,000	Rs. 1,53,01,025	Rs. 1,39,00,000
16.	Manipur	—		Rs. 3,93,790
17.	Meghalaya	—	Rs. 98,781	—
18.	Nagaland	Rs. 2,19,518	Rs. 14,70,828	Rs. 2,66,222
19.	Orissa	Rs. 37,51,680	Rs. 50,78,001	Rs. 1,08,00,000
20.	Pondicherry (UT)	Rs. 2,58,464	Rs. 5,68,633	Rs. 1,80,219
21.	Punjab	Rs. 76,38,670	Rs. 37,42,972	Rs. 39,03,915
22.	Rajasthan	Rs. 1,73,00,000	Rs. 1,22,00,000	Rs. 1,61,00,000
23.	Sikkim	Rs. 14,87,186	Rs. 24,995	Rs. 30,20,000
24.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 1,00,77,240	Rs. 88,10,025	Rs. 1,10,57,025
25.	Tripura	Rs. 6,98,952	Rs. 5,83,476	Rs. 21,20,830
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 2,83,57,890	Rs. 3,17,09,672	Rs. 3,70,00,000
27.	West Bengal	Rs. 97,91,000	Rs. 69,64,453	Rs. 1,00,00,000

National Council of Science Museums

4957. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a building constructed for National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta is lying unutilised,

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

(c) the details of the loss suffered by the Government due to this Act ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Measures to Start Small and
Medium Newspapers**

4958.KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for advertisements for medium and small newspapers by D.A.V.P.;

(b) whether the leading newspapers being brought up by big business houses are getting maximum advertisements;

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

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken to steer the small and medium newspapers out of crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Government advertisements are released to the newspapers empanelled with DAVP as per the provisions of the Government of India Advertising Policy, which aims to secure the widest possible coverage throughout the country.

(b) DAVP does not maintain any list of leading newspapers being brought out by big business houses and this is not a criterion for release of advertisements. DAVP releases advertisements to newspapers keeping in view the publicity requirements, target audience, area to be covered and the availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

VRS in Public Sector Undertakings

4959.SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR :
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees took Voluntary Retirement in Public Sector Undertakings during 1999-2000, as on date, category-wise;

(b) the amount spent on implementing VRS, as on date;

(c) the estimated number of employees in PSUs likely to be retired during 2000-2001;

(d) whether the amount of VRS has not been paid to the employees who opted VRS in PSUs particularly in HMT, Hyderabad;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected & will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) to (f) Those who opted for VRS in PSUs are paid the amount as per the extant Government guidelines to this effect. As per available information an amount of Rs.2310.51 crores has already been paid to the employees who opted for VRS in PSUs till 1998-99.

76 employees of HMT, Hyderabad opted for VRS during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto July, 2000). VRS compensation to these employees is related to the availability of funds. Funds are being released by the Government to HMT for payment to all the employees who have opted to go on VRS.

**Assessment of Public Sector
Undertakings**

4960.SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken in-depth review of the performance of PSUs in Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilizer sectors during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, PSU-wise with emerging trends in terms of standard norms;

(c) whether the Government have on the basis of recent assessment, taken major policy decisions regarding disinvestment, closure, revival, modernization, diversification of the PSUs; and

(d) if so, the details of action plan drawn up for the current year PSU-wise in general and for PSUs in Maharashtra in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) (a) and (b) A periodical review of the performance of fertilizers PSUs is conducted by the Administrative Department from time to time. However, the performance of fertilizers companies differs from unit to unit and even from month to month depending upon the health and the age of the plant, the feedstock used, the level of capacity utilization, energy consumption, distance from the source of feedstock/raw material, cost of inputs etc. These parameters have definite bearing and are reflected in variations of the performance of various units which have no similar profile in relation to the feedstock, location, vintage of the plant for a meaningful comparison with any standard norms.

(c) and (d) The Government has decided to disinvest 51% of its equity in National Fertilizers Ltd. out of its current holding 97.65% and 32.74% of its equity in Madras Fertilizers Ltd. out of its current holding of 58.74% through strategic sale to strategic buyer along with management control. The process of implementation in these cases is in different stages of implementation. No

decision for disinvestment in other PSEs of fertilizers sector viz. FACT, PPCL, Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. and Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers has been taken so far. Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers has headquarters in Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Central Board for Film Certification

4961. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the rules on the basis of which any film is categorised as "Adult" film by the Central Board for Film Certification; and

(b) the present Chairman and members of the Board and their qualifications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Under Section 5A of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) issues an "A" certificate to a film if the film is not considered suitable for unrestricted public exhibition but suitable for public exhibition restricted to adults only.

(b) Ms. Asha Parekh is the Chairperson of the Board. The names and qualifications of the members of the Board are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Details of members of the Board of Central Board of Film Certification

S. No.	Name of the Member	Region	Qualification
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri R. Sowrirajan	Chennai	M.A. M.Phil (Hindi) M.A. (Tamil), M.A. (Sanskrit)
2.	Shri R.S. Manohar	Chennai	B.A.
3.	Smt. R. Radhakrishna	Chennai	M.A. (Sociology)
4.	Shri Vinod Sharma	Mumbai	1. Sahitya Ratna in Hindi 2. Prabhakar Ratna Sanskriti Pratima
5	Shri Arvind Trivedi	Mumbai	Inter

1	2	3	4
6.	Ms. Namita Shankar Pandya	Mumbai	B.A.
7.	Dr. (Smt.) Snehlata Deshmukh	Mumbai	M.S., F.R.C.S., F.A.M.S.
8.	Shri H.N.Y. Pathanjali	Hyderabad	B. Com.
9.	Smt. S. Janaki	Hyderabad	B. Com.
10.	Smt. Sarala Kumari	Hyderabad	B. Com.
11.	Shri Sitaram Sastri	Hyderabad	B.A.
12.	Ms. Saroja Devi	Bangalore	S.S.L.C.
13.	Dr. A. Sreedhara	Bangalore	M.B.B.S. and D.I.H.
14.	Ms. Jayanthi	Bangalore	Matriculation
15.	Smt. Leela Latheef	Thiruvananthapuram	B.A., B.Ed.
16.	Shri Rosscote Krishna Pillai	Thiruvananthapuram	I.M.S.C., Certificate of Proficiency in French
17.	Shri Tapas Paul	Calcutta	B.Sc.
18.	Ms. Arundhati Mukherjee	Calcutta	M.A.
19.	Smt. Binapani Mohanty	Cuttack	M.A. (Economics)
20.	Shri Anant Mahapatra	Cuttack	B.A. (Hons.)
21.	Shri Hemant Das	Guwahati	B.A. Part-I
22.	Smt. Chitra Mudgil	Delhi	M.A. (Hindi)
23.	Shri Ramakant Goswami	Delhi	B.A. M.A., Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism
24.	Shri Dinesh Vats	Delhi	Graduate
25.	Smt. Sowcar Janaki	Chennai	Since resigned

[English]

Rules for Declaration of National Monument

4962 SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the places which have been declared national monuments in Jalna district of Maharashtra as per the said Ancient Monuments Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959:

(b) whether these places are to be declared as tourist places:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated for development of these monument during 2000-2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) An ancient site at Bhokardhan in Jalna District of Maharashtra has been declared as protected site of national importance under the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959.

(b) and (c) The declaration of a place as a tourist place is outside the charter of the Archaeological Survey of India.

(d) No funds have been provided in the current financial year for the Bhokardhan site.

*[English]***Modhera Sun Temple and Step-Wel**

4963. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :
SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA :

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

(a) whether Sun temple at Modhera and Step-Wel at Patan in North Gujarat are being threatened from flood in the Pushparati river;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to protect these ancient temples from the natural calamities; and

(c) the steps being taken to attract more foreign and Indian tourists to these sites ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The construction of flood protection works by the State Government along the banks of the Pushpavati river has reduced the flood threat to the Sun Temple, Modhera. There is no threat of floods to the Rani-ka-Vav at Patan as the monument is situated far away from the river.

(c) Gardens have been laid around the Sun Temple, Modhera and amenities such as toilets and drinking water have been provided by the Archaeological Survey of India. The Government of Gujarat organises a cultural festival annually at the Sun Temple complex, Modhera.

At Rani-Ka-Vav, basic amenities such as fencing have been provided. Land has been acquired around the monument where further facilities will be developed subject to the availability of funds.

Timings of Bank Branches

4964. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether working hours of some branches of Public Sector Banks have been extended in Delhi and outside;

(b) if so, the names of such branches, bank-wise and State/Union Territory-wise with details of services available to customers during extended hours including lunch timings;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the

working hours of the remaining branches of Public Sector Banks during current and next years;

(d) if so, the names of such branches, State/Union Territory-wise and bank-wise;

(e) whether Government propose to ask each branch of all Public Sector Banks to display the time limit for each service being provided by them; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The decision regarding extension of working hours is taken by individual banks on operational and commercial considerations having regard to the needs of the customers served by each such branch. Detailed information regarding the branches bank-wise and State/Union Territory-wise with the details of services provided, working hours and lunch timings are not maintained by the Government of India or the Reserve Bank of India since these are managerial issues to be determined by the management of the banks concerned at different levels.

(e) and (f) Banks have been advised by Reserve Bank of India that time norms for specified business transactions should be displayed prominently in the branch so that it attracts the customers' attention as well as that of the employees for adherence.

Differential quantity of Kerosene

4965. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR :
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the differential quota of Kerosene are allotted to different States and to PDS outlets in rural and urban areas respectively;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the criteria adopted for allotment of kerosene oil, State-wise;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to end such anomalies;

(d) whether the Government propose to enhance the kerosene quota for States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (e) Kerosene is an allocated product. Central Government makes bulk allocations of Kerosene to the States and Union Territories and its distribution within the State and its monitoring is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. State Governments decide on the district wise allocation and the quantity to be allocated to ration card holders in rural and urban areas.

Allocation of kerosene is made on historical basis i.e., past years supplies plus additional allocation out of increase given at national level. Possible increase is given out of the additional availability at the country level, in accordance with a formula under which higher allocation out of additional quantity, is given to States with lower per capita availability so as to reduce inter-state disparity over a period of time.

Telecasting of News by Private Companies

4966. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allotted Government run channels like DD-7 to private News Agencies to telecast news;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have prescribed any norms for such private agencies against misusing the media by propagating views instead of telecasting objective news;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are aware that such agencies are telecasting magazine instead of bulletin; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to stop such misuse of public broadcasting system by private agencies and prescribe strict norms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER

OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that news is invariably produced in-house by Doordarshan. However, news based current affairs programmes are produced by Doordarshan as well as by private producers. News and current affairs programme namely Khas Khabar on DD-7 is being produced by a private company M/s Rainbow Productions Ltd.

All such programmes are governed by Doordarshan's Programme Code with a view to ensure that views expressed in these are balanced, fair objective and impartial. There is also interaction, wherever necessary, of Doordarshan officials with the private producers to facilitate compliance of the norms governing news and current affairs programmes.

(e) Private agencies have not been engaged to telecast news bulletins, but news based current affairs programmes, which are in magazine format.

(f) Does not arise, in view of (e) above.

Mechanism for Inter PSUs Coordination

4967. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any mechanism for Inter-Public Sector Undertakings coordination for better cohesiveness between the Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the mechanism provide for drawing to Delivery Coordination Concepts in respect of PSUs which enjoy a client-supplier relationship; and

(d) if not, the steps the Government propose to take to develop such a mechanism ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) Central Public Sector Undertakings are so structured and inter-ministerial consultations so arranged as to foster cohesive functioning and synergy in operations with due regard to client-supplier relationship, delivery mechanism and business associations among the PSUs.

[Translation]

**Use of earnings from export
in Foreign Countries**

4968. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exporters have been permitted to use a fixed portion of their income earned by way of exports in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether average annual amount of the income from exports which was used abroad has been estimated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the total amount out of this income remained in the foreign countries by the end of March, 2000 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Exporters are allowed to retain a portion of their receipts in foreign exchange in Exchange Earners' Foreign Currency (EEFC) Account with authorized dealers, in India. Exporters can freely use the funds held in their EEFC accounts for all transactions of current account in nature. 100% Export Oriented Units and units in Export Processing Zones/ Software Technology Parks/Electronic Hardware Technology Parks are allowed to credit upto 35% of their export earning to EEFC accounts. Other exporters can credit 25% of their export earnings to EEFC accounts. Authorised Dealers are permitted to open and maintain such EEFC accounts.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India does not compile information regarding the amount utilized by Indian exporters abroad out of their EEFC balances.

[English]

Visit of Foreign Tourists

4969. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists that have come to India during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the tourists inflow has declined during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps, the Government intend to take to attract more number of tourists to India ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Total number of foreign tourists that have come to India during 1997, 1998 and 1999 are 2374094, 2358629 and 2481928 respectively. State-wise inflow of foreign tourists is not maintained.

(b) There was a marginal decline of 0.7 percent during the year 1998 as compared to the year 1997. However, during the year 1999 there was a positive growth of 5.2 percent as compared to the year 1998.

(c) The primary reasons for a marginal decline during 1998 are the following :

(i) The economic crisis in South East Asian countries and the consequent decline in outbound travel from these countries.

(ii) The general election in India and the slump in business traffic.

(iii) The general recession in many economies.

(d) Various steps taken/intended to be taken to attract more foreign tourists to India include development and improvement of tourist facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the foreign countries through overseas tourist offices, strengthening institutions of human resources development, use of information technology and encouraging private investment in tourism sector including hotels. Government have also declared Explore India in the Millennium year campaign to attract more foreign tourists.

Digital Network

4970. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati has invited global bids for setting up of network of digital terrestrial broadcasting;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is in the process of formulating a policy framework for establishment of digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the country. At present the Prasar Bharati is only setting up digital transmitters at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai on experimental basis.

Tea Marketing (Control) Order

4971. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of invoking Tea Marketing (Control) Order;

(b) the total number of tea auction centres in the country, location-wise;

(c) whether there is any threat to Tea Auction system by globalisation of economy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) In order to monitor the production and marketing of tea by tea manufacturing units as also to increase the volume of sales through public tea auctions, Govt. of India promulgated the Tea Marketing (Control) Order 1984.

(b) At present there are eight Public Tea Auction Centres located at Calcutta, Guwahati, Siliguri, Coonoor, Cochin, Coimbatore, Amritsar and an Online Auction Centre based at Calcutta.

(c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Government Borrowings

4972. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the average borrowing of the Union Government during the 1st quarter of this financial year and also during the last financial year, month-wise;

(b) whether such borrowings are affecting money circulation and inflation also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The borrowings of the Union Government during 1st quarter of the current financial year vis-a-vis last year are as under :-

(Rs. crore).

Months	Borrowings during 1st Quarter			
	1999-2000		2000-2001	
	Market Loans	364 day T. Bills	Market Loans	364 day T. Bills
April	18000	1000	11000	1000
May	9000	1000	18683	1000
June	10000	1000	4000	1500
Total	37000	3000	33683	3500

(b) and (c) There is no precisely quantifiable nexus between Government borrowing, inflation and money circulation.

[Translation]

Closure of FPS due to increase in price

4973. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the recent price rise of ration items distributed through Public Distribution System which has adversely affected the PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Public Distribution System is collapsing due to the price rise of ration items distributed through PDS;

(d) if so, the number of Fair Price Shops closed as a result thereof. State-wise;

(e) the estimated number of persons have become jobless due to closure of FPS; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (f) With a view to neutralise the financial burden consequent upon the hike in Minimum Support Price (MSP)/Procurement Price and to contain the food subsidy budget to a manageable level, Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of PDS foodgrains are revised from time to time. The CIPs of foodgrains being distributed under PDS were hiked on 1.4.2000 which have been subsequently revised downwards on 25.7.2000. The prices of PDS foodgrains are still lower than the open market prices, specially for the people living below poverty line (BPL). The allocation to BPL families has been doubled from 10 Kg. to 20 Kg per family per month at 50% of economic cost with effect from 1.4.2000.

Government have not received any reports about closure of FPS attributable to revision of CIP of foodgrains.

State Governments have been advised to include additional items of daily use under PDS taking into account the local priorities in order to improve the viability of the Fair Price Shops. A statement showing additional items being issued by various States/UTs through PDS outlets is attached.

With the objective of making available quality consumer goods at affordable prices and to improve the viability of fair price shops apart from containing inflation, a scheme titled "Sarvapriya" has been launched. The scheme envisages distribution of eleven selected commodities of daily use namely, Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Malka red, Urad whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soaps, Detergent cake, Exercise Notebooks, Edible Oil and Toothpaste on no-profit no-loss basis. This is a voluntary scheme optional for adoption by the State Governments.

Statement

Statement showing Additional Commodities Distributed Through PDS outlets

Sl. No.	State/UT	Status of Additional Commodities Included for Distribution through PDS outlets	As Reported on
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Iodised Salt, Nivedan Tea, Janata Sarees, Soap, Pulses, Dhoties, Onions, Tomatoes, Redgramdal Chillies, Tamarind, Vijay brand Sunflower Oils, Groundnut Oil & Garlic distributed through FPS.	8.12.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Iodised Salt, Tea, Pulses, Soaps, Edible Oils are being distributed.	31.3.97
3.	Assam	Candle, Matches, Washing Soaps and Exercise books distributed.	31.3.97
4.	Bihar	Introduced Pulses, Controlled Cloth and Edible Oil w.e.f. 1/9/92 through mobile FPSs.	31.3.97
5.	Gujarat	Tea, Toilet Soap, Washing Soap, Washing Powder, Biscuits, Chilly powder, Turmeric powder, Dhana powder, spices, Toothpaste, Tooth-powder, Tooth Brush, Shaving Cream on experimental basis in Ahmedabad city & Ahmedabad District & Iodized Salt (in tribal areas) being distributed.	27.10.99
6.	Haryana	Tea, Soap, Iodised Salt, Pulses and Exercise Books being distributed through Confed retail outlets in Faridabad & Bhiwani District.	22.4.99
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Tea, Pulses, Soap, Salt, Exercise Books, Janata Sarees & Dhoties being distributed.	31.3.97
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Iodised Salt distributed through PDS in only two districts: Leh & Kargil (Ladakh).	22.1.99

1	2	3	4
9.	Karnataka	Iodised Salt, Tea, Soap, Exercise Books, Janata Sarees, Dhoties and ORS being distributed.	31.3.97
10.	Kerala	Distributed through Maveli Stores run by Civil Supplies Corporation many items.	31.3.97
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Tea, Soap, Salt, Controlled Cloth and Exercise Books being distributed.	31.3.97
12.	Maharashtra	Soap, Salt, Tur Dal, Tea being distributed.	31.3.97
13.	Manipur	Iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97
14.	Meghalaya	Iodised Salt, Washing Soap and Matches distributed in some areas.	31.3.97
15.	Rajasthan	Tea & Soap being distributed, Iodised Salt, Text Books, Janata Series, Dhoties, M. box, E. Books.	31.3.97
16.	Sikkim	Iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97
17.	Tamil Nadu	Iodised Salt, Pulses, Tea, Text Books, Baby food, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi and Soap are distributed.	27.9.99
18.	Tripura	Iodised Salt and Palmolein Oil is distributed.	22.12.98
19.	Uttar Pradesh	21 additional commodities including iodised Salt being distributed.	31.3.97
20.	West Bengal	Tea, Spices, Exercise Books, Matches and Iodised Salt (in some areas) being distributed.	14.1.99
21.	A & N Islands	FPSs selling wide range of other commodities.	31.3.97
22.	D & N Haveli	Iodised Salt, Pulses, Match Boxes and Tea being distributed.	31.3.97
23.	Lakshadweep	Iodised Salt, Text Books, Soaps, Tea, Matches, Pulses being distributed.	31.3.97

*[English]***Coin Museum**

4974. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open Coin Museum to house coins from ancient time to currency notes of the present at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Payment of Housing Loans

4975. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the tenure of payment of housing loans to 25 years from the present 12 to 15 years;

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

(c) whether the rate of interest charged by the Government on housing loans would also be reduced to boost housing activities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Housing Finance is channelled to individuals through 29 Housing Finance Institutions (HFIs) regulated by National Housing Bank (NHB). The various HFIs are free to decide their own lending rates and other terms of financing of such loans keeping in view their cost of borrowings, demand for funds and other market related factors and do not need Government's permission to enhance or reduce these rates.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Rajasthan

4976. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

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

(a) whether any request has been received by the Union Government from Rajasthan Government in regard to providing financial assistance for the development of archives, public libraries and museums in the State;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether provisions have been made for the use of Hindi in the said archives, public libraries and museums; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Proposal for development of Archives, Public Libraries have been received for financial assistance as detailed below. No Museum is being provided financial assistance by the Central Government in the State of Rajasthan.

(i) Archives:

During the financial year 2000-2001, no request has been received for development of Archives in the State of Rajasthan. However, two proposals—one in 1998 and another in 1999-2000 were received from the Rajasthan State Archives. No action was taken in respect of proposal received during 1998-99 due to non-receipt of Utilisation Certificate of the grant given earlier to Rajasthan State Archives. As regards

the proposal received in 1999-2000, a grant of Rs. 4.80 lakhs was released to the State Archives.

(ii) Public Library :

The Government of Rajasthan has been participating in the Schemes of Raja Rammohun Library Foundation, an autonomous body under the Deptt. of Culture set up to promote public library services all over the country since 1972. The Raja Rammohun Library Foundation has been providing financial assistance under different schemes to the public libraries. During the current year, the Government of Rajasthan has finalized the proposal to derive financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 lakhs from the Foundation. Action is being taken by the State Government in pursuance of the Annual Action Plan of the Foundation to implement the schemes.

(c) and (d) State of Rajasthan falls under Region 'A' of the Official Language Act where hundred per cent of the official work is to be done in Hindi. The above mentioned institutions are under the control of State Government and it is for the State Government to enforce the provisions of Official Language Act in the offices under their control.

[English]

Disinvestment of Navratnas

4977. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether those Public Sector Undertakings known as 'Navratnas' are going to be disinvested; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Government decides to disinvest its equity, partly or fully, in Public Sector Enterprises in accordance with the declared disinvestment policy. As stated in the budget speech for 2000-2001, the disinvestment policy of the Government applicable to all Public Sector Enterprises in the non-strategic sectors, including 'Navratnas' is to bring down the Government

equity to 26% or below in the generality of cases. In cases of Public Sector Enterprises involving strategic considerations, Government will continue to retain majority holding.

It has also been decided that the Strategic Public Sector Enterprises would be those in the areas of:

- a) **Arms and ammunitions** and the allied items of defence equipment, defence air-crafts and warships
- b) **Atomic energy** (except in the areas related to the generation of nuclear power and applications of radiation and radio-isotopes to agriculture medicine and non-strategic industries)
- c) **Railway transport** Further, for the non-strategic Public Sector Enterprises, the reduction of Government share to 26% is not automatic and the manner and pace of doing so is worked out on a case to case basis. A decision in regard to the percentage of disinvestment i.e., Government share going down to less than 51% or to 26%, is taken on the following considerations:
 - (i) Whether the Industrial sector requires the presence of the public sector as countervailing force to prevent concentration of power in private hands, and
 - (ii) Whether the Industrial sector requires a proper regulatory mechanism to protect the consumer interests before Public Sector Enterprises are privatised.

Disinvestment of Shipping Corporation

4978.DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal for disinvestment of the Shipping Corporation of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the profits earned by the Shipping Corporation of India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Disinvestment in Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. has been approved 'in principle' by the Government. No decision, however, in respect of the percentage of equity to be disinvested has been taken so far. This decision has been taken as per the declared policy of the Government of bringing down the Government held equity to 26% or less in non-strategic PSUs.

(c) The profits earned by the Shipping Corporation of India during last 3 years are as follows:-

Year	Profits after tax (Rs. In Crores)
1997-98	246.24
1998-99	201.33
1999-2000	161.61 (Provisional)

PSUs Restricted for Disinvestment

4979.SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have decided not to clear the proposal for divesting the shares of blue chip Public Sector Undertakings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the name of Public Sector Undertakings which are restricted for disinvestment; and
- (d) the name of other Public Sector Undertakings for which, in principle, approval for disinvestment has been given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present in the following 17 cases the disinvestment has been cleared and the 'advisors' have been appointed: Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd., Indian

Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., HTL Ltd., RBL Ltd., Scooters India Ltd., Engineering Projects India Ltd., NEPA Ltd., Hindustan Cables Ltd., Instrumentation Ltd., Bharat Leather Ltd., Air India, Indian Airlines, India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd., Madras Fertilizers Ltd., National Fertilizers Ltd., Hindustan Copper Ltd. and Jessop & Company Ltd. In 2 cases, disinvestment has been cleared but advisors are yet to be appointed. These are Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. and MSTC Ltd.

The process of disinvestment is in different stages of implementation in these companies.

(d) Government has granted "in principle" approval for disinvestment in the following companies - Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., MMTC, STC, Sponge Iron India Ltd., Minerals Exploration Corporation Ltd., Hotel Corporation of India Ltd., Hotel Ranchi Ashok and Hotel Utkal Ashok.

[Translation]

Dominance of MNCs in Consumer Market

4980.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the dominance of multinational companies is increasing in the consumer market;

(b) whether the MNCs have captured the reputed areas of consumer products like TV, Refrigerator and Washing Machine; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to save the indigenous companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Entry of foreign investment and technology into India is not considered a threat to an efficient domestic industry.

(c) While considering FDI proposals, a declaration is obtained from the applicant whether the foreign collaborator has any previous joint venture or technology transfer/trademark agreement in the same or allied field in India, the detailed circumstances in which it is considered necessary to set up a new joint venture or wholly owned company and proof that the new proposal would not in any way jeopardise the interest of the existing joint venture or partner. For induction of foreign investment and investment from Non Resident Indians/

Overseas Corporate Bodies in an existing Indian company, a copy of the Board Resolution of the existing Indian company is called for to prevent possibility of hostile takeover.

[English]

Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings

4981.SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to disinvest the PSUs like MTNL, VSNL, Maruti Udyog Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of PSUs have already been disinvested or proposed to be disinvested during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The Government has not taken any decision for further disinvestment in case of MTNL and VSNL and no decision has been taken for disinvestment in Maruti Udyog Ltd.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the current year no disinvestment has been completed so far. At present in the following 17 cases the disinvestment has been cleared the 'advisors' have been appointed: Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., HTL Ltd., RBL Ltd., Scooters India Ltd., Engineering Projects India Ltd., NEPA Ltd., Hindustan Cables Ltd., Instrumentation Ltd., Bharat Leather Ltd., Air India, Indian Airlines, India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd., Madras Fertilizers Ltd., National Fertilizers Ltd., Hindustan Copper Ltd. and Jessop & Company Ltd. In 2 cases, disinvestment has been cleared but advisors are yet to be appointed. These are Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. and MSTC Ltd.

The process of disinvestment is in different stages of implementation in these companies.

[Translation]

**Circulation of Currency
Notes and Coins**

4982. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the currency-notes and coins of various denominations which are in circulation in the country;

(b) whether the Government keep a watch on the position of such notes and coins;

(c) if so, the currency notes and coins which are in shortage; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand of these notes and coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) At present, currency notes of the denominations 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, & 500 and coins of the denominations paise 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50, Re. 1, Rs. 2 & Rs. 5 are in circulation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At present, there is no shortage of currency notes of any denomination. However, some shortage vis-a-vis the demand for coins of Re.1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 is being felt.

(d) In view of the inadequacy of the minting capacity of Government mints vis-a-vis the demand for Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 coins, the Government of India have resorted to import of these coins to bridge the demand-supply gap

[English]

Reviva! Fund for Sick Industries

4983. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a revival fund in order to revive sick industries, particularly in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of schemes in operations for revival of sick industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some of the measures initiated by the Government to assist and revive sick industries, inter-alia, includes;

- establishment of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions), Act, 1985.
- establishment of State Level Inter-Institutional Committee (SLIIC) set up in each State.
- sick units rehabilitation committees formed by State Governments.
- refinance schemes for rehabilitation of sick industrial units operated by SIDBI.
- rehabilitation, restructuring and one-time settlement of dues by banks and financial institutions for revival of potentially viable sick industrial units.

[Translation]

Increasing Duration of News on DD/AIR

4984. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any policy has been formulated to increase the duration of news on Doordarshan and Akashvani;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many kind of disturbances occur during news time on Doordarshan and Akashvani;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to look into the matter, particularly of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the increase in duration of news on Doordarshan and Akashvani from time to time depends on the newscall and availability of transmission time, other resources and infrastructure facilities.

(c) to (e) Generally there is no disturbance during the news time of Doordarshan and Akashvani. However,

occasionally radio bulletins get affected due to atmospheric disturbances, which is unavoidable.

[English]

UTI Unit 64

4985.SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a wide spread dissatisfaction among UTI's US 64 investors due to low rate of dividend paid on the scheme for the period ending June 30, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of Government representatives on the Board of UTI;

(d) if not, how the Government ensures that the interests of the investors are safeguarded;

(e) whether there is any proposal to appoint the representatives of the investors on the Board of UTI; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) UTI has declared tax-free income distribution of Rs. 1.375 per unit (face value of Rs.10) under US—64 (compared to Rs. 1.35 per unit last year), implying a yield of 10.185% on July 1999 sale price. This is comparable to the market return for a one year fixed deposit or similar instruments.

(c) and (d) At present there is no representative of the Government on the Board of UTI. The general superintendence and the management of the affairs and business of the Trust are vested in a Board of Trustees comprising (a) a Chairman to be appointed by the Central Government (b) one trustee to be nominated by the Reserve Bank of India; (c) four trustees to be nominated by the Industrial Development Bank of India of whom not less than three shall be persons having special knowledge of, or experience in commerce, industry, banking, finance or investment; (d) one trustee to be nominated by the Life Insurance Corporation; (e) one trustee to be nominated by the State Bank of India; and (f) two trustees to be elected by the contributing institutions. The Board is discharging its functions under section 9(2) of the UTI Act, act on business principles regard being had to the interest of the unit holders. The decisions regarding investment and

income distribution are taken in accordance with the objectives of the scheme concerned and the prudential investment guidelines laid down by the UTI Act.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal, at present, to appoint representatives of investors on the Board of UTI.

[Translation]

Industrial Package for Rajasthan

4986.SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of works carried out by his Ministry in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are working out a special package for industrial development of desert area of Rajasthan, especially Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer etc;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by what time;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a Office of the Deputy Director of the Department of Industry at Jodhpur; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (e)

With a view to promote industrialisation in industrially backward areas, the Government of India in June, 1988 announced the Growth Centre Scheme. Under the scheme, 71 Growth Centres are to be developed throughout the country, with the objective of providing infrastructural facilities to enable them to attract industries. There are five growth centres namely 1. Abu-Road (Sirohi), 2. Bhilwara, 3. Khara (Bikaner), 4. Dholpur, 5. Jhalawar approved in Rajasthan. The responsibility for implementation of the projects rests entirely with the State Governments.

[English]

Revival of Lalkotti of BSCL

4987.SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Industrial Trade Union has submitted proposal for revival of Lalkotti, Raniganj of Burn Standard Company Ltd.,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Operating Agency and M/s. M.N. Dastur have also recommended for its revival;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the revival scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) The BIFR's sanctioned revival scheme of Burn Standard Company Limited is under implementation since 16.4.1999. The scheme does not envisage revival of Lalkoti Unit of the company located at Raniganj, West Bengal. BIFR had considered the report of M/s. M.N.Dastur, Consultants as well as the report of the Operating Agency together with the views of the Management and the Government before sanctioning the revival scheme of BSCL. Any deviation from the sanctioned scheme can only be made by BIFR. The scheme submitted by the Central Industrial Trade Union does not establish the techno-economic viability of this unit.

Privatisation of PSUs

4988.SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to switch over to privatisation as an alternative disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, whether the Government is adopting to the strategic sale option, where a substantial stake is sold through a bidding process to the private companies operating in the public sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) No, Sir. Privatization is a form of disinvestment which involves sale of equity of the company along with transfer of management and ownership.

(b) and (c) The Government's decision to disinvest its equity in any Public Sector Enterprise is based on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission or

other expert bodies. Out of 58 companies referred to it, the Disinvestment Commission has recommended strategic sale / trade sale involving transfer of management and ownership in 37 cases. In some of these companies Government has decided to sell its equity through strategic sale. The process of strategic sale involves competitive bidding in which foreign as well as Indian bidders, if eligible, participate.

E-Commerce Cyber Crimes

4989.SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to empower banks to deal with E-Commerce and all facets of cyber crime to avert misappropriation of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that keeping in view the provisions of the Information Technology Act 2000, banks, may deal with the settlement of the fund lag in e-commerce transactions subject to its satisfaction regarding the identity of customer, authenticity of the message and its non-repudiation. This should enable the banks to safeguard against cyber crimes and avert misappropriation of funds.

RBI has further reported that Indian Financial Network (INFINET) has been developed with a view to enable secured funds transfer among banks.

[Translation]

Pending Hawala Cases in Court

4990.KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :
SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the former Union Ministers, the ministers in the State Governments and politicians against whom Hawala cases are pending in the courts; and

(b) the details of the politicians/former Ministers found innocent and acquitted by the courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V.DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) A case of

hawala transaction under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, against Dr. R.K.Rana, Member, Legislative Assembly, Bihar, is pending before the Economic Offences Court at Patna.

(b) There is no such case under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

[English]

RBI Directives to Peerless

4991.SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a set of directives to the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd. to cut down its operational cost;

(b) if so, the details of the directives issued;

(c) whether the company has from time to time submitted any compliance report to the RBI;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the action proposed to be taken for non-compliance of directives;

(f) whether the Government are aware that the widespread resentment and apprehension among the employees of the Company on account of the proposed move by the company to slash down its establishment by about 50%; and

(g) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interests of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. After the inspection of the company under Section 45-N of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 with reference to its financial position as on 31st March, 1999, a letter dated 7.4.2000 was issued to the company for rectifying the adverse features noticed. The Company was advised, inter-alia, to take corrective steps for reducing its administrative expenses and Non-Performing Assets (NPAs).

(c) and (d) In accordance with the instructions issued, the Company has submitted quarterly reports in respect of achievements under the turnaround plan. The company has also furnished its compliance for the RBI's letter of 7.4.2000 on 27.4.2000. RBI has informed that the

Company has initiated action to reduce administrative expenses, NPAs etc.

(e) to (g) According to available information the Company has drawn up a scheme to reduce its workforce, as a measure to reduce administrative costs. The Ministry of Finance has no role in the matter of reduction of workforce by a residuary Non-Banking company in the private sector.

Tax Benefit

4992.SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations from MPs and Business Associations to give similar tax benefit treatment to Indian Financial Institutions and mutual funds at par as with the Mauritius operated funds;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether attention of the Government of Mauritius has been drawn to the misuse of provisions of Indo-Mauritius Double Taxation Treaty; and

(e) if so, the reactions of the Government of Mauritius thereto and the steps taken to check the misuse of treaty by unscrupulous fund operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Benefits, to Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are on account of the Indo-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Convention, Under the Income-tax Act, 1961, both FIIs and Indian Investors are taxed at 10% of the long term capital gains. Capital gains is also exempt in the hands of Mutual Funds and Unit Trust of India (UTI).

(d) and (e) The benefits availed under the Treaty do not amount to misuse. As the two are Contracting States to the DTAC, there is exchange of views regarding the application and implementation of Treaty provisions.

[Translation]

Foreign Loan for the Development Work

4993.SHRI NAGMANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government get bilateral and multilateral loans for the development works of the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise/project-wise details thereof during each of the last three years;

Multilateral and bilateral agencies are as per Statement enclosed.

(c) whether there is any regional imbalance in getting such loans for Bihar, and

(c) and (d) Projects are considered for external assistance after the State Government forwards properly prepared proposals to Govt. of India incorporating necessary clearances. Differences in the number of on-going projects in different States in thus, due to differences in the number of projects posed by the State Governments and the acceptance of these projects by the funding agencies. Government of India, However, encourages the donors to undertake projects in all the States.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir;

(b) The State-wise/project-wise details of loans from

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Name of the project	Source	Date of Approval	Currency	Loan (DC in Million)	Disbursement during the year		
						1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ANDHRA PRADESH								
1.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency Cyclone	IDA	9.7.97	US \$	100.00	31.41	83.56	99.68
2.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency	IBRD	3.6.97	US \$	50.00	—	0.00	0.00
3.	AP Forestry	IDA	9.3.94	US \$	77.40	60.72	55.75	70.69
4.	Andhra Pradesh Power Sector	IBRD	5.3.99	US \$	210.00	—	43.05	196.67
5.	Srisallam Left Bank Power Stn. Pjt.I	Japan	10.2.88	Jap.Yen	26101.00	107.41	14.98	—
6.	Srisallam Power Transmission Sys.	Japan	21.12.92	Jap.Yen	3806.00	5.00	45.28	28.82
7.	Srisallam Power Trmn. Sys. Pjt.II	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	22567.00	145.65	85.82	92.48
8.	Srisallam Power Trmn. System Pjt.II	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	9546.00	9.99	69.15	128.05
9.	Kothagudam A Ther Power Stn. Rehabilitation	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	5092.00	40.20	13.79	11.62
10.	Simhadri and Vizag Trmn. System	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	10629.00	0.00	0.00	2.45
11.	Srisallsam Left Bank Power Stn.	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	14499.00	20.89	46.49	147.80
12.	Rayalseema Thermal Power	ADB	14.3.90	US \$	178.20	0.49	—	—
13.	AP State Highway	IBRD	30.7.97	US \$	350.00	45.95	44.02	174.47
14.	Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	25.5.90	US \$	79.90	37.13	29.04	—
15.	AP Irrigation-III	IDA	3.6.97	US \$	150.00	216.60	37.00	59.64
16.	AP Irrigation	IBRD	3.6.97	US \$	175.00	—	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
17.	Kurnool Cuddappah Canal	Japan	25.1.96	Jap.Yen	16049.00	0.00	3.56	56.43
18.	AP Referral Health System	IDA	22.12.94	US \$	133.00	70.79	130.90	78.11
19.	3103-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IDA	4.2.99	US \$	241.90	—	123.21	118.44
20.	4360-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IBRD	4.2.99	US \$	301.30	—	137.09	174.49
21.	AP Tribal Development	IFAD	5.5.91	US \$	7.20	—	6.80	19.46
22.	AP Participatory Tribal Development	IFAD	13.5.94	US \$	26.71	—	11.11	8.44
ASSAM								
1.	Assam Rural Infrastructure	IDA	6.6.95	US \$	126.00	6.23	29.31	44.71
BIHAR								
1.	Bihar Plateau Development	IDA	7.12.92	US \$	117.00	50.08	100.35	88.87
2.	DPEP-III	IDA	3.2.98	US \$	152.00	17.75	33.45	37.14
GUJARAT								
1.	Environmental Management Capacity Bldg.	IDA	14.3.97	US \$	50.00	10.73	3.63	7.71
2.	Gujarat Forestry	Japan	25.1.96	Jap.Yen	15760.00	100.28	110.04	118.17
3.	Ship Breaking Dev. at Pipavav	Japan	5.1.96	Jap.Yen	7046.00	53.67	80.77	69.92
4.	Gujarat Public Sector Resource Mgmt.	ADB	20.12.96	US \$	250.00	0.00	0.00	215.00
HARYANA								
1.	Mewat Area Development	IFAD	29.5.95	US \$	15.08	0.18	5.93	3.49
2.	Haryana Power Restructuring	IBRD	16.1.98	US \$	60.00	0.00	78.29	57.38
3.	Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	6.4.94	US \$	258.00	105.46	81.33	142.35
HIMACHAL PRADESH								
1.	Shimla Sewerage Project	OPEC	21.8.97	US \$	10.00	0.06	0.02	0.02
2.	Environment Programme	Norway	13.12.94	Nor.Kronor	12.00	1.32	0.57	0.17
KARNATAKA								
1.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation	Japan	25.2.97	Jap.Yen	15968.00	27.17	78.13	84.84
2.	Raichur Thermal Power Stn. Expansion	Japan	15.12.88	Jap.Yen	23142.00	6.95	—	—
3.	Kalinadi Hydro Electric Pjt. Stage-II	Kuwait Fund	12.2.86	Kuw. Dinar	7.00	8.76	2.65	0.67
4.	Mysore Paper Mills Modernisation & Ren.	Japan	15.12.88	Jap.Yen	2381.00	35.96	16.69	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	4.6.93	US \$	92.00	30.75	123.47	130.56
6.	Upper Krishna Ph.III	IBRD	16.6.89	US \$	6.82	12.36	—	—
7.	Karnataka Water Supply Mgmt.	IBRD	23.12.99	US \$	1.50	—	—	0.00
8.	Raichur District. Hospital	OPEC	6.6.91	US \$	9.00	2.61	7.36	7.46
9.	Bangalore Water Supply	Japan	25.1.98	Jap.Yen	28452.00	7.24	23.88	108.20
10.	Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Dev.	ADB	10.5.96	US \$	85.00	10.33	22.30	66.75
KERALA								
1.	Kerala Fisheries Prawn Culture Dev.	Kuwait Fund	24.12.89	Kuw. Dinar	7.00	0.03	0.00	—
2.	Kerala Rainfed farming Development	OPEC	27.6.91	US \$	10.00	1.46	3.04	4.68
3.	Kerala Forestry	IDA	13.8.98	US \$	39.00	—	16.60	20.63
4.	Attapady Wasteland Development	Japan	25.1.96	Jap.Yen	5112.00	0.66	0.21	3.82
5.	Kerala Water Supply	Japan	25.2.97	Jap.Yen	11997.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MADHYA PRADESH								
1.	Madhya Pradesh Forestry	IDA	11.4.96	US \$	58.00	39.60	61.20	79.58
2.	Lake Bhopal Conservation & Mgt.	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	7055.00	10.31	17.65	24.77
3.	Madhya Pradesh Sericulture	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	2212.00	0.00	1.77	5.54
4.	Rajghat Canal Irrigation	Japan	25.2.97	Jap.Yen	13222.00	0.00	20.19	32.22
5.	Rewa Hospital	OPEC	8.2.89	US \$	10.00	1.46	9.62	7.26
6.	MP Public Resources Management	ADB	14.12.99	US \$	250.00	—	—	434.90
MAHARASHTRA								
1.	Maharashtra Forestry	IDA	29.1.92	US \$	107.82	30.99	82.53	34.39
2.	Maharashtra Power	IBRD	11.9.89	US \$	337.00	230.34	180.35	—
3.	Second Maharashtra Power	IBRD	8.7.92	US \$	112.25	0.00	0.00	—
4.	Ghatghar Pumped Storage	Japan	15.12.88	Jap.Yen	11414.00	6.36	26.17	27.73
5.	Uran Combine Cycle Power Strn.	Germany	22.11.90	Deut. Mark	308.48	0.67	—	—
6.	Maharashtra State Elec. Board. Uran	Germany	11.12.95	Deut. Mark	29.74	21.79	3.03	0.00
7.	Private Infrastructure (ILOFS)	IDA	10.7.96	US \$	5.00	0.00	1.74	1.11
8.	Mah. Rural Water Supply	IDA	5.6.91	US \$	109.90	49.96	83.62	—
9.	Minor Irrigation	Germany	31.12.98	Deut. Mark	45.00	61.63	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Maharashtra Health System Dev.	IDA	14.1.99	US \$	134.00	—	13.08	0.00
11.	Maharashtra Rural Credit	IFAD	1.6.93	US \$	29.44	8.16	9.33	14.24
12.	Bombay Sewage Disposal	IBRD	28.12.95	US \$	167.00	100.07	65.29	66.55
MANIPUR								
1.	Manipur Sericulture	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	3962.00	0.00	7.38	6.19
MEGHALAYA								
1.	Umiyam Hydro Power Stn. Renovation	Japan	25.2.97	Jap.Yen	1700.00	0.00	0.00	0.62
ORISSA								
1.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring	IBRD	10.7.96	US \$	350.00	15.66	31.48	236.54
2.	India Orissa Power Sector Reforms	UK	29.8.96	UK Pound	42.00	17.24	83.15	23.48
3.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	5.1.96	US \$	290.90	153.53	127.57	124.52
4.	Upper Kolab Irrigation	Japan	15.12.88	Jap.Yen	3769.00	11.50	12.52	—
5.	Upper Indravati Irrigation	Japan	15.12.88	Jap.Yen	3744.00	17.24	18.21	—
6.	Rengali Irrigation	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	7760.00	4.30	21.80	41.28
7.	Lift Irrigation, Orissa	Germany	19.2.93	Deut. Mark	55.00	17.96	20.49	15.73
8.	Orissa Health Systems Dev.	IDA	13.8.98	US \$	76.40	—	15.26	2.79
PUNJAB								
1.	Punjab Afforestation	Japan	12.12.97	Jap.Yen	6193.00	1.92	19.53	33.19
2.	Punjab Irrigation	IDA	9.2.90	US \$	145.29	61.39	91.22	—
RAJASTHAN								
1.	A.D.P. Rajasthan Agriculture Dev.	IDA	17.12.92	US \$	106.00	42.38	55.66	36.76
2.	Indira Gandhi Afforestation	Japan	23.1.91	Jap.Yen	7869.00	17.79	18.35	14.79
3.	Afforestation Project Aravalli Hills	Japan	9.1.92	Jap.Yen	8095.00	36.96	38.40	38.52
4.	Rajasthan Forestry Development	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	4219.00	26.40	29.32	29.97
5.	Rajasthan District Primary Education	IDA	6.7.99	US \$	81.90	—	—	15.07
6.	Rajasthan Rural Water Supply Ph.I	Germany	17.6.94	Deut. Mark	40.00	22.38	19.50	7.85
7.	Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure	ADB	1.12.99	US \$	250.00	—	—	0.00
TAMIL NADU								
1.	Tamilnadu Agricultural Dev.	IDA		US \$	92.00	41.33	24.46	—
2.	Tamilnadu Agricultural Dev.	IBRD		US \$	20.00	0.00	39.26	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Tamilnadu Afforestation	Japan	25.2.97	Jap.Yen	13324.00	32.48	58.91	78.13
4.	Basin Bridge Gas Turbine-II	Japan	27.3.90	Jap.Yen	11450.00	17.76	—	—
5.	Expansion of Lignite Mine & Power Stn.	Germany	13.3.97	Deut. Mark	375.20	39.15	259.78	—
6.	North Madras Thermal Power	ADB	21.1.87	US \$	112.98	-25.55	-8.28	—
7.	Second North Madras Thrml. Power	ADB	6.12.90	US \$	170.00	26.74	28.51	4.19
8.	TN Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	22.9.95	US \$	282.90	7.41	81.52	249.52
9.	Second Madras Water Supply	IBRD	20.11.95	US \$	86.50	36.79	55.83	86.32
10.	Second Tamilnadu Urban Dev.	IBRD	14.7.88	US \$	100.00	—	—	80.01
11.	Tamilnadu Urban Dev.	IDA	16.9.88	US \$	254.73	97.56	—	—
12.	Chennai Sewarage Reno. & Funct. Improvement	Japan	28.2.95	Jap.Yen	17098.00	6.51	2.46	33.65
UTTAR PRADESH								
1.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation	IDA	24.6.93	US \$	54.70	30.43	51.40	45.20
2.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IDA	30.7.98	US \$	50.00	—	23.14	24.53
3.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation-II	IDA	4.2.99	US \$	194.10	—	—	32.76
4.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IBRD	30.7.98	US \$	79.90	—	0.00	0.00
5.	UP Forestry	IDA	30.12.97	US \$	52.94	0.00	30.81	29.11
6.	Anpara Power Transmission System-I	Japan	13.6.91	Jap.Yen	19318.00	155.32	74.70	—
7.	Anpara 'B'	Japan	24.1.94	Jap.Yen	17638.00	85.54	38.53	33.03
8.	Anpara Power Transmission System-II	Japan	25.1.96	Jap.Yen	12020.00	102.90	45.62	48.99
9.	UP Rural Water Supply & Env. San.	IBRD	22.7.96	US \$	52.40	2.62	25.99	23.66
10.	UP Primary Education	IDA	7.7.93	US \$	165.00	124.90	85.33	51.54
11.	UP Basic Education-II	IDA	3.3.98	US \$	59.40	29.58	87.07	70.53
12.	Bach Distt. Hospital	OPEC	4.5.90	US \$	6.50	5.52	0.00	10.11
WEST BENGAL								
1.	West Bengal Forestry	IDA	25.3.92	US \$	34.00	1375.00	4.30	—
2.	Industrial Pollution Control	Japan	28.2.96	Jap. Yen	1525.00	3.45	3.20	3.61
3.	Teesta Canal HEP-IDP-40	Japan	18.12.86	Jap. Yen	8025.00	14.21	14.13	10.89
4.	Teesta Canal HEP-IDP-72	Japan	23.1.91	Jap. Yen	6222.00	30.91	18.09	20.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project	Japan	24.1.94	Jap. Yen	27069.00	384.19	313.16	—
6.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Unit-3 Extension	Japan	28.2.95	Jap. Yen	8659.00	70.90	184.76	24.56
7.	Purulia Pumped Storage	Japan	28.2.95	Jap. Yen	20520.00	14.81	12.97	17.56
8.	West Bengal Transmission System	Japan	25.2.97	Jap. Yen	11087.00	1.92	2.55	25.45
9.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Project-II	Japan	12.12.97	Jap. Yen	34151.00	0.13	379.62	438.80
10.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Unit-3	Japan	24.3.99	Jap. Yen	11537.00	—	0.00	167.83
11.	Calcutta Transport Infrastructure	Japan	25.2.97	Jap. Yen	10679.00	10.33	2.82	19.46
12.	Calcutta Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage	IBRD	23.7.99	US \$	2.50	—	—	0.00
DELHI								
1.	Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System	Japan	25.2.97	Jap. Yen	14760.00	0.00	8.76	41.49
2.	Delhi Water Supply & Sanitation	IBRD	20.4.99	US \$	2.50	—	0.00	0.00
MULTISTATE PROJECTS								
(Names of Participating States below Project Name)								
1.	Integrated Watershed Dev. (Plains) GUJ, RAJ, ORI	IDA	22.8.90	US \$	55.00	45.00	34.99	—
2.	Integrated Water Shed Dev. (Hills) HP, J&K, Pb, HAR	IDA	11.1.91	US \$	75.00	26.79	50.61	4.49
3.	Shrimp & Fish Culture AP, BR, OR, UP, WB	IDA	29.1.92	US \$	36.49	0.00	34.05	3.70
4.	Agriculture & Human Resources AP, HAR, TN	IDA	11.4.95	US \$	59.50	26.72	32.72	47.75
5.	Integrated Water Shed Dev. Proj. (Hills)	IDA	14.7.99	US \$	50.18	—	—	40.65
6.	Second National Highway HAR, OR, Pb, TN	IDA	18.6.92	US \$	163.63	158.16	152.55	3.41
7.	States Road Project BR, MAH, UP, RAJ	IBRD	17.11.88	US \$	103.38	17.43	0.17	—
8.	Road Improvement Project AP, KTK, TN	ADB	27.12.88	US \$	172.86	66.95	10.89	—
9.	Road Infra. Dev. Tech. Asstt. Pr. AP, GUJ, HAR, RAJ, TN	IBRD	15.1.99	US \$	51.50	—	—	52.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Second Road Project-1041-IND AP, UP, OR, WB, RAJ, KTK, KER	ADB	28.5.91	US \$	250.00	151.18	46.15	42.94
11.	Second Port Project AP	ADB	10.8.90	US \$	109.26	24.57	—	—
12.	Mixed Project MAH, MAN, WB,	France	25.1.98	Fren. Fr.	88.02	—	3.22	25.77
13.	Dam Safety Project (R.F.) UP, RAJ, OR, TN, WB	IDA	10.6.91	US \$	92.97	61.42	77.17	73.33
14.	Hydrology in India AP, GUJ, HAR, MAH, KER, OR, TN	IDA	22.9.95	US \$	142.00	23.40	69.18	61.79
15.	Tech. Education-II (R.F.) 2223-IN AP, ASM, HAR, HP, MAH, WB, TN, PB, PO	IDA		US \$	255.73	113.79	114.05	275.24
16.	Tech. Education BR, GUJ, KTK, KER, MP, RAJ, UP, OR, GO, WB	IDA		US \$	210.74	95.25	152.75	—
17.	Integrated Child Dev. Services AP, OR, MP	IDA	23.10.90	US \$	74.35	76.48	7.10	—
18.	Family Welfare ASM, KTK, RAJ	IDA	24.6.98	US \$	88.60	53.67	41.21	30.12
19.	Ind Distt. Primary Education ASM, GUJ, HAR, HP, KTK, KER, MAH, MP	IDA	15.7.96	US \$	425.20	52.75	271.28	541.85
20.	Rural Women's Development BR, GUJ, HAR, KTK, MP, UP	IDA	14.9.98	US \$	19.50	—	0.00	0.00
21.	Women & Child Development KER, RAJ, TN, UP, MAH	IDA	6.7.99	US \$	300.00	—	—	43.35
22.	T.B. Control	IDA	14.3.97	US \$	142.40	18.31	0.00	—
23.	Rural Women's Dev. & Empower. BR, GUJ, HAR, KTK, MP, UP	IFAD	27.3.97	US \$	18.44	—	0.00	0.00
24.	North East Reg. Community Res. ASM, MNPR, MEGH	IFAD	20.5.97	US \$	27.12	—	0.00	5.22
25.	Ajanta Ellora Conservation & Tourism Dev.	Japan	8.1.98	Jap. Yen	9746.00	—	16.80	10.00

[English]

Seizure of Foreign Currency

4994. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of smuggled goods and foreign currency seized by customs officials during 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 and upto July 2000, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested during the above period. State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to check the entry of smuggled goods and foreign currency in the country in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The amount of foreign currency & other smuggled goods seized and the number of persons arrested, by Customs officials, during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto July, 2000), State/Union territory-wise, are as per statements I, II and III.

(c) All the field formations of the Customs Department including the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are ever vigilant & alert to detect and prevent smuggling of foreign currency and other smuggled goods in the country.

Statement-I

The amount of smuggled goods & foreign currency seized by the customs officials during year 1998-99

Year : 1998-99
(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	State/Union Territories	Value of smuggled goods seized		No. of persons Arrested
		Foreign Currency	Other Smuggled goods	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.59	2211.94	07
2.	Assam	20.00	440.93	24
3.	Bihar	1.42	3024.76	198
4.	Delhi	544.38	8391.72	111
5.	Goa	—	317.87	10

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	9.06	5314.37	12
7.	Karnataka	10.00	1506.98	05
8.	Kerala	94.19	2196.30	35
9.	Madhya Pradesh	—	14.70	—
10.	Maharashtra	972.78	36533.24	103
11.	Manipur	516.97	98.00	09
12.	Meghalaya	50.00	59.59	10
13.	Mizoram	38.00	22.00	—
14.	Orissa	—	82.00	02
15.	Punjab	—	691.57	13
16.	Rajasthan	0.92	143.56	10
17.	Tamilnadu	71.61	6922.59	72
18.	Tripura	21.00	51.00	01
19.	Uttar Pradesh	5.90	1614.94	73
20.	West Bengal	265.63	2395.96	111
Total		2696.45	72034.02	615

Statement-II

The amount of smuggled goods & foreign currency seized by the customs officials during year 1999-2000

Year : 1999-2000
(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	State/Union Territories	Value of smuggled goods seized		No. of persons Arrested
		Foreign Currency	Other Smuggled goods	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99.44	1918.24	06
2.	Assam	3.00	253.50	22
3.	Bihar	—	3208.88	103
4.	Delhi	664.71	11741.70	86

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Goa	13.83	714.32	13
6.	Gujarat	4.33	80060.37	10
7.	Karnataka	18.90	2705.21	24
8.	Kerala	87.74	3035.17	29
9.	Madhya Pradesh	—	118.90	02
10.	Maharashtra	426.81	17382.62	129
11.	Manipur	127.00	137.00	01
12.	Meghalaya	8.00	33.00	08
13.	Mizoram	46.00	35.00	—
14.	Orissa	—	13.00	03
15.	Punjab	—	579.89	33
16.	Rajasthan	—	13.90	02
17.	Tamilnadu	285.92	21317.31	127
18.	Tripura	21.00	100.00	01
19.	Uttar Pradesh	145.04	2562.43	90
20.	West Bengal	100.98	7192.10	149
Total		2047.70	153122.54	828

Statement-III

*The amount of smuggled goods & foreign
currency seized by the customs
officials during year 2000-01*

Year : 2000-01
(Upto July, 2000)
(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	State/Union Territories	Value of smuggled goods seized		No. of persons Arrested
		Foreign Currency	Other Smuggled goods	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.21	751.17	01
2.	Assam	—	27.94	01
3.	Bihar	29.44	939.71	48

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Delhi	282.26	2757.28	28
5.	Goa	7.80	36.41	03
6.	Gujarat	—	1670.30	02
7.	Karnataka	—	96.57	06
8.	Kerala	34.79	235.10	03
9.	Madhya Pradesh	—	5.62	03
10.	Maharashtra	156.57	2194.41	56
11.	Manipur	31.00	18.00	—
12.	Meghalaya	—	15.00	03
13.	Mizoram	17.00	4.00	—
14.	Orissa	—	1.00	—
15.	Punjab	—	866.88	08
16.	Rajasthan	—	2.39	—
17.	Tamilnadu	132.22	1735.03	43
18.	Tripura	5.00	18.00	—
19.	Uttar Pradesh	0.41	1441.93	17
20.	West Bengal	77.17	826.62	56
Total		774.87	13643.36	278

Export of Mine Ore

4995. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are distributing the foreign exchange earned through the export of Mine Ore among the States in a proportionate ratio;

(b) if so, the percentage of amount being given to each State;

(c) the amount of share given to each State particularly to Goa during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government of Goa is not getting its required percentage of revenue;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (f) Foreign exchange is earned by the exporters of the mineral ores. The State Governments get the royalty as per the rates fixed by the Central Government on the exported minerals removed from the leased area in addition to local taxes, etc. on the minerals exported.

[Translation]

Production of CNG Vehicles

4996. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies manufacturing pollution free vehicles have technically failed to manufacture CNG (gas based) auto-rickshaw;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the vehicle owners are facing a lot of problems as a result of introduction and production of gas based CNG auto-rickshaws; and

(d) if so, the positive steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) (a) No, Sir. It is gathered that CNG based auto-rickshaws have already been introduced in the market.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) and (d) In so far as availability of CNG Gas is concerned, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has reported that CNG outlets have been augmented in both Delhi & Mumbai to cater to increasing demand.

[English]

Foreign Aided Projects

4997. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :
SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects being executed with the assistance of World Bank and other foreign agencies in Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(b) whether proper monitoring is being done in all such projects; and

(c) the details of projects with financial assistance from World Bank pending with the Union Government for the above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) A statement of projects being executed with the assistance of World Bank and other agencies is attached

(b) Yes Sir, monitoring is being done at the level of State and Central Governments.

(c) The status of clearance of different projects under consideration for assistance from World Bank is as under:

Maharashtra

(i) Bombay IV Middle Vaitarna Project: The project was posed to the World Bank on 13.10.97. Response of the Bank is awaited.

(ii) Maharashtra Forestry II: Project was posed to World bank on 19.8.99 and is under consideration of the Bank

Karnataka

(i) Karnataka Rural Water Supply & ESP-II was posed to the World Bank in 25.05.99. Approval of the line Ministry/State Govt. for project preparation facility is awaited.

(ii) Comprehensive Karnataka Watershed Development project was posed to the World Bank on 30.6.2000. Response of the Bank is awaited.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the project	Source	Date of Signing/ Approval	Currency	(DC in Million)	(as on 31.7.2000)
					Loan/ Grant Amount	Cumml. Drawal in DC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
KARNATAKA						
1.	Karnataka Watershed Development	Denmark	2.6.97	Danish Kr.	46.700	6.553

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation	Japan	25.2.97	Jap. Yen	15968.000	5255.000
3.	Western Ghats Forestry	UK	8.10.92	UK Pound	18.074	17.783
4.	Mysore Paper Mills Modernisation & Renovation	Japan	15.12.88	Jap. Yen	2381.000	2373.900
5.	Karnataka Sec. Level Hospitals Development	Germany	16.1.97	Deut. Mark	23.000	4.473
6.	Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	4.6.93	US \$	92.000	90.034
7.	Indo-Swiss Participative Watershed Development	Switzerland	19.6.95	Indian Rs.	86.248	63.131
8.	UK/India Karnataka Watershed Development	UK	23.5.97	UK Pound	4.488	0.000
9.	Karnataka Watershed Development	Germany	17.6.94	Deut. Mark	20.000	1.396
10.	Karnataka Water Supply Mgmt.	IBRD	23.12.99	US \$	1.500	0.000
11.	Women & Youth Trg. Extn. PH.II	Denmark	1.7.89	Danish Kr.	48.500	24.676
12.	Rural Water & Sanitation Phase-II Karnataka	Denmark	1.1.96	Danish Kr.	65.500	8.892
13.	National Programme for Control of Blindness-II	Denmark	7.11.97	Danish Kr.	55.000	7.043
14.	Raichur District. Hospital	OPEC	6.6.91	US \$	9.000	4.316
15.	Bangalore Water Supply	Japan	25.1.96	Jap. Yen	28452.000	3873.700
16.	Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Dev.	ADB	10.5.96	US \$	85.000	33.015
MAHARASHTRA						
1.	Saline Lands Reclamation	EC	3.7.95	Euro	15.500	0.000
2.	Maharashtra Forestry	IDA	29.1.92	US \$	107.820	85.427
3.	Ghatghar Pumped Storage	Japan	15.12.98	Jap. Yen	11414.000	2069.000
4.	Maharashtra State Elec. Board. Uran	Germany	11.12.95	Deut. Mark	29.740	24.354
5.	Private Infrastructure (ILOFS)	IDA	10.7.96	US \$	5.000	0.664
6.	Grant for Infrastructure Financing	IBRD Jap. Gr.	22.4.97	US \$	1.500	1.198
7.	Maharashtra Rural Drinking Water Supply	UK	10.9.91	UK Pound	16.460	8.609
8.	Watershed Maharashtra (NABARD)	Germany	26.6.97	Deut. Mark	25.000	0.000
9.	Minor Irrigation	Germany	31.12.98	Deut. Mark	45.000	0.000
10.	Water Control System for Development of Coop.	EEC Gr.	25.10.88	Euro	15.000	11.708

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Maharashtra Health System Dev.	IDA	14.1.99	US \$	134.000	3.234
12.	Maharashtra Rural Credit	IFAD	1.6.93	US \$	29.442	13.613
13.	AVERT	USA	15.9.99	US \$	42.500	0.000
14.	Basic Health Maharashtra	Germany	23.7.96	Deut. Mark	20.000	2.060
15.	Bombay Resettlement & Rehabilitation-29399-IN	IBRD Jap.Gr.	1.9.96	Jap. Yen	67.000	44.400
16.	Bombay Resettlement & Rehabilitation-39300-IN	IBRD Jap.Gr.	4.9.96	Jap. Yen	16.800	0.000
17.	Bombay Sewage Disposal	IBRD	28.12.95	US \$	167.000	63.994

MULTISTATE PROJECTS

S. No.	Name of the project	Source	Date of Signing/ Approval	Currency	Loan/Grant for all Participating States	Cumul. Drawal in DC
1.	Indo Norwegian Environment Prog. (Karnataka & Himachal Pradesh)	Norway	13.11.97	N. Kroner	24.000	9.311
2.	DBM Planning in State Power Sector (Karnataka and others)	IBRD	18.9.98	US Dollars	0.400	0.100
3.	Mixed Project (Financial Protocol attached (Maharashtra & others)	France	25.1.98	F. France	88.018	52.743
4.	Hydrology Project (Maharashtra & others)	IDA	22.9.95	US Dollars	142.000	46.205
5.	Family Welfare (Karnataka & others)	IDA	24.6.94	US Dollars	88.600	43.298
6.	II District Primary Education Proj. (Maharashtra, Karnataka & others)	IDA	15.7.96	US Dollars	425.200	178.455
7.	Rural Women's Development Project (Karnataka & others)	IDA	14.9.98	US Dollars	19.500	1.726
8.	Women & Child Care Development (Maharashtra & others)	IDA	6.7.99	US Dollars	300.000	10.000
9.	Eco. Development Proj. Global Envir. (Karnataka & others)	IDF Grant	30.9.96	US Dollars	20.000	6.131

Defaulter Non-Banking Finance Companies

4998. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been persistent complaints from small depositors over increasing incidence of defaults

by Non-banking Finance Companies over repayment of FDRs/other matured instruments;

(b) whether SEBI is exercising vigilance over NBFCs as they do in case of primary capital market;

(c) the role of the office of the Registrar of Companies in providing protections to small investors

in the NBFCs and whether it is working in tandem with SEBI:

(d) whether the Government are aware that despite a stringent credit rating system imposed on NBFCs depositors still find that such credit rating is unreliable and manipulated; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government propose to protect to depositors in agri-plantation company schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The activities of non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) are regulated by RBI in terms of the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. In case of default by a non-banking finance company in repayment of deposits, Company Law Board is empowered under the provisions of RBI Act to order for repayment. SEBI has no role in the matter.

(d) As per the directions issued by RBI, NBFCs accepting public deposits are subject to different regulations including requirement of minimum investment grade credit rating. Credit rating for public deposits serves as an opportunity to assess the financial health of the rated institutions and permits the investors to take an informed decision about the risk attached to his/her investment. On the basis of the recommendations of the Task Force on NBFCs, RBI has delinked the quantum of public deposits which can be accepted by a registered NBFC from the level of credit rating obtained by the company and greater reliance has been put on Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR).

(e) In terms of SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999 SEBI regulates those entities which are having schemes in the nature of Collective Investment Schemes. On the basis of recommendations of Dave Committee, SEBI has taken a number of steps for effective regulation of companies covered under collective Investment Schemes. These measures, *inter-alia*, include obtaining certificate of registration for launching any new scheme or for raising any money from the investors, obtaining credit rating from a recognized credit rating agency, special audit of top cumulative investment scheme companies etc.

Sugar Cooperatives

4999. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar cooperatives in different States of the country are facing crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to survive the sugar cooperatives and to make the sugar Industry competitive in domestic and international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) As per information provided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), out of 241 cooperative sugar units in the country, 92 cooperative sugar mills were having negative net-worth as on 31st March, 1999.

A high level committee has been constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Secretary (F&PD) to examine the case of sick Cooperative Sugar Mills and to recommend revival packages of potentially viable units. Besides, the following steps have been taken by the Government to make the sugar units competitive in the domestic and international market.

- (i) The ratio of levy to free sale sugar has been changed from 40:60 to 30:70 with effect from 1.1.2000.
- (ii) Duty on imported sugar has been raised to 60% with effect from 9.2.2000.
- (iii) The imported sugar has been brought under the release mechanism.
- (iv) Levy @ 30% on the stocks of imported sugar held by the importers has been imposed with effect from 17.2.2000.

Release of Government Advertisements through DAVP

5000. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various Ministries/Government Departments are bound to release their advertisements through Directorate of Audio and Visual Publicity (DAVP);

(b) if so, the fact of the matter in this regard;

(c) whether the various Ministries/Government Departments are forced to offer 13% creative charges to the

DAVP while they can easily get it done from the private advertising agency absolutely free of cost; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures taken to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 as amended from time to time, all Central Government Ministries/ Departments are required to route their advertisements through DAVP.

(c) DAVP charges 13% departmental charges for the publicity work undertaken by it on behalf of the paying departments.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Low Power Earth Stations

5001. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANGHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up low power earth stations in all major cities/towns by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) whether any progress in this regard has since been made in Maharashtra so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) At present satellite uplinking facility through an earth station is available at 23 Doordarshan stations in the country and projects for setting up of similar facilities are presently under implementation at Port Blair, Panaji, Shimla, Jammu and Leh. In Maharashtra, satellite uplinking facilities have been set up at the Doordarshan Kendras in Mumbai and Nagpur at an approximate cost of Rs. 8.75 crores. As the project costs for setting

up of earth stations are very high, there is no plan to set up such stations in all major cities and towns. However, important events of other cities are covered using Digital Satellite News Gathering Systems, Electronic News Gathering Systems and Outdoor Broadcasting vans.

[Translation]

ITDC Hotels in Bihar

5002. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the place-wise details and the number of hotels being operated by India Tourism Development Corporation in Bihar;

(b) the profit earned by ITDC Hotels during the last three years;

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to increase the facilities for tourists in these hotels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) ITDC is operating two hotels in Bihar one each at Patna and Bodhgaya.

(b) The profitability position of ITDC's Hotels for the last three years is given as under:

Year	Profit/Loss(Before tax) (Rs in Crores)
1997-98	26 75
1998-99	(-) 13.70
1999-2000	(-) 39.61 (provisional)

(c) and (d) ITDC'S Annual plan 2000-2001 does not envisage any new expansion scheme for development of tourist facilities in two hotels in the State of Bihar

[English]

Eco Tourism in Uttaranchal Region of Uttar Pradesh

5003. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

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

(a) whether the tourism in Uttaranchal region of Uttar Pradesh has so far been confirmed to mere religious and cultural pilgrimages and tours and its potential for eco-tourism remains yet to be exploited;

(b) if so, the present tourist traffic, including foreign tourists; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to attract foreign and Indian tourists to exploit the potential for eco-tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No Sir. However, the Central Department of Tourism promotes tourism including, religious, cultural, pilgrimages and Eco-Tourism etc. in the country in consultation with State/UT Governments.

(b) Estimated domestic and foreign tourist arrivals in the State of Uttar Pradesh for last two years are given below:-

Year	Domestic Arrival	Foreign Arrival	Total
1998	41567000	783000	42350000
1999	45723700	822150	46545850

(c) The Central Department of Tourism has formulated "Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines" which has been endorsed for implementation by all the State Governments and Union Territories. In addition Eco-Tourism projects proposed by State/ U.T. Governments are provided Central Financial Assistance on the basis of their interse priority and subject to availability of funds.

Eco-tourism attractions in the country are given wide publicity in the country as well as in overseas to attract tourists.

Rates of Duty Drawback

5004. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have declared new all-India rates of duty drawback for fiscal year 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far the new scheme goes to rationalise the earlier duty drawback regime and the exports of which

class and category of items are to be promoted thereby indicating the export targets for various classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The All Industry Rates of Duty drawback for the fiscal year 2000-2001 have been notified with effect from 1st June, 2000. The duty drawback rates have been declared in respect of 826 categories of export products.

(c) The All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback are fixed under the Customs & Central Excise Duties Drawback Rules, 1995. These rates are fixed by taking into consideration the duties of Customs & Central Excise suffered on the raw materials used in the manufacture of the export products. As a part of rationalisation of the duties of Customs & Central Excise, this year in the Union Budget 2000-2001, the peak rate of customs duty has been reduced to 35% from 40% earlier. The 10% surcharge on basic duty is now applicable to all the duty rates. The 4% special additional duty is now applicable to all imports whether effected by manufacturers or traders. The Central Excise duty slabs of 8%, 16% and 24% prevailing last year have now been merged into a single rate of 16% which is known as CENVAT. Accordingly, as a measure of rationalisation, the new Drawback Schedule has the following significant features:-

- (i) The drawback rates have been increased in respect of 141 categories owing to levy of special additional duty of 4% and increase of central excise duty from 8% to 16%.
- (ii) 9 new entries have been introduced to expand and amplify the scope of drawback schedule.
- (iii) The drawback rates have been maintained at the last year's level in respect of 406 entries.
- (iv) Drawback rates have been revised downwards in Consonance with the decrease in Customs & Central Excise duties as regards 270 entries.

[Translation]

Godown by CWC

5005. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godown for which approval for construction has been given by the Central Warehousing Corporation in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the names of places in Hardoi, Unnao, Sitapur and Lakhimpur-Khiri districts of Uttar Pradesh for which approval has been given; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of these godowns is likely to be commenced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The construction of godowns at 7 centres in Uttar Pradesh has been approved by the Central Warehousing Corporation during the period from January 1, 1999 to July 31, 2000.

(b) No approval for construction of godowns in these districts has been given.

(c) Does not arise.

IDBI Assistance to entrepreneurs of Bihar

5006. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) from entrepreneurs of Bihar during out of three years;

(b) the number of application out of these accepted and rejected;

(c) the reasons for rejection of applications; and

(d) the financial assistance provided by the IDBI to the industries of Bihar during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) As reported by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) number of applications received, sanctioned, rejected & closed/cancelled/pending and assistance sanctioned & disbursed under direct finance scheme for setting up industrial projects in Bihar are as under :

Year	Applications				Amount (Rs. crores)	
	Received	Sanctioned	Rejected	Closed/Cancelled/ Pending	Sanctioned	Disbursed
1997-98	14	8	Nil	6	371	329
1998-99	17	8	Nil	9	674	135
1999-00	14	11	Nil	3	241	*317

*Includes disbursements pertaining to sanctions during the earlier year also.

[English]

Setting up of VLPT's Centres in Kerala

5007. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of VLPT's Centres at Achencol and Kulathupuzha in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which they are likely to be set up/started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tourism Schemes of Rajasthan

5008. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government for the development of important places from tourism and historical point of view in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any scheme in this regard for consideration of the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise, and the time by which the decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(d) the number of foreign tourists who visited Rajasthan during the last year and the income earned therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Development of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/ UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with the State Governments. During the first 3 years of IX Plan 49 projects of Rajasthan with Central component of Rs. 712.03 lakhs have been sanctioned. During the current year 17 projects with central components of Rs. 248.14 lakhs covering important tourist places like Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Pushkar, Sawai Madhopur, Ranakpur and Udaipur have been prioritised.

(d) During 1999, 63.97 lakhs foreign tourists are estimated to have visited Rajasthan. Estimates of State-wise earnings from tourism are not maintained.

Ancient Monuments at Bhojpur, M.P.

5009. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ancient monuments at Bhojpur of Madhya Pradesh has been registered with Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, whether the construction work for preservation has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and time targeted for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The ancient monument at Bhojpur is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) and (c) Repairs have been carried out in critical areas of the monuments for structural stability. Since scientific conservation is a slow and time consuming operation, no specific time-frame can be prescribed for its completion.

Financial Assistance for Cultural Heritage of Himalayas

5010. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any scheme for providing financial assistance for the preservation and development of cultural heritage of Himalayas during 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for providing financial assistance; and

(d) the amount of financial assistance provided in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Financial assistance upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs is applicable to individuals and voluntary organisations recommended by the concerned State Government/Union Territories/UGC on the recommendation of an Expert Committee constituted for this purpose for their short duration projects including :

- (i) Study and research for this purpose of all aspects of cultural heritage.
- (ii) Collection of objects of art and crafts of the Himalayas.
- (iii) Dissemination of the Himalayan Culture through audio visual programmes.
- (iv) Assisting and setting up of museums and libraries of Himalayan Culture.

(d) The budget provision is Rs. 50.00 lakhs for the year 2000-2001.

Seizure of Property of Narcotics Dealer

5011. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Narcotics Control Bureau has seized the property worth rupees four crore belonging to narcotics dealer who was running a heroin producing unit in the capital and exported the contraband to the Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take to curb the activities of such narcotics dealers in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has frozen properties comprising a house, a flat, two cars and eight bank accounts having a total balance of Rs. 13.75 lakhs following the arrest of a resident of Delhi in November, 1999 in connection with the seizure of 51.330 kgs. of heroin at Bangalore and Delhi.

(c) The Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy, which includes constant vigil, stepping up of enforcement efforts, gearing up of the intelligence machinery, modernisation and upgradation of Police, border fencing, intensified border patrolling, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the Customs Act to interdict drugs on the borders and stringent action against all persons arrested for drug trafficking under the NDPS Act.

[Translation]

Grant of Loan to India by Japan

5012. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japanese Government has put the condition of signing C.T.B.T. for granting loan (in Yen);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Japanese Government imposed restrictive economic measures on India in May 1998, including suspension of new Yen loans. While there has been partial relaxation of these measures, the Japanese position is that they will "review" such measures after India signs the C.T.B.T.

(c) Government of India maintains that all such unilateral restrictive economic measures, are unjustified and counter-productive and should be lifted. Government of India's position on the C.T.B.T. continues to be guided by considerations of national security and national interest.

[English]

Licences for manufacture of Cigarettes

5013. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the name of companies which have been granted licences for manufacturing of cigarettes so far in the North-Eastern States such as Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the location of each of the manufacturing unit;

(c) whether any unit has changed its location or expanded the capacity after licence was granted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) During the last five years no Industrial Licence for the manufacture of cigarettes has been granted in the North-Eastern States.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

IDBI Investment in Infotech Sector

5014. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India propose to set up a new venture capital arm for investment in infotech sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the guidelines for disbursement of loan by new capital arm; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the Bank is in the process of setting up a dedicated Venture Capital Fund (VCF) for infotech Sector. The modalities for setting up of dedicated VCF and the guidelines for disbursements are being finalised. However, in the meantime IDBI continues to extend assistance to infotech sector projects under its existing VCF Scheme. The proposed dedicated VCF is expected to be operationalised in three months.

Refusal by Russia to purchase Tobacco from India

5015. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia used to import 30000-40000 MT tobacco every year uninterrupted from India in the past;

(b) if so, whether for the last five to seven years they have stopped importing of tobacco from India;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to take up this issue with Indo-Russian Joint Commission of Trade, Scientific and Cultural operations meeting which is to be held in Moscow at the end of August, 2000:

(e) if so, whether this item would be put on the agenda of the meeting;

(f) if so, the other efforts being made to persuade Russia to import tobacco from India as in the past; and

(g) the outcome of the talks held in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No. Sir. The export of tobacco to Russia has receded as the cigarette companies in Russia are increasingly being controlled by multinational companies who have their own established purchase channels.

(d) to (g) The issue of tobacco exports to Russia was taken up with the Russian Government in the 6th meeting of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission (IGC) held in New Delhi on 14-15th January, 2000. Inter Session Meeting of IGC is scheduled on 2nd September, 2000 in Moscow. The issue of tobacco exports to Russia would be taken up in this Meeting. This issue has been taken up by Government of India with the Russian Authorities in every bilateral meeting. An Indian delegation of tobacco exporters visited Russia in March, 2000 to explore opportunities of tobacco sales to the Russian cigarette factories and hold discussions with Russian Government authorities.

NGOs for Consumer Rights

5016. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Non-Governmental Organisations are functioning as watchdogs on the violation of consumer rights;

(b) if so, whether any funds have been provided to NGOs by the Government for this purpose;

(c) if so, the funds provided during 1999-2000;

(d) whether there in any proposal for expansion of this activity during 2000-2001; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Voluntary Consumer Organisations (VCOs) play an important role in spreading awareness about the rights of the consumers.

(b) Eligible VCOs are provided financial assistance from the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) for suitable projects to promote consumer awareness.

(c) A total grant of Rs. 30,64,560/- has been released during the year 1999-2000 from the CWF to various VCOs in the country.

(d) and (e) The objective of the Consumer Welfare Fund is to provide financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of consumers and strengthen the voluntary consumer movement in the country particularly in rural areas. As such various schemes/programmes from eligible VCOs are supported by providing grants from CWF, which is an ongoing process.

Tea Production in Himachal Pradesh

5017. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced a New Area Development Scheme to encourage tea production in non-traditional tea growing areas;

(b) if so, whether the Government are encouraging tea production in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the extent to which the idea of tea cultivation become acceptable in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) the other States where the Tea Board has chalked out plans to introduce tea cultivation;

(e) whether Andhra Pradesh has suitable climatic and weather conditions for tea cultivation; and

(f) if so, the details of plans of Tea Board to extend tea cultivation in new States ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Himachal Pradesh have shown interest in developing a total area of 7700 ha. for tea plantations in the Chamba, Kangra and Mandi Districts. Suitability of the area for tea cultivation has been testified by the Himachal Pradesh Agricultural University (HPKVV) and CSIR, Palampur.

(d) Tea Board has identified certain areas in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Nagaland, Orissa and Bihar as suitable for tea cultivation.

(e) Preliminary surveys carried out by the Tea Board in Andhra Pradesh indicate that soil and climatic conditions in the State are not suitable for tea cultivation.

(f) Through the New Area Development Scheme, new areas in non-traditional States other than North Eastern States are being brought under tea cultivation in the 9th Five Year Plan Period. The Scheme provides for extending financial support by way of a subsidy of Rs. 40,000/- per ha. for tea planting in new areas. During the year 1999-2000 the Tea Board under the said Scheme has disbursed a subsidy of Rs. 29.85 lakhs. It is proposed to bring 20,000 ha. of land in the non-traditional areas under tea cultivation during the 9th Plan Period.

[Translation]

Setting up of Libraries

5018. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :
SHRI PUSP JAIN :

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

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to set up libraries in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether any committee has been set up in this regard;

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

(d) the percentage of libraries set up in rural areas of the whole country;

(e) the target set by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the State-wise number of libraries proposed to be set up in the country, particularly in Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no scheme to set up libraries in rural areas under the Department of Culture.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Banned TB-6 Russian Channel

5019. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Banned, but sleazy Russian Channel" on at Kanishka" appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated July 2, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government have banned Russian TB-6 Channel in October, 1999; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against Hotel Kanishka, who is relaying the banned TB-6 Russian Television Channel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Question of taking action against Hotel Kanishka does not arise as ITDC has informed through the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation that the banned TV channel TB-6 is not relayed in any of their Hotels in Delhi, including Kanishka, as alleged in the News paper report.

Nucleus Industrial Complexes

5020. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any report on Task Force has been commissioned on Nucleus Industrial Complexes at Bolangir, Kalahandi, Dhenkanal and Mayurbhanj in Orissa;

(b) if so, the salient feature thereof;

(c) the rate and extent of its implementation; and

(d) the benefits accrued thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Proforma Accounts of PSUs

5021. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory for departmentally managed Government undertakings of commercial or quasi-commercial nature to maintain such subsidiary and proforma accounts as may be prescribed by the Government;

(b) if so, whether these Government undertakings are not maintaining the said proforma accounts for the last many years;

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

(d) the details of departmentally managed Government undertakings indicating their position of proforma accounts; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to get these proforma accounts prepared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Audit of Revamped PDS

5022. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some audits under the revamping of Public Distribution Systems have been conducted in some States and Union Territories during the last two financial years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with special reference of Maharashtra alongwith findings made during the audits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) The Principal Director of Audit under the officer of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) has undertaken a review of Public Distribution System (PDS) for the period 1992-1999. The report is yet to be finalised and the final report will be submitted to Parliament by the C&AG.

Foreign Investment in Cinema Industry

5023. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for foreign investment in Cinema industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total investment likely to be made during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes Sir. This Ministry has received proposals for foreign investment in the cinema industry from the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, from time to time, for comments, in its capacity as the administrative ministry in respect of the film industry in India.

(b) During the last year from January 1999 till date, this Ministry has considered seven foreign investment proposals in its capacity as administrative Ministry. Two proposals were approved out of these. One of these was the foreign investment proposal of M/s Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc. USA to enter the Indian market with a wholly owned subsidiary of the company, SPE Films India Pvt. Ltd. with 100% foreign equity amounting to US\$ 2.5 million. The company has already entered the Indian market for production and distribution of films in India. The proposal of M/s New Age Productions Pvt. Ltd. to collaborate with M/s. J.B. International Co. Ltd., Japan with a foreign investment of Rs. 1 crore was also approved for activities of production distribution and exports of films. This Ministry does not have any information regarding the exact date of entry of any foreign company into the market as such the investment likely to be made during the current financial year in this sector is not available with this Ministry.

Implementation of Fifth Pay Commission

5024. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the external services programme staff of All India Radio has submitted their demand for imple-

mentation of recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission before it is transferred to Prasar Bharati;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in implementing the recommendations; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The revised pay scales, as recommended by the 5th Central Pay Commission, have already been granted to the foreign language staff of External Services Division (ESD) of All India Radio. The 5th Pay Commission has also recommended for creation of a separate cadre for foreign language staff of ESD. Since the foreign language posts in External Services Division are now under Prasar Bharati, which is an autonomous organisation, and the proposed cadre structure, as recommended by the Pay Commission, has a direct bearing on the organisational structure of Prasar Bharati, they have been requested to consider the matter. Further action will be taken up as soon as recommendation of Prasar Bharati is received.

Production of Films/Documentaries

5025. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to produce special films, documentaries, short feature and video films intended for the common public, particularly the rural masses in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such films and documentaries produced during the last three years, language-wise and the amount spent thereon;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to introduce latest technological developments in Films Division in the country with the financial and technological assistance from foreign countries and international agencies;

(d) if so, the details of progress of such projects and plans to be introduced in the near future;

(e) whether the Government have any plan to start regional/sub-regional production centers in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, region and sub-region-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Besides production of documentaries/video films, news magazines and animation films on various public issues, Films Division also produces short fiction films to cater to the requirements of rural audience.

(b) The details are given in Statements I, II and III.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Films Division, at present, has two Regional Production Centres at Bangalore and Calcutta. Besides, a sub-unit of Films Division is located in New Delhi for production of documentary films on subjects sponsored by the Department of Family Welfare and other Government organizations. There is no proposal, at present, to set up more regional/sub-regional production centres in the country.

Statement-I

List of Short Fiction Films produced by Films Division during the year 1997-98

S No.	Title	Guage	Colour B&V	Language	Duration	Synopsis
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Pandit Mohasaya	16mm	Colour	Oriya	70mts.	The film is on spreading literacy in the villages.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Thumbi Thumbi	16 mm	Colour	Malayalam	90 mts.	The film deals with the miserable life of a small boy overburdened with the modern compulsions of bookish learning by insistent parents and his final escape to freedom.
3.	Nawab Buta	-do-	-do-	Hindi	127 mts.	The film highlights that an honest man has enough opportunities in this nation to make a name for himself and his country.
4.	Pudu Udayam	-do-	-do-	Tamil	98 mts.	The film deals with abolition of Binani land holdings and distribution of land to landless people.

List of Short Fiction Films Produced during the year 1998-99

1.	Pterana	16 mm	Colour	Telugu	133 mts.	The film deals with tribal development.
2.	Anjan Bharati	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	94 mts.	The film deals with the life of an orphan boy. He grows up as an human being as Indian.
3.	Phand	35 mm	Colour	Bengali	153 mts.	The film deals with water hyacinth which is a major problem in the eastern part of the country.
4.	Kanaka Jyoti	16 mm	Colour	Kannada	125 mts.	The story is based on Saint Kanakadasa who fought against the castiest society, social taboos and beliefs.
5.	Laxmi	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	79 mts.	The film deals with the girl education and the system of dowry and her natural concern for ecology.
6.	Siraj	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	102 mts.	Film on Rural Development.
7.	Nugilayogi	16 mm	Colour	Kannada	70 mts.	Film on village development
8.	Shingnaba	16 mm	Colour	Manipuri	90 mts.	The film revolves around the superstition of branding someone as a witch and the anguish that envelops the characters.
9.	Kungi Nemi	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	79 mts.	Film on dairy farming in Sikkim.
10.	Nanu Kondha Hudugi	16 mm	Colour	Kannada	58 mts.	Film on Devadasi.
11.	Vazhu Vazhavidu	16 mm	Colour	Tamil	78 mts.	Film revolves around a circus party coming to a village.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Gopalan Nair's Beard	16 mm	Colour	Malayalam	65 mts.	Film delineates the predicaments of a barber in times of sanity a brief period of insanity that overtakes him and the post insanity period.
13.	Ushodayam	16 mm	Colour	Telugu	58 mts.	The film on problems of old age and the central characters inability to come into terms with changing values and attitudes of younger generation.

List of Short Fiction Films Produced during the year 1999-2000

1.	Gubban Moopan's Dream	16 mm	Colour	Malayalam	75 mts	Film on Environmental Protection.
2.	Oru Yatra	35 mm	Colour	Malayalam	112 mts.	Film on juxtaposing rural life with that of city life of changing values and emotions.
3.	Kochu Kochu Mohangal	16 mm	Colour	Mayalalam	85 mts.	The film deals with a young boy's concern for his poverty stricken mother and his efforts to continue his education.
4.	Pyas	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	49 mts.	The film on powerful documentation of human affliction in a society which even in the modern age of Science & Technology is still in the grip of the vagaries of feudal subjugation.
5.	Disha	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	96 mts.	Film on the theme of education of a young boy from rural areas who was brought to a city home as a servant.
6.	Rashmi Rakha	16 mm	Colour	Oriya	103 mts.	The story tries to inspire the young women to pursue an Independent Career.
7.	KOODU	16 mm	Colour	Malayalam	71 mts.	Film on low cost housing.
8.	Jatamer Jami	16 mm.	Colour	Bengali	59 mts.	The film depicts bureaucratic formalities & red-tapism that leads to tremendous harassment particularly to rural masses of our country.
9.	Chakram	16 mm	Colour	Malayalam	106 mts.	The film deals with a young man's efforts to start a workshop of his own against all odds.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Manikkan	16 mm	Colour	Tamil	94 mts.	The film revolves around a poor family their acquiring a bullock and their love for the dumb animal which is infact the bread winner for the family.
11.	Masterniji	16 mm	Colour	Hindi	63 mts.	The film depicts critical movements in the life of a field worker a lady school teacher.
12.	Dukhram	16 mm	Colour	Bengali	89 mts.	The film is a telling saga of an unemployed young man's trials & tribulations to prove his caste for getting a job.
13.	Phire Pehlam	16 mm	Colour	Bengali	136 mts.	Film on communal harmony & national integration. Film depicts human relationship between an old muslim lady and a young Hindu person. The relationship between them is the mother and son.
14.	Desha Bhakthan	16 mm	Colour	Tamil	54 mts.	Film depicts difficulties faced by a freedom fighter Thvjagarajan in getting pension.

Statement-II

*List of Documentary Films (35 mm) for Theatrical Release Produced by
Films Division during the year 1997-98*

S No.	Title	Colour B&W	Language	Duration	Synopsis
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	In Seach of Excellence	Colour	Hindi	11 mts.	Film depicts traditional Indian Sports such as Mallakhamb and Suranamaskar.
2.	Of Povertry, Women & Alappuzha	-do-	English	11 mts.	Film on poverty alleviation scheme- Urban basic services for the poor.
3.	Baba Prithvi Singh Aazad	-do-	Hindi	20 mts.	Film on lesser known men who sacrifice their happiness for the happiness of others.
4.	Gandhiji through the eyes of Cartoonists	-do-	Marathi	9 mts.	Film on life sketch of Mahatma Gandhi seen through the eyes of the cartoonist.
5.	Naba Kalabar	-do-	Bengali	21 mts.	Film on Rathayatra of Lord Jagannath.

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Lambatta-House on a Hill	Colour	Hindi	22 mts.	The Film is on Lambata-the house on remote hill in UP. The film shows how transformation is come about in the last 50 years of freedom.
7.	M.N. Roy – Man of Action Part-I	-do-	English	22 mts.	Film on life & philosophy of Shri M.N. Roy.
8.	M.N. Roy – Man of Thought Part-II	-do-	English	19 mts.	Film on life & philosophy of Shri M.N. Roy.
9.	She Could Do You Proud	-do-	Music only	4 mts.	Film on prevention of female Infanticide.
10.	Don't Spare Mr. Shankar	-do-	English	9 mts.	Film focuses on the political life of 1st P.M. of India – Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru through the caricature drawn by famous cartoonist Shankar.
11.	Tribal Healers	-do-	Hindi	16 mts.	The film analysis the strength, weakness opportunities and threats to the time tested system of medicine practised by different tribes of Kerala.
12.	Minorities in India	-do-	English	22 mts.	Film depicts the ancient civilization of India through the assimilation process over the centuries as has emerged of culture, language, thoughts and faiths today in India.
13.	Nehru–Architect of Modern India	-do-	English	11 mts.	Film on dreams of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.
14.	Suryakant Tripathi Nirala	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	Film on Maha Kavi Nirala.
15.	Bachpan	-do-	Hindi	18 mts.	Film on Child Labour.
16.	Jyoti Prasad – A Man of Action	-do-	Hindi	11 mts.	Film on life and career of Shri Jyothi Prasad Agarwalla.
17.	Shri Narayan Guru	-do-	English	16 mts.	Film on life and works of Shri Narayan Guru.
18.	Remembering JRD	-do-	English	10 mts.	Film on historic flight made by Shri J.R.D. Tata.
19.	Onlketam Navin	-do-	Hindi	21mts.	Film on great poet Shri Balkrishna Sharma Navin.
20.	Wild Life in Rajasthan	-do-	English	15 mts.	Film on prevention of wild life of Rajasthan.
21.	Steps to Divinity	-do-	English	21 mts.	Film on veteran musician Rama Poduval.

1	2	3	4	5	6
<p align="center"><i>List of Documentary Films (35 mm) for Theatrical Release Produced during the year 1998-99</i></p>					
1.	Maha Mrityunjaya Bhagat Singh	Colour	Hindi	22 mts.	The film depicts the situations that moulded young Bhagat Singh to rise in revolt and sacrifice his life for his motherland.
2.	Gandhi - A Universal Man	B&W	English	12 mts.	Film on life sketch of Mahatma Gandhiji.
3.	Advanced Light Helicopter	Colour	English	18 mts.	Film on Advanced Light Helicopter.
4.	Padma Subrahmanyam	-do-	English	19 mts.	Biographical film on Bharatnatyām dancer Padma Subrahmanyam.
5.	Naked Truth	-do-	Hindi	3 mts.	The film depicts the evils of liquor and its effects on the young generation.
6.	Boond Boond Se Sagar	-do-	Hindi	10 mts.	The film shows the saving habits amongst children.
7.	Pride of India – Atal Behari Vajpayee	-do-	Hindi	3.5 mts.	A short film on P.M. Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee. It gives glimpses of his personality and major issues he dealt with.
8.	Smoke	-do-	Hindi	4.5 mts.	Film on evils of smoking.
9.	Education Only Her Future	-do-	Music only	6 mts.	Film on Girls Education.
10.	Bankim Chandra	-do-	English	19 mts.	A biographical film on Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyaya.
11.	The Last Trip	-do-	Music only	4.5 mts.	Film on evils of drugs.
12.	Breathless	-do-	English	3.5 mts.	A film on Environment.
13.	Murgan God of Hills	-do-	English	20 mts.	Film depicts cultural & Spiritual significance of six murgan temples.
14.	Poorvanchal Main Hindi	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	The film shows use of Hindi in Eastern India in official and in general practice with common people.
15.	Reflections	-do-	English	11 mts.	Films shows the history of 50 yrs. of Indian Documentary Movement.
16.	Nirmithi Kendra	-do-	Hindi	15 mts.	This film promotes the institutional development approach by Nirmithi Kendra, for improved low cost building technologies through skill upgradation of local artisans and urban and rural youth especially slum dwellers, at State, district and block levels.

1	2	3	4	5	6
17. Budha Mahotsav	Colour	English	11 mts.	The film explores the various places where Buddha lived, attained nirvana and taught his teachings to people in country.	
18. Coir	-do-	Hindi	10 mts.	Film depicts modern as well as traditional uses of Coir.	
19. Acharya Shiv Poojan Sahai	-do-	Hindi	20 mts.	Film on life & works of Acharya Shiv Poojan Sahai.	
20. Glory of Maharashtra—Freedom Struggle	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	Film on Contribution of Maharashtra in Freedom Movement.	
21. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research	-do-	English	18 mts.	Film on activities of TIFR.	
22. Gotmar Mela	-do-	Hindi	16 mts.	The Gotmar Mela is based on a tale of love & devotion that takes place every year on the banks of Jam river in Chindwara district of Madhya Pradesh.	
23. Diksha Bhoomi	-do-	Hindi	11 mts.	Diksha Bhoomi in Nagpur is a place where Dr. Ambedkar alongwith his followers accepted Buddhism	
24. Save the Tiger	-do-	English	10 mts.	Film takes overview of the endangered tiger population of India.	
25. The Sheikh of Nagaswaram	-do-	English	18 mts.	Film on life and career of Chinna Maulana.	
26. The Enduring Image	-do-	English	17 mts.	Film is on a unique exhibition from earliest time to present day on human imagery.	
27. The Shamin of Perpang	-do-	English	21 mts.	Film depicts the age old practice of mudwall paintings of Orissa.	
28. A Vicious Harvest	-do-	English	20 mts.	Film is on Jhum cultivation in North-East.	
29. Amidst Flowers	-do-	Hindi	8 mts.	The film stresses importance of eye donation.	

*List of Documentary Films (35 mm) for Theatrical Release
Produced during the year 1999-2000*

1. Save the Environs for future	Colour	Hindi	11 mts.	Film on environment.	
2. Lal Bal Pal	B&W	Hindi	10 mts.	Film shows the continuation of Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal to India's freedom struggle.	

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Even We Can	Colour	English	16 mts.	Film on "Proddu" (Sunrise) A society of women in on descriptive villages of Karnool district of A.P. which has been selected for U.N. Award for "Race Against Poverty".
4.	Paradise	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	Inspite of being entangled in a WEB of uncertainty the people of J&K are bravely trying to weave a peaceful life.
5.	An Express Highway	-do-	English	10 mts.	Film speak about the alarming increase in the volume of traffic along the existing two lane highways which has prompted the widening of the road essential.
6.	Indian Football Association	-do-	English	21 mts.	Film on Indian Football Association.
7.	Darkness of Terror	-do-	Hindi	18 mts.	Film on brutal caste massacres in Bihar.
8.	Pratibhavan Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma	-do-	Hindi	18 mts.	Film is on the life of Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, former President of India.
9.	A dedicated worker Shri Gulzarilal Nanda	B&W	Hindi	17 mts.	Film is on the life of a dedicated worker Shri Gulzarilal Nanda.
10.	Ae Vatan Tere Liye	Colour	Hindi	9 mts.	Film on Kargil Issue.
11.	Urban Land Ceiling Act—A Repeal	-do-	English	10 mts.	Film analyses the housing problems faced by the people in the Urban areas and cities and explains the benefits of repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling Act.
12.	Jawan Tuje Salam	-do-	Hindi	6 mts.	This is musical homage to our veer jawans who sacrifice their happiness so that we may live happily.
13.	Hamara Bharat	-do-	Hindi	4 mts.	The film informs people about the importance of their vote and to motivate them to cast their vote for development of the nation.
14.	People's Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam	-do-	English	10 mts.	A biographical documentary in connection with birth centenary of Rebel Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.
15.	Rajbhasha Sansadiya Samiti	-do-	Hindi	11 mts.	Film on Hindi.
16.	Hanuman Prasad Poddar	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	Film on life & works of Shri Hanuman Prasad Poddar.
17.	Bhartendu Harishchandra	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	Film on life & career of Bhartendu Harishchandra.

1	2	3	4	5	6
18. Communal Harmony Part-I	Colour	Hindi	2 mts.	The film presents that the present communal harmony in India lasts forever.	
19. Communal Harmony Part-II	-do-	Hindi	3 mts.	Allah in the Koran Specifically abhors any act of violence in the name of religion. The film recreates this.	
20. Singh Bandhu (SV)	-do-	Hindi	21 mts.	A biographical film on Singh Bandhu duo Classical Singers.	
21. The Price Affair	-do-	Hindi	2 mts.	Indians have shown resilience during Kargil war and refused to let black marketeers have their way and prevented price rise.	
22. The Flag	-do-	Effected Sound music only	3 mts.	Film on National Flag.	
23. Kabir	-do-	Hindi	20 mts.	Film on thoughts & Philosophy of Saint Kabir.	
24. And The Bamboo Blooms	-do-	English	20 mts.	Film on Bamboo blooming & its environmental issues.	
25. Johad (A Source of Water)	-do-	Hindi	10 mts.	Film on developmental activities in the villages of Rajasthan.	
26. Charkha	-do-	Hindi	5 mts.	Animation film on 50 years of India's Independence.	
27. Let me Live (Muje Jine Do)	-do-	Music only	5 mts.	Film Against Nuclear Power.	
28. Gandhi Nehru and Modern Art	-do-	English	22 mts.	Film on modern art.	
29. Guru Gorkha Raj Singhji	-do-	English	22 mts.	A biographical film on Shri Raghunath Murmu.	
30. G. Arvandan	-do-	English	21 mts.	The film is an exploration of the multifaceted personality of the film maker.	
31. A Journey to Bastar	-do-	English	20 mts.	Film on Baster region of M.P.	

Statement-III

[Translation]

Details of expenditure incurred by the Films Division on the production of documentaries and short fiction films during the last three years

Privatisation of PSUs

5026. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

	(Rupees in lakhs)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1. Short Fiction Films	144.53	171.47	179.00
2. Documentaries	261.80	289.07	368.66

(a) the names and number of public sector undertakings or departments in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Maharashtra in which disinvestment is proposed to be done;

(b) the reasons for disinvestment in the said undertakings;

(c) whether the Government have made any efforts to revive these undertakings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The disinvestment proposals has been cleared by the Government in respect of the following Public Sector Undertakings, whose headquarters are located in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Maharashtra :-

Name of PSU	Location of Headquarters
1. BALCO	New Delhi
2. Engineering Projects India Ltd.	New Delhi
3. Indian Airlines	New Delhi
4. India Tourism Development Corporation	New Delhi
5. Scooters India Ltd.	Lucknow (U.P.)
6. Bharat Leather Corporation Ltd.	Agra (U.P.)
7. National Fertilizers Ltd.	NOIDA (U.P.)
8. Air India	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
9. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Rasayani (Maharashtra)

(b) to (e) Disinvestment in these PSUs is being done as per the declared policy of the Government to bring down the Government held equity to 26% or less in all non-strategic PSUs, irrespective of the fact whether there are profit making or loss incurring PSUs. The revival and strengthening of the PSUs with Government support is a continuous process and whenever necessary and appropriate such support is provided to the company by the Government.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

5027. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given to the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts during each of the last three years;

(b) the purpose for which the grant has been given;

(c) the name and number of vacant posts in the Governing Body and Administration of the Centre; and

(d) the arrangements being made for early filling up these vacancies and for efficient running of the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No yearly grant is given to the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, as the Government of India has provided a Corpus Fund of Rs. 50 crores. The centre carries out its activities from the interest accrued on the Corpus fund.

(c) As reported by the IGNC A there is no vacancy in the Governing Body and Administration of the Centre.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Disinvestment of Badarpur Power Plant

5028. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to disinvest Badarpur Power Plant, Delhi;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to restructure the operations of other power plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Government has not taken any decision to disinvest Badarpur Thermal Power Station or to restructure the operations of other power plants of the PSUs under the Ministry of Power at this stage.

Export Promotion Industrial Parks

5029. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Export Promotion Industrial Parks set up in the country so far, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more Export Promotion Industrial Parks in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Details of 20 Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIPs) so far approved for establishment are given in the statement attached. Of the approved EPIPs, 8 parks in Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Assam and Andhra Pradesh have been completed. The scheme envisages setting up of 25 EPIPs.

Statement

S. No.	Name of State	Location
1.	Kerala	Kakkanad, Distt. Ernakulam
2.	Maharashtra	Ambarnath, Distt. Thane
3.	Karnataka	Hoodi, Distt. Bangalore
4.	Rajasthan	Sitapura, Distt. Jaipur
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Surajpur, Distt. Gautambudhnagar
6.	Tamil Nadu	Gummidipoondi, Chengalpattu, Distt. MGR
7.	Assam	Amingaon near Guwahati, Distt. Kamrup
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Pashamylaram, Distt. Medak
9.	Haryana	Kundli, Distt. Sonapat
10.	Punjab	Dhandari Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana
11.	Himachal Pradesh	Baddi, Distt. Solan
12.	Gujarat	Savli, Distt. Baroda
13.	Bihar	Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali
14.	Meghalaya	Bynihat, Distt. Ribhoi
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Pithampur, Distt. Dhar
16.	West Bengal	Durgapur, Distt. Burdwan
17.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar, Distt. Khurda
18.	J&K	Samba, Distt. Jammu
19.	Nagaland	Ganeshnagar
20.	Manipur	Khunuta Chingjin (Thoubal Distt)

Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra

5030. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total duration of Oriya News read in Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra every day;

(b) whether there is a need to have a separate news Channel in Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra to telecast Oriya News after every one hour; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) There is no Doordarshan Kendra at Cuttack. However, Doordarshan Kendra, Bhubaneswar telecasts a news bulletin in Oriya for 15 minutes at 7.00 p.m. from Monday to Saturday and at 6.45 p.m. on Sunday.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Edible Oil

5031. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the domestic production of edible oil is affected due to import of edible oil by unfair means;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases unearthed during each of the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The material is being collected from the Ministry of Finance.

Purchase of Tobacco by STC

5032. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of tobacco purchased by the State Trading Corporation (STC) in different parts of the country during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(b) the quantity out of this procured tobacco has since been off-loaded;

(c) the price at which the tobacco has been purchased by STC and the price at which it has been sold; and

(d) the present stock of tobacco with the STC and how STC proposes to sell this?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Flue Cured Virginia tobacco is sold at auction platforms in accordance with the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka only. Purchases made by State Trading Corporation in the last 3 years till date are:

Year	Quantity purchased (M. Kgs.)	
	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka Auction Action
2000-2001 (Till 21.8.2000)	5.724	Nil
1999-2000	4.764	Nil
1998-1999	Nil	Nil
1997-1998	Nil	Nil

(b) A quantity of 0.74 M. Kgs of bi-products from the 1999 crop has been sold so far.

(c) STC's average purchase price for the 1999 crop was Rs. 30.32 per kg and for the 2000 crop it works out to Rs. 37.61 per kg so far. Only 0.74 M. Kgs of bi-products was sold for Rs. 38 lakhs.

(d) The present stock of tobacco with STC is as follows:-

- 3.428 M. Kgs (processed) of 1999 crop.
- 5.724 M. Kgs (raw tobacco) of 2000 crop.

In consonance with the STC's commercial interests the stocks are for sale in the domestic market and the international market in the raw or processed forms.

[Translation]

Misuse of Facilities to Export Firms

5033. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of firms which have utilised export facilities during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether cases of misuse of various export facilities by some export firms have been noticed by the Government during the last three year period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/being taken by the Government against such firms and officials found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No record is maintained State-wise in respect of firms which utilised export facilities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Different modes of mis-use of export facilities include over invoicing, misdeclaration, submission of forged documents and suppression of facts.

(d) The cases of misuse of various export facilities are investigated and are dealt with under the provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 or the Imports & Exports (Control) Act, 1947 (for cases prior to 1992) and Rules and Orders made thereunder. The Customs Authorities also take action under the Customs Act, 1962 in such cases. Whenever any misconduct on the part of officials comes to notice necessary action is taken as per prescribed rules of conduct.

Sugar in FCI Godown

5034. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar stored in the godowns of Food Corporation of India for more than two years is unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity and cost thereof; and

(c) the effective steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the proper maintenance of the sugar stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, FCI has some quantity of wet/sweated/sweepings sugar lying in various Regions as on 1.8.2000.

(Figs. in MTs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Region	Qty. of wet, sweated and sweepings sugar		
		Indi.	Imp.	Total
1.	Delhi	5	2	7
2.	Bihar	6175	120	6295
3.	Orissa	47	—	47
4.	West Bengal	1594	—	1594
5.	Assam	820	—	820
6.	NEF	450.67	—	450.67
Grand Total		9091.67	122	9213.67

The said stocks of sugar need pre-processing before it is made fit for human consumption.

The said stocks of sugar are not to be issued under PDS. These are to be liquidated through tender sale. At this stage, therefore, it is not possible to estimate at what price it will be liquidated.

FCI liquidates stocks of sugar without storing it for longer period. But due to certain operational problems stocks of wet, sweated and sweepings sugar are generated due to long distance transportation and multiple handlings. Such stocks are liquidated through open tender sale.

Role of SIDBI in Bihar

5035. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the role played by the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to promote small scale industrial sector in Bihar.

(b) the number of industrial units of small scale industrial sector set up/revived by the SIDBI by providing loan during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the SIDBI propose to expand its activities in various States particularly in Bihar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a), (c), (d) and (e) As reported by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the bank is extending financial assistance to small-scale sector (SSI) in Bihar through direct and indirect financing schemes. The initiatives taken by SIDBI to promote SSI sector in Bihar, *inter-alia*, includes grant of financial assistance:

- * for setting up new projects through project finance scheme and venture capital scheme.
- * for modernisation and diversification of existing units through technology development and modernisation fund scheme.
- * for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick SSI units.
- * for marketing of SSI products and export promotion.
- * through micro-credit Scheme, foreign currency term loan scheme, scheme for export bill financing and opening of foreign letters of credit and working capital term loan scheme.

SIDBI is also involved in promoting tiny and small scale industries by means of promotional and developmental activities, organizing entrepreneurship development programmes, small industries management programmes, assistance under Mahila Vikas Nidhi to bring about economic empowerment of women especially the rural poor. The Bank is identifying new areas of credit deployment with a view to enhance flow of credit to SSI sector in Bihar.

(b) The number of SSI units assisted and assistance provided by SIDBI in Bihar during the last three years is given below. The information regarding rest of the States is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Year	No. of Units assisted	(Rs. Crore)	
		Amount sanctioned	Amount disbursed
1997-98	4639	105.89	97.69
1998-99	5658	95.86	78.72
1999-2000	7624	102.96	96.72

[English]

Shortage of Soyabean

5036 SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of soyabean in the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of shortage;

(c) whether the Government are importing soyabean to meet the demand;

(d) if so, the names of the countries from where it is imported; and

(e) the import price of soyabean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) There has been virtually no shortage of soyabean in the country. This will be evident from the following figures of production during the last three years:

Year	Production (in Lakh MTs)
1997-98	64.63
1998-99	69.42
1999-2000	68.40

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Fund provided for maintenance of monuments

5037 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the number of monuments which are under observation of Archaeological Survey of India, in U.P.;

(b) the funds provided for the maintenance of these monuments during the last three years;

(c) whether ponds of Chandel period in Mahoba District of the State are proposed to be brought under the observation of ASI during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There are 785 monuments and sites in U. P. under the protection of Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) The funds provided during last three years is as follows:-

(i)	1997-98	Rs. 2.83.57.890
(ii)	1998-99	Rs. 3.17.09.672
(iii)	1999-2000	Rs. 3.29.96.096

(c) There are five lakes of Chandel period in Mahoba district, namely (i) Kirat Sagar, (ii) Madan Sagar, (iii) Vijay Sagar, (iv) Brahma Tal and (v) Beratal which are already protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Appointment of CMD of Indian Bank

5038. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Bank Employees' Union, Chennai had brought to the attention of the Government to the problems caused to the Indian Bank by delays and disruptions in the appointment of CMDs;

(b) the reasons for the appointment of a Coordinator rather than a CMD in place of the previous incumbent; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation and fill up the vacant posts of CMDs of banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the posts of both whole time directors i.e. Chairman and Managing Director and Executive Director, of Indian Bank had fallen vacant, the Central Government had appointed one of the officials of the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) to coordinate the affairs of the bank until assumption of charge by a regular Chairman and Managing Director. The post of Chairman and Managing Director, Indian Bank has since been filled up by appointment of a regular incumbent with effect from 29th June, 2000.

(c) Action has been initiated to fill up the vacant posts of Chairmen and Managing Directors of nationalised banks.

Transfer of Super Bazar to Delhi Government

5039. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to handover the management of Super Bazar to the Government of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the better management of Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) In view of the present precarious financial position of Super Bazar, the Government is examining various options including its transfer to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Super Bazar has its own Board of Directors to decide about its activities relating to finance, administration and business on day to day basis. Super Bazar has been advised to improve its business activities and to curtail expenditure on entertainment, newspapers, transportation, overtime allowances, postponement of purchases of furniture, staff cars and also to take stringent action to curb the pilferage of stocks by its staff.

National Productivity Council

5040. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made to generate productivity consciousness and providing productivity services to various sectors by the National Productivity Council;

(b) the faculties where training programme is imparted at the Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Productivity at Chennai;

(c) the number of managers of the public sector and private sector from the State of Orissa were trained during the last three years; and

(d) the number of persons of private and public enterprises were trained in the field of Agriculture Productivity from the North-East and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) (a) The National Productivity Council promotes productivity consciousness and provides productivity related services to various sectors:

- by organizing productivity promotion activities such as an Annual Productivity Week.
- by rewarding achievements of industry through National Productivity Awards in manufacturing, service, agriculture and food processing sectors.
- through training programmes organized in India and abroad.
- through general and special awareness seminars and conferences directly and through local productivity councils.
- through extension of consultancy services to industry.
- through distance learning programmes for supervisory skill development.
- through publications and periodic journals.

(b) The faculties available at Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Productivity, Chennai are:

- Industrial Engineering.
- Environment Management.
- Plant Engineering.
- Human Resource Development.
- Total Quality Management & Benchmarking.
- Research.

(c) In Orissa, a total of 435 persons were trained in 1997-98, 856 in 1998-99 and 1357 in 1999-2000. Details of the trainees from the public and the private sector is as below:

1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
Public Sec.	Pvt. Sec.	Public Sec.	Pvt. Sec.	Public Sec.	Pvt. Sec.
289	146	602	254	1155	202

(d) The NPC generally does not organize training programmes through its Agriculture Productivity Division. This Division is mainly engaged in productivity service and consultancy services.

[Translation]

Maintenance of Lord Cornawalis Grave

5041. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India looks after the maintenance of the Lord Cornawalis grave (monument) located at Ghazipur district in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the annual expenditure incurred on its maintenance by the Government; and

(c) the number of employees working there for its maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The grave of Lord Cornawalis at Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh is a monument protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Structural repairs as required and environmental development are carried out as per archaeological norms. apart from normal day to day maintenance.

Expenditure incurred during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Expenditure
1997-98	Rs.13,530/-
1998-99	Rs. 81,300/-
1999-2000	Rs. 44,775/-

(c) Six attendants are provided to look after the monument and the garden.

[English]

ASI at Mysore

5042. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foundation stone has been laid for the new Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) building at Mysore;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed building;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided there; and

(e) the amount proposed to be released during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The detailed project proposal is yet to be finalised.

(d) The proposed building is expected to accommodate all the local offices of the Archaeological Survey of India at Mysore. Facilities as applicable to Central Government offices will be provided. A museum and a library will also be located in this building.

(e) Rupees fifty lakhs have been budgeted during the current financial year 2000-2001 for the said project. The expenditure likely to be incurred will be subject to completion of all relevant procedures.

Revival of Paper Mills

5043. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of paper mills closed down in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal for the revival of some of these paper mills particularly Mandya National Paper Mill in Karnataka; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) State-wise names of closed Paper Mills is not centrally maintained. However, as on 30th June, 2000, 61 Paper Mills were recommended by Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for winding up to the concerned High Courts under section 20(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The State-wise names of Paper Mills are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Under the existing policy on industrial sickness, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body, deals with the problem of sick industrial companies. Revival of sick industrial units is also undertaken by amalgamation/merger of sick units with healthy units and this is encouraged by granting income tax concessions, etc. to healthy units, which undertake such amalgamation. The Reserve Bank of India has also issued guidelines to banks and financial institutions for strengthening the monitoring systems and arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage. As regards Mandya National Paper Mills, the BIFR recorded its opinion that the Mill is not likely to become viable in future and hence it should be wound up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act. This opinion was forwarded by BIFR to the High Court of Karnataka. Government has taken a decision to close the mill pending winding up proceedings.

Statement

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Penwar Papers Limited
2. Adivasi Papers Limited

3. Nagarajuna Papers Limited

4. Sri Laxmi Saraswati Papers Limited

5. Coastal Chemicals Limited

6. Aradhna Papers (P) Limited

BIHAR

7. Aryabhatta Paper Mills Pvt. Limited

8. Bhwani Paper Mills Pvt. Limited

GUJARAT

9. Kankariya Chemical Industries Limited

10. Wood Polymer Limited

HARYANA

11. J.B. Paper Mills Limited

HIMACHAL PRADESH

12. Barotiwala Paper Mills Pvt. Limited

13. Sarao Paper Mills Limited

14. Lalji Paper Mills

15. Adams Paper Products Pvt. Limited

16. Village Papers

17. Kanwar Papers

18. Desraj Papers (P) Limited

19. Tishu And Fibers Limited

KERALA

20. Chancellor Paper Mills Limited

KARNATAKA

21. Kabini Paper Limited

22. Wrapaids Limited

23. Cauvery Papers Limited

24. Ramgopal Paper Mills

25. Madhu Paper Mills

26. Mandya National Paper Limited

27. Shree Vaishnavi Printers Pvt. Limited
MADHYA PRADESH

28. Aero Fil Papers Limited

29. South Delhi Erectors (IND)

30. Satpura Paper & Board Mills Limited

31. Bhopal Paper and Boards Limited

MAHARASHTRA

32. IPCO Paper Mills Limited

33. Jayakwadi Pulp & Paper Mills Limited

34. Nagpur Paper Mills

35. Paper & Pulp Conversions Limited

36. Porwal Pulp & Paper

37. Nira Pulp & Paper Mills

38. Raigadh Papers Limited

39. Nimit Paper & Allied Products Limited

NCT DELHI

40. Dev Papers Pvt. Limited

PUNJAB

41. Vinod Paper Mills Limited

RAJASTHAN

42. Satsuvan Paper Mills Limited

43. Saraf Paper Mills Limited

44. Aristo Pulp & Paper Mills Limited

45. Sree Padma Paper Mills Limited

46. ECS Papers

47. Premier Paper & Board Mills

TAMIL NADU

48. Nizam Paper and Board Mills Limited

49. Gangappa Paper

50. Agasthiyar Paper Boards Pvt. Limited

51. Kalaimagal Nataraja Paper Mills

UTTAR PRADESH

52. Shri Manjusha Paper Mills Limited

53. Upper India Couper Paper Limited

54. Vishnu Straw Boards Limited

55. Best Boards Limited

56. Gitanjali Paper Mills

57. Sushila Pulp & Papers Limited

WEST BENGAL

58. Papyrus Papers

59. Eastend Paper

60. Eastern Paper Mill Limited

61. North Bengal Straw Board Ind. Limited

VRS in ITDC

5044. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in addition to roll back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years, Government have also decided to introduce the Voluntary Retirement Scheme in ITDC; and

(b) if so, the number of ITDC employees which are likely to exit from the organisation during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The proposals for roll back of Retirement age and introduction of VRS in the company are under consideration of the Government.

Development of Leather Industry

5045. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any new schemes to develop the leather and hide industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Government have allocated funds for the development of leather and hide industry in the country and also allowed huge FDI in this industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and the FDI generated during the above period;

(e) whether India's share in world leather and hide export is far from its potential; and

(f) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard and the details of the leather and hide exported during the last five years in terms of quality, quantity and value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes sir. The Government has initiated and implemented the following schemes for the development of leather industry:

- (i) National Leather Development Programme (implemented by Ministry of Commerce & Industry)
- (ii) Leather Technology Mission (Implemented by CSIR)
- (iii) Tannery Modernisation Scheme (Implemented by Ministry of Commerce & Industry)
- (iv) Market Assistance Scheme (supported by Department of Commerce)
- (v) Pollution Prevention and Control (supported by Ministry of Environment and Forests).

(c) The Government has allocated funds and extended support for dovetailing the funding of UNDP and UNIDO in developmental programmes for the benefit of leather sector. Tannery Modernisation Fund has been created with a support of Rs. 9.5 crores to provide financial assistance for modernisation of Tanneries.

(d) The Indian Leather Industry has also attracted Foreign Direct Investment, the details of which are given in the attached statement-I.

(e) and (f) India's share in the world leather market is around 4%. To augment the export of leather products, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has taken various steps for modernisation, some of which are:

- (i) Commissioning of Tannery Modernisation Scheme.
- (ii) National Leather Development Programme.
- (iii) Establishment of business centres of eco-tanned substances in leather.
- (iv) Consultation meeting for development of strategic plan for marking of leather products abroad.
- (v) Regularisation/Restriction of raw hides and skins for exports.
- (vi) To allow finished leather for export subject to BIS norms.
- (vii) Rationalisation and reduction of import duty on intermediates, materials for components and machinery used for the leather industry.
- (viii) Remedial steps planned to counter the negative steps by People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) in the major markets like USA, UK and Germany.

Details of export of leather and leather products during the last five years are given in the attached statement-II

Statement-I

State-wise break up of Foreign Collaboration & Foreign Direct Investment Proposals Approved

For the Sector Leather, Leather Goods And Pickers

January, 1997 to December, 1997

State	No. of approvals			Amount of FDI Approved (Rs. crore)	% to total
	Total	Tech.	Fin		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	1	0	1	4.40	7.45
Haryana	1	1	0	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	1	0	1	2.29	3.89
Punjab	2	0	2	11.98	20.28
Tamil Nadu	2	1	1	0.38	0.63

1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttar Pradesh	3	0	3	2.72	4.61
West Bengal	3	1	2	1.15	1.94
State not indicated	7	2	5	36.14	61.20
Total	20	5	15	59.06	

For the Sector Leather, Leather Goods And Pickers

January, 1998 to December, 1998

State	No. of approvals			Amount of FDI Approved (Rs. crore)	% to total
	Total	Tech	Fin		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	1	0	1	0.08	0.16
Tamil Nadu	6	0	6	20.27	41.51
Uttar Pradesh	3	1	2	1.20	2.46
West Bengal	2	0	2	0.50	1.02
Delhi	1	0	1	0.36	0.74

1	2	3	4	5	6
State not indicated	6	2	4	26.42	54.19
Total	19	3	16	48.83	

January, 1999 to December, 1999

State	No. of approvals			Amount of FDI Approved (Rs. crore)	% to total
	Total	Tech	Fin		
Haryana	3	0	3	8.99	33.83
Maharashtra	2	1	1	1.00	3.76
Punjab	1	0	1	7.80	29.36
Tamil Nadu	2	1	1	2.00	7.53
Chandigarh	1	1	0	0.00	0.00
Delhi	3	0	3	5.43	20.43
State not indicated	2	0	2	1.35	5.08
Total	13	3	11	26.57	

Statement-II

Export of Leather and Leather Products during last five years

(Rs. in crores and US \$ in millions)

Item	1995-96	US\$	1996-97	US\$	1997-98	US\$	1998-99	US\$	1999-2000	US\$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Finished Leather	1241.99	371.33	1068.76	301.06	1099.44	295.83	1129.34	268.44	1034.75	238.79
Leather Footwear	1138.67	340.44	1197.95	337.45	1047.67	281.90	1366.52	324.82	1433.45	330.80
Footwear Comp.	812.73	242.99	790.72	222.74	893.72	240.47	1024.38	241.11	994.46	229.49
Leather Garments	1383.47	413.63	1506.49	424.37	1580.27	425.21	1067.22	253.67	1380.38	318.55
Leather Goods	1212.89	362.63	1044.53	294.24	1439.47	387.32	1729.76	411.16	1667.34	384.78
Saddlery & Harness	71.39	21.34	92.14	25.96	96.46	25.95	139.48	33.15	155.87	35.97
	5861.14	1752.35	5700.59	1605.82	6157.03	1656.68	6446.70	1532.35	6666.25	1538.39

Tax Holiday to LNG Units

5046. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the core group of secretaries has accepted proposal to grant infrastructure status to Liquefied Natural Gas projects and rationalisation of import duties.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a proposal to extend benefits of section 10(23G) of the Income Tax Act and the Tax Holiday Benefit to LNG projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and its impact on industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir

However, the Group of Officers constituted to examine various issues relating to the LNG Sector has recommended grant of infrastructure status to liquefied natural gas projects and uniform rates of import duty for power and other sectors.

(c) No. Sir.

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

[Translation]

Decline In Automobile Industry

5047. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in the market of automobile industry during the year 1999-2000 as compared to the year 1998-99;

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

(c) its impact on the heavy vehicles industry as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Cheaper Hotels for Tourists

5048. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the countries like Thailand and Malaysia are doing extremely well on the tourism front due to their low priced hotels;

(b) if so, whether the hotels are more expensive in India as compared to these countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to provide cheaper hotels to tourists in the country to boost tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) These countries are doing well in tourism for various reasons and it is not perceived to be only on account of the hotel rates.

Hotels in India are not more expensive compared to other neighbouring countries including Thailand and Malaysia. Although the published rates in some Indian Five Star Deluxe Hotels are perceived to be high but in actual practice the realised rate is much lower than the published rate because of the discount policy of the hotels.

Government of India is encouraging State/Union Territory Governments to promote Paying Guest Accommodation and provides financial assistance to promote cheaper accommodation in the form of Tourist Bungalows, Yatrikas, Yatri Niwas etc.

Repetition of Serial

5049. SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy to prescribe the period after which an episode can be repeated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) There is no such policy to prescribe the period for repeat telecast of sponsored serials over Doordarshan. Generally, a serial is not repeated within a year after its telecast in sponsored category.

However, the sponsored serials being telecast on DD-1 are repeated on DD-International within a week without any Free Commercial Time.

Loss by Automotive Research Association

5050. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Automotive Research Association of India, Pune has incurred a loss of Rs. 2.10 crore in a land deal with HUDA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the amount from HUDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), Pune was offered 10 acres of land by the Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA)—an authority under the Government of Haryana—for a total cost of Rs. 3.87 crores at the rate of Rs. 800 per square yard. The ARAI paid Rs.3.87 crores in 1995 for purchase of the said land allotted by the HUDA in Sector 33, Faridabad for setting up of ARAI Regional Centre North. However, the ARAI had to refuse possession of the plot because of encroachments. The HUDA failed to remove the encroachments due to stay given by the High Court of Haryana.

In December 1997, the HUDA offered an alternate plot of land of 10 acres at a total cost of Rs.7.99 crores at the rate of Rs. 1650 per square yard in Sector 58, Faridabad which was 25 kms away from the first plot. The ARAI did not accept this offer due to its higher cost and

inconvenient location. It filed a claim for refund of Rs.3.87 crores along with interest of Rs.2.10 crores at the rate of 15 per cent per annum. The HUDA refunded only the principal amount of Rs. 3.87 crores and has stated that, as per its policy, the interest cannot be paid since the ARAI had declined the offer of alternate allotment of land.

Maintenance of Red Fort

5051. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 7108 dated May 11, 2000 regarding assistance for maintenance of Red Fort and to state:

(a) the details of efforts being made to seek the assistance from the Corporate Sector for the maintenance of Red Fort;

(b) the reasons for not materialising of these efforts;

(c) the alternative steps taken / being taken by the Government in this direction;

(d) whether any financial assistance was provided by the Ministry of Tourism to Archaeological Survey of India for the maintenance of Red Fort so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Although there is general public awareness of the facility for monument – specific contribution under the National Culture Fund, no specific proposal has been received in this regard.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India is continuing to maintain and conserve the Red Fort from its own resources.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Fake Currency

5052. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the system evolved by the Government for identifying the fake currency notes by the common man;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any survey about the people who could identify fake currency notes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to create awareness among the common people to identify the difference between fake currency notes and original notes; and

(d) the positive steps taken by the Government to check the fake currency racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Certain security features incorporated in the genuine notes are not found in the forged notes. The Reserve Bank of India has publicised these security features through the print media and through Doordarshan to help the common man to verify the genuineness of the notes. A film on security features of Rs. 500 denomination notes produced in English, Hindi and other regional languages has been telecast on Doordarshan on a number of occasions. A booklet has also been brought out which, *inter-alia*, describes the features of genuine notes. This booklet has been placed on the Reserve Bank of India's Website www.rbi.org.in, besides being available on sale to the public at Reserve Bank of India's Issue Offices.

No survey has been conducted about the people who could identify the fake currency notes.

(d) The positive steps taken by the Government to check the fake currency racket are.

(i) The Central Bureau of Investigation has created a special unit for investigating counterfeit currency note cases.

(ii) The BSF has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant in checking the smuggling of notes across the border. Instructions have also been issued to all State Governments particularly, border States to be more vigilant.

(iii) A high Level Committee has been constituted to go into the entire gamut of issues pertaining to the security dimension of Indian currency.

(iv) A Fact Finding Committee comprising experts on note-printing/currency paper, etc., has been set-up for examining the seized fake notes to enable the Government to take remedial action *vis-a-vis* printing and security features.

[English]

Conservation of Jail Inside Salimgarh Fort, Calcutta

5053. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rare Papers on Independence" appearing in the *Indian Express* dated July 24, 2000;

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

(c) whether the tiny jail inside the Salimgarh Fort where INA heroes of the freedom struggle were incarcerated is in great danger as no attention is being given for its maintenance and renovation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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

Air Travel

5054. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether officer in receipt of basic pay between Rs. 12,300/- and Rs. 16,400/- can travel by air at their discretion if the distance involved is more than 500 kilometers and the journey cannot be performed overnight by train;

(b) if so, whether any prior permission is required to undertake air journey by the above class officials;

(c) if so, who is the competent authority to grant such permission;

(d) whether the Government propose to amend the relevant rules since it is causing hardship to Government officials; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. No prior permission of any authority is required for such travel.

(d) and (e) No Sir. The Secretaries of the Ministries/ Departments are already empowered to allow any Government Employee to travel by air on official journeys if the occasion so demands.

Foreign Banks

5055. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of foreign banks intend to close their operation in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith their names;

(c) the reasons for which the foreign banks were allowed to operate in India; and

(d) the implications of such banks' closure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) While two Korean banks have closed down their Indian operations, two other banks have merged their Indian operations and some existing foreign banks have closed or merged their branches as a part of their restructuring plans. There is no information with Reserve Bank of India on the intention, if any, of any more foreign banks to close their operations in India.

(c) and (d) The Banking Regulation Act, 1949 empowers Reserve Bank of India to permit entry of foreign banks. These banks are allowed to operate in

India because of the benefit derived in financing the export/import trade and to improve the economic and trade relations between the concerned countries. The decision to close Indian operations rests with the foreign banks. It is, however, ensured by the Reserve Bank of India that all liabilities in India are fully met before the foreign banks close down their operations in India.

[Translation]

Central Excise Duty Board

5056. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for the promotion to the post of Assistant/Inspectors in the subordinate Non-Secretariat Offices of the Central Excise Duty Board;

(b) the percentage of quota is given to the stenographers for the promotion of Assistants/ Inspectors;

(c) the justification for giving quota to the stenographers whereas it is a cadre and have a special pay scale in the ratio of 40:40:20;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to remove this anomaly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) In the Central Excise Commissionerates the promotion to the post of Inspector of Central Excise is from UDCs/Tax Assistants and stenographers. The promotion to the post of Assistant in the Directorates under the Central Board of Excise & Customs is from the UDC cadre except in the Directorate General of Inspection Customs and Central Excise wherein quota of 25% has been earmarked for the stenographers.

The stenographers have been considered for promotion to the post of Assistants/Inspectors since long; and there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for modifying the same.

[English]

Foreign Exchange Earned from Film Industry

5057. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is great scope of increasing foreign exchange earnings from film industry;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to explore that area; and

(c) the details of foreign exchange earned from the film industry during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view of tapping the film industry's full potential as a foreign exchange earner, this Ministry made the specific recommendation to the Ministry of Finance to add a new section under the Income Tax Act, 1961 – Section 80-HHF extending benefits to exporters of entertainment software. As a result in the Finance Act 1999 Section 80 HHF was added. The benefit of this section was extended to individuals/proprietors engaged in the export of entertainment software as well in the Finance Act, 2000.

(c) The Government does not maintain any details regarding export of films. However, details of the Indian films exported during the last three years and the income generated from this as ascertained from Indian Film Exporters Association, is given below :

Year	No. of titles Exported	Export earnings (Approx.)
1997-98	190	Rs. 200 crores
1998-99	180	Rs. 250 crores
1999-2000	240	Rs. 400 crores

Branches of IFCI

5058. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India is considering to open its branches in some of the State Capitals and in other big cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation is also going to upgrade the Pune and Guwahati Branch offices into Zonal Offices to boost up industrialisation in Maharashtra and North-Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited (IFCI) has reported that at present there is no proposal to open any office in the State Capitals or any other big cities of the country.

(c) and (d) IFCI has reported that there is no proposal to upgrade its offices at Pune or Guwahati as regional offices.

[Translation]

Externally Aided Water Supply Projects of Haryana

5059. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the water supply schemes sent by the Haryana Government for seeking foreign assistance;

(b) whether the foreign assistance has been released for these schemes;

(c) if so, the details of assistance provided so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No water supply scheme proposal from Haryana Government has been received in Ministry of Finance for posing to any donor for seeking foreign assistance. However, Government of Haryana had forwarded a proposal on 1.2.2000 to the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation for external assistance, namely "Haryana Water Supply, Sewerage and Solid Waste Management Project" with an estimated cost of Rs. 427.35 crore. The proposal has been examined from the technical angle in the Ministry and the comments have been communicated to the State Government for information and compliance.

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

[English]

**Special Courts to Protect
the Investors**

5060. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SEBI has urged the Government to set up a redressal mechanism in the form of special courts to protect the investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SEBI is not able to compensate investors directly as it has no powers on this front; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) SEBI has sent a proposal to the Government for Investor Protection. It includes, *inter-alia*, safeguards against asset stripping, siphoning of funds and provisions to award compensation. It is Government's endeavour to simplify and streamline procedures for redressing grievances of investors. In this context Government constantly reviews relevant Acts, rules and regulations.

Sambher Salt Ltd.

5061. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Sambher Salt Limited located in Jaipur district of Rajasthan has been running into losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to handover the Sambher lake back to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be handed over; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An important reason for the losses has been the difficulty in sustaining production levels due to inadequate flow of

water into the Sambher Lake, the main source of brine for the production of salt. A downturn in the chlor-alkali industry, a major consumer of salt from Sambher have been other contributory factors. Rising costs of production due to increases in salary and wages and increased input costs have further added to the losses.

(c) to (e) Government of Rajasthan had requested for retransfer of the leased out area of Sambher Salt Limited. This request has, however, not been agreed to as it is not in the overall interest of the company.

[Translation]

Exhibition Sites Outside Delhi

5062. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the I.T.P.O. has made any plans to establish permanent exhibition sites in other places of the country outside Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of cities and centres identified so far, State-wise;

(c) the extent to which the I.T.P.O. has made any efforts to encourage high quality trade exhibitions outside Delhi;

(d) whether the feasibility of such expositions has been examined;

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to encourage, run, manage and franchise exhibitions outside Delhi by I.T.P.O.;

(f) whether any State Government have suggested their Capitals for such exhibitions; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (g) In order to strengthen the export promotion infrastructure in selected regional centres of the Country, ITPO is in the process of establishing Regional Trade Promotion Centres (RTPCs) on the lines of Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. During the 9th Plan three centres at Bangalore (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Calcutta (West Bengal) are proposed to be set up. Proposals for establishment of similar centres have been received from various States such as Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Chandigarh (UT).

ITPO has been organising the India International Leather Fair (IILF) in Chennai and India International Leather Goods Fair (IILGF) in Calcutta. Both these annual events have been well received by the leather industry. The next edition of IILF is proposed to be held in Chennai during Jan 31 to Feb 4, 2001. The next IILGF will be held in Calcutta in March 2001. In addition, during the last financial year, ITPO organised the India Trade Show in Gangtok, Sikkim during March, 2000 in association with the State Government of Sikkim.

India Trade Promotion Organisation has been encouraging high quality trade exhibitions outside Delhi by private exhibition organisers also. During the last financial year, ITPO approved as many as 111 exhibitions to be held outside Delhi by various exhibition organisers. These are mostly specialised events on focused products.

Inadequate Staff at VLPT/LPT

5063. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION-AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate staff have not been deployed for the proper functioning of very low power transmitter and low power transmitter centres in the far off places in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide adequate staff for the proper functioning of these transmitter centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) VLPTs are unmanned installations. Adequate staff has been deployed at LPTs.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

ADB Loan

5064. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA :
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have negotiated Rs. 870 crore line of credit with the Asian Development Bank (ADB);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions in this regard; and

(d) the manner in which this amount is likely to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) A loan assistance of US \$ 180 million for the Surat Manor Tollway Project was negotiated in January 1999 and the Board of Directors of Asian Development Bank have approved the loan on 27th July, 2000.

(b) The loan is to be disbursed by ADB to National Highways Authority of India upto 30.9.2004 against claims submitted by them after the loan agreement is signed and declared effective.

(c) The loan is repayable in 25 years, including a grace period of 5 years. The interest will be determined according to ADB's pool-based variable lending rate system for US dollar loans.

(d) The loan will be used to finance the civil works contracts and the consulting services for construction supervision.

New Pension Policy

5065. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised the New Pension Policy as well as the draft for replacement of Public Provident Fund;

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

(c) whether any tentative date has been fixed for implementation of these schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

FDI in Information Technology

5066. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Foreign Direct Investment made in the Information Technology sector in the country during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and the target fixed for 2000-2001, State-wise;

(b) the investment made in each State in creating infrastructure for Information Technology sector; and

(c) the Information Technology parks set up in each State so far and the proposals for creating more Information Technology parks in each State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Actual Inflows of FDI received in Electrical Equipment Sector, which include inflows received in Information Technology Sector during the year 1997-98, 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (Upto June) is as under :-

Year	Amount of Inflow of FDI (Rs. in million)
1997-98	12718.46
1998-99	9086.76
1999-2000	5315.24
2000-2001 (April-June)	3626.88

(b) State-wise inflows is centrally not maintained.

(c) Information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

(i) List of Software Technology Parks (STPs) already established and are operational

S.No.	State	Location
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.	Assam	Guwahati
3.	Goa	Verna
4.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
5.	Karnataka	Bangalore, Manipal & Mysore
6.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
7.	Maharashtra	Pune & Navi Mumbai

1	2	3
8.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar
9.	Punjab	Mohali
10.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
11.	Tamilnadu	Chennai & Coimbatore
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
13.	West Bengal	Calcutta (with State Govt. funding)

(ii) List of STPs approved and are being established

1. Gangtok (as a hub centre to STP Guwahati) in Sikkim
2. Srinagar in J&K
3. Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh
4. Indore in Madhya Pradesh

(iii) Other locations being considered for establishing STPs

1. Andhra Pradesh Warangal, Vijayawada, Tirupati
2. North Eastern States Agartala
3. Delhi Delhi
4. Haryana Gurgaon
5. Himachal Pradesh Shimla
6. Karnataka Mangalore
7. Maharashtra Nasik, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Kohlapur, Mumbai
8. Madhya Pradesh Gwalior, Bhopal
9. Orissa Rourkela
10. Pondicherry Pondicherry
11. Tamilnadu Trichi, Madurai
12. Uttar Pradesh Lucknow, Dehradun

VDIS

5067. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have declared their assets under the Voluntary Disclosure of Income

Scheme (VDIS) in the country, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the total revenue received by the Government under the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the State-wise share given from this revenue earnings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The details of number of persons who have declared their assets under the VDIS and the total revenue received by the Government under the VDIS, indicated Chief Commissioner of Income-tax charge-wise, are mentioned in the attached statement-I.

(c) The information regarding State-wise distribution of revenue earnings from VDIS are given in the attached statement-II.

Statement-I

Number of Declarants/Revenue collected under the VDIS Scheme, 1997

S. No.	CCIT Charge	No. of declarants under VDIS	Collection of taxes and interest under VDIS (in crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Chennai	37,630	784.34
2.	Chandigarh	34,138	610.54
3.	Ahmedabad	46,364	968.04
4.	Bangalore	25,836	605.41
5.	Pune	45,476	861.88
6.	Delhi	38,570	1228.44
7.	Hyderabad	20,715	384.60
8.	Kanpur	17,059	347.94
9.	Cochin	6,249	139.34
10.	Jaipur	21,372	272.98
11.	Bhopal	21,332	309.93
12.	Calcutta	52,788	714.52
13.	Lucknow	14,999	212.14

1	2	3	4
14.	Patna	21,616	273.49
15.	Mumbai	70,989	2031.93
Total		4,75,133	9745.52

Statement-II

State-wise Distribution of Shares in VDIS during 1997-98

S. No.	States	Shares (Rs. in crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	642.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.91
3.	Assam	211.42
4.	Bihar	976.66
5.	Goa	13.67
6.	Gujarat	307.25
7.	Haryana	94.01
8.	Himachal Pradesh	53.46
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	83.31
10.	Karnataka	405.44
11.	Kerala	294.27
12.	Madhya Pradesh	629.54
13.	Maharashtra	465.21
14.	Manipur	21.41
15.	Meghalaya	21.49
16.	Mizoram	11.32
17.	Nagaland	13.75
18.	Orissa	341.35
19.	Punjab	110.95
20.	Rajasthan	421.34
21.	Sikkim	9.57
22.	Tamil Nadu	504.01
23.	Tripura	28.71
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1352.57
25.	West Bengal	567.35
Total		7594.00

**Market Value of Shares of PSUs
for Disinvestment**

5068. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state .

(a) whether a number of Public Sector Undertakings were earmarked for disinvestment over two years ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such PSUs which are targeted for disinvestment in 2000-2001;

(c) whether most of these PSUs are fast losing their market shares;

(d) if so, the value of market shares two years ago and the present value of market shares of these PSUs;

(e) the reasons for not Disinvesting their shares;

(f) the total loss suffered due to delay;

(g) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that scripts of the PSUs which are due for disinvestment in future are being manipulated in the capital market and stock exchange; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to monitor the scripts of PSUs to prevent such manipulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (h) Information is being collected.

**Bombay Suburban Electricity
Supply Company**

5069. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay Suburban Electricity Supply Company is on the verge of a takeover;

(b) if so, whether the financial institutions having a large holding in BSES are trying to sell-off their Stakes;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to direct the financial institutions to assess market rates before selling their shares; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The take-over of companies is governed by the revised Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) take-over code, which has come into effect in 1997, and which ensures that take-overs are conducted in a fair and transparent manner. The issue regarding off-loading of shares by Indian financial institutions is to be decided by the institutions themselves as per SEBI guidelines.

In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst public financial institutions and in conformity with the provisions of statutes governing public financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, details relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

Export of Rice

5070. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rice exports during 1999-2000 have shown a significant decline in terms of volume as compared to 1998-99;

(b) if so, whether the Indian rice has lost its competitive edge in the international market;

(c) if so, the major causes for Indian rice losing traditional export markets;

(d) whether any efforts have been made to rectify the problem; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The total quantity and value of basmati and non-basmati rice exported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as under :-

Quantity : lakh metric tonnes
Value : in Rs. crores

Year	Basmati Rice		Non-basmati Rice	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1998-99	5.98	1876.91	43.66	4403.85
1999-2000 (Provisional)	6.06	1735.94	12.17	1369.43

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

The exports of rice depend upon International demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, consumer preferences and varieties traded. Low international demand and better crop production in rice consuming countries has led to the shrinking of Indian rice exports during 1999-2000.

(d) and (e) Some of the steps taken to enhance exports of rice include conducting publicity campaigns, sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products and for conducting market surveys.

[Translation]

Amount Sanctioned to States

5071. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount sanctioned to States, particularly to Uttar Pradesh during 2000-2001;

(b) whether there is gap between the amount sanctioned and given;

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

(d) the preventive steps being taken to avert the financial crisis during the years to come ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Plan outlays of the States are decided through mutual discussion between the Planning Commission and the State Governments keeping in view the availability of resources. The Annual Plan of only some States, including Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2000-2001 have been finalized.

The Plan outlay approved for Uttar Pradesh for the year 2000-2001 is Rs. 9025 crores.

(b) and (c) The allocations as approved by the Planning Commission are released after adjusting for any short fall in expenditure incurred during the previous years against financial releases actually made.

(d) The State Governments are autonomous under the Constitution and take appropriate measures from time to time to improve their financial status. Some States have evolved and undertaken their own medium term fiscal programmes. These State-specific programmes aim at reducing revenue and fiscal deficit through increased revenue mobilisation, reduction in non-plan revenue expenditure, correction in pricing subsidy and disinvestment.

[English]

Manuscript of National Importance

5072. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched a National Mission for manuscript for identifying accessing, conserving and compiling a comprehensive directory of institutions and individuals holding the manuscripts of national importance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these manuscripts which were repository of ancient wisdom were not adequately preserved and thus decaying;

(d) if so, the details of efforts are being made to preserve them properly;

(e) whether an estimated two or three lakh manuscripts have been taken out of the country; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made to recover them ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Preparatory work is on to launch a National Mission for Manuscripts. Manuscripts are in the possession of innumerable institutions, both private and public and their state of conservation varies. A Scheme of financial assistance for preservation of Manuscripts is being operated by National Archives of India since 1980-81 under which grant-in-aid is given to voluntary Organisations for preservation, publication, cataloguing etc. of Manuscripts. So far, 739

organisations were assisted under the Scheme for preservation/cataloguing/publication etc. of Manuscripts.

(e) and (f) No such information is available with the Government.

Clarity of Telecasting in Far Flung Areas

5073. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the T.V. telecasting is not clear in far flung areas of Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to rectify this situation; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Haryana and Punjab are fully covered by terrestrial transmission of Doordarshan. However, only 70.1% of area and an estimated 76% of population in Rajasthan are covered by the existing terrestrial TV network in the State. There are certain fringe areas in the coverage zone where elevated antennae/boosters are required for proper reception.

(c) and (d) For further improvement of Doordarshan services in the above States, 14 transmitter projects in Rajasthan, 3 in Punjab and one in Haryana are under implementation. All these projects are expected to be completed during the 9th Plan itself.

Visit of Foreign Tourists

5074. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently lifted the restrictions on the foreign tourists to visit freely in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, whether requests from other States have also been received for lifting the restrictions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Foreign tourists no longer require permits to visit Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura. Few places/routes have been opened up for group of foreign tourists including married couples to visit Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram.

(b) to (d) Restrictions on entry of foreign tourists to other restricted areas of Sikkim and Andaman Nicobar Islands have also been lifted for certain routes/places.

Market Development Fund for Exporters

5075. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have instituted a Market Development Assistance Fund for exporters to find new markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the conditions laid down for entrepreneurs and companies to avail of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme seeks to promote India's exports by providing assistance for a range of market development activities. These include assistance to exporters for sales-cum-study tours abroad, participation in fairs/exhibitions and buyer-seller meets abroad, market studies, contesting CVD/anti-dumping cases abroad, export publicity etc.

(c) Exporters can avail MDA assistance through the respective Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards. Recognised export and trading houses can avail the assistance through the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). General conditions have been laid down for availing MDA assistance. The major conditions are as follows:

(i) Applications for assistance have to be furnished giving at least 14 days clear advance notice.

(ii) Assistance is provided for undertaking a maximum of three combined activities in a financial year and one additional activity in the Latin American Countries.

- (iii) Assistance for air travel in economy class is provided to one employee of the exporting company.
- (iv) For participation in fairs/exhibitions etc., hiring of built up stalls is also assisted under the scheme.
- (v) Production of publicity material like brochures, product catalogues etc. is also partly financed by the MDA scheme for use abroad during study tours, participation in fairs etc.
- (vi) For sales and study tours and trade delegations, the exporters are normally required to visit at least three countries with a minimum 6 days stay. However, single country visits are also permitted with a minimum 4 days stay under some circumstances.
- (vii) The company should not have come to adverse notice of the Government due to any violation of the Export and Import Policy or any other law related to exports and imports.
- (viii) The exporting companies are required to submit detailed claims supported by documentary proof within three months of their return to India after completion of the activity.

Merger of HUDCO with NHB

5076. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the action plan prepared by the National Housing Bank to expand its activities during 2000-2001;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to merge the HUDCO with National Housing Bank; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The National Housing Bank (NHB) has reported that it continues with its initiatives in various segments of housing finance system for sound and orderly growth. These initiatives *inter-alia* include resource mobilisation & deployment, institution building and regulation. The National Housing Bank (Amendment) Act has recently been amended to pave the way for the bank to introduce mortgage securitisation, creation of a market for secondary mortgage, safeguarding the depositors' interest and introduction of a procedure for

speedy recovery. NHB has also been permitted to mobilize short-term borrowings by way of Term Deposit & Certificate of deposit.

NHB has budgeted Rs. 1000 crore as refinance for loans to individual beneficiaries and Rs. 100 crore as direct loans for projects for the year 2000-2001. NHB has devised a special scheme known as 'Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme' under which refinance is made available for housing loans in rural areas at concessional rates of interest and a target of financing 1,50,000 dwelling units during 2000-2001 has been fixed.

(b) and (c) Government has no proposal at present to merge Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) with the NHB.

[Translation]

Shares of PSUs to Employees

5077. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to give the shares of the Public Sector Undertakings to its employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government companies are expected to earn profit as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For the employees of the Public Sector Enterprises subjected to disinvestment, Government is formulating an Employee Stock Option Plan.

(c) and (d) It is not possible to predict the direct impact of offer of shares to the employees of the company under a Stock Option Plan on the financial performance of the company. It is, however, one of the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interest of the employees and give them a stake in the PSUs in which disinvestment is undertaken.

[English]

Offshore Project of Burn Standard

5078. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revive offshore project of Burn Standard Company Ltd. at Nandigram of Midnapur district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The BIFR sanctioned revival scheme of BSCL does not provide for revival of the company's Jellingham Fabrication Yard of Offshore Project at Nandigram. However, as a gesture of goodwill the Government of India have extended VRS benefits to the employees of the unit instead of retrenchment compensation.

[Translation]

F.M. Station at Azamgarh and Mau, Uttar Pradesh

5079. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up F. M. radio station at Azamgarh and Mau in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Azamgarh and Mau in Uttar Pradesh are fully covered by Radio Signals by medium wave service of All India Radio. The expansion of FM Radio Service is being carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources and inter-se priorities.

[English]

Special Drive for Protection of Taj Tourists

5080. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :
SHRI R.L. BHATIA :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news-item regarding foreign tourists being cheated by touts in Agra as appeared in 'Indian Express' dated the May 28, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matters reported therein;

(c) whether any special drive has been launched by the Union Government for protection of Taj tourists;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Menace of cheating of foreign tourists at the tourist spots including Taj Mahal is a law and order problem subject of the State/UT Administrations. However, the Union Department of Tourism, in order to inculcate confidence in visiting tourists, regularly takes up reported cases, with State Government concerned, on top priority basis.

(c) to (e) With a view to promote India as a "hassle free" destination for foreign tourists, Department of Tourism has written to all the State/UT Administrations including U.P. to set up a Tourist Police Force for the safety of tourists. States of Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh have already set up such Tourist Police.

National Centre of Film for Children and Young People

5081. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the subordinate offices, autonomous organizations and Public Sector Undertakings attached with his Ministry;

(b) whether National Centre of Film for Children and Young People has achieved its objects;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of feature films, serials produced by the Centre during 1999-2000; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to make the Centre more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The number and names of the subordinate offices, autonomous organizations and Public Sector Undertakings attached with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) The objective of National Centre of Film for Children and Young People, now called the Children's Film Society of India (CFSI) is to undertake and organize production, distribution and exhibition of feature/short films for children and thereby provide them healthy and wholesome entertainment. In view of the same, CFSI's activities span the entire gamut of film making and allied fields – from production and acquisition of films to screening, workshops and festivals. Production of full-length feature films, featurettes, TV serials, short documentaries as also animation and puppet films for children and young people has been the main thrust of its activities. The Society also dubs its own films and foreign films acquired by it in all major Indian languages for the purposes of exhibition throughout the country. Exhibition of films is done through (i) screening in theatres in various cities and towns at nominal rates for which CFSI has also introduced the concept of "Balchitravaar" – one show once a week for children; (ii) shows throughout the country in collaboration with the State/district authorities; (iii) telecast of films through Doordarshan and private channels; (iv) organising international film festivals of children; and (v) a video project offering a treasure chest of video films to schools, NGOs, community centers, clubs etc. for the entertainment of children.

For maximizing the exhibition of children films throughout the country, it has been decided to provide fixed time slots on regional language satellite channels of Doordarshan for films produced by CFSI. Apart from this, more theatres are being hired, to ensure regular weekly screening of CFSI films.

During 1999-2000, CFSI produced six feature/short films and eight other films are under various stages of production.

Statement

(i) List of Subordinate Offices

Total number of subordinate offices : 9 (nine)

1. Central Board of Film Certification
2. Directorate of Film Festivals
3. Directorate of Field Publicity
4. Films Division
5. National Film Archive of India
6. Photo Division
7. Song & Drama Division
8. Research, Reference & Training Division
9. Film Certification Appellate Tribunal

(ii) List of Autonomous Organisations

Total number of Autonomous Organisations : 6 (Six)

1. Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India)
2. Press Council of India
3. Children's Film Society, India
4. Film and Television Institute of India
5. Indian Institute of Mass Communication
6. Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Calcutta

(iii) List of Public Sector Undertakings

Total Number of Public Sector Undertakings : 2 (two)

1. National Film Development Corporation
2. Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd.

Private Commercial Banks

5082. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences so far issued by the Reserve Bank of India for setting up private commercial banks and the names of parties to whom these licences have been issued;

(b) whether some more applications are under consideration of the Reserve Bank of India for issue of licence for setting up private commercial banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which the profits of nationalised banks have been adversely affected due to operation of private commercial banks;

(e) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to improve facilities to customers and extend working hours in nationalised banks at least at par with those in private commercial banks; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Consequent on issue of guidelines on entry of new private sector banks by the Reserve Bank of India in January 1993, licences have been issued to ten banks (including conversion of a multi-state co-operative bank into a private sector banking company). The details are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that eleven applications are pending for setting up of new banks in the private sector. These applications were made on the basis of the 1993 guidelines. Consideration of the pending applications for setting up new private sector banks await the finalisation of revised guidelines.

(d) As on 31.3.2000, all the 27 public sector banks have reported operating profits out of which, 26 banks have reported net profit. Of the 32 banks including the new banks in the private sector all except one reported profits as on 31.3.2000. No co-relation can be made of the profits of nationalised banks with the operation of private commercial banks.

(e) and (f) Measures for improving customer service in public sector banks are taken on a continuous basis. Such measures include computerisation, seven days banking, banking on Sundays in lieu of market holidays which fall on different days etc. Further some nationalised banks have also extended their business hours to provide banking facility for rendering better customer service. Reserve Bank of India has reported that some public sector banks have started undertaking non-cash transactions during the extended business hours.

Statement

List of New Private Sector Banks to whom licences have been issued

S. No.	Name of the bank	Name of the promoter	Location of Regd. office	Date of "in principle" approval	Date of issue of licence	Date of commencement of business
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	UTI Bank Ltd.	Unit Trust of India (UTI)	Ahmedabad	20-8-93	28-2-94	2-4-94
2.	IndusInd Bank Ltd.	IndusInd Enterprises & Finance Ltd., Bombay	Pune	2-12-93	2-4-94	12-4-94
3.	ICICI Banking Corporation Ltd.	Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI)	Baroda	20-8-93	17-5-94	24-6-94
4.	Global Trust Bank Ltd.	Jayanta Madhab Associates	Secunderabad	18-9-93	6-9-94	10-9-94
5.	HDFC Bank Ltd	Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.	Bombay	20-8-93	5-1-95	16-1-95
6.	Centurion Bank Ltd.	20th Century Finance Corporation Ltd.	Panaji, Goa	1-12-93	13-1-95	24-1-95
7.	Bank of Punjab Ltd.	Dr. Inderjit Singh, Ex-Chairman of Punjab & Sind Bank	Chandigarh	16-4-94	5-4-95	7-4-95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	#Times Bank Ltd.	Bennet, Coleman & CO. Ltd	Faridabad	2-12-93	26-4-95	8-6-95
9.	*Developmant Credit Bank Ltd.	Development Co-operative Bank Ltd.	Bombay	2-1-95	31-5-95	1-6-95
10.	IDBI Bank Ltd.	IDBI	Indore	11-2-94	28-9-95	13-11-95

*By Conversion of Development Co-operative Bank Ltd. a multistate Co-operative Bank.

#Merged with HDFC Bank with effect from 26th February 2000.

Tourism Potential in Kerala

5083. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have appointed any expert team to study the tourism potential in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its date of appointment;

(c) whether the Committee has since presented its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the State Government of Kerala have submitted any project for tourism development in the State;

(f) if so, the details of the projects submitted;

(g) whether there have been any possibilities for development of Eco Tourism in the State; and

(h) if so, the assistance provided by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. During the year 1999-2000, Government of Kerala has submitted various projects for development of tourism in the State which include Backwater side amenities at Kotharalhode, Nedumudi and Vattakulayal, integrated development of Kovalam Beach, Vagarron tourist resort, Eco friendly floating resort at Pathanamal, road linkages from Thekkady to Munnar and projects relating to fairs and festivals. An amount of Rs. 699.28 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State Government of various projects submitted by them during the year 1999-2000.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala has taken up Thenmala Eco-tourism projects to promote Eco-tourism in the high ranges of districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta with Thenmala as the focal point. During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 138.09 lakhs has been sanctioned for promotion of Eco-tourism in the State.

Export/Trading Houses Status to State Corporations

5084. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Corporations nominated by the State Governments are being given status of export/trading houses;

(b) if so, the details of such houses, State-wise;

(c) the details of special incentives being given to these houses; and

(d) the increase, in percentage of export after changing the status and the foreign exchange earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) As per para 12.8 of current EXIM Policy, with a view to encouraging participation of State Governments and Union Territories in export promotion, one state corporation nominated by the respective State Government / Union Territories can be recognized as an export house, even though the criterion for such recognition is not fulfilled by it. This benefit is available only for such period and in accordance with such terms and conditions as are specified as from time to time.

(b) On the basis of available information, the State-wise details of such Export Houses are as under:-

State	Name of the Corporation
Bihar	Bihar State Export Corporation Ltd., Bihar.
Nagaland	M/s. Nagaland Industrial Dev. Corporation Ltd., Nagaland.
Orissa	Orissa Small Industries Corporation Ltd., Orissa
Kerala	M/s. Kerala State Industrial Enterprises Ltd., Kerala
Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation Ltd. Hyderabad.
Assam	The Assam Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.
Punjab	The Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation Ltd.

(c) These nominated Export Houses are given incentives on the same scale as is applicable to regular Export Houses who are accorded this status on the basis of their export performance.

(d) These corporations act as facilitator and promoter of exports and hence their own exports or the foreign exchange earning, if any, are not monitored by DGFT.

Meeting of Indo-France Joint Commission

5085. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has urged the commercial representatives in different Indian missions to focus on their role as magnets to attract foreign investment and facilitate technology tie ups;

(b) if so, whether he had also attended a meeting with Indian delegation including FICCI of the Indo-France Joint Commission which was held in Paris;

(c) if so, the issues discussed at the meetings; and

(d) the extent to which the France has agreed to provide help and assistance to India ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) A meeting of Commercial Representatives from Indian Missions/Posts in Frankfurt, Berlin, Berne, Brussels, Rome, London and

Budapest was organized in London on 20th May, 2000 under the Chairmanship of Minister of Commerce and Industry. Commercial Representatives were urged to focus on promoting foreign investments and as facilitators of technology tie-ups, besides their traditional role as trade promoters. The issues discussed in this meeting included continuous monitoring and analysing of emerging trade trends, use of trade defence measures by E.U. countries against Indian products, trade inhibiting non-tariff barriers and other measures adversely affecting India's exports to Europe, closer interaction and effective coordination between Government and industry etc.

The 10th Session of Indo-French Joint Committee was held in Paris on 23rd May, 2000 under the Co-Chairmanship of the Commerce Ministers of the two countries. At the inaugural session of the Joint Committee, the Chief Executive Officers of leading Indian and French companies participated. In this meeting, the two sides discussed ways and means of stepping up bilateral cooperation in areas such as trade, investment, small and medium enterprises, mines, posts and telecom, energy, agriculture, infrastructure, information technology, biotechnology, consultancy etc. Both sides also discussed and agreed to facilitate finalisation of project related preparatory work and implementation of projects under bilateral financial cooperation.

Contract for Current Affairs and News Programmes

5086. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of outsiders including individuals and companies contracted for current affairs and news programmes during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 with terms and conditions in each case;

(b) the total amount paid to each outsider, individual and company, every-month year-wise for their activities; and

(c) the selection procedure adopted for individual/company while contracting them, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Recruitments in Regional Rural Banks

5087. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group has submitted its report to the Government relating to withdrawal of the ban on the recruitment in the Regional Rural Banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Government propose to take the decision this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The Working Group on Manpower Planning in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) has submitted its report. However, a general withdrawal of the ban on recruitment in the RRBs has not been recommended.

(b) The report of the Working Group is under examination.

[English]

Diamond Trade with Russia

5088. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement between India and Russia has been reached in January, 2000 regarding promotion of diamond trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of meetings convened and agreements reached with various other countries to promote the diamond trade during the last three years; and

(d) the details of diamond trade with different countries made and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir. However during the 6th Session of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation held in January, 2000 both sides recognised the potential that exists for greater cooperation in the field of diamonds between the two countries and agreed to undertake further necessary steps to exploit the synergy between the Russian Federation which is a major producer of diamonds and India which is the largest processor of diamonds.

(c) During the last three years no meetings have been convened nor agreements reached with any other country to promote the diamond trade.

(d) The details of exports of cut and polished diamonds to major markets during the last three years is as under :

(Value in US million dollars)			
Country	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Provisional)
U.S.A.	1641.31	1900.18	2440.28
Hongkong	1099.96	1219.69	1803.37
Belgium	776.54	872.59	915.98
Japan	314.78	345.82	452.76
Israel	206.99	242.28	368.65
Thailand	88.11	95.80	161.89
Switzerland	72.51	97.53	110.18
U.A.E.	51.99	64.21	134.87
Singapore	64.03	40.50	98.30
Germany	32.81	37.80	42.93
U.K.	21.99	34.80	37.50
Australia	15.79	20.22	24.77
Others	106.15	54.69	56.34
Net Exports	4492.66	5026.11	6647.82

Source : The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council

Revival of Mysore Lamps Limited

5089. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for extension of time to submit a revised proposal for the revival of the State Owned Mysore Lamps Limited;

(b) if so, the reaction of the BIFR in that regard; and

(c) the other steps being taken for the revival of this unit and to protect the interests of 1600 employees working therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that the State Government of Karnataka without identifying any promoter with specific interest in the revival of M/s. Mysore Lamps Works Ltd. (MLWL) had sought four weeks time in the hearing held on 18.7.2000. The BIFR did not find any justification to give further time to the State Government. The Board held that the company MLWL is not likely to become viable in future and hence it should be wound up under section 20(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The opinion of the Board was forwarded by the BIFR to the concerned High Court for necessary action in accordance with law.

[Translation]

**Setting up of industries by
Foreign Companies**

5090. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposal received from foreign countries to set up industries including agro-based industries in the country during the last three years, till date;

(b) the number of proposals out of them have been cleared so far;

(c) the number of proposals out of these for joint ventures;

(d) the State-wise, investment likely to be made as a result thereof;

(e) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the likely results of setting up of such industries in the country; and

(f) if so, the details and outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) The Government has approved a total number of 7440 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals (including proposals for setting up joint ventures) involving Rs. 128,711.45 crore in all sectors (including agro-based industries) between January, 1997 and June, 2000. Out of these, 130 proposals, involving FDI of Rs. 1379.29 crore have been approved in Sugar/Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati/Horticulture/Agriculture/Floriculture. A statement showing the State-wise break-up of the approvals is attached.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

**State-wise Break up of Foreign Collaboration & Foreign Direct Investment Proposals
Approved during (January, 1997 to June, 2000)**

State	No. of Approvals			Amt. of FDI Approved (Rs. Crore)	% to Total
	Total	Tech.	Fin.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	343	63	280	6958.40	5.41
Assam	7	7	0	0.00	0.00
Bihar	47	27	20	720.93	0.56
Gujarat	343	157	186	7615.89	5.92
Haryana	279	122	157	1807.20	1.40
Himachal Pradesh	17	4	13	30.98	0.02
Jammu & Kashmir	4	3	1	0.40	0.00
Karnataka	676	130	546	11681.91	9.08
Kerala	81	18	63	303.71	0.24

1	2	3	4	5	6
Madhya Pradesh	85	25	60	7653.67	5.95
Maharashtra	1440	423	1017	20744.29	16.12
Manipur	1	0	1	3.19	0.00
Meghalaya	3	0	3	50.46	0.04
Nagaland	1	0	1	3.68	0.00
Orissa	57	21	36	5249.55	4.08
Punjab	63	14	49	696.36	0.54
Rajasthan	94	30	64	1923.24	1.49
Tamilnadu	831	216	615	11413.96	8.87
Tripura	1	1	0	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	297	90	207	1574.30	1.22
West Bengal	228	86	142	2708.02	2.10
A & N Islands	3	0	3	12.80	0.01
Chandigarh	14	1	13	69.12	0.05
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20	13	7	54.11	0.04
Delhi	705	84	621	13875.65	10.78
Goa	69	18	51	221.87	0.17
Pondicherry	36	14	22	141.83	0.11
Daman & Diu	20	5	15	38.98	0.03
State Not Indicated	1675	369	1306	33156.95	25.76
Total	7440	1941	5499	128711.45	

[English]

Development of Artificial and Synthetic Stones

5091. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any new project proposal and relaxation to boost the artificial diamond and synthetic stone industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allocated more

funds for the development of the artificial and synthetic stone industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof, for the last three years, State-wise and the FDI generated in this industry during the above period;

(e) whether India's share in world export is far low from its potential; and

(f) if so, the measures taken by the Government to enhance the export of artificial diamonds and synthetic stones from India indicating the details of exports during the last three years in terms of quantity and value ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (f) Any new project proposal is examined on merits keeping in mind the requirement of the trade, the growth potential and the prevailing economic conditions across the world. However, with a view to give a boost to the synthetic stone industry the concerned State Governments and the Union Territories have been requested to consider exempting the sale of synthetic gemstones from the levy of sales tax and other taxes like octroi etc. as has been done in the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Some of the important measures taken by the Government in the last three years to give a boost to the exports of the artificial/synthetic stone industry include: (i) Permission to Export Oriented Units (EOUs)/Export Processing Zone Units (EPZ) units to sell 10% of the value of their exports of the preceding year in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) on payment of concessional rate of duty, (ii) Permission for import of Capital Goods under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% customs duty subject to an export obligation equivalent to 5 times CIF value of capital goods on FOB basis or 4 times the CIF value of capital goods on Net Foreign Exchange (NFE) basis to be fulfilled over a period of 8 years reckoned from the date of issuance of licence, (iii) Permission for personal carriage of gems & jewellery export parcels by foreign bound passengers and personal carriage of gems & jewellery import parcels by an Indian importer/foreign national, (iv) Permission for export of gems and jewellery items by courier from selected ports upto a value of Rs. 20 lakhs per consignment. With effect from 1st April, 2000 exports through speed post has also been permitted, (v) Permission for duty free import of consumables required by the gems & jewellery industry to the extent of 1% of the FOB value of gems & jewellery exports in the preceding year, and (vi) For Mangalsutras studded with synthetic gemstones, a lower value addition norm equal to plain jewellery has been prescribed.

Government of India have not allocated during the current financial year, any exclusive funds for the development of artificial and synthetic stone industry. However, grants-in-aid is given to the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for taking up promotional activities like holding of exhibitions within and outside the country, mounting of trade delegations, advertisement/publicity campaign etc. and also for running training institutes like Jewellery Product Development Centers (JPDCs) in Delhi, Mumbai and Jaipur and Indian Diamond Institute (IDI), Surat. Department of Commerce also gives direct grants-in-aid to IDI, Surat for running the

institute. Recently Government have also given an in-principle approval for sharing 50% of the project cost of Rs. 4.8 crores of Advanced Jewellery Training Centre of IDI, Surat, subject to the balance of cost and escalations in the project cost being met by the Government of Gujarat. Details of grants-in-aid given to GJEPC and IDI by the Department of Commerce during the last three years are as given below:

(Value : in Rs. Lakhs)

Year	Grant given by Department of Commerce to GJEPC	Grant given by Department of Commerce to IDI
1997-98	100.00	50.28
1998-99	100.00	34.36
1999-2000	120.00	6.46

There have been no Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows into the artificial diamond or synthetic stone industry in the last three years. As per the statistics provided by the GJEPC, the world demand for cut & polished artificial diamonds/synthetic stones is estimated to be around US \$ 400 million. However India's share in the world market is quite low. Details of the value of exports of cut and polished artificial diamonds/synthetic stones during the last three years are given below:

Year	Value in US \$ Million
1997-98	2.34
1998-99	2.41
1999-2000	2.62

Source: Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai.

[Translation]

Patenting of Pharmaceutical Products

5092. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pharmaceutical products got patented by the country from April, 2000, till date;

(b) whether Hindustan Antibiotic and Torrent Pharmaceuticals have got their products patented; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Under the Patents Act, 1970 only process patents are granted to inventions in the field of pharmaceuticals. As per the provisions of Section 5 of the said Act, no patents can be granted for product themselves for inventions in the field of pharmaceuticals.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Concession under Transfer of Residence Rule

5093. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has registered a case against a Superintendent and a Preventive Officer of Customs posted in Goa for causing a loss of Rs. 7.89 lakhs for conspiring with five other including a Customs House Agent to smuggle the air conditioners in the pretext of granting concession under the Transfer of Residence Rule; and

(b) if so, the full facts of the case and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent upon the seizure of 86 air conditioners by the Goa Police on 21.4.99, inquiries were conducted which revealed that the said air conditioners were cleared under the Transfer of Residence Rule by one Superintendent and one Preventive officer posted in the Goa Customs House without following the prescribed procedure. The air conditioners had been brought by a passenger in a container from Muscat. Subsequent to the investigations, independent of the registration of case by CBI, departmental proceedings have been initiated against the officers and Show Cause Notices have also been issued to them for violation under Customs Act, 1962.

Facilities to Entertainment Sector

5094. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give incentives to entertainment industry on the lines of information technology sector;

(b) if so, the concessions at present available for entertainment sector;

(c) whether the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has submitted a proposal to Finance Ministry for more incentives to entertainment industry during the last year;

(d) if so, the details of the proposal and main concessions sought;

(e) the number of concessions accepted by the Finance Ministry;

(f) whether these incentives have since been implemented; and

(g) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (g) It is the view of this Ministry that the Entertainment sector—films, television and music sectors may be given parity with the Information Technology sector as far as government benefits and initiatives are concerned in order to tap the full potential of this sector as a foreign exchange earner and in order to generate employment opportunities within the country. With this in mind, this Ministry submitted several proposals to the Ministry of Finance and in the budget for the year 2000-2001 the following benefits have been given to the entertainment sector:

1. The benefit of the section 80HHF of the Income Tax Act, 1961 which was limited to companies engaged in export of entertainment software has been extended to individuals/proprietors engaged in the export of entertainment software.
2. Basic customs duty on cinematograph cameras and other related equipment has been reduced from 40% to 25%.
3. Basic customs duty on colour positive films in jumbo rolls and colour negative films in rolls of certain sizes has been reduced from 15% to 5% Countervailing duty on these items has also been abolished.
4. The limit for submission of statements by film producers under section 285 B of the Income Tax Act has been raised from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000 w.e.f. 1.4.2001.

It is envisaged that extension of these benefits to the entertainment sector, given the growing interest in Indian entertainment products abroad, would provide this sector with an environment conducive to rapid and healthy growth.

Public Issue of Banks

5095. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that while the share in public issue collection was 67 per cent of public sector banks in 1997-98 and 1998-99 it has come down to 31 per cent during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the total collections in public issues during 1999-2000 and how much of that was collected by the public sector banks and how much by the private banks in comparison to the last three years; and

(c) the reasons for swing in favour of private banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

I.T. Refund Cases

5096. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of income tax refund cases all over the country have not yet been settled since 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons and number thereof at present;

(c) the number out of these settled so far; and

(d) the time by which the remaining cases are likely to be settled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) All possible efforts are made for early and prompt disposal of refund claims. Government has consistently been impressing upon the Chief Commissioners of Income tax, the need for taking effective steps for elimination of delay in issue of income tax refunds. However, the assessing officers who process the refund claims manually, need some time to process the refund claims depending upon various factors namely; workload, available manpower, verification of payment challans etc. Because

of these reasons there is some time lag between the date of filing of return and the date of issuance of refund. In some cases refunds are delayed because there is a deficiency in the return because of which the refund cannot be issued unless the deficiency is rectified by the assessee. The details regarding claim for refunds pending, disposed of and the balance outstandings for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000 are as follows:

Financial year	No. of refund claims	No. of claims disposed	Balance out-standing
1995-96	201,108	162,530	38,578
1996-97	211,716	157,065	54,651
1997-98	259,100	182,484	76,616
1998-99	248,170	147,672	100,498
1999-2000	516,095	357,703	158,392

Nominated Directors in Government Financial Institutions

5097. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Directors have been nominated in the various Government Financial Institutions during the last three years;

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned to each of such nominated Directors during each of the last three years;

(c) the number of such nominated Directors have become defaulters; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to recover the loan from defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) During the last three years the Central Government has nominated four part-time non-official directors on the Board of All India financial institutions.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the practice and usage customary amongst the banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing the financial institutions as also the provision of the Public Financial Institutions (Obligations as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983 the information, in respect of the constituents of the public financial institutions cannot be divulged.

(d) The financial institutions have formulated both short-term and long-term action plans in order to tackle the problem of defaults.

White Paper on Disinvestment of PSUs

5098. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from leading associations of the Central Public Sector Undertakings to come out with a White Paper on disinvestment of Public Sector Undertaking / spelling out its policy and consequences thereof;

(b) if so, whether they have also urged the Government to stop disinvestment of PSUs till the White Paper is produced and discussed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some associations of the employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings have made representations to come out with a white paper on the public sector spelling out the policy of disinvestment.

(c) The policy of the Government in regard to disinvestment is stated in very unambiguous terms. All the disinvestments are being done in accordance with this policy. Further, all the relevant issues regarding the general disinvestment policy and the specific company related disinvestment proposals are debated at length in the Parliament where the stand of the Government on such issues is amply clarified. Under the circumstances, it is not considered necessary to issue any white paper on the disinvestment policy.

[Translation]

Celebration of 'Visit-India Year'

5099. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made the promotion documentaries to celebrate "Visit-India year";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have requested several countries to arrange for a show of these documentaries for the tourists visiting India during 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

The following promotional films have been prepared to celebrate Visit India Year:-

(i) An adventure called 'India'

(ii) India

(iii) The Himalayan Adventure

(iv) Mountain Train Journeys of India

(v) Festivals of India

(vi) Trekking Trails of India.

The above films have been distributed to travel trade industry and Government of India Tourist Offices in India and abroad for promotional screening purposes.

[English]

Budgetary Allocation for Food and Sugar Subsidy

5100. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budgetary allocation for food and sugar subsidies during the current year;

(b) whether the allocation proved is inadequate, particularly due to increased carrying cost of foodgrains;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to enhance the subsidy for the next year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Budgetary allocation for food and sugar subsidies during the current year is as under:-

	Rs. in crores
Foodgrains	8100
Sugar	110

(b) to (d) Actual requirements for food subsidy for the current year as well as for the next financial year will be known only after the Revised Estimates for the current year and Budget Estimates for the next year are firmed up keeping in view the level of procurement and offtakes of foodgrains.

Target for Procurement of Wheat

5101. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI. : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for procurement of wheat by Food Corporation of India for the current season has been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to procure more wheat from some States during the current season as compared to last year; and

(d) if so, the names of such States and the steps proposed to be taken to increase the existing storage capacity of FCI in different parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) As the procurement operations are voluntary in nature and the farmers have the choice to sell their produce to State Governments/Food Corporation of India or in the Open Market, as is advantageous to them, no targets are fixed for procurement of wheat. However, based on the estimated production and availability of wheat, procurement estimates are given by the State Governments prior to the commencement of each Marketing Season.

The overall procurement of wheat during the current Rabi Marketing Season 2000-01 has been estimated at 162 lakh tonnes.

(d) A Statement showing the FCI Storage Construction Programme 2000-2001 as on May, 2000 is given in the Statement.

Statement

Food Corporation of India Storage Construction Programme 2000-2001 Status Report as on May, 2000

(Capacity in MT.)

Sl. No.	Centre/Capacity/ Region	Capacity/ Sanctioned/ In Progress	Capacity targeted for realisation during 2000-2001	Status
1	2	3	4	5
NORTH ZONE				
1.	Simili/5000/UP	5000	5000	Foundation work is in progress.
2.	Kargil/2500/J&K-Agency J&K PWD	2500	2500	Initial deposit paid to J&K PWD during October, 99. SRM reminded to furnish the latest status of this project.
SOUTH ZONE				
1.	Payyanur/30,000/Kerala (Rainfed)	30,000	25,000	Site development work completed. Foundation work is in progress. Tenders for balance 5000 MT godowns are being invited.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Hassan/10,000/Karnataka	10,000	5000	5000 MT capacity godown completed during 1999-2000. Roofing works are in progress in other unit of 5000 MT.
3.	Belgaum/20,000/Karnataka	20000	10000	Contract finalised on 26.5.2000. Work since awarded.
4.	Raichur/15,000/Karnataka	15000	10000	Tenders opened and are under scrutiny in ZO (South).

EAST ZONE

1.	Parlekemundi/10000/Orissa	10000	6660	3340 MT capacity out of one unit of 5000 MT capacity godown completed during 1999-2000. Super structure works are in progress in the other unit of 5,000 MT capacity.
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NORTH EAST ZONE

1.	Lawngtalci/3340/Mizoram Agency NBCC	3340	3340	NBCC had suspended the works since long. The agent did not recommence the works despite repeated requests. State Government of Mizoram was offered the godowns on "as is where is basis". The State Government has requested to intimate the terms and conditions which are yet to be finalised by the S&C Division in Headquarters.
2.	Agartala/5000/Tripura Agency CPWD	5000	5000	Super structure works are in progress.
3.	Jowai/3750/Meghalaya Agency CPWD	3750	3750	Finishing works are nearing completion. Ancillaries in progress.
4.	Jiribam/2500/Manipur-Agency CPWD	2500	76250	CPWD has received tenders for construction of compound wall; tenders are being invited by CPWD for godowns.

Complaints Against Stock Brokers

5102. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against the stock brokers who have not been transferring shares of investor from the pool account for more than 15 days:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SEBI has taken any action against those stock-brokers who have been indulging in malpractices/such activities;

(d) if so, the details of those stock-brokers;

(e) the action taken against each of those stock-brokers; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government/SEBI to streamline the functioning of stock-exchanges/stock-brokers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) SEBI has intimated that they have not received any specific complaint against stock brokers who have not transferred shares of investors from the pool account for more than 15 days. However, any general issue concerning delay in transferring/dematerialisation of shares is addressed by SEBI. SEBI has further stated that under the depository

system, brokers are required to open clearing member pool accounts which are in the nature of transit accounts, to facilitate smooth and efficient settlement of trades by the stock exchanges.

Some investors prefer to keep balances in the clearing members' pool accounts to avoid any delay in the flow of instructions to and fro from the investors' depository participants to the brokers' depository participants and vice-versa. The depositories have adequate systems, safeguards and audit trails of the movements of securities in and out of the pool accounts.

(f) SEBI has intimated that they have been continuously taking several measures to streamline the functioning of stock exchanges/stock brokers and to ensure safety in the capital market. SEBI has constituted committees to examine various issues such as margins, safety of depository system, dematerialisation of securities etc. These committees consist of, other than SEBI officials, representatives of stock exchanges, capital market experts and other market intermediaries. Based on the deliberations/recommendations of the committees, SEBI has taken several steps to strengthen, streamline the procedures and to ensure safety standards for the functioning of market participants.

Revenue Earned through Taxes

5103. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Revenue earned by the Government from income tax, sales tax, excise duty, customs duty, small savings and other sources during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the amount of tax realised from each source during the said period; and

(c) the details of amount given back to each State separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The details of revenue collected by the Central Government from income tax and corporation tax, during the last three years, are given in the statement-I. While the information relating to 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given State-wise, information relating to 1999-2000 is given Chief Commissionerate-wise. The revenue collected from excise duty and customs duty, State-wise, during this period is given in the statement-II. The Central Government is not earning any revenue through Small Saving Schemes. Sales tax is neither levied nor collected by the Central Government.

(c) The details of the amounts released to the States during the above period, is given in the statement-III.

Statement-I

Revenue Collection from Corporation Tax & Income Tax

(In crores of rupees)

S. No.	Name of the State	1997-98		1998-99		Chief Commissioner of Income Tax	1999-2000	
		Corpn. Tax	Income Tax	Corpn. Tax	Income Tax		Corpn. Tax	Income Tax
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I. STATES								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	515.78	677.99	568.43	783.01	Ahmedabad	802.03	1576.11
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	4.08	0.00	3.32	Bangalore	1038.64	1793.25
3.	Assam	111.90	115.71	105.68	148.99	Bhopal	729.64	557.12
4.	Bihar	26.43	319.30	28.13	330.04	Mumbai	13373.71	6675.36
5.	Goa	65.71	84.77	67.39	89.65	Calcutta	1256.70	1374.99
6.	Gujarat	672.88	1175.06	632.75	1336.87	Cochin	282.16	505.94
7.	Haryana	61.92	242.07	69.99	297.39	Hyderabad	692.51	1087.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10.99	62.88	13.94	68.83	Jaipur	185.22	526.13
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17.75	36.17	33.32	44.36	Chennai	1639.58	2015.15
10.	Karnataka	675.67	1094.93	637.70	1229.78	New Delhi	5795.46	3334.85
11.	Kerala	251.45	400.22	276.58	420.70	Chandigarh	490.43	1299.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	757.22	396.20	815.39	476.02	Kanpur	2757.82	613.09
13.	Maharashtra	8461.84	5262.34	11902.06	6077.27	Lucknow	89.02	554.07
14.	Manipur	0.00	5.68	0.10	5.63	Pune	825.49	1729.74
15.	Meghalaya	4.26	12.47	2.31	12.67	Patna	723.23	814.89
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.90	0.00	1.33	Total	30681.64	24458.14
17.	Nagaland	0.04	4.24	0.03	6.27	Central TDS	15.23	838.31
18.	New Delhi	4397.10	2454.34	4734.94	3344.57	Grand Total	30696.87	25296.45
19.	Orissa	383.94	137.18	332.74	155.59			
20.	Punjab	134.75	435.05	186.57	462.57			
21.	Rajasthan	152.33	363.21	199.31	444.92			
22.	Sikkim	0.04	0.50	0.00	0.09			
23.	Tamilnadu	1106.23	1377.87	1433.81	1618.69			
24.	Tripura	0.34	9.22	0.24	8.10			
25.	Uttar Pradesh	937.99	751.53	1288.66	872.54			
26.	West Bengal	1033.69	982.98	1046.59	1077.11			
	Total (I)	19744.83	16316.89	24376.66	19316.31			
II. UNION TERRITORIES								
1.	Andaman Nicobar	2.20	3.03	3.10	1.57			
2.	Chandigarh	98.66	119.78	110.01	89.06			
3.	Daman	0.03	0.10	0.04	0.01			
4.	Diu	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.05			
5.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
6.	Pondicherry	4.48	17.41	4.05	22.95			
7.	Lakshdweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
8.	Silvasa	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.01			
	Total (II)	105.38	140.49	117.20	113.65			
	Total I & II	19850.21	16457.38	24493.86	19429.96			
	Central TDS (Prov.)	165.79	643.21	35.01	810.19			
	Grand Total	20016.00	17100.59	24528.87	20240.15			

Statement-II*Revenue Collection from Excise Duty*

(In crores of rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1997-98 (Actual)	1998-99 (Actual)	1999-2000 (Provisional)
1.	Maharashtra	12049.35	12578.96	13027.21
2.	Goa	348.61	416.22	525.57
3.	Gujarat and UT of Dadra, Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	7145.34	8405.06	9171.35
4.	Karnataka, Kerala and UT of Lakshadweep	4730.17	5323.65	6226.18
5.	Andhra Pradesh	3455.04	3732.77	4628.66
6.	Tamilnadu and UT of Pondicherry	3707.24	4338.88	5710.38
7.	Uttar Pradesh and Bihar	6305.51	6616.38	7966.26
8.	Delhi, H.P., Punjab, Haryana, J&K, UT of Chandigarh	4936.30	5624.65	7641.58
9.	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	3874.48	4068.11	4526.27
10.	West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim, All NE States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar	3937.91	4087.98	4805.87
	Drawback paid by Customs Commissionerates	2653.15	2738.60	2840.00
	Total	47836.80	52454.06	61389.33

Revenue Collection from Excise Duty

1.	Maharashtra	15414.43	15530.60	16620.00
2.	Goa	242.63	338.09	396.65
3.	Gujarat and UT of Dadra, Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	6022.75	6043.93	7607.50
4.	Karnataka, Kerala and UT of Lakshadweep	2915.51	3107.40	3634.84
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1321.11	1240.12	1812.62
6.	Tamilnadu and UT of Pondicherry	4884.77	5483.83	7021.92
7.	Uttar Pradesh and Bihar	1150.70	675.70	864.77
8.	Delhi, H.P., Punjab, Haryana, J&K, UT of Chandigarh	4061.98	4673.43	5707.81
9.	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	71.22	100.00	157.42
10.	West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim, All NE States and UT of Andaman & Nicobar	4451.67	4084.07	4491.77
	Total	40536.77	41277.77	48315.30

Statement-III

The releases made to the State Governments during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

(In crore of Rupees)

Sl. No.	State	1997-98				1998-99				1999-2000			
		Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total
1.	Andhra Prd.	1365.23	258.09	1787.42	3410.74	1524.44	256.47	1227.26	3008.17	1709.93	232.29	1401.08	3343.30
2.	Arunachal Prd.	204.54	3.41	35.88	243.83	240.78	3.41	24.65	268.84	286.85	3.09	28.14	318.08
3.	Assam	806.27	81.14	587.84	1475.25	864.28	81.43	403.62	1349.33	914.23	73.76	460.79	1448.78
4.	Bihar	2074.51	260.81	2715.64	5050.96	2316.11	260.53	1864.59	4441.23	2597.93	235.97	2128.69	4962.59
5.	Goa	64.58	7.66	38.00	110.24	63.38	7.64	26.10	97.12	59.24	6.89	29.79	95.92
6.	Gujarat	651.96	197.81	854.48	1704.25	728.64	196.61	586.59	1511.84	817.29	178.08	669.67	1665.04
7.	Haryana	199.80	78.10	261.41	539.31	222.95	77.60	179.49	480.04	250.08	70.28	204.91	525.27
8.	Himachal Prd.	536.52	19.54	148.63	704.69	607.28	19.51	102.07	728.86	685.26	17.67	116.52	819.45
9.	J & K	839.67	28.01	231.55	1099.23	965.44	28.07	159.04	1152.55	1119.24	25.43	181.57	1326.24
10.	Karnataka	860.07	188.97	1127.29	2176.33	961.49	188.38	774.05	1923.92	1078.48	170.82	883.68	2132.78
11.	Kerala	624.49	123.30	818.22	1566.01	697.84	122.66	561.80	1382.30	782.75	111.10	641.37	1535.22
12.	Madhya Prd.	1337.47	238.66	1750.51	3326.64	1492.93	237.31	1201.89	2932.13	1674.58	214.94	1372.12	3261.64
13.	Maharashtra	987.99	396.74	1294.07	2678.80	1103.22	394.44	888.15	2385.81	1237.45	357.26	1013.95	2608.66
14.	Manipur	244.86	6.44	59.52	310.82	284.34	6.46	40.88	331.68	335.27	5.85	46.58	387.80
15.	Meghalaya	220.85	6.18	59.74	286.77	253.36	6.16	41.03	300.55	289.34	5.58	46.84	341.76
16.	Mizoram	213.93	2.64	31.45	247.92	255.90	2.59	21.60	280.09	298.03	2.35	24.66	325.04
17.	Nagaland	338.04	4.57	38.20	380.81	406.46	4.49	26.24	437.19	492.01	4.07	29.96	526.04
18.	Orissa	875.97	108.86	949.13	1934.96	903.13	109.70	651.69	1664.52	933.75	99.36	743.99	1777.10
19.	Punjab	235.92	112.49	308.57	656.98	263.11	112.23	211.82	587.16	295.12	101.65	241.82	638.59
20.	Rajasthan	897.20	161.07	1172.00	2230.27	999.67	159.82	804.78	1964.27	1121.30	144.75	918.77	2184.82
21.	Sikkim	78.56	1.76	26.58	106.90	89.62	1.74	18.27	109.63	103.28	1.57	20.86	125.71
22.	Tamil Nadu	1072.19	254.33	1401.78	2728.30	1195.24	251.51	962.23	2408.98	1340.68	227.80	1098.52	2667.00
23.	Tripura	340.51	9.45	79.81	429.77	392.84	9.38	54.80	457.02	458.48	8.50	62.57	529.55
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2873.84	480.05	3760.77	7114.66	3207.54	477.94	2582.24	6267.72	3597.83	432.89	2947.99	6978.71
25.	West Bengal	1205.55	264.50	1577.72	3047.77	1345.44	263.55	1083.15	2692.14	1509.14	238.71	1236.56	2984.41
	Total	19150.42	*3295.58	21116.21	43562.21	21385.43	3279.63	*14498.03	39163.09	23987.54	2970.46	16551.50	43509.50

*Includes adjustment on the basis of certified figures of C&AG.

Mutual Funds

5104. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE :
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India is planning to monitor investment decisions of mutual funds;

(b) whether the SEBI has to expertise to sit on judgement on the decisions of mutual funds;

(c) whether SEBI will focus on the need to curb insider trading by fund managers in collusion with brokers or company managements by strengthening disclosure and surveillance systems;

(d) whether the Government have found advertisements of mutual fund of various companies misleading the public;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government on erring companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has no plans to monitor investment decisions of mutual funds. With a view to bring about transparency in investment decisions, SEBI has advised all mutual funds on July 27, 2000 to make a record of their investment decisions and relevant research reports. Asset Management Company Boards and Trustees are required to ensure that due diligence is being exercised while making investment decisions.

(c) SEBI has notified regulations for insider trading which are applicable to mutual funds also.

(d) to (f) The market regulator, SEBI has prescribed an advertisement code for all mutual funds so that advertisements issued by them are truthful, fair and clear and do not contain statements which are misleading. Further, SEBI monitors advertisements issued by mutual funds and takes necessary action in case of violation of the advertisement code.

[Translation]

Visit of Tourists in U.P.

5105. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourists including foreign tourists visited Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the revenue earned by the State Government therefrom; and

(c) the funds made available for the development of tourism in the State during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, till date ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) According to the information furnished by Government of Uttar Pradesh, total number of tourists including foreign tourists visited Uttar Pradesh during the years 1997 and 1998 are 385.00 lakhs and 423.50 lakhs respectively. The figure for the year 1999 is estimated to be 465.46 lakhs.

(b) State-wise earnings from tourism are not maintained.

(c) During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 755.45 lakhs has been sanctioned by means of Central Financial Assistance for 30 prioritised projects and during the year 2000-2001, thirty three projects for Rs. 1037.03 lakhs have been identified for Central financial assistance for the development of tourism in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Rice Procurement Process

5106. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to streamline rice procurement process by extending levy route mechanism in a bid to cut costs and improve the quality of rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) Rice procurement is through the levy route in several States including Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, M.P., Punjab and Haryana. There is also procurement of paddy in some States. The State Governments and the FCI are continuously taking necessary measures to streamline the procurement process with a view to cutting cost and improving the quality of the rice procured.

Crisis Resolution Group

5107. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial institutions and some banks have constituted a "Crisis Resolution Group" (CRG) to find means to make some sectors financially viable;

(b) if so, whether IDBI, ICICI, TDFC and IFCI are members of this CRG;

(c) if so, whether they have over-extended themselves in financing power projects;

(d) if so, the extent to which such unsafe loans has put these financial institutions at risk;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to examine the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. "Crisis Resolution Group" (CRG) has been constituted by Ministry of Power (MoP) under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Power to resolve the 'Last Mile' problems of the power projects. IDBI, ICICI, IDFC and IFCI are members of the CRG.

(c) No, Sir, IDBI, ICICI, IDFC and IFCI have reported that they have not over-extended themselves in financing power projects.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Procurement of Foodgrains

5108. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of procurement of paddy, rice and other foodgrains made by the Government in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years and till June, 2000;

(b) the number of procurement centres opened and expanded during the said period alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the quantum of additional foodgrains left in the State at present alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the schemes/policies formulated by the Government regarding procurement of foodgrains in the State in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Heritage Hotels in the Country

5109. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage the establishment of Heritage Hotels in old haveli/palaces in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard. State-wise;

(c) the number of heritage hotels established and proposed to be established in Orissa during 2000-2001; and

(d) the steps taken to clear the pending proposals in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to encourage Heritage hotels all over the country, the Government extends various incentives to the classified Heritage hotels and approved Heritage hotel projects including income tax exemption under sections 80-IA and 80-HHD of the Income Tax Act 1961; Interest Subsidy at the rate of 5% on loan taken from TFCI, IFCI, State Industrial Development Corporations; import of special items; concessional custom duty on imports.

(c) The Department of Tourism has not received any proposal for the establishment of Heritage hotels in the State of Orissa so far during the year 2000-2001.

(d) Does not arise.

Writing Off Losses

5110. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have written off the amount of losses accumulated by Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry during the last three years, till date;

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

(c) whether any of these Undertakings, whose losses have been written off, referred for disinvestment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for writing off losses ?

THE MINISTER FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to

(e) Government has sanctioned financial restructuring of Rs. 1004.65 crores consisting of write-off of past loans/ interest of Rs. 599.54 crores and conversion of loan/ interest into equity of 405.11 crores, besides fresh infusion of Rs. 511.67 crores for restructuring and revival of 9 PSUs under the Department of Heavy Industry during the last three years (from 1997-98 to 1999-2000) as per details given in the statement enclosed. Out of these 9 PSUs, 4PSUs viz. Jessop & Co. Ltd. (JSP), Instrumentation Limited (ILK), Nepa Ltd. (NEPA) and Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) have been referred for Disinvestment/Joint Venture (JV) formation.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)					
Sl. No	PSU	Year of sanction by BIFR/Govt.	Fresh infusion of funds by Govt.	Write-off by Govt.	Conversion of loan into equity/ debenture
I. PSUs having BIFR sanctioned plans					
1.	Jessop & Co. Ltd., Calcutta	1997-98	43.00	119.98	21.11
2.	Instrumentation Limited, Kota	1998-99	66.00	17.00	25.98
3.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd., Calcutta	1999-2000	150.00	329.64	135.72
4.	National Instruments Ltd., Calcutta	1999-2000	21.00	—	—
5.	RBL Ltd., Calcutta	1997-98	4.13	0.21	2.15
Total			284.13	466.83	184.96
II. OTHER PSUs					
1.	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd., Calcutta	1997-98	44.00	—	12.49
2.	Nepa Ltd., Madhya Pradesh	1998-99	20.10	10.05	40.54
3.	Hindustan Cable Ltd., Calcutta	1998-99	143.00	122.66	167.12
4.	Praga Tools Ltd., Secundrabad	1998-99	20.44	—	—
Total			227.54	132.71	220.15
Total (I) & (II)			511.67	599.54	405.11

Free Trade Arrangements

5111. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Myanmar have agreed to enter into free trade arrangements amongst member countries in the Bay of Bengal region;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard was signed between these countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which it has helped in developing the trade ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) At the first

Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-Shri Lanka-Thailand-Economic Cooperation (BIMST-EC) Economic Ministerial Retreat held in Bangkok in August, 1998, it was agreed that BIMST-EC should strive to develop into a free trade arrangement and should focus on activities that facilitate trade, increase investment and promote technical cooperation among member countries. The second meeting of the BIMST-EC Trade/Economic Ministers held in New Delhi on 27th April, 2000, decided that an Inter-Governmental Group would be constituted to prepare a concept paper on possible approaches towards a preferential trading arrangement leading to a Free Trade Area. The meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group has not yet taken place.

[Translation]

Excise from Bidi Companies

5112. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE.: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of first ten largest bidi producing companies in the country alongwith the excise duty paid by them during the last year;

(b) the total excise duty collected from bidi sector during the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise details of excise duty and welfare fund collected from the bidi industry during the year 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Information is enclosed as statement-I

(b) Rs. 875.16 Crores.

(c) Zone-wise information available covering different States is enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the Company	Excise duty paid during last year (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Desai Brothers Ltd., Nizamabad	1331.00
2.	M/s. Mangalore Ganesh Beedi Works, Mangalore	749.00
3.	M/s. Pataka Biri Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	662.23

1	2	3
4.	M/s. PKTP Ltd., Nizamabad	565.00
5.	M/s. Sable Waighire & Co. Ltd., Nizamabad	558.00
6.	M/s. Bharath Beedi Works, Mulki, Distt. Mangalore	553.00
7.	M/s. Parbhudas Kishoredas Tobacco Products, Mulki, Distt. Mangalore	505.00
8.	M/s. Shyam Beedi Works, Bhagalpur	464.00
9.	M/s. Mangalore Ganesh Beedi, Tirunelveli	417.00
10.	M/s. Raja Company, Tirunelveli	369.00

Statement-II

S. No. (and States covered)	Excise duty paid during 1998-99 (Rs. in crores)	Cess paid during 1998-99 (for welfare of Bidi workers) (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1. Mumbai & Pune (Covering the States or Maharashtra & Goa)	17.14	1.88
2. Lucknow (Covering the States of Uttar Pradesh & Bihar)	41.38	4.39
3. Hyderabad (Covering the State of Andhra Pradesh)	67.46	6.15
4. Bangalore (Covering the States of Karnataka & Kerala)	38.35	4.64
5. Jaipur (Covering the States of Rajasthan & Madhya Pradesh)	32.37	3.68
6. Vadodara (Covering the State of Gujarat)	00.54	0.02
7. Chennai (Covering the State of Tamil Nadu)	37.00	4.42

1	2	3	4
8.	Calcutta (Covering the States of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Orissa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland)	47.80	5.60
9.	Delhi (Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Chandigarh (UT) & Delhi)	10.37	**

**Not readily available.

[English]

New Recruitments in Banks

5113. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to lift the ban on recruitment of new staff of certain categories in banks;

(b) if so, the mode of recruitment and the names of recruiting agencies; and

(c) the total number of officers and staff (clerks) to be recruited in the first instance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Since Government has not imposed any ban on recruitment of new staff in the Public Sector Banks, the question of its lifting does not arise.

(b) and (c) The recruitment in banks in officers and clerical cadre is made through 15 Banking Service Recruitment Boards and one Central Recruitment Board. Banks place their indents from time to time with these Recruitment Boards, depending upon their requirement. In addition, subject to fulfilment of certain criteria with regard to capital adequacy, non-performing assets, profitability and minimum owned funds, banks have been allowed to fill up 30% of their vacancies of Probationary Officers earmarked for direct recruitment by way of campus recruitment from recognized management and other professional institutions.

SIDBI Assistance to SSI Sector

5114. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India has reduced its activities in offering funds to small scale industry sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide alternate funding to SSIs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to further accelerate flow of credit to SSI sector:

- 60% of the funds earmarked for small scale sector to go to small units in tiny sector.
- Computation of working capital requirement on the basis of 20% of projected annual turn-over.
- Raising of composite loan limit from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakhs.
- Increase in exemption limit for collateral free loan from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakhs to tiny sector.
- Introduction of new credit guarantee scheme to cover loans upto Rs 10 Lakhs.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi

5115. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public undertakings, banks and insurance companies under his ministry have been computerised;

(b) if so, whether there has been less work in Hindi-language and in original Hindi correspondence in banks and insurance companies; and

(c) if so, the details of the letters sent/references made in Hindi, Indian languages and English as per the quarterly report of organisations under his ministry during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Steps have been taken to computerise banks and Insurance Companies under the Ministry of Finance.

There is no public sector undertaking under the control of Ministry of Finance.

(b) and (c) Notwithstanding the computerisation programme, the Official Language Policy is implemented in all the Banks and Insurance Companies in accordance

with the rules and regulations. The quarterly report for watching the implementation of the Official Language Policy will reflect the progress of correspondence and use of Hindi as Official Language only. No quarterly return for use of Indian languages or English is prescribed and therefore this information is not compiled by the Insurance Companies and Banks.

According to information received from the Insurance Companies the details of letters sent/references made in Hindi during the past three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Information in respect of Banking Sector is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Statement

As per the information available from quarterly Hindi progress reports sent by the Insurance Companies, the percentage of letters issued in Hindi by Insurance Companies during the last three years is as under

Name of Company	Year		
	1997	1998	1999
	(percentage of letters sent in Hindi)		
1. Life Insurance Corporation of India	62.99	63.24	61.75
2. General Insurance Corporation	70.00	73.32	75.05
3. New India Assurance Company	53.04	55.07	53.23
4. Oriental Insurance Company	89.00	87.95	88.00
5. National Insurance Company	56.00	56.35	53.05
6. United India Insurance Company	61.33	59.88	60.00

[English]

Expert Committee on Taxation of Life Insurance

5116. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted an Expert Committee on taxation of life insurance sector;

(b) if so, whether the Expert Committee was required to examine various aspects relating to taxation of life insurance sector including the international practices;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the Committee likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Expert Committee is required to examine various aspects relating to taxation of life insurance sector including, *inter alia*, the international practices in this regard, and to recommend the taxation structure in respect of profits of the life insurance business under the income-tax Act, 1961, keeping in view the fact that life insurance sector has now been opened up for private companies also and it is no more the exclusive privilege of the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

(d) The Committee was constituted on 20th April, 2000 and was required to submit its report within four months. The Committee has requested for extension of time which is under consideration.

Storage Facilities

5117. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any new project proposal to increase the storage facilities for the foodgrains in the country particularly in southern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allocated more funds for the development of the overall infrastructure of the various Food Corporation of India godowns in the country during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

During the current Ninth Five Year Plan, FCI proposes to create storage capacity of about 4.67 lakh tonnes in the

country subject to availability of funds. Out of 4.67 lakh tonnes storage capacity of 1.90 lakh tonnes is proposed to be constructed by FCI in the southern States. A statement showing centre-wise capacity/proposed capacity completed upto March, 2000 in southern States is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Apart from construction of godowns, funds are also allocated for construction of Railway sidings. The details of funds allocated towards Railway siding during the last three years are as under:-

	Funds allocated (Rs. In lakhs)
UTTAR PRADESH	
Dhamora	402.25
Roza	649.82
KERALA	
M. Kavv (Extn.)	149.11
Payyanur	254.21
NAGALAND	
Dimapur	100.10
ORISSA	
Balijori (Extn.)	132.91

Statement

Storage of capacity proposed to be constructed by FCI during the 9th Five Year Plan (1.4.97 to 31.3.2000) in Southern States

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

S. No.	State/Name of Centre/District	Capacity Proposed	Capacity Completed upto March 2000	Balance capacity to be constructed
1	2	3	4	5
KARNATAKA				
1.	Udupi	10.00	10.00	—
2.	Kushalnagar	2.50	2.50	—
3.	Turnkar	20.00	5.00	15.00
4.	Bijapur	10.00	—	10.00
5.	Belgam	20.00	—	20.00

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Raichur	15.00	—	15.00
7.	Hassan	10.00	5.00	5.00
KERALA				
8.	Arakulam	5.00	5.00	—
9.	Payyanur	30.00	—	30.00
10.	Meenangadi	5.00	5.00	—
ANDHRA PRADESH				
11.	Nellore	30.00	—	30.00
12.	Amalapuram	10.00	—	10.00
13.	Dichapalli	10.00	—	10.00
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR				
14.	Port Blair	2.50	2.50	—
TAMILNADU				
15.	Ramanathapuram	10.00	—	10.00
Total		190.00	35.00	155.00

[Translation]

Tourism Development Projects

5118. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA :

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM :

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

(a) whether some State Governments have sent some tourism development projects to the Union Government during the last three years and for 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details of the projects cleared by the Government and the number of projects which are lying pending for clearance with the Government, State-wise;

(c) the amount allocated for these projects, during the above period, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the pending tourism projects of the States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Central

Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Govts./ Union Territory Administrations identifies projects for Central financial assistance for development of tourism in the country each year. During the last three years i.e. 1997-2000, 1016 projects involving an amount of Rs. 226.89 crores were sanctioned. A statement of number of projects

and the amount sanctioned for the last three years is attached.

Government clears only those projects which are prioritised in consultation with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations every year and which are as per guidelines.

Statement

Project sanctioned and amount sanctioned during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

(All the projects including Fairs and Festivals)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		No. of Projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	No. of Projects sancd.	Amount sancd.	No. of Projects sancd.	Amount sancd.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	206.70	10	244.08	14	222.22
2.	Assam	14	288.88	15	457.95	17	357.35
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	271.00	6	216.32	11	239.28
4.	Bihar	11	233.07	11	237.29	5	89.71
5.	Goa	8	144.62	14	319.98	11	279.82
6.	Gujarat	7	111.84	15	449.57	19	327.64
7.	Haryana	6	98.62	12	333.93	9	238.33
8	Himachal Pradesh	5	119.00	10	318.00	17	691.29
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	293.35	6	192.85	16	334.58
10.	Karnataka	10	130.78	12	399.82	38	856.40
11.	Kerala	11	287.00	13	653.05	19	699.28
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10	141.85	18	441.39	16	431.08
13.	Maharashtra	12	169.84	18	496.27	30	1003.69
14.	Manipur	5	186.11	8	140.49	10	229.00
15.	Meghalaya	5	97.70	5	120.48	5	30.72
16.	Mizoram	6	142.45	8	203.34	13	292.17
17.	Nagaland	3	113.90	11	230.54	16	291.80
18.	Orissa	28	552.05	6	178.60	19	301.90
19.	Punjab	6	52.87	7	242.14	8	175.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20. Rajasthan		14	135.33	22	436.28	12	131.12
21. Sikkim		11	73.20	15	136.03	13	118.98
22. Tamil Nadu		7	59.74	17	316.20	26	493.85
23. Tripura		8	126.68	9	169.21	7	340.76
24. Uttar Pradesh		13	221.10	41	869.85	36	755.45
25. West Bengal		7	125.76	12	211.13	o	194.01
26. Andaman & Nicobar		—	—	4	162.50	1	32.37
27. Chandigarh		—	—	3	55.18	4	69.59
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		1	5.20	2	20.00	1	30.00
29. Delhi		8	233.43	13	223.89	5	24.50
30. Daman & Diu		4	60.17	—	—	—	—
31. Lakshadweep		1	5.00	1	29.00	—	—
32. Pondicherry		4	35.64	2	15.00	10	163.89
Total		256	4722.88	346	8520.36	414	9445.78

[English]

Filing Fictitious Figures by Film Related Personalities in IT Returns

5119. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether film related personalities are filing fictitious figures in their income tax returns so as to claim maximum tax benefits;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of tax has thus been evaded and the steps taken to recover the same from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Returns of income with the necessary statutory verifications are filed by tax payers. These returns can be subjected to scrutiny which may result in the returned income not being accepted leading to additions and consequent levy of tax and initiation of penalty proceedings. However, these assessments are subject to appeals and the appellate decisions may result in the deletion of the additions. The

further appellate procedure is an on-going process. Therefore, it may not be possible to furnish the information called for as at a particular point of time.

Tax Evasion and Hawala Transaction

5120. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has unearthed Tax evasion and hawala transactions worth Rs.100 crore from the premises of a Sainik Vihar based businessman in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details of undisclosed assets found in this investigation;

(c) whether some bogus corporate houses have also been found; and

(d) if so, the action being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Search action was conducted in the case of Shri Manoj Aggarwal of Baldev Park in Trans Yamuna on 3.8.2000. As

a result of search action, cash of Rs.11,31,900/- and shares of face value of Rs.75,010/- were seized. Investigations are in progress and the involvement of some bogus Corporate houses can be ascertained only on completion of the investigations.

Appropriate action under the Income Tax Act, 1961 is being initiated for taxing undisclosed income.

Production/Consumption of Paper

5121. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of paper in the country during the last three years and the present stock available in the market;

(b) the per capita consumption of paper in the country at present;

(c) the extent to which it has gone up as compared to the year 1980;

(d) whether paper industry at present is not progressing well and needs heavy amount to meet the growing demand of paper of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient funds to boost the paper production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Production of paper and paperboard during the last three years is as under:

Year	Production (in lakh tonnes)
1997-98	29.22
1998-99	31.38
1999-2000	34.57

It has been reported that stock of paper to the extent of about 2.5 lakh M.T. is available in the market.

(b) and (c) The per capita consumption of paper has gone up from about 2 Kg. in 1980 to about 4 Kg. at present.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There was an increased production of 34.57 lakh MT in 1999-2000 as compared to the production of 31.38 lakh MT during 1998-99.

(f) The performance of Paper Industry is reviewed regularly and suitable measures are taken as and when necessary.

Mega Tourism Projects in Karnataka

5122. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some mega tourism projects are proposed to be implemented in the State of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of those projects;

(c) the amount of investment involved in those projects; and

(d) the location-wise details of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) 29 projects with central financial assistance amounting to Rs. 960.50 lakhs have been prioritised for the current year in consultation with the State Government of Karnataka including the following four large projects;

S. No.	Projects	Central Financial Assistance (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Rejuvenation and development of Kempabudi Tank, Bangalore	76.00
2.	Development of tourism including improvements to existing facilities and amenities at Hampi	78.00
3.	Development of Heritage village at Bagalkot	74.00
4.	Comprehensive development of Banvasi	76.00
Total:		304.00

[Translation]

Amount Outstanding against Politicians

5123. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Honourable Delhi High Court has passed strictures against the India Tourism Development

Corporation for non-recovery of a huge amount outstanding against the political leaders, political parties, various Ministries and Departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount recovered so far and yet to be recovered by ITDC from the above said parties; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to expedite the recovery of the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Delhi High Court has expressed concern over the recovery of outstanding dues. During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 19.49 crores (Provisional) was recovered by ITDC from different clients from the total outstanding dues of Rs. 43.36 crores as on 31st March, 1999.

(d) The measures taken/being taken to recover the outstanding dues include:

- (i) A drive has been launched for collection of dues.
- (ii) Periodical review both at unit and corporate level.
- (iii) Stoppage of credit facilities to defaulting parties.
- (iv) Resorting to legal action wherever necessary.

Economic Offence

5124. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian and foreign companies and persons found involved in economic offences till date;

(b) the details of the economic offences committed by them;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against the concerned companies; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As on 1.6.2000, a total number of 9154 cases involving companies and persons, were under investigation and adjudication, for violation of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. The number of companies against which action has been taken for violations under the Customs Act and Income Tax Act during 1996-97 to 1998-99, is 7401. The number of persons arrested during

1997-98 to 1999-2000 for violations under the Customs Act, is 3448. As regards violations relating to Central Excise, the number of cases registered during this period is 19,484.

(b) The major violations are wilful attempt to evade taxes, filing of false returns, under/over valuation of goods, fraudulent claims of drawback, misdeclaration/wrong classification, misuse of modvat credit, non-realisation of export proceeds, dealing in foreign exchange without RBI permission and dealings in Hawala transactions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The action taken includes issue of show cause notices, imposition of penalties and fines, and launching of prosecution.

[English]

Tax on Hotels

5125. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to promote tourism industry, a proposal for rationalisation of taxes relating to hotels and transport sector, including a uniform slab structure for all States has been mooted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tax structure at present varies from 15% to 20%;

(d) if so, whether the tourism industry including hotels and travel agents have demanded for uniform taxes;

(e) if so, whether he has called a meeting of all the State Tourism Ministers to discuss the issue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, the travel trade industry associations have represented to the Government for rationalisation of taxes relating to the hotels and transport sector.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) and (f) A State Tourism Ministers' Conference was held in November, 1999, wherein, the issue was discussed.

NRI Help in Economic Development

5126. DR JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited the non-resident Indians in the field of economic development of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NRIs are not satisfied with the incentives given to them in the current budget; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of incentives proposed to be provided to NRIs during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Recognising the potential of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in terms of funds and human resources and the need for involving them for a sustained economic development of the country, policies and procedures governing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)/NRI investments are streamlined/simplified from time to time to create a more favourable investment environment for NRIs. The recent initiatives taken to facilitate NRI investments include (i) higher investment limit for NRIs in sectors having sectoral caps for Foreign Direct Investment, such as Air-taxi operations and private sector banks, (ii) investment upto 100% in the Housing and Real Estate Sector, which is not otherwise open for FDI and (iii) increase in individual limit for secondary market investment in a company from 1% to 5% and increase in the aggregate investment limit in a company by all NRIs from 5% to 10%, which will be exclusive and separate from Foreign Institutional Investor (FI) investment ceilings to avoid crowding out NRIs by FIIs.

In the Budget for 2000-2001, a proposal to liberalise the tax laws and SEBI guidelines for Venture Capital Funds has been made which would give a strong boost for NRIs in the Silicon Valley and elsewhere to invest some of their capital, knowledge and enterprise in Ventures in India.

Suggestions/representations received from NRI forums/Associations are taken note of while formulating/reviewing policies and procedures from time to time.

Setting up and Upgradation of Doordarshan Kendras

5127. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in various States where Doordarshan Kendras have been set up during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to upgrade some of these Doordarshan Kendras during 2000-2001 and during the remaining period of Ninth Plan; and

(c) if so, the details of the Doordarshan Kendras identified for upgradation and expansion, State-wise, during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) State-wise names of 281 Doordarshan Kendras set up in the country between 01/04/1997 and 22/08/2000 are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Locations of the Doordarshan Kendras identified for upgradation and expansion during the Ninth Plan, are given in enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Doordarshan Projects Commissioned during IX Plan (Between 01/04/1997 and 22/08/2000)

State	Project Type	Location
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Studio	Vijayawada
	HPT	Hyderabad (DD-2)
	LPT	Devarkonda
		Bhainsa
		Banswada
		Bobbili
		Rajampet
		Macherla
		Tekkali
		Narsaraopet
	VLPT	Seetampetta
Arunachal Pradesh	LPT	Miao
	VLPT	Mariyang
		Rupa
		Mukto
		Sagalee
		Khimyong
		Inkyong
		Palin
		Boleng

1	2	3
		Baririjo Taliha Seijosa Gensi Tirbin Liromoba
		Darak Keying Mechuka Geku Hunli Hawai Namong
	Trans- poser	Sankhi View
Assam	HPT	Silchar (DD-2) Guwahati (DD-2)
	LPT	Gohpur Dibrugarh (DD-2) Bokakhat
Bihar	HPT	Ranchi (DD-2)
	LPT	Mushabani Kodarma Barharwa
		Rosera Daudnagar Simri Bakhtiarpur
	VLPT	Garhwa (DD-2)
Gujarat	Studio HPT	Rajkot Bhuj (Pmt. On 300 M)
	LPT	Radhanpur Umargaon Dharampur Vyara Punandhro (Mobile) Rajpipla Jamjodhpur Botad Lunawada
		Bantwa Una Dhari Limbd Jhagadia Khambhalia Rajula Modassa Dhandhuka
	VLPT	Sagwara
Haryana	LPT	Yamunanagar (DD-2) Mahendragarh Charkhi Dadri
		Firozpur Jhirka Karnal (DD-2) Tohana
Himachal Pradesh	LPT	Sujanpur Sunder Nagar Mandi (DD-2)
	VLPT	Chauri Khas Banjar Karsog Pirbhayanu Nichar
		Chaupal Kotkhai Ashapuri Udaipur Parwanoo

1	2	3
Jammu & Kashmir	HPT	Srinagar (DD-2) Srinagar (Kashmiri Channel)
	LPT	Kathua (DD-2) Bandipura (Mobile) Rajauri
		Jammu (DD-2) Kathua Poonch Naushera (Mobile) Darhal (Mobile) Chusul Siachin (Base Camp)
	VLPT	Khalsi Mulbekh
		Tangtse
Karnataka	HPT	Hassan Gulbarga Bangalore(DD-2)
	LPT	Hole Narsipur Hiriyur Tumkur
	VLPT	Badami
Kerala	LPT	Pala
		Cannanore (DD-2)
Maharashtra	Studio	Pune Mumbai (Expansion)
	HPT	Mumbai(Regional)
	LPT	Mangalwedha Bhandara (DD-2) Mahad Ambajogai(DD-2) Mangaon Khopoli Umarkhed Satana
		Nagpur Nagpur(DD-2) Akalkot Daryapur Phaltan Patan Pulgaon Tumsar Dharmabad Pandharka- wada
	VLPT	Khanapur Kurkhera Ashti Malkapur Chimur
		Arjuni Koregaon Wai Pimpalner- Sakri Tivsa Karanja
Manipur	VLPT	Malwan Sindewahi Churachandpur Kangpokpi
		Jiribam(DD-2)

1	2	3	1	2	3		
Meghalaya	HPT Trans- poser	Tura (DD-2) Shillong		VLPT	Aandhi Kotra Viratnagar	Sikrai Laxmangarh	
Mizoram	LPT	Lunglei (DD-I)	Sikkim	VLPT	Singtam	Rangpo	
Madhya Pradesh	Studio	Jagdalpur	Tamilnadu	HPT	Madras (Podigai Channel)		
	HPT	Raipur (DD-II)		LPT	Udumalpet Nattam Denkanikota	Vandavasi Cheyyar Chidam- baram Peranampet	
	LPT	Karaira Pendra Road Garot Badwani Multai		VLPT	Mettupalayam	Gingee	
	VLPT	Sarangarh Singrauli		Tripura	LPT	Teliamura Kailasahar (DD-II)	Kailasahar
				UP	Studio	Allahabad	Mau Varanasi
Nagaland	LPT	Mokokchung (DD-II)		HPT	Mussoorie (DD-II)	Lucknow (DD-II)	
	VLPT	Shamton		LPT	Mahroni Dak Pathar Kalagarh	Rudauli Haldwani Rampur (DD-II)	
					Dudhinagar Karwi Chibbramau Rath	Mau (DD-II) Amroha Talbehat	
Orissa	HPT	Baleshwar					
	LPT	Simliguda Mohana Gondiya Khariar					
	VLPT	Koksara Aul Subdega Paikamal Nagchi Barpalli Kalampur		VLPT	Tharali Thakurdwara (DD-II) Pokhri Nandprayag	Saahiya Rajgarhi Basot Khubia- nangal	
					Naugaonkhal Rudraprayag Maneshwar	Okhimath Almora Manikpur	
Pondicherry	LPT	Pondicherry (DD-II)					
Punjab	HPT	Fazilka (Int.)	West Bengal	Studio	Jalpaiguri Shantiniketan (Pmt.)		
	LPT	Patiala					
Rajasthan	HPT	Jodhpur			HPT	Calcutta (Bangla Channel)	
	LPT	Hindaun Bharatpur Bali Kishangarh Vas Nagar			LPT	Garhbeta Balrampur Koch Bihar	
					VLPT	Baghmandi	

Statement-II*Details of Studios and Transmitters being upgraded/replaced in various States*

Name of States	Moderni- sation of Studio	Replace- ments of old HPTs	Upgrada- tion of DD HPTs	LPTs to HPTs	VLPT to LPT/HPT	LPT up- gradation (100W to 500W)	VLPT/Trans- poser upgra- dation (10W to 50W)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	Rajamundry (1KW to 10KW)	Warangal	—	—	Vijayawada
Assam	—	Silchar	—	—	—	Hojai	Guwahati
Bihar	Ranchi	Katihar	—	Jamshedpur Patna (DD-2)	—	Darbhanga Dhanbad Bokaro Saraikela Siwan Sikandra Munger Buxar	—
Goa	—	Panaji	—	Panaji (DD2)	—	—	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	Surat, Vadodara	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	Shimla (DD2)	—	—	Kharapathar Parwanoo
J&K	—	Jammu Poonch	—	Naushera	Samba(HPT) Kupwara(HPT) Gurej (HPT) Tithwal(HPT) Udhampur(LPT)	—	Mulbekh Phalgaon Dras Thanmandi Kargil Budhal Uri Baramulla
Karnataka	—	—	—	Hassan Mangalore Mysore Raichur	—	Dandeli	—
Kerala	—	Trivandrum	Calicut (1KW to 10KW)	Cochin (DD2) Cannanore Trivandrum (DD2)	—	Thodupuzha	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	Ambikapur Guna Shahdol	—	Nagda	—
Maharashtra	—	—	—	Chandrapur Jalgaon Ratnagiri	—	—	Karanja Kurkhera
Manipur	—	—	—	—	Chura- chandpur	—	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	Shillong	—
Orissa	—	—	Sambalpur (1KW to 10KW)	Sambalpur (DD2) Berhampur	—	Bargarh Joda Rajgangpur	—
Punjab	—	—	Fazilka (1KW to 10KW) Amritsar (10KW to 20KW)	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	—	—	Barmer (1KW to 10KW)	Ajmer Jajpur (DD2)	—	Alwar	Sikrai
Tamilnadu	—	—	—	Kumbakonam	—	Nagercoil Udhagaman- dalam Tuticorin	—
Tripura	—	Agartala	—	Agartala(DD2)	—	Telimura	Dharmanagar
Uttar Pradesh	—	Allahabad	—	Banda Lakhimpur Lucknow (DD2)	Gopeswar (LPT)	Sultanpur Rae Bareilly Deoria Faizabad Gauriganj	—
West Bengal	—	Calcutta Asansol Murshidabad	—	Balurghat Kharagpur Krishnanagar Shantiniketan Murshidabad (DD2)	Jhalda (LPT)	Bishnupur Malda Kalna	—
Delhi	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	—	—	—	Pondicherry	—	—	—
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	Chandigarh	—

Setting up of National Commodities Exchange

5128. MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to set up National Commodities Exchange in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which this Exchange is likely to be set up; and
- (d) the benefits likely to be accrued by setting up of this Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) In principle approval to set up a National Multi Commodity Exchange has been given by the Government and the Forward Markets Commission has been advised to take further necessary action to complete the formalities.

(c) No time-frame for setting up the National Commodity Exchange has been specified as of now.

(d) The proposed Exchange would be a professionally managed, equipped with modern technological facility of integrated screen based transparent trading at one central place. It will, thus, provide the participants in the commodity sector, an efficient competitive price signals and price risk management mechanism on the lines of National Stock Exchange.

Tariffs of Five Star Hotels

5129. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to a recent report, room tariffs in India are recording a downward trend with all major five-star hotels lowering their tariffs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the room-occupancy all metros of the country, recorded a slump in the recent months;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the strategy to be adopted by ITDC to face the recession?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Average room rates in major 5-Star hotels have shown a downward trend and while hotels are able to realise lower room rates there is no report of hotels lowering their published tariffs. Room occupancy has fallen in the recent months which is largely due to the off season and also as the supply of hotel rooms in the metros has increased.

The Department of Tourism has formulated plans to attract tourists to visit India through its overseas offices, airlines and the Indian Missions abroad. India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has also produced a special package called "Come Rediscover India" to promote its various properties and to attract tourists to India.

[Translation]

Insurance Claims

5130. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total premium deposited with the Life Insurance Corporation and General Insurance Corporation in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the claims filed/disposed of during these years alongwith the number of claims which have not been disposed of so far alongwith the amount involved therein; and

(c) the details of investment made by these corporations during the above said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Hawala Transaction

5131. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IT Deptt. Unearths Rs.150 cr. Hawala Fraud" appearing in "The Indian Express" dated August 14, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of persons and organisation involved therein;

(c) the action the Government propose to take against the guilty persons in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to stop hawala transactions in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Search action was conducted at the premises of Shri Manoj Aggarwal at Baldev Park in Trans Yamuna on 3.8.2000. As a result of search action, cash of Rs.11,31,900/ and shares of face value Rs. 75,010/- were seized. Investigations still are in progress and the details of persons and organisations involved can be ascertained only on completion of the investigation. Appropriate action under the Income Tax Act, 1961 is being initiated for taxing undisclosed income.

Disinvestment of PSUs

5132. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some PSUs scheduled for a sell off are squandering funds and making extravagant expenditures;

(b) whether the Government have any mechanism to catch and warn such earmarked companies from destroying value in a deliberate and methodical way; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected.

[Translation]

VLPT/LPT Centres in U.P.

5133. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of VLPT/LPT centres under construction in Uttar Pradesh, center-wise;

(b) the number of centres where construction work has not yet been started despite the sanction;

(c) the reasons for delay in starting construction work for these centres;

(d) the number of centres recommended for construction by the representatives of people or department after the survey; and

(e) the reasons for which sanction has not yet been given for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) At present construction work is in progress in respect of 4 LPTs (Kosi, Narora, Bidhuna, & Khetikhan) and 1 VLPT (Dugardda) in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Construction work has not started in respect of 10 projects (5 LPTs and 5 VLPTs). The delay in case of seven projects is due to delay in identification / acquisition of sites. Out of these seven projects, site for one VLPT at Badrinath has been acquired recently and the construction work is scheduled to start shortly. The remaining 3 projects relating to setting up of LPTs for DD-II have been sanctioned only recently and they will be set up in buildings where DD-I transmitters already exist.

(d) and (e) Requests for establishment of transmitters at various places in Uttar Pradesh are received from time to time from different quarters. These requests are taken into consideration while formulating the expansion plans of Doordarshan, subject to technical feasibility and availability of resources.

[English]

Export of Marine Items

5134. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of marine items which are being exported from various coastal States;

(b) the contribution of each State in the total export of these items, during the last three years alongwith value, in terms of rupee; and

(c) the projection made for export of marine items for the next three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The major items

of marine products being exported from various Ports in the coastal States of India are Frozen Shrimp, Frozen Fish, Frozen Cuttlefish and Frozen Squid. Besides these, India also exports a smaller quantity of Frozen Lobsters, Surimi, Crab, Live marine products, Chilled marine

products and Dried marine products, etc. The contribution of various States in the total exports of major items of marine products from India during each of the last three years in quantity and rupee value terms has been as follows:

Year 1999-2000

		Quantity in Metric Tons; Value in Rs. Crores								
Item		Gujarat	Maha-rashtra	Goa	Karna-taka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Andhra Pradesh	West Bengal	Total
Frozen Shrimp	Q :	2807.00	11074.00	90.00	14.00	35710.00	29176.00	19679.00	11725.00	110275.00
	V :	48.50	252.84	3.07	1.70	705.61	1292.10	870.86	470.54	3645.22
Frozen Fish	Q :	53361.00	51070.00	7545.00	0	13281.00	1053.00	1982.00	3012.00	131304.00
	V :	215.02	205.87	21.51	0	52.56	12.81	8.60	20.96	537.34
Fr. Cuttle Fish	Q :	3704.00	3583.00	1656.00	0	19438.00	3760.00	658.00	0	32799.00
	V :	21.22	25.37	8.74	0	187.72	38.98	4.19	0	286.22
Frozen Squid	Q :	8229.00	7678.00	367.00	0	16050.00	2591.00	3.00	0	34918.00
	V :	50.39	64.71	3.23	0	140.46	37.99	0.02	0	296.80
Others(*)	Q :	6517.00	9606.00	0	0	7669.00	6884.00	1399.00	1660.00	33735.00
	V :	54.25	112.02	0	0	60.61	80.81	22.83	20.57	351.09
Total	Q :	74618.00	83011.00	9658.00	14.00	92148.00	43464.00	23721.00	16397.00	343031.00
	V :	389.38	660.81	36.50	1.70	1146.00	1462.70	906.50	512.07	5116.67

(*)Others include Fr. Lobsters, Surimi, Crab, Clams, Live marine products, Chilled marine products, Dried marine products, etc.

Year 1998-99

							Quantity in Metric Tons; Value in Rs. Crores			
Item		Gujarat	Maha-rashtra	Goa	Karna-taka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Andhra Pradesh	West Bengal	Total
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Frozen Shrimp	Q :	4951.00	13650.00	175.00	5.00	25550.00	29219.00	19196.00	9738.00	102484.00
	V :	80.84	282.33	3.32	0.66	480.66	1217.17	862.77	417.16	3344.91
Frozen Fish	Q :	46129.00	34536.00	5513.00	1044.00	12182.00	4328.00	1332.00	3492.00	108556.00
	V :	170.98	192.59	16.63	2.79	53.18	21.23	7.50	30.13	495.03
Fr. Cuttle Fish	Q :	6475.00	4717.00	1403.00	1722.00	17195.00	2331.00	746.00	0	34589.00
	V :	33.24	32.07	10.91	15.17	150.64	27.04	4.54	0	273.31

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Frozen Squid	Q :	8099.00	9697.00	770.00	0	11462.00	2226.00	0	0	32254.00
	V :	46.62	83.27	6.26	0	97.96	34.82	0	0	268.93
Others(*)	Q :	4778.00	6591.00	0	1	4252.00	6922.00	293.00	2214.00	25051.00
	V :	35.77	65.53	0	0.05	34.11	78.75	1.72	28.76	244.69
Total	Q :	70432.00	69191.00	7861.00	2772.00	70641.00	45026.00	21567.00	15444.00	302934.00
	V :	367.45	655.79	36.82	18.67	816.55	1379.01	876.53	476.05	4626.87

(*) Others include Fr. Lobsters, Surimi, Crab, Clams, Live marine products, Chilled marine products, Dried marine products, etc.

Year 1997-98

Quantity in Metric Tons; Value in Rs. Crores

Item	Gujarat	Maha-rashtra	Goa	Karna-taka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Andhra Pradesh	West Bengal	Delhi	Total
Frozen Shrimp	Q: 6274.00	12171.00	768.00	0	30049.00	24865.00	17057.00	10134.00	0	101318.00
	V: 118.88	285.46	18.39	0	561.98	1047.20	739.82	368.85	0	3140.56
Frozen Fish	Q: 97195.00	49686.00	8247.00	1191.00	21708.00	2776.00	4847.00	2379.00	0	188029.00
	V: 375.97	192.90	22.97	2.44	66.77	17.85	25.93	21.9	0	726.73
Fr. Cuttle Fish	Q: 7630.00	5920.00	1208.00	771.00	15869.00	4617.00	1154.00	89.00	0	37258.00
	V: 55.07	50.79	7.45	2.88	149.08	50.24	7.42	0.48	0	323.41
Frozen Squid	Q: 9433.00	5751.00	862.00	0	15931.00	3111.00	7.00	0	0	35095.00
	V: 50.14	46.23	5.01	0	126.25	43.24	0.02	0	0	270.89
Others(*)	Q: 5029.00	5429.00	23.00	9	5809.00	5683.00	249.00	1866.00	21.00	24118.00
	V: 37.79	60.76	0.11	0.36	43.94	61.54	1.77	29.46	0.16	235.89
Total	Q: 125561.00	78957.00	11108.00	1971.00	89366.00	41052.00	23314.00	14468.00	21.00	385818.00
	V: 637.85	636.14	53.93	5.68	948.02	1220.10	774.96	420.69	0.16	4697.48

(*) Others include Fr. Lobsters, Surimi, Crab, Clams, Live marine products, Chilled marine products, Dried marine products, etc.

(c) Projection for export of marine items during the next three years has not been made as it would depend on availability of various products from various sources such as sea, deep sea and aquaculture etc.

Premises Hired by Bank of Baroda

5135. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of branches of the Bank of Baroda in Delhi, which are fully computerised and partially computerised;

(b) the time by which the partially computerised branches of the Bank are likely to be made fully computerised;

(c) the names of branches of the Bank of Baroda in Delhi, which are operating in leased premises;

- (d) the total amount of lease rent paid every year;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to shift these bank branches in their own buildings; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The names of the branches of Bank of Baroda in Delhi which are fully computerised and partially computerised are furnished in statement-I enclosed.

(b) Bank of Baroda has reported that all the partially computerised branches will be fully computerised by October, 2000.

(c) The names of the branches of Bank of Baroda in Delhi which are operating in leased premises is furnished in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) Bank of Baroda has reported payment of an annual lease rent of Rs. 5.11 crores.

(e) and (f) Bank of Baroda has reported that it proposes to shift its under mentioned branches to its own premises:-

- (i) H-11, Connaught Circus.
- (ii) Vishakha Enclave.
- (iii) Maurya Enclave.

Statement-I

1. IBB New Delhi
2. Parliament Street
3. Corp. Banking Branch
4. Greater Kailash
5. Nehru Place
6. K.G. Marg
7. Ashok Vihar
8. Paharganj
9. Shalimarbagh
10. Shakarpur
11. Shakti Nagar
12. Mayur Vihar Phase III
13. Mayur Vihar Phase I
14. Bhikaji Cama Place
15. Chanakyapuri
16. Naraina
17. Karampura
18. Karolbagh
19. Pusa Road
20. Rohini
21. D.C. Janakpuri
22. Asset Recovery Mgt. Branch
23. Asaf Ali Road
24. Defence Enclave
25. Chandni Chowk
26. M-9 Connaught Circus
27. H.11 Connaught Place
28. Daryaganj
29. Jawahar Nagar
30. Karkardooma
31. Model Town
32. Mandaoli
33. Nirman Bhawan
34. NRI Branch Delhi
35. RML Hospital
36. Sadar Bazar
37. Service Branch
38. Azadpur
39. Badli
40. G-90 Connaught Circus
41. Jheel
42. Patparganj
43. Basantlok
44. Bhogal
45. PS Road Karolbagh

46. Rohini (Razapur)
47. Hauskhas
48. Janakpuri
49. East of Kailash
50. Kirti Nagar
51. Najafgarh Road
52. Punjabi Bagh
53. Safdarjang Enclave
54. Safdarjang Hospital
55. Defence Colony
56. SSI Delhi
57. Basant Gaon
58. Nawada
59. Vasant Vihar
60. Vishaka Enclave
61. Bharat Nagar
62. Maurya Enclave
63. Rampura
64. Samalkha
65. Dhakka
66. Sultanpur Mazra
67. Ujwa
68. Foota Road

Statement-II

1. Asaf Ali Road
2. Ashok Vihar
3. Azadpur
4. Badli
5. Basant Gaon
6. Basant Lok
7. Bharat Nagar
8. Bhikaji Cama Place

9. Bhogal
10. Chanakyapuri
11. Chandni Chowk
12. Connaught Circus G-90/9
13. Connaught Circus H-Blk
14. Connaught Circus M-9
15. Daryaganj
16. Defence Enclave
17. Dhakka
18. East of Kailash
19. Greater Kailash
20. Hauz Khas
21. Janakpuri
22. Janakpuri D.C.
23. Jawahar Nagar
24. Jheel
25. K.G. Marg.
26. Karampura
27. Karkardooma
28. Karol Bagh
29. Karol Bagh, P.S. Road
30. Kirti Nagar
31. Mandoli
32. Maurya Enclave
33. Mayur Vihar-I
34. Mayur Vihar-III
35. Model Town
36. Najafgarh Road
37. Naraina
38. Nawada
39. Nehru Place-I
40. Nirman Bhawan

41. Paharganj
42. Patparganj
43. Punjabi Bagh
44. Pusa Road
45. R.M.L. Hospital
46. Rampura
47. Rohini Sector-7
48. Rohini Sector-9
49. S`Pur Mazra
50. Sadar Bazar
51. Safdarjung Enclave
52. Safdarjung Hospital
53. Shakarpur
54. Shakti Nagar
55. Shalimar Bagh
56. Smalkha
57. SSI Branch
58. Ujwa
59. Vasant Vihar
60. Vishakha Enclave

EXTENSION COUNTER

1. Airforce Bal Bharati School
2. Bal Bharati School
3. Blue Bells School
4. Sardar Patel Public School
5. VIMHANS (E.C.)

Discontinuation of Import by Algeria from India

5136. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Algerian Government discontinued the import of Indian tobacco and other agriculture produce since 1994;

(b) if so, the facts and the reasons therefor;

(c) the total quantity and value of the products imported annually by Algeria;

(d) the action, if any, taken by the Government against persons responsible for the loss of revenue suffered by India since 1994; and

(e) the steps being taken to resolve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Only M/s SNTA, the Algerian Government tobacco monopoly agency has stopped imports of tobacco from India since 1994. Imports of other agricultural commodities, however, continue.

(b) M/s SNTA of Algeria has discontinued imports of tobacco from India until the settlement of their claim for recompense of insect infected portion of tobacco supplied by the Indian exporter in 1993-94.

(c) The details of India's exports of agro-commodities to various countries with respect to quantity and value are available in monthly / annual number of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(d) and (e) The Tobacco Board had directed the exporter in July, 1996 to settle the matter amicably with the Algerian importer. A notice has also been issued to the Indian exporter on 30.6.2000 to report to the Board the action taken to settle the claim.

Drawback in FEMA

5137. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some drawbacks have been pointed out in FEMA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Foreign

Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) was notified on 1st May, 2000 and has come into force from 1st June, 2000. No drawbacks in FEMA have been pointed out since then.

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

Privatisation of PSUs

5138. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to go for second generation of economic reforms i.e. privatisation of almost all public sector enterprises without having a comprehensive review of the impact of first generation of economic reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government will come out with a comprehensive review of the impact of the first generation of reforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is not correct to state that the Government has decided to privatize almost all the Public Sector Enterprises. For the purpose of disinvestment Government has obtained the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission in only 58 Public Sector Companies. In addition to the above, in 25 companies under the administrative control of Department of Heavy Industry, the Government has taken in principle decision to form joint ventures. In three other companies disinvestment is being undertaken because of the advice of expert bodies being available to the Government or for the reasons that the decision to disinvest in the companies was taken before the constitution of the Disinvestment Commission. Out of the 58 companies where recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission are available, in 12 cases the recommendations are for no disinvestment for the present. Even in other cases, disinvestment would not necessarily result in privatization because the dilution of Government equity would not involve transfer of management and ownership of the company in all cases.

(c) The assessment of the impact of the reform measures undertaken by the Government is a continuous process. Disinvestment program, being a part of the economic reform measures was initiated in the year 1991-92. The present disinvestment policy has evolved over the period of time after taking into account the experience gained at each stage in the evolution.

Audit of RBI

5139. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the authority which audit Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) the procedure thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Statutory Central Auditors for the Reserve Bank of India are appointed by the Central Government on the basis of recommendations of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) on Bank Audit. The Committee comprises representatives of the Government of India, Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India and the Reserve Bank of India. The criteria and procedure are determined by the Audit Sub-Committee of the Board for Financial Supervision.

[Translation]

Complaints Against Employees of Doordarshan

5140. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the Question No. 7224 on 12.5.2000 regarding complaints against Employees of DD and to state:

(a) whether the further enquiry in regard to collection of additional facts regarding allegations has been completed;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the enquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that no prima facie case has been established after the preliminary enquiry.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Refund Cases Pending with CBDT

5141. COL. (RETD). SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news item captioned "Court directs I-T Chief to consider NGO's tips" appearing in 'The Times of India' dated July 31, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the number of cases pending with CBDT and Chief Commissioner of Income Tax for refund/clearance for over six months and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the refund is likely to be given to the aggrieved parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The High Court of Delhi in its order dated 27.7.2000 has directed that the suggestion made by the NGO may be implemented as practicable and desirable in the interest of revenue and tax payer.

(c) The suggestions made have been examined for implementation.

(d) and (e) The need for taking effective steps for elimination of delay in issue of income tax refunds has been repeatedly impressed on the field formations of the Income Tax Department. There are, however, certain difficulties relating to infrastructure which impede quicker clearance of refund claims. During the last financial year, out of total claim of 516,095 number of refunds, 357,703 refunds have been issued till 31 March, 2000. Every effort is made for early disposal of the remaining refund claims.

Women Entrepreneurs

5142. DR. S. VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the news-item captioned "Bank bunglings pit Minister against Minister" appearing in the 'The Sunday Observer' dated August 29, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Bank of Baroda lost the insurance documents of many Women Entrepreneurs and thus causing losses to them;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether inspite of the orders for settlement of the cases by the then Union Government, no case has since been settle till now;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the remedial steps the Government propose to take to settle the case now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e) to (g) Bank of Baroda has reported that the case relates to M/s Laxmi Laboratories, financed by the bank for import of machines and working capital for processing and developing colour photographs. The machines imported by the firm were stated to have been found defective. The firm lodged its claim and also filed a case against the insurance company based in U.S.A. and Bank of Baroda was made a party.

The insurance documents submitted by the firm with the bank and remitted to the New York branch of the bank as per advice of the firm, did not reach there. The bank subsequently furnished an affidavit. *inter alia*, indemnifying the insurance company for any amount paid by them to the firm. The Bank incurred expenses to the tune of US \$ 1,15,000 in the litigation.

The insurance company is reported to have settled the claim and paid an amount of US \$ 21,000 to the firm. The firm offered to pay the same to the bank. The same was not found acceptable to the bank. The Bank had filed a suit against the borrower in the Delhi High Court. This case now stands transferred to the Debts Recovery Tribunal for its verdict.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There have been no cases other than the case of M/s. Laxmi Laboratories as mentioned above.

12.10 hrs.

TRIBUTES TO SHRI VITHALBHAI J. PATEL ON
75TH ANNIVERSARY DAY OF THE ASSUMPTION
OF OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, 24th August is a historic day in the evolution of our parliamentary system. It was on this day, seventy-five years ago, that Shri Vithalbhai J. Patel, the first elected President of the Central Legislative Assembly, assumed the office.

Shri Patel firmly believed that it is only through the impartiality and independence of the Chair that the privileges and rights of the Members could be effectively safeguarded. Fearless, firm and impartial, his rulings were characterized by objectivity and a deep knowledge of parliamentary rules and procedures which helped in creating for posterity, sound and healthy parliamentary traditions and practices.

Shri Patel had a clear perception on the need to maintain a Legislative Secretariat independent of the Executive. One of his first tasks as President was to press for such a Secretariat in which he eventually succeeded. Shri Patel also established the convention that the President does not participate in the debate and does not vote. In case of a deadlock, he may use his casting vote in favour of the *status quo*.

By his dignity, uprightness and impartiality, Shri Patel left us traditions, which will always be a part of the heritage of the Chair in India. There could be no more permanent memorial to Shri Patel than the institution of Speakership itself.

24th August, 2000 was the 75th Anniversary Day of the assumption of the office of the President of the Central Legislative Assembly by Shri Vithalbhai Patil. On this occasion, I, on behalf of the whole House, offer humble tributes to the memory of this outstanding parliamentarian and Presiding Officer. Let us rededicate ourselves to the tasks which he ceaselessly strove to accomplish.

12.13 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): On behalf

of Shri L.K. Advani, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the National Security Guard (Group 'A' posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 283 in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2000 under sub-section (3) of Section 139 of the National Security Guard Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2320/2000]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF
CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): I beg to lay on the
Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2321/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi, for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi, for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2322/2000]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National School of Drama, for the year 1998-99.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2323/2000]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sahitya Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sahitya Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2324/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2325/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Dr. C.P. Thakur, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Memorial

Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2326/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2327/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms (Third Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 638 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2000 under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2328/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the committee on State Funding of Elections (Inderjit Gupta Committee)

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2329/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 6 of 2000)—Public Sector Undertakings—Hindustan Antibiotics Limited for the period ended the 31st March, 1999 under article 151(1) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2330/2000]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1998-99.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2331/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-
 - (i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Permissible Capital Account Transactions) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 384(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
 - (ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Issue of Security in India by a branch, office or

agency of a person resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 385(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.

- (iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing or Lending in Foreign Exchange) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 386(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (iv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing and Lending in Rupees) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 387(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (v) The Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 388(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (vi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 389(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (vii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and Transfer of immovable property outside India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 390(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (viii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 391(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (ix) The Foreign Exchange Management (Realisation, Repatriation and Surrender of Foreign Exchange) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 392(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (x) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a person resident in India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 393(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.

- (xi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Possession and Retention of Foreign Currency) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 394(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (xii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Insurance) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 395(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (xiii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Remittance of Assets) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 396(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (xiv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Manner of Receipt and Payment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 397(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2000.
- (xv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 406(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.
- (xvi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and Transfer of immovable property in India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 407(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.
- (xvii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Establishment in India of Branch or Office or other place of Business) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 408(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.
- (xviii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 409(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.
- (xix) The Foreign Exchange Management (Investment in Firm or Proprietary concern

in India) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 410(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.

- (xx) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Exchange derivative contracts) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 411(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.
- (xxi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or issue of any foreign security) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 456(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2332/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 402(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000 notifying debit cards, ATM cards or any other instrument by whatever name called that can be used to create a financial liability as currency issued under section 2 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2333/2000]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-
 - (i) G.S.R. No. 403 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000 regarding receipt from, and payment to, a person resident outside India.
 - (ii) G.S.R. No. 404 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000. directing that the prohibitions imposed by clauses (b), (c) and (d) of that section shall not apply to any transaction entered into in Indian rupee by or with.
 - (iii) G.S.R. No. 405 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000, seeking to permit any person to buy from any post office, any foreign exchange in the form of postal orders or money orders.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2334/2000]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:-

- (i) S.O. 1360 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (ii) S.O. 1361 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (iii) S.O. 1362 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Shri Ram Chandra Mission, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) S.O. 1363 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Sri Kailash Ashrama Mahasamsthana Trust, Bangalore" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (v) S.O. 1364 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Chennai" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (vi) S.O. 1365 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Federation of Indian

Export Organisation, New Delhi" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

- (vii) S.O. 1366 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "William Carery Study and Research Centre, Calcutta" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (viii) S.O. 1367 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Indian Parliamentary Group, New Delhi" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) S.O. 1368 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon (Haryana)" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (x) S.O. 1369 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "The Music Academy, Chennai" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 subject to certain conditions.
- (xi) S.O. 1370 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment year 1997-98, subject to certain conditions.
- (xii) S.O. 1371 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 containing

corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 1774 dated the 26th June, 1999.

- (xiii) S.O. 1372 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Voluntary Coordinating Agency for Child Adoption, Chennai" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.
- (xiv) S.O. 1373 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Aga Khan Foundation, New Delhi" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xv) S.O. 1374 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Shri Ahobila Math Sanskrita Vidya Abhi Vardhini Sabha, Chennai" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98, subject to certain conditions.
- (xvi) S.O. 1375 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "India International Rural Cultural Centre, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xvii) S.O. 1376 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Council for Leather Export, Chennai" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98, subject to certain conditions.
- (xviii) S.O. 1377 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Gandhi Samarak Sangrahalaya Samiti, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xix) S.O. 1378 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare, Ministry of Human Resource Development" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96, subject to certain conditions.
- (xx) S.O. 1379 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Slight Savers International-Royal Commonwealth Society for Blind, Bombay" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxi) S.O. 1380 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Little Sisters of the Poor, Calcutta" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxii) S.O. 1381 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "U.P. Sainik Punarvas Nidhi, Lucknow" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-1992, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiii) S.O. 1382 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Victoria Technical Institute, Chennai" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiv) S.O. 1383 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding

exemption to the "Institute of Rail Transport, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

- (xxv) S.O. 1384 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvi) S.O. 1385 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 1800 dated the 26th June, 1999.
- (xxvii) S.O. 1386 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1387 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Organisation of Pharmaceutical Procedures of India, Mumbai" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxix) S.O. 1388 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Servants of India Society, Shivaji Nagar, Pune" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxx) S.O. 1389 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai" under section 10

(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

- (xxxi) S.O. 1390 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "FAN-INDIA, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxii) S.O. 1391 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "India International Centre, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 1392 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 1393 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Sant Nirankari Mandal, Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxv) S.O. 1394 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Seva Mandir, Udaipur (Rajasthan)" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 1395 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Sant Shri Asharam Ashram, Gujarat" under section 10(23 C)

of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

- (xxxvii) S.O. 1396 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Joint Plant Committee, Calcutta" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 1397 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxix) S.O. 1398 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xl) S.O. 1399 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Centre for Public Sector Studies, New Delhi" under section 10(23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xli) S.O. 1400 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlii) S.O. 1401 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding

exemption to the "Institute of Economic Journalism, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.

- (xliii) S.O. 1402 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Maharana Pratap Smarak Samiti, Udaipur, Rajasthan" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xliv) S.O. 1403 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlv) S.O. 1406 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlvi) S.O. 1409 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Anandashram Trust, Kanhangad, Kerala" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.
- (xlvii) S.O. 1410 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the a "Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.

(xlvi) S.O. 1411 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xlix) S.O. 1413 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "All Bengal Women's Union, Calcutta" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.

(l) S.O. 1417 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Khelagaar, Calcutta" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(li) S.O. 1418 published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2000 regarding exemption to the "Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi" under section 10 (23 C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain condition.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2335/2000]

(5) A copy of the Baggage (Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 658 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th August, 2000, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1952 together with an Explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2336/2000]

(6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-

(i) The Syndicate Bank General Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. Ref. No.

189/0010/113 in Gazette of India dated the 25th December, 1999.

(ii) The Allahabad Bank General Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. Gen. A/c 001626 in Gazette of India dated the 8th April, 2000.

(iii) The Punjab National Bank General Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. PNB/OSC/Reg/1/2000 published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No PNB/OSC/Reg/2/2000 dated the 3rd June, 2000.

(iv) The Union Bank of India General Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. P&D:O&M:1575:182 in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2337/2000]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000, under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Mumbai, for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2338/2000]

(8) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:-

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Direct Taxes) (No. 12A of 2000)—Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme, 1997 for the year ended the 31st March, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2339/2000]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Railways) (No. 9 of 2000) for the year ended the 31st March, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2340/2000]

- (9) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Indian Railways, for the year 1998-99, Part-1—Review (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2341/2000]

- (10) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Indian Railways, for the year 1998-99, Part-II—Detailed Appropriation Accounts (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2342/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): On behalf of Shri Babu Lal Marandi, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report—(Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1997-98.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2343/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): On behalf of Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2344/2000]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2345/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2346/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988:-
 - (i) The Central Motor Vehicles (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 642(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (ii) G.S.R. 610(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2000 making certain amendments in the Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 1998 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2347/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-

- (i) S.O. 1255(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st December, 1999 regarding acquisition of extra land for four laning on National Highway No. 5.
- (ii) S.O. 376(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 2000 regarding levy of fees to be recovered from users of Mahi Bridge on National Highway No. 8 near Vasad.
- (iii) S.O. 648(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2000 regarding levy of fees to be recovered from users of the Bridge on National Highway No. 6 near Nashirabad.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2348/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1998-99.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2349/2000]

12.15 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (1) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2000 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st August, 2000 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (2) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2000, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st August, 2000 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (3) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 17th August, 2000 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Offices of Profit:-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do elect one member of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri E. Balanandan from the Rajya Sabha and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, one member from among the members of the House to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy"

I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri Nilotpāl Basu, Member of Rajya Sabha has been duly elected to the said Committee.'

- (4) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 9th August, 2000 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Accounts:-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one Member from Rajya Sabha vice Shri Vayalar Ravi retired from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri Onward L. Nongtdu, Member, Rajya Sabha has been duly elected to the said Committee.'

12.16 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Fourth Report presented to the House on 22 August, 2000, have recommended that leave of absence from the Sittings of the House be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri Prakash V. Patil | 17.4.2000 to 17.5.2000
and
24.7.2000 to 20.8.2000 |
| 2. Shri Chuni Lal Bhai
Thakur | 24.7.2000 to 25.8.2000 |
| 3. Shri Bikash Chowdhury | 10.3.2000 to 16.3.2000,
17.4.2000 to 17.5.2000
and
24.7.2000 to 13.8.2000 |

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.17 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Reports

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI (Nainital): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha):

- (1) Seventh Report on Paragraph 8.1 of Audit Report No. 6. of 1997, Union Government (Post and Telecommunications) relating to Procurement of 2 GHz Digital Microwave System.
- (2) Eighth Report on Action Taken on First Report (11th LS) on Excesses over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (1994-95).
- (3) Ninth Report on Action Taken on Fourth Report (11th LS) on Union Government Appropriation Accounts (1994-95)—Telecommunication Services.
- (4) Tenth Report on Action Taken on Second Report (12th LS) on Union Government Appropriation Accounts—Telecommunication Services (1996-97).

12.17½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Eighth Report

[English]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): I beg to present the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.18 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Minutes

[English]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Sixth

to Eighth sittings of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the current Session.

12.18¼ hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHT BILL

Report

[Translation]

SHRI SAHIB SINGH (Outer Delhi): Sir, I beg to present the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Bill, 1999.

12.18½ hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHT BILL

Evidence

SHRI SAHIB SINGH (Outer Delhi) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the record of evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Bill, 1999.

12.18-¾ hrs.

RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Statements

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHÀLIA (Junagarh): I beg to lay on the Table the following statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Railway Convention Committee:-

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the RCC (1985) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of Railway Convention Committee (1985) on "On-Going Railway Line Projects".

- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Railway Convention Committee (1989) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report of Railway Convention Committee (1985) on "Rolling Stock Programme (Availability of Coaches and Wagons)".

- (3) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report of the Railway Convention Committee (1991) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Second Report of Railway Convention Committee (1991) on "Purchase of Electric Locomotives from M/s ABB, Switzerland by the Indian Railways".

- (4) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Railway Convention Committee (1991) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of Railway Convention Committee (1991) on "Staff Welfare and Industrial Relations in Railways".

- (5) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Railway Convention Committee (1996) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of Railway Convention Committee (1991) on "Progress of Modernisation Programme in Railways including Energy Conservation Measures".

12.19 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Second and Third Reports

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (Adilabad) : I beg to present the Second and Third Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

12.19½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Statements

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Statements of the Standing Committee on Energy:-

- (1) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 13th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report (10th Lok Sabha) on 'Energy for 90's and Beyond: Prospects, Reality and Challenges'.
- (2) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 26th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on 'New Policy Initiatives in Power Sector—Status of Implementation and their Impact on the Economy'.
- (3) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 5th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 35th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on 'Rehabilitation Policy of Tehri Hydro Electric Project—A Case Study'.
- (4) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 6th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 36th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on 'Fast Track Power Projects—An evaluation'.
- (5) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 5th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 14th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (1997-98)' of Department of Atomic Energy.
- (6) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 6th

Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 15th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (1997-98)' of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

- (7) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 7th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 16th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (1997-98)' of Ministry of Power.
- (8) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 4th Report (13th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 16th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (1999-2000)' of Department of Atomic Energy.

12.19½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Third Report

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur): I beg to present a copy of the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on "India's Role in the United Nations with particular reference to her claim for Permanent Membership of the Security Council".

12.19½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Seventh Report

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, I beg to present a copy (in Hindi and English versions) of Seventh Report of Standing Committee on Petroleum & Chemicals (1999-2000) on action taken by the Government

on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2000-2001 relating to Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, Department of Fertilisers.

12.20 hrs.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Probodh Kumlehakur of the Paschim Banga Mutia Mazdoor Union (Adra Unit) of Food Corporation of India, Adra, West Bengal requesting for regularisation of handling labourers of Adra FSD godown of Food Corporation of India by introducing the direct payment system.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2350/2000]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Madhu Kotian and others of Nahur, Mumbai regarding construction of a new railway station at Nahur between Bhandup and Mulund railway stations in Mumbai.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2351/2000]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Zero Hour. Shri Yerrannaidu. He has given a notice of an Adjournment Motion. . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is the last date. I want to complete all the notices in the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Why you all people have risen. Please sit down. It is the last day of this session. Therefore I will give an opportunity for speaking to all.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Consequent on the depression in the Bay of Bengal—hon. Minister of Agriculture is here—on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th August up

to 11 a.m. due to heavy rains about 116 people died in Andhra Pradesh. Life came to a standstill in Hyderabad and other parts of the State. Three-fourths of the Hyderabad city has come under water. So far one lakh people have been evacuated and so far about thousands of houses have been damaged fully.

Six hundred minor irrigation tanks have breached. Four hundred villages were inundated as also all the National Highways. The National Highway from Chennai to Calcutta has been completely closed to traffic at Chilakaluripeta while Nandyal recorded 50 cm of rain in two days. In one place there was 50 cm of rain in two days. In the last 100 years there has been only 24 cm of rain but in one day the rainfall was 24 cm, the highest so far in Hyderabad. The Army and Air Force have been requisitioned to assist the civil administration. Also, so far 13 districts have been affected in Andhra Pradesh, 412 roads were cut off disturbing many districts.

So, this is my humble submission to the Union Government that an *ad hoc* relief—we are demanding—Rs. 200 crore should be given. Previously on the 20th April 1999, we requested the Union Government a sum of Rs. 725 crore for drought but only Rs. 75 crore was given to the State of Andhra Pradesh. We have been repeatedly requesting for grants for drought relief. Meanwhile, due to heavy rains also lot of damage has occurred.

Now the district administration is assessing the damage. So far, 13 senior officers of the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been deputed to all the districts. Seven Cabinet Ministers have also been deputed to the districts and now the damage is being assessed. The Chief Minister has visited Nandyal and Hyderabad. The State Assembly has been adjourned for two days to enable the MLAs to go to their constituencies and to pursue the rescue and relief operations. All the schools have also been closed. This is the situation in the Andhra Pradesh.

That is why my request through you—Minister is here and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs also is here—the Government of India should announce some *ad hoc* grants also to help the State Government. This is my request.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Janardhana Reddy.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We also support his demand.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Janardhana Reddy.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is how we should unitedly work.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: These are national issues. That is how we should cooperate with each other.

MR. SPEAKER: You are getting a lot of support from Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are also facing similar problems.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): I must be allowed to speak also.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet): It is with great pain that I rise to mention and bring this to the notice of the Government of India. It was only yesterday, as Shri Yerrannaidu was telling, that we were demanding an assistance for drought. As against a request for Rs. 700 crore they gave a paltry amount of Rs. 70 crore! Now 14 districts got affected. Suprisingly the districts which never get rain, this time, those districts like Nellore, Chittoor and Prakasam, got inundated. It had never happened. Particularly, the Telangana region never gets affected by this sort of depression. I heard Dr. Venugopal saying on the TV that 50 years back it was affected. No, in 1979 when the depression crossed the coast at Ongole it affected Mahaboobnagar. The Collector does not know that under the Treasury Rule 27 he can draw the money without waiting for any sanction for giving relief.

Now, 120 deaths have been reported.

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (Adilabad): One hundred and sixty so far!

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: It is only a preliminary estimate. Two hundred forty millimetres of rain was there in the city within 24 hours. Earlier, they never used helicopter to lift the people from one place to another place, stranded in the buildings. The drinking water is not there; the food is not there. The State Government is doing its best. We do not want to criticise now. It is a time to cooperate and help.

Sir, I do not know whether your native place, I. Polavaram, in the East Godavari District, got affected or not. Sir, it is your endeavour which should help Andhra Pradesh now. . . . (Interruptions)

Sir, as rightly mentioned by Shri Yerrannaidu, thousands of vehicles are stranded on the roads.

Passengers are there in the vehicles and nobody is there to give them food and drinking water.

Sir, you kindly use your good offices to help these people.

The main thing I want to emphasise is that the Tenth Finance Commission had recommended Rs. 143 crore for Andhra Pradesh for cyclone relief. The Eleventh Finance Commission recommended Rs. 198 crore. But, according to the State Government, they have already burnt their fingers and spent Rs. 307 crore on drought itself. Now, it is in minus. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is a serious subject concerning the entire nation.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: I would like to know whether the Government of India or the State Government knows about it or not. The Eleventh Finance Commission recommended the removal of the Central Relief Fund. Now, it is not there. Orissa was helped with that fund.

Now, the Eleventh Finance Commission's stand is, which the House should know, that the Government of India is not able to decide which is national calamity and which is not. If that is the reason, then they cannot run the Government. Unfortunately, this is the situation under which the State Government is suffering now.

Sir, you use your good offices and influence the State and the Central Governments. One thing is that when this kind of thing happens, as you know, schools and colleges are closed. The collections from banks and farmers are deferred. So, Sir, I request you to use your good offices to defer the power hike, which is there in Andhra Pradesh for these sufferers. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, I got your notice at 10.31 a.m. Even then I am allowing you.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I thank you very much for your generosity in allowing me to speak.

I want to rise and associate myself on this very solemn occasion where seven lakh people in the twin cities are stranded. The entire people of seven crore of the State in general and the farmers in particular, have had a crucial twist of faith where during the drought season, the crop dry out and during the flood season, the crop rot.

I think, it is time that we transcend the limitations of political boundaries, and this House should come together

and, in one voice, come to the rescue of the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, you, in your wisdom, have on an earlier occasion asked the Members of Parliament to give their contributions to the State of Orissa. Several people came forward and donated most generously. I think, under your guidance and leadership of this House, all Members of Parliament will come forward. . . . (*Interruptions*)

I am coming to that, Sir.

Sir, I think the Members of Parliament will come forward and the Government will take the onus of responsibility, without going into the nitty gritty and the red-tapism. This is a human need. The need of the hour is for a spontaneous reaction. It is not just the flood, it is the aftermath of the flood where we shall need Government's intervention. Things, such as, providing medical facilities, more importantly, money, rehabilitation packages for the farmers as well as for all those students who have lost hours in schools this time, some of whom will have to appear for examinations, etc., must be taken into consideration and special concessions must be made for those who have been affected.

I also want, through you, Sir, to ask the Telugu Desam Members that they direct their Chief minister to please requisition the Navy—people who are equipped to deal with this kind of a situation—to come and do food-dropping as well as picking up the people, and also ask the Army to come forward for lifting the vehicles as well as giving medical facilities and controlling disease outbreak. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Anything from the Government side?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the Army and the Air Force have already been requisitioned by the State Government and they are assisting the civil administration. They are doing immense service. Everybody is appreciating the Air Force. They are doing excellent service. . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): Mr. Speaker, Sir. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Are you also associating yourself with him?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I have also an issue to raise, Sir. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am asking for the Government's reaction on this.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ministry officials concerned are in touch with State Government officials about the destructions caused by heavy rain in some areas of Andhra Pradesh and a Central team would visit tomorrow to the affected areas to study the situation and assess the losses. I myself will visit tomorrow that areas of Andhra Pradesh and after discussing on the situation with State Government necessary steps, whichever is necessary would be taken by Central Government.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, the Minister has already said that he is going to visit the affected areas.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Madhavrao Scindia, please.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to understand that today is the last day of the Session and there are a number of important matters to be raised by hon. Members. You are forcing the Chair to adjourn the House. Do not do like this.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may be given the opportunity to speak. . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Sir, we are demanding Rs. 200 crore as *ad hoc* relief. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Madhavrao Scindia says.

(*Interruptions*)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to understand. The Minister has already said that he is going to visit the affected areas.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I want to raise a very serious matter. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Scindia says.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, please take your seat. You have raised a matter and the Government has also replied.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: After the Minister's reply, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: What is this, Shri Yerrannaidu? I have given you an opportunity. You have raised the matter and the Government has also replied. Again you are obstructing the proceedings of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should know the procedure in the 'Zero hour' also as to what is the business in the 'Zero hour'.

DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Sir, we want the intervention by the Central Government. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Madhavrao Scindia is saying.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You made your point. Please allow me. . . . *(Interruptions)* You are not allowing others to make their points. . . . *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Sir, I have already said that I am visiting the affected areas tomorrow morning alongwith a Central team. . . . *(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Take all of them also to the affected areas.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, with your permission I want to raise a very serious matter. It was vision of late Rajiv Gandhi that a dispensation be evolved in our country where equal opportunities should be given to women alongwith men in decision-making and in nation building, so that they can play an important role in it also. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is this? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Shri Mulayam Singhji, opportunity will be given to you also, let me speak. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: If there is no unanimity, Women Reservation Bill would not pass. Again and again, what is this? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: About it previous Government has. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not proper, Mulayam Singhji, you please sit down. If you want to say something, say later. I will call you later, not now. Now you please sit down.

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, how can he interrupt like this? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singhji, this is too much.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you later. Mulayam Singhji, it is not proper. You will be called later.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Till unanimity is not achieved, the Bill will not be passed whether it is brought twice or thrice. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Shri Madhavrao Scindia. Please sit down.

[Translation]

You please sit down, Mulayam Singhji. You speak after Scindiaji.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the speech of Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Previous Government of Congress has pursued this system and today they have their due representation in Municipalities and in Panchayats. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not now Mulayam Singhji, you will be called later. Madhavrao Scindiaji has been allowed to speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Where women are raising their voice strongly and taking part in that system. . . . (Interruptions) It is our longstanding demand and we are committed to it, that reservation should also be provided to them in Parliament and it should be made once and for all. But Government in this matter. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not proper, you please sit down. What are you doing in House?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Government is postponing this issue on the pretext of consensus. . . . (Interruptions) We strongly demand to make effort to evolve consensus on it during inter-session period of two sessions. If consensus is not reached, in any condition this Bill should be presented during next session, Winter session and passed. . . . (Interruptions) Discussion should take place on it and final decision be taken in this regard. We want that Government should give assurance that this Bill would be presented in winter session and passed. It is the demand of Congress. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

12.40 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Balram Singh Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The T.V. telecast should be stopped.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : He is doing injustice with women . . . (Interruptions) This Bill should be brought and passed in the winter session . . . (Interruptions) We want an assurance from the Government in this regard . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing, today is the last day of the session.

(Interruptions)

12.41 hrs.

(At this stage Shrimati Kanti Singh, Shri Ramdas Athawale, Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale and some other hon. Members came and stood near the Table)

MR. SPEAKER: When there is no issue to discuss in the House then what are you doing, this is not correct.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? We are not discussing the Bill. I have allowed Shri Madhavrao Scindia to raise the matter. What is this?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting the leaders to please ask their Members to go to their seats.

(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you to please go to your seats.

[Translation]

Why you are doing all this, we are not discussing the Bill.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madan Lal Khurana to speak now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the speech of Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 18th August, when the Union Minister of Energy Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam was battling for his life, at that time I blamed Indraprastha Apollo Hospital for its wrong treatment and offensive negligence. . . (Interruptions) Had his disease been diagnosed at the initial stage and had he been provided proper treatment, perhaps he could have been saved. . . (Interruptions) When I raised this issue, I received hundreds of phone calls from Delhi and other neighbouring States . . . (Interruptions) regarding irregularities being committed by Management of Apollo Hospital and its irresponsible attitude. . . (Interruptions). The President of Bharatiya Janata Party Shri Kushabhau Thakre had given a statement sometime back in which he had stated that in his treatment also, the hospital had been careless. Even the Minister of Health in Punjab Shri Manoranjan Kalia wrote a letter on 20th August 2000 to hon. Prime Minister in which he had mentioned the misdemeanour of management of Apollo Hospital . . . (Interruptions). In view of all these facts which I am going to place before you regarding establishment of this hospital are quite stunning. . . (Interruptions). The Delhi Government had allotted around 15 acres of land to this hospital almost free at the rate of Rs. 1 per acre, the present market value of which is Rs. 60 crore . . . (Interruptions). The import duty on machineries imported from foreign countries was exempted. An MOU was signed after acquiring 26 per cent share of Delhi Government. In this way an amount of Rs. 20 crore was given in the form of share capital . . . (Interruptions). Besides this, the Delhi Government gave

Rs. 17 crore in the form of Building fund to this Hospital which has not been refunded so far. The total cost of this hospital was Rs. 190 crore out of which Rs. 80 crore was provided by the financial institutions of Union Government. The financial institutions of Union Government and the Delhi Government gave Rs. 117 crore and the land to this Hospital . . . (Interruptions). The sole object for giving such a huge amount and signing MOU was clear that 33% of beds will be reserved for poor and middle class people and they would be provided free treatment . . . (Interruptions). The Chief Secretary of Delhi would be the Chairman of the Management Committee of this hospital and the Secretary Health and Secretary Finance would be its Directors but I regret to say that even after getting so much facilities and funds from Delhi Government, the MOU is not being adhered to by the Hospital authorities . . . (Interruptions) when a person filed a petition in the court, the management committee should have given an affidavit but such an affidavit was submitted in the court, that too without giving any information to the Chairman of the management committee i.e. the Chief Secretary of Delhi Government which went against the Delhi Government . . . (Interruptions)

I regret to say that this Hospital has failed to achieve its aim for which it was set up . . . (Interruptions). The Delhi Government had provided the land and such a huge amount to this Hospital so that the poor and middle class people of Delhi could get free treatment but now this hospital is functioning as a private business institution whose aim is to accumulate more and more money by any means. . . (Interruptions). Therefore by writing a letter 59 members of Lok Sabha have asked Dr. C.P. Thakur, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare that:-

1. A high-level enquiry should be conducted to look into the functioning of hospital, its offensive negligence and the loot of the patients.
2. The MOU signed with Delhi Government be adhered to.
3. The Union Government should acquire the land of hospital in case the hospital does not adhered to the agreement.

. . . (Interruptions). I hope that the Government would take a lesson from the death of Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam who died under these circumstances and will accept our above mentioned demands.

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Except Shri Mohan Rawale, nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a scheme with an outlay of Rs. 2600 crore was formulated to rehabilitate the Kashmiri Hindus who were forced to flee their land. . . . (Interruptions). Several people were killed and the people who were living in Jammu and Kashmir were forced to leave their land. . . . (Interruptions) 31490 people are living in Jammu and 19339 people are living in Delhi. They want to re-settle in Kashmir. The Government should help in their rehabilitation. . . . (Interruptions) But the Hijbul Mujahiddin has opposed this move. Ceasefire is arrived at against an enemy but today we arrived at ceasefire against Hijbul-Mujahiddin (Interruptions). The Government should combat terrorism by taking strict action without caring for any international pressure also. . . . (Interruptions). Similarly as we did at the time of conducting the nuclear test. . . . (Interruptions). We should take such a step which could give a lesson to Pakistan. . . . (Interruptions) Would you take a concrete step after Kashmir is slipped out of our hands? We should immediately launch an assault against the militancy in Kashmir and teach them a lesson. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair. I am appealing you all to go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Dr. Nitish Sengupta.

(Interruptions)*

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): Sir, I want to draw your attention to the fact that four thanas in Midnapore district, three in Hooghly district and two in Bankura district have become disturbed areas. Therefore, the State authorities should be advised to hand

*Not recorded.

them over to military authorities under the Aid to Civil Authorities Provision of the Criminal Procedure Code. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Suresh Kurup.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bwiswmuthiary, please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I called the name of Shri Suresh Kurup.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon Members, what is this? This is not proper. Today is the last day.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Today is the last day of the Session.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY (Katihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent the Katihar Parliamentary Constituency. I would like to express my concern in the House about the old RBHM Jute Mill. The RBHM Jute Mill is under the JMC Calcutta and the step motherly treatment is being done to this Mill. It is due to the sickness of the Mill that the condition of the labourers and the farmers there is deteriorating day by day. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary says.

(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Till now the Mill has not been completely modernized. Only the spinning and designing divisions of the Mill have been modernized and the breaker and finishers have not even been repaired. It has been repaired only partially. This Mill has been running for last twenty years. But the Mills under NJMC, which are located in Calcutta, have completely been mechanized and modernized.

Sir, the manufacturing of machine parts used in day-to-day, which were being manufactured in the foundries and workshops of RBHM Jute Mill has been stopped by the managers here and an inferior quality machine parts are being purchased from the private companies in Calcutta. As a result, these parts become worn out and break in a very short period. The Mill remains closed for a long time before these parts are replaced. My request in this regard is that the workshop of RBHM Mill should be reopened for the manufacturing of the parts so that the Mill may not have to wait for the spares.

Sir, there is gross irregularity in case of jute supply from the RBHM Jute Mill. The JCI use to supply a good quality jute but he purchase from them have been stopped and now they are purchasing an inferior quality jute from private parties causing deterioration in the standards of production. Presently, 1700 workers are working in this Mill, while earlier they were 3200. Presently, half of the workers are casual labourers who are earning their bread from here for the last 18 years.

Sir, there is a Central Pay Commission for the entire nation and its recommendations are acceptable to all units but here no such recommendation has been implemented. The casual labourers are not getting their job daily. Many of the casual labourers are not even getting any job. Unless all the units of RBHM Jute Mills are not modernized and mechanized, the conditions of labourers and farmers will continue to deteriorate day by day.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH (Moradabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, at 11 a.m. the police in Moradabad town attacked women workers of the Loktantrik Congress who had gone to deliver a memorandum at a Mission School. . . . (Interruptions). No woman police was employed there. The police personnel beat the women workers with

iron rods, causing hurt to many. . . . (Interruptions). They have even fabricated cases against women workers, some of whom are untraceable. . . . (Interruptions)

The unarmed women workers had given proper notice to the administration regarding submitting a memorandum. . . . (Interruptions). When they went there peacefully to submit the memorandum, they were charged by a overenthusiastic police force led by a young IPS officer on his first posting. . . . (Interruptions). He not only beat them up without the women police being present but also did so with iron rods. . . . (Interruptions)

What action does the Government envisage against this young perpetrator of the crime? . . . (Interruptions). Does it intend honouring him with a President's Police Medal for bravery against unarmed women? . . . (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI TARACHAND SAHU (Durg): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Chhattisgarh State is coming into existence. . . . (Interruptions). The State reorganization process is in full motion but in the meanwhile some people are in action to make the Chhattisgarh State weak. My Parliamentary Constituency is Durg. Bhilai is adjacent to it. Both are twin cities. . . . (Interruptions). The process of closing down of Telecom Factory, Hathkhaj which was established many years back at some 10 Kms. away from Bhilai, has been initiated. It is being relocated at some other place. It is a matter of concern. . . . (Interruptions). The labourers of the place will be rendered jobless once the factory is closed down and it will also affect the development of the area. Similarly, a few years back a high power transmitter was set up at Khedamarg some 15-20 Kms. away from Bhilai. . . . (Interruptions). Its cost is nearly Rs. 22 crore. There is conspiracy to relocate it also to some other place. The only veterinary college of Chhattisgarh located in Anjora, some seven-eight Kms. away from Durg is at the verge of closure. . . . (Interruptions). It will adversely affect the prospect of development of Chhattisgarh. The process is on to transfer Raipur and Bhanpur K.V. line scheme worth Rs. 15 crore to some other place. My request to the Government is that all the above mentioned points should be considered seriously and instructions should be given by the Government to retain all these industries in Chhattisgarh itself. . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers of potato, oil seeds and pulses of the

country are not getting appropriate prices for their produce. In Uttar Pradesh, 80 Kg. bag of potato is being sold at Rs. 1.5 while the owners of cold storage are charging Rs. 80, even an empty bag costs Rs. 20 and loading and freight charges to Rs. 20. . . . (Interruptions). The farmers are getting Rs. 30 for 80 Kg. bag of potato. The farmers are heading towards ruin. The same is situation with the oil seed. The edible oils are being imported. As a result, the domestic oil is not being purchased. . . . (Interruptions). The price of oil seeds have fallen. The farmers of oil seeds are not getting appropriate prices for their produce. The oil mills are closing down. The labourers are becoming jobless. The entire oil industry has been ruined. . . . (Interruptions). The same is situation regarding pulses. Its prices have drastically fallen. It is being imported. My request is that Government should purchase the potato and the steps should be taken to export it. Custom duty should be imposed on edible oil. . . . (Interruptions). Restrictions should be imposed on the import of edible oil and pulses so that the farmers could get appropriate prices for their produce. . . . (Interruptions)

13.02 hrs.

[English]

At this stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary came and sat on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no other business before the House except the Private Members' Business.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All matters under Rule 377 listed for today, including in the stand-by list, are treated as laid on the Table of the House.

14.05½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to open Sub-Regional Provident Fund Office at Kyonjhargarh in Orissa

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar): The demand for opening of sub regional provident fund office at Keonjhargarh is getting prominence day by day. 28 such offices were set up in the country after 1950. However, inspite of fulfilling the parameters for opening up of such offices, the office was not opened at Keonjhar. There are 57,233 members in district Keonjhar and 13,511 members in district Mayurbhanj who have got their names registered in provident fund scheme. The total number of these members is 70744. Presently, Keonjhar comes under the regional Provident Fund Office, Rourkela which is some 200 Kms. away from Kyonjhar. The members of this scheme have to face many difficulties as they do not get advance withdrawal or final payment at the time of urgency. It is also not possible for the every person to go Rourkela for this purpose. The members of the provident fund scheme residing in Keonjhar are very much agitated on this issue.

I, therefore, demand that a sub-regional Provident Fund Office at Keonjhargarh should be opened without any further delay.

(ii) Need to improve Telephone services in Saran District of Bihar

[English]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): The district of Saran in Bihar is headed by a TDM in the Telephone circle. However, the district is marked with disorder as several exchanges are out of order for an average two to four months every year. Very poor quality of laying of optical fibre cables and the minute examination of the tendered dates and completion date shall indicate the level of poor work. A telephone exchange of Sonapur, having wait list in several hundreds could not be expanded as the TDM failed to locate a building, while Sonapur is a Railway DRM headquarter and a civil subdivision. I request the

*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

[Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy]

Union Government to conduct a high level enquiry into the matter or a vigilance enquiry be instituted in the district and also steps to be taken to upgrade the various exchanges which have recorded high level of waiting list and immediate expansion of Chhapra main telephone exchange which has exhausted the expanded capacity.

(iii) Need to Provide financial assistance to Government of Rajasthan for early completion of Siddhmukh Irrigation Project in Churu district of Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): A lot of time has elapsed since the approval of Siddhmukh Irrigation Project in district Churu of Rajasthan but it is yet to be completed. The Government has also provided the necessary funds for the project but still the project is lying pending.

The farmers of Churu are in a pathetic condition due to recurring famines. The completion of the project will provide relief to the farmers.

Hence, through you, Sir, I would like to request to the Union Government to take necessary action so that the project is completed without any further delay and it is also requested that necessary funds for the project may also be provided.

(iv) Need to improve the telephone services in Dohad Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA (Dohad) : My constituency Dohad in Gujarat is an Adivasi district and a backward area. There are many complaints and grievances against the telephone department from various quarters. These telephones remain out of order at many places. The complaints of wrong number are fairly common. No taluka of other important place has its own telephone exchange. There is also need to lay fibre wires. Modernisation of telephone services has not been done. There is no STD facility to link the different cities to each other. There are even no local call facility at many places.

Arrangement to open STD/ISD/local call booths at various places should be made. Women, educated but unemployed Adivasis youths should be given the opportunity to open the ISD/STD/local call booths. It is very necessary to provide STD/ISD facility in Dohad to link it to other cities of the country and abroad. The public is

disgusted because the telephones remain out of order for most of the time. Telephone faults are not removed and new telephone connections are not provided until bribe is given to the employees of the department of telecommunication. A high power enquiry group should be sent by the Centre to solve all these problems.

(v) Need to reserve Kench's Trace and Laplang areas in Shillong, Meghalaya as green belt

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (Shillong): Recently, there has been a sense of extreme unease and concern among the people of Shillong, Capital of Meghalaya particularly in the Kench's Trace area and Laplang area caused by the sudden erection of boundary wall by the Army authorities. The fact of the matter is that these areas have been left unused for about 65 to 70 years and the people made use of these stretches of land as passages and pathways and for recreational activities. There is a great need for open space and greenery in Shillong which, of late, has lost much of its traditional greenery. In the interest of environment and water catchment, I request the Defence Ministry to use its good offices to reserve these areas as green belt and recreational parks. This will also result in increased harmonious relationship between the Army and civilian population besides being environment friendly.

(vi) Need for early clearance of proposal of Government of Bihar regarding Universal Literacy Mission in Bokaro and Lakhisarai districts

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Universal Literacy Mission Projects for the Secondary, Primary and Adult education for Bokaro and Lakhisarai of the Department of Education of the Government of Bihar are pending with the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India since November, 1999. Hence I request to the Government to immediately grant approval to the pending projects.

(vii) Need for early construction of Dharamadam bridge on National highway no. 17 in Badagara Parliamentary Constituency, Kerala

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): The construction of Tellicherry-Mahe bypass on NH-17 including the construction of Dharamadam and Anjarakandy bridges was

included in the annual plan for 1999-2000 of the Ministry of Surface Transport. But now the Ministry has informed the State Government that as per the present policy of the Government, the project of the bypass and over-bridges are to be taken up under BOT schemes. The Ministry of Surface Transport has suggested that the State PWD examine the viability of this project under BOT, entrusting it with a consultancy service. The entire area of this project falls within my Badagara Parliamentary Constituency. In this connection, I may submit that the present Dharmadam Bridge which is more than 60 years old is in a dilapidated condition. The matter has already been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Surface Transport. As the bridge is on the NH, connecting two important cities, Kannur and Tellicherry, the pressure of traffic especially heavy vehicles is very high. Taking into account the very dangerous condition of the bridge, the National Highway wing of Kerala State PWD has submitted a separate project for the construction of this bridge with a rough cost-estimate of Rs. 5.8 lakh. I request the hon. Minister of Surface Transport to examine this and take urgent necessary steps for the construction of Dharmadam Bridge.

(viii) Need to accord approval for setting up of branches of State Consumers Grievances Redressal Cell at Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad) and Nagpur

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Maharashtra Government has quite honestly implemented the Consumer Act 1986. The Consumers Grievances Redressal Cells have been set up at State and district level there.

After passing a resolution the Consumer Protection Council of the State has made a demand that the Union Government should accord approval for setting up branches of State Consumers Redressal Cells at Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad) and Nagpur.

I request to the Union Government to grant approval for the same.

(ix) Need to allow export of agricultural products to neighbouring countries

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda): The farmers of the country have reached the verge of being ruined owing to the reason that they are not getting the remunerative prices of wheat, onion and other agricultural produce. On one hand the farmers have to buy the inputs like fertilizers,

seeds, electricity, water, diesel and other agriculture instruments and insecticides at higher rates, on the other they are not getting even the prices fixed by the Government for their produce. Though the Government have fixed the minimum support prices for the agricultural produces like wheat and is running various schemes for the farmers to make good the losses incurred by the farmers due to the heavy fall in the prices. But no positive result is seen after the implementation of these schemes.

Therefore, the onion and potato should be allowed to be exported. The ban on export of these produce to the neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Nepal etc. should immediately be lifted so that these produce could be exported abroad and the farmers could get the remunerative prices for their crops. The policy of importing the wheat from time to time should be done away with so that wheat farmers could get the reasonable prices declared by the Government. The farmers should be enabled to get the prices declared by the Government.

(x) Need to take steps for revival of the unit of IDPL at Muzaffarpur in Bihar

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) : There is one IDPL medicine factory being run by Union Government at Muzaffarpur in Bihar. Once it was a very useful and significant factory and even today it has held its importance. All the raw material and input for preparing medicines is available in Bihar but for paucity of funds this factory is lying closed for many years. Thousands of employees are not being paid their salary for many years. The employees are suffering and starving due to the non-payment of their salary. The Government is buying and importing the medicines from abroad and other sources at very high prices, most of which is spurious. The patients have to face the adverse effects of spurious drugs on one hand and have to buy the costly medicines on the other. A team from the Centre had also gone to Muzaffarpur to study the situation of the factory and it has also submitted its report in this regard.

Therefore, I request to the Union Government to immediately provide a special financial package to revive the unit at Muzaffarpur at the earliest.

(xi) Need to provide more railway facilities to Orissa

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : Rajdhani Express 2421/2422 is plying between New Delhi

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

and Bhubaneswar via. Howrah only twice a week. Commuters are facing a lot of difficulties. We have been demanding to convert Rajdhani to run from New Delhi to Bhubaneswar directly via. Kharagpur instead of via Howrah and vice-versa, but of no avail. By arranging via Adra and Kharagpur instead of via Dhanbad and Howrah, distance shall be reduced by more than 3000 kilometres thus more than three hours shall be saved and direct commuters to Orissa shall get the advantage of time, cost and distance. From Kharagpur to Bhubaneswar, now it is taking nearly six hours. It should be reduced to only four hours.

Bhubaneswar-Nizamuddin-Hirakud Express-8407/8408 is now running from Nizamuddin to Bhubaneswar via Sambalpur only thrice a week and vice-versa. Its condition is awfully bad. We urge upon the Railway Ministry, that it should run daily, its condition should be improved and provision of AC-I Class and AC-II Class be made forthwith.

Konark Express-1019/1020 plying between Bhubaneswar and Secunderabad and from there to Mumbai is officially termed as a Superfast train. But in fact, it is not running on time. Timely running and provision for AC-I Class be made in it at the earliest.

I urge upon the Government through you to kindly do the needful.

(xii) Need for early implementation of schemes for farmers whose land lies across the barbed wire fencing in Punjab border

[Translation]

SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN (Ferozepur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the border of India contiguous to Pakistan passes through three districts namely Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepur in Punjab. The barbed wire fencing has been done across the border to prevent the infiltration from Pakistan but the fencing has been done in such a way that a lot of Indian Territory still remain outside it. Indian farmers do cultivation on this land. But this job of farming is fraught with risks. Due to availability of limited time for cultivation, productivity is less here. Besides the levies of the farmers is always under threat due to the mischievous and threatening attitude of the Pakistan army. In previous months the Government had announced a special relief package for these farmer's, which include the opening of

schools and hospitals, financial assistance as compensatory amount and appointment at Government posts etc., but its implementation is yet to be started.

Hence it is my submission to the Union Government to take immediate action to implement what it has announced.

(xiii) Need to render financial assistance to Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing infrastructural facilities at Mahakumbh Mela in Ujjain

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): A Mahakumbh Mela is held after every twelve years at Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh where an ancient temple of Mahakal Bhagwan is situated. This festival lasts for approximately two months. Lakhs and crores of pilgrims from country and abroad assemble for the said Mahakumbh. Due to the influx of pilgrims in large number the roads and railway stations at Ujjain, Shajapur, Ratlam, Indore and Devas districts are jamlogged with vehicles and the people. Hence, I demand from the Government to provide adequate funds for infrastructure facilities at Mahakumbh Mela at Ujjain by renovating the railway platform in Devas and its vicinity including those at Makshi, Bercha, Akodia, Kalepail through shed construction, making available drinking water and providing toilet and public urinal facilities along with widening and metalling of roads to a length of hundred kilometres.

(xiv) Need to open an agency for purchase of cotton in Kangti Mandal, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI A. NARENDRA (Medak): Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Narayan Khed Legislative Assembly constituency falls under my Parliamentary Constituency Medak (Andhra Pradesh). A lot of cotton is produced in the Kangti Mandal of this region but there is no unit to procure cotton from the farmers. The farmers of Karnataka and Maharashtra at the border of this Mandal also grow cotton and they also come Kangti but the cotton procurement unit is situated far away at Adilabad and the poor farmers have to go Adilabad via Medak and Nizamabad district owing to which the farmers have to spend a lot of money on transport, thereby resulting in a lot of money loss to the poor farmers. If an agency for purchase of cotton is opened in Kangti Mandal itself then a lot of money of the poor farmers can be saved which they have to spend on transport of their produce.

Hence I demand from the Union Textile Minister to open an agency for purchase of cotton in Kangti Mandal keeping in view the serious problem being faced by the cotton growing farmers of Kangti region and its vicinity.

(xv) Need to ensure flow of Cauvery water into Mettur Reservoir as stipulated in Interim Award

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : The Supreme Court agreed in 1998 to suspend its hearings in the Cauvery Water dispute on being assured by the Attorney-General of India that the Union Government would frame a scheme under Section 8A of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act to implement the Interim Award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. Following this assurance, a Cauvery River Authority was established in August 1998 comprising the hon. Prime Minister and the four hon. Chief Ministers concerned. In the period of around 100 weeks that has passed since the establishment of the Authority, there has hardly been a week in which the flow of Cauvery water into the Mettur Reservoir has conformed to the weekly schedule stipulated in the Interim Award. The Cauvery Delta is being starved of water when required for the Kuruva and Samba crops and is being flooded with excess water when such water is not required for agriculture. Parliament needs to be informed of the steps proposed to be taken to ensure the faithful implementation of the Interim Award, failing which there will be no alternative but to return to the Supreme Court.

(xvi) Need to take measures to check arsenic contamination in the country, particularly in West Bengal

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : I would like to draw the attention of this House to the appalling situation in West Bengal which has come up, thanks to arsenic contamination. My State, West Bengal in general and the district Murshidabad in particular have been severely affected by the contamination. This arsenic monster has already taken a toll of many lives and thousands are destined for the same fate. As we know the human body can consume arsenic to the level of 0.5 mg of arsenic per ltr. While in many places it is found that arsenic level has been sought up to .80 mg./ltr. which is considered more than lethal. No geographical information system has come into the force. Detection of spot sources is not being conducted as much as required. People do not know whether the water they are consuming is free

from contamination or not. In my district, Murshidabad, alone ten lakhs of people have been affected. No rehabilitation measure for these poor victims have yet been taken.

As directed by the Calcutta High Court, Director of the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has submitted its report and steps have been suggested for eight districts. I must say that the Government should treat it as a national problem because other States are also reported to have been affected by arsenic contamination.

(xvii) Need to take steps for all-round development of Buldana Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldana): My Parliamentary Constituency Buldana coming under Vidharbh region of Maharashtra is a very backward region. There is no Government or private sector industry in this region. This region is fully based on agriculture but every year most of the crop of this region is devastated due to famine and the people of the region almost reach the stage of starvation. Due to this proper development of this region is not taking place.

There is some possibility of the development of this region. If the public and private sector industries are set up here on priority basis by declaring this region as National backward area and an agriculture school is set up to check the losses due to perennial famine. Hence under such circumstances, I submit to the Union Government to formulate without delay the plans for the all round development of this region on priority basis.

(xviii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Bihar for renovation of Sone canal system

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Arrah): The Bhojpur, Aurangabad, Jahanabad, Gaya, Nawada, Rohtash, Kamaur and the Paliganj subdistrict area of the district Patna are turning into the hideouts of the terrorist belonging to MCC and other militant organizations because there are no alternatives and means of getting employment before the youth of these regions and forcing them to join these terrorist organizations. Despite these regions of Madhya Pradesh being agriculture based, the hundred and twenty five year old Sone Canal system of this region is proving ineffective and useless for irrigation

[Shri Ram Prasad Singh]

of this area and the agriculture has become quite an unprofitable venture. Consequently, the youth have been turning towards crimes due to lack of the means of employment. These misdirected youth can be brought to the mainstream of the society by providing proper irrigation facilities in the region and setting up small-scale industries.

Hence I submit to the Union Government that Sone Canal system should be renovated/modernized to reduce the growing impact of terrorists in the region. Proper arrangement for irrigation should be made alongwith setting up of small and medium scale industries so that the misguided youth could be brought to the mainstream of the society and the terrorist influence could be completely decimated. I submit to make available adequate funds to the State Government to achieve the same.

**(xix) Need for creation of a separate
State of Bodoland**

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Sir, with a noble objective, I draw the attention of the entire House through your honour, to the need for adopting a positive policy decision and political initiative by the Centre for creation of much over due separate State of Bodoland on the line of "Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh" for the greater interest of the people of the N.E. Region, Bodoland and Assam in particular, and also of the whole nation.

Under the overall crucial and alarming circumstances prevailing in Assam, survival and existence of Bodos along with their own distinctive ethnic self-identity, their ancient and rich Bodo language and cultural heritage and civilisation, their safety and security, their all-round growth and development of their own genius and also preservation of their ethnic self-identity, within the present State of Assam has been quite impossible. Denial of Bodoland to struggling indigenous Bodo people on this or that pretext is unjustified. It is unacceptable for the Bodos to co-exist in the present State of Assam in a dangerously hostile situation and unfriendly atmosphere the cost of their social, cultural and ethnic life as indigenous people.

I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Union Government to take necessary political initiatives and a concrete policy decision to bring "Assam State Reorganisation Bill,

2000" to Parliament in the coming Winter Session for creation of the much long awaited separate State of 'Bodoland' on the line of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh." This would ensure the survival and existence of the Bodo people and other plains' tribals, their safety and security and also their all-round growth and development within their own home State of 'Bodoland' at par with the rest of the country.

**(xx) Need to use natural rubber latex based
bitumen for road tarring particularly
on national highways**

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, rubberised roads are now being encouraged by the Ministry of Surface Transport and there is a decision to rubberise ten per cent of our national highways. However, the most effective rubberised bitumen, is made of by using natural rubber latex. This has been proved internationally. The research done in France has positively proved this. Rubber Board has also vouched this. As India has far excess production of latex, it is necessary that we insist rubberisation of roads using natural rubber latex alone. It is disturbing that some private company producing rubberised bitumen using imported Polymer and used-rubber goods are exercising undue pressure to use their product for rubberisation. This is against national interest and should, therefore, be avoided. I, therefore, request the Union Government to use natural rubber latex based bitumen only for road tarring.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up the Private Members' Business.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : May I just draw your attention for a minute?.. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: From 2 o'clock onwards, the House will take up the Private Members' Business. We will not transact any other business except the Private Members' Business.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Do not encroach on the Private Members' Business time.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am saying since the morning that 59 MPs have presented a notice regarding Apollo Hospital. The issue which I have raised is very important. Today is the last day of the session. . . . (Interruptions) Sir, 59 Members have given in writing, I would like to give a statement by the Minister of Health in this regard. . . . (Interruptions)

14.06 hrs.

MOTION RE: EIGHTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND
RESOLUTIONS

[English]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House today (20.8.2000)."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is;

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House today (20.8.2000)."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Bills for introduction.

There is no other Business except the Private Members' Business. Kindly resume your seats.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : I have to raise a very serious matter. You may kindly allow me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can I allow you? Private Members' Business is a very important business. It is listed in the Agenda for 14.00 hours.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, with your permission, I would like to make a submission. Kindly permit me to do so. It is a very serious matter. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No submission can be made. I cannot permit you. Kindly sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Some people do not allow the House to continue its proceedings due to which we cannot express our views. What is our fault in it. If some people do not allow the House to be run then what can we do. 59 members have given in writing. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb the proceedings of the House.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, I humbly request you to kindly permit me. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot permit you. It was accepted is the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, with your permission, I would like to raise a serious matter. . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): A senior person like you should not disturb the Private Members' Business.

14.07 hrs.

(i) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Amendment of Article 17 (1)

[English]

SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD (Bellary) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

*(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should follow the procedure. Under what rule should I allow you?

(Interruptions)

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 25.8.2000.

14.08 hrs.

(ii) DEPOSIT INSURANCE AND CREDIT
GUARANTEE CORPORATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of sections 2 and 16)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the way. When rule does not permit, you should not raise the matter.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): We give in writing, raise issues but some people do not allow us to speak. We are also well aware of rules and procedures of the House. Now we may be allowed to speak. 59 members have given in writing. One of our Ministers has died. All of us have given in writing about Apollo Hospital. . . . (Interruptions) we do not get protection when we raise any issue. Other members keep on interrupting. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, since morning I have been trying to raise this matter. . . . (Interruptions)

14.09 hrs.

(iii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 316)

SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD (Bellary): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 25.8.2000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, I am on a very serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot raise it here now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is applicable here, will be applied to you also.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I only want the Health Minister to say that its enquiry will be conducted. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, we have got two hours more. Let us conclude the Session on a very good note.

(Interruptions)

14.11 hrs.

(iv) UNORGANISED WORKERS'
INSURANCE BILL*

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldana): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for life insurance of unorganised workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for life insurance of unorganised workers."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 25.8.2000.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know the rule. The rule will not permit you. This has been decided in the Business Advisory Committee.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We did not get the protection from the Chair in the morning. When Mr. Speaker asked me to speak at that time the House was in the state of Pandamonium. After all 59 members have given in writing. Please give its reply.. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, you can allow me. Please allow me to make a submission. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, you allow us after the Private Members' Business. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Show me a rule. Please do not interrupt the proceedings of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, nobody can challenge your ruling.

14.12 hrs.

(v) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of article 81, etc.)

[English]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir I introduce the Bill.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, you kindly allow me to speak. Sir, would you allow me after Private Members' Business?.. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): We will see at 4 o'clock. Do you want assurance from the Chair in writing?

14.13 hrs.

(vi) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Insertion of new articles 151A to 151G)

[English]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.14 hrs.

(vii) COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING FOR
COLLEGE STUDENTS BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad Maharashtra): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provision for compulsory military training for college students in the country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provision for compulsory military training for college students in the country."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir I, introduce the Bill.

14.15 hrs.

(viii) COMPULSORY HOME-GUARD
TRAINING BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): I, beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make home-guard training compulsory for all able-bodied persons.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make home-guard training compulsory for all able-bodied persons."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I introduce the Bill.

14.15½ hrs.

(ix) BACHELORS' ALLOWANCE BILL

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide certain facilities and amenities to bachelors.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide certain facilities and amenities to bachelors."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 25.8.2000.

14.16 hrs.

(x) POPULATION POLICY BILL*

[English]

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE (Nasik): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for population policy and for promoting small family norm and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for population policy and for promoting small family norm and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: I introduce the Bill.

14.16½ hrs.

(xi) CITIZENS (IDENTITY CARD) BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for issue of multi-purpose identity cards to the citizens of India.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for issue of multi-purpose identity cards to the citizens of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I introduce the Bill.

14.17 hrs.

(xii) PARTICIPATION OF WORKERS IN
MANAGEMENT BILL*

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldana): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 25.8.2000.

participation of workers in management of every enterprise and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for participation of workers in management of every enterprise and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: I introduce the Bill.

14.17½ hrs.

(xiii) SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD
OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new Chapter IVA)

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: I introduce the Bill.

14.18 hrs.

(xiv) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of New Article 16 A)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I introduce the Bill.

14.19 hrs.

BACKWARD AREAS DEVELOPMENT
BOARD BILL—*contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up further consideration of the Bill moved by Shri Subodh Mohite on the 11th August, 2000. Shri Subodh Mohite was on his legs. He has already taken 19 minutes. He may now continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE (Ramtek): Mr. Chairman, Sir, last week, we discussed about the development of backward areas of this country and upliftment of its people. Today the prime question is that had the dreams cherished by the people, who sacrificed their lives for independence, been fulfilled then today neither there would have been any necessity to bring this proposal nor to hold any discussion over it.

This was the first special national agenda after independence that we will bring balance wherever there is financial disparity. This was the biggest agenda. The discussion has been held over this national agenda several times in the House. The Government of India had also constituted Committee for this purpose on various occasions. I had mentioned in my previous speech that in 1997 the Committee submitted its report according to which there are 100 such districts where there is a need to implement special Action Plan. I know that generally the Government constitute such committees for name sake. There is need to take proper action and not to constitute any committee. I want to say that fixed action should be taken. The committees were constituted and these committees gave their recommendations but they remained on papers only and the work of development was also not taken up.

with due respect, I apologise to all members of Parliament. Being a member of Parliament we are sitting here in this apex institution and making laws but question is as to who is running the country? I want to know whether we are running the country or the bureaucrats? Being a representative of people this main question is before us. For instance I am member of Lok Sabha and it is for the first time that I have been elected to Lok Sabha. But when I checked the old records, I found that the funds of 12th Lok Sabha was not fully utilised and the responsibility of its utilisation has been entrusted to me. Why it is so? The

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[Shri Subodh Mohite]

Government have released the funds. The M.P. gave the recommendation to remove the water problem of the area, stressing the point that the people do not get water during summer season and die of water shortage. He suggested to dig up wells and install borewells. The letter of M.P. was sent to D.M.'s office who held it for 15 days and after 15 days it was sent to the Assistant, from Assistant to clerk and from clerk to person preparing estimates. By the time the process was complete the summer season was already over and several people died of thirst. When the tenure of M.P. was over, he simply left the people of rural areas to fight the water-crisis on their own and poor people died while crying for water.

Therefore, today the prime question before us is that who is running the country? The hon'ble Minister is present here. If in the true sense we use the word hon'ble before the Member of Parliament then the word hon'ble should be honoured. If the Government want to honour, then I would like to make one humble submission that the D.M. should be held responsible for the timely implementation of funds under MPLAD scheme. An M.P. should have the right to review his performance and see whether he undertakes timely implementation or not because it is his fund. Merely reviewing will not do because you are aware of the tendency of the bureaucrats. I would like to give one suggestion that there should be a column in the annual report of district collector indicating whether the collector has properly utilized the fund worth ten crore rupees meant for poor or not and on the basis of this information, the confidential report should be reviewed. I had already said that the question as to whether we are independent or slave is before the common people. When we got independence we used to say that.

[English]

We are giving food security, we are giving water security and we are giving defence security.

[Translation]

To provide food, cloth and shelter to all was our slogan but nobody has got any kind of security till today. Even while speaking in the House none claim that there is cent per cent food security for the poor in India.

We observe daily that there is no defence security. The other day Shri Dasmunsiji had rightly said about the Amarnath visit. After independence our slogan was—food security, defence security, money security, financial security, water security but even today there are many such villages

where the people have to bring water from far off places. I have not moved this Bill for individual interest of any party. I have moved it for the sake of national interest. The Government of India had constituted a committee. Its object was to remove disparity of six or seven most backward States in the country.

I represent Ramtek region. Now the other hon. members will express their views but the last time I had raised certain points explaining why Vidharba region remained backward why funds were not given to that region, whose lobby it was and how fixing took place. When Shri Yashwant Rao Chauhan was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra at that time he signed an agreement and said that now we have got independence therefore there is no need to worry, we will ensure full development of the State within five years. The agreement which was signed is known as Nagpur Agreement. The simple and innocent people believed in what had been assured. They thought that they would get everything in five years but this agreement remained on papers only. I am talking of 1960. In that agreement it was stated that an Autonomous Development Board would be set up under clause 371(2) of the Constitution for Vidarbha region. I have got a copy of that agreement. That agreement remained on papers only. No Development Board was set up under clause 371(2). I would like to say that there is a big political bent behind it. That agreement was not implemented because Maharashtra Government is governed by two factors—co-operative and sugar lobby. These two lobbies from a district were governing the entire Government.

I have brought the figures of last 40 years of budget of Maharashtra submitted by Kelkar Committee. The committee recommended that 85 per cent of annual budget should be given to remove the backlog Vidarbha region but chair person does not work. But only 15 per cent of the budget was given to this backward region and the remaining 85 per cent was given to that region which was not backward. These two lobbies did gross injustice with Vidarbha by behaving arbitrarily for 45 years. Though provision has been made in the Constitution, this Nagpur Agreement of 1960 remained on papers during the period from 1960 to 1994. In 1994 some political leaders became aware of this agreement and just three months before the election, Vidharba Development Board was constituted.

According to Kelkar Committee, there was 37.32 per cent of backlog in 1984 which was to be cleared within three years but it could not be cleared. During 1984 to

1994, the backlog of Vidarbha region was 45.33 per cent which means it increased from 37 per cent to 45 per cent. I have got with me the figures since 1994 till date. The backlog which was 45.33 per cent, unfortunately increased to 49.3 per cent till June, 2000. We had to clear the backlog in 1960 and had to develop Vidarbha but it could not be accomplished. In 40 years, more than 50 per cent burden has been heaped up on Vidarbha. When we analyse the fact then entire position becomes clear. The people belonging to all political parties are present here. I do not want to hurt the sentiment of any one but suppressing the facts will not be correct. At the time of the formation of united Maharashtra in 1960 concrete promises were made that within five year, the Vidarbha will be made prosperous. But till 2000, nothing was done for this region. More than 50 per cent burden was heaped up on this region. Why and how did it happen and who are responsible for this? The then Congress Party was responsible for this. Shri Sharad Pawar is not present here. The tenure of Sharad Pawar's party was maximum in the State. At the time of budget allocation more fund was allotted to the western Maharashtra and less amount was given to Vidarbha. Sharad Pawarji is a prominent leader. His subordinate Shri Athawale is present here. I would like to ask a question from Shri Sharad Pawarji? He was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Shri Athawale was Social Welfare Minister. I know the history of the fact. I would like that Shri Athawaleji should support my views as the truth can not be suppressed. Shri Sharad Pawar had made promise for the welfare of entire society and the people of Vidarbha region need not worry because he has become the Chief Minister of the State and he would make the region prosperous. He also remarked that he had affection for them. The people of the region believed that being of that region and fully acquainted with the regional problem he is a reasonable man to be trusted who will probably make us prosperous. The people started dreaming of their prosperity. So many years have passed since then and his promises and oaths proved to be hollow as those promises were not fulfilled. The dream remained the dream. Vidarbha region remained backward and the Ministers continued to prosper. It is ill fate of the Maharashtra. I would like to ask Shri Athawaleji as to why did he made false promises and why did he not fulfill them?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mohite, you will again get time while replying to this. Kindly conclude now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): I should be given permission to speak on it. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, what rule are you speaking under?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Private Members' Business is regulated by Parliamentary Rules.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE (Ramtek) : I would not like to go in detail into the matter neither I am in the habit of hurting their sentiment, but I am telling what is truth. The truth is always bitter. More bitter is the pill, more quickly it will cure the disease. I would like to submit that the people of that region have forgotten the prosperity which they dreamed 45 years back. The dream are never translated into reality but the faith of the people on the God have kindled hope.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, last time Shivsena-BJP Government came into power under the leadership of Balasaheb Thakare. The people's dream was translated into reality with the arrival of Balasaheb and they started feeling that it was not a dream but reality. The drinking water was made available where there was scarcity of water and the metalled roads were built in those areas that had no roads. I would like to tell the House that Balasaheb is such a leader of the country who has asked from his own Government as to what does the Chief Minister of the State want to do for the people. He has asked the Government to release White-Paper regarding this. I would like to tell a lot of things on this Bill and want to raise several issues but I will tell only this that this Bill has substance. We will have to honour those people who have sacrificed their lives, have shed their blood. We will have to pay respect to their sacrifice. We can not pay respect to their sacrifice by tendering false promises. We will have to take certain concrete steps for that.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I conclude and request that Bill should be passed unanimously.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an autonomous Board for all-sided development of all economically backward areas of the country, be taken into consideration."

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I rise to offer my views on the Bill presented by hon. Shri Subodh Mohite. What he has stated towards the last part of his speech is regarding the political system in general and the party in power in particular. The malaise in backwardness of certain districts could be traced to the political systems in this country.

So far as the Backward Area Development Board Bill is concerned, this matter has engaged the attention of the party in power from time to time of the Governments which had ruled this country. In 1960, there was an attempt to identify the districts which were backward so far as industrial progress is concerned. The first attempt was made in 1960. After that, there were different Committees from time to time. In 1966, the Planning Commission had looked into the aspect of backwardness of certain area. A Study Group was constituted to find the most important factor for identifying the backward areas, the criteria to be adopted regarding backwardness. In 1966, the Study Group of the Planning Commission had taken up 15 criteria. The first of this criteria – I am not discussing all those – was density of population, then agriculture and the workers engaged in agriculture, then the arable land, the cultivable areas available, literacy, hospital facilities, etc.

Later on, many Committees were formed. The Wanchoo Committee in 1968 had changed the criteria to some extent. But the Sharma Committee was constituted in 1997 to which Shri Subodh Mohite has been referring. It had an elaborate discussion on the criteria to be taken up to decide as to which of the districts of the country were backward. They had taken up the first indicator as food deprivation. Whether the people are getting food or not, is the first and foremost thing to be taken up when we decide about the backwardness of a district.

The second parameter was social infrastructure. The third was economic infrastructure. So far as social infrastructure is concerned, you can think of education, you can think of drinking water and you can think of many other things. When we think of economic deprivations, persons below the poverty line, availability of food, other infrastructures like power, roads, communications and so many other things could be taken into consideration. But this was not a proper criterion or the parameter that was adopted by the Sharma Committee for the simple reason that in Bihar, they had found out 38 districts to be backward districts out of the 100 districts taken for study. Whereas in Orissa, only four districts had been taken up as backward. I do not know what type of criteria was adopted

by the Sharma Committee to say that only four districts of Orissa were found backward so far as infrastructure in industries is concerned, communication is concerned, irrigation potentialities are concerned or wage employment is concerned.

Whatever may be the fact, the Sharma Committee had given its report. On the basis of the Sharma Committee Report, the Ninth Plan perspective was drawn up. In the Ninth Plan itself, certain criteria have been fixed for linkage of the backward districts with the forward districts or the developed districts. Certain linkage has been thought of. In the Eight Plan, such linkage was thought of. In Eighth Plan, infrastructure development in roads, railways, electrification, even opening up of banks in the rural areas, development of wasteland and drought-prone area land and all these things were taken into consideration. It spilled over to the Ninth Plan and the linkage has been working. When the linkage had been working, it was thought proper by the planners to take up work in different areas.

Members may be aware that in the Tribal Sub-Plan, funds have to be provided for development of the backward areas. Mostly, in our country, the tribal people stay in such places where agriculture is at the lowest place and where wage earning is not sufficiently available. That is why, for the last so many years, may be, after the country has adopted the Constitution itself, the Tribal Sub-Plans have come into the Budget. In the Constitution itself, you will find this in Article 275 clause (1). There are certain grants from the Union to the States for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the Scheduled areas. There are scheduled areas in the country. So, from time to time, all these factors have been taken into consideration.

The two things that have engaged the attention of the planners and the Government that be, whether it is the NDA Government of today or the other earlier Governments, are these: the first criterion used to be growth centre scheme, that is, the adoption of the growth centre schemes for development of industrial infrastructure. In order to develop a backward district, there must be industrial infrastructure. So, that is the growth centre scheme.

The second one is the integrated infrastructure scheme to facilitate small industries in rural and backward areas. These two criteria were taken up in a very brilliant manner by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. In 1999, they had brought out a book very clearly and in an excellent manner. They had indicated the

determinants of poverty at page 22. I am not going into the details of the determinants of poverty. Determinants of poverty also give an insight into the developmental action to be taken up.

The fact remains that the integrated rural development projects, those which include EAS, JRY and all other improvements including DWACRA, TRYSEM and all those are integrated development projects, have been brought together and with the Seventy-third and the Seventy-fourth amendments of the Constitution etc., all the Panchayati Raj movements have been integrated.

The IRDP areas have been brought together to ensure that the backwardness of the districts which have been identified by the Sharma Committee are taken up. As I said, there should be a linkage between the backward districts and the developed districts. But do we go to this linkage? As I had said earlier, the entire malaise lies with the democratic set up of the Government in general and the party system in particular. These parties which come to power try to develop certain areas including their areas. I fully endorse what Shri Mohite has said and his views that these is the malaise which has been creating problems all over the country. So much of money is being given. Thousands of crores of money are being given for infrastructure development, for communication, for uplifting the poor, the downtrodden and the deprived. But where does the money go? How do people get the benefit? No, not at all. So, the backward people always remain backward.

The Sharma Committee had said, what should be done is to see that there are resources and that they are made available to the people. So far as the drought-prone districts are concerned, in my State, we have the KBK districts which are drought-prone. In Gujarat, you have a number of districts which are drought-prone. But to remove the difficulties that are being faced by the farmers, even by the people who tend cattle, take the example of Gujarat or Rajasthan where livestock are there but water and fodder are not available. And in order to bring about resources for them, to provide resources for those people, what type of facilities are made available have to be thought of.

The planners have already thought of it. Funds have been provided. I am not going into the details of the funds provided. But the implementing agencies are not sincere in their endeavours. Whatever money has been provided, if the implementing agency, whether it is the DRDA,

whether it is the Collector, whether it is the Block level officers, or even Panchayat level officers, what happens if they do not implement it?

The Prime Minister has announced from the Red Fort on the 15th August that Rs. 5000 crore will be made available for the connectivity of rural roads. But in places where funds have been made available under the EAS and under many programmes for developmental activity we do not find any activity at all. No roads are available although funds have been given. I had given an instance where for the last 15 years funds have been given for watershed development. But now you go to Gujarat, you will not find any water and no shed. And where has the money gone? That is why we must set up parliamentary committees. We may think of ameliorating the conditions of the backward areas but it will not serve any purpose unless we become committed.

Hon. Shri Mohite said that there should be an autonomous body. It will not serve any purpose. Now we have the nodal agency in the rural development department which looks after all the development in the rural areas. Ordinarily, backward districts are in the rural areas where there is no education, there is no sanitation, there are no health care facilities and communication is not available so that the people who are not affluent, the boys and girls who are there can go to schools to whom easy accessibility to those facilities are not available.

First thing is, let us think of the existing framework, the system and the officers who are manning it and above all the elected representatives. In my honest and humble opinion, it is the elected representative who has to be the catalyst. Until he is a catalyst no improvement can take place and any plethora of enactments will not help in ameliorating the conditions of the poor, the downtrodden and the marginalised people.

Sir, I would be very brief now because other Members would also like to speak on this subject.

My honest opinion is that there should not be any enactment to create an autonomous body. Rather it should be necessary that, from time to time, the weak pockets should be visited by the Parliamentary Committees to be formed and some sort of action should be taken against those people who do not pay adequate attention for cultivation, education and health. To start with, first is cultivation – wasteland development. We have lots of wasteland, which can be developed.

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

Now, about 200 million tonnes of foodgrains are being produced. In another one or two years' time, why not we increase it to 210 or 215 million tonnes? The people who are working in the field, the village-level workers, the agricultural officers or Junior Engineers in the Agriculture Department are those people who are connected with the irrigation, supply of fertilisers and pesticides. All those people should be taken to task by the Committee.

Now, take the example of fertilisers. Fertilisers are available at a particular price from the block level, say Rs. 150 per unit of measure. But taking it to the remote village, you require another Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 or Rs. 40. Where does the poor farmer get the money? That is what I have seen in the backward areas of Orissa. From the block level to the farmer, to the user, you require another Rs. 20 to Rs. 30. Unless a policy is devised by which fertilisers are made available at the user point, no purpose will be served. I am giving you only one instance. There are many instances where the backwardness of the hundred districts that have been identified cannot be ameliorated without a concerted effort.

You take the case of Bihar. It is administered by gun because the haves and have nots have not come together. Economic inequality is one of the main factors for which there are a lot of terrorist or the naxalite activities in Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, where the poor peasants and marginal farmers are not able to cultivate their lands. That is why, when we think of backwardness, we have to think of the land reforms.

Sir, in 1956, we had the Zamindari Abolition Act in different States. What has happened after *Zamindari* abolition? From a cumulative sort of distribution of land, it became a dispersed distribution among a particular group of people only. Land reforms have not gone to the poor people and only a few people have got the benefits. So, unless there is proper land reform, proper industrialisation, health care and education, nothing can happen for the backward districts. So, we cannot do anything by bringing this Act. We will only create another agency to breathe over the neck of the people who are supposed to execute the project. It will be another burden.

Sir, with these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Private Members' Bill moved by

Shri Subodh Mohite regarding the formation of an autonomous board for the development of all economically backward areas of the country. Though he belongs to a wrong political party but his Bill is worth acceptance. It is a serious problem of the country and I feel that if there can be any prominent reason for the tension presently prevailing in India, it is regional imbalance.

The funds are not spent in those region where it should have been spent sometimes the people of the certain region feel that they are contributing substantial amount to the State Government revenue but it is being utilized by other people. This is the basic reason for the present violent movement going on in the country whether it is Naxalite movement or any other movement. The major steps that should have been taken by the Government to solve this problem have not been taken in our country. Just now Shri Mohiteji was telling in his speech that in 1948 a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Principal Additional Secretary, planning to study and recommend about the economic imbalance at the national level. The committee had submitted its report in 1977. The committee had identified 100 such districts. For last few years it has been seen that whether it is committee or commission, it is constituted in order to divert the current attention of the people for a time being, but we are not serious in implementing their recommendations. Many more issues were raised in the country. The police personnel had raised their issues about their problems. In order to solve the problem the Government constituted two commission—one was Dharmvir Commission and second Rustam Commission but nothing substantial came up. In Uttar Pradesh when the issue was raised regarding the High Court benches a Jaswant Singh Commission was constituted. The commission, in its recommendation, said that Agra is the most suitable place for the High Court bench but no action has been taken on the recommendation as yet. The main purpose in constituting committee or commission is to divert the attention of the people as their reports are not used towards solving the problem. We have been showing reluctance in implementing the recommendations.

As far the question of economic imbalance or the development is concerned, the condition of our country is very serious and if we do not pay attention to it the condition will be more serious. We have excellent private schools in our country which charge thousands of rupees as fee. The children of rich people get education there. In 1986 a blackboard scheme was prepared for the schools which envisaged that every class room should have one

blackboard but we could not arrange for one blackboard for every classroom. Only 40 per cent schools of India have blackboards. On the one hand we have excellent roads and on the other hand 38 per cent villages of our country are not connected to perennial roads. The Government figures tell that 86 per cent villages are electrified while only 37 per cent household are electrified that also includes the electricity for agriculture. On the one hand development process took place in those areas which were already developed and the backward regions continued to become more backward. The new policy of economic liberalization is meant for only five to ten per cent people.

14.59 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

It is meant for only those regions which are already developed. The regional economic imbalance will further increase as a result of this policy of economic liberalization. This is the country where in some parts of the country one of the best trains runs while for the people of Himachal Pradesh and Kutch train is a thing of wonder.

15.00 hrs.

This is India. There is no balance anywhere in the country. The agriculture contributes 24 per cent to the gross domestic products of the country. 65 per cent population of the country are dependent on agriculture. 27 per cent of the gross domestic product of the country is contributed by the industry that employs 15 per cent population. The computer software and hotel industries contribute 49 per cent where only 20 per cent people are employed. The economic imbalance is swiftly increasing in our country. Although initially I had opposed the demand for the State reorganization but one can not deny from this fact that it is mainly due to the regional imbalance and inequitable distribution of resources that the demand for the reorganization for States are coming up from different regions. It is a very serious issue. Shri Prabhunath Singh is leaving the House though every Friday he is in hurry to leave the House. Thus I conclude.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a very important Bill has been introduced in the House by Shri Mohite. By the way, at several occasions the problems of villages have been discussed in the House and the Government have also expressed the views but the problems of the villages continue to persist even today. I would not like to tell for

and against any Member but one thing is evident that whether it is previous Governments or the present Government, everyone tries to champion the cause of the peasants, labourers and youths but when it comes to the allocation of the resources, funds are allocated for running fountains beside the roads in the big cities like Delhi. Our Government do not pay attention for providing drinking water to the poor rural people and water for the irrigation of the fields. Whenever the budget is prepared, heavy fund is allocated for electricity in big cities but very little attention is paid for the small cottages of the villages. What type of country it is and what type of democracy is there. There are lengthy discussions conducted in the House. I feel that the policy of economic liberalization of the Government is also not going to make any village prosperous. I do not see that any thing is going to happen in near future, may be I am wrong. Presently, the condition of the villages is as it was. Take any problem as for example the education—people say that children do not study in the villages while the children of the towns and cities get good education and hold higher posts. The schools of the villages do not have its buildings and if there is any building, it is roofless where children can not study in the rainy season. You establish JNU in Delhi but you do not do the same in Patna or Chhapra or in any other States of the country. Raghuvansh Babu sometimes speak on pertinent issues.

The situation in Bihar is different from this. The teachers in Bihar are involved in politics. They do not have time to attend schools. If any thing happens at the tea stall, it is certain that some teacher will be victim to that. They remain present at the tea stall throughout the day. No one cares for the children of peasants whether it is the Central Government or the State Governments. The welfare schemes for the children of rural peasants and labourers are only on paper. The country is running through the data. Hon'ble Minister supplies elaborate data in the House in course of reply. But nothing is going to happen from this. You go and see the condition of the villages. What is the condition of the roads there? It is not only the villages of Bihar alone which are in bad shape. I had visited the Parliamentary Constituency of Mr. Speaker. Prior to this I was of the impression that Bihar is the most backward State but when I visited the constituency of hon'ble Speaker I felt that that area is more backward than Bihar. The condition of all the villages in the country is from bad to worse. The roads are in dilapidated condition. It is very difficult to visit from one village to other at the time of rainy season. 70 per cent people of the villages die due to lack

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

of medical facility. When anyone falls ill, he is treated by the quacks, village doctors or block doctors. There is no appropriate facility for the medical check up. 99 per cent die before they are brought to AIIMS after the arrangement of money. They take their dead body by trains. This is the condition of the villages. We will have to improve their condition. The Central Government and the State Governments do not prepare budget honestly. They should allocate more funds for the villages.

The hon'ble Member has raised pertinent question regarding the Vidarbha. From his speech it was evident as to how much pain he has for Vidarbha. Probably injustice has been done to the Vidarbha region. The committee are constituted and will continue to be constituted but there will be no development from this process. If villages are to be developed, we will have to pay more attention towards them. The garbage remains laying in the villages. Several States were reorganized. Shri Raghuvansh Babu had also consented for that.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : I had opposed the proposal.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever I tell fact he opposes it. The resolution unanimously was passed by the Legislative Assembly of Bihar, then it had come here. The Members of all political parties had consented for the resolution. Shri Raghuvansh Babu is present here. He and I had expressed our views. I was lone mourner to the plight of Bihar. What will happen to Bihar? What should be done to make the Bihar self-dependent? We are not free to express our genuine views because of our party's stand on the issue. We never dare to express honestly the pain of the villages. Bihar is going to be reorganized. The discussion was conducted in the House regarding the provision of package to Bihar. A committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. How can I tell that we were deceived? I am apprehensive that injustice may be done to the people of Bihar. If there is any obstruction in the process of development in Bihar, it is due to the lack of coordination between politicians and executive. I feel that it has become their mentality. If the MP or MLA proposes anything, the bureaucracy opposes it. Now funds are allocated to MPs from MPs' fund and to legislators from Legislator's fund for the developmental works. The Central Government allocates funds under Employment Assurance Scheme. The funds are allocated for the pcor people under the Indira Awas Yojana.

State Government grants funds for district schemes and also for the development of villages under various schemes but the funds are not utilized properly. Through you, I would like to request the Central Government and State Governments also to pay attention towards the matters regarding the development of villages. Backward areas of villages should be given more attention.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister is busy in talking. I do not know whether he has listened to me or not.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : I am noting. I have listened to your point regarding package for Bihar.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Many many thanks.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : I have noted about the meeting of MPs from Bihar.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has listened my concern. I request him to implement it. With these words, I conclude.

DR RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Private Member's Bill moved by dynamic Parliamentarian Shri Subodh Mohite is a very good proposal and I would request the Government to approve it because sometimes the officials poison the ears not to pass the Bill.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our Constitution provides reservation to socially and economically backward people. It has been written in the Constitution and every Government accepts it. Mandal Commission was set up against which lots of riots took place. I would like to know from the Government whether it is against the Mandal Commission.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : What do you think?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I feel that the Government is not in its favour because it is not protecting the interests of backward classes. There is a provision in our Constitution to provide special facilities to exploited, neglected and deprived classes of our society. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia had also stated that the country will be

strengthened only when such people would be brought to the mainstream by providing them special opportunities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Mohite has demanded to set up Backward Classes Development Board. I would like to mention Shri Chandrababu Naidu in this regard because he has organised a conference of Chief Ministers of developed States on the issue of funds provided to the Backward States by the 11th Finance Commission. 11th Finance Commission has prepared a formula to provide facilities to the Backward States. If it is not done, the condition of these States remain deteriorating. Regional imbalance will remain in the Backward States. Government should clearly tell about this. Some areas are demanding to have a separate States. That's why Shri Subodhji has mentioned to pay special attention towards the Backward States by setting up boards for them on regional basis and to provide them special opportunities. Government has implemented it at few places where people have realised its need, e.g., to remove the regional imbalance Jharkhand Board and autonomous board in Gorkhaland were set up. I would like to ask the Government that why do not we pass the Bill moved by Shri Mohite regarding setting up of a separate development board for the backward areas. Government should respond whether autonomous boards will be set up in these areas? Otherwise regional imbalance will lead to the demands of separate States. Members from Vidarbha were giving speeches in the House. The demand of separate State will be raised if development board for Vidarbha will not be set up. Then you have to meet that demand. You have created three new States, how you will deny to create a separate State for Vidarbha and how you will deny to create separate State for Telengana in Andhra Pradesh or Gorkhaland or Bodoland. Therefore, the Private Member Bill presented by Shri Subodh Mohite has a weightage and Government should approve it. Otherwise Government should reply the question we have raised. Shri Prabhunath Singhji was speaking about Bihar.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Vidarbha has a separate board.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Vidarbha has its board but inspite of that it is not progressing. Assistance is not being provided to it, that's why its economy is not being improved . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I have no difference of opinion with you, I am agree with you on their issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Inspite of having the board, they have raised question. Whether the board is for the namesake, is it a found? The board is unable to fulfil the aspiration of the people of the area and the development works are not taking place there. Poverty is still prevailing there, rather it is on the increase, unemployment is also increasing. Therefore all these issues compelled him to move this Bill. There are several backward States like Bihar the issue of which we have raised here. On the basis of regional disparities, 11th Finance Commission gave 20 per cent weightage of population but this time the weightage has been reduced to 10 per cent. However, they have raised the weightage to per capita income from 5 per cent to 7½ per cent for the States whose per capita income is less. Shri Chandrababu has mentioned about performance. He is of the view that those States who are performing well should not be punished.

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : (Jagatsinghpur) To per Capita income, they have given a weightage of 62.5 per cent.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Earlier, it was 60 per cent now it is 62.5 per cent. 2½% increase has been made. Shri Kanungo has rightly stated that previously the weightage to per capita income was 60 per cent, 2½ per cent increase was made and now it is 62.5 per cent. Due to this 11th Finance Commission provided some facilities to those States whose per capita income was less. Hence, if they reduced the weightage to population from 20 per cent to 10 per cent, they increased it in other areas and provided some more facilities. 10th Finance Commission provided Rs.18000 crores to the State. This time on the basis of the formula they have got Rs. 31000 crores. They were expecting forty thousand crores rupees. Finance Commission has provided some facilities to backward States on the basis of the formula. Even then conferences are being held.

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Except Orissa, all other backward States have got a bonanza.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: That's why I am saying that those States who are left should be provided

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

more but efforts are not being made. I have stated that the remaining report of the 11th Finance Commission is to be submitted on 31st August and the States which have been left like Orissa and various other States whose economic condition has deteriorated should be given more facilities. The tenure of the 11th Finance Commission will be over on 31st August. Therefore, they have to submit a supplementary report.

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: That report is in a different connection. The third Report will not give anything either to them or to Orissa.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: You please ask all these things to the Government. Hon. Prime Minister has stated that he will think over the issue and will take some measures in this regard. He called up a meeting of the leading States and satisfied them but the backward States will be given priority over Orissa.

All the backward States should stand together and ask the Union Government that though the report of the 11th Finance Commission is sufficient to remove the regional imbalances but arrangements should be made to provide more facilities to those backward State which have been mentioned in this report. Even in a State some districts have developed but others are lagging behind. For such districts there is a demand to set up regional boards. Even in a district, some areas are developed but others are lagging behind.

The Government should make a policy to remove the regional differences at each and every level and urgently accept the proposal of Subodh Mohiteji otherwise it can weaken the national integrity of the country. To strengthen the national integrity, the regional differences on the basis of economy should be erased otherwise the demand for the partition of various districts and States will keep on arising. Therefore, I would like to submit that all the backward areas should be provisioned to provide with more facilities the way backward class and Schedule Caste and Tribes have got the reservations in the Constitution.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, the proposal, laid by my hon. colleague Subodh Mohiteji, is

very good. He has laid this proposal to bring the backward areas in mainstream and for that their main demand is that in the States where such commissions are not constituted yet should be constituted. My request is that the State where the commissions are constituted should be empowered.

In reality many backward areas do not have water. Hon. Prime Minister has said that water will be our priority. People will get pure water. Hon. Minister and Deputy Finance Minister are sitting here. I humbly request them that the period of one year is completing on 9th October by when the arrangements of the water are supposed to be made. People are seeking work from us. The arrangements of water has not been done yet. The roads in villages are in dilapidated condition, there is no electricity, as one of my colleague was saying that a committee was constituted in 1997 that hundred vacancies are vacant but I would like to say that committees are constituted to avoid the work. If a marriage is taking place in a home and a committee is constituted to manage each work of marriage then no work will be completed. Committees are constituted to avoid the work. Commissions are formed but their reports are not implemented. Beri Commission was formed in Rajasthan. An incident of opening fires took place in Jaipur and the person who was behind this firing infact got promoted. Many people were killed but the report of the commission is not got implemented. You should consider in this regard and what hon. Member has said that the two crores of rupees are given by the Parliamentary fund I think, even the implementation of it is not done properly, collection is not working properly. Officers say that the report should be provided to them. I think this hardly brings any results. You should consider in this regard too and my submission is that more provision should be necessarily made in the budget for the people of backward classes because as long as the backward class will not come forward the fruits of the democracy cannot be enjoyed in real by the country. The people of higher class will be considered and come in Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha but the people of lower class should also be considered for bringing in power.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, people who live in the slums in the cities are suffering due to the lack of toilets, parks, proper arrangements of water and roads. In fact they are leading a very disgusting life. It is very necessary for the Government to consider in this regard. Therefore, I support the proposal laid by our colleague.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, right now the Government of our party is ruling the country. I want it to rule for many such years I would also like that the Government should bring the people of backward classes in mainstream otherwise they have to pay for it. Time keeps on changing. Sometimes we come in power and sometimes another party comes in power. Luckily we come in power by raising slogans. While we are in power, I insist that it is not the time to raise slogans but the time to work. Therefore, the Government should definitely consider the upliftment of these people of backward classes. It will be a very good thing if you start working we are your comrades and will remain so and during your rule we will try to make our best. Therefore, you should work. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this serious matter. Today the discussion is taking place on the Private Members Bill moved by Shri Subodh Mohite for constituting a board for the development of the backward areas. It is truly a very important subject.

15.29 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

I congratulate hon. Parliamentarian Shri Subodh Mohite but as far as my practical experience is concerned, I would like to draw your as well as the attention of our countrymen to the fact that as long as a proper policy is not enacted by the Government of India for the development of all the backward regions, territories and districts of various States no benefit will reach to the people of backward class. Thus evenly development of India will not be possible. After the 52-53 year of India's Independence, these people are not getting any facilities.

I do not find the suitable boards to explain the situation of Bodo tribals in Bodoland area. I have some suggestions for the backward regions or territories in India.

[English]

I do have some concrete and very effective advice and suggestions to give to the Government of India, through you, Sir. I have located, totally, nine territories or backward regions that are to be provided Statehood. They are (1) Bodoland Territory, (2) Telangana Region, (3) Vidarbha Region, (4) Paschim UP's Harit Pradesh or Panchal Pradesh, (5) Bundelkhand Region, (6) Coorg Region or

Kodagu Region, (7) Saurashtra Region, (8) Malowa Region and (9) Gorkhaland Region.

For these nine regions or territories, the Government of India should take a very concrete policy decision in order to concede separate Statehood, on the lines of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh States. If the Government of India can concede three new States—after 30 years since 1971 or 1972—why can the Government of India not create more States? This is my vital question.

If the Government of India is really sincere to accord equitable socio-economic and political justice to each and every Indian, then these nine regions or territories should be accorded or granted Statehood. So, I would like to appeal to the Government of India, through you, that they should take a concrete policy decision to concede Statehood to these nine regions, on the lines of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh States.

Apart from this, I do have some other suggestions to make regarding creation of some Autonomous States within the existing States or Autonomous Regions or Autonomous Territories, along with a provision to have either a Legislative Assembly, a Legislative Council.

I have located these regions as follows. Firstly, an Autonomous State should be created for Tripura's Autonomous Tribal Areas. Secondly, there has to be a separate Autonomous State comprising of North Cachar Hills and Karbi Anglong Autonomous District Councils. They can be done under article 244(a) of the Constitution. It is very clearly written down in the Indian Constitution.

Next one is for North Bengal. North Bengal is a very backward region. So North Bengal should be accorded the status of an Autonomous State or an Autonomous Region or an Autonomous Territory.

In the case of Madhya Pradesh, I found that Vindhyaachal area is a backward region in the country. So, this Vindhyaachal Region should be accorded the status of an Autonomous State.

Then, we come to the Western part of Orissa, which is also very backward. So, either an Autonomous Region or an Autonomous Territory should be created there.

Then, we have the Ladakh Autonomous Region. The status of Autonomous Council has already been granted to Ladakh Hills Area. That Autonomous Hills Council could not fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people and the problems of the people could not be solved. So, why could Ladakh Region not be granted Autonomous Statehood?

[Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary]

Then, I have some suggestions for the creation of some Autonomous Districts, under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution—one, comprising of the tribal and indigenous people, predominant in the Southern Bank of the River Brahmaputra, and second, in different tribal areas all over the country.

There are other backward regions, like Southern Bihar, Southern Tamil Nadu, hill regions of Himachal Pradesh etc. For these territories and regions, Development Board or Autonomy Board can be constituted and these bodies should be constitutional bodies. Unless the autonomous bodies or authorities are created under the Central Act, they cannot satisfy the aspirations of the people. So, any sort of body which is going to be created, future in the concerned area should be created under the provisions of the Indian Constitution. That should be a constitutional body.

In the case of Vidarbha, Vidarbha Development Board is already in existence, But this Board could not satisfy people's aspirations and it could not solve the people's problems. The Government of India and various State Governments have already created some autonomous districts and autonomous councils like, Ladakh Hill Autonomous Council, Bodoland Autonomous Council, Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous Council, North-Cachar Hills Council, Karbi-Anglong Autonomous Districts etc. In that way a lot of autonomous councils have been created. But these councils could not satisfy the genuine hopes and aspirations of the people. These councils could not solve the problems of the people of the region concerned. So, why can not we create separate States for certain regions? Separate statehood should be granted to the regions concerned. Autonomous districts should comprise of tribal districts, as I mentioned a few minutes back, Autonomous Boards also be constituted for certain backward regions as I mentioned a few minutes back.

See what is happening in Assam. The State Government of Assam has totally failed to provide safety to security to the backward Bodoland region. On 19th August, the President of Bodo Sahitya Sabha, Shri Bineswar Brahma was brutally killed by some extremist elements. Since the Bodo Sahitya Sabha, in its February Session has adopted the Devnagiri script for Bodo language, the anti-Indian forces have gunned down our beloved leader. Subsequently, on 21st August, one of the members of our Bodoland Parliamentary Party and my

own nephew from my parental relationship, Shri Mahini Bwiswmuthiary, who happens to be the MLA of Bijni Assembly segment, was also brutally killed by some gunmen. From that point of view, there is no scope left for co-existence of Bodos within the State of Assam.

Under these circumstances, we can never co-exist in Assam. I would request the Government of India to concede to our long-standing demand for a separate territory in the form of a separate State. This is the only formula which can ensure safety and security of our people and all-round growth and development of that area within the Indian Union. We want to live in India as dignified Indian citizens on par with the rest of the country. We do not want to live under subjugation of any other advanced group of people. Over the last fifty-two years, after Independence, no developmental activities have taken place in Bodoland.

The Bodo Autonomous Council was given to the Bodo people. That Council could not fulfil the general hopes and aspirations of the people. Seven years before, we signed the Bodo Economic Accord, 1993. I was appointed as the Member of the Council but after five months I quit that Council. As per the population ratio, Assam Government should have given to the Bodoland Autonomous Council nearly Rs. 200 crore per year. So, over the last seven years we should have been given Rs. 1400 crore. But, in place of Rs. 1400 crore, the Bodo Autonomous Council has hardly been given Rs. 90 crore. Is it really worth giving only this much amount? The hon. Prime Minister, Home Minister, Shri K.C. Pant, Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission visited Shillong. They announced a special economic package of about Rs. 10,271 crore for the entire North-Eastern region. Out of this huge sum of money, the Bodoland Council has been given only Rs. 90 crore per year. We have been given Rs. 30 crore each for three years continuously. I had written to the Government of India saying if it does not have any sympathy for the Bodo people, do not have any magnanimity, it should better take back Rs. 90 crore from us. Bodos are not beggars. We can survive even without this sum.

Through your honour, I would like to appeal to the Government of India that, as the new States have been created, the autonomous States or autonomous councils or autonomous boards should be created by this august House in order to accord equitable socio-economic and political justice to the deserving people of the deserving regions. With these few words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request the concerned hon. Minister that this is a good opportunity to utilise the

expectations and demands of several Members of Parliament. If we can thought of an All India policy for the development of backward blocks, backward taluks, backward districts it will help the Government of India to reduce the demands of separate States which may arise in different parts of the country. Your will kindly appreciate that the issue is not political.

My friend, Shri Mohite, has brought a very important Bill. I have no wave length with his party but as far as this particular Bill is concerned, I am supporting the Bill because I also come from a State, known as Gujarat, which in the economic definition is one of the most developed States in the country. Immediately after Independence, we had a Saurashtra State. Its Capital was in Rajkot and the remaining part of Gujarat was part and parcel of Dhibasi Mumbai Raj. Again in 1960, Gujarat was created as a separate State. In this very Parliament we have discussed umpteen times that Gujarat has a Golden corridor. If you go from Ahmedabad to Varti, you have got the best train. There are two tracks and one more track is being demanded and it will be given. We have got IPCL, IFFCO, Colliery Refinery and other best industries. With the help of the World Bank, we have got quadruple roads. We have got all these things between Ahmedabad to Varti. As a result, this region is called the Golden Corridor. But we have also got areas where there is no corridor at all. Gujarat has got a sea shore of about 1600 kms. The entire sea shore region covers the Saurashtra region which include Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Amreli, Rajkot, Junagarh and Surendranagar. You will appreciate that we have some small scale industries in Rajkot and Jamnagar but what is the fate of Bhavnagar, Amreli ro Surendranagar. There is no industry there. There is no drinking water facility, no irrigation facility and there is no canal.

Sir, on the one side of Ahmedabad, we have districts like Khera, Baroda, Bharuch, and Surat. There are industries and there are canals also. Now, let us come to North Gujarat. I come from a place known as Patan. It is one of the most ancient towns in the counrty. It was established 1200 years ago and it used to be the capital of Gujarat. Now, what is the situation in Patan ? Forty per cent of the population of Patan belong to Other Backward Classes, 10 per cent people belong to minorities, and 10 per cent belong to Scheduled Castes. Now, this is sufficient for the Government of India as also the Government of Gujarat to appreciate that this is a backward district.

Similarly, we have got Mahesana where the town is developed. We have got 4-5 metropolitan cities, viz.,

Baroda, Surat, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Ahmedabad. But we have got backward cities also. Bhavnagar is also a very big city. It used to have some plastic industry and diamond industry. But everything is vanished. Then, we had ship-breaking yard. But in the year 1980, that yard was also closed. The population of that area is around 5 lakhs. Now tell me what would these people do? Why are there slums in Surat and Ahmedabad? Why are there slums in Dharavi, Bombay? They do not belong to that particular city. The people of Mahesana, Patan and Banaskantha have no industries or factories to work. They have gone to Ahmedabad. My friend, Dr. Kathiria is here. He would agree with me that nobody would like to leave his own home town or his Taluka or his district. So, why have people from Saurashtra gone to Africa and Bombay in particular? We have lakhs and lakhs of Gujaraties in Bombay. Why do they have gone there? They have not gone there to see the Gateway of India or the Church Gate Railway Station. They have left their district. They have left Saurashtra which is one of the best regions of our State. They have left it because there were no industries. They went to Bombay as poor people. They have established themselves there through their hard work. If you go to Porbandar or Rajkot, you will find that the houses are vacant. People have left their home towns and districts because there are no industries.

The Government of India is doing piecemeal effort. I will give you an example. In Gujarat, we have a Union Territory called Silvassa where there is exemption in sales tax and income tax. But what has happened is that it is being misutilised. People from Bombay and Gujarat open their offices in Silvassa just to avoid payment of sales tax and income tax. We have Section 80H in the Income Tax Act. During '80s when I was the Income Tax Officer, Bhavnagar was declared as backward district, Bharuch was also declared as backward district. But big industrialists from Bombay misutilised the facilities which were given to these districts. They used to keep only offices in Bhavnagar to avail of the benefit of exemptions under Section 80H which were available there for 5 years or 10 years. At present, there are cases where the factories are situated in Gujarat but the registered office of the companies are either in Bombay or in Calcutta. As a result of this, the income tax assessment is made in Calcutta or Bombay.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Call it Mumbai instead of Bombay.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : Talking to Gujaratis we used to call it Mumbai. But when we used to call it Mumbai, they used to call it Bombay. Well now I will, call it Mumbai . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

So, what I wanted to say is that there are exemptions in income tax in a particular district which is selected for growth. A tax holiday is given to them for five years or 10 years. Now that benefit is not availed of by the local people. That benefit is availed of by one who is educated and who is supported by very good advocate or advised by very good Chartered Accountant. We are all aware of Dr. I.G. Patel. A committee was constituted under his Chairmanship to select backward Talukas. Let us have Talukas or the blocks as a base.

We have got highly developed States, but there are backward blocks and Talukas. So, Talukas should be the base for economic assistance and that should go directly from the Central Government. The monitoring also should be done by the Central Government. It should not be left to the State Government.

I will give you two examples about the opportunities available to us if this is done. You know that in Gujarat there is a place called Gogha near Bhavnagar. On the other side there is Dahej which is near Bharuch. There is a hundred per cent scope of ferry service in between Gogha and Dahej. All the trucks coming from northern India to Gujarat should come to Gogha and by ferry service they can cross over to Bharuch. This way we will save petrol and diesel running into lakhs of litres. It is possible; everything is there, But it is not being done.

Similarly, we have got Jafarabad which is connected by sea to Makdalla near Surat. Jafarabad is in Amreli district of Saurashtra. If you have ferry service in between Jafarabad and Makdalla, we can save lakhs of litres of petrol and diesel. You can have ferry service from Jafarabad to Mangalore by sea. We are not able to do this because the State Government says that it does not have funds. This is not a problem or a matter which should be looked into politically. It may be this Government or some other Government; it may be one-party Government or a multi-party Government. Our concern is what the Constitution of India wants. It has made sufficient provision if you read the chapter on the Directive Principles of State Policy.

The Constitution has given adequate direction to the Government in power. The Constitution wants overall growth and regional imbalance to be removed. Then only we will be able to stop terrorism and demands for separate States being made in the borders of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra or Bihar. This leads to frustration of young people. They are educated. I have gone to a Taluka where there are six schools up to 10th standard and only one school up to 12th standard. Where do these boys go for further education?

Even in a State like Gujarat, in my own constituency of Patan, I have got a *basti* of snake charmers. There are three hundred such families. I visited a school there. Ninety boys were sitting in the open and two teachers were there. There was only one class room for students from first to fifth standards. The is the situation there.

I would like that the Government of India should utilise this opportunity. Let us sit together. The Government should call the mover of this Bill and one Member from each political party. This is not a matter pertaining to Vidarbha or Bihar or Guajrat. Let us utilise this opportunity to see how we can remove the regional imbalance.

As I said, all the eight districts of Saurashtra can be treated as backward. Patan is a backward district, Banaskantha is a backward district, Mehsana is partly backward and even in Ahmedabad district we have got Talukas which are backward. There is no irrigation, there are no industries, there is no proper supply of electricity and there are no proper educational facilities. All these issues have to be studied.

I would request the hon. Minister to have an all-India policy about the poor region, poor Talukas, poor and backward Tehsils, blocks and villages. What is the percentage of urbanisation in Gujarat? It is only 37 per cent. 63 per cent people are in villages in Gujarat also. I had the opportunity of writing a letter to a member of the Planning Commission who was known to me. I wrote to Shri Rajni Kothari to say that the money of the Planning Commission should be divided into two parts. According to population 70 per cent money should go to rural areas and 30 per cent should go to the mega cities. But what is happening at present is that the maximum money is going to metropolitan and mega cities and the poor villages are not getting sufficient money. Let the Planning Commission take a policy decision. If we want that people should stay as Gandhians, we should know what Gandhiji had said. He said 'India lives in villages'. But where is the development in villages?

Let us take a village as a unit; let us take a *taluka* as a unit; let us take a rural area as a unit and have educational and industrial facilities there. It can be a *khadi* and village industry; it can be a small scale industry and so on.

With these words, I support the Bill introduced by Shri Subodh Mohite and I request the Government to take immediate steps in this regard.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I support the Bill moved by Shri Subodh Mohite. I will not take much time. I would sincerely draw the attention of the Minister for Planning to a backward area to whom I referred in various capacities including mentioning it in the House. I even wrote to the Prime Minister also.

The Backward Areas Development Board Bill pertains to a region of West Bengal to which I would like to draw the attention of the Minister. If the Minister for Planning would go through the Plan documents, he will find and will be convinced about the level of regional imbalance which has been created in a backward region called North Bengal which extends from Cooch Behar to Malda.

This region gives the best quality tea, both Doars Tea and Darjeeling Tea, to India. Tourists go at the top of Darjeeling to view the sunshine on Kanchenjunga. It is this area where lack of infrastructure, inefficiency, lack of development have turned it into a disaster. During the Congress Government, this region had one University in North Bengal, one Engineering College at Jalpaiguri and one Medical college at Siliguri. For the last 30 years, there is no pace of development in this region resulting in militants, through the borders of Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh, harbouring in this area including that of ISI. People of that area, especially the Scheduled Castes called Rajbongshis, are feeling isolated. They appealed to me that they do not like to touch the gun but they should be protected by removing the imbalance. Otherwise, they will become volatile and the danger will be for the entire North-East because this is the only link-line for the entire North-East.

I would like to draw the attention of the Minister for Planning that when he would give the reply for this debate, he may kindly give a look on the overall planning allocation for this particular region of North Bengal, as it has been deprived. If possible, he may present a White Paper after consulting the Chief Minister of West Bengal. I request him to personally visit this area, talk to the officers of the Planning Department of West Bengal Government

and find out as to what additional allocation can be sanctioned for that region. Otherwise, I am sorry to say, if you do not respond to the voice of democracy, then the voice of gun will rule and before that, I would like to give you an alarm.

I, therefore, support the Bill brought forward for the establishment of an autonomous Board of the backward areas of the country.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I strongly support Backward Area Development Board Bill presented by Shri Mohiteji.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Time allotted for this Bill is over but I have a list of some more speakers, If the House agrees it can be extended by one hour which will be upto next session.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes Sir, extend the time for an hour.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr Chairman, Sir, infact in our country a sense of development has come up in every region after independence. Be it entire nation or the ruling party, every one desired that country's all round development should take place. But it is unfortunate that required pace of development in the field of industry, economic and agriculture could not take place. It happened in the same way, as development of a small tree underneath a big tree gets obstructed. In some States, politicians had attachment towards their area, they developed them and maximum funds was spent in these areas from where pressure was exerted and where there was a strong lobby, consequently development was carried out there. And the result is that:

"Maya ke maya mile kar-kar lambe haath, Thulsi hai garib ki, puchhe nahi koi baat"

As a result of which the areas which were backward, grew more backward and the areas which were prosperous became more prosperous.

16.00 hrs.

After some years, it resulted in imbalance. On the one hand we are preparing to go in space, we have invented Atom Bomb and have attained fifth or sixth position amongst developed countries, on the other hand there are

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

some areas in the country where the inhabitants are yet to see the train, they are yet to see factories etc. Though, today I have been elected as a Member of Parliament but when I was studying in Tenth Class I had not seen power supply or water-tap. Till then, I had not seen pipe-line. On seeing water tank I used to feel as if I have seen a palace of a king. It is my true imagination. It is so because, the area I hail from earlier was known as Ajmer-Marwar Union Territory. Out of that Union Territory, Marwar was hilly area whereas Ajmer was Union Territory. Full attention was paid towards Ajmer, whereas the rural hilly Area was neglected where people feel pride in joining Army, five to seven people from each family, even head of the family, enter the Army, BSF or CRP remained backward economically. As you know, terraced cultivation is undertaken in hilly areas, and when there is excess of rain the crops get decayed and in case of scarcity of rain drought prevails there. As such, these areas have remained backward. Government have constituted Development Board in Mewat and other areas, While supporting this Bill, I would urge that a Development Board be set up in Marwar area of Rajasthan and separately funds be provided so that economic imbalance of this area can be removed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mohiteji has drawn our attention towards 5-7 backward areas of our country which include Vidharbha in Maharashtra, Telengana in Andhra Pradesh, Southern Part of Tamil Nadu, Northern Part of Bihar, Orissa, Tribal Areas of Madhya Pradesh, hilly Areas of Uttar Pradesh which has now been carved out as Uttaranchal State, and Himachal Pradesh and North-Eastern States. But he has forgot to make a mention of Rajasthan. There are many such areas in Rajasthan.... (interruptions). As you have mentioned about Bundelkhand, that is, also a backward area. But, there are several such areas in Rajasthan where desired development has not been undertaken though, there is pomp and show in cities and means of transportation and other facilities are available in cities but such facilities have still not been provided in the villages. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government of India to set up Backward Area Development Board at Central level and provide special funds to these Board.

16.03 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

An arrangement should be made to provide specially for backward areas of all States. First of all, arrangement should be made for drinking water and electricity. Means of transportation also should be provided. Industries should be set up in industrially backward areas and small scale industries should be set up in such areas on large scale, big industries should also be set up so that people of those areas get employment and the problem of unemployment can be solved in those areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has told a very good thing—that is about composition of board for backward areas. He has mentioned that the proposed board should include Chairman of Planning Commission as its member and one each representative from Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industrial Development, Department of Finance, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Telecommunication, Education and Railways also. If the Board is constituted in this manner and funds are allocated by Central Government then no area of the country will remain backward and they will make progress at par with others.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I am happy to say that when we look at the budget presented by the National Democratic Alliance Government led by hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee we find that since we achieved independence, maximum budget allocation has been made in this year's budget for development of rural areas.

I feel that he desires that no area of our country should remain backward, but as I have said development of small tree underneath a big tree gets obstructed.

MR. SPEAKER : Rawatji, you would continue your speech next time.

16.05 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. members, today we come to an end of the Fourth Session of the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 24th July 2000. The House had a total of 22 sittings spread over 145 hours.

During the Session the Lok Sabha transacted several items of important financial, legislative and other business. The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) and (Railways) for the year 2000-2001 and the Excess Demands for Grants for the year 1997-98 were voted by the House. Twenty Bills were passed by the Lok Sabha

including the three States Reorganisation Bills, that would create three more States out of the present States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2000 seeking to check pollution on uncontrolled alterations of engines of the vehicle and the Cable Television Network Regulation (Amendment) Bill 2000 seeking to provide programme and broadcasting codes for all kinds of channels were also passed. Two Constitution (Amendment) Bills, the Constitution Eighty-Sixth (Amendment) Bill 1999 and the Constitution Eighty-Eighth (Amendment) Bill 1999 were passed by the Lok Sabha. While the former would exempt the State of Arunachal Pradesh from the application of the provision of the Constitution relating to the reservation of seats in Panchayats for the Scheduled Castes, the latter would provide concession to members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in promotion to services or posts under the Central or State Governments.

The House had fruitful debates on four important matters of public importance under Rule 193. These are: Resolution passed by the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly for Autonomy, Loss of lives and property due to floods in various parts of the country, Disinvestment of public sector undertakings and Atrocities on linguistic and religious minorities in the country.

Another issue regarding the killing of innocent persons, including pilgrims of Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, and need to appoint a commission of enquiry headed by a sitting Judge of High Court to inquire into the matter was discussed under Rule 184.

Two important matters were raised by Members by way of Calling Attention and the concerned Ministers made statements thereon. These were on difficulties faced by the jute growers and the situation arising out of the reported decline of rupee in the foreign exchange market. Fourteen other statements were also made by Minister on different issues.

As regards the Question Hour, out of 460 Starred Questions listed, 65 were orally answered in the House, while replies were given to 5142 Unstarred Questions, There were two Short-Notice Questions as well.

As regards the Private Members' Business, 45 Bills were introduced, of which two were discussed. Two Private Members' Resolutions were also discussed. Members raised 163 matters under Rule 377, while 349 matters of public importance were raised during the Zero Hour.

In this Session, the Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 36 reports. The Lok Sabha sat late on several days to complete the listed business. This was made possible because of the wholehearted support and willing cooperation that I received from all sections of the House.

I am indeed thankful to each and every Member of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Leader of the House, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, the leaders of various parties and groups in the House as also the Chief Whips and Whips for their kind cooperation and courtesy extended to me and to my colleagues, the hon. Deputy-Speaker and members of the Panel of Chairmen.

During the Session, destiny made us to make Obituary References to two of our very distinguished sitting Members, Shri Rajesh Pilot and Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam.

The sudden and tragic death of these two youthful and dynamic leaders is a great loss to the whole nation. They will be missed inside as well as outside Parliament.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr Speaker, Sir, Monsoon Session has come to the end. We feel satisfaction on the achievements of this Session. Parliament lags behind in the matter of legal proceedings since other issue taken up for discussion take more time. There used to be such complaints but now there should not be any complaint. Though, the House used to sit late in the evening to complete legislative business. By virtue of hon. Members cooperation that work also has been completed. We are successfully accomplishing the task of enactment of laws which includes two Constitution Amendment Bills also.

Sir, because of typical nature of party position in the House it was thought that it would be very difficult to mobilise two-third majority or more efforts will have to be made for this purpose. But, with the cooperation of all political parties, especially main opposition party, both Constitution Amendment Bills have been passed with good majority or you can say with consensus. It is very much necessary that such sort of environment should prevail in the House. Simultaneously, I feel, we should discuss our problems and solve them and we should keep maximum restraint while expressing our difference of opinion.

Sir, today, on last day of this session I would like to request you that, though I held the same opinion when

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

I was in opposition, the Question Hour should be permitted to be run as Question Hour only. Creating any type of obstruction during Question Hour is not good. If there is any sensitive issue, we can raise it after Question Hour is over in a more serious and efficient manner. But the importance of Question Hour should be maintained. I would like hon. Members of all parties to consider it. Once, earlier in last Lok Sabha it was decided that Question Hour will not be disturbed, but we have forgot that and obstructions have been created during Question Hour. Sir, today through your efficient handling you could minimise disturbances during Question Hour. Sir, several times you have managed it skillfully. Our hon. Members also should exercise some skill and introduce a new system and tradition.

Sir, as you have already mentioned, we have lost our two colleagues during this Session which is concluding today. They are Shri Rajesh Pilot and Shri P. Kumaramangalam. Both of them were marching firmly on the path of success. Their future was bright. Now they have become subject matter of our tribute. Though we miss them, yet we are going on with our business. Entire nation feels that House may be divided in divergent factions, but at the time of crisis, any sad event of external threat, entire House and whole country stand united.

Sir, lot of congratulations to your leadership and I hope that we would not only complete this Session but will complete even full term.

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi) : Mr, Speaker, Sir we have come to the end of the Fourth Session of this House. During this one month, many important issues have been discussed, have been debated and a great deal of work has been done. I would like to congratulate you, Sir, for so deftly guiding this House.

One item stands out, and that is, the creation of the three new States—Uttaranchal, Chhatisgarh and Jharkhand. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to convey my good wishes as well as those of the Congress Party to all the people of the three new States and to their prospective Governments.

A number of significant Bills have been passed, approved by this House. Here again the Congress Party took a positive stand because it believed that these Bills

contained elements which were constructive and in the interest of the people.

However, on certain matters, we were not fully satisfied with the response of the Government. The massacre of Amamath pilgrims and similar incidents in Jammu and Kashmir have shocked the entire nation. The reply of the Home Minister to our demand for a Judicial Inquiry was far from convincing. To our mind, it betrayed a sense of insecurity and defensiveness. We, as a responsible political Party, as a responsible Opposition, supported the Government opening a dialogue in Kashmir in an effort to bring about peace in this troubled State. But we are concerned at the seemingly confused manner in which this delicate and most important exercise was undertaken. There seems to be no clear policy, no well thought out strategy. While we reiterate our full support to the peace initiative in Jammu and Kashmir, we urge the Government to act in a more co-ordinated and effective manner.

We strongly condemn the role of Pakistan in continuing to foment and encourage trans-border terrorism and violent acts as also their ongoing attempts to sabotage the peace process in Jammu and Kashmir. In spite of this Session being a busy one, several vital items, several vital subjects were not discussed in the House.

Sir, yet another Session has gone by but the Government has not found the consensus it promised to seek on the Women's Reservation Bill. We believe we must take this matter up. We have waited. The women of our country have waited long enough. Therefore, we would like a commitment from the Government that this Bill will be brought before this House for a final verdict during the Winter Session.

With great difficulty, we had also managed to plan for a discussion on the Kargil Report. But yet we could not do so. Of course, because of the passing away of Shri Rangarajan Kumaramangalam, this debate had to be postponed. But our party considers this to be a matter of great importance. It is a subject which we believe must take precedence over many other issues. We hope that it will be taken up right at the beginning of the Winter Session.

The Prime Minister had also given an assurance to this House as well as to the country on the CTBT. He had assured us that he would strive to evolve a consensus on the CTBT. We do trust that he will stand by his commitment.

Many of the Members in the House have expressed their concern on the disinvestment policy. We have requested you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, to set up a Standing Committee on Disinvestment so that our Members can get an opportunity to express their views, so that their concerns are adequately addressed and a clear and transparent policy is laid down.

Before I conclude, I would like to say that we are most concerned about the loss of life and property due to floods in Arunachal Pradesh, in Himachal Pradesh, in Bihar and in Andhra Pradesh. This morning many Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh have brought this issue up. We do sincerely hope that all relief measures, which are due, will be speedily taken up.

I trust that the Government will strive to find solutions, not only in words but also in action, to the various issues which we, in the Congress Party as well as others in the Opposition Parties, have taken up. On our part, I assure you of our support to all those policies which we believe to be in the interests of the people of our country.

In the end, I would like to extend to you our thanks and our good wishes and through you our good wishes to the Prime Minister, to his Government, to our colleagues in the Opposition Parties and to all Members of this House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to sincerely thank you for the accommodation that you have always shown, particularly to the Opposition. Knowing as I do, your commitment to parliamentary democracy and realising the role of the Opposition which is, in any event, quite divided in the sense of so many parties in the Opposition, but with your able guidance and your unfailing courtesy shown to all the Members, we have been able to do substantially, what we had decided to perform.

Of course, I must concede that precious time of this House had not been utilised in a manner that it should have been. And I am not blaming anybody, but jointly we have to consider about it, how to avoid it in future, not only the Question Hour but others. I know about our Prime Minister's commitment. Of course, I can assure him that, that commitment is not of his alone. All of us believe in that. But situations develop, in spite of our wishes, things happen. But, not only the Question Hour, we must see to ourselves that this time is utilised. Many many important issues could not be discussed. Several important economic aspects, not only the question of disinvestment, the serious

situation now faced by the workers in these public sector undertakings could not be discussed. So many of them are closed down.

They are losing jobs, and salaries are not being paid. I can understand even if there is an inexorable trend of privatisation. But how can it be done with a least damage to the fabric of our society, with a least damage or least problem to the working class of this country? These are very serious matters, which are required to be discussed more deeply on the floor of the House.

I know that many hon. Ministers – I do not want to point them out because I do not know how the hon. Prime Minister will feel – also feel unhappy. They express privately, but they cannot do it openly. But even that opportunity could be there. Shri Ananth Kumar, please do not look at anybody. . . . (*Interruptions*)

Sir, we have not found time to discuss the foreign policy, the CTBT and so many other issues. This is a forum to which the whole country is looking at. I know that this should not be a mere talking shop, apart from important legislations – good, bad or indifferent – that the Government brings and gets passed with our cooperation, with the sweet words of the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I do not know as to why he gets angry sometimes. Probably, he gets some thrashing from the hon. Prime Minister and he gets it on us! But we have a good working arrangement. I must thank the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs also. He has been accommodating. That is needed.

Sir, yesterday I said that "Ranga" was the successful Minister of Parliamentary Affairs because of the total understanding between him and the Opposition. His unfailing not only courtesy, but his spirit of accommodation, his attitude of friendliness and his attitude of the spirit of cooperation, all these things make one a successful Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. Now, we have also one good Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, but for his weakness for Mumbai.

Sir, there are many other issues which we wanted to discuss. I hope we shall find time for them during the next Session. Let us also decide to bring a little less number of Bills and do some other business here. Of course, we are passing all the important Bills.

Sir, we end this Session with the hope and belief that not only in the maintenance of parliamentary democracy in a better form but in a more effective functioning and

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

deliberations in this House, we will get the fullest support from you. I must, once again, express my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the Chair. Sir, with you presiding the House, it has given us a great hope and faith that we shall perform here better and better.

MR. SPEAKER : For the information of the hon. Members, time lost due to interruptions was 13 hours and 43 minutes and the time made up by sitting late was 36 hours and 39 minutes.

Hon. Members may now stand up as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

16.29 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

(The National Song was played.)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

16.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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