

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Part-I)
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. IX contains No. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 50.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

Shri S. Gopalan
Secretary General
Lok Sabha

Shri Surendra Mishra
Additional Secretary
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shrimati Reva Nayyar
Joint Secretary
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shri P.C. Bhatt
Chief Editor
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shri Y.K. Abrol
Senior Editor

Shrimati Kamla Sharma
Editor

Shri Balram Suri
Assistant Editor

Shri S.C. Kala
Assistant Editor

CONTENTS

(Eleventh Series, Vol. IX, Fourth Session (Part-I), 1997/1918 (Saka)

No. 5, Wednesday, February 26, 1997/Phalguna 7, 1918 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
OBITUARY REFERENCE	1
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:	
*Starred Question Nos. 61-66	2-28
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS:	
Starred Question Nos. 67-80	28-58
Unstarred Question Nos. 628-857	58-306
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	306-309
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS	
Fifth Report— <i>Presented</i>	309
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE	
Eighth Report— <i>Presented</i>	309
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS	
Thirty-sixth Report— <i>Laid</i>	310
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
Tenth Report— <i>Presented</i>	310
RULINGS BY THE SPEAKER	310-313
(i) Issue of admissibility of notice of motion under Rule 184 for Constitution of a Parliamentary Committee to go into all aspects of Bofors Gun Deal	310-312
(ii) Issue of admissibility of notice of motion under Rule 184 Regarding failure of Constitutional Machinery in Uttar Pradesh	312-313
BUDGET (RAILWAYS)—1997-98— <i>Presented</i>	
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	313-343
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 1994-95	343
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	344-347
(i) Need for conversion of railway line between Neemuch and Ratlam into broad gauge [*] Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey	344
(ii) Need to solve the problem of erosion caused by river Yamuna between Khair Tehsil (U.P.) and Palwal Tehsil (Haryana) Shrimati Sheela Gautam	344
(iii) Need for early probe into illicit traffic in Indian antiques by a London based art auction House Shri Bijoy Handique	345

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicate that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(iv) Need to release more funds for providing relief to the people affected by acute drought in Orissa Shri Anadi Charan Sahu	345
(v) Need to improve the functioning of telephones in rural areas particularly in Sunderbans area, West Bengal Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal	345-346
(vi) Need to connect Azamgarh in U.P by direct train service with other important cities Dr. Baliram	346
(vii) Need to take over Negapattinam port in Tamil Nadu and to develop it as a major port Shri M. Selvarasu	346-347
MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS	347-371, 372-402
Shri Krishan Lal Sharma	347-351
Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar	351-360
Shri Nitish Kumar	360-371
Shri Virendra Kumar Singh	372-375
Sardar Surjeet Singh Barnala	375-382
Shri K.P. Singh Deo	382-390
Shri Dileep Sanghani	392-396
Shri Sukh Lal Kushwaha	396-400
Shri Ramsagar	400-402
Shri M. Ramanathan	402
STATEMENT BY MINISTER	
Tripartite agreement between India, Iran and Turkmenistan Shri I.K. Gujral	371-372

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, February 26, 1997/Phalgun 7, 1918 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at one minute
past Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I have to inform the House, with a deep sense of sorrow, of the passing away of one of our esteemed friends Shri. D.L. Baitha.

Shri D.L. Baitha was a Member of Seventh Lok Sabha representing Araria Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar during 1980-84.

Earlier he was a Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly during 1952-72. He was a Member of the State Council of Ministers for several years and held various portfolios with distinction.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Baitha served as Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies and also as Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence in the Union Council of Ministers. He was a Member of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions. He was also the Chairman of Railway Convention Committee during 1980-84.

An agriculturist and lawyer by profession, Shri Baitha constituted a Committee for dealing with the problem of landless labourers. He worked hard for the development of rural areas.

An active social worker, he worked ceaselessly for the upliftment of poor and weaker sections of the society.

Shri D.L. Baitha passed away on 10 February, 1997 at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi at the age of 73 years.

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 stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.03 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Royalty on Crude Oil

*61. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE:
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state.

(a) whether a number of oil producing States are insisting upon the Union Government to revise the royalty rate on crude oil and natural gas after the well head price with effect from 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether the provisions of the oil-fields (Regulation and Development) Act 1948 is proposed to be amended accordingly;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Governments of Assam and Gujarat have been requesting the Central Government to fix the rate of royalty on crude oil for the block period 1993-96 and to revise the 'on account' rate of royalty on crude oil w.e.f. 1.4.1996.

(c) For the three years period (1993-94 to 1995-96), the actual weighted cost of production would be worked out on the basis of the figures audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and the final rate of royalty notified and necessary adjustments made against the 'on account' payments already made. The Government have decided to revise the 'on account' rate of royalty on crude oil w.e.f. 1.4.96 from Rs. 528/MT to Rs. 578/MT.

(d) to (f) The Schedule to the Oil-fields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 is amended suitably as and when the rate of royalty on mineral oil is re-fixed by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, tension between the Central Government and the States on the question of royalty on oil and natural gas is increasing day

by day. The existing procedure of determining the royalty is not justified. Therefore, I would like to know what suggestions have been given by the State Government to the Centre and whether the Central Government has taken any decision on those suggestions ?

My second supplementary is as to what is the price of indigenous crude oil per barrel as against the price of imported crude oil and whether the price of imported crude oil is taken into consideration while determining the royalty?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Could you please repeat the question?

MR. SPEAKER: Can you repeat the question ?

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, tension between the State Government and the Central Government on the question of royalty is increasing day by day. The State Government has given some suggestions to the Central Government. I want to know whether the Central Government has taken any decision on those suggestions? My second supplementary is in regard to the price of indigenous crude oil per barrel as compared to the price of imported crude and whether the price of imported crude oil is taken into consideration while fixing the royalty?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Have you understood it. Are there any suggestions from the State Government?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We have received a suggestion from the Chief Minister of Gujarat to pay the royalty in kind.

MR. SPEAKER: 'In kind' means what?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: It is to be given in terms of oil or gas. But as it is, we are not self-sufficient. We are importing more than 50 per cent of crude from foreign countries. Even though there is provision to pay it in kind, at this point of time, it is not possible to consider this suggestion. Even otherwise the Central Govt. has to give the concurrence to pay it in kind. Therefore, as I said earlier, at this point of time, it is not possible to pay it in kind.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: The reply given by the hon. Minister is not appropriate. It is like telling the price of mangoes when I ask about the price of tamarind. There is an anomaly in it. My second supplementary is that the Government increase the rate of royalty by Rs. 50 annually whereas the rates should be revised once in three years. On the other hand, the quota of oil for the States is increased by just one per cent as against 10 per cent increase in the royalty. This is resulting in resentment among the States. The result in Maharashtra was that the State had to resort to rationing. Thus, it had a major impact

in the State. Therefore, I would like to know whether would consider increasing the quota of oil by reducing the quota of royalty?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I think the hon. Member is not correct in making this statement. However it is, for the benefit of the other Members, I could only say that in 1993, the royalty rate was fixed by the Easwaran Committee, that is, at the rate of Rs. 481 per metric tonne and that has been paid fully. In the 1993-1996 period, 'on account' payment was being paid at the rate of Rs. 528 per tonne. The 'on account' payment is being paid because the final well-head cost has not yet been fixed. We have to get the audited figures from the Comptroller & Auditor General. Only on receipt of the audited figures about the well-head cost, that is the production cost, we will be able to fix the final rate of royalty.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Sir, the C.A.G. report in about the loss only. In such a situation, they increase the royalty and reduce the oil quota. Therefore, I would like to know whether Government would consider increasing the quota of oil by reducing the rate of royalty? This part of my question has not been replied to.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I cannot make out what the hon. Member is saying. There is no quota as such. From the very beginning, he is saying this. There is no quota or any such thing.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no quota and the suggestion given by the Gujarat Government has not been accepted so far. That is the answer.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: I want to know from the hon. Minister that if the Government of India can make out income every year out of the oil taken out of the soil of Gujarat, why there is a delay of three years to finalise the rate of royalty.

Secondly, you know that after privatisation and liberalisation, when we are giving oilfields to private companies, there are conditions of sharing the oil. In the changed circumstances, why is the proposal of the Gujarat Government of sharing the oil out of the total production not accepted? If it is accepted, all the questions regarding audit etc. will disappear and the process will be very simple.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the second part has already been answered.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: About the second part, I would like to say that it is not at all relevant to the main question. However, for the benefit of the House, I could say that in 1993-94, we have paid Rs. 616.42 crore by way of royalty to the States.

In 1994-95, we have paid Rs. 641.97 crore and in 1995-96, we have paid Rs. 653.03 crore by way of royalty.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: It is not paid out of any grace.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The question is not at all relevant to the main question ...*(Interruptions)* If you are not interested, I am not going to say anything.

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you about the royalty given to Andhra Pradesh for the oil found in Krishna-Godavari Basin. Why should they not pay any cess to the concerned panchayat in whose areas the drilling activity is going on?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know whether it is relevant.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: As far as Andhra is concerned, in 1993-94 we have paid Rs. 9.99 crore; in 1994-95 we have paid Rs. 10.33 crore and in 1995-96, we have paid Rs. 11.56 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: Now Question Number 62.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this question pertains to Assam and Gujarat, I should also be given an opportunity to ask a supplementary question. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Sir, Since this question is important from Gujarat's point of view, we too want to have some information from the hon. Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Growth Rate

*62. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government failed to achieve the target of growth rate during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government in this regard and also to ensure that the shortcomings of last year are not repeated?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Growth rate targets are not fixed annually but for the Plan period as a whole. However, the realised growth rate in the last year (1995-96) is 7.1% as per the quick estimates of CSO, which is higher than the Eighth Plan annual average target of 5.6%.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

SHRI RAM NAIK: What is this CSO?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: It is the Central Statistical Organisation.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Even in replies, short forms are used.

MR. SPEAKER: Members are not supposed to know all the abbreviations.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in part (a) of my question, I had asked whether the Government failed to achieve the target of growth rate during the last year? In reply to this part, the hon. Minister has stated that growth rate targets are not fixed annually but for the plan period as a whole. However the realised growth rate in the last year (1995-96) is 7.1 per cent as per the quick estimates of CSO, which is higher than the Eighth Plan Annual average target of 5.6%. I agree with the hon. Minister on it, but when there is an increase in the growth rate, why the average figure has been presented in a round about manner. Through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what was the target for the growth rate, what was the shortfall, if any, and what were the reasons therefor?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Growth rate targets are not fixed annually. The target is fixed for the Five year plan by the Planning Commission, but the Commission does make some projections. When the plan for 1995-96 for formulated, the Planning Commission had estimated the growth rate to be 5.6 per cent, but the growth rate has been better than that and the actual achievement has been 7.1 per cent. I am replaying to it straightaway and not in a round about manner.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: What I want to know from the hon. Minister is whether in the event of non-fulfilment of the target, the Government inquires into the lethargy on the part of the offices? If so, the number of offices against whom action was taken during the last two years?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: As I have already said, there has been no shortfall in the growth rate during the last one year and this year also, the growth rate has been good, but if there is a shortfall in a particular project, as has been stated in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan, there is a long procedure under which the responsibility of such officers is fixed.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, the confusion arises because of this statement. The growth rate for the last year—if last financial year's reference is made—has not come down. The point is, for the current financial year or the last calendar year, the growth rate has come down a little.

My question can be formulated in this manner. In which sector of industrial production, the growth has declined drastically; and is there any sector in which it has improved, or is even more than that of last year? That is part (a) of my question.

Part (b) of my question is that in the current year, has it happened that because of the fall in the growth rate related to previous financial year, the companies' profits have also declined, or have they grown faster than the growth rate?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chatterjee, everything is available in the Economic Survey which was tabled yesterday. That is why, I do not intend to allow anymore question on this.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I think, this is a very interesting question because the hon. Member's question relates to this year and not to the last year.

I would like to clarify that this year, the growth rate that the Central Statistical Organization has estimated—which is there in the Economic Survey—is the first estimate which, last year, at this time of the year, was estimated at around 6.2 per cent. So, actually, there is nothing which says that when we come to the final estimates, the estimates will not again change for the better i.e. it may go up. That is number one.

Secondly, as far as the present situation is concerned, I would like to submit for the Member's consideration that the manufacturing sector, as per the data that we have for this year, which is the specific question, upto around October-November, is doing as well as last year. It is the same rate of growth. I mean to say that all this *tamasha* that there is deacceleration is, in fact, wrong.

But it is the electricity sector where the growth rate is lower and that is because, as is well known, we have faced problems. Even distinguished economics like Dr. Manmohan Singh has also said that during the last five years we have not been able to invest as much in power as we should have. But in the Ninth Plan, we are trying to correct it.

So, it is not that the manufacturing sector's growth has gone down over the last year. The manufacturing sector's growth rate this year is as much as it was last year.

The capital goods sector is better. There are some marginal revisions. But I would submit to the hon. Members that let us wait for the balanced final statistics because there is always seasonality in sectors. So, let us wait for that until we arrive at a final decision.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: In relation to companies' profits, we do not have the data right now. This data normally is brought out by the Reserve Bank Sample Survey and the Central Statistical Organization looks at it after the end of the year because of the balance sheets ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please read that Survey and make an effective contribution during the debate on the Budget.

[Translation]

LPG Connections

+
*63. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA':
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed for providing LPG connections in hilly districts of the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot LPG connections in hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh on preferential basis as there has been increasing use of firewood there;

(c) if so, the number of connections provided in hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have also decided to cut 50% LPG connections to these areas from August, 1996;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures taken to remove resentment among these people?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government advised the Public Sector Oil Companies to release LPG connections to the applicants in hilly areas located at an altitude of 2000 ft. and above all over the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh, on demand from 1.4.1996.

(b) The Government has accorded priority in the release of LPG connections to the hilly areas for the preservation of the forests. Accordingly, the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh are getting preference in release of LPG connections.

(c) The number of LPG connections released in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is given below.

YEAR	ENROLMENT (Lakhs)
1993-94	0.41
1994-95	0.61
1995-96	0.90
1996-97 (April-Dec., 96)	0.49

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d).

(f) With the higher availability of LPG in the country after commissioning of the LPG import facilities at Kandla and Mangalore higher enrolment for LPG connections is planned now. The people in the hilly areas will also get LPG connections in accordance with the policy of Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of cooking gas has assumed a greater importance in present day conditions in hilly areas. Before I ask my supplementary questions, I would like to place two facts before the House. On 12th December, The Supreme Court delivered a judgement which applies to the entire hilly areas. This decision has come in the civil petition No. 202/1995, Shri T.N. Godda Busman Vs. Union Bank of India and other under the Forest conservation Act. The entire Himalayan belt right from Arunachal Pradesh to Jammu-Kashmir is covered under this judgement. The judgement has imposed a blanket ban on felling of trees. So far, only 8-9 per cent people in the hilly areas have cooking gas connections. As a result, the people depend on forests for fuel wood. We too are in favour of conserving the forest, but we have no other alternative fuel except cooking gas because biogas and solar energy is not successful in the hilly region. In view of the Supreme Court judgement regarding ban on felling trees, there is no option left but to issue 100 per cent cooking gas connections in hilly areas. In this connections, the hon. Minister has laid down a norm under which the hilly areas above 2,000 feet will be given gas connections and not other below that height. The Himalayan belt runs in three parallel ranges—first are the hill and then the valley and thereafter hills again. What I want to say is that since the Supreme Court has imposed the ban on felling of trees in the entire hilly region, this norm of 2,000 feet height should be removed. Under this norm not all the hilly areas are getting the benefits. Therefore, will the Government consider removing this criterion?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: From 1992 onwards the Government has decided to see that the gas connections are given on priority to hilly areas, preserve forest and hilly areas. We have almost wiped out the waiting list. But the hon. Member wants to have connections in the plain areas also. We have already provided connections to areas situated at 2,000 feet height and above and there will be no waiting list.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': My second supplementary is also linked with it. There has been a demand since 1993 to open new distribution centers and new gas agencies. At present there are 57 agencies in our region which is a monopoly of Kumaon Mandal Vikas

Nigam. The result is that gas is not being properly supplied to the existing gas connection holders which leads to acute shortage of gas during the months of December, January and February. Fuel wood is not available and the people are going to jails for violation of the forest conservation Act. Proper cooking gas supply cannot be ensured unless new distribution points, new agencies and new gas depots are not opened. I want that besides removing the criterion of height of 2,000 feet, the proposal pending with the Ministry since 1993 regrading new distribution points and agencies should be expedited. We are prepared to follow the directive of the Supreme Court under compulsion. Due to ban on felling of trees, we are cremating the dead with tyres. Since, it is the question of our life and death, the Government should consider my suggestion sympathetically.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Public sector oil companies distributors have been permitted to put up their extension counters up to 15 kms. radius of a particular dealership area of an agency. As far as North-Eastern States are concerned, up to 50 kms. radius the companies have been permitted to put up extension counters. There would not be any problem. If there is any specific complaint, we are definitely here to look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH: Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that at present, only the places having a population of 20,000 or more are eligible for L.P. Gas connections. If so, whether it is also a fact that there are no gas agencies in Jaunpur, Madiahun, Jamalpur, Kerakat, Machhlishahar and Badlapur towns of Uttar Pradesh as a result of which the people of these towns have been totally deprived of gas connections? Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister the time by which gas agencies will be opened there so that the people of these areas are given cooking gas connections?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the question pertains to hilly areas. However, for the rural areas...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The question pertains to hilly areas. Why are you raising your hand?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: However, for the rural areas which are within a radius of fifteen kilometres from the towns and which have got a population of more than ten thousand, it could be served there also.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Member who asked the question earlier has said that it is difficult to meet the fuel requirements of the people of hilly areas unless cooking gas agencies are set up there and gas connections are given to the people. We know

to the order given by the Supreme Court. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what kind of fuel would the people belonging to hilly areas of Arunachal, Meghalaya, Himachal and Kashmir use till LPG connections are given in these areas? Will the hon. Minister consider giving LPG connections to the people of hilly areas of Himachal, Kashmir, Garhwal, Sikkim, Meghalaya, etc. in order to save the trees from felling?

MR. SPEAKER: Where is the question, Mr. Sultanpuri, you have merely given a suggestion.

[English]

I think it is a suggestion. You note it down.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We are very happy to announce that the thrust area is the hilly areas and North-Eastern border. As instructed by the hon. Prime Minister we are giving a lot of thrust to the services as far as the hilly areas and North-Eastern areas concerned. Next year, as instructed by the hon. Prime Minister, we are going to give forty lakh new connections to entire India. By the way, during the Ninth Plan, for the rural areas alone we are going to give fifty lakh connections.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, My friends Shri Rawat and Shri Sultanpuri have raised an important issue. Due to the direction of the Supreme Court, there is a ban on tree felling. But I am talking of those areas where there are no forests. I thank the hon. Minister for removing the restriction in the hilly areas located at a height of 2,000 feet and above. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the number of gas agencies in vast areas like Ladakh would be increased? Secondly, an LPG Bottling Plan project is waiting clearance for the last many areas and no work has started thereon? Will the hon. Minister start work on that project without further delay?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the suggestion is valid. We will take up the matter for consideration ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with Smt. Chikhalia that gas is used by women. I will give a chance to her.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving an opportunity to a woman to speak on this ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have given the change to put a question and not for speaking.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVERAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA: I want to tell the hon. Minister that this issue is not linked with only hilly areas or any special area. There is so much shortage of cooking gas throughout the country that even the quota given to M.Ps. is not enough. I would request that gas quota for M.Ps. should be increased. Secondly,

in the absence of cooking gas, it is the women who have to stand in the queues for hours to get kerosene, yet they do not get kerosene even after wasting hours. It is the women who undergo this trauma. Since fuel wood is not available, will the Government consider some concrete steps to issue LPG connections to all?

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the quota for telephone connection should also be increased ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not relevant.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: This practice of giving gas and telephone connections to MPs should be discontinued. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, let us listen to the Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: This quota should be discontinued. This is a matter of insult. Quota of gas and telephone connections should be discontinued. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAWNABEN DEVERAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA: Will the Government consider giving some quota for the Kashmiri refugees? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: It creates a lot of problems. This quota should be discontinued. Quota of telephones and gas should be discontinued. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, Please do not answer the question on quota. You can answer the other part.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: She has asked only about quota ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAWNABEN DEVERAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA: In the Government making any efforts to provide gas connections to the Kashmiri refugees without any conditions?

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you make an announcement from the Chair to discontinue quota. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The suggestion of the lady member would be looked into.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAWNABEN DEVERAJ BHAJ CHIKHALIA: Sir, answer to my question about refugees has not come. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me to say a few words.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: This quota has made our lives miserable. You do some thing good about it...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Give me a chance to say something about it. Mr. Nitish Kumar.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Since this question of quota regarding the telephone and gas connections to the Member of Parliament has come up now, I would like to respond to this. I have been receiving a lot of opinions on this issue from the hon. Member themselves. There are two opinions on this issue. But I think the majority of the Members of Parliament are against this quota system. I have decided to direct the Government to discontinue the quota of telephone and gas connections to the Members of parliament from the 1st of April.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: The PRIME MINISTER is here. He should respond to this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am fully convinced about this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There shall be no quota hereafter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Please excuse me. I would like to say something. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no excuse. I think I have taken a very correct decision and I stand by it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: We are earning a bad name.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, this is not a unanimous decision. We should get an opportunity to say something about this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of a unanimous decision here. I am not allowing any debate on this. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, the consensus of the House should be taken on this issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is my decision and it cannot be challenged. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: This is not proper. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. You have no right to demand that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: We are not demanding anything. You have to listen to us. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. The Supreme Court ruling is very clear on this.

(Interruptions,

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: There are 285 new Members here in this House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I congratulate you for taking such a decision. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: This is wrong. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing any debate on this now. Prof. Mehta please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, it is necessary that there should be a debate on this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sarpotdar, we have gone to the next question. We are not on that subject any more. We are on Question Hour. We have gone to the next Question also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: There should be a debate on this issue. ...(Interruptions) There should be a debate on this. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why should there be a debate on this? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: There are 285 new MPs in this House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please leave the matter there itself.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the decision which you have taken to discontinue the quota of gas and telephone is a good decision indeed. In my view, this quota should have been discontinued much earlier. Please also please stop the allocation of Rs. one crore from M.P.s. quota. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very good.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have gone to the next question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, this is a wrong thing.

Shortage of Power

+

*64. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV:

will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious crisis of power has arisen in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and other States recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to maintain the proper balance between the demand and supply of power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) During the period November, 1996 to January, 1997, there were some grid disturbances in the Northern Grid which affected the power supply to Delhi and other States in the Northern Region.

In the period April, 1996 to January, 1997, there was an energy and peaking shortage of 2.5% and 7% respectively in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The energy and peaking shortage for the corresponding period in the country was 11% and 17% respectively. The State-wise position is given in Annexure-I and II. enclosed.

(b) The reasons for the power shortage, inter-alia, are as under:

- (i) Growing gap between demand and supply of power;
- (ii) Decline in Hydel power generation; and
- (iii) Disruption in gas supply on the HBJ Pipeline which

was partially shut-down from 1.1.1997 to 23.1.1997 thereby affecting power generation by Gas based power plants.

(c) The measures being taken to maintain balance between demand and supply include the following:

- (i) Increase in generation from existing plants by improvement of Plant Load Factor (PLF);
- (ii) Capacity addition;
- (iii) Renovation and modernisation of existing plants;
- (iv) Demand side management measures;
- (v) Reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses; and
- (vi) Inter-State/Inter-regional transfer of power.

Annexure-I

Statewise Actual Power Supply position in the country
During the Period April '96 to January '97.

(All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/system	April '96-January '97			%
	Requi- rement	Availa- bility	Shor- tage	
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION:				
Chandigarh	755	754	1	0.1
Delhi	11,980	11,684	296	2.5
Haryana	11,745	11,189	556	4.7
Himachal Pradesh	1,931	1,911	20	1.0
Jammu & Kashmir	3,918	3,207	711	18.1
Punjab	18,635	18,299	336	1.8
Rajasthan	16,135	15,154	981	6.1
Uttar Pradesh	34,155	29,605	4,550	13.3
N.R.	99,254	91,792	7,462	7.5
WESTERN REGION:				
Gujarat	31,460	28,922	2,538	8.1
Madhya Pradesh	26,460	23,705	2,755	10.4
Maharashtra	49,430	46,847	2,583	5.2
Goa	1,062	1,062	0	0.0
W.R.	108,412	100,548	7,864	7.3
SOUTHERN REGION:				
Andhra Pradesh	32,900	25,571	7,329	22.3
Karnataka	20,230	14,944	5,286	26.1
Kerala	9,445	7,256	2,169	23.2

1	2	3	4	5
Tamil Nadu	29,800	25,633	4,167	14.0
S.R.	92,375	73,404	18,971	20.5
EASTERN REGION:				
Bihar	8,005	5,799	2,206	27.6
DVC	6,965	6,759	206	3.0
Orissa	8,805	8,529	276	3.1
West Bengal	12,860	12,493	367	2.9
E.R.	36,635	33,580	3,055	8.3
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:				
Arunachal Pr.	136.4	70.1	66.3	48.6
Assam	2527.2	2302.0	225.2	8.9
Manipur	331.4	308.1	23.3	7.0
Meghalaya	336.4	336.4	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	151.3	130.5	20.8	23.7
Nagaland	150.1	129.1	21.0	14.0
Tripura	400.2	306.8	93.4	23.3
N.E.R.	4033.0	3583.0	450.0	11.2
All India	340709	302907	37802	11.1

Annexure-II

State-wise Actual Peak Demand Vs. Peak met in the country during the period April '96 to January '97

(All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/System	April '96-January '97			
	Peak demand	Peak met	Shortage	%
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION:				
Chandigarh	166	166	0	0.0
Delhi	2,230	2,073	157	7.0
Haryana	2,170	1,826	344	15.9
Himachal Pradesh	525	515	10	1.9
Jammu & Kashmir	900	746	154	17.1
Punjab	4,020	3,695	325	8.1
Rajasthan	3,010	2,707	303	10.1
Uttar Pradesh	6,680	5,346	1,334	20.0
N.R.	18,180	15,116	3,064	16.9
WESTERN REGION:				
Gujarat	6,000	4,974	1,026	17.1
Madhya Pradesh	6,200	4,395	1,805	29.1
Maharashtra	9,200	8,332	868	9.4
Goa	198	198	0	0.0
W.R.	21,000	17,402	3,598	17.1

1	2	3	4	5
SOUTHERN REGION:				
Andhra Pradesh	5,940	4,540	1,400	23.6
Karnataka	4,110	3,205	905	22.0
Kerala	2,040	1,551	489	24.0
Tamil Nadu	5,410	4,528	882	16.3
S.R.	16,350	13,066	3,284	20.1
EASTERN REGION:				
Bihar	1,820	997	823	45.2
DVC	1,580	1,253	327	20.7
Orissa	1,930	1,677	253	13.1
West Bengal	2,800	2,488	312	11.1
E.R.	8,000	6,365	1,635	20.4
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:				
Arunachal Pr.	51	40	11	21.6
Assam	511	511	0	0.0
Manipur	78	61	17	21.8
Meghalaya	102	102	0	0.0
Mizoram	49	49	0	0.0
Nagaland	42	39	3	7.1
Tripura	88	68	20	22.7
N.E.R.	875	802	73	8.3
All India	63,222	52,491	10,731	17.0

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MAHTA: It has been said in the reply that

[English]

"(b) The reasons for the power shortage, inter-alia, are as under:

(i) Growing gap between demand and supply of power;..."

[Translation]

For solution, it has been said that;

[English]

"(i) Increase in generation from existing plants by improvement of Plant Load Factor (PLF)

[Translation]

You can imagine that when population of the country is increasing, the demand will also go up. Was the Government not aware that the demand will increase in proportion to the population? And, hence, it should have

taken pre-emptive steps ...*(Interruptions)* When such a situation arose due to the decline in hydel power, the State Government of Bihar submitted its report to the Central Government for the Koel Karo project. The Central Government had put three conditions before the State Government. These conditions were that the State Government will have to buy entire power generated at a reasonable rate; arrangement shall have to be made for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons and the law and order condition will have to be kept under control. Despite the fact that the State Government accepted all the three conditions, the project is still pending with the Central Government even after so many years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: The work on that project is yet to start. therefore, I would like to know whether the project is under consideration of the Government and the time by which the work would be started?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as rightly said, there is a decrease in the hydel generation of 6.2 percentage, even though there is an increase in thermal power of 6.1 per cent and in nuclear power of 12.7 per cent with an overall increase in generation of 3.8 per cent. But an overall shortage of power is there in the country, due to low power generation in the hydel sector. We can see the actual generation also.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Sir, I have asked a specific question which is about starting of the Koel Karo Project.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Yes. I am coming to that.

MR. SPEAKER: He is coming to that.

(Interruptions)

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: The hon. Member first raised the question of decrease in hydel power generation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Madhukar, if you have any grievance or if you want a discussion, you can serve a notice under an appropriate rule. You cannot disturb the House like this. Now please sit down.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, it can be done like this. Half-an-hour discussion may be allowed on this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, I am not talking about that matter. The Member has the right to give notice under rules. You have the right to do it and it is my decision to see whether it will be admitted or not. There is a limit.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not worry about that. He has the right to give notice and it is my right to decide on it. The matter ends there.

(Interruptions)

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, we are not able to take up the Koel Karo project due to paucity of funds. The hon. Prime Minister has already intimated this to the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: What is your answer regarding the release of Rs. 10 crore for starting the project? Only if you answer this question, I will ask my second supplementary. The Central Government wants to release Rs. 10 crore for starting that project after all these conditions are accepted by the Bihar Government. That amount has not yet been released. What about that ?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: All conditions are not accepted by the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I think a lot of discussion has taken place between you and the hon. Minister.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: No, Sir. Not like that.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Only after discussing all the conditions, at present the Central Government is not accepting the proposal of the koelkaro project. The hon. Prime Minister has already sent this information to the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar. It is due to the paucity of funds with NHPC.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chun Chun Prasad Yadav.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Sir, I have not asked my second supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask your second supplementary quickly.

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that efforts are being made to increase the capacity. Though coal is available in Bihar in plenty, yet the Government did not set up any new plant there to increase the capacity ever after so many years. I want to know the attitude of the Central Government towards it. What is the justification in carrying the coal hundreds and thousands of kilometres away from Bihar to be burned in the power plants outside the State than to set up a power generation plant in Bihar itself? I want to know the views of the Central Government to set up new capacity plant for generation of power in Bihar. According to the table given by the hon. Minister the requirement of the State is 8,000 MW and that too we are not able to make available to the consumers. I would like to know the steps contemplated by the Central Government to get out of this mess and to add new capacity in Bihar so that coal may not have to be transported to distant places?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, as far as Bihar State Government is concerned, they are actually drawing more than their allocation from the Central sector. And we are also taking up a project of 2,000 megawatt capacity at Nabi Nagar. That mega power project is coming up in Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, apart from Delhi, other State like Bihar, U.P. etc. are also facing power crisis. Power shortage is being felt everywhere. On 11th last, Shri Tejendra Khanna, the LT Governor of Delhi had said Delhi was facing power crisis on day-to-day basis. The major reasons for power crisis was theft of power. He said that in order to check theft of power, unauthorised colonies would be given power connections. He further said that he had already held consultations with the Chief Minister and the Chief Secretary. I would like to know from the Government whether the process to supply permanent power connections to those who steal power by putting a direct hook on the transmission line in unauthorised colonies has been started and if this process has not been started, the time by which this process would be started?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, the issue of giving permanent connections falls under the DESU. The Central Government has already handed over the DESU to the elected Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. That Government has recently constituted a new Electricity Board. It will take firm action to reduce the transmission and distribution losses. It will also look into the issue of giving new connections.

SHRI S.K. KARVENDHAN: Hon. Speaker, Sir, let the Minister please state about the arrears that are due to the Central Government by DESU.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: The outstanding dues from DESU to NTPC as on 31st January, 1997 are Rs. 817.80 crore. It includes a surcharge of Rs. 104.50 crore. The total comes to Rs. 922.30 crore. They have accepted Rs. 83 crore in NTPC's monthly billing. An LC has been opened by DESU for Rs. 60 crore. A shortfall of Rs. 23 crore is there.

Like that the outstanding dues for BTPS are Rs. 2,413.93 crore. The surcharge is Rs. 2,769.16 crore. The total comes to Rs. 5,183.09 crore. Out of these arrears, the Chief Minister has accepted Rs. 55 crore for monthly billing of BTPS. The payment received from DESU is only Rs. 45 crore. And a shortfall of Rs. 10 crore is there.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am confident that the hon. Minister will be able to grasp my question. According to the figures just now given by the hon. Minister there is a wide gap between the demand

and supply in Madhya Pradesh. There are very few industries in Madhya Pradesh and hence more than 80 per cent of the population of the State depend on agriculture. During the last 2-3 years there has been a sharp decline in the supply in Madhya Pradesh. When the BJP was in power in the State, some new schemes of generation of electricity were started but these schemes could not make much headway after the Congress Party came to power as corruption became the order of the day. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the time by which the projects which are at initial stages in Madhya Pradesh would be completed and the time by which the funds for these projects would be made available?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a question about Delhi.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, the overall gap between demand and supply is widening in the country. It is not so in the case of Madhya Pradesh or the Western region only.

It comes under the Western region. If the hon. Member sends the names of the two projects, I will examine it.

MR. SPEAKER: It is an important question. Everybody wants to ask a question. I cannot accommodate everybody here. We will have Half-an-Hour discussion on this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, figures have been given in Annexure I to the reply given by the hon. Minister. If you see carefully, these figures give the position of requirement, availability and shortage in the country as a whole. Sir, since this question is very important, I want to draw your attention to it. According to the All-India figures, the requirement is 3,40,709 million units and the availability is 3,02,907 million units. I want to ask specifically about Bihar. The requirement in Bihar is 8,005 million units as against the national requirement of 3,40,709 million units. It is well known that every tenth person in the country is from Bihar. For Bihar, which has 10 per cent of the total population, the requirement is only 2.5 per cent. Similarly, availability for Bihar is 5,799 million units. It means that for 10 per cent of population, the availability is 1.6 per cent. Since electricity is a basic input, it is an essential requirement for development, whether it is agriculture or industry. In such a situation, I want to know through you, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to remove this imbalance? Secondly, I would also like to know the criteria for assessing requirement. There is a lot of manipulation in it. If a person manages somehow with just one 'Chapati' a day, tomorrow, one 'Chapati' is taken as his requirement. Since the availability in the State is less, it does not mean that this is our requirement. Since this a policy matter, I request the hon. Prime Minister to reply to it. I want to know whether the criteria adopted by the electricity authority to assess the requirement would be changed in order to remove the regional imbalance?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very long question.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the requirement depends on the level of industrialisation and demands for other sectors. In order to promote more projects and reduce the demand and supply gap, the hon. Prime Minister had convened a meeting of all the Chief Ministers. We had sent to the Chief Ministers the Common Minimum Action Plan for the States. We have also provided a lot of incentives like, for projects up to Rs. 1,000 crore, the States need not come to the Central Electricity Authority. Again, in addition to that, we have proposed restructuring of the Electricity Boards and are insisting on the rationalisation of tariff as well.

Keeping in view the scenario in the power sector, this Government is giving more emphasis on the hydro-based projects. It is because, as has been rightly said by the hon. Member, there has been decline of 6.2 per cent in the hydro based power sector. Even though there has been an over all increase of 3.8 per cent in the power sector—6.1 per cent increase in the thermal power, 12.7 per cent in nuclear power—yet there has been a decline in the hydro-based power sector. This Government is going to improve the position of the hydel sector power projects.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: What is the criterion?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I know that. We would have half an hour discussion on this subject. I cannot possibly accommodate everybody here now. We would have half an hour discussion on this.

Now, we are going on to the next question.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Sir, the criterion is that.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you need not answer now. I am on the next question.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, we would like to know as to what is the criterion that has been adopted.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Nitish ji, we shall have Half-an-hour discussion on it. You can participate in that.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is a policy matter and the hon. Prime Minister should reply to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, I can assure one thing that when we take up the discussion for half an hour on this subject, I would not ask you sit in the Chair.

Use of Propane

*65. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court has directed the Government to make use of propane in automobile sector;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government propose to undertake a pilot project in this regard and use propane; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) The Supreme Court in its hearing on 9.12.1996 on a public interest litigation has desired that the Government should facilitate a private company to undertake an experiment as a pilot project on 50 number, each of 3-wheelers and 2-wheelers, with 2-stroke engines to ascertain whether propane could be an eco-friendly substitute and viable alternative to petrol-cum-oil, which is causing pollution at present.

(b) Steps have been initiated to comply with the order of Supreme Court.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Sir, I have two supplementaries to ask.

First, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has involved or proposes to involve the Central Research Laboratory in this research or not. If so, the amount allocated or proposed to be allocated for this purpose keeping in view the vital impact of this research on the entire economy.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we have to abide by the Order of the Supreme Court. On 2nd December, 1996, the Supreme Court has directed the Government to report on the technical feasibility of using propane and the technology proposed by the private company.

An Expert Committee was set up on 3rd December, 1996. Subsequently the company filed an application in the Supreme Court saying that they were willing to undertake the pilot project at their cost. On this application, the Supreme Court has also directed the Government to facilitate the private company to undertake the experimental pilot project on 50 vehicles of two-wheelers and three-wheelers each. The Government is fully committed to providing all facilities to the private company.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: This is not the answer to what I have asked. I specifically asked as to whether the hon. Minister or the Ministry of Petroleum

has allocated any amount, or given a pilot project or given any instructions to the Central Research Laboratory keeping in view the impact of this research on the entire economy.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: There is no such proposal.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: My second supplementary is, whether the Government has tested the efficiency of propane driven vehicles? If so, in what way it is different from CNG or petrol driven vehicles?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The technology is being looked into.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Sir, both the answers are not satisfactory.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: This is the direction of the Supreme Court. Whatever the Supreme Court say, we have to adhere to that.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Sir, the Petroleum Ministry is one of the most important Ministries. How come the Ministry is not prepared? This is an important question as it is going to decide the entire economy.

MR. SPEAKER: Whether you are satisfied or not satisfied, this is a subjective thing.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: The Bijoypur plant of GAIL has sent a proposal to Government of India stating that it can produce 700 MT. of propane daily. Whether you are going to accept this proposal? If not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: In fact, the Bijoypur Plant has been instructed to help the private companies. As per the High Court's order, we have to help the private company. GAIL is ready to supply Propane from the Bijoypur Plant. Let us wait for the technical feasibility study.

Dul-Hasti Hydel Power Project

*66. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the execution of dul-hasti Hydel Power Project has been taken over by the NHPC;

(b) if so, present estimated cost; the original cost of the project and amount spent thereon so far, year-wise;

(c) the amount paid to French Consortium, the details of the agreement and the penalty imposed for violation of the agreement;

(d) whether the services of any new foreign agency are being acquired or the task will be completed by the NHPC on its own;

(e) the works done during 1995-96 and also during the current year; and

(f) the time schedule for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The project was sanctioned in 1989 for turn-key execution at a cost of Rs. 1,262.97 crores (at 1988 price level) to a French consortium of firms consisting of M/s Coyne Et Bellier (COB); M/s Dumez, Sogea & Borie (DSB); M/s CEGELEC; M/s COMELEX; and M/s SEITP.

The revised cost of the project is Rs. 3,559.77 crores (November 1996 price level). The amount spent year-wise on the project is given in the annexure enclosed.

(c) The original agreement with the Consortium had envisaged completion of the project within 57 months from the date of order i.e. October 1989. However, the work on the project was suspended in August 1992 by the French Consortium due to disturbed law and order conditions at the project site. With a view to resuming the work on the project, discussions were held and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed between National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and the French Consortium. In pursuance of the MOU, a rescission agreement was signed in June 1995, according to which M/s DSB, the civil contractor, paid to NHPC an amount of 50 million French Francs (about Rs. 28 crores) as full and final settlement. However, the MOU permitted other four members of the Consortium to continue with the implementation of the project. The French Consortium has been paid Rs. 968 Crores upto January, 1997.

(d) After withdrawal of M/s DSB, NHPC took over the plant and machinery of M/s DSB and the civil works were taken up departmentally in 1995. With a view to completing the balance civil works, NHPC has issued a letter of intent to a new civil contractor. (a Consortium comprising of Indian and Norwegian firms). The letter of award will be issued shortly. Required funds for completion of the project will be provided.

(e) During 1995-96 and 1996-97 excavation works in the head race tunnel, power house, switchyard and transformer cavern have been carried out.

(f) The estimated time schedule for completion of the project is March, 2001.

Annexure

Year-wise amount spent on Dulhasti Hydro-electric Project (J & K) is as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2
1980-81	0.03
1981-82	1.83

1	2
1982-83	1.06
1983-84	8.79
1984-85	14.34
1985-86	17.81
1986-87	2.20
1987-88	10.56
1988-89	14.34
1989-90	167.01
1990-91	180.46
1991-92	197.85
1992-93	176.17
1993-94	152.78
1994-95	112.90
1995-96	287.92
1996-97 (upto 1/97)	143.39
Total upto Jan '97	1489.44

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to Dulhasti Project. In his reply the hon. Minister has stated that this project was started in 1989. From the details that have been given, it can be seen that an amount of Rs. 71 crore were spent on the project during 1980-1989. Between 1989 and 1992, the expenditure was Rs. 545.32 crore. Thereafter from 1992 to 1997, the amount spent on the project was Rs. 873.16 crore. The work on the project was started in 1989 and in 1989 itself insurgency in the State started. In the meantime the contracting firm abandoned the work and ran away. Even during this period, expenditure has been shown. The firm stopped work in 1992, but between 1992 and 1997, an amount of Rs. 968 crore is shown to have been paid. I want to know what for this payment was made?

MR. SPEAKER: If you want a reply, half a minute is left.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: I want to know why this payment is being made to that firm?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: The project was actually sanctioned in the year 1982 but the work on the project was commenced in the year 1989. In the year 1989 it was sanctioned for turn-key execution to a French Consortium of five companies. The tentative programme for the completion of the project was 57 months and the amount sanctioned was Rs. 1,263 crores out of which French credit

was Rs. 845.97 crore. Out of five members of consortium, one civil contractor suspended the work due to law and order problem. Two of their members were kidnapped by the militants, which created a law and order problem.

12.00 hrs.

After holding several meetings, an MOU had been signed between the NHPC and the French Consortium in the year 1994. Based on the agreement, the French company has given Rs. 28 crore. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: What about the payment?

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: My question is that the firm abandoned the work in 1992. Then on militancy has heightened up in the State. I want to know why this payment is being made after all? Last year, an amount of Rs. 2 crore was paid. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over Gupta Ji. I cautioned you to put a short question but you did not listen to me.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Water Scarcity in Gujarat

*67. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any scheme under accelerated urban water supply programme and other schemes to the Union Government seeking funds to ensure supply of drinking water to water starved towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) Eight schemes were received from the Government of Gujarat under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme and the same were sanctioned as per details given in the Statement laid on the Table of the Sabha. However, no specific scheme has been received to supply drinking water under the caption "water starved towns".

Statement

Projects Sanctioned

S. No.	Name of Town	District	Population (1991 Census)	Sanctioned Date Mon./Year	Project Cost	Per Capita Cost (In Rs.)	Central Share	Funds released		Expenditure up to Dec. 1995.
								By GOI	By State	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Dharampur	Valsad	16,584	March '94	54.00	325.62	27.00	I-71.08 (1993-94)		27.53
2.	Bantva	Junagarh	15,394	—	38.50	250.10	19.25			17.47
3.	Dhrol	Jamnagar	17,060	—	132.60	777.26	66.30	II-87.24 (1994-95)	146.00	0.00
4.	Okha Port	Jamnagar	13,342	—	14.60	109.43	7.30			24.28
5.	Jodia	Jamnagar	12,083	—	110.25	912.44	55.12	III-27.30 (1995-96)		0.00
6.	Mendarda	Junagarh	13,142	—	49.00	372.85	24.50			20.97
7.	Barwala	Ahmedabad	13,485	Jan '96	90.94	674.38	45.47			0.00
8.	Surajkaradi	Jamnagar	14,325	—	18.20	127.05	9.10			0.00
Total			115,415		508.09		185.62			90.25

Krishna-Godavari Basin

*68. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA:
SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the GS-15 field of the Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh is being privatised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether officials of ONGC have given proposals to produce gas economically with nominal investment for platform structures in this basin; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not agreeing to the proposals by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (c) No such specific proposal is under consideration of the Government of India.

(d) Does not arise.

Delhi Rent Act

*69. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM':
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 10 on November 20, 1996 and state:

(a) the present position of the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995 and its implementation;

(b) since when it is under Government's consideration and the reasons for the delay in issuing a Notification for its implementation;

(c) whether Government have made any rules under the Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Government have been receiving a large number of representations both from the landlords and the tenants. While the tenants, particularly the trader tenants, have been requesting for amendment to some of the provisions of the Act, the landlords have been requesting for early notification of the Act. These representations and also the suggestions made by the All Party Committee set up by the then Chief Minister Delhi (Shri Madan Lai Khurana) are under examination of Government. Various issues mentioned therein have been under consideration of the Government since August 1995, when it was assented to by the President of India. Various high level meetings have taken place in order to arrive at a consensus. So as to balance the interests of both the landlords and the tenants. The matter is now in the final stages for taking a decision in this regard.

(c) and (d) The Government have not made any rules under the Act as it has not been notified for enforcement so far.

[Translation]

Adulteration of Petrol

70. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "...And thus Flows Money from Barrel of Oil, Sale of adulterated petrol goes on unchecked" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated December 24, 1996;

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

(c) the effective measures taken proposed to be taken to check the sale of adulterated petrol freely in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to check adulteration of petrol/diesel and malpractices at retail outlets, steps such as Filter Paper Test, Density test, furfural doping of kerosene, blue dyeing of kerosene, surprise inspections by mobile laboratories and regular/surprise inspections by field officers of the oil companies and joint industry teams are taken. Inspections are conducted by State Government enforcement agencies also.

In proven cases of adulteration/malpractices, action such as issue of warning letters, imposition of fines, suspension of dealership are taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and the MS/HSD Control Order. Repeated violations may lead to termination of the dealership.

A special month long campaign for checking malpractices/irregularities at retail outlets was conducted from 20-12-1996 to 19-1-1997 in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai and from 26-12-1996 to 25-1-1997 in the rest of the country.

Action was taken against erring dealers/distributors under the marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Food Processing Industries

- *71. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing industries in the country, till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of unemployed youths and other persons provided employment in such industries;

(c) the number of indigenous and multi-national companies functioning in food processing sector;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote this industry and to provide employment in this industry in rural areas; and

(e) the areas selected for setting up of food processing industries, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (e) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and un-organised sectors. Hence, the information relating to the number of food processing industries in the country, and statewide, is not maintained centrally. However, as per the available information, the number of food processing industries which include Rice and Roller Flour milling, fruits and vegetable processing, fish and meat processing, milk products, confectionary and sweetened aerated water etc. comes to 1,45,004.

According to the Annual Survey of India (Ministry of Planning) for the year 1993-94, there were 27,255, units in the factories sector, manufacturing food and beverages, having an employment of 17,00,682 persons.

As per the second All India Census of small scale industries (Ministry of Industries) published in August 1992, there were 99,792 registered units in 1988 engaged in production of food and beverages, employing 555,057 persons.

Most of the food processing industries are de-licensed and the entrepreneurs desiring to set up food processing units in the de-licensed sector are only required to file an industrial Entrepreneur-Memorandum. In pursuance of this liberalisation till December 1996, 3885 IEMs envisaging an investment of Rs. 45,752 crores and employment of 6.21 lakh persons have been filed, in various sectors of food processing industries. Out of these, till December 1996, 511 IEMs envisaging an investment of Rs. 6,604 crores and employment of 0.67 lakh persons have been implemented. Most of these IEMs propose to set up units in non-urban areas.

Besides, Government have also approved 908 proposals (upto November 1996) for 100% Export Oriented Units, Foreign Collaborations and Units requiring Industrial Licence. These involve an investment of Rs. 16,019 crores, including foreign investment of Rs. 7,276 crores. Out of these, 155 projects envisaging investment of Rs. 3,298 crores, and foreign investment of Rs. 1,836 crores, with employment of 0.79 lakh persons have already been implemented.

The exact number of indigenous and multi-national companies functioning in the food processing sectors is not available.

Ministry extends financial assistance under its plan schemes for promotion of food processing industries. In some of the schemes enhanced financial support is provided for projects set up in Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) districts/areas. Financial assistance is also provided for setting up of food processing and training centres in rural areas.

*[English]***Bombay High**

*72. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ONGC is inviting global tenders for drilling at Bombay High on Turnkey basis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the advantages in this turnkey basis;
- (d) whether ONGC propose to have any control in the projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Land Reforms

*73. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any comprehensive plan to motivate different State Governments for effective Land Reforms and to set up monitoring machinery to see that every State Government is seriously implementing the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU): (a) The Government have taken several steps in this behalf.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The question does not arise.

Statement

The steps include—

(i) Organising Conferences of Revenue Ministers of States/UTs to motivate different State/UT Governments for effective land reforms in the country.

(ii) The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment collects quarterly progress report on distribution of ceiling surplus land.

(iii) The Department of Programme Implementation publishes monthly progress report on distribution of ceiling surplus land under item No. 5A of the Twenty Point Programme of the Government.

As per List-II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, the full legislative and administrative responsibility in the subject matter to implementation of the land reforms, land records and land revenue management lies with the State/UT Government. Hence, the role of the Union Government in the concerned subject matter is advisory and coordinative in nature.

Oil Import Bill

*74. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil Import Bill of the Government is highest as compared to all other years;

(b) if so, the latest position of the country's Oil Import Bill and the steps taken by the Government to bring down the Oil Import Bill; and

(c) the details of Oil Import Bill during each year of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) The import bill depends on the overall consumption, indigenous production and prices of petroleum products and crude oil in the international market. To contain oil import bill, steps are being taken to increase refinery capacity by expansion of existing refineries in public sector and setting up of refineries in joint sector and private sector. Steps are also being taken to increase crude oil production in the country through application of improved technologies, development of new fields, additional development of existing fields and by inviting foreign and private capital in the upstream sector.

(c) The details of oil import bill during each year of VIII Five Year Plan are given below:-

	(Rs. in crores)
1992-93	15,439.18
1993-94	16,221.14
1994-95	16,250.36
1995-96	22,262.92 (Provisional)
1996-97	23,318.09 (Provisional)
(April to December, 1996)	

Councils for Science & Technology

*75. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Councils set up on the lines of National Council for Science & Technology in the States and Union Territories so far, State-wise, Union Territory-wise;

- (b) the aims and objective thereof;
- (c) the steps taken for the popularisation of Science & Technology programme in the States and to oversee the working of Non-Government Organisation in each State;
- (d) the amount allocated for the development of science and technology to various states and Union Territories during the current plan period;
- (e) the percentage of allocation made for rural development programme; and
- (f) the achievement made by the scientists in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (f) National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC) is an apex body set up by the Central Government with the objectives of popularising Science and Technology and stimulating scientific temper. At the State/Union Territory level, NCSTC conducts its activities through the State S & T Councils, and non government organisations. NCSTC does not made allocations State or Union Territory wise. It funds non governmental organisations and State Councils on project mode basis. Over-seeing of such funding is through close monitoring, personal visits, obtaining of utilisation certificates and audited reports. Activities of NCSTC cover both urban and rural areas. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate specific allocation for its activities in the rural areas alone.

The activities of NCSTC, which involves efforts of scientists at various levels, have been reviewed recently and it is felt that a greater awareness about Science & Technology in the Society has been generated.

World Bank Assistance

*76. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank has agreed to help the Government of Andhra Pradesh in Power Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has given an unqualified commitment to bring about the reforms as suggested by the World Bank;
- (d) if so, the main conditions laid by the World Bank for providing loan package to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) whether the Union Government have given its permission to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to get the loan from the World Bank on the above conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra Pradesh have proposed to avail World Bank assistance for their power sector. The World Bank has agreed to discuss this with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) to (e) The details of all the conditionalities would be know only after conclusion of discussions which is currently a preliminary stage. The Union Government could also take a view only thereafter.

[Translation]

Import of Petroleum Products

*77. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the terms and conditions on which import of petroleum products and natural gas is being permitted in the country;
- (b) whether Government have been providing any financial assistance to the companies for the import thereof;
- (c) if so, the conditions under which the assistance is being provided to these companies; and
- (d) the criteria under which the Government have permitted these companies to sell these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Import of crude oil and petroleum products in India is governed by the EXIM Policy announced by the Government from time to time. As per the current EXIM Policy, Indian Oil Corporation Limited is the canalising agency for import of crude oil and following major petroleum products:

- Aviation Turbine Fuel
- Motor Spirit
- Bitumen (Asphalt) Paving grade
- Furnace Oil (except Low Sulphur Heavy Stock/Low Sulphur Waxy Residue)
- High Speed Diesel
- ATF, Bitumen (Asphalt)

Paving Grade and Furnace Oil (except Low Sulphur Heavy Stock/Low Sulphur Waxy residue) are also importable against Special Import Licence. Import of Lubricants/Greases in consumer packs upto 20 ltrs/20 kgs is also permissible against Special Import Licence.

Import of Naphtha is currently covered in the list of Restricted items for imports in the EXIM Policy and its import is permitted without import licence for petrochemical sector subject to the condition that the return stream of Naphtha should be either sold to the crude oil refinery on

commercial terms or be used as industrial feedstock for own captive consumption by the importer.

Import of SKO and LPG have been decanalised. However, import of SKO for Public Distribution System and import of LPG for distribution by Public Sector Oil Companies, under the APM continue to be arranged by IOC with the approval of Empowered Standing Committee.

Import of petroleum products not covered in the list of canalised items/restricted items (against SILs) of the EXIM policy can be imported freely. No financial assistance is being given by the Government to oil companies for this purpose.

Natural Gas is not being imported at present.

(d) Petrol, Diesel, A.T.F., LPG, Kerosene, Bitumen, F.O., Naphtha, LSHS are sold by the Government Oil Companies under administered pricing system at prices fixed by Government from time to time. Free trade products like RPC, CPC, CBFS, Lubes, etc. are sold by the companies at prices fixed by themselves.

[English]

Northern Grid

*78. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any high level investigation has been made into the massive failure in the Northern Grid leading heavy load shedding in seven Northern States recently including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Power Ministry has constituted a Committee under the Central Electricity Authority to examine the reasons for frequent disturbances in the grid;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government had also convened a high level meeting of the Chairman of Electricity Grid, Power Board and the NTPC, Power Secretaries and Chairmen of the Northern States;

(f) if so, the main decisions arrived at the meeting;

(g) whether the shortage of power continued throughout the country on a large scale during the last three months; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Power constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Grid & Operation), Central Electricity Authority on 20th December, 1996 to analyse the cause leading to frequent disturbances in the Northern Grid and to suggest remedial measures to avoid recurrence

of such disturbances. Another Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Shri Krishna Swarup former Chairman, CEA was constituted on 4th January, 1997 to enquire into causes of frequent trippings at Dadri complex.

(e) and (f) After the grid disturbance on 20th December, 1996. Secretary (Power) convened a high level review meeting on 22nd December, 1996 to formulate an action plan for preventing recurrence of such incidents. Based on the deliberations, an action plan was formulated, which included the following:

- (i) Free Governor mode of operation to be resorted to on all large generating units for maintaining better frequency regime.
- (ii) All constituent States to follow grid discipline by limiting their drawal to entitlement and ensure operation of the system at the frequency level not below 49.0 Hz.
- (iii) Under frequency relays to be made operational by all State Electricity Boards by June, 1997.
- (iv) Capacitor installation programme to be taken up on a priority basis.
- (v) SEBs to monitor the functioning of existing capacitors.
- (vi) Maintenance activities to be given importance and priority.
- (vii) NTPC and POWERGRID to accord priority for maintenance of equipment.
- (viii) Facilities for start up power in case of black start to be kept in a state of readiness and monitored periodically.
- (ix) POWERGRID to provide bypass arrangement at Vindhyachal HVDC back to back station to facilitate import of power from Western to Northern Region and vice versa in case of grid collapse.
- (g) and (h) The Statewise power supply position during the three month period November, 1996 to January, 1997 is given in the statement-I and II.

Statement-I

State-wise energy shortage in the country during the Three Month period November and December, 1996 and January, 1997

Region/ State/System	Energy Shortage (%)		
	Nov. '96	Dec. '96	Jan. '97
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN REGION:			
Chandigarh	0.0	1.4	0.0
Delhi	1.7	4.0	6.6

1	2	3	4
Haryana	3.1	9.9	22.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.0	5.6	3.5
Jammu & Kashmir	14.6	22.8	22.4
Punjab	0.5	3.2	1.2
Rajasthan	3.5	18.1	20.2
Uttar Pradesh	14.1	16.5	16.1
N.R.	7.0	12.5	14.1
WESTERN REGION:			
Gujarat	8.1	7.7	7.2
Madhya Pradesh	8.7	11.3	15.3
Maharashtra	6.0	6.5	7.0
Goa	0.0	0.0	0.0
W.R.	7.2	8.0	9.3
SOUTHERN REGION:			
Andhra Pradesh	15.3	16.0	17.1
Karnataka	24.3	24.1	25.6
Kerala	19.4	21.9	20.2
Tamil Nadu	11.7	13.1	12.9
S.R.	16.6	17.5	18.0
EASTERN REGION:			
Bihar	24.1	23.6	29.0
DVC	1.8	2.7	3.3
Orissa	2.8	1.0	2.8
West Bengal	5.6	5.6	4.4
E.R.	8.3	7.8	9.1
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:			
Arunachal Pr.	49.6	48.5	46.7
Assam	6.7	12.7	6.5
Manipur	1.5	1.4	11.5
Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	2.0	7.3	26.2
Nagaland	7.0	3.2	20.6
Tripura	22.3	29.6	25.6
N.E.R.	8.5	12.8	11.0
All India	9.8	11.8	13.0

Statement-II

State-wise peaking shortage in the Country During the Three Month period November and December, 1996 and January, 1997

Region/ State/System	Peaking Shortage (%)		
	Nov. '96	Dec. '96	Jan. '97
NORTHERN REGION:			
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	0.0
Delhi	6.9	2.3	7.0
Haryana	10.1	11.6	15.9
Himachal Pradesh	0.0	0.4	1.9
Jammu & Kashmir	14.1	19.1	17.1
Punjab	3.2	3.3	0.2
Rajasthan	6.6	13.1	10.1
Uttar Pradesh	14.5	25.0	20.0
N.R.	11.3	17.3	16.9
WESTERN REGION:			
Gujarat	18.6	17.9	15.8
Madhya Pradesh	17.2	29.1	27.6
Maharashtra	9.4	9.0	8.7
Goa	0.0	0.0	0.0
W.R.	15.4	17.1	15.7
SOUTHERN REGION:			
Andhra Pradesh	13.0	13.1	14.9
Karnataka	21.0	21.7	26.3
Kerala	21.4	18.6	24.0
Tamil Nadu	9.4	10.7	10.3
S.R.	14.7	15.1	17.4
EASTERN REGION:			
Bihar	42.3	45.2	46.5
DVC	23.4	23.1	18.2
Orissa	14.1	14.2	12.0
West Bengal	10.6	8.9	7.7
E.R.	21.7	19.4	20.3
NORTH-EASTERN REGION:			
Arunachal Pr.	21.6	13.0	13.0
Assam	0.0	8.0	5.5
Manipur	22.9	21.8	25.6
Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	0.0	0.0	4.2
Nagaland	0.0	0.0	7.1
Tripura	11.3	18.3	19.5
N.E.R.	6.0	8.7	8.3
All India	14.8	16.9	17.0

Infrastructural Facilities

*79. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI SANAT MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some M.N.Cs. have proposed to invest for building infrastructure facilities in power sector both in public and private sector;

(b) if so, the details of offers received by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to tap such resources for ensuing the power sector in the country is based on latest technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) As on

date, as per information available, 56 proposals involving foreign investment from private promoters including multinational companies on the Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent etc. route costing more than Rs. 100 crores and on the competitive bidding route costing more than Rs. 1,000 crores have been received for setting up power projects. The Statewise details of these projects indicating their capacity, provisional cost and name of the company are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Central Electricity Authority while examining proposals for setting up of power projects in the power sector for accord of techno-economic clearance as required in the Electricity Supply Act, 1948 takes into consideration the essentiality of the project, reasonableness of the tariff and the type of equipment proposed to be installed in the Plant.

Statement*Tentatives Details of Expression of Interests by private Sector Companies*

As on 24-2-97

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Name of Company
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Godavari GBTP	Foreign/Indian-JV	208 MW	778.000	Spectrum Tech USA/Jaya Foods & NTPC
2.	Jegurupadu GBPP	Foreign/Indian-JV	216- MW	816.000	GVK Industries Ltd. USA
3.	Krishnapatnam 'B' TPS	Foreign	500 MW	1,720.000	Besicorp Int. Power. USA
4.	Vishakhapatnam TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 x 520 MW	4,297.810	M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited. U.K.
Total		4	1964.00	7,611.810	
Bihar					
5.	Jojobera	Foreign/Indian-JV	3 x 67.5 MW	981.00	Tata Steel/Nission Energy, USA
Total		1	202.50	981.000	
Delhi					
6.	Bawana GBPP	Foreign	800 MW	2,000.000	Reliance Industries Ltd.
7.	New Delhi TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	300 MW	1,615.450	Appollo Energy Co. Ltd.
Total		2	1,100.00	3,615.450	
Gujarat					
8.	Hazira CCPP	Foreign/Indian-JV	1 x 515	1745.000	M/s Essar Pawan Ltd. Mauritius
9.	Jamnagar	Foreign	2 x 250 MW	2075.290	Reliance Power Ltd.
10.	Paguthan GBPP	Foreign/Indian-JV	655 MW	2298.140	Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd./Siemens. German
Total		3	1670.00	6118.430	

1	2	3	4	5	6
H. Pradesh					
11.	Dhamwari HEP	Foreign	70 MW	385.000	M/S Dhamwari Power Co., USA
12.	Hibra HEP	Foreign	231 MW	708.500	Harza Engineering Company, U.S.A.
	Total	2	301.00	1093.500	
Karnataka					
13.	Almatti N. Thanmakal	Foreign	1107 MW	3600.000	M/s. Chamundi Power Comp. Ltd., USA
14.	Ankola Komta (Hospet)	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 x 250 MW	526.900	Deccan Power Corpn. Ltd., USA
15.	Bangalore	Foreign	500 MW	1750.000*	NRI Capital Corporation USA
16.	Bangalore CCPP	Foreign/Indian-JV	100 MW	405.930	M/s Peenya Power Company Ltd., USA
17.	Dharwad TPS	Foreign	300 MW	1050.000*	Chalais Holding. U.K.
18.	Mangalore TPS	Foreign	4 x 250 MW	3654.000	Mangalore Power Comp. Ltd. (Promoted by M/s cogenprix Inc).
19.	Nanjangudua	Foreign/India-JV	110 MW	385.000*	Independent Power Services Company, USA
20.	Torangallu	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 x 130 MW	839.000	Jindal/Tractbel Power Comp. Ltd. Belgium
	Total	8	3877.00	12212.830	
Kerala					
21.	Kasargod	Foreign/Indian-JV	500 MW	1701.000	Finolex Energy Corporation Ltd., UK/USA
22.	Kasargod TPC	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 x 389 MW	2300.000	M/s Kasargod Power Corporation Ltd.
23.	Palakkad	Foreign	344 MW	1163.900	Palakkad Power Generating Co./ Ensearch Intl. Ltd. USA
24.	Vypeen	Foreign	650 MW	1915.560	Siasin Energy Pvt. USA
	Total	4	2,272.00	7,080.460	
M. Pradesh					
25.	Bhander Dual Fuel TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	330 MW	1163.530	Essar Inv. Ltd. Bombay (M/s Cipl), Mauritius
26.	Bhilai TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 x 250 MW	2339.400	Joint Venture of Sail. L & T Cea. (USA)
27.	Bina TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	4 x 250 MW	2520.360	M/s Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd. (M/s Grasin Ind. Ltd.) U.K.
28.	Guna Dual Fuel TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	3x110+1x110 M	1160.000	M/s STI. Indore, USA
29.	Gwalior II (diesel) PP	Foreign/Indian-JV	8 x 15 MW	464.990	M/s Gwalior Power Co. Ltd. (Wartsila Diesel Finland)
30.	Jhabua	Foreign/Indian-JV	330 MW	1193.000	M/s. Kedia Dospellerves Ltd.
31.	Korba East Tps	Foreign	2 x 535 MW	4353.269	Daewoo Corporation South Korea
32.	Maheshwar Hep	Foreign	10 x 40 MW	1500.000	M/s Shree Hareshwar Hydel Power Corpn. Ltd., U.S.A.

1	2	3	4	5	6
33.	Narsinghpur	Foreign/Indian-JV	150 MW	538.400	M/s Global Boards Ltd., USA
34.	Pench TPS	Foreign	2 × 262.5 MW	2228.000	Soros Fund Management. USA
	Total	10	4755.00	17460.940	

Maharashtra

35.	Bhadravati TPS (ST. 1)	Foreign	2 × 536 MW	5187.000	ISPAT Alloys Ltd/Ecogd. UK/EDF FRANCE
36.	Dabhol COGT	Foreign	2015 MW	9051.270	Enron Dev. Corp., GE & Bechtel, USA
37.	Khaperkheda Units 3 & 4	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 250 MW	1750.000	M/s Ballarpur Industries Ltd.
38.	Patalganga GBPP	Foreign	410 MW	1435.000	Reliance Industries Ltd.
	Total	4	3997.00	17423.270	

Orissa

39.	Bomlai TPS	Foreign	500 MW	2361.800	Galaxy Power Co. USA & Indeck of Chicago
40.	Duburi TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 250 MW	1548.000	Kalinga Power Corporation (NE Power, USA)
41.	Hirma-TPS ST-1	Foreign	6 × 660 MW	14033.000	M/s Cepa. Hong Kong
42.	IB Valley TPS-Unit 3 & 4	Foreign	420 MW	1993.630	IB Valley Corporation. USA
43.	Lapanga TPS	Foreign	560 MW	1900.000	Samlai Power (Lapanga) Company Ltd., USA
	Total	5	5880.00	21836.430	

Tamil Nadu

44.	Basin Bridge Stage-II	Foreign	4 × 50 MW	757.100	GMR Vasavi Power Corporation Ltd.
45.	Cuddalore TPS	Foreign	2 × 660 MW	6495.000	Cuddalore Power Company Ltd.
46.	Jayamkondam Lignite PP	Foreign	1500 MW	5250.000*	M/s Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corp. Limited, Germany
47.	North Madras II	Foreign/Indian	2 × 525 MW	4207.280	Videcon Power Ltd./Edison Mission Energy, USA
48.	Pillai Peru Malnallur	Foreign/Indian-JV	330.5 MW	1121.700	Dyna Vision of Reddy Group/J. Makowski/P. Vijayakumar REI
49.	Zero Unit (NLC)	Foreign	250 MW	1200.000	ST Power Systems Inc. USA.
	Total	6	4650.50	19031.080	

Uttar Pradesh

50.	Anpara 'C'	Foreign	1000 MW	3500.000	M/s Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd of Korea
51.	Jawaharpur TPS	Foreign	800 MW	2896.000	Pacific Electric Power Dev. Corp. Canada
52.	Partappur	Foreign	2000 MW	7000.000	M/s ISN International. USA
53.	Rosa TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 283.5 MW	2587.470	Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals India & Power Gen. Plc.
	Total	4	4367.00	15,983.470	

1	2	3	4	5	6
West Bengal					
54.	Ballagarh TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 250 MW	2234.690	Balagarh Power Co. Ltd (CESC/ADB/TFC), USA
55.	Gouripore TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 75 MW	680.620	Gohripore Power Comp. Ltd, Calcutta
56.	Sagardighi TPS	Foreign/Indian-JV	2 × 500 MW	3677.000	DOL Kuljian Corpn. CHS Generation, USA
Total		3	1650.00	6592.310	
G. Total		56	36,686.00	137,040.980	

*Rs. 3.5 Cr./MW Has been assumed as capital cost wherever State/Promoters have not given the provisional cost estimates.

[Translation]

Amount Allocated for Backward Rural Areas

*80. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the development of backward rural areas, particularly tribal areas, during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the names of projects in which the said amount was utilised, State-wise; and

(c) the percentage of the down trodden, tribal and most backward people benefited from the said projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU): (a) to (c) No

separate allocations are made exclusively for backward rural areas/tribal areas. However, special targets for coverage of beneficiaries belonging to SC/ST have been laid down in Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Integrated Rural Development (IRDP), Million Wells Scheme (MWS) and Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM). Recently, specified targets for these categories have also been earmarked in Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Improved Toolkits Programme and newly launched Ganga Kalyan Yojana.

Under Rural Employment Programmes, Intensive Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (IJRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) were started in 1993-94 with a sharper focus on backward/tribal areas. Since then IJRY has been merged with EAS.

The amount allocated/utilised under IJRY and EAS is given in statement I. The percentage share of SC/ST in different programmes is shown in statement-II to VI.

Statement-I

Statement Showing Amount allocated and amount utilised under IJRY & EAS during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Allocated			Amount Utilised					
		Under IJRY			1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
		93-94	94-95	95-96	IJRY	EAS	IJRY	EAS	IJRY	EAS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	62.44	62.44	31.14	42.47	25.66	78.97	137.87	28.51	122.50
2.	Assam	—	—	—	—	9.63	—	41.15	—	98.23
3.	Bihar	172.31	172.31	118.15	80.79	16.08	128.42	96.40	115.57	129.01
4.	Gujarat	38.88	38.88	19.39	11.82	1.46	34.80	18.10	14.86	57.52
5.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	9.94	—	29.02	—	38.15
6.	Himachal Pr.	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	1.15	—	4.56
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.54	8.54	4.26	1.48	1.34	9.81	23.39	2.40	67.15
8.	Karnataka	47.15	47.15	23.53	16.91	6.78	54.14	80.24	29.22	121.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	1.71	—	19.01	—	22.42
10.	Madhya Pradesh	152.44	152.44	75.95	39.18	25.03	192.69	179.59	75.88	229.52
11.	Maharashtra	102.18	102.18	50.78	13.89	4.30	108.33	76.17	38.54	102.95
12.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	1.17	—	13.28	—	13.37
13.	Maghalaya	—	—	—	—	0.00	—	0.66	—	4.99
14.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	9.75	—	11.25	—	18.01
15.	Orissa	71.44	71.44	39.79	19.11	12.80	68.05	116.56	39.88	131.34
16.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Rajasthan	45.69	45.69	22.71	16.29	9.27	59.57	108.76	17.73	147.70
18.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	0.20	—	2.43	—	7.78
19.	Tamil Nadu	32.55	32.55	23.59	7.94	3.19	43.40	44.09	30.51	75.81
20.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	6.59	—	23.76	—	20.86
21.	Uttar Pradesh	83.35	83.35	52.40	19.80	6.48	79.57	89.08	63.94	167.32
22.	West Bengal	61.25	61.25	38.33	18.84	26.21	50.76	92.21	43.78	99.29
	U.Ts.									
23.	A&N Islands	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	0.42	—	0.10
24.	Arunachal Pr.	—	—	—	—	1.36	—	8.63	—	19.57
25.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	D & N Haveli	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	0.03	—	0.20
27.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Daman Diu	—	—	—	—	0.00	—	0.03	—	0.13
29.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	0.00	—	0.11	—	0.44
30.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	4.71	—	22.06	—	20.24
31.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

All India

Statement-II

Statement showing percentage of ST & SC in wage employment under IJRY & EAS during 1993.94, 1994.95, and 1995.96.

		1993-94				1994-95				1995-96			
Sl.		IJRY		EAS		IJRY		EAS		IJRY		EAS	
No.	State/UT	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23.36	32.16	NR	NR	13.94	20.90	30.29	29.32	17.15	21.78	21.94	35.46
2.	Assam	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	36.58	20.48	—	—	33.59	17.95
3.	Bihar	20.14	40.42	NR	NR	25.15	37.47	42.49	26.13	18.36	41.04	33.95	31.09
4.	Gujarat	67.18	12.45	72.00	5.78	62.70	12.96	47.50	17.33	70.58	6.99	44.71	15.38
5.	Haryana	—	—	0.00	72.63	—	—	0.00	67.98	—	—	0.00	68.72
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	70.00	30.00	—	—	43.00	34.55
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.26	18.42	8.96	13.29	0.00	0.00	NR	NR	0.00	0.00	NR	NR
8.	Karnataka	6.72	20.46	10.18	23.29	10.08	24.44	9.68	25.55	10.17	26.91	9.77	25.88
9.	Kerala	—	—	19.62	28.08	—	—	15.67	26.16	—	—	13.86	27.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	43.32	21.12	54.45	18.10	44.59	19.15	53.68	16.04	44.72	19.65	48.29	22.17
11.	Maharashtra	31.73	22.44	25.44	22.90	24.09	26.15	25.35	22.43	26.14	26.21	25.12	25.34
12.	Manipur	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	100.00	0.00
13.	Meghalaya	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	88.49	2.16	—	—	79.64	0.24
14.	Nagaland	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00
15.	Orissa	41.72	26.70	52.82	21.35	42.67	27.42	51.16	21.77	32.14	33.79	50.62	23.52
16.	Punjab												
17.	Rajasthan	57.83	12.83	34.30	27.04	46.71	16.95	8.50	31.01	40.28	19.47	24.30	33.14
18.	Sikkim	—	—	24.39	13.41	—	—	32.00	15.53	—	—	30.42	10.93
19.	Tamil Nadu	NR	NR	NR	NR	2.05	42.77	15.47	37.74	2.26	48.99	10.17	44.99
20.	Tripura	—	—	44.49	21.56	—	—	43.84	20.56	—	—	49.95	17.87
21.	Uttar Pradesh	0.88	47.48	NR	NR	1.14	44.67	3.30	40.02	0.80	55.09	1.67	47.74
22.	West Bengal	20.63	45.30	NR	NR	16.88	42.22	23.44	37.45	16.26	41.35	20.29	36.31
23.	A & N Island	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	89.47	0.00	—	—	81.82	0.00
24.	Arunachal Pr.	—	—	91.18	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00
25.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	D & N Haveli	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00
27.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Daman Diu	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	83.33	8.33	—	—	2.78	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	—	—	0.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00
30.	Mizoram	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00	—	—	100.00	0.00
31.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	All India	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

N R :— Not reported

Statement—III*Percentage share of SC/ST and others in Employment under JRY during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.*

State/UTs		1993-94			1994-95			1995-96		
		SC	ST	Others	SC	ST	Others	SC	ST	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.75	15.96	50.28	29.64	15.31	55.05	27.60	16.50	55.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
3.	Assam	14.98	38.87	46.15	18.34	28.12	53.53	18.32	30.81	50.87
4.	Bihar	40.81	23.30	35.89	38.35	24.95	36.70	40.27	22.16	37.57
5.	Goa	1.99	0.00	98.01	1.55	0.00	98.45	2.63	0.00	97.37
6.	Gujarat	17.59	45.81	36.59	14.84	51.67	33.50	13.99	51.25	34.76
7.	Haryana	60.29	0.00	39.71	61.28	0.00	38.72	61.58	0.00	38.42
8.	Himachal Pradesh	46.32	5.59	48.09	45.13	7.69	47.18	45.45	11.05	43.50
9.	J & K	22.90	20.54	56.56	18.35	21.00	60.65	21.67	19.98	58.21
10.	Karnataka	31.52	8.93	59.55	29.67	11.04	59.29	28.77	12.29	58.94

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Kerala	34.59	6.10	59.25	33.92	4.59	61.49	33.71	5.00	61.29
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27.07	38.42	34.51	26.22	40.46	33.32	24.14	41.43	34.43
13.	Maharashtra	25.19	23.47	51.34	27.24	25.04	47.72	26.61	23.35	50.03
14.	Manipur	1.50	81.89	16.62	3.63	73.60	22.77	5.89	66.92	27.19
15.	Meghalaya	0.73	98.32	0.94	4.24	94.71	1.06	0.00	100.00	0.00
16.	Mizoram	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
17.	Nagaland	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	29.21	38.02	32.78	29.48	38.32	32.19	30.26	37.28	32.46
19.	Punjab	76.30	0.00	23.70	81.12	0.00	18.88	25.78	0.00	74.22
20.	Rajasthan	39.67	29.41	30.92	37.69	27.21	35.30	38.19	25.80	36.01
21.	Sikkim	19.13	37.38	43.49	16.07	42.39	41.54	14.99	44.98	40.02
22.	Tamil Nadu	50.12	1.63	48.26	47.57	3.08	49.35	52.24	3.18	44.58
23.	Tripura	21.19	45.19	33.62	20.92	45.35	33.74	17.25	48.24	34.51
24.	Uttar Pradesh	55.27	0.69	44.04	55.87	0.80	43.33	58.41	0.99	40.60
25.	West Bengal	34.22	15.40	50.38	35.36	13.78	50.87	35.91	14.18	49.91
26.	A & N Islands	0.00	32.04	67.96	0.00	32.82	67.18	0.00	32.82	67.18
27.	D & N Haveli	1.71	98.29	0.00	0.00	99.52	0.48	0.00	100.00	0.00
28.	Daman & Diu	3.39	91.53	5.08	9.09	72.73	18.18	3.60	76.58	19.82
29.	Lakshadweep	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	40.98	0.00	59.02	41.95	0.00	58.05	47.10	0.00	52.90
Total		37.62	18.37	44.01	36.61	18.97	44.42	37.90	18.39	43.72

Statement-IV

*Wells Constructed under Million Wells Scheme during
1993-94 to 1995-96*

Sl. No.	State/UT	% Share of SC/ST during		
		93-94	94-95	95-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pr.	100.00	NR	NR
2.	Arunachal Pr.	100.00	100.00	100.00
3.	Assam	100.00	NR	40.6
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	83.7
5.	Goa	NA	NA	NA
6.	Gujarat	100.00	93.2	87.0
7.	Haryana	84.9	68.4	85.0
8.	Himachal Pr.	100.00	100.00	63.7
9.	Jammu & Kash.	100.00	100.00	100.0
10.	Karnataka	100.00	100.00	86.4
11.	Kerala	100.00	NR	88.8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	100.00	NR	66.1
13.	Maharashtra	100.00	NR	60.1
14.	Manipur	100.00	100.00	95.9

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	100.00	100.00	100.00
16.	Mizoram	100.00	100.00	100.00
17.	Nagaland	100.00	100.00	NA
18.	Orissa	100.00	91.6	88.9
19.	Punjab	NA	NA	NA
20.	Rajasthan	100.00	100.00	100.00
21.	Sikkim	100.00	100.00	100.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	100.00	66.2	NR
23.	Tripura	65.7	62.6	73.5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	100.00	81.5
25.	West Bengal	100.00	100.00	66.3
26.	A & N Island	100.00	100.00	100.00
27.	D & N Haveli	100.00	100.00	100.00
28.	Daman & Diu	NA	NA	NA
29.	Lakshadweep	NA	NA	NA
30.	Pondicherry	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total		72.2	38.6	65.9

NA : No well constructed.

NR : Not reported.

Statement-V*Statement showing percentage of SC/ST families benefited under IRDP during 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96*

States/UTs	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	% SC families	% ST families	% SC families	% ST families	Scheduled Castes % fam.	Scheduled Tribes % fam.
	1	2	3	4	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh	41.22	20.34	37.23	18.15	35.48	10.44
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	100.00	8.88	188.88	0.00	100.00
3. Assam	13.88	25.50	15.18	24.44	15.07	24.06
4. Bihar	32.18	20.89	32.58	21.68	30.90	17.74
5. Goa	0.93	0.00	1.88	8.88	1.21	ERR
6. Gujarat	16.60	35.10	15.89	34.94	17.76	27.27
7. Harayana	48.46	0.00	48.62	8.88	48.91	0.00
8. Himachal Pradesh	42.24	9.14	38.72	12.66	40.95	8.86
9. Jammu & Kashmir	16.05	30.12	15.18	12.86	13.41	10.32
10. Karnataka	30.99	6.73	30.98	7.58	30.21	7.54
11. Kerala	46.44	3.67	42.90	3.23	40.36	2.91
12. Madhya Pradesh	27.61	37.94	22.44	34.30	24.69	33.13
13. Maharashtra	25.43	16.71	25.18	17.16	24.11	15.53
14. Manipur	1.18	65.15	1.59	75.35	1.27	69.48
15. Meghalaya	0.68	99.32	1.63	98.37	0.33	99.67
16. Mizoram	0.00	100.00	2.22	122.88	0.00	100.00
17. Nagaland	0.00	125.66	2.88	188.88	0.00	100.00
18. Orissa	27.21	31.40	25.61	29.74	25.54	29.70
19. Punjab	52.87	0.00	52.67	8.88	53.34	0.00
20. Rajasthan	35.62	19.14	35.33	19.56	32.67	20.20
21. Sikkim	5.25	38.51	6.89	41.38	5.38	38.34
22. Tamil Nadu	46.24	2.47	45.31	1.87	45.02	2.07
23. Tripura	16.64	32.12	17.19	34.63	16.04	36.34
24. Uttar Pradesh	52.56	0.56	51.28	8.88	51.46	0.93
25. West Bengal	35.17	5.70	34.27	6.78	34.37	6.06
26. Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	19.64	28.69	28.69	0.00	6.85
27. D & N Haveli	5.11	91.67	6.29	88.41	1.32	96.72
28. Daman & Diu	6.51	26.23	18.31	45.36	18.71	32.90
29. Lakshadweep	0.00	100.00	2.22	122.88	0.00	100.00
30. Pondicherry	36.11	0.00	13.16	2.22	35.51	2.56
All India	35.97	17.05	34.22	15.82	33.73	14.77

Statement-VI

Statement showing % of SC/ST youth trained under TRYSEM during 1993-94, 94-95 & 95-96

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	% SC/ST Youth trained during		
		93-94	94-95	95-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.7	29.1	42.2
2.	Arunachal Pr.	100.00	76.9	44.2
3.	Assam	37.4	37.6	34.2
4.	Bihar	47.4	46.7	49.2
5.	Goa	100.0	26.2	0.7
6.	Gujarat	56.1	52.8	61.5
7.	Haryana	43.8	48.9	48.6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	60.1	58.0	57.2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15.5	19.2	13.1
10.	Karnataka	35.8	38.7	39.5
11.	Kerala	43.0	42.3	45.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	57.8	56.5	49.3
13.	Maharashtra	54.8	44.3	19.6
14.	Manipur	58.7	84.8	0.0
15.	Meghalaya	100.0	416.0	100.0
16.	Mizoram	100.0	100.0	100.0
17.	Nagaland	100.0	100.0	100.0
18.	Orissa	48.1	52.1	57.4
19.	Punjab	50.4	52.0	51.0
20.	Rajasthan	52.7	56.0	53.0
21.	Sikkim	41.3	41.7	48.5
22.	Tamilnadu	47.8	44.4	44.4
23.	Tripura	59.1	56.5	28.6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	42.8	48.4	53.7
25.	West Bengal	31.5	34.9	31.3
26.	A & N Islands	15.8	48.0	73.1
27.	Daman & Diu	33.3	0.7	0
28.	D & N Haveli	100.0	100.0	100.0
29.	Lakshadweep	100.0	0.0	0.0
30.	Pondicherry	9.2	38.8	38.7
Total		47.8	45.0	46.3

[English]

Flow of Traffic

628. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic bottleneck points in Delhi during rush hours have been identified;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure smooth flow of traffic at these points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The Traffic Police of Delhi have identified various traffic bottleneck points in Delhi during rush hours. The details in this regard and the remedial actions taken by the Delhi Traffic Police are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

TRAFFIC BOTTLENECK POINTS DURING RUSH HOURS IDENTIFIED BY THE TRAFFIC POLICE IN DELHI:

1. 'A' Point (I.T.O. Crossing)
2. 'W' Point (Mathura Road-Sikandra Road Crossing).
3. 'Q' Point
4. Shakarpur Crossing.
5. Seelampur Crossing.
6. Shamlal College Crossing.
7. I.S.B.T. Chowk.
8. Azadpur Mandi Crossing.
9. Punjabi Bagh Crossing.
10. Raja Garden Chowk.
11. Mayapuri Chowk.
12. Lajwanti Garden Chowk.
13. Round about Tilak Nagar.
14. Distt. Centre Vikaspuri More.
15. Uttam Nagar Terminal Crossing.
16. Moti Nagar Crossing.
17. Round about Pusa.
18. Round about Dhaula Kuan.
19. A.I.I.M.S. Crossing.
20. Andrewsganj Chowk.
21. Moolchand Crossing.
22. Paras Cinema Chowk.
23. 'T' Point Savitri Cinema.
24. Noida More (NH-24).
25. Ashram Chowk.
26. Red Fort Crossing.
27. Rajghat Crossing.

28. Under I.P. Fly-over Crossing.

29. Chowk Ajmeri Gate.

30. Chowk Pahar Ganj.

31. Chowk Barakhamba.

32. Chandni Chowk.

33. Sadar Bazar.

34. I.T.O. and Nizamuddin Bridge.

35. Old Yamuna Bridge.

36. 'T' Point Madarsa.

37. Chirag Delhi Chowk.

38. Chhatta Rail.

39. Delhi Gate Crossing.

40. Bhajanpura Chowk.

41. Chowk Mukarba.

II REMEDIAL MEASURES TAKEN BY THE DELHI TRAFFIC POLICE.

1. Extra manpower deployment.
2. Control of traffic through manual operation.
3. Emphasis of Lane discipline.
4. Comprehensive ban on the plying of heavy/medium/light goods vehicles and slow moving vehicles at these points particularly during rush hours.
5. Introduction of traffic management measures such as ban on turning movements, contra-flow traffic, one-way traffic etc.
6. Massive increase in enforcement and prosecution of errant drivers.
7. Distribution of Road-safety literature to various road users.
8. Introduction of traffic control devices, such as bollards, channelisers, etc.

Water Supply Schemes

629. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced some Urban Water Supply Schemes in different States;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes implemented during the Eighth Plan, State-wise;

(c) the allocation of funds made to Rajasthan and other States to implement these schemes during the above Plan period;

(d) whether the State Governments have submitted any schemes during Ninth Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme for providing safe drinking water supply to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census) has been introduced from March, 1994 under which assistance is provided in the ratio of 1:1 by the Central and State Governments.

Under the scheme, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 218 water supply schemes covering 218 towns at a total cost of Rs. 182.23 crores have been approved so far during the Eighth Plan period. The Statewise details in respect of no. of schemes approved and their total project cost is given in the Statement attached.

(c) Out of a total allocation of Rs. 68.49 crores under this scheme during the Eighth Plan Period, Rs. 4.45 crores have been earmarked for the State of Rajasthan. Details of funds allocated to other States is given in the Statement attached.

(d) Proposals for the Ninth Plan have not yet been invited from the State Governments as allocations for the 9th Plan are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

State-wise Details on Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

Sl. No.	State	8th Plan Allocation (Rs. In Lakhs)	No. of Schemes Approved	Estimated Project Cost (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.29	—	—
2.	Assam	154.11	2	4232.55
3.	Bihar	363.02	4	315.82
4.	Goa	45.21	1	51.13
5.	Gujarat	387.68	8	508.09
6.	Haryana	150.69	6	778.70
7.	Himachal Pr.	56.85	4	326.10
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	34.93	2	155.10
9.	Karnataka	467.13	8	475.70
10.	Kerala	167.13	2	370.82
11.	Madhya Pr.	1084.94	51	3604.70
12.	Maharashtra	458.91	10	1371.10

1	2	3	4	5
13. Manipur	48.63	5	186.39	
14. Meghalaya	8.90	1	195.63	
15. Mizoram	25.34	1	46.48	
16. Nagaland	12.33	—	—	
17. Orissa	289.73	7	844.82	
18. Punjab	158.22	3	319.89	
19. Rajasthan	445.21	18	1607.38	
20. Sikkim	3.42	—	—	
21. Tamil Nadu	442.47	12	448.55	
22. Tripura	32.19	—	—	
23. Uttar Pradesh	1756.19	69	5858.67	
24. West Bengal	232.88	3	325.88	
Total	6849.40	218	18223.50	

Kerala State Electricity Board

630. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sources of power supply to the Kerala State Electricity Board;

(b) whether power generation has dropped or increased from any of these sources; and

(c) the reasons for fall in generation of power, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Kerala meets its requirement of power from its own generating station and drawal from the central sector stations in the region. During April, 1996–January, 1997, the energy generation in Kerala was 4552 MU and the actual drawal from the central sector stations was 2,778 MU as against its entitlement of 2,626.7 MU.

(b) and (c) Energy generation target vis-a-vis actual generation during April, 1996–January, 1997, is as per the details given below:

Energy Generation During April–Jan. '97

Name of the Station	Target (MU)	Actual (MU)	%
Iddikki	2,325	1,892	81.4
Sabarigiri	1,360	982	72.2
Kuttiadi	396	263	66.4
Sholayar	214	184	86.0
Sengulam	145	148	102.1
M. Mangalam	268	253	94.4
Pallivasal	200	192	96.0
Poringal	182	171	94.0
Panniar	135	138	102.2

1	2	3	4	5
Kallada	55	42	76.4	
Kakkad	10	0	0.0	
L. Periyar	340	0	0.0	
Peppara	8	0	0.0	
Idamalayar	335	259	77.3	
KSEB Hydro	5,973	4,524	75.7	
Maniyar	42	28	66.7	
Kerala Hydro	6,015	4,552	75.7	

The main reason for fall in generation in Kerala is due to less inflow of water in the major reservoirs of its hydel stations.

Setting up of Hydro-electric Project in Sikkim

631. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a mega hydroelectric power project in Sikkim during the ninth five year plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has been received by the Union Government from the State Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the proposed estimated cost, capacity and location of the proposed project; and

(e) the time scheduled of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (e) Two Hydroelectric projects viz. Rothangchu (3 × 10 MW) and Rangit Stage-III (3 × 20 MW) are under construction in Sikkim. The details are given below:

Name of Project (Capacity)	Executing Agency	Distt.	Approved Cost & price level (Rs. in Crs.)	Expected Commissioning
1. Rangit St. III (3 × 20 MW)	NHPC	West Sikkim	Rs. 163.49 (Gen. portion) (Aug., 89)	1998-99
2. Rothangchu (3 × 10 MW)	State	West Sikkim	Rs. 71.91 (Gen. portion) (Aug., 89)	2001-02

In addition to above, two hydro electric projects viz Teesta (Stage-III) and Teesta (Stage-V) have been in principle cleared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

As per CEA's techno-economic appraisal of Teesta Stage-III (6 × 200 MW) hydroelectric project in north Sikkim district, the project is estimated to cost Rs. 1305.77 crores.

The project has so far not received clearance by Ministry of Environment and Forests from environmental and forest angles. The State Government proposes to pose this project in the Private/Joint Sector. The completion schedule of the project is 8 years from the start of work.

As per CEA's techno-economic appraisal of Teesta Stage-V (3 × 170 MW) hydroelectric project in north Sikkim district, it is estimated to cost Rs. 1925.44 crores. The project has not yet received clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests from environmental and forest angles. The State Government has requested the Ministry of Power to get this project executed in the Central sector by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC). The completion schedule of the project is 8 years from the start of work.

Land Reform scheme

632. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the number of people benefitted under the Land Reform Scheme in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and same would be placed on the Table of the House.

Letters from MPs

633. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOL): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1622 dated July 24, 1996 regarding disposal of letters from Members of Parliament and state:

(a) the number of letters received by the Ministers of Finance, Railways, Animal Husbandry, Civil Supplies, Defence during 1996 and 1997 so far and the number out of these are still pending for replies;

(b) whether the provisions of para 57 of the Manual of Office Procedures has been invoked in those cases and disciplinary procedures taken against the delinquent officials who failed to promptly deal with the letters of the MPs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) All ministries/Depts. of Government of India are required to scrupulously observe guidelines laid down in the Manual of Office Procedure for sending prompt acknowledgement as well as final replies to letters received from the Members of Parliament. There exists no system for centralised tabulation of replies sent or still pending for reply in various government offices and offices of ministers, and so it is not possible to state in how many cases the letters received by concerned ministers are still pending for reply and whether any disciplinary action has been taken against the delinquent officials.

Bhabha Atomic Research Center

634. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) is working on a project to ensure mass radiation protection for the population in the event of nuclear attack;

(b) if so, when the above decision was taken and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the BARC has secured/propose to secure knowhow from a foreign country; and

(d) if so, the name of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) There is no specific project on the subject referred to in part (a) of the question. However, research on radio protection characterisation by certain chemical and physical agents is being carried out.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Homelessness

635. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any National Housing Seminar on adequate shelter for all was organised during October, 1996, in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome of the Seminar with regard to meeting the housing need of the people during the next five years; and

(c) the follow-up action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) A three-day National Housing Seminar on adequate shelter for all was held in New Delhi during October 7-9, 1996 to coincide with the World Habitat Day.

(b) and (c) The major outcome of the Seminar has been the clear cut identification of major issues regarding housing development process, be it related to land, housing finance, building materials and technology, access to infrastructure legal and regulatory framework of the delivery process and steps to resolve constraints. The recommendations of the National Housing Seminar, which relate to various aspects of housing and human settlement sector, will help the Central and the State Government in formulating and implementing various policies and programmes to achieve the goal of Adequate Shelter for All within the

horizon of the Common Minimum Programme (CMP). Housing being a State subject, the recommendations have also been forwarded to the State Governments for necessary follow-up action at their end, in formulating State action plans.

[Translation]

Encounters

636. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of encounters which took place after formation of the new Government in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the number of jawans/extremists/innocent people killed in these encounters; and

(c) the incidents in which Pakistan's intelligence agency has been found involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) According to available information there had been around 228 incidents of cross firing/encounters during the period from 16th October, 1996 to 15th February, 1997 in Jammu and Kashmir. 64 Security Force Personnel, 259 militants and 383 civilians were killed in incidents of terrorist related violence, encounters, during this period.

(c) The ISI has been consistently involved in fuelling, aiding and abetting terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir; it is not practically feasible to identify any specific incidents in this context.

[English]

Poverty Alleviation

637. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Steering Group has been constituted to look into the poverty alleviation and area development programmes in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the linkage of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) with Training of Rural Youths for Self Employment (TRYSEM) and Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) is found not to be satisfactory; and

(d) if so, the reason thereof and the corrective measures contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) A Steering Group for the

Ninth Plan was constituted by the Planning Commission to look into the poverty alleviation and area development programmes in rural areas. The Constitution of this Committee and its terms of reference is enclosed as Statement. The last meeting of the Steering Group chaired by Member, Rural Development took place on 19th November, 1996.

(c) and (d) One of the shortcomings of IRDP as revealed by the Fourth Round of the Concurrent Evaluation Survey (1992-93) is the poor linkage of IRDP with its allied schemes of TRYSEM and DWCRA. The Quick Evaluation of TRYSEM (June-August 1993) showed that of the total number of beneficiaries who got training under TRYSEM, roughly 54 per cent did not apply for loan under IRDP and of the remaining youth, about 50 per cent were given assistance under IRDP. The Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP indicated that only 56 per cent of the TRYSEM trained beneficiaries who were assisted under IRDP received assistance for the activity for which they were trained. A little more than 2 per cent of family members of IRDP beneficiaries were assisted under DWCRA.

The reason for a modest number of TRYSEM beneficiaries applying for loans under IRDP could be that some of the TRYSEM beneficiaries for service in the organised sector or wage employment or have problems in approaching the banks for loans. In order to forge closer links between IRDP and TRYSEM, it has been emphasised that during the training period itself, the loan application forms of trainees be sent to the banks. Low coverage of IRDP beneficiaries under DWCRA could be related to the difficulties in mobilising women for group activities. The Ministry has emphasised thrift and credit activities as the rallying point for group activities. This should facilitate a closer link between IRDP and DWCRA.

Statement

No. M-12018/2/95-RD

Government of India

Planning Commission

Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg,

New Delhi, 24th Jan., 1996.

ORDER

Subject:- Constitution of Steering Group on Poverty Alleviation and Area Development in Rural India for the Ninth Five Year Plan.

In pursuance of the decision taken by the Planning Commission vide circular No. 11016/12/95-PC dated 30-9-1995, it is proposed to set up a Steering Committee on Poverty Alleviation and Area Development in Rural India for the Ninth Five Year Plan.

II. The composition of the Steering Group will be as follows:

1. Dr. Jayant Patil,
Member, Planning Commission,
New Delhi.

Chairman

- | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------|
| 2. Dr. R.K. Nayak,
Secretary,
Department of Rural Areas
& Poverty Alleviation,
Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi. | Member | 12. Prof. Abhijit Sen,
Centre for Economic Studies
and Planning,
JNU, New Delhi-110067. | Member |
| 3. Shri Vinay Shankar,
Secretary,
Department of Rural Development,
Nirman Bhavan,
New Delhi. | Member | 13. Shri Natwar Thakkar,
Secretary,
Nagaland Gandhi Ashram,
P.O. Chuchugumlang,
District Mokakchung,
Nagaland. | Member |
| 4. Shri A.V. Gokak,
Secretary,
Department of Programme
Implementation,
Sardar Patel Bhavan,
New Delhi. | Member | 14. Shri G.N. Reddi,
Chairman,
South Asia Rural Reconstruction
Association,
506, 9th Min. 3rd Cross,
HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560 008. | Member |
| 5. Shri Ashok Jaitly,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Wasteland Development,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. | Member | 15. Shri Deep Joshi,
Professional Assistance for
Development Action, Shopping Centre,
New Delhi-110 049. | Member |
| 6. Shri N.C. Saxena,
Director,
Lal Bahadur Shastri National
Academy of Administration, Mussorie. | Member | 16. Dr. Rukmani Rao,
Deccan Development Society,
411 Vijaya Tower, Nagarjuna Nagar,
Amardeep,
Hyderabad-500 873. | Member |
| 7. Shri T. Muni Venkatappa,
Director General,
National Institute of Rural Development,
Rajindra Nagar,
Hyderabad. | Member | 17. Shri S. Meenakashisundaram,
Principal Secretary (Rural Development),
Government of Karnataka,
Bangalore. | Member |
| 8. Shri M.K. Ranjitsinh,
Director General,
Council for Advancement of People's
Action and Rural Technology,
Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment,
India Habitat Centre,
Lodi Road, New Delhi. | Member | 18. Shri M.K. Khanna,
Secretary (Planning)
Government of Rajasthan,
Jaipur. | Member |
| 9. Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao,
Centre for Economic and Social Studies,
240-B Road 18 Jubilee Hills,
Hyderabad-500 033. | Member | 19. Shri Ashok Basak,
Secretary (Power),
Government of Maharashtra,
Bombay. | Member |
| 10. Prof. S.R. Hashim,
Director,
Institute of Economic Growth,
University of Delhi,
Delhi. | Member | 20. Shri Alok Sinha,
Commissioner, Rural Development,
Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Lucknow. | Member |
| 11. Prof. Indira Hirway,
Gandhi Labour Institute,
Manav Mandir,
Apang School, Satellite Road,
Ahmedabad-52, | Member | 21. Shri P. Kotiah,
Chairman, NABARD,
Sterling Centre, Worli,
Dr. A.B. Road,
Bombay-400 018. | Member |
| | | 22. Shri Pronab Sen,
Consultant,
Perspective Planning Division,
Planning Commission,
New Delhi. | Member |

23. Joint Adviser,
LEM Division,
Planning Commission,
New Delhi. Member

24. Dr. (Smt.) Rohini Nayyar,
Adviser (RD),
Planning Commission,
New Delhi. Member-Secretary

III. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STEERING GROUP ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND AREA DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL INDIA WILL BE AS UNDER:

1. To analyse the trends in rural poverty and unemployment/underemployment both at the All India level and Statewise.
2. To estimate the impact of both the growth process and the poverty alleviation programmes on poverty wages and unemployment in rural areas.
3. To examine the on-going poverty alleviation and area development programmes and to identify the gaps/shortcomings of each programme. To suggest ways of improving the infrastructural support system and forward and backward linkages which are critical for the success of these programmes.
4. To define the scope and content of self-employment and wage employment programmes and to consider the feasibility of a 'Food for Work' programme.
5. To examine the issue of 'Right to Work'.
6. To consider the possibility of a greater integration between the poverty alleviation area, development and sectoral programmes within the framework of a district/sub-district Plan.
7. To examine whether the Panchayati Raj Institutions are in a position to perform the role envisaged by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in an effort at genuine decentralization of powers and functions.
8. To review the existing administrative arrangements for planning, implementation of the anti-poverty programmes at different levels and suggest improvements.
9. Land reforms are an integral part of a strategy for alleviation of rural poverty; the scope of land reforms in the present socio-economic milieu will need to be redefined.
10. To review the existing policy on rural housing and to suggest an appropriate strategy for the Ninth Plan.
11. To suggest a strategy for rural poverty alleviation in the Ninth Plan in the context of structural adjustment and economic reforms and to recommend a package of programmes targetted to the rural poor which would effectively tackle the poverty problem.

12. To review the existing monitoring and evaluation procedures of various programme and suggest improvements therein.

13. To review the significance of the Minimum Needs Programme as part of the strategy of poverty alleviation and to assess its impact on the quality of life of the rural poor. Further to suggest ways of strengthening the delivery system.

14. To assess the contribution of NGOs towards the implementation of poverty alleviation and rural development programmes and to define the role of NGOs in the Ninth Plan.

IV. Chairman may co-opt experts and constitute sub-groups for specific tasks. The Steering Group would be serviced by the Planning Commission.

V. T.A/D.A for the non-official members would be met as per Government Rules from the budget of the Planning Commission at par with the Group-A Officials of the Government of India.

VI. The Steering Group will submit its report to the Planning Commission by 31st May, 1996.

Sd/-
(Gurjet Kaur)
Director Administration

Copy forwarded to:-

Chairman and all Members of the Steering Group.

Copy also to :-

OSD to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

PPS to MOS (P&PI)

PS to Members (JP).

PPS to Member-Secretary.

PS to Special Secretary.

Heads of All Divisions.

All Officers of the Rural Development Division.

PA to Director (Administration)/SO (Admn.I).

(Sd/-)
(Gurjet Kaur)
Director Administration

Announcement by J and K Chief Minister

638. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir made an announcement that his prime task will be to ask the Kashmiri migrants to go back to their homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the migrants thereto; and

(c) the details regarding their protection and livelihood arrangements being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants to their homes is the top priority of the State Government. However, the action Plan for their return may take some time to get final shape since the issue has to be tackled on a politico-economic basis. The State Government is drawing out a detailed plan for giving protection and assistance/incentives to the returning migrants.

Allocation for Drinking Water Projects

639. SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the allocation made for urban drinking water projects in Tamil Nadu and particularly at Madurai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): The 8th Plan outlay for Tamil Nadu for Urban Water Supply and Sanitation sector under the State Plan is Rs. 1,450 crores. Water Supply being a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government to plan execute, maintain and operate the water supply schemes under State Plan.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census) an allocation of Rs. 4.42 crores has been earmarked for Tamil Nadu.

The State Government has reported that the Madurai Water Augmentation Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 48.50 crores has been completed with World Bank loan assistance in Feb, 1995. At present, the water supply to Madurai is 90 mld at 95 lpcd which is normal and adequate.

[Translation]

DDA Technical Committee

640. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-inclusion of any public representative in DDA's Technical Committee;

(b) whether the Government propose to include a public representative in DDA's Technical Committee;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of jobs performed by the Technical Committee during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Technical Committee of the DDA is an internal committee constituted under its Resolution dated 23.2.1963 under Section 5A of the Delhi Development Act, 1957. Vice Chairman, DDA is the Chairman of the Committee which comprises of Members from various other agencies/departments in Delhi such as Town and Country Planning Organisation, MCD, DESU, Land and Development Office, Delhi Urban Art Commission, CPWD and Members from within the DDA.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The number of meetings of the Technical Committee held and items discussed for the last three years are as under:-

Year	No. of Meetings	No. of items Discussed
1994-95	14	130
1995-96	20	163
1996-97	15	93
(upto 15.2.97)		
Total	49	386

[English]

Printing and Selling of Government Reports

641. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware that the private publishers indulge in printing and selling of Government reports/bare acts and selling them at high prices;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to book these publishers under the copyright act and bring out uniform guidelines in this regard;

(c) whether the Government also propose to bring them under the price control; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No complaint has been received by the Department of Publication of this Ministry, which is the publishers of Government publications regarding printing and selling of Government reports/bare acts by private publishers in violation of the copyright Act, 1957.

(b) does not arise.

(c) and (d) The price of Government publications alone is fixed by the Government.

Renewable Energy Sources

642. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive fifteen years perspective plan is under preparation under which 10% of the total power generated by 2007 A.D. would be sourced from renewable energy;

(b) if so, furnish details thereof and the order of investment and strategy worked out;

(c) the present status of renewable sources of energy, sources-wise and State-wise, and major achievements recorded so far; and

(d) the targets set for the current year State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) For utilising the large potential of Renewable energy in the country, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has initiated action for formulation of a Comprehensive Renewable Energy Policy which, inter-alia, envisages generation of certain percentage of power through Renewable energy sources during the next 15 years.

(c) The Renewable energy Resource/programme-wise status of physical achievements are given at Statement-I. Statewise physical achievements of major operational programmes are given at Statement-II.

(d) State-wise physical targets for the current year, 1996-97 for major operational programmes are given at Statement-III. Physical targets for various programme for the current year for the country are given at Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Renewable Energy Resources/Programme-wise Status of Physical Achievements, since Inception Cumulative upto January, 1997

S. Programme No.	Units	Cumulative Physical Achievements* since Inception upto January, 1997
1	2	3
1. Family Size Biogas Plants	Lakh Nos.	24.35@
2. Community/Institutional/ Night Soil Biogas Plants	Nos.	1,841@
3. Improved Chulhas	Lakh Nos.	236.87@

1	2	3	4
4. Solar Thermal System	Area in Lakh M ² .		3.80
5. Solar Cookers	Lakh Nos.		4.20
6. Solar Photovoltaics	MW		25
(a) Photovoltaic Power Units	kWp		998@
(b) Photovoltaic Community lights/TV and community facilities	Nos.		875@
(c) Photovoltaic Domestic lighting Systems	Nos.		48,071@
(d) Photovoltaic Lanterns	Nos.		1,12,348@
(e) Photovoltaic Street Lights/	Nos.		31,259
(f) Photovoltaic Pumps/ Irrigation Pumps	Nos.		1,836
7. Wind Pumps (New)	Nos.		226
8. Small Aero-Generators	kW		11
9. Wind Power	MW		833**
10. Mini-Micro Hydro	MW		133
11. Urjagram Energy Surveys	Nos.		244
12. Integrated Rural Energy Programme	Nos.		660
13. Biomass Based Cogeneration of Power		MW	55
14. Biomass Combustion Based MW Power			14
15. Biomass Standalone Gasifiers	MW		23.82@
16. Battery Operated Vehicles	Nos.		210
17. Alcohol Operated Vehicles	Nos.		578

*Figures are being firmed-up.

**Including Private Sector.

@Upto December, 1996.

Statement-II

State-wise Status of Physical Achievements, since Inception Cumulative upto December, 1996 for Major Operational Programmes on Biogas, Improved Chulha and Biomass Gasifiers.*

S. No.	State/UT	Biogas Plants (Nos.)	Improved Chulhas (Lakh Nos.)	Biomass Gasifiers (kW)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,07,268	19.59	6,004
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	263	0.31	180
3.	Assam	17,585	2.57	23
4.	Bihar	91,879	8.77	20
5.	Goa	2,473	1.00	22
6.	Gujarat	2,85,957	9.23	3,596

1	2	3	4	5
7. Haryana	31,362	8.17	964	
8. Himachal Pradesh	38,401	5.80	7	
9. Jammu & Kashmir	1,327	3.03	120	
10. Karnataka	1,95,992	10.80	2,329	
11. Kerala	46,693	5.88	615	
12. Madhya Pradesh	1,18,361	20.83	4,689	
13. Maharashtra	5,83,892	15.88	2,312	
14. Manipur	1,106	0.55		
15. Meghalaya	429	0.12		
16. Mizoram	1,285	0.24		
17. Nagaland	551	0.12		
18. Orissa	1,21,800	11.63	62	
19. Punjab	35,029	8.58	660	
20. Rajasthan	60,354	21.22	218	
21. Sikkim	1,750	0.44		
22. Tamil Nadu	1,86,441	17.82	433	
23. Tripura	619	0.18		
24. Uttar Pradesh	2,80,492	29.01	511	
25. West Bengal	1,04,325	9.15	500	
26. A & N Islands	122	0.27	167	
27. Chandigarh	97	0.17		
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	162	0.11		
29. Daman & Diu		0.006		
30. Delhi	662	2.40	74	
31. Lakshadweep		0.05		
32. Pondicherry	532	0.24		
33. Others	18,162	22.70	318	
Total	24,35,371	236.87	23,824	

*Figures are being firmied-up.

State-wise Status of Physical Achievements@, Since Inception Cumulative upto January, 1997 for Major Operational Programmes on Small Hydro Power (Upto 3 MW) and Wind Power Projects.

S.No.	State	Small Hydro Power* (MW)	Wind Power (MW)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.01	52.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.15	
3.	Assam	2.20	
4.	Bihar		
5.	Goa		
6.	Gujarat	2.00	136.14
7.	Haryana	0.20	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9.47	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4.35	
10.	Karnataka	4.70	3.925
11.	Kerala	0.52	2.025
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3.25	8.015
13.	Maharashtra	4.32	5.37
14.	Manipur	4.10	
15.	Meghalaya	1.51	
16.	Mizoram	5.36	
17.	Nagaland	3.17	
18.	Orissa	1.26	1.10
19.	Punjab	3.90	
20.	Rajasthan	4.30	
21.	Sikkim	9.25	623.38
22.	Tamil Nadu	4.75	
23.	Tripura	1.01	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	29.22	—
25.	West Bengal	7.46	
26.	Others		0.465
Total		133.46	832.82

@Figures are being firmied-up.

*As per available reports of different SEBs.

State-wise Installation of SPV Systems as per reports received till 31/12/1996

S.No.	State/Territory	SLS	DLS	SL	CLS	TVS	PP/KWp
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,932	730	5,963	—	4	4/17.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	720	52	1,518	10	4	3/7.90
3.	Assam	98	764	175	28	15	2/2
4.	Bihar	619	6	13,159	25	8	
5.	Goa	30	31	—	2	2	2/1.70
6.	Gujarat	1,564	370	4,100	—	51	3/14
7.	Haryana	577	6	7,693	—	68	3/24.30
8.	Himachal Pradesh	304	934	6,000	9	2	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	919	3,544	2,725	—	1	—
10.	Karnataka	441	—	300	11	3	—
11.	Kerala	641	965	17210	7	36	4/4.74
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5,427	100	1,348	30	16	2/9
13.	Maharashtra	2,941	72	3,792	—	64	3/6.44
14.	Manipur	351	—	767	—	—	5/5
15.	Meghalaya	588	230	2,155	—	—	13/30.5
16.	Mizoram	233	1,901	560	1	3	—
17.	Nagaland	271	8	—	3	—	1/6
18.	Orissa	2,068	252	1,926	58	—	5/33.52
19.	Punjab	60	—	682	—	4	2/2
20.	Rajasthan	5,545	—	4,000	—	115	24/162.15
21.	Sikkim	93	31	196	—	6	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1,940	50	2,086	38	3/26	—
23.	Tripura	248	798	238	83	111	9/25
24.	Uttar Pradesh	470	35,585	28,250	—	50	63/419
25.	West Bengal	952	1,202	2,102	2	3	4/42.1
26.	A & N Islands	315	390	238	2	—	25/129.12
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	371	—	4,508	—	—	1/5
31.	Lakshadweep	541	—	442	—	—	1/25
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	215	—	—	—
Total		31,259	48,071	1,12,348	270	605	184/998.07

SLS—Street Lighting System

DLS Domestic Lighting Systems

SL—Portable Solar Lanterns

CLS Community Lighting Systems

TVS—Community TV Systems

PP Power Plants/Packs. Nos. (KWp)

Statement—III

State-wise Physical Targets for Major Operational Programmes on Biogas and Improved Chulha.

S.No.	State/UT	Biogas Plants (Nos.)	Improved Chulhas (Lakh Nos.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,000	1.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40	0.01
3.	Assam	1,000	0.20
4.	Bihar	2,815	0.60
5.	Goa	70	0.10
6.	Gujarat	19,000	0.43

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	1,700	0.35
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,200	0.31
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	50	0.30
10.	Karnataka	18,000	0.85
11.	Kerala	1,200	0.87
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18,000	2.35
13.	Maharashtra	10,000	1.40
14.	Manipur	150	0.05
15.	Meghalaya	75	0.0055
16.	Mizoram	120	0.03
17.	Nagaland	200	0.006
18.	Orissa	7,000	1.00

1	2	3	4
19.	Punjab	4,000	0.60
20.	Rajasthan	1,500	1.70
21.	Sikkim	200	0.05
22.	Tamil Nadu	4,000	2.25
23.	Tripura	50	0.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11,000	2.40
25.	West Bengal	8,000	1.60
26.	A & N Islands	5	0.02
27.	Chandigarh	10	0.02
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	0.01
29.	Daman & Diu		
30.	Delhi	7	0.12
31.	Lakshadweep		0.0035
32.	Pondicherry	5	0.045
33.	Others	44,600	5.47
Total		1,65,000	25.00

*Figures are being firmed-up.

Solar Photovoltaic Programme

State-Wise Allocation of Targets for Lighting Systems (SI, HLS & SLS) Under 1996-97 SPV Programme

S. State/UTs		Targets For		
		SI	HLS	SLS
1	2	3	4	5
States/UTs				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5,000	500	100
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,500	200	—
3.	Assam	—	200	—
4.	Bihar	4,000	300	50
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	2,000	—	—
7.	Haryana	1,600	500	50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4,000	2,000	100
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,000	3,700	50
10.	Karnataka	1,000	200	100
11.	Kerala	5,000	1,000	50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	1,000	—	—
14.	Manipur	800	50	34
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	200	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Orissa	500	50	50
19.	Punjab	500	200	50
20.	Rajasthan	2,000	2,500	100
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	2,000	200	66
23.	Tripura	500	300	100
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12,000	8,000	—
25.	West Bengal	500	2,500	250
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	200	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	1,000	100	—
31.	Lakshadweep	500	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	1,000	—	—

Other Organizations

1.	NEEMA Madras	1,000	200	—
2.	RKM Narendrapur	200	300	—
West Bengal				

Total	50,000	23,000	1,150
-------	--------	--------	-------

Statement-IV

Renewable Energy Resource/Programme-wise Physical Targets for 1996-97 for the Country

S. No.	Programme	Units	Physical Targets* 1996-97
1	2	3	4
1.	Family size biogas plants	Lakh Nos.	1.65
2.	Community/Institutional/ Night Soil Biogas Plants	Nos.	200
3.	Improved Chulhas	Lakh Nos.	25.0
4.	Solar Thermal Systems	Area in M ²	35,000
5.	Solar Cookers	Nos.	25,000
6.	Solar Photovoltaics:		
(a)	Photovoltaic Power Units	kWp	50
(b)	Photovoltaic Domestic lighting Systems/	Nos.	10,000
(c)	Photovoltaic Lanterns	Nos.	35,000
(d)	Photovoltaic Street Lights	Nos.	500
(e)	Photovoltaic Pumps/ Irrigation Pumps	Nos.	1,000

1	2	3	4
7.	Wind Pumps (New)	Nos.	200
8.	Small Aero-Generators	kW	35
9.	Wind Power	MW	4@
10.	Small Hydro Power	MW	30
11.	Biomass based Cogeneration of Power	MW	55
12.	Biomass Combustion based Power	MW	10
13.	Solar Photovoltaic Power	MW	1
14.	Biomass Standalone Gasifiers	MW	6
15.	Urban & Industrial Energy Power	MW	10
16.	Battery Operated Vehicles	Nos.	200
17.	Alcohol operated Vehicles	Nos.	450

*Figures are being firmed-up.

@Excluding Private Sector.

World Bank Projects

643. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up any scheme under the World Bank project to check the leakage of water, illegal connections and tempering of meters by consumers;

(b) if so, the total amount agreed to provide by the World Bank;

(c) the main schemes which are proposed to be undertaken during 1997; and

(d) whether the World Bank has asked the State Government to provide full details of the work so far undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such project is under implementation in the rural areas. However, for the three cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, World Bank is supporting a project at a cost of US\$ 89.9 Million for the purpose.

(d) The project is being studied/reviewed by the World Bank from time to time, in consultation with the State Government implementing agencies.

Recovery of Amount

644. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Directorate of Estates to issue notices to all VVIPs

regarding the amount waived by the Cabinet Committee for their over stay in Government houses;

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

(c) the details of the VVIPs/VIPs against whom the recovery is due and the amount thereof; and

(d) the number of ex-Ministers and ex-Members of Parliament still occupying the Government houses and the amount outstanding against each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Dte. of Estates for issue of notices to VVIPs in 127 cases in which the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation had waived the amount of rent during 1992-95 for their overstay in Government houses. The court in its final judgement dated 23.12.96 has held that the waiver orders as passed, have no sanction of law and while undertaking recovery, the same shall be ignored. The Judgement of the Court is being studied by the Government with a view to explore the possibilities of filing a review petition on this aspects of the judgement.

(c) There are 16 VVIPs/VIPs from whom a sum of Rs. 28.33 lakhs is due for recovery.

(d) There are 10 ex-Ministers and ex-MPs who are still occupying the general pool houses and a sum of Rs. 13.3 lakhs is outstanding against them.

[Translation]

SKO/LDO Distributors in Delhi

645. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SKO/LDO dealers in National Capital Territory of Delhi as on date;

(b) the quantity of kerosene oil/light diesel oil allotted to these agencies during the last three years;

(c) whether several complaints have been received recently regarding less allotment by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Modernisation of Power Sector

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

(a) whether private entrepreneurs deterred by uncertainty of cash flows and returns feel shy to enter into the power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether unless Government improve the power sector, it is difficult to attract both public and private investments in power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The response of the private sector to the private power programme has been encouraging with 128 expressions of interest for setting up generation capacity of 70,549 MW and involving a projected investment of Rs. 2,53,405.29 crores. However, in order to improve the viability of these projects, Government have been taking steps from time to time. These include offering alternative comfort packages in the short term and sector reforms and restructuring in the long run.

Assistance for Civic Amenities

647. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala regarding financial assistance to certain municipalities for providing civic amenities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Provision of civic amenities is the responsibility of the local bodies concerned. These local bodies formulate their schemes in consultation with the State Governments concerned. State Governments on their part render assistance to the local bodies under various schemes and also through borrowing from financial institutions like HUDCO, LIC etc. Government of India plays only a nodal and catalytic role.

However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), against the allocated number of 1 town for coverage during the period 1996-98, the Government of Kerala have submitted the project reports for 4 towns, namely, Pathanamthitta, Muvattupuzha, Ottapalam and Kothamangalam. Town and Country Plannings Organisation (TCPO) has already prepared the Appraisal Report which requires to be considered by the State Level Sanctioning Committee. IDSMT Scheme aims at the improvement of township infrastructure.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP), during 1996-97, detailed project reports of Pudukkad, Peralesserry and Koraty towns have been forwarded by the Kerala Water Authority (KWA). The proposal in respect of Pudukkad had been approved at an estimated project cost of Rs. 137.10 lakhs in August, 1996. During 1996-97, Central Share of Rs. 34 lakhs has so far been released to Government of Kerala under AUWSP. The proposals in respect of the other two towns have been scrutinised and comments forwarded to K.W.A. Further action in this regard will be taken after receipt of reply from K.W.A.

Urban Employment Scheme

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

(a) whether the Government introduced any new scheme for employment of the urban people during the last financial year and the amount spent so far in this direction. State-wise; and

(b) the amount which remained unutilised and the number of people benefitted during 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) was launched in November, 1995 to redress the problems of urban poverty in small towns. Under the self employment component (one of the several components of PMIUPEP) the unemployed and under-employed urban poor are encouraged to set up small enterprises/ventures relating to servicing petty business and manufacturing, to enhance their economic position.

The PMIUPEP is applicable to all urban agglomerations with a population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 in the country plus 72 Hill District towns. The implementation of the programme is done by the States/UTs through the Urban Local Bodies and the community (through community based organisations). An amount of Rs. 105.80 Crores has been released to States/UTs for the year 1995-96. Rs. 21.2228 Crores has been released to six States upto now for 1996-97. According to available reports, out of the total funds. (Central + State share) provided, an amount of Rs. 2622.7057 lakhs for 1995-96 has been utilised and Rs. 17,832.385 lakhs remains to be spent by the State/UT Governments. A statement showing State-wise Expenditure incurred and unspent amount is enclosed. The Programme was launched in November, 1995. It is still largely in a preliminary stage involving conduct of surveys. Preparation of town-wise project reports, etc. In all, five million urban poor are targeted to benefit during the five year period ending 1999-2000.

Statement**Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)**

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total Funds (Central+State)	Expen. incurred 1995-96	Unspent (3-4)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pr.	1901.24	1088.94	812.30
2.	Arunachal Pr.	132.05	—	132.05
3.	Assam	515.60	—	515.60
4.	Bihar	1518.60	387.88571	1200.7743
5.	Goa	174.49	7.42	167.07
6.	Gujarat	1131.74	—	1131.74
7.	Haryana	354.87	75.00	279.87
8.	Himachal Pr.	169.79	1.13	168.66
9.	Jammu & Kash.	264.13	—	264.13
10.	Karantaka	1230.41	—	1230.41
11.	Kerala	510.33	247.92	262.41
12.	Madhya Pr.	1498.52	108.61	1389.91
13.	Maharashtra	1839.24	—	1839.24
14.	Manipur	94.32	—	94.32
15.	Meghalaya	75.46	24.33	51.13
16.	Mizoram	37.74	—	37.74
17.	Nagaland	210.65	—	210.65
18.	Orissa	521.89	—	521.89
19.	Punjab	593.88	13.00	580.88
20.	Rajasthan	981.61	12.00	969.61
21.	Sikkim	75.46	—	75.46
22.	Tamil Nadu	2017.12	—	2017.12
23.	Tripura	37.73	—	37.73
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3072.65	453.76	2618.89
25.	W. Bengal	1317.34	202.71	1114.63
26.	A & N Islands	50.00	—	50.00
27.	Pondicherry	58.17	—	58.17
Total		20455.09	2622.7057	17832.385

*[Translation]***Schemes of Hudco**

*649. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Madhya Pradesh has been benefitted by the housing schemes being implemented by HUDCO;

(b) the funds provided to Madhya Pradesh in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the places where the schemes are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Since its inception till 31.1.97, HUDCO has sanctioned 645 housing projects worth Rs. 663.10 crores in Madhya Pradesh for which HUDCO's loan commitment is Rs. 437.21 crores. These projects on completion will provide 130143 residential units, 826 upgraded units and 84245 developed plots.

(b) Details of loan sanctioned/released for housing during the last three years in Madhya Pradesh are as follows:-

Years	Loan Sanctioned (Rs. in crores)	Loan Released	Dwelling Units Sanctioned
1993-94	32.17	38.09	8,598
1994-95	71.49	32.56	5,945
1995-96	75.85	33.99	8,195

(c) City-wise details of housing schemes sanctioned during the last three years in the Madhya Pradesh are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement**City-wise Details on Schemes Sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh from 1st April, 1993 to 31st March, 1994**

S. No.	City Name	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount Sanctioned Rs. (Lakh)	Dwellings Sanctioned	Plot Sanctioned	Other Sanctioned	Sanit Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Bhopal	6	767.95	500.22	816	460	0	0
2.	Birsinghpur	1	345.64	199.69	108	0	0	0
3.	Burhanpur	1	207.56	148.73	121	301	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Chhatarpur	1	91.12	60.89	32	128	0	0
5.	Chhindwara	3	313.35	214.12	98	314	0	0
6.	Damoh	1	183.17	131.63	146	0	0	0
7.	Dantewara	1	85.83	51.50	80	0	0	0
8.	Deolund	1	95.22	56.89	57	0	0	0
9.	Gwalior	2	556.50	332.87	369	0	0	0
10.	Indore	1	274.34	137.17	0	0	0	0
11.	Jhabua	1	93.67	56.20	96	0	0	0
12.	Khandwa	1	80.92	65.37	130	0	0	0
13.	Korba	2	341.94	253.77	124	878	0	0
14.	Rajpur	2	277.85	200.87	108	0	0	0
15.	Rajnandgaon	1	108.33	83.38	64	236	0	0
16.	Ratlam	2	208.95	134.71	269	0	0	0
17.	Rewa	1	79.89	63.91	0	0	0	0
18.	Sanwer	1	53.79	39.57	0	209	0	0
19.	Satna	1	136.92	102.31	83	319	0	0
20.	Seoni	1	72.35	43.40	72	0	0	0
21.	Shahdol	2	198.51	139.69	104	189	0	0
22.	Sidhi	1	79.37	47.62	84	0		0
23.	Ujjain	1	169.19	152.27	133	0	0	0
Total		35	4822.36	3216.78	3094	3034	0	0

*City-wise Details on Schemes Sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh from
1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995*

S. No.	City Name	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount Sanctioned Rs. (Lakh)	Dwellings Sanctioned	Plot Sanctioned	Other Sanctioned	Sanit Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Ayodhya	1	19.59	16.65	72	0	0	0
2.	Bhilai	2	220.92	165.69	230	0	0	0
3.	Bhopal	7	3441.86	2434.53	1922	4878	0	0
4.	Bilaspur	1	106.12	59.39	70	0	0	0
5.	Birsinghpur	1	267.25	148.66	91	0	0	0
6.	Chhindwara	1	116.54	59.43	0	0	0	5772
7.	Damoh	1	249.93	184.51	0	681	0	0
8.	Dewas	3	872.85	614.66	300	0	396	0
9.	Guna	1	125.75	64.14	0	0	0	6228
10.	Gwalior	1	121.97	62.20	0	0	0	6041
11.	Hanumana	1	23.21	18.11	0	120	0	0
12.	Indore	3	1555.25	1047.96	1146	0	0	18420
13.	Itarsi	1	268.96	196.89	80	448	0	0
14.	Jagdalpur	1	90.96	68.44	30	255	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	Jhabua	2	106.32	77.42	57	115	0	486
16.	Katni	1	359.66	191.43	175	0	0	0
17.	Khajuraho	1	26.14	19.61	20	0	0	0
18.	Khargone	1	30.38	23.87	0	156	0	0
19.	Korba	1	530.45	326.97	0	723	0	0
20.	Kosabadi	1	41.60	31.20	29	0	0	0
21.	Mandla	1	4.04	2.06	0	0	0	200
22.	Mauganj	1	16.54	12.89	0	91	0	0
23.	Panna	1	83.67	42.67	0	0	0	4144
24.	Raipur	3	665.25	421.17	414	0	0	1269
25.	Raisen	2	224.31	139.23	21	318	0	6462
26.	Sagar	2	424.18	261.52	195	0	435	0
27.	Sendhwa	1	90.62	67.99	52	95	0	0
28.	Shivpuri	1	142.97	107.59	74	79	0	0
29.	Sidhi	2	149.71	104.93	77	351	0	1000
30.	Ujjain	1	38.39	31.68	0	192	0	0
31.	Urban Areas	1	284.96	145.33	0	0	0	14114
Total		48	10700.33	7148.82	5055	8402	831	64136

*City-wise Details of Schemes Sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh
from 1st April, 1995 to 31st March, 1996*

S. No.	City Name	No of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount Sanctioned Rs. (Lakh)	Dwellings Sanctioned	Plot Sanctioned	Other Sanctioned	Sanit Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Balaghat	3	226.26	163.55	212	0	0	0
2.	Bastar	1	192.09	134.46	134	0	0	0
3.	Bawadia	1	75.03	57.48	68	127	0	0
4.	Bhilai	4	356.42	243.96	320	0	20	0
5.	Bhind	2	274.54	192.15	192	0	0	0
6.	Bhopal	7	1908.56	1363.77	1302	3276	0	0
7.	Bilaspur	2	105.39	72.02	100	0	0	0
8.	Chhatarpur	1	78.68	55.09	56	0	0	0
9.	Damoh	2	234.62	171.53	193	0	0	0
10.	Dantewara	1	85.28	59.60	64	0	0	0
11.	Dewas	2	541.72	291.27	131	0	84	0
12.	Dhar	4	398.99	307.86	624	0	0	0
13.	Durg	3	411.16	292.71	220	63	0	0
14.	Guna	1	34.35	24.02	26	0	0	0
15.	Gwalior	4	275.99	200.76	244	0	0	0
16.	Indore	4	702.34	384.68	68	18	624	0
17.	Itarsi	1	58.28	40.80	44	0	0	0
18.	Jabalpur	11	1576.46	959.97	750	652	169	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19.	Jagdalpur	1	69.48	48.56	52	0	0	0
20.	Khandwa	1	69.63	48.74	52	0	0	0
21.	Khargone	1	27.04	18.92	20	0	0	0
22.	Kuhhari	1	24.37	20.70	50	0	0	0
23.	Manasa	1	32.60	25.90	41	20	0	0
24.	Mandideep	1	42.27	31.70	50	0	0	0
25.	Mhow	1	49.42	35.84	47	0	0	0
26.	Nagda	1	88.62	66.86	56	48	0	0
27.	Narsimhapur	1	79.01	55.29	55	0	0	0
28.	Panna	1	91.51	64.04	64	0	0	0
29.	Pithampur	1	465.26	262.42	246	0	0	0
30.	Raigarh	1	16.38	13.92	50	0	0	0
31.	Raipur	4	242.65	194.16	438	0	0	0
32.	Rajgarh	2	144.01	92.22	196	0	0	0
33.	Rajnandgaon	1	99.99	69.99	72	0	0	0
34.	Ratlam	2	600.25	386.68	45	244	0	0
35.	Rewa	1	18.72	13.10	14	0	0	0
36.	Sagar	2	214.78	157.67	75	642	0	0
37.	Satna	1	255.56	160.51	104	17	0	0
38.	Sehore	1	19.67	13.77	14	0	0	0
39.	Shajapur	1	32.25	22.56	24	0	0	0
40.	Sidhi	1	36.50	32.65	50	180	0	0
41.	Thanamandi	1	37.88	26.48	28	0	0	0
42.	Tikamgarh	1	80.13	56.04	60	0	0	0
43.	Ujjain	6	562.97	443.68	431	361	0	0
44.	Urban Areas	3	296.08	207.06	216	0	0	0
Total		93	11233.19	7585.14	7298	5648	897	0

Reply to Letters

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

(a) whether letters received by Director-General (Works), CPWD, New Delhi, from Residents Welfare Associations, are not even replied by him or his office;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether letters addressed to him by MPs are also not being replied by him, but are being replied by his subordinates, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Letters received from the Residents Welfare Associations are promptly forwarded to the concerned Chief Engineers for

taking further necessary action. Such issues are also discussed by the concerned Executive Engineers and Superintending Engineers through periodical meetings with the Welfare Associations and necessary actions are generally taken at their level. On some occasions some such letters might not have been acknowledged by Director General (Works). However, Director General (Works) office has recently started acknowledging all such letters.

(c) and (d) Letters addressed to Director General (Works), CPWD by the Hon'ble M.Ps are generally being acknowledged by Director General (Works) himself. In few cases, some letters were acknowledged by other officers of the rank of Chief Engineer and above to whom these letters are forwarded. However, directions have now been issued that all letters received from the Hon'ble M.Ps must be acknowledged and replied to by the officers to whom they are addressed.

Atomic Power Generation

651. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved to set up two units of 500 MW Atomic Power generation at Tarapur Atomic Power Station in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the time likely to be taken in commencement of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two nuclear power units of 500 MWE have been approved for being set up at Tarapur in Maharashtra. Project financial sanction for these two units was accorded by the Government in January, 1991. However, construction of the main plant civil works could not be commenced so far due to resource constraints. Major equipments for the project have already been procured and the infrastructure work is also nearly complete.

(c) From the date of commencement of the main plant construction, each of the unit will take about eight and half years for commissioning and commencement of power generation.

Allocation to JRY

652. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation made under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the total amount provided so far, State-wise;

(c) the total amount utilised upto December 31, 1996, State-wise;

(d) the total expenditure on creation of permanent assets, State-wise; and

(e) the total mandays generated upto December 31, 1996, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (e) State-wise details of the total funds allocated, funds released (so far), funds utilised (upto December 31st, 1996) for creation of durable assets and employment generated (upto December 31st, 1996) during 1996-97 under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Funds Allocated, Released, Utilised and Mandays Generated Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana During 1996-97

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Total Funds Allocated Including State Share	Total Funds Released Including Corres-ponding State Share (Rs. Lakhs)	Total Funds Utilised (Upto 31st Dec. 1996)	Number of Mandays Generated (Upto 31st-Dec. 96) (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pr.	17372.39	17774.34	10147.94	184.85
2.	Arunachal Pr.	178.30	89.15	87.32	1.15
3.	Assam	5718.18	2592.79	2694.37	41.15
4.	Bihar	34075.58	18006.25	20427.82	310.60
5.	Goa	192.65	106.38	213.95	4.85
6.	Gujarat	6376.25	5472.41	3737.11	57.25
7.	Haryana	1531.81	966.74	1014.34	10.32
8.	Himachal Pr.	612.16	306.09	408.60	7.38
9.	J & K	1243.93	967.28	589.30	12.28
10.	Karnataka	11665.34	10276.18	6967.27	144.63
11.	Kerala	4244.16	3158.65	2147.05	26.81
12.	Madhya Pradesh	22014.51	17505.56	10943.23	197.51
13.	Maharashtra	18937.55	10321.19	9985.45	211.27
14.	Manipur	228.53	114.26	134.57	3.00
15.	Meghalaya	267.40	133.69	258.96	5.06
16.	Mizoram	112.63	105.26	84.93	1.48
17.	Nagaland	286.64	143.33	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Orissa	14093.11	12405.35	10164.03	200.04
19.	Punjab	1089.39	610.69	0.00	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	9146.40	8509.53	3285.74	61.95
21.	Sikkim	104.36	52.19	131.34	1.95
22.	Tamil Nadu	15704.96	13891.76	8943.79	217.76
23.	Tripura	296.83	287.39	662.00	14.85
24.	Uttar Pradesh	42334.91	36079.43	27568.07	458.81
25.	West Bengal	15569.34	7594.85	8714.16	125.83
26.	A & N Island	84.41	42.21	26.36	0.42
27.	D & N Haveli	45.81	44.57	21.63	0.51
28.	Daman & Diu	26.99	13.50	15.11	0.27
29.	Lakshadweep	42.32	21.16	31.31	0.43
30.	Pondicherry	82.64	64.68	85.47	2.05
Total		223679.48	167656.80	129491.22	2304.46

00—Not Reported

Import of Naptha

653. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Government yet to put naptha import on OGL" in the observer dated January 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto, particularly delay in resolving the issue and lack of inter-ministerial coordination between the power and petroleum ministries; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken to resolve this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Guidelines for allocation of liquid fuels for power generation have already been finalised and issued to the concerned states.

[Translation]

Urban Basic Amenities for the Poor

654. SHRI JAISINH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities developed under urban basic services for the poor in Gujarat;

(b) the city-wise amount allocated for this purpose during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) the city-wise details of the work done in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to extend the scheme to other cities of the State also; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Twenty (This excludes 7 towns now covered under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme).

(b) and (c) City-wise details are not monitored at the central level.

(d) and (e) No proposal has been received from the State Government.

[English]

Consultants in Government

655. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of retired Government employees appointed as consultants in various departments during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government have evaluated the performance of such consultants; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to review the strength of consultants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) According to information

received from Ministries/Departments, the number of retired Govt. servants engaged as consultants in the last two years is 52.

(b) As per guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, Ministries/Depts are competent to engage Consultants upto a period of six months keeping in view the requirements of work/specific jobs of a specialised nature. Evaluation of their performance is not required to be carried out centrally.

(c) The strength of retired Government servants engaged as Consultants by Ministries/Departments, as per information available, is generally within the prescribed limits. If engagement of Consultants beyond limits prescribed is envisaged, prior approval of Department of Personnel and Training is necessary. As such, there is no proposal to review the strength of consultants.

Cess on Crude Oil

656. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The amount of crude cess collected during each of the last three years;

(b) the contribution of Assam towards crude cess each year against which the amount of assistance provided by Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) for the development of refineries in Assam;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide adequate funds for development of refineries in Assam through OIBD; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) The information is given in statement-I.

(b) The information is given in Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Government provides funds for development of refineries through OIBD and other means depending on several factors such as commercial viability of the project, availability of funds with OIBD as well as internal and extra-budgetary resources of the Companies. Accordingly, refineries in Assam may be provided funds depending upon the said factors.

Statement-I

Statement regarding Collection of Cess on Crude Oil

(Rs/Crores)

Year	Amount
1993-94	2160.89
1994-95	2548.97
1995-96	2800.63
Total	7510.49

Statement-II

*Contribution of Assam towards Crude Cess**

(Rs/Crores)

Year	Amount
1993-94	434.85
1994-95	431.62
1995-96	437.20

Statement regarding OIBD assistance to Refineries in Assam

(Rs/Crores)

Year	Amount
1993-94	50.00
1994-95	102.44
1995-96	251.49
Total	403.93

*The statement of collection of cess has been provided by the Office of Commissioner of Central Excise and Customs, Shillong.

Power Generation

657. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group on Power in Planning Commission had projected 57,000 M.W. of power generation during the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, whether the projections of the Working Group has been accepted by the Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Planning Commission has agreed for generation of only 40,000 M.W. during the Plan;

(e) if so, the reasons for this massive curtailment; and

(f) the action proposed by the Government to meet the increasing demand of Power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The Working Group on Power for Ninth Plan set up by Planning Commission under the Chairmanship

of Secretary, Ministry of Power has submitted its report recently. Ninth Five Year Plan which is under finalisation, would take into account the recommendation of the Working Group depending upon the feasibility of the projects and economy level considerations.

Construction of Duplex Apartments

658. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to demolish certain "Lutyen's bungalows of preindependence and construct duplex apartments there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objective behind this move; and

(d) by when the work of demolition/construction is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Merger of PFC and IDFC

659. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge Power Finance Corporation (PFC) with the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC);

(b) if so, the advantages of merging these two financial institutions; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) There is presently no proposal under consideration to merge the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) with the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC).

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

[Translation]

Package Programme

660. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the State which have been included in the Package Programme for carrying out development works;

(b) the nature of assistance extended to these States;

(c) the amount of assistance provided to the hilly

regions like Kashmir and Eastern States as per the announcements made by the Hon. Prime Minister for providing crores of rupees to these States for the implementation of the schemes;

(d) the number of people provided assistance so far; and

(e) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (e) The Prime Minister has recently announced programmes/schemes/projects for the economic development of the Seven North Eastern States viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and the State of Jammu & Kashmir. The details of the New Initiatives announced for the North Eastern States are at Statement-I enclosed. As regards J & K, the Prime Minister had made announcements on the Floor of Parliament on 23rd July, 1996 and 2nd August, 1996. A further statement was made by the Prime Minister regarding J & K during his visit to Jammu on 14th February, 1997. A copy of the statement made on 14th February, 1997 is at Statement-II enclosed. The details of Central assistance for various projects/schemes etc. are contained in the above announcements. Since infrastructure projects have also been announced, the details regarding the number of people assisted under such various programmes/schemes cannot be easily estimated.

Statement-I

New Initiatives for North Eastern Region

My first visit to the Seven states of the North-East has come to an end. To me this has been a very moving experience. The warmth of the people here will bring me back. I came to the area to know the people their aspirations, their problems, how they feel and what they think. I came with an open mind. I am going back with pleasant memories and with a firm resolve to work with the people to mark a new beginning in the development of this region. Wherever I went, the people from different sections of the society came and met me in large numbers. They were friendly and frank in expressing their views, their desires, their apprehensions and their hopes. The warmth which they extended throughout my visit has really overwhelmed me.

I am fully convinced that the problems can be resolved if all of us work together and look ahead jointly towards a better future. I am thankful to the people for showing so much love and affection for me during the visit.

I have also met at each Capital, a cross-section of people like leaders of political parties, chiefs of autonomous

Text of the Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowda's statement on new industries for North-Eastern Region at a Press conference at Gowahati on October 27, 1996.

district councils, representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations, student unions, women's associations, church leaders and the press; in addition to Ministers, State Government officials and officials of security forces, to get a first hand account of the conditions in these states.

The North-Eastern region is endowed with abundant natural resources. In fact, Assam was in the forefront of the economic development of the country 100-150 years ago. It was a pioneering state and enterprising entrepreneurs invested in the development of tea plantation, oil, coal mining, forestry, railways and inland waterways. However, in the recent years investors have shunned these areas because some of these states turned inward-looking while others have been afflicted by militancy and terrorism. This has set in a vicious circle of terrorism, discouraging investments and economic development, leading to growing unemployment which in turn provided recruits to militancy. Today, there are no major industries or other economic activities which can absorb the educated unemployed. The only avenue for employment in almost all these states is Government service. However, Government service cannot absorb too many people. Also, too many people in Government service only breed inefficiency. The only way out of unemployment or militancy is massive all round economic development leading to prosperity.

Question of Foreigners

One of the important factors impinging on the identity of the people of the North-Eastern states is the question of foreigners. I have reviewed this issue in some details during my discussions with All Assam Students Union and also several others. It was represented that the laws existing for the detection of foreigners such as Illegal Migrants' Determination by Tribunal (IMDT) Act, 1983 as amended have not proved to be effective. We would take steps to repeal the ineffective laws and strengthen the legal and administrative measures for dealing with foreigners in consultation with the states. Further, the policing of the border including fencing at appropriate places would be strengthened.

Identity of Ethnic Groups

The other important factors which led to militancy and is leading to unrest in some of the states is the feeling of loss of identity by various ethnic groups and the feeling that the centre has been giving step-motherly treatment to this region. These feelings may or may not be entirely justified. But the feeling is certainly there. It would be our endeavour to remove this feeling and to see that the basic infrastructure in this region is developed to reach the standards in the rest of the country in a specific time-frame. I believe that India as a whole cannot progress unless every state including the seven states of the North-Eastern region keep in step with the rest of the country.

Senseless Violence

For too long, senseless violence has prevailed in some of the states of North-East. For too long, certain misguided

elements have been killing their brothers and fellow citizens and resorting to extortion and kidnapping. Violence cannot achieve any political objective. I would like to appeal to all those who have taken to the gun to see the path of reason. I believe that all problems can be solved by mutual discussions. I am giving an open invitation to any group of individuals including militants and without any pre-condition to meet me to discuss their legitimate grievances. I genuinely wish to understand their points of view and what exactly is troubling them. At the same time, I would like to clearly state that violence would not be tolerated and would be put down with a firm hand. We also want friendly relations with all our neighbours and we would expect them not to encourage or allow cross-border terrorism of support militant groups from India.

Tackling unemployment would require productive investments in the area. With this view, as a first step, my government would take the following measures.

Commission to Determine Gaps In Infrastructure and Backlog In Basic Minimum Services

A high-level commission will be appointed within 30 days to critically examine the gaps in important sectors, specially in power, communication, railways, roads, education, agriculture etc. The commission will also critically examine the backlog in the Basic Minimum Services in the seven North-Eastern states. The commission, after assessing these requirements will suggest policies, programmes and fund requirements to bridge the gaps in the infrastructural sectors and the backlog in Basic Minimum Services in the seven North-Eastern states. The commission will submit its report within three months and the Planning Commission will take the recommendations of the commission into consideration and formulate specific programmes and funding arrangements for the development of the North-Eastern states in the Ninth Five Year Plan. Adequate additional funds will be provided on an annual basis over and above the annual Plan allocations in the Ninth Five Year Plan to achieve these objectives.

Priority for Creation of Employment Opportunities for Educated Unemployed

A high-level expert committee will be appointed within one month to examine all aspects of the problem pertaining to the educated unemployed in the North-Eastern region and will urgently suggest specific steps to promote employment among the educated unemployed in the North-Eastern states. Relevant infrastructure, extensive training and schemes for productive employment generation, specific for each of the North-Eastern states will be established in each North-Eastern state. The high-level committee will submit its report within three months and recommend a blue print for time-bound implementation. The recommendations will be implemented by the State Governments and the relevant national level institutions/Central Ministries straight away. We will also give high priority for employment generation in the North-East in the Ninth Plan.

Experts from the North-Eastern region would be

associated with both these committees on infrastructure and employment.

North East Sub-Plan In all Central Ministries/Departments

All Central Ministries/Departments will earmark at least 10% of their budget for specific programmes in the North-Eastern States. They will also ensure that the programmes are speedily implemented.

Visits and Intensive Monitoring by Central Ministers/Secretaries

Ministers and Secretaries in-charge of the Central Ministries/Departments, specially those in-charge of the Social Sectors, Petroleum, Surface Transport, Railways, Civil Aviation, Tourism and Water Resources would tour all North-Eastern states at least once in a quarter and pursue the implementation of their plans and programmes.

Full Funding of the On-going Projects

A number of important projects in the North-Eastern region concerning highways, railways and power are not progressing satisfactorily for want of adequate funds. Full funding will be assured to all on-going central projects including Numaligarh refinery. The Home Ministry, the Planning Commission and the Cabinet Secretariat will regularly monitor these projects on quarterly basis to ensure that these are completed as per schedule.

Comprehensive Water Management and Flood Control Measures

Control of floods and water management are extremely important to the economy of this region. I have recently appointed a High-level Commission for suggesting urgent measures for comprehensive water management in our country. This Commission would examine and make recommendations on flood control and comprehensive water management aspects in North-East also. The Brahmaputra Board will be immediately activated to prepare a list of projects relevant for flood control, power generation and water management. Dredging operations will be launched to make inland waterways more efficient in the discharge of water and for transport. All Brahmaputra flood control project works henceforth will receive 100% grant from the Centre.

Full Coverage through Employment Assurance Scheme

Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) will be extended to all blocks in the North-Eastern states by March 31, 1997.

Extension of Border Roads/BADP Programme

The Border Area Development Programme as well as Border Roads Programme will be extended to some more areas in the Indo-Myanmar border also as represented by some states.

Full Coverage of North East through Telecommunication and Electronic Media

Telecommunication/TV/AIR coverage will be accelerated so as to cover 100% of the population from Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh by the end of Ninth Plan. At least Rs. 50 crore will be separately earmarked for this purpose.

Improved Credit Flow to North East

A special cell will be set up in the reserve Bank of India under a Deputy Governor to ensure that more credit is made available to industry, agriculture and for self employment schemes.

New Industrial Policy

A new Industrial policy specific to the North-Eastern region and its requirements will be considered and announced by March 31, 1997 to promote private investment, both domestic and foreign.

Decentralisation

In this region, there is a need for greater decentralisation at the District and Sub-district levels so that people are involved in the decision making process. The government of India will actively promote such decentralisation.

Development of Tourism

An integrated Tourism Development Plan for the entire North-East as a whole is under formulation. This will develop some tourist circuits covering several states.

Strengthening of Central Agencies

The presence in the North-Eastern region of certain central agencies concerned with the promotion of agriculture, trade and industry-like National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), various commodity boards will be strengthened.

Export Policy

Commerce Ministry will work out an export policy including border trade for North-Eastern region aimed at promoting trade with South-East Asia.

Measures for Control of Narcotics and AIDS

Centre would take immediate measures to strengthen the institutional arrangements and programmes in some of the North-Eastern states for control of AIDS, narco-trafficking and drug addiction and provide adequate funding for all these purposes.

Improvement in Railway Services

The performance, punctuality and service by Railways in the region will be improved. On-going railway projects such as new lines, gauge conversion etc. will be completed soon with adequate funding. The new railway lines proposed by the states without rail-head or very limited access would be included on priority.

I intend to visit North-Eastern region at least two times in a year to satisfy myself that the plans and programmes for development in these are implemented properly.

Finally, as already stated by me, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) will ensure that all these commitments and the package of programmes and schemes being launched forthwith are implemented according to the time schedules announced and regular monitoring is done of progress in implementation.

There are, of course, several other items raised during my visit. On returning to Delhi, I shall hold consultations with the Planning Commission and other Central Ministries and take decision on these issues also within the next one month. The Chief Ministers will be further consulted on these issues before final decisions are taken.

Need for Wholehearted Cooperation

In the above endeavour, I solicit the wholehearted cooperation of all the Chief Ministers, political parties, student unions, media and the people at large in these states. We should all work together to launch a drive for peace and harmony in the troubled states. It is necessary to create a suitable atmosphere of confidence and optimism for this. Abiding peace must replace the current conflict, harmony must replace hatred and mutual trust must replace suspicion. We are all sons and daughters of the same country. We are all one family. Our future and prosperity are common to all of us. We must share our concerns and prosperity I would also request the state governments to improve the performance of their bureaucracy, take steps to eliminate corruption and to fine-tune the Government machinery for better delivery of services. I am sure, I will have the full Cooperation of all people of the North-East judging from the tremendous enthusiasm and response the people gave me during my visit.

The state governments proposed, during discussion with me, various projects which will need to be taken up for implementation. We have examined all the proposals. A list of important projects State-wise which Government have decided to take up is given below.

Mizoram

- Sanction for Tural Hydro-Electric Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 425 crore will be accorded this year.
- Sanction for one State Referral Hospital with selected specialities and 200 beds at an estimated cost of Rs. 40 crore, land to be provided free of cost by State Government. The State and Central Governments will jointly prepare the project report by December 31, 1996 for sanction before March 31, 1997.
- Sanction for Phase-II of the Aizawl Urban Drinking Water Supply Scheme including Sewage at an estimated cost of Rs. 130 crore. Centre will provide 75% of the funds and the balance 25% by the State Government. The work will be completed within three years.

- Border Roads/BADP with an outlay of Rs. 30 crore will be sanctioned for implementation for 1997-98 onwards.
- One Industrial Growth Centre with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore will be sanctioned this year.

Tripura

- Kumarghat-Agartala Railway Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 525 crore. Adequate funds will be provided in each year of the 9th Five Year Plan to complete the same within 5 years.
- Two India Reserve Battalions (IRB) will be sanctioned before March 31, 1997 (estimated cost Rs. 10 crore).
- Rs. 34 crore will be provided for upgradation of facilities at Agartala Airport.
- One LPG Bottling Plant will be established (Rs. 15 crore).
- One Industrial Growth Centre with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore.
- Upgradation of State Highway from Agartala to Sabroom at a cost of Rs. 60 crore in the 9th Five Year Plan.

Manipur

- Upgradation/widening of NH-53 by Border Roads Organisation at an estimated cost of Rs. 130 crore will be sanctioned before March 31, 1997 and work commenced in 1997-98.
- Rs. 17.10 crore will be sanctioned for the infrastructural facilities for National Games, 1997 in Imphal.
- An Industrial Growth Centre with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore will be sanctioned this year.
- An LPG Bottling Plant for Manipur will be sanctioned (Rs. 15 crore).
- Phase-II of Project of upgradation of RIMS, Imphal at an estimated cost of Rs. 90 crore will be sanctioned by March 31, 1997.
- Loktak Down Stream HEP will be sanctioned this year at an estimated cost of Rs. 426 crore.
- Construction of border road linking Maram (NH 39) to Phaibung (59 Kms) at an estimated cost of Rs. 15 crore will be sanctioned this year.

Arunachal Pradesh

- Sanction for water supply schemes for Itanagar and Naharlagun (estimated cost Rs. 36 crore) would be accorded as soon as the project report is received from the State Government.
- An Institute for Bio-diversity studies (estimated cost Rs. 10 crore)
- Construction of new airport at Itanagar to be taken up

during the 9th Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 crore. Land to be provided free of cost by the State Government.

- The Government of India will actively promote investment in Arunachal Pradesh, especially in the fields of hydel power generation, tourism and agro-processing.
- Improvements to Leelaban Airport including extension of runway etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 12.50 crore will be sanctioned before March 31, 1997.
- The proposal for extending NH-52A from Itanagar to Gohpur would be considered and sanctioned in the 9th Five Year Plan.
- Two India Reserve Battalions (IRB) would be sanctioned for Arunachal Pradesh by March 31, 1997 (estimated cost Rs. 10 crore).
- The Central Government will provide 75% grant for construction of new Assembly Hall at Itanagar for which foundation stone was laid 10 year back by Late Rajiv Gandhi.

Nagaland

- Additional funds required for the completion of Doyang HEP (Rs. 127.80 crore over two years) will be provided.
- Helicopter services would be provided between Guwahati to Dimapur and Kohima with 75% central subsidy (Rs. 15 crore per annum).
- Four-laning of 17 km of NH 39 will be sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 38 crore.
- Development of Dimapur Airport (extension of runway and installation of ILS (Rs. 15 crore).
- Rs. 10 crore to be provided for additional infrastructure for University of Nagaland.
- Upgradation of District Hospital for referral facilities at Kohima (Rs. 25 crore).
- Setting up Industrial Growth Centre with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore.
- Gauge conversion work of Dibrugarh-Dimapur section would be sanctioned.
- Additional allotment of Rs. 10 crore for housing to Village Development Boards under Indira Awaas Yojana.
- Rajdhani Express to Delhi from Dimapur via Guwahati will be introduced.
- Indian Airlines will operate from Dimapur to Delhi via Guwahati thrice a week.

Assam

- Additional funds of Rs. 55 crore would be provided in 1996-97 to complete rail-cum-road bridge at Jogighopa. Rs. 120 crore for 1997-98 to fully complete the project.

- Proposal for road-cum-rail bridge at Bogibheel. Rs. 1,000 crore will be sanctioned this year and the work to be commenced next year and completed within the 9th Five Year Plan.
- Upgrading Guwahati Airport as hub centre for the North-East and develop it as an international airport (Rs. 128 crore).
- Three industrial Growth Centres will be set up with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore each (Total Rs. 30 crore).
- Centre would take up flood control works on Brahmaputra as central sector project and provide Rs. 500 crore in the 9th Five Year Plan as central grant.
- An LPG bottling plant will be set up at a cost of Rs. 24 crore.
- Government of India would finalise the 'on account' royalty rates for the three year period 1996-99 by the end of November 1996 and payments at these rates would be made to Government of Assam by December 31, 1996 including the arrears from April, 1996.
- Upgradation of Guwahati Medical College will be considered.

Meghalaya

- Indira Gandhi Health Institute for which foundation was laid in 1986 would be taken up for full completion in a time-bound manner.
- Rs. 50 crore for Shillong by-pass road and the implementation expedited in the 9th Plan.
- Railhead within Meghalaya at Burnihat from Guwahati would be provided and work on this would commence as soon as the required land is made available by the State Government.
- The Umroi Airport would be extended and upgraded during the 9th Plan period and work would commence as soon as land is made available.
- New Satellite Township near Shillong would be established during the 9th Plan period by obtaining funds from external financial sources.
- A Regional Biological Products unit will be established in Meghalaya as recommended by State Government at a total cost of Rs. 3.5 crore.
- Sanction will be accorded for widening of NH-51 near Tura.
- An Industrial Growth Centre with central subsidy of Rs. 10 crore would be sanctioned.
- An institute of Hotel Management at Shillong would be set up at Shillong.
- Construction of Dowki bridge connecting Meghalaya and Bangladesh would be taken up urgently with assistance from Government of India.

For too long senseless violence has prevailed in some of the states of North-East. For too long, certain misguided elements have been killing their brothers and fellow citizens and resorting to extortion and kidnapping. Violence cannot achieve any political objective. I would like to appeal to all those who have taken to the gun to see the path of reason. I believe that all problems can be solved by mutual discussions. I am giving an open invitation to any group of individuals including militants and without any precondition to meet me to discuss their grievances. I genuinely wish to understand their points of view and what exactly is troubling them. At the same time, I would like to clearly state that violence would not be tolerated and would be put down with a firm hand.

—Shri H.D. Deve Gowda.

Prime Minister

I am fully convinced that the problems can be resolved if all of us work together and look ahead jointly towards a better future. I am thankful to the people for showing so much love and affection for me during the visit.

—Shri H.D. Deve Gowda,

Prime Minister

Statement—II

Statement of the Prime Minister at Jammu on 14 February, 1997

Friends,

A popularly elected government has been installed in Jammu and Kashmir after nearly a decade. I do not have to go through the details of the travails and tribulation, the State and the people have passed through in these years because of the proxy war launched by the neighbour and their agents. There was a massive participation of the people in the polls which were conducted in a very peaceful and orderly manner. The international community has acknowledged the genuineness of the elections. The massive mandate given by the people to this government imposes a tremendous responsibility on them in meeting the expectations of the people and in reviving the economy of the state. I would like to state very categorically and with conviction that the Government of India and the entire Nation is behind the State and the people of Jammu and Kashmir in this massive endeavour.

I have visited Jammu and Kashmir twice before and this is my third visit. I have looked at some of the very important proposals and projects which are vital for the development of the State, but which were not making adequate progress for want of funds. The massive 290 Kms. Udhampur-Baramulla railway line, estimated to cost Rs. 2,500 crores and which can provide large scale employment could not be taken up by the Railways for want of funds. We have decided after reviewing the whole matter, to take this up as a "Project of National importance"

and to provide necessary funds outside the Railway Plan. Work on this project will be simultaneously started from both sides. The Uri Hydro Electric Project which was dedicated to the Nation yesterday, was completed in record time inspite of disturbed conditions in the Valley. We have decided to provide full funds of another Rs. 300 crores to complete the remaining work of the Uri Project. The entire power available from Uri Unit-I will be made available to the State. Another important hydro electric project—the Dul Hasti Project, where work was suspended since 1992 is being revived. We have taken a decision to ensure full funding of the remaining Rs. 3,000 crores required for the completion of this major project.

In the meanwhile, allocation of power to J & K is being increased to 876 MW to fully meet the power shortage in the State. The State should strengthen the transmission and distribution to utilize this power. We will extend support to the state to exploit its hydel potential through Investment Promotion.

The State Government have recently presented a Memorandum indicating certain projects and proposals which need to be taken up on a high priority, to put the State economy back on the rails. I and some of my Ministerial colleagues had detailed discussions on these proposals yesterday with the State Cabinet. In principle, I am in full agreement with these priorities and we need to devise ways and means to implement these in a spirit of joint endeavour between the State and the Centre. As you are aware, Government is about to finalise the Ninth Plan of the State and we need to incorporate some of these developmental projects in the Ninth Plan of the state and the Centre.

We shall devise special funding mechanism including external assistance for implementation of projects such as (a) Protection and Development of Dal and other important lakes, (b) masterplan for control of floods in the valley and (c) action plan for improving the navigation and environmental aspects of Jhelum on the lines of Ganga Action Plan.

The States Annual Plan has reached a record high of Rs. 1,250 crores this year. The State Government will be enabled to have a reasonable 9th Five Year Plan, starting with a good annual plan of 1997-98. Necessary Central support will be provided for this purpose so as to ensure that the plan outlay fixed for each year is protected and funds are also made available for meeting the non-plan gap in resources.

The demand of the State Government for waiver of Central debt amounting to Rs. 1,275 crores would be looked into sympathetically and a decision taken soon. A Central team will be deputed for discussion in this regard with the State Government in the near future. The State will also be assisted in phasing out the chronic overdraft problem.

The Central outlay on rural development and basic minimum needs in the State has been enhanced consid-

erably. Nearly Rs. 1500 crores will be provided to the State in the Ninth Plan. The Central Government would provide the requisite additional assistance to restore militant damaged infrastructure.

National Highway I-A will be upgraded and strengthened. An outlay of Rs. 140 crores will be made available to Border Roads Organisation to undertake this task.

Mughal Road will be taken up and implemented on a priority basis at a cost of Rs. 150 crores, which will be shared equally between the Central Government and State Government.

As a special dispensation more towns in J&K will be brought under the Prime Minister's Integrated Poverty Eradication Programme.

Orders declaring Jammu as a B-2 Category City will be issued shortly.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has already sent a high level technical team and in consultation with the State Government, a decision will be taken to start the Agricultural University at Jammu from the next year.

Some other proposals of the Memorandum given by the State Government need to be examined in detail in consultation with the respective departments of Government of India and need to be defined. However, I would like to once again state that availability of funds is not the main constraint or the critical issue. What is required is devising carefully worked out programmes and projects and their effective implementation so that the benefits of these programmes and projects reach the people. I would also lay stress on close monitoring of implementation so that the funds allocated are utilised purposefully.

There are certain other proposals relating to the facilities to be provided for return of migrants, etc. I am hopeful that the popular Government would be able to initiate proper measures to instill confidence in the migrants as well as take assistance of the local population so that migrants would be able to return to their homes in the Valley at the earliest. I would like to assure that financial constraints would not be allowed to come in the way of implementation of this.

The Central Government shares the concern of the State Government regarding provision of employment opportunities for the youth of the State. Special recruitment drives will continue to be made to ensure that youth of this state will be absorbed to the maximum extent possible in central establishments and even in private sector. However, more thrust has to be given to implement available programmes by encouraging people to take to self-employment. It would also be necessary to devise new programme for enhancement and upgradation of traditional skills, undertaking of new technologies, etc. The youth of the State are well known for their marketing and skills in salesmanship. Government would explore possibilities of earmarking some land for the setting up of specialised

industrial estates and shopping complexes inside and outside the State to provide self-employment opportunities.

However, progress on these fronts would pick up speed as normalcy on the law and order front improves. Some of the discredited elements, are disrupting the economic progress of the State by resorting to bandhs and hartals. Government cannot allow these activities to go unchecked. Economic progress and peoples well-being cannot be secured unless these activities are squarely faced. In dealing with these elements, it is necessary not only to approach it from the law and order point of view, but also deal with them politically.

I want to assure the people of the State that the Centre and State Government are one and will together deal with these special problems of Jammu and Kashmir. I would like to reiterate that this is a national responsibility to bring about resolution as well as reconstruction of the torn economy of the State. This national endeavour should be approached in a non-partisan manner. The entire country is behind you.

[Translation]

Metalled Roads

661. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that no metalled roads, have been constructed in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Kairana-Muzzafarpur Constituency;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of total amount granted to Public Works Departments for repair of roads in the rural areas during the current years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Supply of Drinking Water In Metros

662. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of drinking water in all the Metros in the country;

(b) the total shortfall in supply of water to the Metros;

(c) the steps taken to improve the water supply to the Metros;

(d) whether the World Bank has given any special project loans for improving the water supply; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) Water supply is a State subject. Schemes for providing drinking water to the Metros are planned and implemented individually by the concerned State Governments and urban local bodies. The status position on demand, supply, shortfall, etc. is not monitored by the Union Government. However, the information available is given in the statement enclosed at Statement-I.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A list of World Bank assisted Water Supply and Sanitation projects is given at Statement-II.

Statement-I

S.No.	Metro City	Demand (mld)	Supply (mld)	Shortfall/ Surplus (mld)
1.	Ahmedabad	736	455	281
2.	Bangalore	679	680	-1
3.	Bhopal	288	288	0
4.	Calcutta	1,172	990	182
5.	Chennai	800	440	360
6.	Coimbatore	237.8	75	162.8
7.	Delhi	3,405	2,611	794
8.	Hyderabad	1,075	675	400
9.	Indore	300	180	120
10.	Jaipur	340	260	80
11.	Kanpur	675	300	375
12.	Kochi	263	170	93
13.	Lucknow	540	415	125
14.	Ludhiana	—	—	—
15.	Madurai	227.8	60	167.8
16.	Mumbai	2,142	2,930	-788
17.	Nagpur	440	373	67
18.	Patna	135	139	-4
19.	Pune	614	600	14
20.	Surat	200	200	0
21.	Vadodara	280	250	30
22.	Varanasi	311	311	0
23.	Vishakhapatnam	181.6	90.8	90.8
Total		15,042.2	12,492.8	2,549.4

Statement-II

List of World Bank Aided Water Supply and Sewerage/ Sanitation Projects

S. No.	Project (Metro city included in the project)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	World Bank assistance (US \$ million)	Year of completion
1.	I Bombay WS&S	185.00	55.00	1979
2.	Punjab WS&S (Lodhiana)	67.00	38.00	1988
3.	UP WS&S Kanpur, Varanasi & Lucknow	60.00	40.00	—
4.	II Bombay WS&S	640.00	196.00	1988
5.	Rajasthan WS&S (Jaipur)	137.76	80.00	1988
6.	Tamil Nadu WS&S (Coimbatore & Madurai)	321.86	73.00	1994
7.	Madras WS&S	255.95	69.00	1996
8.	III Bombay WS&S	915.00	145.00	1996
9.	Gujarat Urban Deve. including water supply (Ahmedabad Surat & Vadodara)	208.00	62.00	1995
10.	UP Urban Development including water supply (Varanasi & Lucknow)	463.86	150.00	1996
11.	Hyderabad WS&S	257.06	89.90	Ongoing
12.	II Madras WS&S	336.50	86.47	Ongoing

[Translation]

Setting up of Central Department

663. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Central Department for the development of tribal, backward and rural areas;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) There are three departments namely Department of Rural Development, Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation and Department of Wastel and Development in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment. There is no proposal under consideration to set up any other department in the Ministry at present.

*[English]***Drought Threat In Gujarat**

664. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Gujarat State is facing threat of drought;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Gujarat, the State Government has declared drought conditions in 1733 villages in the districts of Kutch, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar and Rajkot due to deficient rains during South-West Monsoon, 1996.

(c) The State Government is undertaking necessary relief measures in the affected areas. Government of India has already released their share of Calamity Relief Fund for 1996-97 amounting to Rs. 104.70 crores for this purpose.

Impact of Cyclones

665. DR. SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several State Government have undertaken programmes for educating the impact of cyclones in the coastal areas including the Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the Government propose to have a net work of cyclones warning centres in the coastal areas;
- (c) whether the foolproof measures and programmes for reducing the impact of cyclones have been fully considered by the Government; and
- (d) if so, the action programme prepared in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Six Cyclone Warning Centres are already operating along the east and west coasts of the country covering all the coastal areas of maritime States.

(c) and (d) A proven and reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users is already in operation. The concerned State Government authorities and the public

are forewarned about the impending cyclone threat through the respective Cyclone Warning Centres of the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Each maritime State has an action plan to reduce the impact of the cyclones, like evacuation of people to safer places, restoring communication, power supply, search and rescue of the missing fishermen and provide relief. India Meteorological department is further inducting new generation Doppler radars for better monitoring of cyclones. This will further improve cyclone preparedness.

Providing Basic Facilities In Slums

666. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are a large number of slum areas in Union Territory, Chandigarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the facilities of water, electricity, education dispensary etc. have been provided to each person in these localities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide all such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (e) In Chandigarh, following labour colonies are in existence:-

1. Colony No. 4 Industrial Area Phase I. Chandigarh.
2. Janata Colony, Sector 25.
3. Kumhar Colony, Sector 25.
4. Madrasi Colony, Sector 26.
5. Gwala Colony near Railway Bridge.
6. Randhawa Colony, near Railway Crossing.
7. Labour Colony, Sector 31-C.
8. Labour Colony, Sector 53. near village Kajheri.
9. Labour Colony near village Karsan, Phase II.
10. Labour Colony, village Palsora.
11. Kuldip Colony, Sector 52.
12. Adarsh Colony, Sector 54.
13. Sukhanagar Colony, Sector 52.
14. Pandit Colony, Sector 52.

Water supply, by the way of drinking water taps has been made in various colonies. The further steps proposed to be taken are:-

- (i) Tubewells are to be installed in various colonies. [English]
- (ii) Underground reservoirs are proposed to be constructed;
- (iii) Sewer line in place of open system is being laid in various colonies;
- (iv) Sulabh Sauchalayas are proposed to be constructed in Bapu Dham Colony and Colony no. 5;
- (vi) Road in various colonies are being strengthened.
- [Translation]

Poor Maintenance of Flats

667. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether four storeyed Government flats in the Gole Market Area, New Delhi are in a bad shape;
- (b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken for the repairs of these Government flats;
- (c) whether the maintenance work of few flats has been undertaken and for the remaining flats maintenance work has been stopped;
- (d) if so, the time by which the repair work of the remaining flats is likely to be completed;
- (e) whether the repairing work is supervised by the CPWD officers as well as other higher officers;
- (f) if so, the number of such flats wherein the repair work has not been completed in a satisfactory manner; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The general condition of the 4 storeyed flats in the Gole market area, New Delhi is satisfactory, which the exception of 9 Type-C quarters in Sector-IV, wherein R.C.C., some beams and slabs have been damaged and in type-II quarters in J and H blocks where some disress in staircase and columns has occurred.

(b) The repair work in J and H Block is in progress and the work in Sector-IV has also been sanctioned in January 1997.

(c) The maintenance work has already been completed in 17 blocks and it is in progress in the remaining 30 blocks.

- (d) It is likely to be completed in about 6 months.
- (e) Yes, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.
- (g) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Chemical Weapon

668. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Security Force has recovered a grenade, suspected to be a "chemical grenade" that militants might have been able to smuggle into the Kashmir Valley; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) On 12th January 1997 in an operation carried out in villiage Nuran, BSF had recovered one Cylindrical shaped container/grenade which was initially suspected to be a chemical grenade. After further examination by experts, it was found to be "country made grenade" and not a chemical grenade.

ONGC Well

669. SHRI VIJAY PATEL:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of natural gas is being produced by the Chandkheda ONGC oil well and is not being collected for any commercial use;

(b) if so, whether only a small quantity is collected for supplying the same to the ONGC Colony at Chandkheda; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken for optimum utilization of the gas produced there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) ONGC is currently producing 34,500 SCMD of associated gas from the Motera field near Chandkheda. Out of this, 33,000 SCMD is being utilised as shown below:

	SCMD
(i) Supply to Industries	30,000
(ii) Supply to ONGC Colony	2,000
(iii) Internal use	1,000

Autonomy to J & K

670. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has made any specific promise to provide more autonomy to Jammu and

Kashmir than what it is now in the Constitution of India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Jammu and Kashmir Government has made any specific proposal in this regard till now; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) The Government is committed to grant maximum autonomy to the State of J&K within the framework of the Constitution of India. The State Government have set up a Committee to examine the issues relating to autonomy in J&K. No report/proposal has been received in this regard so far.

Employment Schemes in Assam

671. DR. ARUN KUMAR SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of ongoing employment schemes in the urban areas of Assam;
- (b) the total number of mandays created in the urban areas of the State in each district till now; and
- (c) the total amount provided to the State Government during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) are being implemented in Assam.

(b) The scheme of Nehru Rozgar Yojana is monitored by the Central Government at the State level and not at District level. A total of 7.48 lakhs mandays of work have been generated under the scheme upto 31.01.1997.

There is no specific component of wage employment under the PMIUPEP.

(c) The total amount provided to the State Government under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) during the last three years is as under:-

S.No.	Scheme	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	NRY	89.49	184.72	147.20
2.	PMIUPEP	—	—	265.94

(The PMIUPEP has been launched in 1995-96).

Water Scarcity

672. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the small and medium towns facing severe scarcity of water in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the State Government have submitted any scheme in this regard to the Union Government and have sought funds to ensure supply of clean drinking water in these towns; and
- (c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that there are 641 small and medium towns in the State and most of them have shortage of drinking water.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent 71 schemes under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for providing water supply to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census). The scheme provides for sharing the cost of scheme by Central and the State Government in the ratio of 50:50. Out of these, 69 schemes have been sanctioned so far at a total project cost of Rs. 5,858.67 lakhs against the notional share of Rs. 1,756.19 lakhs earmarked for the State of Uttar Pradesh in the 8th Five Year Plan period.

Apart from the above, proposal for augmenting water supply facilities in respect of U.P. hill towns at the project cost of Rs. 4,533 lakhs was also received for grant of assistance by the 10th Finance Commission. The same have been technically examined and recommended by this Ministry for financial assistance to the Ministry of Finance as per the recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission which have since been approved.

[Translation]

Employment Scheme for Rural Youths

673. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any scheme for creating employment for the educated unemployed male and female youths;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the criterion fixed in this regard;
- (c) the number of employment programmes run by the Government during the last three years;

(d) the target fixed by the Government for self employment during 1997-98; and

(e) the investment proposed for employment generation during 1996-97 and next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) There is no separate programme for educated unemployed male and female youths being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment. However, trained educated unemployed rural youth belonging to Below Poverty Line families and having read upto 8th Standard (pass or fail) are entitled to get Governmental subsidy to the extent of Rs. 7500/- or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less, under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

(c) The major self-employment programme implemented by this Ministry is IRDP which has two sub-programmes of TRYSEM and Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas. Under TRYSEM, rural youth belonging to below poverty line families are given technical and vocational training for skill upgradation, so that they could seek self-employment or wage employment. Under DWCRA, groups of rural poor women comprising of 10-15 members are provided with a revolving fund assistance of Rs. 25,000/- for carrying out any viable economic activity of their choice.

(d) and (e) The Statement indicating targets proposed for self-employment programmes for 1997-98 and investment anticipated for 1996-97 is at given in one enclosed Statement. Since the allocation for 1998-99 onwards have not been fixed, the investment cannot be anticipated for the next three years at this juncture.

Statement

	Anticipated Investment			Target 1997-98	
	1996-97			Physical (Nos. in lakh)	Financial Centret+State
	Subsidy (Centre + State)	Credit	Total		
IRDP	1069.00	2142.20	3211.20	*	1135.36
TRYSEM					
(a) Recurring	70.50	—	—	*	90.00
(b) Infrastructure	28.00	—	—	*	28.00
DWCRA	75.00	—	—	0.30 (Groups)	102.80

*No physical targets are fixed under IRDP and Trysem.

[English]

Electricity Amendment Act

674. LT. GEN. SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Indian Electricity Act to facilitate the private investment in power transmission;

(b) if so, the other details of amendments proposed to be made;

(c) whether the State Governments are proposed

to be consulted before introducing the legislation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 has been promulgated on 24.1.1997. The amendments recognise 'transmission' as an activity distinct from generation and distribution and provide for issue of transmission licenses by the Central and State Governments for inter-State and intra-State transmission of Power.

(c) and (d) Electricity being a concurrent subject, the Parliament can enact such legislation. The object of the amendments is to provide an enabling legal framework for recognising transmission as an independent activity so that private investment could be mobilised for the transmission projects. Therefore, the amendments would be in the

interest of both Central and State Governments who have the responsibility for ensuring that inter-state and intra-state transmission.

(e) A Bill is being introduced in the current session of the Parliament to replace the Ordinance.

[Translation]

Clearance to Power Projects

675. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced that the power projects up to a specific MW power generating capacity need not require clearance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such projects have been cleared during the last six months; and

(d) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) and (b) Schemes for generating station prepared by a Generating Company selected on MoU/Lol basis costing upto Rs. 100 crores, and selected through a process of competitive bidding costing upto Rs. 1,000 crores are not required to be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for Techno-economic clearance.

(c) and (d) The Central Government does not monitor clearance of these schemes on a regular basis now as they fall within the purview of the powers of the State Governments.

[English]

Central Assistance for Damaged Houses

676. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV:
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The total amount of Special Central Assistance sanctioned for construction of houses fully damaged by flood/cyclone/hurricane in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil nadu and Kerala and Orissa during the year 1995-96 and upto December 31, 1996; and

(b) the check exercised by the Central Government to ensure that the special assistance is properly utilised for the purpose it was sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) In addition to normal allocation from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), the following additional assistances has been provided from the

National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of cyclone and floods during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for relief and rehabilitation measures, including the housing sector:—

State	1995-96	1996-97 (Rs. in crores)
Andhra Pradesh	21.00	142.00
Kerala	—	—
Orissa	30.75	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—

(b) Government of India have fixed the items and norms of assistances from the CRF/NFCR in the wake of natural calamities, including assistance for damaged houses. The Accountant Generals ensure that only expenditure on approved items is permitted.

Awareness Programme for LPG Consumers

677. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch an awareness programme to educate the LPG consumers on safety aspects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the programme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Safety education is an ongoing and a very important activity of Public Sector Oil Companies. Oil Companies conduct LPG customer education programmes for LPG consumers such as customer safety clinic, seminar on safety, face to face sessions, call on customers etc., for highlighting the safety aspects of handling of LPG. Oil Industry has already launched a campaign in Northern Region to educate the LPG consumers on the aspects of conservation and safety through various media like TV, Print Media etc., from December 1996 onwards. This campaign will continue till February 1997 end.

Power Generation Through Atomic Energy

678. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for power generation through Atomic Energy during the Eighth Plan;

(b) the actual achievement made in this regard;

(c) whether there is any shortfall in the production;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the projection for the 9th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The budgeted target for power generation through atomic energy during the Eighth Plan was set at 37,070 MUs.

(b) With the expected generation of electricity of about 1800 MUs during February and March, 1997 the total generation of electricity from nuclear power plants during the Eighth Plan i.e. 1992-97 will be nearly 35,000 MUs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Short fall is expected to be around 2,300 MUs during the Eighth Plan period which is mainly due to:

(i) long shut down of the Tarapur Atomic Power Station units during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for refuelling and core-shroud inspection,

(ii) extended shut down of Madras Atomic Power Station units during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for in-service inspection of coolant channels,

(iii) initial problems during the stabilisation period of Narora Atomic Power Station units and their long shut down after the Turbine Generator fire incident in Unit-1.

(e) The generation of electricity from nuclear power plants during the Ninth Five Year Plan period is estimated at about 50,000 MUs with total generating capacity expected to reach 2,720 MWe by 1998-99.

World Bank Assistance

679. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has provided any assistance for water supply and sanitation projects particularly for Gujarat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) The World Bank has provided assistance to the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh to provide safe drinking water in the rural areas. The details of assistance provided to Gujarat State is as under:

Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Project

Project areas	Anand, Godhra, Nadiad, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Ahmedabad and Regional rural water supply schemes
Cost	Rs. 207.33 Crore
World Bank Assistance	US\$ 72 million
Year of Completion	1991

Gujarat Urban Development Project

Project areas for water supply component	Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Anand and some rural areas
Cost including water supply	Rs. 208.00 crore
World Bank Assistance	US \$ 62 million
Year of completion	1995

Kerosene Oil Depots

680. SHRI RAMSAGAR:
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Kerosene oil depots in Allahabad, Phulpur, Bijnore and Barabanki districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether these depots are sufficient to meet the needs of the people;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Kerosene oil is available in full quantity to meet the requirement of the people or there is any need to enhance the quantity of oil and the oil depots; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure the availability of kerosene oil to villagers as due to them in full quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production by Food Processing Industries

681. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agro based food processing industries established and help extended for establishing such industries in various States in the country including karnataka during the last three years;

(b) the production made by these industries during the above period;

(c) the incentives provided during the current financial year for setting up of such industries in the States; and

(d) the total production likely to be attained by the end of March, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (d) Food Processing Industries are both in

the organised and unorganised sector and details regarding number, quantity produced etc. are not maintained centrally. Since liberalisation in 1991, till December, 1996, 3,885 Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandums (IEMs) have been filed in the various sectors of food processing. Out of this, 511 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been implemented so far. In respect of Karnataka IEMs filed are 90 and implemented are 12. Similarly 908 approvals for Joint Venture, 100% Export Oriented Units and Industrial Licences proposals have been granted till November, 1996. Out of this, 155 proposals have been implemented so far. In respect of Karnataka approvals granted are 47 and implemented are 11. The Ministry extends financial assistance under its plan schemes to State Government Organisations/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations including Non-Government Organisations for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units.

[Translation]

Budgetary Support for Power Sector

682. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced the budgetary support to the power sector under the pressure of some foreign institutions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Adulteration in Kerosene

683. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of adulteration in kerosene have sharply increased in the country;

(b) the number of such cases detected during the last six months;

(c) the action taken against the adulterations; and

(d) the details of measures taken by the Government to check the adulteration in kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No cases of adulteration in kerosene have been detected during the last six months.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Regular/surprise inspections are conducted by field officers of the oil companies and joint industry teams at SKO dealerships. Action is taken under the Marketing

Discipline Guidelines against the erring dealers.

[English]

Oil Wells

684. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether most of the wells drilled by the Bay Exploration Project of Oil India Limited along Mahanadi Basin and the North-East coast were abandoned before attaining the required depth; and

(b) if so, the number of wells drilled in the area since the Bay Exploration project was set up and the reasons for abandoning the Wells before attaining the targeted depth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Oil India Limited has drilled 7 wells in Mahanadi Offshore, 4 wells in Mahanadi onshore and 4 wells in NEC Offshore areas i.e. a total of 15 wells. Out of these 3 wells reached the required depth, 6 wells encountered basement or crystalline rocks, therefore, further drilling had to be terminated. The remaining 6 wells were not drilled upto target depth due to downhole problems.

[Translation]

New Employment Policy

685. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have formulated any new policies to generate more employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States included under new policies; and

(d) the number of persons likely to get employment as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Priority to agriculture and rural development will be given to generating adequate productive employment in the Ninth plan. Recognising the high incidence of under employment and increasing casualisation of labour, there is need to enhance employment opportunities for the poor. In this context, the Ninth Plan will implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme. Productive employment is an important dimension of the State policy that will seek to achieve growth with equity. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour

intensive, in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under-employment. Benefits of employment schemes will flow to all the states covering entire population of the country. The Ninth Plan will contain the details of an employment policy.

[English]

Sand Mining for Minerals

686. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mining of sand for minerals connected to Atomic Energy Sources are being conducted on coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private companies and public undertakings are involved in such mining operations;

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

(e) whether indigeneous companies with experience in handling such minerals proposed to be preferred in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINSTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Ilmenite, Rutile, Zircon, Leucosene and Monazite, declared as scheduled minerals under the Atomic Energy Act, are mined from the coastal areas of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Orissa. Total production of these minerals in the last year (1995-96) was as follows :-

Metric tonnes

Ilmenite	2,98,183
Rutile	12,965
Zircon	20,333
Leucosene	NIL
Monazite	3,751

(c) to (e) Mining of atomic minerals has been reserved for Public Sector under the Statement on Industrial Policy, 1991. Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy and Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited, a Government of Kerala undertaking are the only companies involved in the mining operations. IRE has its plants at Chavara (Kerala), Manavalakurichi (Tamil Nadu) and Chatrapur (Orissa) for mining and mineral separation. Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited has mining activities only in Chavara (Kerala).

Power Tariff

687. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since worked out the details on the tariff issue and procedure for finalising the transmission project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Consequent upon the amendments to the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, recognising 'transmission' as a distinct activity and providing for issue of transmission licenses, a Committee of Experts has been set up by the Ministry of Power on 17.2.1997 to make recommendations relating to establishment of a suitable administrative and financial framework alongwith supporting legal enablements to facilitate private investment in transmission projects. The Committee has been directed, inter alia, to suggest guidelines on determination of transmission tariff(s), negotiation of transmission service agreements and for selection of private companies in the field of transmission including principles for bid solicitation and evaluation. The Committee is to submit its final report to the Ministry of Power within two months from the date of its first sitting.

Mini Refinery

688. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals pending with the Union Government for setting up of mini refinery in the Krishna-Godavari river basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether LOI and environmental clearance for the project has been issued for the project; and

(d) the other proposals from private or joint sector or foreign based company for refinery project is pending with the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No proposal for setting up mini refinery is pending.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The proposals on other refinery project in different stages of processing are :-

- (1) M/s. PRA Petrochemicals Limited for setting up of 9.5 MMTPA (EOU) Refinery at Andhra Pradesh.
- (2) M/s. Sterlite Industries (India) Limited (EOU) for setting up a 3.00 MMTPA Refinery at Tamil Nadu.
- (3) M/s. Sand Plast Industries for setting up 3 MMTPA Refinery (EOU) to be set up in Paradeep, Orissa.
- (4) M/s. Chambal Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. for setting up a 0.21 MMTPA Refinery under DTA at Dabhol, Maharashtra.

Demand and Supply of Power

689. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any gap between demand and supply of power in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to fill up the gap between demand and supply of power in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) : During the period April 1996 - January 1997 the state-wise power supply position in the North-Eastern States is given below :-

State	Energy (MU net)		
	Requirement	Availability	% Shortage
Arunachal Pradesh	136.4	70.1	48.6
Assam	2527.2	2302.0	8.9
Manipur	331.4	308.1	7.0
Meghalaya	336.4	336.4	0
Mizoram	151.3	130.5	13.7
Nagaland	150.1	129.1	14.0
Tripura	400.2	306.8	23.3
North-Eastern Region	4033.0	3583.0	11.2

(c) In order to reduce gap between demand and supply of power in the North-Eastern Region measures taken include maximising the generation from existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, effective demand management and energy conservation measures and assistance from Eastern Region to North-Eastern Region etc. Sanctioned schemes with a capacity addition of about 1030 MW are presently under implementation in the North-Eastern Region. Full benefits from these schemes are likely to be available during the 9th plan period.

Shortage of Power in Rajasthan

690. SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajasthan State Electricity Board has requested the Union Government to allocate additional power to Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of allotment made by the Union Government to Rajasthan in the past;

(c) the future plans of the Government to give additional assistance to Rajasthan for meeting their power requirement;

(d) since when the units of RAPP (Unit I & II) at Kota are lying of closed and the time by which these are likely to be commissioned again;

(e) the time schedule for commissioning of Unit II

and Unit IV of RAPP at Kota; and

(f) whether the Union Government considering for allocation of entire power from Unit III and Unit IV of RAPP to Rajasthan, in view of tardy progress of RAPP I and II and heavy deficit of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The share of Rajasthan from unallocated share of Central Generation was increased from 35% to 40% w.e.f. 1.10.1996. Based on the demand and power supply position among the various constituents in the region, Central Government allocates power from its unallocated share from Central Generating Stations. The allocation out of Central share to Rajasthan is given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) Both the units of RAPP are under capital maintenance as per details given below :

RAPP	Installed Capacity (MW)	Derated Capacity (MW)	Date of Outage	Expected date of Return
Unit No.I	110	100	12.2.1994	1st half of 1997
Unit No II	210	200	1.8.1994	1997-98

(e) RAPP Unit 3 and 4 are expected to be commissioned in May, 1998 and November, 1998 respectively.

(f) Rajasthan Atomic Power Station is considered as regional station. Therefore, the allocation of power to be generated from it would be made in accordance with the following formula governing the allocation of power to States from Thermal and Nuclear Power Stations of Central Sector :-

(i) 10% of the power to Home State.

(ii) 75% to be distributed amongst the States in the region (including the Home State) in accordance with Central Plan Assistance and energy consumption in the States of the region for previous five years with each factor being given equal weightage. The requirement of Union Territories through appropriate allocation is also met.

(iii) 15% of the power is kept unallocated and is at the disposal of the Central Government.

Statement

Rajasthan

w.e.f.	Share from 15% unallocated Central Sector share
1	2
Upto 10.4.93	17.5%
11.4.93 - 2.6.93	17.5%

1	2
3.6.93 - 6.6.93	10.0%
7.9.93 - 15.10.93	7.5%
16.10.93 - 31.3.94	16.0%
1.4.94 - 31.8.94	Nil
1.9.94 - 18.10.94	60.0% (NTPC only)
19.10.94 - 31.10.94	60.0% (NTPC only)
1.11.94 - 24.7.96	50.0% (NTPC only)
25.7.96 - 31.8.96	45.0%
1.9.96 - 30.9.96	35.0%
1.10.96 - 31.3.97	40.0%

(1) In addition to this, w.e.f. 29.1.97 U.P.'s share from NAPS has been decreased from 35.1% to 5% with the corresponding increase in Rajasthan's share.

(2) U.P.'s share of 135 MW of Dadri GT has been allocated to Rajasthan w.e.f. 16.3.95.

(3) 1/3rd of Anta GT's share i.e. 137.7 MW has been allocated to Rajasthan in addition to 19.8% of the share of the remaining 275.3 MW i.e. additional 54.45 MW. That is a total of about 192 MW from the allocated portion.

Liberalisation of Hydro-Carbon Sector

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

(a) whether dwindling domestic oil production and mounting oil import bill, has caused for drastic changes in the hydro-carbon sector;

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

(c) whether the Government have liberalised the hydro-carbon sector offering medium sized fields to the private consortia;

(d) whether any private consortia have already got certain field in Krishna-Godavari fields;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the new oil exploration policy is also long overdue; and

(f) if so, the time by which the Government is likely to announce new oil exploration policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) & (b) The production of both crude oil and natural gas has increased during 1993-94 to 1995-96. However, there has been shortfall in crude oil production during 1996-97 due to the following reasons :-

- Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of BRBC especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour, not in conformity with earlier predictions.
- Oil fields entering the natural declining phase.
- Lower production from joint venture projects
- Constraints in operating conditions on account of law and order problems and insurgency in NE region.
- Stopage of work in Nagaland
- Frequent power shutdown in Western & Eastern Region affected artificial lift operations.
- Various steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of hydro carbons
- Implementation of new projects/schemes and additional development of existing fields.
- Implementation of EOR Schemes and extending some of EOR's Schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.
- Implementation of specialised technologies such as ERD, side track, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
- Obtaining services of international experts wherever considered necessary.
- 3-D seismic survey of the oil fields.
- Rectificatory measures such as aggressive workovers, use of specialised technologies like long/short drift side track, drain hole have been planned for revival of sick wells which still have potential.
- Increasing indigenous production of crude oil and natural gas by developing new schemes and additional development of existing fields.
- Encouraging the participation of private/JV in the oil sector.
- Enhancing exploration of hydro-carbons and increasing reserves through seismic surveys, deep water exploration, and exploration in frontier areas.
- Steps have also been initiated to enhance refining capacity to reduce products import.
- Marketing of petroleum products is being deregulated in phases to promote and encourage private participation and thus increasing availability of products in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Government of India has awarded contract for development of medium sized field Ravva to a consortium

of M/s. Command Petroleum Australia, Videocon, India and Marubeni Japan.

(f) and (g) No decision has been taken by Government of India on changing the prevailing exploration licensing policy so far.

Rural Artisans

692. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rural artisans benefited under the Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisan Scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans Scheme have failed to achieve the target during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and efforts made by the Government to strengthen the scheme; and

(d) whether the Government propose to consider to revise the guidelines of the scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) 3,88,887 number of Rural Artisans have been benefited under the Scheme of Supply of Improved Tool Kits to the Rural Artisans. The State-wise details for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) & (c) No, Sir. As the scheme of Supply of Improved Toolkits was launched in July, 1992, i.e., in the middle of the first year of the 8th Plan, no firm target for the Plan period was fixed. However, based on formulations of Annual Plans, a total coverage of 7.82 lakh Rural Artisans was envisaged. By the end of 1995-96, 4.72 lakh number of Artisans were assisted. It is hoped to achieve the targetted coverage by the end 8th plan period.

(d) No, Sir. However, based on the feed back gathered and with a view to further improving the implementation of the scheme and its efficacy, the following areas would receive special attention in the Ninth Five Year Plan :

- i) Quality control and timely supply of tool kits.
- ii) Institutional arrangements for establishing marketing linkage.
- iii) Due emphasis on choice of artisans.
- iv) Periodic evaluation of scheme.
- v) Research and development to be given due emphasis.
- vi) Upgradation of skills through technological innovation.

Statement

State wise physical progress under the scheme of supply of improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisans

S.No.	State/UTs	No. of Rural Artisans Benefited		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8321	1393	11592
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	585	1368	1024
3.	Assam	5285	1118	5373
4.	Bihar	6493	5267	10195
5.	Goa	501	100	N.R.
6.	Gujarat	6370	1078	5880
7.	Haryana	4535	1350	8985
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1496	551	N.R.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1161	1346	1842
10.	Karnataka	5399	3627	4132
11.	Kerala	6658	8247	6251
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5105	14500	1374
13.	Maharashtra	7496	7767	29032
14.	Manipur	1447	250	N.R.
15.	Meghalaya	324	126	1188
16.	Mizoram	3261	1722	1872
17.	Nagaland	597	3002	1186
18.	Orissa	1381	3443	8586
19.	Punjab	2722	1644	9135
20.	Rajasthan	5396	2343	3814
21.	Sikkim	500	802	395
22.	Tamil Nadu	8766	5169	1870
23.	Tripura	974	2021	2835
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19593	27917	28638
25.	West Bengal	3651	4705	9693
26.	A&N Island	320	-	229
27.	D & N Haveli	57	-	-
28.	Daman Diu	86	71	-
29.	Lakshadweep	77	96	-
30.	Pondicherry	590	1341	-
Total		109147	124619	155121

Eviction of Out of Turn Allottees

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered eviction of more than 2000 out of turn allottees of type-III and above Government quarters in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether notices for eviction have been served on the allottees of these houses; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per details given in the Statement.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court has directed to prepare a revised list of those persons who would face eviction within a period of two months, i.e. by 23.2.1997, and to issue notices thereafter, within a period of 30 days. The revised list has since been prepared and the notices are to be issued within the stipulated period.

Statement

MAIN FEATURES OF SUPREME COURT ORDER DATED 23.12.1996 IN WRIT PETITION (CIVIL NO.585/94) REGARDING EVICTION OF OUT-OF-TURN ALLOTTEES.

The Supreme Court of India in its Judgement dated 23.12.1996 has directed that all out-of-turn allottees of type III and above accommodation except those whose names were included erroneously, who were given change of accommodation in the same type, and those who were given allotment on medical ground within existing policy, would face eviction, in case their date of priority have not been covered for in-turn allotment by the date(s) the two reports of Gupta Committee (constituted by the Supreme Court) were submitted. Further all the allottees whose date of priority are not covered by 5.2.1997 i.e. 6 weeks from the date of judgement, shall face eviction. The Court has further directed that :-

- (i) The Government shall get the medical cases, where out-of-turn allotment was made outside the existing policy, examined by a high powered medical board within two months, with a view to ascertain whether such out-of-turn allotment were justified on medical ground or not.
- (ii) The out-of-turn allottees would pay twice the licence fee in respect of type III quarters and three times the licence fee in respect of type IV and above accommodation.
- (iii) The out-of-turn allottees who are likely to retire by 26.9.1997 (30.9.1997) would be allowed to retain the accommodation subject to payment of enhanced licence fee as applicable.
- (iv) The out-of-turn allottees entitled to lower type of accommodation on in-turn basis or if they were previously occupying any accommodation of lower type, will be allotted alternate accommodation provided enhanced licence fee is deposited within a period of two months.
- (v) The officers of All India service who are occupying general pool quarters, despite being eligible to the quarters in tenure pool, though not actually allotted, would be evicted.

2. A new list would be drawn in terms of the Court order within two months, i.e. by 23.2.1997, and allottees liable to be evicted shall be served individual notices within 30 days, thereafter requiring them to vacate the premises within 90 days of the notice.

[Translation]

Shortage of LPG

694. SHRI D.P. YADAV
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV
PROF. RITA VERMA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of LPG cylinders in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to launch new schemes to cover more rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to remove current shortage of LPG cylinders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (e) There was some shortage of LPG reported from various parts of the Country in the recent past owing to the reduced LPG availability from the indigenous sources on account of Planned/Unplanned shutdown of refineries, coupled with operational constraints/IR problems at some of the bottling plants resulting in LPG backlogs from the middle of Sept.,96.

The LPG supply position has normalised in December, 96 and as of now, no LPG backlog is reported by the Oil Companies in the Country, except for Marginal backlog in the State of Maharashtra.

As per the earlier policy, only towns of 20,000 and above urban population and offering commercial viability, were considered for setting up of LPG distributorships. However, as per latest policy of the Government, LPG marketing is also being extended to rural areas contiguous with Urban areas and offering adequate potential for commercially viable distributorships.

Registration of Rural Unemployed Persons

695. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

- (a) whether the Government propose to register the unemployed persons of rural areas;
- (b) whether the total number of trained, untrained, educated and uneducated persons of rural areas have been identified being identified;

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

(d) whether the role of voluntary organisations has been decided/is being decided in the programme; and

(e) whether the role of financial institutions has also been decided in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) As per the Ministry of Labour's existing procedure, job-seekers belonging to rural areas are also registered with the Employment Exchanges. Out of a total number of 374.3 lakh job-seekers all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1996, 207.9 lakh job-seekers belong to rural areas. Under Employment Assurance Scheme, which is a demand driven programme, unemployed persons in rural areas who are seeking for work can also register their demand with local Gram Panchayat for employment.

(b) and (c) State-wise information showing the number of educated (matric and above) and uneducated (below matric including illiterate) job seekers who were on the live register of Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1993 (latest available) is given in the Statement attached. No separate information for trained and untrained is maintained by the Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India.

(d) and (e) Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and financial institutions like commercial banks are involved in wage employment and self-employment programmes being implemented by the Ministry within the framework of relevant guidelines laid down by the Ministry from time to time.

Statement

Statement showing No. of applicants on the Live Register of Employment Exchange as on 31.12.1993 & No. of persons registered under EAS till December, 1996.

(In Thousands)

S. No.	States/UT	Educated (Matric and above)*	Un Educated (Below Matric Incl. illiterates)*	No. of Person Reg. under EAS since beginning As on Dec. 96
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	2035.7	960.9	672.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.3	7.5	127.05
3	Assam	799.3	577.7	295.86
4	Bihar	2252.3	1087.0	3996.86
5	Goa	85.4	30.9	

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	633.1	340.5	582.00
7.	Haryana	436.9	239.4	268.51
8.	Himachal Pradesh	341.7	141.1	33.99
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.9	76.9	919.80
10.	Karnataka	1004.0	571.5	2257.90
11.	Kerala	2604.0	1567.0	224.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1442.4	497.2	2158.39
13.	Maharashtra	2300.0	1049.3	542.63
14.	Manipur	155.2	74.6	100.65
15.	Meghalaya	12.6	15.0	42.29
16.	Mizoram	16.9	23.0	106.57
17.	Nagaland	12.1	8.5	417.19
18.	Orissa	532.4	325.4	2716.00
19.	Punjab	431.9	213.9	-
20.	Rajasthan	525.7	303.0	1063.68
21.	Sikkim	*	*	43.30
22.	Tamil Nadu	2355.2	1504.8	556.60
23.	Tripura	58.3	130.9	334.70
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1679.5	700.1	1200.00
25.	West Bengal	2963.4	1851.7	4841.00
26.	A & N. Island	8.6	10.2	0.89
27.	Chandigarh	90.7	71.0	-
28.	D & N. Haveli	1.2	2.3	1.68
29.	Delhi	695.4	212.7	-
30.	Daman & Diu	1.3	1.7	0.18
31.	Lakshadweep	1.7	6.3	2.97
32.	Pondicherry	78.7	56.7	-

- * 1. No Employment Exchange is functioning in this state.
- 2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
- 3. All the jobs-seekers on the live register of Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

[English]

Power on Concessional Rates

696. SHRI K.S. RAYADU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether supply of power on concessional rates to 25 industries was withdrawn as reported in the pioneer dated January 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons for restoring the subsidised power supply with retrospective effect;

(c) the total loss suffered by the State Electricity Boards on this account; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the losses suffered due to restoration of power supply to such Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In conformity with Government policy to encourage exports, the Ministry of Power has decided to supply power at NTPC tariff plus wheeling charges to 100% Export Oriented Ferro Alloy units or units with furnaces totally earmarked for export purposes where electricity bill account for 35% for more of their cost of production to enable them to compete in the international market. The arrangement is subject to a six-monthly review. The units have been asked to furnish detailed information of their projection and exports during the period July to December, 1996 with documentary evidence.

(c) and (d) As the supply of Power is out of unallocated central share on actual cost basis including wheeling charges, there is no loss suffered by State Electricity Boards.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Power

697. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated demand of power in the country by 2000 A.D., State-wise;

(b) whether the existing power plants will be able to meet this power demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total power generating capacity of the existing power plants at present, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to meet the required demand of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The projected peak load and energy requirement in the country by 1999-2000 as per the 15th Electric Power Survey Report is 84466 MW and 502254 Million Units. The details of State-wise estimated demand for power and installed generating capacity are given in the Statement enclosed. To meet the projected demand, various steps which, inter-alia, include additional capacity, encouraging private sector participation in power generation, better demand side management, energy conservation measures, renovation and modernisation of existing plants, reduction of transmission and distribution losses and effective utilisation of generation by transfer of power from surplus regions, if any, to deficit regions through inter-regional links, would need to be taken for which Government has already initiated action.

Statement

All India energy requirement and Peak load at power station busbars public utilities and installed capacity

Region/State/UT	Energy Requirement (MKw) 1999-2000	Peak load (MW) 1999-2000	Installed* Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN REGION			
Delhi	18039	3037	653.60
Haryana	21112	3977	1780.32
Himachal Pradesh	3240	698	299.20
Jammu & Kashmir	5912	1350	365.82
Punjab	28551	5228	3508.94
Rajasthan	27543	4850	1981.08
Uttar Pradesh	52410	9712	6074.74
Chandigarh	810	162	2.00
Total	157617	27632	24312.70

WESTERN REGION

Goa	1290	262	0.16
Gujarat	43467	7191	5473.47
Madhya Pradesh	37836	6263	3863.36
Maharashtra	73349	11629	10027.22
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	817	130	0.00
Daman & Diu	521	86	0.00
Total	157300	25308	24876.21

SOUTHERN REGION

Andhra Pradesh	40689	6732	5412.84
Karnataka	27879	4859	3377.47
Kerala	13617	2763	1491.50
Tamil Nadu	36526	5957	5067.05
Pondicherry	1784	304	0.00
Total	120495	19633	19988.86

EASTERN REGION

Bihar	18605	3490	1983.40
Orissa	16041	2616	1691.92
Sikkim	116	40	33.59
West Bengal	24876	4729	3575.39
Total	59638	10357	13645.80

NORTH-EASTERN REGION

Arunachal Pradesh	273	74	39.38
Assam	4427	884	597.18
Manipur	563	156	12.01

1	2	3	4
Meghalaya	561	124	193.76
Mizoram	396	119	24.44
Nagaland	235	60	6.82
Tripura	579	153	69.36
Total	7034	1495	1448.95

ISLANDS

Andaman & Nicobar	147	34	29.47
Lakshadweep	23.2	6.5	5.37
TOTAL ALL INDIA	502254	84466	84387.36

* Regional Total include installed capacity from Central Stations

[English]

Strike by ONGC Employees

698 SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI K.S. RAYADU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Gas supply to industries hit as ONGC strike continues" appearing in the Hindu dated February 1, 1997.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position regarding development of the Krishna-Godavari Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Despite the relay hunger strike by the representatives of the Joint Action Committee of all political parties at Rajahmundry, drilling and production operations of ONGC Ltd. continued un-interrupted and supply of gas was also not affected.

(c) As on 1.4.1996, 73.97 MMT and 81.12 MMT of inplace reserves of oil and oil equivalent gas has been established in Krishna-Godavari (KG) inland and offshore areas respectively. At present, 8 drilling rigs have been deployed in KG inland area and one in KG offshore area. Also, 4 seismic parties are acquiring 2D/3D data in inland areas.

LPG Bottling Plant

699. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Oil Corporation have planned to set up 10 LPG bottling plants, three new bulk depots,

four marketing terminals and five tankages in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith the locations in Gujarat where such arrangement is proposed to be made by the IOC in each category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation has planned to set up 31 LPG bottling plants, 21 new depots, 22 marketing terminals and additional tankage at 13 locations in the country under the VIII plan.

(b) The projects under the above categories being set up by Indian Oil Corporation in Gujarat are as under :

Location	Capacity (TMTPA)	Cost (Rs.in Crores)	Expected Date of Completion
BOTTLING PLANTS			
Ahmedabad	66* (32+34)	37	Mechanically completed.
Bhavnagar	44	37	July'97
Gandhar	68*	36	June'98
*The existing bottling capacity of IOC of 102 TMTPA in Koyali Refinery will be resited at Ahmedabad for 34 TMT and 68 TMT at Gandhar.			
NEW TERMINALS		ADDL. TANKAGE	
Koyali		Kandla	
Sabarmati		Sidhpur	
Hazira			

Felling of Trees

700. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA's Horticulture Department recently authorised a private contractor to fell 78 trees in the Rose Garden in Haus Khas, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government have inquired into the circumstances leading to awarding the contract for an insignificant amount and the officials involved in the deal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir. However, DDA has reported that an auction of 55 dead wood/diseased trees was conducted.

(b) to (d) Delhi Development Authority is getting the matter investigated into the circumstances and other aspects of the contract award.

*[Translation]***Navinagar Power Project**

701. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether global tenders were invited by the Power Grid Corporation of India with the assistance of the Ministry of Power for 2000 mega watt coal based Thermal Power Project at Navinagar;

(b) whether no tender has been submitted by any of the developers so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to take up the Navinagar Thermal Power Project in the Ninth Five Year plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In response to the global tender eight parties bought the bid documents. Tenders for pre-qualification of developers were to be submitted/opened on the 28th of November, 1996. However, due to certain clarifications sought by the prospective bidders regarding the availability of coal from the linked mine block and its commercial viability the bid submission/opening has been deferred. No bids were submitted.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Implementation of the project is expected to commence during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Financial Assistance for Rural Cleanliness

702. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance has been sought by the Government of Madhya Pradesh from the Union Government for implementation of Schemes of Rural Cleanliness Programme and Gramin Swachhta Karyakram; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the financial assistance proposed to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[English]***Allocation of Funds**

703. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made during the current financial year for implementation of IRDP, JRY and other poverty alleviation programme, State-wise;

(b) the target fixed for implementing these programmes during the current financial year; and

(c) the details of expenditure percentage and achievement during 1994-95, 1995-96, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The State-wise details of the allocations made and targets fixed under major poverty alleviation programmes viz., (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) during 1996-97 are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The State-wise details of expenditure, percentage of expenditure to total allocation and physical achievement under these programmes during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given in the Statement - II (a to c) enclosed.

Statement-I

Financial Allocation and Target Fixed for IRDP, JRY and EAS during 1996-97.

(Upto 17.2.97)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	IRDP (Rs.in Lakhs)		JRY		EAS	
		Allocation	Credit Mobilisation Target	Allocation (Rs. Lakhs)	Physical Targets (Lakh Mandays)	Release (Rs. Lakhs)	Physical Achievement (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8336.41	15,000	17,372.39	373.67	16050.00	164.08
2.	Arunachal Pra.	623.43	200	178.30	4.42	1537.50	16.17
3.	Assam	2743.50	4,500	5,718.18	98.77	6925.00	48.18
4.	Bihar	10218.24	20,000	34,075.58	489.25	16200.00	170.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Goa	141.87	600	192.65	4.39		
6.	Gujarat	3059.22	7,600	6,376.25	109.14	5662.50	90.33
7.	Haryana	735.33	3,800	1,531.81	15.73	2450.00	15.91
8.	Himachal Pradesh	239.78	1,400	612.16	7.63	1125.00	6.35
9.	J & K	999.09	1,100	1,243.93	47.27	2669.36	49.57
10.	Karnataka	5594.91	11,500	11,665.34	255.74	11037.50	173.83
11.	Kerala	2036.15	6,000	4,244.16	59.73	3012.50	15.53
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10565.39	21,000	22,014.51	444.97	21502.38	163.71
13.	Maharashtra	9087.73	20,000	18,937.55	469.32	5062.50	149.53
14.	Manipur	449.59	100	228.53	3.20	1012.50	9.96
15.	Meghalaya	477.57	300	267.40	4.35	612.50	2.63
16.	Mizoram	201.82	50	112.65	2.29	1000.00	17.18
17.	Nagaland	335.69	200	286.64	6.54	2495.00	0.11
18.	Orissa	6763.85	11,500	14,093.11	321.32	16237.50	235.86
19.	Punjab	521.53	1,800	1,089.39	15.62		
20.	Rajasthan	4388.01	12,000	9,146.40	162.92	9850.00	144.47
21.	Sikkim	55.95	300	104.36	1.49	137.50	2.33
22.	Tamil Nadu	7537.14	16,000	15,704.96	447.59	14131.25	119.72
23.	Tripura	641.42	1,500	296.83	6.35	1800.00	41.31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20316.50	45,000	42,334.91	709.73	20975.00	176.85
25.	West Bengal	7472.20	12,500	15,569.34	221.86	9375.00	100.12
26.	A & N, Islands	70.94	100	84.41	1.25	0.00	0.22
27.	D & N Haveli	14.99	50	45.81	0.65	0.00	0.22
28.	Daman & Diu	27.97	10	26.99	0.85	20.00	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	6.99	10	42.32	0.80	100.00	1.20
30.	Pondicherry	57.95	100	82.64	1.74		

*Financial Allocations and physical targets for EAS are not fixed.

Statement-II(a)

Details of expenditure, percentage expenditure to total allocation and physical achievement under IRDP during 1994-95 and 1995-96

Sl.No.	State/UTs	1994-95			1995-96		
		Exp. (Rs.in Lakhs)	%Exp. to total allocation	Physical Achievement no.families	Exp. (Rs.in Lakhs)	% Exp. to total allocation	Physical Achievement no.families.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11287.12	135.27	159908	8624.01	103.45	122863
2.	Arunachal Pra.	562.92	90.36	18764	582.56	93.44	14381
3.	Assam	3105.55	113.05	62584	3409.02	124.26	59030
4.	Bihar	8015.32	49.38	224736	10784.51	66.90	265525
5.	Goa	96.74	68.13	2192	116.30	81.96	1486
6.	Gujarat	3265.37	106.61	72418	3017.68	100.60	55686
7.	Haryana	1351.32	183.60	28285	1663.74	226.26	29771
8.	Himachal Pradesh	376.81	157.00	7355	412.28	171.94	6606

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	J & K	620.55	62.05	13545	701.26	70.19	13139
10.	Karnataka	4354.35	77.71	125810	5574.60	99.64	119685
11.	Kerala	2401.23	117.82	46294	2268.90	111.43	43357
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10237.74	90.83	210629	11305.57	107.01	210692
13.	Maharashtra	7577.07	83.30	196677	9837.30	108.25	181597
14.	Manipur	315.82	70.18	7658	312.64	69.54	6077
15.	Meghalaya	352.05	73.65	6020	301.54	63.14	4534
16.	Mizoram	199.12	99.06	3345	288.74	143.07	5085
17.	Nagaland	215.52	63.95	2251	221.48	65.98	2531
18.	Orissa	6034.80	89.15	139837	7266.29	107.43	120669
19.	Punjab	1125.75	215.25	22701	731.71	140.30	11786
20.	Rajasthan	4626.81	105.32	107799	4730.24	107.80	9288
21.	Sikkim	42.19	75.34	1281	129.25	231.01	2343
22.	Tamil Nadu	8418.21	111.60	201221	8515.03	112.97	183895
23.	Tripura	1049.70	163.25	21818	766.73	119.54	14657
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19335.12	95.08	369725	19266.93	94.83	355916
25.	West Bengal	5747.45	76.86	159722	6693.99	89.59	161724
26.	A & N, Islands	48.03	67.65	1126	49.92	70.37	832
27.	D & N Haveli	14.70	98.00	302	13.68	91.26	274
28.	Daman & Diu	4.92	17.57	97	16.67	59.60	310
29.	Lakshadweep	9.35	133.57	100	4.38	62.66	18
30.	Pondicherry	310.03	69.02	1221	49.20	84.90	1563

Statement-II (b)

Detail of Expenditure, percentage of expenditure to total allocation and physical achievement under JRY during 1994-95 and 1995-96

Sl.No.	State/UTs	1994-95			1995-96		
		Exp. (Rs. Lakhs)	%Exp. of total allocation	Physical achievement (Lakh Mandays)	Exp. (Rs. Lakhs)	% Exp. to total allocation	Physical Achievement (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28367.54	86.57	639.27	34556.90	84.96	701.57
2.	Arunachal Pra.	222.21	59.76	5.58	357.12	78.64	8.24
3.	Assam	10386.94	79.10	263.29	9583.33	77.33	179.08
4.	Bihar	37889.63	68.34	740.28	62281.95	68.65	1197.03
5.	Goa	372.24	68.97	6.45	363.47	69.42	8.38
6.	Gujarat	10636.33	88.64	195.68	12824.42	75.25	209.42
7.	Haryana	2533.42	80.69	33.96	3304.73	75.90	33.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1150.10	70.26	28.87	1001.19	56.61	21.45
9.	J & K	2832.17	77.63	65.38	2534.38	64.17	48.23
10.	Karnataka	18332.34	83.41	385.44	24903.76	83.50	524.89
11.	Kerala	7234.60	100.86	101.01	8888.24	91.33	127.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31237.99	83.95	667.22	42377.25	74.81	759.46
13.	Maharashtra	25927.08	77.41	751.84	39801.56	74.69	1014.47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Manipur	370.54	48.10	7.16	506.22	65.86	9.34
15.	Meghalaya	407.31	40.91	8.50	200.28	19.96	4.86
16.	Mizoram	336.38	95.14	5.72	285.56	115.59	5.20
17.	Nagaland	410.70	65.08	8.47	264.07	27.23	5.76
18.	Orissa	18739.09	69.58	443.59	28671.48	74.43	678.31
19.	Punjab	1673.48	47.31	24.36	403.38	14.33	6.44
20.	Rajasthan	13951.40	79.77	386.42	18204.39	76.12	361.72
21.	Sikkim	189.21	67.19	7.03	618.83	95.36	9.27
22.	Tamil Nadu	29642.51	112.93	897.37	39415.70	104.28	106.75
23.	Tripura	1131.61	94.68	29.02	788.23	87.27	18.43
24.	Uttar Pradesh	66649.57	87.03	1250.47	83562.16	81.19	1532.46
25.	West Bengal	24780.70	83.92	489.37	30492.80	75.86	414.75
26.	A & N, Islands	161.26	105.61	2.59	161.26	106.70	2.59
27.	D & N Haveli	91.41	97.93	2.07	33.18	34.62	0.64
28.	Lakshadweep	80.27	83.41	1.91	40.86	39.80	1.05
29.	Daman & Diu	27.36	42.11	0.55	55.02	54.09	1.11
30.	Pondicherry	121.21	34.32	4.72	199.85	64.66	3.10

Statement-II (c)

Details of Expenditure, percentage Expenditure to total availability and physical achievement under EAS during 1994-95 and 1995-96

Sl.No.	State/UTs	1994-95			1995-96		
		Exp. (Rs. Lakhs)	%Exp. of total Availability	Physical achievement (Lakh Mandays)	Exp. (Rs. Lakhs)	% Exp. to total Availability	Physical Achievement (Lakh Mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13787.18	92.40	277.24	12249.54	63.40	252.41
2.	Arunachal Pra.	862.81	63.26	20.84	1956.55	69.26	50.67
3.	Assam	4115.31	55.50	95.50	9822.98	73.72	181.82
4.	Bihar	9639.54	55.83	193.72	12901.12	46.22	254.44
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	1809.97	36.68	35.26	5751.65	48.59	92.45
7.	Haryana	2901.53	68.17	34.64	3814.72	69.30	52.11
8.	Himachal Pradesh	115.02	17.26	3.20	455.55	40.90	6.86
9.	J & K	2338.55	50.87	50.05	6715.49	62.86	129.96
10.	Karnataka	8024.38	72.21	177.45	12144.91	72.63	268.73
11.	Kerala	1901.38	84.36	27.64	2241.90	84.13	32.47
12.	Madhya Pradesh	17959.01	78.82	363.78	22951.66	68.51	388.02
13.	Maharashtra	7617.01	63.99	233.89	10295.49	55.32	293.23
14.	Manipur	1327.52	68.23	28.60	1337.11	76.71	31.21
15.	Meghalaya	65.88	6.59	1.39	499.80	40.09	8.30
16.	Mizoram	2206.36	96.81	41.71	2023.87	128.69	40.91
17.	Nagaland	1124.87	76.27	28.81	1470.39	49.84	34.46
18.	Orissa	11655.94	88.80	281.24	13133.80	79.22	311.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	Rajasthan	10876.32	67.88	273.11	14770.06	65.11	288.02
21.	Sikkim	243.04	74.84	8.50	778.31	157.49	16.01
22.	Tamil Nadu	4409.34	74.40	141.29	7581.23	63.02	211.35
23.	Tripura	2375.65	100.00	60.35	2085.78	106.96	43.21
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8908.28	53.67	165.63	16731.98	61.65	318.23
25.	West Bengal	9220.72	76.39	184.79	9929.18	68.95	143.08
26.	A & N, Islands	42.11	88.48	0.57	10.28	22.60	0.11
27.	D & N Haveli	33.16	13.45	0.10	20.17	40.08	0.23
28.	Daman & Diu	3.46	69.20	0.12	13.05	60.58	0.36
29.	Lakshadweep	10.94	8.75	0.34	44.33	20.71	1.02
30.	Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-

Amount for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and EAS

704. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and under EAS released for Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year and the amount yet to be released; and

(b) the time by which the balance amount under each programme for the State is to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) During 1996-97 an amount of Rs.14219.47 lakh has already been released against the Central allocation of Rs.13897.91 lakh under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and an amount of Rs.12840.00 lakh has so far been released as Central share of assistance to Andhra Pradesh under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). However, further funds can be released under EAS on receipt of proposal from State Government after satisfying the conditions stipulated in the guidelines.

[Translation]

Public Grievances

705. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of public grievances and pensions lying pending with the Government for consideration/redressal;

(b) the number of cases out of the above which are lying pending for more than one, two and three years, separately;

(c) the number of cases disposed of by January, 1997 out of the above pending cases;

(d) the nature of these grievances and the number of grievances related to Delhi;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up Public Grievances Redressal machinery at Block/District level;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Information regarding period-wise pendency and disposal in various Ministries/Departments of the Government is not collected and maintained centrally in this Ministry. The nature of grievances also varies with every Ministry/Department depending on the nature of tasks handled by them. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in its capacity as the nodal Ministry for issuing policy guidelines in matters relating to redressal of public grievances and staff grievances, reviews periodically the overall performance of Ministries/Departments with respect to these guidelines.

(d) to (g) Grievances at the State block, district level are primarily to be looked into and redressed by the State Governments. The details regarding the Government of NCT of Delhi are not available with this Ministry. Letters have been issued to State Governments with suggestions to set up an appropriate public grievance redressal machinery at all levels - State, district, block and taluka. Individual State Governments have set up different types of grievance redressal machinery at various levels.

[English]

Privatisation of Oilfield

706. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether privatisation of oil fields has not so far yielded the desired results;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review all joint ventures in oilfield sector; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MPLADS

707. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Members of Parliament in the Tenth Lok Sabha could not utilise the sanctioned amount of Rs.1.0 crore per year for meeting the expenditure on various developmental schemes in his/her constituency;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Members of Parliament of Eleventh Lok Sabha would be permitted to utilise the unspent grant of previous year, in addition to the new allocation to the MPs of 11th Lok Sabha; and

(d) if not, reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Some Members of Parliament of the Xth Lok Sabha could not fully utilise the sanctioned amount due to reasons, such as coming into force of Model Code of Conduct for State/general elections, uneven flow of recommendations from the MPs, etc.

(c) and (d) This matter will be acted upon in the light of the Revision of guidelines.

Gas Exploration

708. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the specific steps taken to increase the oil and gas exploration in the country during 1996;

(b) the total expenditure incurred during the above period for this purpose State-wise; and

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Draft Ninth Five Year Plan

709. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the draft of the Ninth Five Year Plan has been prepared; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) has been approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 16.1.1997. Based on this Approach Paper, preparation of the Ninth Five Year Plan is presently underway. Ministry of Planning has requested that the Approach Paper be tabled in Parliament.

[English]

Bombay High

710. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of study conducted by Kleinword Benson Research on Indian Oil and Gas;

(b) Whether the ONGC has been held responsible for the low level of oil reserve and the disastrous performance of the Bombay off-shore areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the Research Body ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) (a) to (d) The Kleinwort Benson report is a study by a private agency on the overall energy sector in the country including the oil and gas sector. The report has made some recommendations on energy policy. While noting the past success of ONGC, the report points out the low reserve accretion by ONGC and also that its performance on Bombay High field was below expectations.

ONGC has taken a number of measures for reserve growth through acquisition of 3-D surveys, improved recovery methods, opening up new areas like deep water exploration etc. Number of remedial measures have also been taken in the case of Bombay High off-shore like workover jobs, infill drilling and re-development of the field etc. The Government has already set up a Committee of experts to look into the causes of decline in production and suggest measures for restoring the reservoir health, to

identify the technological gaps for proper exploitation of the Western off-shore fields etc.

Setting up of Power Grid/Super Thermal Power Station

711. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA:
SHRI THOMAS HANSDA:
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposed to set up some new power projects in Bihar like Karnataka with foreign capital investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to set up a Super Thermal Power Station at Tandva;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also contemplating to set up power grids in tribal areas of the State; and

(f) if so, the time by which these are likely to be set-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The proposal to set up North Karanpura Super Thermal Power project (2x500 MW) at Tandwa in Hazaribagh district of Bihar by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) was considered. However, the proposal could not be processed for investment approval because of rejection of the site due to its close proximity to reserved and protected forests, objections raised by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) in having this project in the DVC area, non-resolution of the issue of construction of a dam by Government of Bihar for supply of make-up water to the project, inadequate demand and lack of transmission and distribution system in the region etc.

(e) and (f) At present Powergrid Corporation of India has two 400 KV transmission lines viz., Durgapur-Jamshedpur and Jamshedpur-Rourkela in the Jharkhand area of Bihar. There are also two sub-stations of 400 KV viz one at Jamshedpur and other at Rourkela. No further lines are contemplated for setting up at present.

Below Poverty Line

712. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that about 39.28 percent rural people of Western Rajasthan are living below poverty line;

(b) if so, whether the Government intends to formulate some crash programme especially for rural poor to improve their living conditions:

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to declare "Dhanis" and "Hamlets" of desert area as Revenue villages to enable them to reap the benefits of development which is presently restricted to Revenue villages only; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) According to the estimates of NSSO household consumer expenditure survey for 1987-88, the rural poverty ratio for Rajasthan is 26%. No separate estimate has been made for Western Rajasthan.

(b) The main focus of IRDP is giving employment to the target group of people who are below poverty line. All the blocks of the country including Western Rajasthan are covered under IRDP. It is an on-going programme.

(c) and (d) Under programmes of Rural Water Supply and Rural Sanitation, facilities are provided to "Dhanis" and "Hamlets" as per the Annual Action Plan prepared by the State Governments.

In order to enable the inhabitants of "Dhanis" and "Hamlets" of remote areas to benefit under IRDP, it is stated in the guidelines that the priority list of poor families should be prepared by BDOs giving special emphasis to outlying hamlets and nomadic families.

Development of Backward Districts

713. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any Programme for the development of backward districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) Planning and development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, Planning Commission provides assistance to the States, including Uttar Pradesh, in overcoming the problems of backwardness through Special Area Programmes in addition to providing weightage for backwardness in the modified Gadgil formula approved by NDC in 1991 for normal Central Assistance for State Government's Plan.

Employment to Flood Affected Persons

714. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on unemployment in the areas affected by Koshi river in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for providing employment to the people of these areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) (a) to (c) No, Sir, However, the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) Deptt. of Statistics has conducted various surveys on employment and unemployment throughout the country including Bihar. The last survey conducted on this topic by NSSO was during July, 1993 to June, 1994.

(d) and (e) No special scheme is proposed to be formulated for providing employment to the people of these specific areas. However, various Rural Development Programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programmes, Rural Employment Programmes viz. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme etc. are implemented throughout the country including these areas.

[Translation]

Clearing of Deficits

715. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has asked the State Governments for taking measures to abolish the deficit in the State Electricity Boards and the State Transport Corporations in their proposals of Ninth Plan and has also suggested to levy additional taxes and cess to mobilise more resources; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. In the context of formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan, Planning Commission has suggested to the States that in order to improve the working of State Level Enterprises, concrete proposals may be framed so that they do not constitute a drain on the budgetary resources of the Governments and may be able to contribute for their respective State's Plans. The Commission has also mentioned that the States should raise their resources by enhancing tax rates containing Non-Plan Revenue Expenditure and improving Non-Tax Revenues.

[English]

Exploration of Oil Wealth By PSU's

716. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Five Oil PSU's plan foray into Kazakhstan appearing in "Financial Express" dated February 4, 1997;

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

(c) the present status of the proposal and implications thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Empowered Committee has approved the proposal of OVL for negotiating the terms and conditions for the project with Kazakhstan authorities, without any commitment at this stage. However, there is no response from Kazakhstan authorities so far on ONGC Videsh Ltd's (OVL) application for exploration licence for 18 blocks covering 20,000 sq. km. OVL has invited OIL, IOC, HPCL and GAIL to participate in the project.

RGDWM

717. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the States where Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission has been launched;

(b) the achievements made under the Programme in those States so far;

(c) whether any other Accelerated Water Scheme has been launched in the rural areas of any of these States during the Eighth Plan;

(d) if so, the achievements made under those programmes in those States so far; State-wise; and

(e) the target date fixed by the Government to ensure the supply of potable drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Programme is being implemented in all the States/UTs.

(b) The State-wise achievements in terms of coverage of rural habitations with safe drinking water facilities are at Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) It is targeted to provide safe drinking water to all the habitations by 2000 AD.

Statement

Statement showing the number of habitations (Fully/ Partially) covered

Sl.No.	State/UT	Covered Habitations
1	Andhra pr.	67684
2	Arunachal pr.	3388
3	Assam	59751
4	Bihar	198620
5	Goa	365
6	Gujarat	29833
7	Haryana	6484
8	Himachal pr.	39486
9	J.&K.	7036
10	Karnataka	52508
11	Kerala	9224
12	Madhya pr.	125036
13	Maharashtra	77102
14	Manipur	2547
15	Meghalaya	7138
16	Mizoram	909
17	Nagaland	950
18	Orissa	69731
19	Punjab	7567
20	Rajasthan	73439
21	Sikkim	1679
22	Tamil Nadu	66501
23	Tripura	7412
24	Uttar Pradesh	271695
25	West Bengal	80377
26	A&N Islands	493
27	D&N Haveli	388
28	Daman & Diu	29
29	Delhi	200
30	Lakshadweep	11
31	Pondicherry	276
32	Chandigarh	25
Total		1267884

[Translation]

Cooking Gas

718. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in Jaipur where cooking

gas pipeline has been laid;

(b) the time by which the residents of Jaipur city are likely to be provided connections from the said gas pipeline; and

(c) whether metres are likely to be installed in the houses of consumers and if so the rate at which charges would be collected for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Government is not aware of any project to supply cooking gas through pipelines in the city of Jaipur.

[English]

Status of CBI

719. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :
KUNWAR SARVRAJ SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a controversy has been created in respect of the status, role and capacity of the C.B.I.;

(b) if so, whether the absence of Lok Pal as proposed by the Government, is the reasons for the increasing role of the C.B.I. and the court; and

(c) whether the Government propose to clear the confusion in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir

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

[Translation]

Rural Employment Scheme

720. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes launched under the Rural Employment Scheme in various States of the country during 1996-97 and the State-wise details of funds provided by the Union Government for the purpose;

(b) whether the Government propose to include some new programmes under this scheme during 1997-98; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO

PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The ongoing major Employment Programmes like (i) JRY, (ii) EAS and (iii) IRDP are continuing during 1996-97. Further, a new programme called the 'Ganga Kalyan Yojana' was launched in all the districts of the country with effect from 1.2.1997. An amount of Rs.90.00 crores has been allocated to States under this scheme as Central share during 1996-97. State-wise allocation is shown in the Statement enclosed.

The objective of the scheme is to provide irrigation through exploitation of ground water (bore-wells and tube-wells) to individuals and groups of beneficiaries belonging to the target group. The expenditure under the scheme is to be shared equally by Centre and States. Apart from Ganga Kalyan Yojana which will be continued in 1997-98 alongwith other programmes there is no proposal under consideration at present to include any other new programme during 1997-98.

Statement

Allocation of Funds under GKY
(Ganga Kalyan Yojana) for 1996-97)

(Rs. Crores)

No.	State/UT	Central Share
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.51
3.	Assam	2.25
4.	Bihar	13.28
5.	Goa	0.12
6.	Gujarat	2.51
7.	Haryana	0.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.20
9.	J & K	0.82
10.	Karnataka	4.58
11.	Kerala	1.67
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.65
13.	Maharashtra	7.44
14.	Manipur	0.37
15.	Meghalaya	0.39
16.	Mizoram	0.17
17.	Nagaland	0.27
18.	Orissa	5.54
19.	Punjab	0.43
20.	Rajasthan	3.59
21.	Sikkim	0.05
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.17
23.	Tripura	0.53
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16.64
25.	West Bengal	6.12

1	2	3
26.	A & N Islands	0.12
27.	D & N Haveli	0.02
28.	Daman & Diu	0.05
29.	Lakshadweep	0.01
30.	Pondicherry	0.09
All India		90.00

[English]

Scheme-wise Target

721. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme-wise target of each State for completion of various schemes for development of rural areas under Rural Development Programme during 1996 and January 1997;

(b) the scheme-wise percentage of target achieved in each State;

(c) whether some schemes have achieved very low percentage of target; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Below Poverty Line

722. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of people living below the poverty line in urban and rural areas separately;

(b) the achievement made by the Government in poverty alleviation and whether it is likely to achieve its target by the year 2005 at this pace;

(c) whether, some economists have opined that same number of persons get added among the people living below poverty line as are raised above it; and

(d) the latest figure regarding persons living below the poverty line, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The Planning Commission estimates percentage of people living below poverty line on the basis of quinquennial survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation.

According to the latest available estimates, 28.37 percent of the total population in rural areas and 16.82 percent in the urban areas live below the poverty line in 1987-88.

(b) About 50 million families have been assisted under IRDP since inception with an investment (subsidy + credit) of Rs.26623 crores upto December, 1996. According to Concurrent Evaluation of 1992-93, 4.4% families were able to cross the poverty line of Rs.6400/- and 15.96% the revised poverty line of Rs.11,000/-. Providing adequate resources under IRDP would be essential for poverty alleviation in the coming years.

(c) The latest two surveys for which comparable results are available show that the number of poor has reduced from 218.37 million in 1983-84 to 201.41 million in 1987-88 which implies that during this period more people have been raised above the poverty line than were added below the poverty line.

(d) The latest official estimates of state-wise poverty are available for the year 1987-88 which are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Number and percentage of population below poverty line by States 1987-88 (Revised)

Sl.No.	States	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. Lakhs	Percentage	No. Lakhs	Percentage	No.Lakhs	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pra.	129.81	28.18	35.35	22.14	165.16	26.62
2.	Assam	35.88	19.20	1.56	6.99	37.44	17.89
3.	Bihar	252.26	35.86	25.86	24.85	278.12	34.44
4.	Gujarat	42.68	16.51	13.44	10.38	56.12	14.46
5.	Haryana	10.79	9.28	3.46	9.56	14.24	9.34
6.	Himachal Pradesh	33.44	7.71	0.05	1.21	3.49	7.17
7.	J & K	66.78	12.35	1.02	6.29	7.81	10.96
8.	Karnataka	91.73	31.10	25.32	19.83	117.05	27.70
9.	Kerala	27.83	13.14	10.80	16.23	38.63	13.88
10.	Madhya Pra.	171.95	36.04	23.75	17.40	195.71	31.89
11.	Maharashtra	143.94	31.41	39.73	14.45	183.67	25.05
12.	Orissa	111.60	42.89	8.00	20.89	119.61	40.07
13.	Punjab	6.77	4.99	2.82	5.13	9.59	5.03
14.	Rajasthan	69.63	22.03	14.68	16.22	84.31	20.74
15.	Tamil Nadu	121.44	34.38	30.78	17.17	152.23	28.58
16.	Uttar Pra.	332.41	31.79	56.94	22.90	389.35	30.08
17.	West Bengal	114.37	24.73	28.24	16.44	142.60	22.49
18.	All India	1682.98	28.37	331.08	16.82	2014.06	25.49

NB: (1) The above estimates are derived by using the poverty line of Rs.132.0 per capita per month for rural areas and the poverty line of Rs.152.3 per capita per month for urban areas at 1987-88 prices, corresponding to the poverty lines of Rs.49.1 and Rs.56.6 respectively for 1973-74.

(2) The number of persons below poverty line relates to the population as on 1st October, 1987.

(3) The results are based on National Sample Survey on consumer expenditure relating to 43rd round (July 1987—June 1988).

(4) The difference between the aggregate all India private consumption expenditure estimated by the Central Statistical Organisation in their National Accounts Statistics and that derived from the NSSO data has been adjusted prorata among the different States and Union Territories.

*[English]***Gas Pipeline to Srinagar**

723. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to lay a gas pipeline from Mathura to Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) No gas has been allocated to any project in Jammu and Kashmir.

Security Deposit

724. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose of charging the amount as security deposit from the consumers/public for providing new LPG connections and the manner in which this amount is utilised by the Government;

(b) the total amount of security deposit with the Government upto 31st December, 1996;

(c) whether any proposal to pay interest on such security deposit on the lines of Ministry of Telecommunications is under consideration of the Government or whether Government propose to consider such proposal;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) and (c) The deposit is taken by the oil companies as security against LPG equipment loaned to the customer and is refundable as and when the equipment is surrendered.

The deposit is utilised to maintain adequate inventory of LPG equipment in usable condition at all times so as to service the customer's requirements. On an average 1.5 cylinder per customer is required to be maintained by the oil companies for servicing their requirements.

(b) As on 31.12.1996, the security deposit collected by oil companies was about Rs.2386 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Setting up of New Electronic Industries**

725. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new electronic industries set up in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) whether these companies have signed agreements with foreign countries; and

(c) if so, the names thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH):
(a) to (c) According to available information during 1995 and 1996, 12 units have been approved for manufacture of electronic items under Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP), Software Technology Park of India (STPI), Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) and Export Oriented Units (EOU) Schemes. Out of these, 7 units have signed agreements with foreign collaborators. The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

*Schemewise List of Units set up in
U.P. During 95-96*

Scheme	Name of Unit	Foreign Collaborator
EHTP		
1.	M/s Allen Bradley India Ltd	M/s Allen Bradley, USA
2.	M/s S.K. Dynamics (P) Ltd.	
3.	M/s Avadh Exports	
STPI		
1.	M/s Infogain Corpn. (I) Ltd.	M/s Infosoft Inc., USA
DTA		
1.	M/s Bestavision Elect. Ltd.	
2.	M/s HCL Pirot System NV	M/s HCL Pirot System, Netherlands
3.	M/s Powertec Supplies (I)	M/s Laurel Part Investment Ltd., Mauritius
4.	M/s Modi Xerox Ltd.	M/s Rank Xerox Ltd., UK
5.	M/s Onida Savak Ltd.	
6.	M/s Samtel Color Ltd.,	
EOU		
1.	Mr. Rajiv Tuli	M/s Wilecom Group Inc. Canada
2.	M/s Electro Electronics	M/s Murtze Centre, Dubai.

*[English]***Rural Electrification Corporation**

726. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Energy Network Scheme of Rural Electrification Corporation meant for Uttar Pradesh has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any special grant/scheme has been introduced by the Government to undertake electrification programme in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) To improve the quality of life of rural families below the poverty line, including Harijan and Adivasi families, the Government of India launched a programme in 1988-89 for extending single point electrical connections to the households of such poor families. Under this programme, one time initial cost of internal wiring and service connection charges upto a certain maximum limit (Rs.800 for unmetered connection and Rs.1,000 for meter connection during 1996-97) is provided by way of grant to the State Government/State Electricity Boards through Rural Electrification Corporation. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board has provided 2,00,112 connections availing a grant of Rs.4.26 crores upto 31.3.1996. During 1996-97, a target of 1500 connections with a grant component of Rs.12 lakhs has been set.

*[Translation]***Potable Water**

727. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh where facility of potable water is not available, district-wise; and

(b) the measures being taken to make available potable water in these villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of Not Covered (NC) habitations as on 1.4.1996 as reported by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The Central Government provide Central assistance to all the State Governments/UTs, including Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme to establish drinking water system in the rural areas.

All the Not Covered/Partially Covered habitations are being provided with potable drinking water under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the Minimum Needs Programme and the Basic Minimum Services, etc.

Statement

Status of Rural Water (based on 1991 Population) as per Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission on 1.4.1996

Name	No. of Not covered habitations
1	2
Saharanpur	27
Hardwar	45
Muzzaffarnagar	8
Meerut	20
Ghaziabad	11
Bulandshahar	1
Aligarh	49
Mathura	43
Agra	218
Frozabad	18
Etah	165
Mainpuri	8
Bijnore	103
Moradabad	154
Rampur	33
Badaun	109
Bareilly	112
Pilibhit	0
Shahjahanpur	12
Kheeri	6
Sitapur	1533
Hardoi	670
Unnao	463
Lucknow	78
Rae Bareilly	879
Farrukhabad	135
Etawah	26
Kanpur Dehat	502
Kanpur Nagar	0
Jalaun	8
Jhansi	13
Lalitpur	9
Hamirpur	8
Mahoba	3
Banda	617
Bahraich	324
Gonda	2200
Barabanki	1193
Faizabad	7
Ambedkar Nagar	25

1	2
Sultanpur	0
Sidharthanagar	326
Maharajganj	707
Basti	436
Gorakhpur	536
Deona Deoria	592
Padrauna	513
Mau	29
Azamgarh	234
Jaunpur	922
Ballia	112
Fatehpur	268
Pratapgarh	3116
Allahabad	925
Ghazipur	1018
Varanasi	71
Mirzapur	451
Sonhadra	126
Bhadohi	126
Uttarkashi	26
Chamoli	352
Tehari Garhwal	1313
Dehra Dun	532
Pauri Garhwal	228
Pithoragarh	0128
Almora	1343
Nainital	376
Udhamsingh Nagar	29
GRAND TOTAL	26600

[English]

Super Computer

728. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details about 'CRAY', Super Computer, "Param" and Parallel Processing;

(b) the details about "Parallel Processing Project" at C-DAC, Pune;

(c) whether the Government have taken any remedial measures to renovate present Parallel Processing Project in the country; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Cray Supercomputer is a series of first supercomputers

developed in the world and were based on very high-speed custom designed components using Emitter Coupled Logic (ECL) technology, and pipelined vector processing.

PARAM is the supercomputer developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune based on parallel processing.

Parallel Processing Systems are engineered using commercially available computers/high speed micro-processors and configured to achieve high computing power and are scaleable in speed, memory and performance. In this environment the problems are solved by parallelising the programs.

(b) C-DAC, Pune had developed in 1991 a super-computer based on parallel processing with peak computing power of 1000 MFLOPs in its first Mission. In the second Mission, C-DAC is developing a supercomputer with peak computing power of 100 GFLOPs, with architecture scaleable upto 1000 GFLOPs. They have already achieved a level of 10 GFLOPs peak computing power.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government while realising the need of high speed computers for Mission critical applications, and since the equipment is not always easily available, have taken initiatives in the development of supercomputers based on parallel processing. Various Government organisations viz. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), have developed supercomputers based on parallel processing, varying in peak computing power from 500 MFLOPs to 10 GFLOPs.

Rural Roads

729. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Bijnore with population of 1000 and above that have been connected by roads with cities so far;

(b) the percentage of such villages;

(c) the reasons for the remaining villages not yet being connected by roads with cities; and

(d) the time by which these area likely to be connected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Chapathi Making Plant

730. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether CFTRI, Mysore has development proto type of Chapathi making plant to prepare chapatis;

- (b) if so, the capacity thereof per hour;
- (c) whether the same has been patented; and
- (d) whether the Government propose to use the above machine in defence and other big organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) 500 chappatis per hour.
- (c) Three separate Indian patents covering the design of the machine have been filed.
- (d) The machine is useful for small industrial and institutional kitchens including small defence establishment.

Water Supply Schemes in Karnataka

731. SHRI K.C. KONDAIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any proposal for taking up water supply schemes with the assistance of Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund of Japan;
- (b) if so, the estimated cost of the same and the places proposed to be covered under the above schemes;
- (c) whether the survey work on the proposed schemes has been taken up; and
- (d) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) (a) and (b) The government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal for Urban Water supply in 19 towns namely, Kunigal, Sira, K.R. Nagar, Hunsur, Harihara, Chitra Durga, Udupi, Chikmagalur, Zakshmeshwar, Basavana Bagewadi, Lingasugur, Raichur, Karwar, Basavakalyan, Gulbarga, Hassan, Shimoga, Hubli Dharwad and Bijapur at an estimated cost of Rs.396.50 crores for OECF loan assistance.

(c) and (d) A Fact Finding Mission from the OECF, Tokyo visited India from 19th January to 21st February, 1997 to study and examine the feasibility of the aforesaid project.

Training in Solar Photovoltaic System

732. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India Renewable Energy Development Agency and Indian Institute of Technology have decided to provide practical training in solar photovoltaic system;
- (b) if so, the details of programme for training;

- (c) the financial allocation made for the purpose;
- (d) whether such a training programme was conducted by some State Governments; and
- (e) If so, outcome thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) is organizing training programmes in solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems under the World Bank assisted SPV Market Development Project. The training courses are being conducted through the Siemens Solar Systems at the Indian Institutes of Technology (I.I.T.) at Madras, Bombay and Delhi during 1995-96 to 1997-98. The programme is meant for creating trained manpower in the SPV Sector in the country.

So far training courses on SPV System Design and Engineering for engineers have been organized in different batches at I.I.T. Madras from October 1995 to January 1996 and at I.I.T. Delhi from December 1996 to January 1997. In addition, training courses for technicians have been organized at I.I.T. Madras from April 1996 to July 1996.

(c) An allocation of Rs.358.84 lakhs has been made for this training programme under the technical assistance component of the World Bank assisted SPV Market Development Project being implemented by IREDA.

(d) and (e) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have conducted some training Programmes for the technical personnel involved in the SPV Programme in their States with a view to improving the quality of implementation. These Programmes have helped develop skills in the installation and maintenance of photovoltaic systems among the trainees.

[Translation]

Minimum Common Programme

733. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government, in its Minimum Common Programme, have promised for development of the backward districts in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of States alongwith their backward districts for which a development scheme is being prepared; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government is considering constitution

of a Committee to evolve the criteria for identification of 100 most backward and poorest districts in the country. The actual identification of backward districts and preparation of infrastructure development plans shall be based on the report of this Committee.

[English]

Assignment to Retired Officers

734. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the senior Government officials of the rank of Joint Secretary and above have to seek permission of the Government before they take up any assignment including commercial after retirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of officers who have been given permission during the years 1995 and 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONYAN) : (a) and (b) A Group 'A' officer is required to obtain the previous sanction of the Central Government before taking up a commercial employment before the expiry of two years from the date of his retirement.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

As per available information, the under-mentioned officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and above were granted permission during 1995 and 1996 to undertake post retirement; commercial employment within two years of retirement.

1. Shri S.C. Gupta,
Chief Engineer (Designs),
Ministry of Urban Development,
New Delhi.
2. Shri K.K. Trikha,
Group General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
New Delhi.
3. Shri R. Srinivasan,
Adviser (Production)
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
4. Shri Y.P. Gambhir,
Chairman,
Central Electricity Authority,
Ministry of Power,

New Delhi.

5. Shri V.K. Arora,
Chief Engineer (Roads),
Ministry of Surface Transport,
New Delhi.
6. Shri Manjit Singh,
General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
7. Shri S.M. Gambhir,
Chief General Manager,
Telecom Projects,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
8. Dr. M.S.S. Prabhu,
Scientist / Engineer,
Indian Space Research Organisation
Satellite Centre,
Department of Space,
Bangalore.
9. Shri N.C.S.R. Acharyulu,
General Manager (Development)
Hyderabad Telecom District,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
10. Shri S.S. Goyal,
General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
11. Shri H.S. Agarwal,
Adviser,
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
12. Shri M.A. Ramanan,
Member (Thermal),
Central Electricity Authority,
Ministry of Power,
New Delhi.
13. Shri S.K. Pandey,
Adviser (Operations),
Department of Telecommunication,
New Delhi.
14. Shri N.R. Sivaswamy,
Chairman,
Central Board of Direct Taxes,
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi.

15. Shri D.D. Gulhati,
General Manager (Mechanical),
Indian Railway Construction Corporation Limited,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
16. Shri Krishan Lal,
Executive Director (Planning),
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
17. Shri J.K. Kurien,
Chief Commissioner of Income Tax,
Bangalore,
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi.
18. Shri R.K. Shukla,
General Manager,
Southern Railway, Madras,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
19. Shri B.N. Iyengar,
Chief General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Bombay
Department of Telecommunications.
20. Shri S.Ravi,
Adviser (Signals),
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways
New Delhi.
21. Dr. C.D. Thatte,
Secretary,
Ministry of Water Resources
New Delhi.
22. Shri A.K. Chaudhri,
Chairman & Managing Director,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
23. Shri R.N. Sinha,
Joint Director & Special Inspector General of Police,
Central Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Personnel & Training,
New Delhi.
24. Shri S.N. Mathur,
Inspector General of Police,
Central Reserve Police Force,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.
25. Shri Kuldip Sudarshan,
Chief Engineer,
Central Electricity Authority,
Ministry of Power,
New Delhi.
26. Shri S.S. Swani
Chief Engineer,
Directorate General, Doordarshan,
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting,
New Delhi.
27. Shri K.K. Pillai,
General Manager (Maintenance),
Southern Telecom Region, Madras,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
28. Shri S. Mukhopadhyay,
Member,
Central Board of Excise & Customs,
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi.
29. Shri P.P. Joshi,
Chief Engineer,
Construction Organisation of Central Railway,
Bombay,
Ministry of Railways.
30. Shri C.S. Kannan,
Additional General Manager,
Southern Railway,
Ministry of Railways.
31. Shri Rajendra Pal,
Adviser (Works),
Railway Board Engineering Department,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
32. Shri N.K. Prasad,
Chief Engineer,
Office of the Director General, Border Roads,
Ministry of Surface Transport,
New Delhi.
33. Shri K. Rangarajan,
Vice-Chairman,
Income Tax Settlement Commission,
Madras,
Department of Revenue.
34. Shri M.G. Jayaraman,
Member (Technology)
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.

35. Shri M.G. Kulkarni,
Member (Services / Production),
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
36. Shri D.K. Gupta,
Member (Telecommunication)
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
37. Shri R.C. Khera,
Chief Engineer,
Central Electricity Authority,
Ministry of Power,
New Delhi.
38. Shri Ashok Bhatnagar,
Chairman,
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
39. Dr. V.N. Lalithkumar Rao,
Commissioner of Income Tax,
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi.
40. Shri R.C. Verma,
Member & Vice-Chairman,
Income Tax Settlement Commission,
Calcutta.
41. Shri Ravi Kathpalia,
Controller General of Accounts,
Department of Expenditure,
New Delhi.
42. Shri L.C. Agarwal,
Chief General Manager,
Mahangar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
43. Shri R.D. Budhiraja,
General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
44. Shri S.P. Mallik,
General Manager,
Ordnance Factory,
Ministry of Defence,
New Delhi.
45. Shri R.C. Rastogi,
Member (Finance),
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
46. Shri Ashok Kumar,
Chief Engineer,
Military Engineering Service,
Ministry of Defence,
New Delhi.
47. Shri S.A.V. Sastry,
Chief Operations Managers,
Southern Railways,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
48. Shri D.B. Sehgal,
Adviser (Production)
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
49. Shri N. Biswas,
Chairman,
Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices,
Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion,
New Delhi.
50. Shri S. Swaminathan,
General Manager,
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
51. Shri R. Narayanan,
Scientist / Engineer "G",
Department of Space,
Bangalore.
52. Shri V.P. Saxena,
Member (Technology),
Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
53. Dr. R. Krishnan,
Director,
Gas Turbine Research Establishment,
Bangalore,
Department of Defence
Research & Development.
54. Shri B.K. Basak,
Chief General Manager,
Western Zone Project Circle,
Bombay,
Department of Telecommunications.
55. Shri P.N. Uppal,
Chief General Manager,
Rajasthan Telecom Circle,
Department of Telecommunications.

56. Dr. D.N. Upasani,
Chief Medical Officer,
Central Railways,
Ministry of Railways.
57. Shri G.K. Kanchan,
Adviser (Planning),
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways
New Delhi.
58. Shri Lalit Mohan,
Director General of Income Tax,
Department of Revenue
New Delhi.
59. Shri James K. Joseph,
Joint Secretary,
Department of Personnel & Training,
New Delhi.
60. Shri CBL Srivastav,
Chief General Manager,
Bihar Telecom Circle,
Department of Telecommunications.
61. Shri K. Gajendra Singh,
Ambassador of India,
Ankara,
Ministry of External Affairs.
62. Shri Raj Kumar,
Member (Engineering),
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways.
63. Shri V.P. Baweja,
General Manager (Operations),
Pune Telecom,
Department of Telecommunications.
64. Shri Anirudh Mithal,
General Manager,
Rail Coach Factory,
Kapurthala,
Ministry of Railways.
65. Shri T. Narayanamoorthy,
Adviser, Telecom Commission,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
66. Shri G.M. Rao,
Director (OD),
Indian Bureau of Mines,
Ministry of Mines.
67. Shri C.S. Jagannath,
Chief Adviser,
Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices,
Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion,
New Delhi.
68. Shri S.P. Duggal,
Chief Electrical Engineer (Construction),
Central Railways,
Ministry of Railways.
69. Shri P.S. Narula,
Adviser (HRD),
Department of Telecommunications.
70. Shri Ashok Kumar Seth,
General Manager,
Karnataka Telecom Circle,
Department of Telecommunications.
71. Dr. S.K. Sinha,
Scientist / Engineer "SG",
Indian Space Research Organisation,
Department of Space,
Bangalore.
72. Shri V.R. Subramanian,
Chief Personnel Officer,
Integral Coach Factory,
Madras
Ministry of Railways.
73. Shri P.N. Mehrotra,
Principal Officer,
Mercantile Marine Department,
Mumbai,
Ministry of Surface Transport.
74. Shri D.N. Ghosh,
Chief Workshop Engineer,
South Eastern Railways,
Ministry of Railways.
75. Dr. (Smt.) Saroj Singh Panwar,
Chief Medical Superintendent,
Central Railways,
Ministry of Railways.
76. Shri Masihuzzaman,
Member (Mechanical),
Railway Board,
Ministry of Railways.
77. Shri B.B. Karajagi,
Chief Engineer,
Central Water Commission,
Ministry of Water Resources,
New Delhi.
78. Shri B.N. Srivastava,
Chief Engineer,
Border Roads Development Board,
Ministry of Surface Transport,
New Delhi.

79. Shri Y.P. Kumar,
Chief Engineer,
Boarder Roads Development Board,
Ministry of Surface Transport,
New Delhi.
80. Shri V.P. Saxena,
Member (Technology),
Telecom Comision,
Department of Telecommunications,
New Delhi.
81. Shri R. Asoka,
Chief Project Manager,
Wheel & Axle Plant,
Indian Railways,
Bangalore.
82. Shri P.N. Mittal,
Member,
Central Board of Direct Taxes,
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi.
83. Shri A.K. Bandyopadhyay,
Inspector General of Police,
Special Sector,
Central Reserve Police Force,
Ministry of Home Affairs.
84. Shri M.B. Saxena,
Chief Architect,
Central Public Works Department,
Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment,
New Delhi.
85. Shri V.N. Sehgal,
Director,
Central Forensic Science Laboratory,
Central Bureau of Investigation,
Ministry of Home Affairs.
86. Shri V. Gopal,
General Manager,
Tamil Nadu Telecom Circle,
Department of Telecommunications.
87. Shri Narayan Singh, IFS, Bihar,
Additional Inspector General of Forests,
Ministry of Environment & Forests.
88. Shri A.K. Mukerjee, IFS, Himachal Pradesh,
Inspector General of Forests,
Ministry of Environment & Forests.
89. Shri S. Parameswarappa, IFS, Karnataka,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Karnataka,
Ministry of Environment & Forests.
90. Shri G.K. Shenava, IFS, Karnataka,
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Karnataka,
Ministry of Environment & Forests.
91. Shri K.J. Reddy, IAS (Andhra Pradesh)
92. Shri V. Krishnan, IAS (Karnataka)
93. Shri Moosa Raza, IAS (Gujarat)
94. Shri R. Rajamani, IAS (Andhra Pradesh)
95. Shri T. Balaraman, IAS (Maharashtra)
96. Shri S.S. Razvi, IAS (Jammu & Kashmir)
97. Shri S.K. Lall, IAS (Orissa)
98. Shri R. Srinivasan, IAS (Orissa)
99. Shri R.B. Rajagopalan, IAS (Maharashtra)
100. Shri V.S. Gopalkrishnan, IAS (Maharashtra)
101. Shri Suresh Kumar, IAS (Bihar)
102. Shri K.R. Venugopal, IAS (Andhra Pradesh)
103. Shri V.P. Rane, IAS (Maharashtra)
104. Shri N.M. Bijlani, IAS (Gujarat)
105. Shri P.K. Thakkar, IAS (Gujarat)
106. Shri C.S. Rana, IAS (Haryana)
107. Shri P.V. Swaminathan, IAS (Gujarat)
108. Shri S.K. Basu, IAS (Orissa)
109. Shri C.B. Bhave, IAS (Maharashtra)
110. Shri S.B. Muddappa, IAS (Karnataka)
111. Shri Vinay Jha, IAS (Tamil Nadu)
112. Shri S.I. Jambunathan, IAS (Maharashtra)
113. Shri S.S. Burra, IAS (Maharashtra)
114. Shri MGK Purthy, IAS (Kerala)
115. Shri M.P. Tanksale, IAS (Maharashtra)
116. Shri R.N. Das, IAS (Orissa)
117. Shri Mahesh Prasad, IAS (Uttar Pradesh)
118. Shri P.K. Lahari, IAS (Madhya Pradesh)
119. Shri R. Vasudevan, IAS (Uttar Pradesh)
120. Shri B.N. Bhagwat, IAS (Maharashtra)
121. Shri C.N. Ramdas, IAS (Tamil Nadu)
122. Shri P.S.V. Rao, IAS (Karnataka)
123. Shri E.N. Murthy, IAS (Jammu & Kashmir)
124. Shri J.S. Bindra, IPS (Gujarat)
125. Shri D.V.S. Reddy, IPS (Andhra Pradesh)
126. Shri A.H. Reddy, IPS (Andhra Pradesh)
127. Shri K. Lakshmana, IPS (Kerala)
128. Shri V.G. Vaidya, IPS (Maharashtra)

129. Shri S.C. Gossain, IPS (West Bengal)
 130. Shri A.J. Anandan, IPS (Karnataka)
 131. Shri K.V. Rajagopalan Nair, IPS (Kerala).

Plant Load Factor

735. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any plan to raise the Plant Load Factor (PLF) to all thermal power stations to an average of 70% by the year 2002 A.D.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) and (b) As per consensus reached at the Chief Ministers Conference held in December, 1996, it is proposed to improve PLF of Power Stations in State Sector to a minimum level of 65% and the national average PLF to 70% by 2002 A.D.

Fast Track Power Project

736. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Ministry had set December 31, 1996 as the deadline for issuing the pending counter guarantees for the fast track power projects;

(b) if so, whether in view of this the centre had reopened the entire power projects agreement of the Hinduja National Power Company Project at Visakhapatnam and has called for fresh negotiations;

(c) whether the power Ministry had received a report prepared by an international consultant which had been appointed to study the power projects agreements of the fast track power projects; and

(d) if so, the time by which the final agreement for renegotiating the Vizag Power Plant is to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Norms for IDSMT Scheme

737. SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the norms prescribed to project towns for development under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Scheme;

(b) the number of towns brought under the Scheme so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to continue the scheme during Ninth Plan;

(d) if so, the towns proposed to be brought under the Scheme in Rajasthan and other States during the Ninth Plan; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) is applicable to towns which fulfil the following norms:

(i) having population upto 5 lakhs as per 1991 Census;

(ii) having potential to emerge as regional centres of economic growth and employment;

(iii) having elected local bodies.

In the selection of towns, preference will be given to Headquarters of Districts followed by mandi towns and industrial growth centres (excluding industrial estates) (identified by the Ministries of Agriculture and Industries respectively), tourist places, pilgrim centres, etc. The State Government shall identify towns in order of priority in accordance with their State Urban Development Strategy.

(b) Information is furnished in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) Identification and selection of priority towns for development under IDSMT Scheme vests with the State Governments, and projects are approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committees. As such it is not possible to indicate at this stage the towns which will be covered under IDSMT during Ninth Plan period.

Statement

*Number of Towns Covered under IDSMT Scheme
(From 1979-80 to 24th February, 1997)*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Towns Covered
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
3.	Assam	19
4.	Bihar	35
5.	Goa	6
6.	Gujarat	48
7.	Haryana	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8
10.	Karnataka	73
11.	Kerala	30

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	65
13.	Maharashtra	90
14.	Manipur	10
15.	Meghalaya	7
16.	Mizoram	4
17.	Nagaland	6
18.	Orissa	39
19.	Punjab	22
20.	Rajasthan	43
21.	Sikkim	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	93
23.	Tripura	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	76
25.	West Bengal	60
UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	A & N Islands	1
2.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	2
3.	Daman & Diu	1
4.	Lakshadweep	1
5.	Pondicherry	6
Total		845

Naptha Based Power Projects

738. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received requests from the State Governments and particularly from Kerala for grant of fuel linkage for their Naptha based power projects;

(b) if so, the quantum of Naptha (fuel) sought by each State;

(c) the decision of the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) whether the State Governments have indicated the names of their power projects for which the fuel linkage is sought for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) Various states including Kerala are requesting, from time to time, for allocation of naptha/liquid fuel for various liquid fuel based power projects proposed to be set up in the respective states. In view of the proposals being far more than the availability of naphtha/liquid fuels, all the liquid fuel proposals were reviewed by the Government of India, and detailed guidelines were issued to the concerned states for recommending projects for naptha/liquid fuel linkage within

the capacity (in MW) allocated to respective states. States are making project-wise recommendations for provisional fuel linkage.

Out of Turn Allotment

739. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 1843 dated December 4, 1996 regarding out of turn allotment and state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has since given judgement in the matter;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to implement the orders of the Court and the time by which the houses are likely to be got vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the Statement enclosed;

(c) The new list of out of turn allottees who will have to face eviction in terms of the Order of the Supreme Court has been prepared and notices for eviction shall be issued by 23.3.97. The houses are likely to be vacated by 23.6.97.

Statement

Main Features of Supreme Court Order dated 23.12.96 in Writ Petition (Civil No.585/94).

Supreme Court of India in its Judgement dated 23.12.96 has directed that all out of turn allottees of type-III and above accommodation, except those whose names were included erroneously, who were given change of accommodation in the same type, and those who were given allotment on medical ground within existing policy, would face eviction, in case their date of priority have not been covered for inturn allotment by the date(s) the two reports of Gupta Committee (Constituted by the Supreme Court) were submitted. Further all the allottees, whose date of priority are not covered by 5.2.97 i.e. 6 weeks from the date of Judgement shall face eviction. The Court has further directed that:-

(i) The Government shall get the medical cases, where out of turn allotment was made outside the existing policy, examined by a high powered Medical Board within two months, with a view to ascertain whether such out of turn allotment were justified on medical ground or not.

(ii) The out of turn allottees would pay twice the licence fee in respect of type-III quarters and three times the licence fee in respect of type-IV and above accommodation.

(iii) The out of turn allottees who are likely to retire by 26.9.97 (30.9.97) would be allowed to retain

the accommodation subject to payment of enhanced licence fee, as applicable.

- (iv) The out of turn allottees entitled to lower type of accommodation on in-turn basis or if they were previously occupying any accommodation of lower type, will be allotted alternative accommodation provided enhanced licence fee is deposited within a period of two months.
- (v) The officers of All India Service who are occupying general pool quarters, despite being eligible to the quarters in Tenure Pool, though not actually allotted, would be evicted.

2. A new list were to be drawn in terms of the Court order within two months, i.e. by 23.2.97, and allottees liable to be evicted shall be served individual notices within 30 days, thereafter requiring them to vacate the premises within 90 days of the notice.

3. The additional licence fee collected from out of turn allottees may be kept in a separate fund and Government should work out a scheme to compensate those Government employees who were denied allotment, despite having become eligible on inturn basis.

4. The Government shall frame appropriate rules relating to out of turn allotments and will duly notify the same within a period of three months. While making out of turn allotment, speaking orders would be passed giving the reasons and list of such allottees shall be notified and circulated to all the Government Departments. An yearly statement would be laid on the Table of the each House of the Parliament. The extent of out of turn allotments would be 5% in each type of houses which would fall vacant in one year. Freedom fighters artists and social workers may be considered for discretionary allotment from the quota of 5%, if guidelines so framed permitted. The journalists, shall be considered for allotment from Press Pool in accordance with the guidelines to be framed, as per the recommendations of the Press Council of India.

5. Political Parties would be entitled to allotment as per the policy to be framed by the Government. Regarding the number of units to be allotted to a Political Party, the Government should abide by the advice given by the Speaker of Lok Sabha and Vice-Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Other organisations would not be entitled to allotment from General Pool but could be adjusted for allotment within the ceiling of 5%, if the rules framed in this regard so permitted.

6. Supreme Court has held that the waiver orders, as passed, in 127 cases by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation during 1992-95 have no sanction of law and, therefore, while undertaking recovery, the same shall be ignored. The Court has also directed the Government to initiate/expedite recovery proceedings against all the persons owning Government dues, within a time frame and had desired that a compliance report be filed in the second week of April, 1997.

7. The Supreme Court has held that the subletting of Government accommodation is a grave mis-conduct on the part of Government servant and therefore, it would be obligatory for the Disciplinary Authority to initiate disciplinary proceedings against him under Rule 14 of CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965 (Major Penalty).

8. While rejecting the plea made before it for abolition of the Tenure Pool, Supreme Court has recommended earmarking of bungalows for various dignitaries such as Speaker, Lok Sabha, Vice Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Judges of Supreme Court/High Court and various other constitutional/statutory appointees.

9. The Court has also laid emphasis on construction of more government quarters to meet existing demand and has suggested that a high powered committee, which may include employees representatives as well, be formed to consider the need for building more accommodation.

Exploration of Gas

740. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No.18 on 20.11.96 and state:

(a) whether any action has been taken on the basis of the Kinston Report on the exploration of Gas and Oil in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the Statement enclosed;

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b).

Statement

Follow up action on the Report entitled "Bengal Basin evaluation and exploration Recommendations" submitted by John Kingston.

(A) Eocene Carbonate Prospect

- Processing of 3D data of Golf-green (Phase I & II) has been completed and interpretation of the data is in progress.

Reprocessing of 3D data of Amtala area (acquired by the Russians) is in progress.

Further acquisition of 3D data in the south of Amtala area will be decided after confirming the carbonate build-up within Eocene Limestone from the interpretation of the processed data in Golf-Green and Amtala.

(B) Oligocene Prospect

- Acquisition of 3D seismic data in the SW of Ichapur-I for detailed mapping of basal oligocene sands is in progress. Based on the results of these data, future acquisition of 3D seismic data will be planned for proving in oligocene sand bodies. Detailed geochemical survey has been planned in two phases during 1996-97 filed season in contai and Ichapur areas.
- Geoscientific data of the area west of Hinge zone for an area of 2500 kms. along oligocene trend around Hoogley River is being reviewed.

(C) Gondwana Prospect

- Hydrocarbon potential and identification of prospects in Gondwana sediments of contai block is being reviewed.
- Further acquisition of 2D seismic data for confirming the Govindapur closure will be decided after review of the existing 2D data and specific area will be identified.

Employment in Ninth Plan

741. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister for RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan envisages the generation of massive avenues of employment in the Non-Farm Sector;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) whether the unemployment in the rural sector has not been reduced so far;

(d) whether in the context of the avenues of additional employment generation in agriculture being quite limited, the way in which it is proposed to promote non-farm employment;

(e) whether any assessment has been made at any stage of the avenues of employment in the non-farm sector provided by the Trysem, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna and Special Employment Programme so far; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) According to the Planning Commission, the approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Productive employment is an important dimension of the state policy that seeks to achieve growth with equity. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating

on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and under employment. Improvements in the quality of employment can be achieved only in a situation of rapidly growing productivity to which the labour can lay a just claim. Education and skill development will empower people to take advantage of employment opportunities. Special programmes will be implemented to develop skills, enhance technological levels and provide marketing channels for people engaged in traditional occupations.

Recognising the high incidence of underemployment and increasing casualisation of labour, there is need to enhance employment opportunities for the poor. In this context, the Ninth Plan will seek to implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme.

(a) and (f) The implementation of special employment and poverty alleviation programmes like TRYSEM, JRY and PMRY are being reviewed from time to time and suitable steps are taken to increase the employment opportunities to the targetted people under these programmes. Further, concurrent evaluation of Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes is also being carried out in all states with a view to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the programmes and appropriate remedial measures are taken from time to time.

[Translation]

Cancellation of Allotment

742. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether flats are being got vacated by DDA from the persons who could not pay their instalments;

(b) if so, whether the government propose to reconsider such cases so that the defaulter could pay the required instalments;

(c) whether any action has been taken in this regard and if so, the details of new instalment scheme; and

(d) the details of action taken by Government on the memorandum, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DDA has reported that on receipt of outstanding dues, the possession of the flat is restored to the allottees;

(c) DDA had earlier announced two Penalty Relief Schemes during 1995 and 1996. The third Hire Purchase Penalty Relief Scheme 1997 is going to be launched with effect from 1.3.97. The brochure containing salient features of this scheme will be available for sale from 1.3.97. This scheme will remain operative up to 31.12.97. Under this scheme relief in penalty upto 43% is available if the defaulting allottee makes the payment of up-to-date

instalments and penalty on or before 30.9.97. For payments made between 1.10.97 to 31.12.97, the relief in penalty would be to the extent of 37%.

(d) The Hire Purchase Penalty Relief Scheme 1997 is going to be introduced as a result of suggestions/representations received from various sources.

[English]

Oil Wells

743. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil wells and locations thereof in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the quantity and quality of oil explored in such oil wells during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to explore more oil wells and to increase the capacity of existing oil wells?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) The number of oil wells in Tamil Nadu as on 1.2.97 is 67 and their locations are as follows:

Area/Fields	No. of Wells
Adiyakkamangalam	8
Kamalapuram	10
Kovilkalappal	10
Kuttanallur	1
Kizhavalur	1
Mattur	2
Nannilam	4
Narimanam	26
Pundi	1
Thruvarur	4

(b) During the past three years (1.4.93 to 1.4.96) an amount of 14.69 MMt of initial inplace oil has been accreted. The average specific gravity of the produced oil varies between 0.74 to 0.90.

(c) Since most of these fields are limited in extent increase in production from these fields and the oil well thereof, is not envisaged. However, the exploratory efforts to identify new prospects/fields, thereby sustaining/augmenting the present level of production, are being continued by ONGC.

Presently 3 seismic survey parties and 7 drilling rigs are deployed in Cauvery Onland area. Prospective locales are identified to undertake drilling during the current year.

Supply of Safe Drinking Water

744. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new schemes have been evolved to ensure supply of safe drinking water to Greater Mumbai during the Ninth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated therefor, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra (Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai) has evolved two proposals to ensure supply of safe drinking water for Mumbai city as detailed below:-

(i) IV Bombay Water Supply Project (Mid-Vaitarna) at an estimated cost of Rs.570/- crores envisages to meet increasing demand of water for Mumbai by construction of a dam on Vaitarna river. The project has been examined by this Ministry and found to be technically feasible and the State Government has been requested to seek the clearance of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Central Water Commission and Planning Commission.

(ii) III-A Bombay Water Supply Project at an estimated cost of Rs.662.62 crores envisages to meet the increasing demand of water by drawing 155 mld. of water from Bhatsa dam. The detailed project report is yet to be received from the State Government.

Clearance of JJ Clusters

745 SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "49 jhuggian thin, ab 300 ug aye" appearing in the "Dainik Jagaran" dated November 30, 1996;

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

(c) the time by which the JJ Clusters are likely to be cleared from the Government land and the Government land made available for the purpose they were notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Urban Mapping

746. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities in Madhya Pradesh in which urban mapping work has been undertaken by the National Remote Sensing Agency;

(b) whether proposals were invited from the Madhya Pradesh State Government for the implementation of the urban mapping work;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any development work has been undertaken in any city of Madhya Pradesh with the assistance of the World Bank;

(e) if so, the name of the city and the cost and layout of the project and the time by which the said scheme is to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) No town of Madhya Pradesh was selected in the first phase of the Urban Mapping Project during the VIII Five Year Plan period. Hence, no proposal was invited from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Unauthorised Construction

747. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.2786 dated December 11, 1996 regarding unauthorised construction and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite official orders, the unauthorised construction in Government Flat Nos. D-815, D-845, D-857, D-859, D-863, D-875, D-897 and encroachment in Horticulture Park Land D-845, D-847, D-849, D-857 and D-897 CPWD D-Block, Type-II Netaji Nagar has not been removed by CPWD;

(b) if so the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be removed; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against those

officials found violating official orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) CPWD have intimated that they have already informed Directorate of Estates about unauthorised encroachments of these quarters. CPWD do not remove such encroachments. The Directorate of Estates has already issued notice to the allottees of these quarters to remove these encroachments. Action is being taken under SR 317-B-21 by the Directorate of Estates to remove these encroachments. No encroachment exists in the Horticulture park;

(d) Question does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.

Crude Oil Imports

748. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the variation in the international price of Gulf crude petroleum during 1996;

(b) the price on 1.4.1996 and the maximum and the minimum since then with the dates thereof;

(c) the quantity of crude oil during the year including consignments under delivery;

(d) the average price during the year;

(e) the total estimated outlay during 1996-97 on import of crude and natural gas, separately; and

(f) the total estimated outlay during 1996-97 on import of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Information is given in Statement enclosed. (c) to (f) The quantity and value of imported products depends on the overall consumption, indigenous production of crude oil and petroleum products and prices of petroleum products prevailing in the international market during the year.

Statement

The monthly percentage variation in international prices of Dubai and Oman crude (the Marker crudes of the Arabian Gulf) together with the monthly average prices (as published in Platts Crude Oil Marketwire) during the period 1.4.96 to 20.2.97 are as under:

Month	Dubai	% variation in Prices (Monthly)	Oman	% variation in Prices (Monthly)
1	2	3	4	5
April'96	17.641	—	18.295	—
May'96	16.893	(-)4.24%	17.665	(-)3.44%
June'96	17.254	2.14%	17.648	(-)0.10%
July'96	17.793	3.12%	18.486	4.75%

1	2	3	4	5
August'96	18.643	4.78%	19.278	4.28%
September'96	20.421	9.54%	20.947	8.66%
October'96	21.761	6.56%	22.117	5.59%
November'96	20.943	(-)3.76%	21.390	(-)3.29%
December'96	21.779	3.99%	22.307	4.29%
January'97	21.356	(-)1.94%	22.116	(-)0.86%
February'97(*)	19.151	(-)10.32%	20.087	(-)9.17%

(*) Period 1.2.97 to 20.2.97

The international price of Dubai and Oman crudes on 1.4.96 and the maximum and minimum price is as under:

	Prices \$bb1		Date
	Dubai	Oman	
Average price 1.4.96	17.740	18.245	
Maximum price during 1.4.96 - 20.2.97	22.960	23.660	6.1.97
Minimum price during 1.4.96 - 20.2.97	16.060	16.770	17.5.96

Recovery of Seb Dues

749. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report in the 'Business Standard' dated 21.1.97 under the caption "Recovery of SEB dues from Central assistance-plan panel, Govt. split on deductions;"

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

(c) the details regarding such recoveries made so far during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) Proposals under consideration for clearance of backing of arrears of various central agencies from State, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has approved the proposal of Ministry of Power for recovery of outstanding dues as on November/December, 1996 pertaining to the Ministries of Power/Railways/Coal/Atomic Energy from the Central Plan Assistance, annually, to a maximum of 15% of Central Plan Assistance for the concerned State, irrespective of the number of years that it may take for the outstanding dues to be cleared. Statement indicating recoveries so far during the last three years State-wise is enclosed.

Statement

Overdues of State Electricity Boards Adjusted out of Central Assistance for State Plans during 1993-94 to 1995-96.

(In Rs. Crores)

States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Andhra Pradesh	19.15	7.26	7.20
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	0.70	0.43
3. Assam	35.15	53.51	53.52
4. Bihar	255.51	238.15	238.22
5. Goa	0.10	0.00	0.00
6. Gujarat	71.40	30.33	30.32
7. Haryana	89.71	120.46	120.57
8. Himachal Pradesh	1.59	5.01	5.01
9. Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	66.94	66.94
10. Karnataka	9.80	4.71	4.70
11. Kerala	15.49	14.33	14.35
12. Madhya Pradesh	95.78	30.84	30.83
13. Maharashtra	50.03	3.02	3.01
14. Manipur	5.07	10.01	10.03
15. Meghalaya	0.17	0.27	0.28
16. Mizoram	0.00	0.79	0.79
17. Nagaland	0.28	2.01	2.01
18. Orissa	15.98	9.98	10.68
19. Punjab	39.93	11.53	8.19
20. Rajasthan	82.55	50.78	50.77
21. Sikkim	0.27	0.04	0.04
22. Tamil Nadu	49.20	16.32	16.32
23. Tripura	0.16	2.33	2.32
24. Uttar Pradesh	326.63	160.00	160.00
25. West Bengal	82.34	63.24	63.32
Total	1246.40	903.27	899.85

*[Translation]***Allocation of Funds to Gujarat**

750. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allocated funds to Gujarat for Urban Employment Schemes during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has utilised the allocated amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Two Centrally sponsored Urban Employment schemes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme are under implementation in Gujarat. The details of the Central funds released to Gujarat under different components of NRY for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under:

Name of Scheme	Amounts released
SUME	Rs.148.60 Lakhs
SUWE	Rs.126.00 Lakhs

PMI UPEP launched in November, 1995 has self employment as one of its components. An amount of Rs.164.82 lakhs has been provided for the year 1995-96 as Central Share under this scheme.

(c) to (e): Against the available total funds (Central + State) for Gujarat during 1994-95 and 1995-96 the expenditure reported by the State is follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Scheme	Total funds available (Central + State)	Expenditure
SUME	247.68	95.64
SUWE	210.00	145.28

Under SUME, the State's performance is unsatisfactory mainly due to under-financing of projects by banks in the State. Under SUWE, because of wage rate not being commensurate with the rising cost of living, urban poor do not generally prefer SUWE for seeking wage employment.

As far as PMI UPEP is concerned, it is still largely in a preliminary stage, involving conduct of surveys, preparation of town-wise project reports, etc.

*[English]***Supply of Potable Water to Delhi**

751. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of water demanded by National Capital Territory of Delhi Government from Yamuna river during the last five years;

(b) the total potable water supplied by the Union Government from Yamuna river to Delhi during the said period, year-wise;

(c) whether this supply is in accordance with the demand;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether due to sharp increase in Delhi's population, the demand of potable water has sharply increased during the past years;

(f) if so, whether any steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to supply potable water to Delhi from Yamuna river as per its demand; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking (DWS&SDU) has intimated that as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of 12.5.94 between the riparian States (U.P., Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi), Delhi has been allocated 0.724 BCM (consumptive) water to meet its drinking water needs. The seasonal allocation is as follows:-

March—June	0.076 BCM
July—Oct.	0.580 BCM
Nov.—Feb.	0.0680 BCM

After signing of the MoU water is being received according to the above allocation since 1994-95.

(c) and (d) Water from the river Yamuna is being received in accordance with the MoU. The supply is also being supplemented through rainy wells and tubewells.

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir. The following steps have been taken in hand/proposed for augmenting the supply of potable water to Delhi from Yamuna river as per its demand, by Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking.

Short Term Measures:

1. Water Treatment Plant at Nagloli of 40 MGD capacity is under construction.

2. Tenders have been invited for construction of 20 MGD water Treatment Plant at Bawana.
3. Two ranney wells in Alipore Block have been commissioned and the third one is likely to be commissioned shortly.

Medium Term Measures:

1. It is proposed to construct an independent carrier lined channel along the existing Delhi branch (which due to silting has lost its carrying capacity) from Munak head works to Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant from Western Yamuna Canal.
2. Two 100 MGD Water Treatment Plants are proposed to be set near Iradat Nagar and Bakarwala Village.
3. To rationalise distribution of water, apart from the booster pumps already constructed at 9 sites and under construction at 7 sites, it is proposed to construct 18 more underground reservoirs and booster pumping stations in Trans-Yamuna area.

CBI Raids

752. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons whose houses have been raided by the CBI and the details of illegal valuable items recovered from them;

(b) the number of persons arrested so far and yet to be arrested, out of them; and

(c) the time by which the enquiry against these persons is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) During the year 1996, in 234 cases, 975 residential/official premises of 778 persons were searched in order to recover incriminating documents and objects from them to facilitate investigation.

During the course of above searches, incriminating documents and objects as per details given below were recovered/seized:-

1. Cash	Rs.13,47,21,723/- (Approx.)
2. Household items valued at	Rs.1,81,85,216/- (Approx.)
3. Gold valued at	Rs.41,47,834/- (Approx.)
4. Gold Bonds	5984.00 grams (Approx.)
5. Immovable properties worth	Rs.12,29,79,136/- (Approx.)
6. No.of incriminating documents	10271

(b) Number of persons arrested—173

The persons yet to be arrested. It is not possible to indicate information relating to persons who are yet to be arrested because generally CBI arrests only when it is considered essential in the interest of the case, depending on nature of the evidence and gravity of offence and also when custodial examination is considered necessary.

(c) Out of the above 234 cases, a total of 81 cases have been disposed of by either filing charge sheets in Court of Law or recommending departmental action or closing the case.

No time frame can be fixed for completion of investigation in the remaining cases as the delay in completion of investigation is caused due to several reasons such as complicated nature of cases, reference made to experts. Letters Regatory sent abroad to various countries who have different legal systems, investigations spread over several States all over the Country etc. The progress of the cases is, however, closely monitored by the CBI. After completion of investigation in all these cases, the law will take its course.

Liquid Fuel Based Power Projects

753. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "100 liquid fuel power projects fail to sign PPA, may face axe" appearing in the Economic Times dated February 3, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of companies who have failed to sign Power Purchase agreements (PPAs) with the respective State Governments by stipulated time;

(e) the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The Government of India have issued guidelines for the liquid fuel linkages and the State Governments have been asked to send their recommendations. The States recommend power projects for provisional linkage of liquid fuel considering the state of preparedness of the project and their likelihood of achieving financial closure within the stipulated time frame. It is for the respective State Governments to take decisions on stipulating a time frame for signing PPAs and further action, wherever necessary, in respect of those Companies who have failed to adhere to this time-frame.

*[Translation]***MPLADS - Execution**

754. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time limit has been prescribed for the execution of the work recommended by the Members of Parliament under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the execution of this scheme is delayed in districts;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to issue any guidelines for the speedy implementation of these schemes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The MPLAD Scheme does not prescribe a time limit for execution of the works recommended by a Member of Parliament. Under the revised guidelines, all sanctions for works should be accorded, as far as possible, within 45 days from the date of receipt of proposals from the concerned M.P.

(c) and (d) Some cases of delay in execution of MPLADS works have been reported. In such cases, the matter is taken up with the concerned District Collectors/ the State Governments.

(e) and (f) The State Governments have been requested to issue general instructions with regard to the periodic meetings to be held by the District level officers with the MPs and to evolve an effective mechanism for monitoring of implementation of the scheme at the State level.

*[English]***Oil Reserves**

755. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of river basins explored for oil reserves;

(b) the reserves likely to be explored during the next two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to use indigenous technology for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) The sedimentary basins and river basins have different connotation. Some of the sedimentary basins have been named after rivers that are draining sediments into them. Out of 26 sedimentary basins 19 sedimentary basins have been under hydrocarbon exploration.

(b) The recoverable reserves likely to be established by ONGC and Oil during ninth five year plan period are between 161 to 232 MMt Oil plus oil equivalent of gas.

(c) and (d) Exploration is being carried out primarily/ using indigenous technology.

Killings in J & K

756. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed, abducted and injured by the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir every month since June, 1996, till date;

(b) the number of police and security personnel killed and injured;

(c) the number of terrorists killed, apprehended every month during the above period and the number of out of them killed and apprehended were foreign mercenaries;

(d) the recovery of various types of weapons, explosives, etc., during the said period;

(e) the civilians as also security personnels killed, injured and abducted by the terrorists in Doda and other areas of Jammu region since June, 1996 and till date;

(f) the steps taken to control the number of incidents of terrorism in the State;

(g) the number of families migrated from villages of Doda, Udhampur, Rajouri and Poonch districts under threats of terrorists and the number of families which have not yet returned; and

(h) the steps being taken to check the migration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R.

BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) According to available information, the number of civilians killed, abducted and injured and security force personnel killed and injured in terrorist related violence in Jammu and Kashmir from 1.6.1996 upto 15.2.1997 is as under:

	Civilians			Security Force Personnel	
	Killed	Abducted	Injured	Killed	Injured
June'96	114	50	137	5	65
July	185	66	252	18	41
August	141	62	168	22	36
September	103	41	213	15	76
Oct.	88	55	90	26	48
Nov.	89	37	82	15	70
Dec.	116	53	100	23	46
Jan'97	90	56	123	4	23
Upto 15.2.97	49	17	39	8	8

(c) The number of terrorists including foreign mercenaries, killed and apprehended during the period is as under:

	No. of Terrorists	
	Killed	Apprehended
June'96	70	171
July	127	205
August	170	189
Sept.	95	171
Oct.	85	134
Nov.	94	87
Dec.	34	93
Jan.'97	75	119
Upto 15.2.97	23	41

These include 87 foreign mercenaries who were killed and 12 who were apprehended.

(d) 1254 AK series rifles, 662 pistols/revolvers, 52 UMGs, 30 sniper rifles, 39 RPGs, 137 Rocket launchers/Boosters, 24 grenade launchers and a large quantity of explosives and ammunition of various kinds and accessories were recovered from militants during this period.

(e) 122 persons were killed, 95 injured and 50 were abducted in Doda and other areas of Jammu region from 1.6.1996 to 15.2.1997.

(f) to (h) Some instances of temporary migration of some families from areas in Doda, Udhampur and Rajouri Districts were reported on some occasions during this period. After assurances were given by the local administration and various confidence building measures taken, most such families are reported to have returned to their native places. The measures taken to contain terrorist activities and possibilities of migration include

establishment of village Defence Committees, intensified vigilance/patrolling on the border/LOC and in the hinterland, sustained operations to flush out militants, establishment of pickets in vulnerable areas, efforts to further strengthen and reactivate the local police, strengthening of the intelligence machinery, streamlining of the arrangements for coordination among the various security agencies etc.

The operations of the security forces and various aspects of the security situation are being kept under close and continuous review both at the State and Central Government levels.

Crude Oil Production

757. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM':
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:
SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI RAM NAIK:
SHRI A. SAMPATH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the production and demand of crude oil during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the production and demand of petroleum products during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the total import of crude oil and petroleum products during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the expenditure incurred by the Government for the above import during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to reduce the import; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) to (d) The production and consumption of crude oil and petroleum products, its imports and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three year was as under:

	(Million tonnes)		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Provisional)
Crude Oil			
Production	27.026	32.239	35.145
Consumption	54.296	56.534	58.741
Imports	30.822	27.349	27.342
Value(Rs.Crores)	10689	10316	11517
Petroleum Products			
Production	51.084	52.927	55.081
*Consumption	60.812	65.437	72.569
Imports	12.076	13.961	20.335
Value(Rs. Crores)	7041	7522	12578

* This excludes consumption of products imported by private sector.

(e) and (f) Various steps being taken to increase indigenous production of crude oil and petroleum products and thereby reduce imports are-

(i) Increasing indigenous production of crude oil by developing new schemes and additional development of existing fields.

(ii) To meet the growing demand of petroleum products in the country the Government has opened refining sector for private investment. Based on all LOIs issued, refining capacity is expected to increase from existing 60.55 MMTPA to about 131 MMTPA by 2001-02 on implementation of LOI issued.

(iii) Encouraging the participation of private/joint venture in the oil sector.

(iv) Enhancing exploration of hydrocarbons and increasing reserves through seismic surveys, deep water exploration, acquisition of acreages/reserves abroad and exploration in frontier areas.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

758. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY
SHRI VIJAY KUMARA KHANDELWAL
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT
SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU

Will the Minister of PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of major projects/schemes in various sectors recently;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to accelerate performance of limping projects; and

(d) the details of improved monitoring mechanism carried out/set up recently and fresh initiative taken to ensure achievement of the set targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The DPI has been reviewing every month the progress of major projects (costing Rs.100 crores and above) in various sectors. Project wise details are given in the project implementation status report for the quarter April-June 1996. The copy of the Report is available in the Parliament library.

(c) and (d) The action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government vary from project to project and time to time. However, the nature of measures by the Government in general in the implementation is given in the enclosed Statement. The fresh initiatives taken by the Government for achieving the said targets of project

implementation are (i) proposal to introduce on-line monitoring system (ii) prioritisation of projects within available resources (iii) weeding out/privatisation of projects making slow progress and laying more emphasis on accountability in project implementation through the system of Memoranda of Understanding between Government and the Chief Executive of project implementing agencies. The Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan has endorsed these policies in a separate section and this has been approved by the National Development Council.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of projects for reducing overrun.

- i) Two-stage project approval.
- ii) On line computerised monitoring system is being implemented.
- iii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures.
- iv) Formation of Empowered Committees with adequate financial powers.
- v) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.
- vi) Setting up of project management team with tenure co-terminus with the gestation period of the project.
- vii) Improving contract management system.
- viii) Delegation of powers to field level executives.

[Translation]

CAT

759. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any judgement has been given by the Central Administrative Tribunal against Class-I officers during the last two years;

(b) if so, the names of those officers, department-wise; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against such officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) 44335 cases were disposed of by the Central Administrative Tribunal during the period 1.1.1995 to 31.12.96. These included cases of all categories of Government servants including Group-A officers. Information regarding cases decided by the Tribunal in favour of or against Group-A officers is not maintained centrally.

*[English]***Running of Parallel Government**

760. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether militants under the command of Majlis-e-Shovra-e-Jehd are running a parallel Government in Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of it;

(c) whether the Shovra has asked traders not pay tax to Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Government are aware of reported calls by the militants warning the people against paying taxes etc. A close and continuous watch is being kept on the situation.

Oil Exploration

761. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of potential oil reserve available in Sir Creek area in Lakhapat Taluka of Kutch District of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether any exploration activities have been carried out there;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the further activities proposed to be taken in oil exploration in this area by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The geoscientific surveys and exploratory drilling have been carried out in the area and so far, 31420 sq. km. (SDM) geological surveys, 8567 stations of GM surveys, 2061 GLK and 4,429 SLK of seismic surveys have been carried out and 5 exploratory wells have been drilled. However, no hydrocarbon discovery has been made.

(d) In various rounds of exploration bidding, Government of India has offered blocks in the Kutch area for exploration by private/multinational parties. The award of two blocks has been approved and negotiations are on to finalise the contract.

Relation Between Politicians and Bureaucrats

762. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code to demarcate the relationship between politicians and bureaucrats; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) The Government are considering a charter of Ethics for Public Services, which would incorporate the core values necessary for effective and efficient functioning of the bureaucracy

Committee on Reservation

763. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any sub-committee of the Cabinet has been set up to look into the matter of 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes in the Central Government Services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drinking Water Facility in Assam

764. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of cities for which the schemes for providing drinking water facility has been sent by the Government of Assam so far for approval of the Union Government; and

(b) the estimated cost proposed by the State Government in regard to each of the cities and the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme eligible for towns having population below 20,000 (as per 1991 census). Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in respect of 9 towns have been received from the Government of Assam. The names of the towns and the estimated cost of each water supply schemes is given below:

Sl.No	Name of Town	Project cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Namrup	135.31 - Sanctioned
2.	Sonari	287.24 - Sanctioned
3.	Palashbari	110.84
4.	Bilasipara	354.84
5.	Sarthebari	133.17
6.	Vasira	238.24
7.	Gossaigon	309.98
8.	Lakhipur	213.88
9.	Bihupuria	218.00

Out of these, scheme for Namrup town at an estimated cost of Rs.1.35 crores and for Sonari town at an estimated cost of Rs.2.97 crores have already been approved against the notional share of Rs.1.54 crores of Assam State in the 8th Five Year Plan outlay. Approval of other schemes under the programme will depend on the availability of funds under the programme during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Apart from the above, the following projects have been received for technical scrutiny:-

(a) Water supply scheme of Guwahati Municipal Corporation Areas (GMCA) with an estimated cost of Rs.401.72 crores for seeking Central assistance has been received from the State Government. The scheme has been technically examined and comments conveyed to the State Government with the request to approach either LIC/ HUDCO for seeking loan assistance as at present there is no Centrally sponsored scheme to provide Central assistance to towns having population above 20,000.

(b) Apart from the above, two other projects have been received from the State Government for seeking foreign assistance viz. project profile of water supply scheme for Guwahati Municipal Corporation Area (GMCA) at an estimated cost of Rs.400 crores, and Implementation of water supply schemes in Greater Guwahati city at an estimated cost of Rs.270.20 crores.

Technical scrutiny of the said projects has been done by the CPHEEO in the Ministry and the State Government advised to modify the projects.

[Translation]

Potable Water Scheme for Maharashtra

765. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the cities of Maharashtra for which the State Government has sent a potable water scheme for clearance of the Union Government; and

(b) the estimated cost of the scheme worked out

by the State Government and the decision of the Union Government thereon, city-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, eligible for towns having population below 20,000 (as per 1991 census), Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in respect of 28 towns have been received from the Government of Maharashtra. The names of the towns and the estimated cost of each water supply schemes is given at Statement enclosed. Out of these, 10 water supply schemes at an total estimated cost of Rs.1371 lakhs have been sanctioned so far, against the notional share of Rs.458.91 lakhs for the State of Maharashtra in the 8th Five Year Plan period. The approval of other schemes under the programme will depend on the availability of funds during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Apart from the above, the following schemes have been received from the Government of Maharashtra as below:

LIC ASSISTED PROJECTS

- Akola Water Supply Scheme (Phase-III) Distribution system at a project cost of Rs.34.56 crores has been received on 24.1.1997
- Augmentation to Latur Water Supply Scheme, Stage-V at a project cost of Rs.83 crores has been technically examined by this Ministry and comments conveyed to the State Government.

Statement

*Schemes under AUWSP Received from
State of Maharashtra*

(RS. IN LAKHS)

Sl. No.	Name of the town	Project cost	Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Patur	51.03	(March '94)
2.	Deulgaon Raja	160.22	(March '94)
3.	Lonar	98.18	(March '94)
4.	Main Dargi	42.21	(March '94)
5.	Telhara	18.37	(March '94)
6.	Kundalwadi	145.10	(December '95)
7.	Sendurjanaghat	117.78	(August '96)
8.	Saswad	213.55	(October '96)
9.	Indapur	324.47	(October '96)
10.	Dudhani	200.19	(November '96)
		1371.10	

1	2	3	4
11.	Rahatapimplas	396.76	
12.	Sonepath	169.57	
13.	Hadgaon	332.77	
14.	Parandha	286.28	
15.	Biloli	272.65	
16.	Savada	470.79	
17.	Sindhi	366.57	
18.	Mul	462.81	
19.	Kamaleshwar	177.53	
20.	Vadgaon	284.96	
21.	Deolgaon Rajasindked		
	Raja	1648.05	
22.	Bhoom	357.49	
23.	Naldurga	208.84	
24.	Saoner	467.88	
25.	Mukhed	714.18	
26.	Kalam	808.85	
27.	Deoli	190.42	
28.	Khapa	65.85	
		7682.25	
Grand Total		9053.35	

Handing Over POK to Pakistan

766. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL:
 SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN:
 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:
 SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
 SHRI ANANT GUDH:
 SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA:
 SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
 SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported statement made by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir that Pak occupied Kashmir should be handed over to Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The position of the Government is that the whole of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, including the area under illegal occupation of Pakistan, and portions of the State illegally ceded by Pakistan, is an integral part of India.

[English]

Oil Pool Account

767. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
 SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance had drawn over Rs.4000 crores from the oil Pool Account and had also put over Rs.26000 crores in the Consolidated Fund of India from collections of a cess on petroleum sales;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has now requested the Ministry of Finance to return this amount of over rupees thirty thousand crore to save the oil industry; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Ministry of Finance thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

NRV

768. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for 1996-97 for various schemes under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRV) for providing employment opportunities to the unemployed and under-employed and the achievements made upto December 31, 1996;

(b) whether the target is expected to be achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the purpose and whether the same to likely to be fully utilised during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The target, fixed for 1996-97 under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRV) for providing employment opportunities to the unemployed and under-employed and the reported achievements made upto December 31, 1996 are given below:

(Figure in lakhs)

Scheme	Targets	Achievements
Number of beneficiaries assisted	0.87	0.99
employment units	to set up self	
No. of mandays of work generated	33.74	32.89

(b) and (c) The target for setting up self employment units has already been achieved, while the target for

generating mandays of work is expected to be achieved during the remaining period.

(d) An amount of Rs.50.15 crores has been earmarked for the current year and the expenditure is likely to be fully incurred.

Shortcomings in Implementation of IRDP

769. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether any shortcomings in the implementation of IRDP and such other schemes of the Central Government have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) the number of families selected under IRDP and the Yardstick applied in the selection thereof;

(d) whether the families selected did not come within the laid down yardstick; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter and to improve the situation in rural areas to alleviate poverty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The results of the Concurrent Evaluation Survey conducted in 1992-93 revealed that though 54.48% of the families were able to cross the poverty line of Rs.6400, only 15.96% of the families were able to cross the revised poverty line of Rs.11,000. Further more, the linkage of IRDP with its allied schemes of TRYSEM and DWCRA was found to be weak.

The results of the Concurrent Evaluation have been intimated to all State Governments for taking corrective action. With a view to making IRDP projects more viable so that a large number of beneficiaries can cross the poverty line, the Ministry has been encouraging higher levels of investment through the Family Credit Plan and group activities. Greater emphasis is being given to proper project formulation and infrastructure development. Efforts are also being made to integrate the TRYSEM and the DWCRA schemes more closely with the main programme of the IRDP.

(c) The total number of families assisted under IRDP during 1995-96 was 20.89 lakh. During the current year 1996-97, 9.9 lakh families were assisted upto December, 1996. The IRDP beneficiaries are selected on the basis of a house to house survey at the beginning of each Five Year Plan to identify families living below the poverty line (BPL). In a given year, the list of families to be selected for assistance is approved by the Gram Sabha in an open general body meeting publicised in advance. The poverty line was defined as annual household income of Rs.11,000 for the BPL Survey for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) According to the Concurrent Evaluation Survey for 1992-93 only 4% of the beneficiary families assisted under IRDP had an annual income of more than Rs.11,000. Similarly, about 48 per cent of families were found not to have been selected in Gram Sabha meetings.

(e) In order to make the selection of beneficiaries more participative, objective and transparent the Ministry had issued instructions to all States and UTs after the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution re-emphasising the role of Gram Sabhas and the village community in identification and selection of IRDP beneficiaries.

NTPC/SEBs

770. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total payment due to National Thermal Power Corporation and Central Electricity Authority from each State Electricity Board;

(b) the action initiated by the Government and NTPC to recover their dues;

(c) the reasons for non-payment of dues by the State Electricity Boards;

(d) whether Government are aware that the National Development Council advised to levy a minimum tariff from the farm sector at least to cover operational costs; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that the all States follow the above advice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The matter relating to recovery of outstanding dues is being consistently followed up by NTPC with the defaulting States/SEBs. In case of large defaulters, the power supply is also sometimes regulated. NTPC has also introduced a special incentive scheme for prompt payment by SEBs. The Government has, recently decided that supply of power, henceforth, should only be against advance payments or opening of irrevocable Letters of Credit. Government of India has also been facilitating NTPC to recover its dues from States through adjustments from devolutions from the Centre to the States.

(c) The reasons for non-payment of dues by SEBs include poor financial health for SEBs, sub-optimal pricing policy followed by most SEBs for supply of electricity, high transmission and distribution losses, including pilferage of electricity and relatively unsatisfactory receivable position of SEBs.

(d) The National Development Council has not given any such advice in this regard.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

*NTPC's outstanding against State Electricity Boards
As on 31.1.1997*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/ Organisations	Outstanding dues	Surcharge billed	Total Outstanding
Uttar Pradesh SEB	69787	26825	96612
Rajasthan SEB	4048	15714	19762
Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking	77689	10450	88139
Punjab SEB	1395	322	1717
Haryana SEB	11065	12739	23804
Himachal Pradesh SEB	2022	941	2963
Jammu & Kashmir	27532	6386	33918
UT Chandigarh	1201	0	1201
POWERGRID	267	23	290
Madhya Pradesh SEB	21725	17741	39466
Maharashtra EB	11281	7975	19256
Gujarat EB	10389	6450	16839
Goa	120	35	155
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	59	0	59
Daman & Diu	296	2	298
POWERGRID	157	27	284
Andhra Pradesh SEB	7877	5210	13087
Karnataka EB	3770	3384	7154
Tamil Nadu EB	2104	5661	7765
Kerala SEB	615	2206	2821
Goa	27	66	93
Pondicherry	6	2	8
West Bengal SEB	17149	5786	22935
Bihar SEB	32807	24849	57656
GRIDCO(Orissa)	9403	0	9403
DVC	9191	9034	18225
Sikkim	307	55	362
Total	322289	161883	484172

Kendriya Bhandar

771. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stores operating by the Kendriya Bhandar at present, State-wise;

(b) whether there is no store of Kendriya Bhandar in Orissa;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to open some stores in the country particularly in Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) There are 102 branch stores of Kendriya Bhandar at present in the various States/Union Territories as follows :

S.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of branch stores
1.	Delhi	72
2.	Tamil Nadu	11
3.	Uttar Pradesh	5
4.	Andhra Pradesh	3
5.	Haryana	3
6.	Chandigarh	2
7.	Karnataka	2
8.	Maharashtra	1
9.	Punjab	1
10.	Kerala	1
11.	Daman & Diu	1
		102

(b) to (e) There is no branch store of Kendriya Bhandar in Orissa and there is also no proposal at present to open any branch store in that State. Branches of Kendriya Bhandar are opened in areas having concentration of Central Government Employees as and when conditions like financial viability of new stores and the availability of accommodation on nominal rent are fulfilled.

[Translation]

DESU

772. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN :
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "NTPC carries out its threat, long power-cut in Capital" appearing in "The Hindustan Times", New Delhi dated 5th February, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ;

(c) the difficulties which lie in the way of the DESU in making payment of the dues to the National Thermal Power Corporation; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to meet the situation arising from the NTPC restricting power supply to the Capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) It was decided by Government in October, 1996 that future supply

of power by Central Power Sector Utilities should only be against advance payment or irrevocable letter of credit. However, taking into consideration the adverse financial condition of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU), implementation of this decision was deferred till 31.12.1996 in the case of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Since DESU did not make full payment of current dues of Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), regulation of power to Delhi was enforced on 1.2.1997. The position has been again reviewed in a meeting on 10.2.1997 and it was decided to withdraw regulation of power and that the shortfall in payments made by DESU to BTPS and NTPC for the period 1st January, 1997 to 30th April, 1997 will be adjusted against the dues payable by Central Government to NCT of Delhi. The Government of NCT Delhi has given an undertaking for effecting the adjustment and for making full payment of current dues of BTPS and NTPC from 1st May, 1997.

[English]

Right to Information

773. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up a Working Group on right to information and promotion of open and transparent Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far by the Union/State Governments in this regard ?"

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Government have set up a Working Group on Right to Information and Promotion of open and transparent Government. A copy of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances O.M. No.34011/1(s)/97-Estt.(B) dated 2nd January, 1997 indicating the composition and terms of reference of the Group is on the Table of the House enclosed as Statement.

Statement

No.34011/1(S)/97-Estt.(B)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, P.G. & Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training

New Delhi, dated 2nd Jan., 1997

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Setting up of a Working Group on Right to Information and promotion of open and transparent Government.

There is widespread agreement on the need for a clean and responsive administration based on the principles of accountability, openness, decentralisation and citizen orientation. In the context of the National Debate on Effective and Responsive Administration initiated by the Government of India, it has been decided to formulate specific measures for the introduction of greater transparency in the functioning of Government and public bodies, with reference to both their own employees and interaction with members of the public. It is also considered necessary to ensure widespread and easy access of citizens to all information relating to operations of Government and public agencies, subject to specified exceptions. For this purpose, the possibility of the introduction of a legislation for Right to Information at the levels of Central and State Government could be examined after appropriate consultations. This would involve also the consideration of amendment to various relevant legislations including the Official Secrets Act.

2. In view of the above, it has been decided with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary, to constitute a Working Group on "Right to Information and Transparency" under the Chairmanship of Shri H.D. Shourie, Chairman, Common Cause, New Delhi with the following composition :—

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Shri H.D. Shourie | Chairman |
| 2. Shri Soli Sorabjee | Member |
| 3. PIO, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting | Member |
| 4. A representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs | Member |
| 5. Additional/Joint Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs | Member |
| 6. A representative of the Ministry of Railways | Member |
| 7. A representative of the Department of Posts | Member |
| 8. A representative of the Department of Telecom | Member |
| 9. Shri Narinder Singh, Jt. Secy., Department of Personnel and Training | Member |

3. The Terms of Reference of the Working Group are as follows :

- To examine the feasibility and need of either a full fledged Right to Information Act or its introduction in a phased manner to meet the needs of open and responsive Government.
- To identify specific areas where Right to Information can be built into the working procedures and working system especially in large departmental undertakings including Railways, Telecommunications, Postal Ser-

vices, Passports and Banking at the Central Government level.

- c. To examine the internal working procedures with a view to introducing greater openness and transparency in handling of employees grievances and internal consultation.
- d. To examine the rules framework with particular reference to the existing Conduct Rules and Manual of Office Procedure with a view to introducing greater openness and transparency in Government working including dealings with employees.
- e. To examine the nature and content of training to promote greater openness and more customer responsive public dealings.

4. The Working Group will submit its report within a period of two months.

5. The expenditure on local transport and other allowances of the non-official members, as per rules applicable to Group 'A' officers of the Government of India, will be met from the budget of Department of Personnel and Training.

(Y.G. Parande)

Director

Tele.3015589

To

Shri H.D. Shourie, A-31, Westend, New Delhi-21.

Shri Soli Sorabjee, Sr. Advocate, 134 Sundar Nagar, New Delhi - 110 003.

Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.

Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

Chairman, Railway Board, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.

Secretary, Department of Posts, Dak Bhavan, New Delhi.

Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Sanchar Bhavan, New Delhi.

Principal Information Officer, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, New Delhi.

Joint Secretary (E), DOPT, North Block, New Delhi.

Copy for information to :-

1. Staff Officer to Cabinet Secretary

2. PS to Prime Minister

3. PPS to Secretary (P)

4. PS to: EO, AS(P), AS(S&V), JS(T), JS(AT&A)

Pension Procedure

774. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to simplify the pension procedure to ensure that the retiring employees get their payment without delay ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far and proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have issued necessary instructions on 23.1.1987, 2.5.1994 and 24.8.1994 for ensuring that the retiring employees get their payment without any delay (Details are given in Statements - I, II and III) respectively. These instructions lay down that the Head of the Department/ offices are to ensure compliance of Government orders for ensuring authorisation of pension, provisional or final, by the date of retirement. These instructions also lay down that the Heads of Offices/Departments are responsible for ensuring timely payment and for any delay action is required to be taken against the delinquent officials and fixing responsibility for the delay in payments.

Statement-I

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.38/9/87-P&PW

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Department of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare
New Delhi.

January 23, 1987

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Payment of provisional pension/gratuity.

The Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and the corresponding rules applicable to All India Services Officers, Armed Forces personnel and Railway employees provide for advance action to be taken by the Heads of Office and the Audit/Accounts Officers to ensure that the amount of pension and gratuity due to a retired Government employee is assessed well in time and the pension payment order issued not later than one month in advance of the date of retirement. In cases where pension and gratuity cannot be settled as contemplated above, the Rules provide for the payment of provisional pension and provisional gratuity (e.g. Rule 64 of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972). If the Head of Office is of the opinion that the Government

servant is likely to retire before his pension or gratuity or both can be finally assessed and settled in accordance with the relevant Rules, he shall take expeditious steps to sanction up to 100% of pension as provisional pension and up to 100% of gratuity as provisional gratuity, in accordance with the Rules.

2. Representations have been made to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions that provisional pension and provisional gratuity are not being sanctioned by the Heads of Office as provided for in the Rules. This is causing a great deal of avoidable hardship to retiring employees.

3. Government have taken a serious view of these complaints that the provisions of the statutory rules are not being observed. Heads of Office are advised to ensure that there is no occasion for complaints in future from the retiring employees and to follow the prescribed procedure in letter and spirit. Accountability in this regard will rest with the Head of the Office concerned.

4. If any Central Government employees, on retirement, is not sanctioned provisional pension and provisional gratuity, pending a final determination of his/her pension and issue of the Pension Payment Order, he/she may send a complaint to the Department of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare for taking immediate action. The Government would like to ensure that retiring employees should on their retirement normally receive the final sanction of pensionary benefits. If delay in issuing a final Pension Payment Order is unavoidable, at least the benefits of provisional pension and provisional gratuity should be allowed as prescribed in the Rules.

5. These instructions do not apply to cases falling under Rule 9 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and corresponding provisions in the Rules applicable to All India Services Officers, Armed Forces Personnel and Railway employees, etc.

6. The Ministry of Finance, etc. are requested to bring the contents of this Office Memorandum to the notice of all concerned for *strict* compliance.

Hindi version will follow.

Sd/-

(I.K. Rasgotra)

Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, etc. (As per standard mailing list)

Statement-II

No.38/116/93-P&PW (F)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Department of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare

3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan

Khan Market, New Delhi - 3.

Date 2.5.94

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Avoidance of delays in payment of pensionary benefits.

A study on the procedures of payment of pension in the offices of the Government of India was undertaken to look into the delayed payments of pensions. The study concentrated mainly on the following two issues;

- (a) Identifying the area for streamlining and simplifying the procedures, and
- (b) Finding out the cause of delay at various stages of sanction of pension and suggesting remedial steps.

2. The Reports has blamed the non-following of the provisions made in the Statutory rules as the main cause for delays. The Govt. have taken a serious view that the provisions of the statutory rules are not being observed. Heads of Office are advised to strictly follow the prescribed procedure of payments of pensionary benefits in letter and spirit. Accountability for delays in such matter will rest with the Heads of Office.

3. The Report has *inter-alia* commented on the following areas, which are highlighted for guidance and strict compliance :-

VERIFICATION OF QUALIFYING SERVICE

The Study Team came to the conclusion that verification of qualifying service takes a lots of time in the absence of proper entries and verification of service recorded in the service book. The Study Team, therefore, recommended verification of qualifying service should be done as provided in the statutory rules. In this connection, the following provisions, in particular, are again brought to the notice of Heads of Office :-

(A) Rule 202 of the Supplementary Rules :

"It shall be the duty of every Head of Office to initiate action to show the service book to the Government servant under his administrative control every year and to obtain their signature therein in token of their having inspected the service book. A certificate to the effect that he has done so in respect of the preceding financial year should be submitted by him to his next superior office by the end of every September. The Government servants shall *inter-alia* ensure before affixing their signature that their services have been duly verified and certified as such. In the case of a

Government servant on foreign service, his signature shall be obtained in his service book after the Audit Officer has made therein necessary entries connected with his foreign service."

(B) Rule 32 of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 :

- (1) "On a Government servant completing twenty five years of service or on his being left with five years of service before the date of retirement whichever is earlier, the Head of Office in consultation with the Accounts Officer shall in accordance with the rules for the time being in force, verify the service rendered by such a Government servant, determine the qualifying service and communicate to him in Form 24, the period of qualifying service so determined.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in Sub-Rule (1) where a Government servant is transferred to another Department from a temporary Department on account of the closure of the Department he had been previously serving or because the post he held had been declared surplus, the verification of his service may be done whenever such event occurs.
- (3) The verification done under sub-rules (1) and (2) shall be treated as final and shall not be re-opened except when necessiated by a subsequent change in the rules and orders governing the conditions under which the service qualifies for pension."

4. Interest on Delayed payment of Gratuity:

4.1 The Study Team has recommended that adequate precautions should be taken by the Heads of Office so that payment of interest on delayed payment of gratuity is avoided. Moreover, dealing hand should be made accountable and responsibility be fixed if he is guilty of not taking timely action in this regard.

4.2 In spite of Statutory Provisions in the rules, cases must have come to the notice of Ministries/Depts. where heavy interest charges have been imposed by the Courts for delayed payment of pension/gratuity. Attention in this connection is drawn to Rule 68 (4) of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 providing that in all cases where payment of interest has been sanctioned by the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry or the Deptt. such Ministry or the Deptt. shall fix the responsibility and take disciplinary action against the Govt. servant or servants who are found responsible for a delay in payment of gratuity. The Administrative Heads of the Ministries/ Deptt. are requested to keep these provisions in view for fixation of responsibility and taking suitable disciplinary action wherever employees are found guilty of not taking timely action.

5. Determination and authorisation of the amount of Family Pension and Death Gratuity in respect of Government Servants Dying While in Service :

The Study Team has recommended that the delay in sending the claim papers to the family of deceased Government servants should be avoided. In this connection, attention is invited to the detailed instructions which already exist in Chapter IX of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, which provide that the Head of Office should take immediate action for sanction of family pension and other retirement benefits in case of death while in service. These instructions should be strictly followed in cases of death of a Government servant while in service to avoid delay in payment of admissible pensionary benefits. Action to process such cases should be initiated immediately on the receipt of intimation of death without waiting for production of the formal death certificate.

6. Appropriate training of employees handling pension cases :

The Study Team has pointed out that staff responsible for processing pension cases were found to be not fully aware of the urgency of maintaining the time schedule for obtaining and processing of pension papers. It was also found that staff dealing with pension had not undergone any training on the subject. The Ministries / Departments are advised to ensure that staff dealing with pension matters are trained properly in pension procedures and they should be sent for in-service training from time to time.

7. Publicity regarding provisions of CCS (Pension) Rules :

The Study Team observed that the Government servants are in most cases not aware of the relevant provisions of the Pension Rules viz., sanction of provisional pension, service verification, certificate etc. As a result Government servants are ignorant of what the office is expected to do at various stages. A brochure "Towards an enjoyable retirement" was brought out by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare in 1988 to make them aware of various provisions in the Pension Rules. A copy of this brochure is enclosed. This may be widely circulated amongst the Government servants, especially those who are retiring in the near future.

8. Periodical co-ordination meeting between Administrative Heads and Accounts Offices :

The Study Team has highlighted the need for coordination and periodical meetings between Administrative Head and Accounts Office to sort out any shortcomings in the service record of retiring persons. Such meetings should be monitored at the highest level.

9. Sanction of provisional Pension and Gratuity :

Rule 64 stipulates that Head of Office is empowered to sanction provisional pension and gratuity for a period of six months to a retiring employee, if he is of the opinion that the Government servant is likely to retire before his pension and gratuity or both can be finally assessed. The Study Team has observed that this option has not been exercised at all in many cases and the retiring person could not get his pension in time due to one or the other

objection. In this connection, attention is also invited to Department of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare O.M. No.38/9/87-P&PW dated 23rd January, 1987 whereby Heads of Departments/Offices were made accountable for strict compliance of Government orders for issuing authorisation of Pension and Gratuity provisional or final at the date of retirement on superannuation. A copy of these instructions is enclosed for strict compliance.

10. Ministry of Defence etc. are requested to bring these instructions to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance

Hindi version is enclosed.

(Dinesh Chandra)

Additional Secretary to the Government of India

To

All Ministries/Departments of Government of India

Statement—III

No.38/116/93-P&PW(F)

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Department of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare
3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan
Khan Market, New Delhi - 3.
24th August, 1994.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Avoidance of delay in pensionary benefits - Regarding

In pursuance of action taken on a Study on the Procedure for payment of pension in Offices of Govt. of India, instructions for avoidance of delays in payment of pensionary benefits were issued vide Deptt. of Pension and Pensioners, Welfare O.M. No.38/116/93-P&PW(F) dated the 2nd May 1994.

2. The Govt. has considered some further recommendations made in the Report of the Study team and the following guidelines are issued for strict compliance:

Invalid pension: The Study Team had recommended that in case of invalid pension, the report of Medical Board should precede or coincide with the actual date of retirement applied for on the grounds of invalidation. According to the provisions contained in Rule 38 of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, a Govt. servant is required to make known his intention of retirement on Invalid grounds to the Head of Office who will then refer the Govt. servant to a Medical Board or a Civil Surgeon etc. as the case may be. The invalid pension in such cases is sanctioned after a Medical Certificate of incapacity from the appropriate medical authority is received. Cases have come to notice where invalid pension was sanctioned after considerable delay. All Heads of Office are, therefore,

advised that whenever a Government servant applies for retirement on grounds of invalidation, the case may be referred to the concerned medical authority immediately so that their findings are available without delay.

2. Location of administrative office dealing with pension papers and the Accounts Office responsible for verifying pension papers at the same station.

The Study Team has recommended that the Administrative Office dealing with pension papers and the Accounts Office responsible for verifying the pension papers should as far as possible be located at the same station. This recommendation of the Study Team has been accepted in principle. It is appreciated that the administrative feasibility of implementing this recommendation will differ from Deptt. to Deptt. The Administrative Ministries/Depts. may endeavour to achieve the objective to the extent possible.

3. Attention is also invited to para 7 of this Deptt.'s O.M. No.38/116/93-P&PW(F) dated the 2nd May 1994, according to which Ministries/Depts. were required to give wide publicity to the Brochure 'Towards An Enjoyable Retirement' brought out by the Deptt. of Pension and PW to make the retiring Government servants aware of the provisions of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972. Some further check points have been devised to enable would be pensioners to know what they should do to save them from botheration at the time of their retirements. A copy of these check points is enclosed. This may be widely circulated among the Govt. servants, especially, those retiring in the near future.

4. The Ministry of Defence etc are requested to bring the contents of this Office Memorandum to the notice of all concerned for strict compliance.

5. Hindi version is enclosed.

(Kashmiri Lal)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

All Ministries/Deptt.

(as per standard list)

[Translation]

Rural Electrification

775. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA .
SHRI LALIT ORAON
SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have achieved the target of Rural Electrification Programme;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to speed up the Rural Electrification Programme in the country;

(c) whether any proposal has been received by the Union Government from the State Governments in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which all the villages in the country are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Out of a total of 26 States in the country, 13 States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu have achieved cen per cent electrification of the feasible inhabited villages.

(b) To speed up the pace of rural electrification programme in the country, the Government of India through Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides financial assistance for rural electrification programme for areas/ States lagging behind in village electrification. REC provides financial assistance on softer terms and conditions under the Minimum Needs Programme for backward areas.

(c) and (d) Since rural electrification programmes are unremunerative in nature, some State Electricity Boards have been requesting REC for a deferment of their repayment and rescheduling of loans, as also relaxation of terms and conditions of the loans. Due to very heavy default in repayment of REC's dues by the SEBs, REC has not been able to give any further relief to the State Governments/State Electricity Boards.

(e) Rural Electrification is a continuous programme. Physical and financial targets for the programme are fixed annually by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government/State Electricity Boards for the State as a whole after taking into account the availability of funds and other inputs.

Foreign Investment

776. KUMARI UMABHARATI
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries which made investment in the food processing sector during 1995-96 alongwith their capital amount involved, country-wise; and

(b) the details of foreign investment approved in food processing sector so far, State-wise and Project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Details of foreign investment approved during 1995-96 in the various sectors of food processing is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Sectorwise and Statewise details of foreign investment approved in the various sectors of food

processing sector sine liberalisation till November, 96 is given in the Statement - II and III respectively.

Statement-I

Country-wise details of Foreign Investment Approved in various Sectors of Food Processing During 1995-96.

Sl.No.	Country	Foreign Investment (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Australia	291
2.	Austria	268
3.	Belgium	68
4.	Bermuda	53
5.	Canada	13922
6.	France	2354
7.	Germany	2994
8.	Ireland	2430
9.	Israel	182
10.	Italy	1279
11.	Japan	22
12.	South Korea	60
13.	Luxemberg	25
14.	Mauritius	1840
15.	Netherland	2584
16.	Singapore	200
17.	U.K.	2142
18.	U.S.A.	14739
19.	Others	6260

Statement-II

Sector-wise Details of Foreign Investment in Food Processing Industries since Liberalisation upto November, 1996.

Sector	(Amount in Rs. Crores)
1. Grain milling & grain based.	408
2. Fruits & vegetable products.	761
3. Meat & Poultry.	396
4. Deep Sea Fishing, Fish Processing & aquaculture.	549
5. Fermentation industry.	337
6. Consumer industry including soft drinks/water/confectionery etc.	4299
7. Milk & Milk Products.	297
8. Others including food additives, flavours etc.	229
Total	7276

Statement—III*Statewise details of proposal approved till November, 1996*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the State	Foreign Investment
1.	Andhra Pradesh	207
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Gujarat	113
5.	Haryana	136
6.	Himachal Pradesh	92
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5
8.	Karnataka	74
9.	Kerala	32
10.	Madhya Pradesh	89
11.	Maharashtra	3435
12.	Manipur	-
13.	Meghalaya	-
14.	Nagaland	-
15.	Orissa	1
16.	Punjab	491
17.	Rajasthan	27
18.	Tamil Nadu	479
19.	Tripura	1
20.	Uttar Pradesh	404
21.	West Bengal	24
22.	Sikkim	-
23.	Andaman Nicobar	1
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
25.	Chandigarh	1
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	-
27.	Delhi	1
28.	Daman & Diu	-
29.	L M & A Islands	-
30.	Misoram	-
31.	Pondicherry	5
32.	Goa	27
33.	LOCATION NOT SPECIFIED/UNITS IN MORE THAN ONE LOCATION	1629
Total		7276

*[English]***LPG Connections**

777. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the large scale sale of counterfeit LPG coupons similar to the ones issued to Members of Parliament in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several Members from Kerala have sought enquiry in the matter by the C.B.I.; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) A news item appeared in Malayala Manorama a leading daily in Kerala, on 25.1.97 regarding availability of Mps' coupons in the market allegedly at a premium.

(c) and (d) Only one reference has been received seeking C.B.I. enquiry in the matter on the basis of which vigilance departments of Oil Companies have been requested to investigate the allegations.

Illegal Constructions

778. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Politician-builder nexus blamed for illegal constructions" appearing in the "Statesman" dated January 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether cause of the growth of unauthorised constructions in the capital has been ascertained;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action plan of the Government to check illegal constructions in the capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Unauthorised construction is a continuing problem in Delhi and its removal is an ongoing process. As and when unauthorised construction is detected/reported, action is taken by DDA, MCD and NDMC under the provisions of the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 and the New Delhi Municipal Council Act 1994 respectively. During the last three years DDA booked 385 cases of violation of sanctioned building plans for action under the Delhi Development Act. The Lt. Governor of Delhi has constituted a Special Task Force in each of the nine Districts of Delhi

*[Translation]***Uniform Power Tariff**

781. SHRI D.P. YADAV :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to rationalise electricity tariff structure all over the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter;

(c) the specific steps taken to improve the deteriorating financial health of the State Electricity Boards;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to curtail the annual plan funds of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power, finalised in the Chief Ministers' Conference on Power, held on 16th October, 1996 and 3rd December, 1996, inter-alia, recommends for establishment of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) in each State/UT for determination of retail tariffs, cross-subsidisation between categories of consumers subject to no sector paying less than 50% of the average cost of supply, agriculture tariff not being less than 50 paise per kwh to be brought to 50% of the average cost in not more than 3 years, recommendations of SERCs being mandatory, and any deviation from tariff recommended by it, the State Governments/UTs to provide for the financial implications of such deviations in the State/UT budget and a package of incentive and disincentives to encourage and facilitate the implementation of tariff rationalisation by the States. Further, the Action Plan also recommends autonomy to the State Electricity Boards, restructuring and Corporatisation of SEBs to run on commercial basis, improvement in the management practices of State Electricity Boards, and improvement of physical parameters etc. to improve the deteriorating financial health of the State Electricity Boards.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

*[English]***Investment on Research and Development**

782. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be

pleased to state :

(a) the total amount invested on Research and Development in the country by the Public and Private Sector separately;

(b) the percentage of the amount invested in industrial sector for Research and Development out of the total amount invested and its comparison with other developing countries; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for increasing amount of investment on Research and Development in the Industrial Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) According to data reported to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the total amount invested on Research and Development in the country by the Government recognised in-house R&D units in the Public and Private Sectors together is around Rs.1575 crores during 1995-96; expenditure incurred by the Public Sector units is around Rs.550 crores and rest is by the Private Sector units.

(b) The percentage of the amount invested in Industrial Sector for Research and Development out of the total amount invested for Research and Development in the country is around 26% as compared to 5% to 30% in other developing countries.

(c) Government have, from time to time, evolved fiscal incentives and support measures to encourage industry to increase investments in Research and Development.

Indian Oil Corporation Investment

783. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has planned to invest about 500 crores in port infrastructure in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of ports where such infrastructure is proposed to be created by the IOC and approved by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited has planned to take up infrastructure development of priority areas to meet the demand for petroleum products in the Ninth Plan. This activity covers development of terminals/depots pipelines

at inland locations as well as at port locations at an approximate cost of Rs.1800 crores.

Flaring of Gas

764. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantity of gas is still being flared up;

(b) if so, the quantity of gas thus flared during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons why this gas is not utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) The current rate of flaring of gas is around 3.6 MMSCMD.

(b) The flaring in the last three years was as below:

MMSCMD

1993-94	5.27
1994-95	5.53
1995-96	3.81

(c) Flaring of gas is due to technical requirements of field operation, lack of infrastructural facility, fluctuations in offtake by consumers, availability of gas at isolated structures etc.

[Translation]

Demand of LPG

785. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the projected demand of LPG, Kerosene Petrol and Petroleum products in Bihar and the details of public undertakings to meet the demand;

(b) whether Oil Selection Board has been formed in Bihar to give final shape to the selection of new dealership for the current year; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) The demand projection of petroleum products is carried out on All-India basis. Thus, product-wise demand projections of petroleum products for the State of Bihar are not maintained. The demand for LPG from the customers enrolled with Public Sector Oil Companies is met by

and large in full. Kerosene is an allocated product and the allocation for the State of Bihar for 1996-97 is 647512 Mts. For MS/HSD, the market demand is being met in full.

(b) New Oil Selection Board for Bihar has not been formed.

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

Production of Crude Oil

786. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount disbursed on loans and grants by Oil Industry Development Board to various Public Sector Oil Companies during 1996-97, company-wise and activity-wise;

(b) the mechanism to ensure that the amount disbursed is utilised for the intended purpose;

(c) the total amount of the loans and grants given to various oil companies for the exploration and production of crude oil during the last three years;

(d) whether OIDB has given loans for capital expenditure and working capital to the Public Sector Oil Companies during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the name of the companies and the amount of loan to each company; and

(f) the total loan amount outstanding to each company at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The details are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) the OIDB ensures utilisation of funds by obtaining the yearly utilisation certificate and audited Statements duly authenticated by Audit. Besides, a brief on the utilisation of funds is also called for from the loanee at the end of each financial year.

(c) Details are given in the Statement - II enclosed.

(d) Yes.

(e) The information is given in the Statement - III enclosed.

(f) The details are given in the Statement - IV enclosed.

Statement-I*Details of loan/grants released to Oil OSUs upto 31.1.97**(1996-97)**(Rs./Crores)*

S.No.	Name of the company	Amount Released	Activities
1.	Balmer Lawrie Co. Ltd.	25.00	Engineering
2.	Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	171.78	Refining/Marketing
3.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	250.00	Refining/Marketing
4.	IBP Co. Ltd.	50.00	Refining/Marketing
5.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	130.00	Refining/Marketing
6.	Madras Refineries Ltd.	85.33	Refining/Marketing
7.	Bongaigaon Refinery and Petro-chemicals Ltd.	2.53	Refining/Marketing
		<u>714.64</u>	
Non Plan/other assistance			
1.	ONGC-Videsh Ltd.	49.00	Exploration
2.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	462.03	Working Capital Loan
		<u>511.03</u>	
Grants			
1.	Petroleum Conservation Research Association	4.02	Research & Development
2.	Centre for High Technology	9.30	Research & Development
3.	Directorate General of Hydrocarbons	5.36	Research & Development
4.	Oil Industry Safety Directorate	1.80	Research & Development
5.	Indian Institute of Petroleum	1.54	Research & Development
6.	Tata Energy Research Institute	0.05	Research & Development
7.	National Petroleum Management Programme	0.10	Research & Development
8.	Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.	0.09	Research & Development
9.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.	<u>22.26</u>	- Research & Development
Grand Total		<u>1247.93</u>	

Statement-II*Details of loans and grant given to various oil companies for the exploration and production of crude oil during the last three years**(Rs./Crores)*

S.No.	Year	Loan	Grant
1.	1993-94	255.00	-
2.	1994-95	-	-
3.	1995-96	161.57	-
Total		<u>416.57</u>	-

Statement—III*Projected/disbursed loans/grants to oil companies/grantee institutions during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96*

(Rs./Crores)

Loan for Capital Expenditure				
S.No.	Name of the Company	Disbursed Amount 1993-94	Disbursed Amount 1994-95	Disbursed Amount 1995-96
1.	Madras Refineries Ltd.	256.00	-	80.80
2.	Cochin Refineries Ltd.	115.40	73.97	-
3.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	64.21	-	-
4.	Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	50.00	96.00	102.00
5.	Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd.	-	20.00	15.62
6.	Balmer Lawrie Co. Ltd.	18.00	25.10	26.75
7.	Lubrizol India Ltd.	-	15.00	-
8.	IBP Co. Ltd.	18.00	40.00	132.39
9.	Biecco Lawrie Ltd.	-	1.00	3.25
10.	Oil India Ltd.	-	-	133.87
11.	ONGC - Videsh Ltd.	105.00	-	27.70
12.	Balmer Lawrie co. Ltd.	4.66	-	-
13.	Biecco Lawrie Co. Ltd.	3.29	5.04	-
14.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	-	0.16	-
15.	Bharat Petroleum Corportion Ltd.	0.07	-	-
Total		634.63	276.27	522.38
Working Capital Loan				
1.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	31.19	-	-
2.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	-	-	300.00
		31.19	-	300.00

Statement—IV*Details of loan outstanding to Oil PSUs during 1996-97*

(Rs./Crores)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Balance Outstanding to each company
1	2	3

Plan Project

1.	Balmer Lawrie Co. Ltd.	10.00
2.	Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	205.22
3.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	100.00

1	2	3
4.	IBP Co. Ltd.	63.32
5.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	172.00
6.	Cochin Refineries Ltd.	35.00
7.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation	153.00
8.	Oil India Ltd.	118.00
9.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.	400.00
		1256.54

Non-Plan/Other assistance

1.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	7.97
		7.97

Shortage of Power in Delhi

787. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOL) :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand and supply of Power in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) the steps being taken to generate/borrow additional Power for Delhi;

(c) whether there is a regular load-shedding in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details and steps being taken to avoid theft and illegal connections of power in Delhi;

(e) whether Power Distribution and transmission in Delhi is being handed over to Private Sector;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Power Tariff proposed to be hiked in Delhi; and

(h) if so, the time by which it is likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) During the month of January, 1997, the requirement and availability of power in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi was 1225 MU and 1144 MU, respectively, the shortage being 81 MU i.e. about 7%. The shortage of power requirement in Delhi is, inter-alia, met from allocated/unallocated share in the Central Power Stations in the Northern Region.

Several measures are undertaken to augment the power availability, which include additional allocation from Central Power generating Stations, new capacity addition, maximising generation from existing units, pilferage checking, reduction in T&D losses, strengthening T&D System, better demand/load management, energy conservation measures etc.

(c) There is no regular load-shedding in Delhi, at present. However, at times, particularly during peak hours, load shedding has to be resorted to for security of the Northern Region Grid on the advice of Northern Regional Electricity Board.

(d) DESU is carrying out regular checkings to detect cases of power theft and other violations.

(e) and (f) According to Government of NCT of Delhi, DESU have made to them a few alternative proposals of a general character for privatisation of power distribution in Delhi which are at a preliminary stage of examination by the Government of Delhi.

(g) and (h) The proposal for hike in Power tariff has been submitted by DESU to the Government of Delhi in April, 1996 who are examining the same.

PM's Integrated Urban Poor Eradication Programme

788. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any review of the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poor Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, the period covered under the review;

(c) the achievements made during that period; and

(d) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) was launched in November, 1995 to address the problems of urban poor in small towns with a multi-pronged, integrated approach to the economic, social and physical conditions of the urban poor. Since its inception, progress of the implementation of the Scheme is being reviewed from time to time.

(c) and (d) PMI UPEP being a newly introduced scheme, most of the States are still largely in the primary stage of the Programme, such as house-to-house survey, preparing Action plans, building community structures, etc..

As per the preliminary reports received from States, physical progress as under has been achieved :-

(i) House-to-house survey has been completed in 213 towns.

(ii) Town-wise Project Reports have been prepared in 217 towns.

(iii) 20775 applications under the Self-employment component have been forwarded to Banks, out of which 3080 cases have been approved.

(iv) 10386 applications under the shelter upgradation component have been forwarded to Banks/HUDCO, out of which about 281 cases have been approved.

(v) 8382 Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs), 1200 Neighbourhood Committees (NDCs) and 444 Thrift and Credit Societies have been formed.

World Bank Loans to MSEB

789. SHRI ANANT GUDH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "WB holds up Rs.1,100 cr. loan to MSEB" appearing in the three Press journal dated Feb. 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the details of financial assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government to MSEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The World Bank has withheld approximately Rs.870 crores from Loan 3498-IN for Second Maharashtra Power Project with effect from 22.10.1996 mainly due to the inability of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) to achieve an annual return of 4.5% of the average net value of its fixed assets in operation and to reduce its commercial account receivables to less than 2.5 months of revenue.

Government of Maharashtra has enabled MSEB to earn a return of 4.5% in 1995-96 by increasing electricity tariff and providing with a subsidy. It has also passed on loan funds to MSEB, written off unrecoverable dues to some extent and initiated steps such as disconnection of power supply of defaulters, withdrawing all its previous directions for not doing so in the case of certain categories of consumers and for recovery of outstanding dues. Documents showing evidence mainly regarding improvement in cash collections, writing off of the remaining bad debts are yet to be furnished to the World Bank by Government of Maharashtra.

Government of India has impressed upon the Government of Maharashtra for fulfilment of the loan covenants. The matter has also been taken up with the World Bank for revocation of suspension of the loan.

Generation of Power in J&K

790. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total power generating capacity of the State of J&K at present;

(b) the total supply and demand of power in the State; and

(c) the steps taken to fill up the gap between supply and demand of power in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The present generating capacity of Jammu & Kashmir is 353 MW.

(b) During April-Janaury, 1997 the power supply position in J&K is as under :

Energy (MU net)	Peak (MW net)		
Requirement	3918	Peak Demand	900
Availability	3207	Peak met	746
Shortage	711	Shortage	154
Percentage	18.1	Percentage	17

(c) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in J&K include capacity addition in the Northern Region in general and J&K in particular from ongoing/new projects maximising the generation from existing capacity, reduction in Transmission and Distribution Losses, effective Demand Management, Energy conservation measures and arranging assistance from neighbouring states/region

ADB Assistance

791. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of the Cauvery IV Water Supply Scheme;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Centre to seek assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for implementing this Scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka. However, under the ADB assisted Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project for a loan of US \$ 85 million which was approved by the ADB on 14.12.95, there is a water supply component for Mysore and two other towns. The cost of this component is estimated at US \$ 15.4 million (Rs 54 crores approximately) which includes a foreign exchange component of US \$ 3.5 million.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Decrease in Agricultural Land

792. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the decrease in the agricultural land each year due to the construction of new houses thereon; and

(b) the stretch of land which will be out of the periphery of agriculture land in the next five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No year-wise data is available on decrease in agricultural land due to construction of new houses.

*[English]***Single Point Order 1988**

793. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Single Point Order" of 1988 covers Chairmen, Directors and high officials of public sector banks and other financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw the same order; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The Single Directive, as amended from time to time provides that in regard to decision making level officers (Joint Secretary or equivalent or above) in the Central Government or such officers as are or have been on deputation to a Public Sector Undertaking; Board level officers in Public Sector Undertakings; Officers of the Reserve Bank of India of the level equivalent to Joint Secretary or above in the Central Government, Executive Directors and above of the SEBI and Chairman and Managing Director and Executive Directors and such of the Bank officers who are one level below the Board of Nationalised Banks, there should be prior sanction of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department concerned before SPE/CBI takes up any enquiry (PE or RC) including ordering search in respect of them.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***MPLADS**

794. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Members of Parliament are receiving complaints about the slow pace of implementation of the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Fund Scheme;

(b) whether the Government have identified the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up special cell at district level to monitor the speedy implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to speed up the implementation of the schemes under the above MPLADS alongwith details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Some members of Parliament have complained about slow pace of implementation of the works under MPLADS. The main reasons for slow pace of implementation during the previous years were :-

(i) time taken in release of funds in the earlier years;

(ii) Application of Model Code of Conduct of the Election in certain States (like Bihar in December, 1994) and the Lok Sabha General Elections during 1996;

(iii) late receipt of recommendations/non-receipt of recommendations from the Members of Parliament concerned; and

(iv) changes in recommendations by Members of Parliament.

(c) and (d) The State Governments have been requested to issue general instructions with regard to the periodic meetings to be held by the District level officers with the Members of Parliament and to evolve an effective mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the Scheme at the State level. Revised guidelines have been issued for the smoother working of the Scheme. Any specific instances of delay brought to the attention of the Department of Programme Implementation are taken up for action with the concerned officials.

Employment and Vocational Training to Rural Youths

795. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by the Union Government to each State for providing employment and vocational training to the rural youths during 1996-97;

(b) whether the special provision have been made to provide employment and vocational training to the tribal people and to those living below the poverty level;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Governments have called for progress report from the concerned State Government for implementation of the said scheme; and

(e) if so, the names of the various State Governments who have been found leading/lagging in the performance of the said works ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is implementing a programme known as

Training of Rural Youths for Self-Employment. The programme aims at enhancing the technical and vocational skill of the rural youth and to enable them to take up self employment ventures or wage-employment. The budgetary support for the programme is shared on 50:50 basis between the Centre and the States. Under the programme, an amount of Rs.3525.00 lakh has been allocated to States of which Rs.2512.74 lakhs have been released as on date as central share during 1996-97. The State-wise Central releases may be seen in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c) Under TRYSEM, 50% of assistance is

earmarked for the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes. Separate monitoring for ST youth is not done. The total number of SC/ST youth trained during 1996-97 may be seen at Annexure. Recently, it has been decided to make it incumbent on the training institutions to complete all the formalities for sanction of IRDP loans during the training period itself.

(d) and (e) The State Governments are required to submit monthly progress reports on the implementation of the programme. The State-wise physical and financial performance during the year 1996-97 is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Financial and Physical progress under TRYSEM during 1996-97

		Allocation			(Rs. in Lakh)				
S.No.	State/U.T.	Central Share	State Share	Total	Central Release	Expenditure	% utilisation to total allocation	Youth Trained	No. of SC/ST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	342.46	342.46	684.92	217.781	1146.790	167.434	47086	16439
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	25.61	25.61	51.22	8.000	14.500	28.309	410	410
3.	Assam	112.70	142.70	225.40	53.350	50.880	22.573	201	36
4.	Bihar	637.24	637.24	1274.48	148.665	529.960	41.582	24147	11627
5.	Goa	5.83	5.83	11.66	2.915	31.550	270.583	2815	18
6.	Gujarat	125.67	125.67	251.34	121.980	183.700	73.088	4749	2103
7.	Haryana	30.20	30.20	60.40	24.730	87.420	144.735	2122	1084
8.	Himachal Pr.	9.90	9.90	19.80	5.140	8.219	41.510	336	194
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.00	70.00	140.00	25.110	65.864	47.046	1931	324
10.	Karnataka	229.92	229.92	459.84	134.240	291.212	63.329	10400	1234
11.	Kerala	83.64	83.64	167.28	47.810	100.000	59.780	4160	1757
12.	Madhya Pradesh	433.98	433.98	867.96	286.620	695.590	80.141	24052	11054
13.	Maharashtra	373.32	373.32	746.64	143.080	417.410	55.905	10927	4349
14.	Manipur	18.47	18.47	36.94	9.240	4.264	11.543	220	119
15.	Meghalaya	19.62	19.62	39.24	5.340	18.180	46.330	220	220
16.	Mizoram	8.29	8.29	16.58	4.740	7.892	47.800	-	-
17.	Nagaland	13.79	13.79	27.58	6.890	-	0.000	-	-
18.	Orissa	277.86	277.86	555.72	172.755	136.890	24.633	8462	4356
19.	Punjab	21.50	21.50	43.00	11.250	31.515	73.291	1125	649
20.	Rajasthan	180.26	180.26	360.52	59.300	115.640	32.076	1965	1107
21.	Sikkim	2.30	2.30	4.60	2.300	-	0.000	0	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
22	Tamil Nadu	309.62	309.62	619.24	166.413	187.900	30.344	4178	2069
23	Tripura	26.34	26.34	52.68	13.180	5.057	11.498	921	459
24	Uttar Pradesh	834.56	834.56	1669.12	685.580	1126.100	67.467	38629	31152
25	West Bengal	306.92	306.92	613.84	139.443	323.903	52.767	10474	3247
26	A&N Islands	11.74	0.00	11.74	7.760	4.990	42.504	39	-
27	D&N Haveli	2.48	0.00	2.48	1.240	1.997	80.524	75	13
28	Daman & Diu	4.62	0.00	4.62	2.310	1.070	23.160	12	12
29	Lakshadweep	1.16	0.00	1.16	0.580	0.010	0.862	12	12
30	Pondicherry	5.00	0.00	5.00	5.000	5.160	103.200	-	-
ALL INDIA		4525.00	4500.00	9025.00	2512.742	5594.66	61.991	199668	94043

[English]

Violation of Master Plan

796 SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Petrol pump violates Master Plan" appearing in the "Times of India" dated December 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that both the Ashish Service Station located opposite Sarai Kala Khan and Savita Filling Station located to the North of Ashish Service Station referred to in the aforesaid news item are running on private lands notified by DDA for acquisition. The matter is presently sub-judice. DDA has not issued any "No Objection Certificate" to these parties for running petrol pumps.

[Translation]

Subletting of Accommodation

797. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of quarters of each type in General Pool and other pools found sublet by the allottees during each of the last three years and in 1997;

(b) the action taken by the Government to evacuate the illegal occupants and the number thereof;

(c) the present position in regard to the remaining cases;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the allottees mentioned in the part (a) above; and

(e) the action taken against those officers of the Directorate of Estates and his Ministry who were found involved in the malpractice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) During surprise checks of the quarters under the control of the Dte. of Estates, the following number of quarters were suspected sublet during the past three years :-

1994	-	44
1995	-	372
1996	-	4488
1997	-	176

(Upto 20.2.97)

(b) to (d) As per prescribed procedure, show-cause notices are issued to the allottees of quarters suspected to be subletting for personal hearing before the Competent Authority. After hearing, the competent authority decides as to whether a case of subletting is established or not. In case, the competent authority arrives at a decision that the case of subletting is established, the allotment is cancelled. The allottee has a right to appeal to the Director of Estates. If appeal is rejected, the allottee is required to vacate the quarter. In case of non-vacation of the quarter by the allottee, the case is referred to the Estate Officer for eviction proceedings under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Apart from cancellation of quarter, disciplinary action

under Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 is also taken against such allottees by the concerned Disciplinary Authorities.

Upto September, 1966, allotment of 1085 quarters were cancelled and 634 houses were got vacated after following the due process of law.

(e) No officer of the Directorate of Estates or of this Ministry has been found involved in the malpractice. However, action against such officers against whom charges of subletting are proved, is also taken as provided under the rules. Action under Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeals) Rules, 1965 against one official of the Directorate of Estates and six officials of C.P.W.D. has been initiated.

[English]

Jammu and Kashmir Migrants

798. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant minority status to J&K migrants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Most of J&K migrants belong to Hindu community which is majority community at the national level. The migration of these people is only a temporary phase and they are expected to return to their native place as soon as conditions become conducive for their return. The elected Government in the State is working towards this end, which is very high in their agenda.

PM's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme in Gujarat

799. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of towns to be covered in Gujarat and funds to be allocated for each town for the next two years under PM's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme; and

(b) the time by which the programme is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The following

27 Urban Agglomerations (having population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census) have been covered in Gujarat under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP).

Patan, Dohad, Jetpur, Kalol, Palanpur, Khambhal, Gondal, Dhoraji, Ankleswar, Amreli, Savarkundla, Botad, Mahuva, Deesa, Visnagar, Dhrangadhra, Dholka, Upleta, Sidhpur, Himatnagar, Anjar, Bilimora, Unjha, Kadi, Virangal, Dabhoi, and Keshod.

The PMI UPEP has been launched in November, 1995. An amount of Rs.583.59 lakhs has been released to Gujarat as Central share for the year 1995-96, and an amount of Rs.515.47 lakhs has been earmarked as Central share for the year 1996-97. The provisions for the next two years have not yet been finalised.

Oil Refining Capacity

800. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase oil refining capacity;

(b) if so, the target fixed during the Ninth Plan; and

(c) the total amount of investment proposed to be made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Present refining capacity is 60.55 Million tonnes per year (MMTPA). The capacity is planned to be enhanced to a level of about 131 MMTPA on implementation of all LOI issued by the end of IX plan at an estimated investment of about Rs 70 thousand crores including diversification to Petrochemicals, Power etc.

Uranium Deposit

801. DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Atomic Scientists have located uranium deposits in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated value thereof;

(c) the extent of concentration of uranium in the deposits; and

(d) the way in which the deposits are proposed to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Two Uranium deposits have been located at Lambapur-Yellapur in Nalgonda District and Tummalapalle in - Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh. Reserves of about 1700 tonnes of Uranium Oxide have been established and existence of an additional 2300 tonnes is inferred in Lambapur-Yellapur, where the average grade is 0.07% U_3O_8 . about 15000 tonnes of grade 0.05% U_3O_8 reserves have been established in Tummalapalle region. Estimated value of these deposits would be known after the detailed evaluation.

(d) Government have not yet taken a decision on the utilisation of these deposits.

Upliftment of Weaker Sections

802. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide some benefits to the socially backward and economically weaker sections to help support themselves; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The target group for various programmes of Rural Development, Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation consists of socially backward and economically weaker sections, and other poor people. Besides, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) also aims at benefiting destitute households. It has three components viz, NDAPS (National Old Age Pension Scheme), NFBS (National Family Benefit Scheme) and NMBS (National Maternity Benefit Scheme).

Science Congress

803. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Science Congress held recently in the country;

(b) the suggestions offered by the participants to the Union Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) 84th Annual Session of the Indian Science Congress was held at the University of Delhi from 3rd to 8th January, 1997 and was inaugurated by the Prime Minister. The focal theme of this Session was:

"Frontiers in Science and Engineering and their Relevance to National Development".

According to the information made available by the Indian Science Congress Association, about four thousand

scientists took part in the Session. A number of plenaries on current interests in Science and Technology were held and were addressed by eminent scientists. In addition, a large number of special lectures and symposia were organised to discuss various developments in the frontier areas in Science and Technology. Special Sessions for school children, women in science and young scientists were also held.

(b) The suggestions made at the Congress include the need to set up an Apex Advisory Committee on Science and Technology; increase in budgetary support to science education; encouragement to industry to invest in R & D, conversion of high ash coal into a source of cleaner energy etc.

(c) Government are appreciative of the suggestions made.

[Translation]

Unauthorised Occupants

804. DR. BALIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether before 1984, Post and Telegraph Department's colony had 235 quarters at G.Point Gol Dakkhana, New Delhi;

(b) whether the quarters for the staff of the President House were constructed on half of the land of above colony after 1984 and now its staff are residing in these quarters;

(c) whether New Delhi Municipal Council constructed a school building on a plot of this land and the remaining land from quarter No.16 to 157 was taken over by the Ministry;

(d) whether due to negligence of the ministry unauthorised occupants have been residing in the rest of these quarters since 1985; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to vacate these quarters and punish the negligent officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Power Generation Policy

805. SHRI JAGAT VEER SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has alleged that the absence of transparency in the Power generation policy for private sector and poor financial condition of the State Electricity Boards are the main hindrances for the private investment in this infrastructure sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The World Bank has, in one of its reports, listed several impediments to private investment in the Indian Power Sector like poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards, lack of competitive bidding in the initial stages etc.

Competitive Bidding has been made mandatory with effect from 18.2.1995 for award of power projects in the private sector. Recognising the need of a sound financial health of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) as essential for private investment, the time bound reforms and restructuring of SEBs is high on the agenda of the Government as reflected in the Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power.

[English]

Rakesh Mohan Committee

806. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action plan has been recommended by the Rakesh Mohan Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made in setting up of an Independent Power Regulatory Commission and the response and action initiated by the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the proper implementation of the Common Minimum National Action Plan in power sector by the State Governments and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) Rakesh Mohan Committee has submitted The India Infrastructure Report - Policy imperatives for growth and welfare to the Government of India on 22.6.1996. This report has recommended policy reforms which can help in greater commercialisation of infrastructure like urban development, power, telecommunications, roads, industrial parks and ports through increase in the domestic savings rate, gearing up of the capital markets, setting up of a regulatory framework and Infrastructure Finance Development Corporation (IFDC), Public Private Partnerships (PPP) etc..

(c) and (d) As a result of the Chief Ministers' Conference on 16th October and 3rd December, 1996, a Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power has been formulated which, inter-alia, lays down the setting up of a Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions. This Action Plan has been circulated to all the State Governments for initiating action on the same. Orissa has already set up the State Electricity Regulatory Commission and the States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have initiated action in this regard.

House Building Advance

807. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise the rules pertaining to House Building Advance being given to the Central Government employees;

(b) whether the Central Government employees are allowed to take second loan from the office on payment of the first loan;

(c) the other facilities proposed to be extended to the Government employees for building houses of their own;

(d) whether Government propose to reduce the rate of interest; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Srisaïlam Left Bank Canal Power Project

808. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has scraped the Srisaïlam Left Bank Canal Power Project;

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

(c) whether the project was taken up with loan assistance of 26,101 million Yen from the overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, Japan;

(d) the actual estimated cost of the project and expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(e) the reasons for delay in completing the project within the stipulated schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (e) The Srisaïlam Left Bank Power House (6x150 MW) in Andhra Pradesh is being executed by Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan of 48,668 million Yen. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs.2324.55 crores (1996 price level), out of which an expenditure of Rs.1123.63 crores has been incurred on the project upto December, 1996.

The project was originally scheduled for completion by December, 1994 but has been delayed due to heavy

seepage of water in the power tunnel, slow progress of works in the tail race tunnel and other adit tunnels due to bad rock conditions and strike by workers and employees of civil contractor, M/s Patel Engineering Company from February, 1995 to August, 1995. As per the present status of works the first unit of the project would be commissioned by July, 1999 and balance units at an interval of six months each thereof.

[Translation]

LPG Connections

809. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections provided under the discretionary quota during 1996;

(b) whether the Supreme Court have issued any guidelines in this regard; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) LPG connections issued under discretionary quota during the period January - December, 1996 are as under:

LPG Connections

Issued under

discretionary quota - 77142

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Renewable Energy Sources

810. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up solar power projects in the country and the details of progress achieved on ongoing projects and performance of completed projects;

(b) details of wind power projects already set up/under implementation in the country with State-wise break up;

(c) details of projects completed/under execution for generation of energy from garbage/waste;

(d) details of major policy initiatives recently taken to encourage private/foreign direct investment to tap energy from natural sources/non conventional sources; and

(e) details of programme-wise and state-wise allocations of funds for the current year particularly for Kashmir and how to they compare with the funds actually utilised during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYANA PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes Sir. Solar photovoltaic Power Projects of over 1254 KW aggregate capacity have been installed in the country. State-wise details are given in Statement-I enclosed. The performance of these projects has so far been satisfactory.

(b) The details of Wind Power projects set up in the country, with state-wise break-up are given in Statement-II enclosed;

(c) The details of projects for generation of energy from garbage/waste, completed and under execution, are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(d) Major policy initiatives taken to encourage private/foreign direct investment to tap energy from Non-conventional sources, include provision of fiscal and financial incentives under a wide range of programmes being implemented by the Ministry and simplification of procedure for private investment including foreign direct investment in the non-conventional energy projects. The fiscal incentives provided for this purpose include 100% depreciation in the first year of the installation of the project, exemption from excise duty and sales tax and concessional customs duty on the import of material, components and equipment used in non-conventional energy projects. In addition, the Government provides financial incentives such as interest-subsidy and capital subsidy from the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and soft loans from the Indian renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) a Public Sector Company of the Ministry. For creation of attractive facilities for evacuation and purchase/wheeling/banking of electrical energy generated from non-conventional sources, the Ministry has issued a set of guidelines to all the States. It has been suggested that the States should announce general policies for purchase/wheeling/banking of electrical energy generated from all non-conventional energy sources. A minimum purchase price of Rs.2.25/unit with an annual escalation of 5% for first 10 years, with liberal wheeling/banking facilities at nominal charges has been suggested. Twelve States have so far announced such policies in respect of various non-conventional energy sources. Foreign direct investment proposals involving upto 74% of foreign equity for manufacture of items based on solar energy like solar cells, cookers, air and water heating systems and other related items, wind electric generators, small hydro equipments and non-conventional energy generation and distribution qualify for automatic approval.

(e) The details of funds allotted under various non-conventional energy programmes during 1995-96 and 1996-97 alongwith programme-wise expenditure incurred during 1995-96 and expected expenditure during 1996-97 upto 31st March, 1997, are given in Statement -IV Statewise allocation of funds is not made by the Ministry. The funds are provided to State Governments based on their past performance under various programmes of the Ministry and on the merit of the proposals received from them.

Statement—I

Projectwise details of solar photovoltaic power projects set up in different parts of the country.

Sl.No.	State/UT	Nos.	KWP
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	17.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	7.90
3.	Assam	2	2.00
4.	Goa	2	1.70
5.	Gujarat	3	14.00
6.	Haryana	5	24.30
7.	Kerala	4	4.74
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2	9.00
9.	Maharashtra	4	116.44
10.	Manipur	5	5.00
11.	Meghalaya	13	30.50
12.	Nagaland	1	6.00
13.	Orissa	5	33.52
14.	Punjab	2	2.00
15.	Rajasthan	24	162.15
16.	Tamil Nadu	5	172.00
17.	Tripura	9	25.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	63	419.00
19.	West Bengal	4	42.10
20.	A & N Islands	25	129.12
21.	Delhi	1	25.00
22.	Lakshadweep	1	25.00
Total		187	1254.07

Statement—II

Statewise Wind Power Projects set up in the Country.

Sl.No.	Name of State	Installed Capacity (in MW)
1.	Tamilnadu	623.380
2.	Gujarat	136.140
3.	Andhra Pradesh	52.400
4.	Madhya Pradesh	8.015
5.	Karnataka	3.925
6.	Maharashtra	5.370
7.	Kerala	2.025
8.	Orissa	1.100
9.	Others	0.465
Total		832.820

Statement—III

Details of Government supported projects completed and under execution for generation of energy from garbage/waste.

Energy Projects from garbage/waste	
Projects under Execution	Projects completed
1. A 5 MW project for power generation utilising garbage of Madras city	1. A biogas generating plant of 4000 Cu.m./day capacity has been installed at M/s A1-Kabeer Exports Ltd., Hyderabad. Andhra Pradesh.
2. 1 MW power generating plant utilising biogas produced from spent wash at K.M. Sugar Mills Distillery Unit, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh.	2. 2.75 MW Power generation plant utilising rice husk at Gowthami Solvent Oils Ltd., Thanuku, Andhra Pradesh.

Statement—IV

Programme-wise Expenditure for 1995-96 and Revised Estimate and Expected Expenditure for 1996-97 upto 31st March, 1997.

(Amount in crores)

Sl.	Programme	1995-96	1996-97	
		Expenditure	Revised Estimate	Expected expenditure upto 31.3.97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Biogas Prog.	50.71	53.70	53.70
2.	Improved Chulha	15.20	14.75	14.75
3.	Biomass/Standalone Gassifier	2.75	2.00	2.00
4.	IREP	11.68	4.00	4.00
5.	Urjagram	0.60	0.25	0.25
6.	Special Demonot	1.49	1.00	1.00
7.	Animal Energy	0.90	0.05	0.05
8.	Solar Photovoltaic	17.31	13.50	13.50
9.	Solar Thermal	4.22	3.50	3.50
10.	SPV Irrigation Pumps	12.99	10.25	10.25
11.	Solar Energy Centre	1.29	0.70	0.70
12.	Wind Pumps and Battery Charges	0.53	0.67	0.67
13.	Wind Power	6.94	36.81	36.81
14.	Small Hydro	25.86	10.00	10.00
15.	Biomass Cogeneration/Combustion	2.36	4.10	4.10

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Solar Thermal Power	0.15	0.00	0.00
17.	Solar Photovoltaic Power	0.00	1.05	1.05
18.	Urban and Industrial Energy Proj.	1.68	1.50	1.50
19.	New Technology	2.54	2.00	2.00
20.	Energy Conservation	0.00	0.05	0.05
21.	Planning	0.10	0.20	0.20
22.	I&P/Seminars	1.12(*)	3.20	3.20
23.	International Coop.	0.04(**)	0.45	0.45
24.	IREDA			
	a) Equity	24.00	28.00	28.00
	b) Loans and Advances	51.49	87.24	87.24
25.	Regional offices	0.56	0.60	0.60
26.	Sectt. Expenditure		2.55	2.55
	Total	236.51	282.12	282.12

(*) This does not include an amount of Rs.3.28 crores placed at the disposal of DAVP & Doordarshan for which all the claims have yet to be settled.

(**) This excludes Foreign Travel Expenditure.

Accommodation to Non-Officials

811. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for allotment of type IV and above accommodation to non-officials;

(b) the criteria followed for allotment of accommodation to persons who are/were enjoying special protection group facility status;

(c) whether such allottees are not eligible for accommodation after marriage; and

(d) if so, the rules thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) the following categories of Non officials are considered for allotment of Government accommodation as per the guidelines given in the Statement enclosed:

- (i) Eminent Artists
- (ii) Freedom Fighters
- (iii) Press Correspondents and News Cameramen.
- (iv) Miscellaneous categories including social workers.
- (v) Allotment on security grounds.

These guidelines are under review in terms of the

Supreme Court's judgement dated 23.12.96.

(b) Security protectees, who are in Z+ scale of security grading are eligible for allotment/retention of Govt. accommodation subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions.

(c) and (d) Under the existing guidelines, there is no provisions to review such allotments made to the protectees persons after his/her marriage.

Statement

Copy of O.M. No. 12016(1)/89-Fol.II dated 11.7.90 regarding Review of guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to accredited Press Correspondents and Journalists.

Guidelines for allotment of accommodation from the Press Pool to accredited Press Correspondents and Journalists were reviewed by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 9.5.90. The Cabinet approved that the existing pool of 110 residential units which had previously been reduced to 103 units may now be increased to 120 units for providing accommodation to accredited Press Correspondents and News Cameraman subject to the following conditions:—

(a) He/She does not own a house in his/her name or in the name of family member or dependents at the time of allotment or subsequently in Delhi.

(b) The case shall be finalised after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Screening Committee set up by the Ministry of I&B headed by the Principal Information Officer of which Joint Secretary/ Additional Secretary (Estate) and Director of Estates shall be ex-officio Members, and four Journalists to be nominated by the Ministry of I&B shall be Members.

(c) He/She is a correspondent representing Indian Press and not any foreign Press/Media.

(d) The persons concerned are drawing salary upto Rs.3000/- excluding conveyance allowance; and

(e) Such of these allottees who are drawing emoluments upto Rs.3000/- p.m. would be charged licence fee under FR-45-A or flat rate of licence fee under FR-45-A whichever is higher. Those drawing beyond Rs.3000/- p.m. would be charged special licence fee, where they are occupying accommodation allotted in the past.

(f) The type of accommodation would be determined on the basis of the basic pay of the official, but limited to type V-A or lower types; allottees of the accommodation higher than type V-A may be allotted type V-A accommodation, if they are otherwise eligible immediately.

(g) The duration of allotment be upto three years; the position be reviewed thereafter.

(h) There would be periodic review of accreditation of Press Correspondents/News Cameramen by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Directorate of

Estates would be informed of changes, if any, to enable cancellation of allotment.

(i) No Editor of Newspaper should be eligible for allotment from Press Pool/General Pool.

(j) The allotment shall be made keeping in view the seniority list maintained by the PIB.

2. It is requested that immediate action may kindly be taken according to the guidelines approved by the Cabinet as indicated above.

Copy of O.M. No.12016(1)/89-Pol. II dated 19.12.91 regarding Review of guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to accredited Press Correspondents and Journalists.

In partial modification of the guidelines issued vide O.M. of even number dated 11.7.90 regarding allotment of general pool accommodation to the Press Correspondents and Journalists, it has been decided to amend the conditions mentioned at sub paras (d) and (e) of the said guidelines as follows:-

(d) The persons concerned are drawing salary upto Rs.8920/-;

(e) Such of these allottees who are drawing emoluments upto Rs.8920/- would be charged licence fee under, FR-45-A or flat rate of licence fee under FR-45-A, whichever is higher.

Copy of O.M. No. 12016(2)/89/Pol.II(Vol. I) dated 19.4.94 regarding review of guidelines for allotment of General Pool residential accommodation to freedom fighters.

Guidelines for allotment of General Pool residential accommodation to the freedom fighters were reviewed by the Govt. and it has been decided to revise the guidelines as follows:

2. Freedom Fighters of All India Standing may be allowed general pool residential accommodation provides:-

(a) They do not own a house or a flat in their name or in the name of their family members or dependents in Delhi;

(b) The accommodation is required for bonafide medical treatment of the freedom fighter or his/her spouse.

(c) The case is specifically recommended by the Ministry of Home Affairs who should give detailed justification necessitating allotment of accommodation and also recommend period of allotment in case of those freedom fighters who are below 70 years in age. In case of those above 70 years in age it should be for life-time and not necessarily on medical grounds.

(d) Type of accommodation would be restricted to type—D and below;

(e) Normal licence fee shall be charged;

(f) The spouse of freedom fighter residing in Govt.

accommodation allotted to the freedom fighter shall be entitled to retain the accommodation even after the demise of the freedom fighter for the stipulated period of allotment;

(g) The revised guidelines shall be effective from 10.2.94, the date on which the decision was taken by the CCA.

Copy of O.M. No. 12016(2)/89-Pol. II (Vol. III) (ii) dated 24th October, 1985 regarding Review of guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to Eminent Artists.

Guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to eminent artists was reviewed by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation at its meeting held on 12th September, 1985 and the following revised guidelines have been approved:-

2. Upto 15 eminent artists may be allotted general pool accommodation provided:-

(a) He/She or any member of the family or dependent does not own house or plot of land anywhere in India;

(b) Each case has the specific recommendation of the Deptt. of Culture and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with the approval of Minister-Incharge;

(c) The artist makes useful contribution to society and total income from all sources is not more than Rs. 3000/- p.m.

(d) The type of accommodation would be type-D or below;

(e) Existing allotments made of higher types should be reviewed;

(f) Licence fee should be charged under FR-45-B with departmental charges;

(g) Duration of allotment would be three years and cases of allotment to be reviewed once in three years.

All existing allotments may please be reviewed and future allotments made strictly according to the above guidelines of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

Copy of O.M. No. 12016(2)/89-Pol. II(Vol. III) (vii) dated 24th October, 1985 regarding Review of guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation - Miscellaneous categories (persons engaged in useful work of national standing).

Guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to persons engaged in useful work of National Standing were placed before the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation at its meeting held on 12th September, 1985 and the following guidelines have been approved by the Committee:-

(a) Upto 15 houses in all as per existing decision may be allotted to these categories of persons who are engaged in useful work of national standing provided:-

(i) He/She or any member of the family or dependent does not own house or plot of land in Delhi;

(ii) The case as specifically recommended by the concerned Ministry with the approval of the Minister-Incharge;

(iii) Total income of person from all sources is not more than Rs.3000/- p.m.

(iv) The type of accommodation would be restricted to type-D;

(v) Licence fee should be charged under FR-45-B with departmental charges;

(vi) The person concerned should not be in regular employment under the Govt. or any other semi-govt./private organisation;

(vii) The duration of allotment would be for three years and no extension beyond this period should be allowed.

2. It is requested that all existing cases may be reviewed in the light of the above decision and further action taken and in future allotments may be made strictly according to the guidelines approved by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

Copy of O.M. No. 12035/8/93-Pol.II dated 10th October, 1996 regarding Allotment of general pool accommodation to non-eligible persons on security grounds-policy guidelines.

Guidelines for allotment of general pool accommodation to ineligible persons on security grounds were placed before the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation, which at its meeting held on 12.9.96 has approved the following guidelines:

(i) The general pool accommodation shall be allotted to only those persons who are in the Z+ security category;

(ii) There must be a clear nexus with the public interest to justify the allotment of general pool accommodation to such persons. Ministry of Home Affairs would examine in each case that allotment of government accommodation to a person in the Z+ category is in public interest and the security threat to the person has emanated from the duties performed in public office held by him in the past. Ministry of Home Affairs should also opine whether it is absolutely necessary to provide the person concerned a house in Delhi;

(iii) On receipt of a request from the persons concerned for allotment of government accommodation on security grounds, MHA will carry out an exercise to ascertain whether a person in the Z+ security category owns a house in Delhi in his or spouse's name and whether security arrangements can be provided in that house itself;

(iv) Further action to provide a govt. accommodation to the protectees in Delhi shall be taken by the Dte. of Estates, based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(v) Not, higher than Type-VI accommodation shall be allotted to such protectees and it could be even lower depending upon the threat perception in individual cases;

(vi) The applicant, shall confirm his willingness/capacity to pay the market rent/special licence fee in advance and continuous default in payment of prescribed rent for three months or more would render him liable for eviction;

(vii) Market rate of licence fee shall be charged for the government accommodation so allotted to a protectee. In case the protectee has a house in Delhi, he must surrender the same to the government for the period of his occupation of govt. accommodation. In such cases, special licence fee shall be charged for the period of occupation of government accommodation instead of market rent;

(viii) The allotment shall be for a period of one year and can be extended for a further period of one year at a time, subject to CCA being satisfied about the need for extension, based on the threat perception to be reviewed by Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time.

2. While reviewing the existing cases of protectees occupying government accommodation, it shall be kept in view whether they are otherwise eligible for such government accommodation.

3. It is requested that all existing cases allotments made on security grounds may please be reviewed according to the above instructions and further action be taken.

Energy Efficient Lamps

812. SHRI ANANT GUDH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued directives to the State Governments for using energy efficient lamps in Government offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) estimated energy conservation as a result thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the State Governments to the switchover and estimated cost involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Power has addressed letters to State Governments to increasingly use energy efficient lamps and to discard the use of incandescent bulbs altogether in public places and Government offices within a period of two years.

(c) Use of energy efficient lamps can result in significant energy savings. However, as there are a variety of energy efficient lamps available, the quantum of energy saved through adoption of such lamps would depend upon the type of the lamps used.

(d) The State Governments have so far not reacted to the proposal.

[*Translation*]

Allocation under NRY

813. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount released to Uttar Pradesh under Nehru Rozgar Yojana during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the amount allotted for 1996-97;

(c) whether the amount allotted to State has been spent fully by the State Government and for the purpose it was sanctioned; and

(d) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The total Central amount released to Uttar Pradesh under Nehru Rozgar Yojana during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is Rs.1323.84 lakhs and Rs.1104.24 lakhs respectively.

(b) A sum of Rs.1025.45 lakhs has been released for the year 1996-97.

(c) Out of total funds of Rs.5755.88 lakhs (Central and State) available for the years 1994-95 to 1996-97, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported expenditure of Rs.4756.29 lakhs.

(d) The performance of State Government of Uttar Pradesh under Nehru Rozgar Yojana is satisfactory.

[*English*]

Rural Electrification

814. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation is assisting for setting up of Rural Power Co-operative Societies in Karnataka for generation and distribution of power;

(b) If so, the number of such societies at present being assisted by the above Corporation;

(c) the number of new proposals for setting up of Rural Power Co-operative Societies in Karnataka received for assistance;

(d) the amount of assistance provided to these societies in the State during 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(e) the formalities to be observed to obtain assistance by the Rural Power Co-operative Societies from the REC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b)

Rural Electrification Corporation has assisted the setting up of Hukeri Rural Electric Cooperative Society in Karnataka for distribution of Power.

(c) No proposal has been received in 1996-97.

(d) The total loan disbursed to Hukeri RE Cooperative Society upto June, 1984, by Rural Electrification Corporation is Rs.284.40 lakhs. However, no further assistance has been disbursed, thereafter, including in 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(e) The formalities required to be completed to obtain assistance by the Rural Electric Cooperative Society are as under :

(i) The original RE Cooperative project for distribution/sale of power is required to be prepared by the SEB in the State, for an area, earmarked for the purpose by the State Government.

(ii) The concerned SEB has to agree to supply adequate power to the society area at the rates determined by REC guidelines.

(iii) Completion of formalities like registration of the society, formulation of bye-laws as prescribed by REC, obtaining electrical licence, appointment of Directors, transfer of area to society etc. are required to be completed before the project is considered for sanction by REC.

(iv) Loan amount is released to the society against the State Government guarantee which is obtained by the Registered RE Cooperative Society.

Power Grid Corporation

815. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its latest special audit report has concluded that irregularities have been committed by the Power Grid Corporation of India in the import of the Controversial Emergency Restoration system (ERS) equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) A draft audit para regarding 'Purchase of Emergency Restoration Systems' has been sent to this Ministry by the Principal Director of Commercial Audit on which the comments of this Ministry have been sought. The comments of this Ministry are under preparation and will be shortly communicated to the Principal Director of Commercial Audit. The C&AG will finalise the report after taking into consideration the clarifications/comments furnished by the Ministry.

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

Officers on Deputation

816. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials who are on deputation to the United Nations and other World Organisations, separately; and

(b) the criteria for selection of such officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Under the existing Government policy, powers for grant of cadre clearance for foreign assignment have been delegated to the respective cadre controlling authorities. The Department of Personnel and Training do not, therefore, centrally monitor information regarding officers belonging to various organised services of the Government of India and the State Governments and Public Sector undertakings, who go on foreign assignment.

(b) Government and Public Sector employees may secure UN/International assignments in the following manner :-

- i) Nomination by the Government;
- ii) Direct offer from an International Organisation/foreign government due to past work;
- iii) application made in response to open advertisement following the prescribed procedure; and
- iv) by being picked up from the roster of an international organisation.

While nominating officers under category (i) above, for "captive" posts, selection is made according to the procedure prescribed under the Central Staffing Scheme of the Government of India. The aspects kept in mind in making the choice include educational qualifications, service experience and special training required for effective discharge of the duties related to the job. For other posts in the United Nations and other International organisations, nominations are made by the Government keeping in view the nature and importance of the post, the expertise available and other related considerations. Broad-based selection procedures are adopted for identifying the best and most suitable candidate for nomination.

Conference on Agricultural and Rural Reforms

817. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recommendations made in the Conference on Agricultural and Rural Reforms held in Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, recently; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government does not ordinarily monitor, review or react on any conference or recommendation thereof until and unless the same is organised in collaboration or with financial assistance of the Government. The conference referred was neither held in collaboration, with participation nor with financial assistance of the Government nor even the recommendation has been sent by the organisers, and hence question of the Government's reaction in the whole matter does not arise at all.

Loan from World Bank

818. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the world Bank to sanction a loan of Rs.2,500/- crores to solve the drinking water problem in the flouride-affected and brackish areas in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has approached the Union Government and submitted a report to the Centre to forward it to the World Bank;

(c) if so, whether the Centre has examined the report and has forwarded it to the World Bank;

(d) the time by which the World Bank propose to provide the loan; and

(e) whether the State Government has also provided the second instalment for the schemes, such as JRY and RDB, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The project report has been received only on 25.2.1997. This has to be examined and posed to the World Bank for consideration. Its approval will depend on the Bank's appraisal of the project.

(e) Yes, Sir. The State has provided the second instalment for the Rural Development Schemes including JRY.

Poorest of the Poor

819. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to engage some community based organisations/NGOs to undertake house to house survey to find out the poorest of the poor;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

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

(d) the date by which such kind of survey is expected to be completed ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Indian Oil Corporation

820. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to expand the activities of India Oil Corporation in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Land Litigations

821. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of land litigation in which Delhi Development Authority is involved;

(b) the value of land involved in these Litigations; and

(c) whether any officer of the DDA has been held responsible for the encroachments made so far and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that as per its records 2284 cases are pending in various courts against the land acquisition and encroachment on its land.

(b) The plaintiffs generally do not mention the extent of their land in litigation cases and only mention Khasra Number.

(c) Details of the action taken against the 23 defaulting officers during the last 5 years are as under :

S.No.	Nature of Action Taken	No. of employees against whom action taken
i)	Penalty imposed	11
ii)	Chargesheet for major penalty proceedings issued	13
iii)	Under suspension	04

Unauthorised Construction

822. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee called Sewa Ram Committee had probed the reasons behind unauthorised construction and the committee had indicted local politicians in the sale of Government and gram sabha land;

(b) if so, whether the report will be made public;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Committee was appointed by the Lt. Governor of Delhi which submitted its report to the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that according to the terms and reference the Committee was to enquire into the circumstances under which the alleged encroachments, unauthorised construction and colonies had sprung up, to recommend administrative and punitive action against Government functionaries found responsible for these acts and fix responsibility on colonisers and others in the alleged encroachments.

(b) and (c) According to Government of Delhi copies of the reports have been placed in the Library of the Legislative Assembly of Delhi and are also available in various offices of Government of Delhi.

(d) Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that the Legislative Assembly passed a resolution to constitute a Judicial Inquiry Commission to identify the colonizers, builders, promoters, politicians and such officials, etc.

[Translation]

IDSMT Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

823. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities brought under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Scheme in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the names of such cities and the amount sanctioned for each such city; and

(c) the amount actually spent out of the sanctioned amount till March 31, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Till March, 1996, 65

towns in Madhya Pradesh have been covered under the IDSMT Scheme.

(b) and (c) Against the Central Assistance of Rs.1932.82 lakhs released, an expenditure of Rs.2710.25 lakhs has been reported by the State Government as per townwise details in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Central assistance under IDSMT scheme released to Government of Madhya Pradesh (From 1979-80 to 1995-96) and Expenditure reported till March 31, 1996

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of town	Approved project cost	Central assistance released	Expenditure reported
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bilaspur	110.750	48.750	122.630
2.	Khajuraho	79.470	39.730	33.030
3.	Dewas	84.780	40.000	92.950
4.	Itarsi	106.260	47.300	92.430
5.	Rewa	97.510	46.400	181.940
6.	Katni	115.540	42.400	64.230
7.	Subhanpur	154.000	47.300	136.920
8.	Morena	85.110	39.000	105.280
9.	Dongargarh	81.380	40.000	70.290
10.	Rajnandgaon	93.660	40.000	63.620
11.	Balaghat	116.650	45.100	79.420
12.	Chindwara	151.820	39.090	82.860
13.	Harda	111.060	40.000	100.610
14.	Waidhan	81.650	40.000	197.990
15.	Guna	84.120	39.000	79.420
16.	Sidhi	86.350	39.000	82.860
17.	Hoshangabad	120.990	50.160	51.830
18.	Gadarwara	98.730	46.870	70.100
19.	Pachmabhi	119.490	23.760	12.480
20.	Amarkantak	92.020	45.000	73.020
21.	Kota	118.200	15.400	15.240
22.	Shahdol	110.450	47.700	112.220
23.	Bhander	31.610	10.000	17.350
24.	Mhow	103.760	13.540	-
25.	Jagdalpur	92.470	40.820	50.870
26.	Ratlam	102.390	42.000	42.280
27.	Bhilai-Durg	154.740	29.750	135.450

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Satna	145.410	29.750	48.700
29.	Chattarpur	98.130	24.000	53.340
30.	Betul	96.000	35.000	36.960
31.	Obedullaganj	63.800	25.000	-
32.	Neemuch	114.070	46.000	85.910
33.	Bhind	87.960	27.500	84.980
34.	Demoh	124.150	27.500	-
35.	Sehore	85.790	40.000	44.160
36.	Vidisha	90.080	10.000	-
37.	Panna	101.330	27.500	-
38.	Datla	32.950	10.000	-
39.	Khargone	138.180	40.000	66.360
40.	Shivpuri	131.130	25.000	-
41.	Raigarh	102.880	20.000	-
42.	Sagar	496.340	25.000	49.590
43.	Mandsour	76.430	15.000	34.250
44.	Tikamgarh	229.600	60.000	38.750
45.	Mandla	206.400	24.000	-
46.	Multai	89.860	11.000	-
47.	Pandhurna	191.690	23.000	-
48.	Sausar	90.780	11.000	-
49.	Khandwa	502.440	30.000	-
50.	Jaora	414.320	33.000	-
51.	Dallibajhara	237.770	28.500	-
52.	Banmore	112.050	18.000	-
53.	Chitrakoot	100.090	8.000	-
54.	Pithampur	228.090	14.000	-
55.	Kawardha	125.260	10.000	-
56.	Narsinghpur	170.680	12.000	-
57.	Ajaygarh	124.190	8.000	-
58.	Garoth	100.340	8.000	-
59.	Rajgarh	100.630	16.000	-
60.	Biora	200.180	30.000	-
61.	Berasta	101.760	16.000	-
62.	Narsinghgarh	182.180	27.000	-
63.	Ashoknagar	163.950	25.000	-
64.	Kanker	180.250	27.000	-
65.	Ganj-Bosada	204.350	30.000	-
Total		8826.45	1932.820	2710.250

[English]

Power Reactors

824. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the designed and capacity utilisation of the power reactors presently in operation, unit-wise;
- (b) the reasons for low output;
- (c) whether these reactors produce plutonium as a by-product;
- (d) whether these reactors are subject to fullscope

international safeguards;

(e) whether Russia has offered to export nuclear reactors to India on a turn key basis; and

(f) whether these reactors will also produce plutonium and will be subject to similar safeguards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Details of capacity utilisation of the nuclear power plants during 1995-96 and 1996-97 upto January, 1997 are given in the following table:

Sl.No.	Station/Unit		Original design capacity MWe	Present rated capacity MWe	Capacity 1995-96	Factor(%) 1996-97 upto 31.1.97
1.	Tatapur Atomic					
	Power Station	Unit-1	210	160	79%	18%
		Unit-2	210	160	32%	42%
2.	Madras Atomic					
	Power Station	Unit-1	235	170	76%	46%
		Unit-2	235	170	18%	85%
3.	Narora Atomic					
	Power Station	Unit-1	235	220	67%	65%
		Unit-2	220	220	75%	71%
4.	Kakrapar Atomic					
	Power Station	Unit-1	220	220	58%	85%
		Unit-2	220	220	70%	82%

(b) The low capacity factor (C.F.) of TAPS-1 during 1996-97 is due to a long shut down taken for refuelling and core shroud inspection. The low C.F. of TAPS-2 was due to a long shut down for refuelling and core shroud inspection and the long outage following generator rotor ground fault and also lowering of maximum power level since October, 1996, consequent on single recirculation loop operation. The low C.F. of MAPS-1 during 1996-97 and of MAPS-2 during 1995-96 are due to extensive in-service inspection of coolant channels in these units. The inspections referred to are from the point of view of assuring safety. The above nuclear power plants in operation have achieved a good overall annual capacity factor of 60% during 1995-96 and have further improved their performance during 1996-97 by achieving an overall capacity factor of 64% upto 31.1.1997 which is expected to reach 66% upto March, 1997. In particular, the new generating units, namely NAPS-1&2 and KAPS-1&2 have performed very well during these two years.

(c) The spent fuel from these reactors when reprocessed will generate plutonium.

(d) The indigenously built nuclear power plants namely MAPS-1&2, NAPS-1&2 and KAPS-1&2 are not subject to international safeguards. However, TAPS-1&2 and RAPS-1&2 built in cooperation with USA and Canada respectively, are under IAEA safeguards. But these are not fullscope safeguards but are limited to these facilities only.

(e) The Russian Federation has offered to supply 2x1000 MWe VVER type nuclear power station on technical collaboration basis with credit on soft terms.

(f) Spent fuel from this reactor which will produce plutonium on reprocessing will be subject to safeguards as described above.

WBSEB Selling Power to APSEB

825. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "NTPC accuses WBSEB of selling power to Andhra at higher rate appearing in the Business Age dated January 30, 1997;

(b) whether NTPC have sought the intervention of the Union Government in the matter; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) With the approval of the Government, NTPC has started supplying 150 MW of Power to APSEB with effect from 20th February, 1997. A Power Purchase Agreement in this regard has also been signed between NTPC and APSEB on 20th February, 1997 setting out the terms and conditions for such supply.

[Translation]

Pending Complaints

826. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the complaints pending with the North Avenue and MS Flat Service Centres of CPWD in Delhi;

(b) whether the Members of Parliament have made complaints against the staff of the said centres that they are not maintaining the quarters properly;

(c) if so, the details in this regard during the last three years;

(d) the action taken by the Government in this

regard and the officers and the staff who have been penalised as a result thereof;

(e) whether the officers posted here are working since a long time;

(f) if so, whether Government propose to transfer them; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The C P W D has reported that there is no complaint pending for more than 72 hours in North Avenue and MS Flats Service Centre of CPWD, New Delhi. The present position of pending complaints as on 17.2.97 is as under:

(i) Complaints pending for more than 72 hours	Nil
(ii) Complaints pending for more than 48 hours	4
(iii) Complaints pending for more than 24 hours.	9

(b) No specific complaint against any member of staff of the said Service Centres have been received from the MPs;

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above;

(e) The dates from which the officers have been working in the Service Centre are given in the Statement annexed herewith;

(f) and (g) The rotational transfers are effected periodically in accordance with the posting transfer guidelines, subject to exigencies of work.

Statement*Civil*

S.No.	Name of the Officer	Designation	Date from which working
1	2	3	4
	S/Sh.		
1.	S.V.P. RAO	Executive Engineer	22.12.93
2.	S.K. Jain	Assistant Engineer	13.03.91
3.	Sajal Mitra	-do-	17.09.93
4.	S.K. Jolly	-do-	16.12.96
5.	Suresh Kumar	Junior Engineer	01.11.93
6.	S.K. Jindal	-do-	07.11.96

1	2	3	4
7.	T. Bandopadhyaya	-do-	27.11.93
8.	Munne Lal	-do-	12.07.93
9.	K.P. Yadav	-do-	17.09.96
10.	S.K. Rohilla	-do-	17.06.96
11.	Raj Paul	-do-	16.04.94
12.	Vipin Kumar	-do-	09.11.93
ELECTRICAL			
1.	Sh. P.K. Sharma	Junior Engineer (E)	03.06.96
2.	Sh. V.P. Gupta	-do-	10.03.89
3.	Sh. Kulbhushan Gera	-do-	20.07.93
4.	Sh. S.K. Sahni	Assistant Engineer	27.11.93
5.	Sh. S.L. Narasimhan	Executive Engineer(E)	09.10.95

[English]

World Bank Aid for Development of Towns

827. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified some towns in the country for development with the World Bank aid;

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

(c) the funds proposed for the development of such towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) No towns in the country have been identified for development with World Bank Aid. However, a proposal of the Government of Maharashtra for setting up of a financial intermediary for financing Mumbai Urban Infrastructure Projects has been posed to the World Bank. Also, the International Development Association (IDA) offered a credit of SDR 177 million (effective from 27.6.94) for the reconstruction work in Latur and Osmanabad districts under the Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Programme (MEERP) undertaken by Government of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Bombay High

828. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for digging wells in the oilfields under the Bombay High during 1995-96 and the number of oil wells which could not be dug;

(b) the reasons for not digging the wells as per the targets;

(c) whether the Government propose to fix responsibility and punish the officers for not achieving the target; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) As against the drilling target of 148911 meterage and 84 wells, 154480 M and 76 wells were drilled during 1995-96. The short-fall in achievement of drilling target of wells was due to the deeper average depth of wells drilled.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Generation of Power

829. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is facing acute shortage of power and several southern and northern states are reeling under the darkness;

(b) the growth rate of power generation during the fiscal year 1995-96 and the period April-December, 1996;

(c) the reasons for the sharp decline in power generation;

(d) the targeted rate of growth of power generation and achievement during 1996-97; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to accelerate the power generation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The energy and peaking shortage in the country during the period April, 1996 to January, 1997 was 11.1% and 17% respectively. The energy and peaking shortage of the States in Northern and Southern region for the corresponding period are given below:

Region/State	Energy Shortage %	Peaking Shortage (%)
Northern Region	11.1	17.0
Chandigarh	0.1	0.0
Delhi	2.5	7.0
Haryana	4.7	15.9
M.P.	1.0	1.9
J&K	18.1	17.1
Punjab	1.8	8.1
Rajasthan	6.1	10.1
U.P.	13.3	20.1
Southern Region	20.5	20.1
Andhra Pradesh	22.1	23.6
Karnataka	26.1	22.0
Kerala	23.2	24.0
Tamil Nadu	14.1	16.3

(b) and (c) The growth in power generation during 1995-96 and April-December, 1996 over the corresponding period of previous years was 8.3% and 3.5% respectively. The main reason for decline in growth rate of power generation during the current year is fall in hydel power generation.

(d) During April-December, 1996 power generation in the country was 291.5 BU compared to power generation of 281.6 BU during April-December, 1995 which represent a growth rate of 3.6% against the target rate of growth of 5.1% fixed for 1996-97.

(e) Amongst the measures undertaken for increasing power generation are higher utilisation of installed capacity reducing auxiliary power consumption, modernisation and uprating of existing power stations and initiating schemes for reducing transmission and distribution losses.

Oil Wells in Nagaland

830. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Companies in Nagaland have been unable to resume its work;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the companies are likely to resume its operation in near future; and

(d) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) ONGC has not been able to resume its operations in Nagaland.

(b) ONGC's drilling operations had to be stopped due to insurgency related problems at various locations in Nagaland from time to time and the subsequent direction of the State Government. This situation has not changed.

(c) and (d) ONGC will be able to resume its operations only if so advised by the Govt. of Nagaland and if the State Govt. also agrees to provide adequate security cover to ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of ONGC.

Setting up of Hydro-Electric Power Project at Meke Datli

831. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a hydro electric power project on the cauvery basin near "Meke Datli"; and

(b) if so, the time by which the centre is expected to clear this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to set up Mekedatu hydroelectric project, in Mysore district with an eventual capacity of 360 MW. The clearance to the project is dependent upon resolution of inter/state dispute on sharing of Cauvery Waters which is under adjudication before the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal.

Infrastructural Facilities in Assam

832. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project is under consideration of the Government for expansion of infrastructure and public amenities in major cities;

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

(c) whether any talks have been held with some international agencies for getting funds for this project; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be cleared

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) There is no project under consideration of the Government for integrated expansion of Infrastructure and public amenities in major cities. However, a Centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructure in five mega cities of Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad was initiated during 1993-94. The main features of the scheme as approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on 16.3.1995 are:

(i) the sharing between Central and State Government would be in the ratio of 25:25 and the balance 50% is to be met from Institutional Finance; (ii) the projects to be included under the scheme would be of three categories: (a) Basic Services projects, (b) User charge based projects and (c) Remunerative projects; (iii) the funds are to be channelised through a specialised institution/nodal agency at the State level which would provide project related finance for urban infrastructure projects including water supply, sewerage, drainage, sanitation, city transport network, land development, slum improvement, solid waste management etc.

(c) No, Sir. No talks have been held with international agencies for getting funds for the aforesaid scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Per-Capita-Allocation

833. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per-capita-allocation of amount made for agriculture and rural development for Maharashtra during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount demanded by the State Government and the amount sanctioned for this purpose by the Planning Commission during the said period; and

(c) the reasons for allocating low amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The per capita allocation for Maharashtra in respect of Agriculture and Rural Development sectors in the State Plan for the last three years is as follows:-

Period	Agriculture (Rs.)	Rural Development (Rs.)
1994-95	47.23	48.08
1995-96	55.19	61.89
1996-97	67.84	127.05

(b) The amount demanded and the amount sanctioned in respect of Agriculture and Rural Development sectors in the State Plan are almost the same during the said period.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Approval of Projects

834. SHRI K.D. SULTAN PURI :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects submitted for approval by the State Governments of Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh to the Planning Commission during the last three years till date;

(b) the present status of these proposals; and

(c) the quantum of funds demanded and allocated project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Annual Plan outlays of the States are approved by the Planning Commission alongwith broad sectoral/sub-sectoral allocations. The details of development Projects within the approved sectoral/sub-sectoral outlays are decided by the State Governments. However, investment approval is required from Planning Commission for different projects in Power and Irrigation sectors. As per information available in the Planning Commission the following projects have been approved in Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh during the last three years :

Name of State	Project	Estimated cost (Rs. in Crore)
1. Orissa	(i) Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	977.00
	(ii) Bagh Barrage Project	44.72
	(iii) Subarnarekha Irrigation Project	790.32
	(iv) Baghalati Medium Irrigation Project	45.44
2. Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	807.49
3. Himachal Pradesh	Shah Nahar Irrigation Project	143.32

[English]

MOUs

835. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of MOUs have been signed for setting up of power projects in the country since 1991, State-wise;

(b) the number out of these have been set up so far;

(c) the steps being taken for early setting up of the remaining projects to meet the acute shortage of power;

(d) whether any deadline has been fixed for the purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As on date, the Ministry of Power is monitoring 96 proposals for setting up of power projects in the private sector on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Letter of Intent (LOI), etc. route costing more than Rs.100 crores. Details of the number of proposals, state-wise, are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) As per information available, the projects on the above mentioned route which have commenced partial generation are given below :

Sl. Name of the Project	Total Capacity (MW)	Capacity Commissioned (MW)
1. Hazira Combined Cycle Gas Turbine	515	3x110
2. Jegurupadu Combined Gas Turbine	216	3x45.8
3. Godavari Combined Gas Turbine	216	45.8

(c) to (e) Government of India is monitoring progress of all the private power projects awarded through the MOU/ LOI, etc. route with projected costs exceeding Rs.100 Crores and has also fixed March 31, 1997 as the last date for filing their Detailed Project Reports with the Central Electricity Authority for its techno-economic appraisal.

Statement

Details of proposals for setting up of power projects in the private sector on the MOU/LOI etc. route.

S.No.	Name of State	No. of MOUs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Delhi	1
5.	Gujarat	5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	7

1	2	3
7.	Karnataka	18
8.	Kerala	9
9.	Madhya Pradesh	19
10.	Maharashtra	2
11.	Orissa	7
12.	Rajasthan	1
13.	Tamil Nadu	13
14.	Uttar Pradesh	4
15.	West Bengal	4

Drinking Water

836. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated some Rural Water Supply Scheme to provide safe drinking water to the rural population by 2000 A.D.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS and EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) As recommended in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 4-5 July, 1996, all the State Governments have been requested to take suitable steps and prepare specific schemes to provide safe drinking water to all Not Covered and Partially Covered habitations by 2000 AD, using the funds under the ARWSP, the MNP and the Basic Minimum Services.

Committee for Allotment of Accommodation

837. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up a high-powered committee to frame rules for allotment of Government accommodation and for construction of more houses;

(b) the names of the representatives of the employees on this Committee;

(c) whether Government have carried out any survey to ascertain the shortage of houses in the Capital;

(d) the time by which the committee is expected to frame rules and whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(e) the amount of the compensation paid to the employees who were denied Government accommodation on their turn as per the decision of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Two Committees have been set up to frame rules for out of turn allotment

of Government accommodation and to examine the need for construction of more houses.

(b) Two representatives of the employees namely S/Shri G.L. Dhar and K.K. N. Kutty have been associated with the Committee constituted to examine the need for building more accommodation for Central Govt. employees in Delhi.

(c) Demand and shortages of Govt. accommodation have been computed on the basis of applications invited on restricted basis for the allotment year 1994-95.

(d) The Committee constituted to frame rules for out of turn allotment has since submitted its report. The rules framed in this regard will be notified and laid on the Table of both the Houses of the Parliament.

(e) The Supreme Court has directed that the employees who were denied inturn allotment of Govt. accommodation should be suitably compensated and for the purpose, the additional licence fee, collected from the out of turn allottees, shall be used. To formulate a scheme in this regard, in terms of Supreme Court order, a Committee has been constituted to examine all the related issues. The recommendations of the Committee are awaited.

Employment to Labourers

838. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory to engage/employ the labourers on works undertaken under JRY and IRDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for awarding contracts for such works by the Government;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enquire into such cases and to make public the report thereof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is a wage employment programme under which rural poor are provided wage employment in various works which result in creation of durable community assets. At least 60% of the resources have to be spent on wage component. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a self employment programme where assisted poor families are enabled to take up self employment activities by providing them with productive assets and inputs in primary secondary or tertiary sector.

(c) to (e) There is no provision for awarding work to contractors under the scheme viz. JRY and IRDP. However, when such cases are brought to the notice of Central Government, the same are referred to the concerned State

Government(s) for taking necessary action against the delinquents.

Transmission and Distribution of Power

839. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has hailed the Government's decision to privatise transmission of power;

(b) if so, the points raised by FICCI in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) has hailed the Government decision to privatise the transmission of power by amending of Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, through Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997.

(b) FICCI has raised the following points in this regard:

(i) T&D network during the past years have not kept pace with the augmentation in the capacity addition in power generation.

(ii) The recognition of transmission as a distinct activity, and the opening of the transmission to private operators, is expected to reduce the T&D losses

(c) It is a fact that investment in transmission network during the past years have not kept pace with the investments in the power generation. It was in recognition of this fact that the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 was promulgated which recognises transmission as a distinct activity and to provide for facilitating investment by private sector in this vital area. The additional investment in the Transmission Sector will also help in reducing Transmission losses.

[Translation]

Demolition

840. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that D.D.A. has demolished a number of houses without notice in trans-Yamuna area which were there for the last 20 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provide houses or compensation to affected persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The D.D.A. has reported

that it demolished 34 structures in Yamuna Vihar on 28.12.1996.

(b) The land belongs to DDA and was meant for laying road for implementing its residential scheme since the constructions have come up unauthorisedly, they were reportedly demolished.

(c) The D.D.A. proposes to provide alternative accommodation to the eligible evictees under its rehabilitation policy.

[English]

MPLADS Computerisation

841. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether computerisation of MPLADS (Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme) is planned to expedite the implementation of the scheme;

(b) whether the State Governments who are in control of the implementing agency of MPLADS are giving enough staff and infrastructure for implementation thereof;

(c) if not, the steps being taken in this regard; and

(d) whether the construction works are being delayed because local rates for materials, labour and work are not being offered by implementing agencies or State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Computerisation is expected to facilitate monitoring of the implementation.

(b) and (c) The Central Government has not provided any staff and infrastructure for implementation of the works under MPLADS. Implementation of works under MPLADS is carried out through the District Collectors and Municipal Corporations.

(d) No such case has been brought to the notice of this Department.

Non-Utilisation of Funds

842. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken/propose to take any steps to ensure that funds meant for rural development projects in various States do not lapse due to red tapism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of monitoring done by the Union Government to check the misuse of funds by the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) States are requested from time to time to utilise the unspent balances so that funds are not allowed to lapse

The monitoring mechanism of the Union Government for various rural development as also for rural employment and poverty alleviation programmes consists, inter-alia, of obtaining periodical progress reports/returns, financial returns/audit reports, intensive field inspections, reviews and monitoring by committees by senior officers with the State Secretaries, Commissioners etc.

[Translation]

Consumption of Power in Uttar Pradesh

843. SHRI D.P. YADAV :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power being supplied to Uttar Pradesh is comparatively less than that of other States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the annual per-capita consumption of power in Uttar Pradesh Sector-wise in comparison to that of other States; and

(d) the remedial measures taken for adequate supply of power to Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Uttar Pradesh is a constituent of Northern Grid. During the period April, 1996 to January, 1997 details regarding drawls by constituents of Northern Grid against their entitlement from Central Generating Stations in Northern Region are given below :

States/UTs	April, 1996 to January, 1997	
	Entitlement	Drawal (in MU)
Haryana	4526.4	5040.4
H.P.	939.9	787.3
J&K	2612.9	2419.7
Punjab	4452.5	4501.4
Rajasthan	6306.9	6666.1
U.P.	11769.8	11782.2
Chandigarh	192.0	187.6
Delhi	7687.0	7105.8

(c) Annual per-capita consumption of power in Uttar

Pradesh in comparison to that of other States of Northern Region are given below :

Per capita power consumption in KWH (1994-95)

Haryana	477.83
H.P.	251.03
J&K	210.88
Punjab	785.55
Rajasthan	265.88
U.P.	197.32
Chandigarh	676.27
Delhi	745.61

(d) The State Government has been asked to improve the PLF of Power Stations of UPSEB to avail maximum generation from existing units and also take steps to enhance L.C. amount for drawing more power from Central Stations. Other measures taken to improve the power availability in the country including Uttar Pradesh are capacity additions, implementation of renovation and modernisation programmes, reduction in auxiliary power consumption and T&D losses.

[English]

TRYSEM

844. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will

Statement

Rural Youth Trained Under TRYSEM

S.No.	State/UT	1993-94	94-95	95-96	96-97(till Jan.97)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18047	20330	18047	47086
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	886	672	886	410
3.	Assam	9970	9249	9970	201
4.	Bihar	28566	24504	28566	24147
5.	Goa	275	2591	275	2815
6.	Gujarat	12037	11794	12037	4749
7.	Haryana	6536	3733	6536	2122
8.	Himachal Pradesh	810	1121	810	336
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1469	2647	1469	1931
10.	Karnataka	15171	17542	15171	10400
11.	Kerala	5549	5854	5549	4160
12.	Madhya Pradesh	54111	30415	54111	24052
13.	Maharashtra	23063	11405	23063	10927
14.	Manipur	617	1397	617	220

the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of rural youths under Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment provided during the last three years, State-wise, separately.

(b) whether the Governments efforts to strengthen the Programme by setting up to Mini Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) have not yielded the desired results; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Statement showing the total number of youths trained under TRYSEM during the last three years is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee on IRDP and keeping in view the inadequate training infrastructure available in various States and UTs, the Government of India has embarked upon a scheme of setting up of exclusive TRYSEM training centres (formally called Mini ITIs). These Mini ITIs would be set up in the those blocks where no training infrastructure exists. This programme has been started from the last year only. Till now, an amount of Rs.22.42 crore have been released as central assistance for setting up of 223 Mini ITIs. It is too early to assess the impact of the programme.

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Meghalaya	350	50	358	220
16.	Mizoram	1348	847	1348	-
17.	Nagaland	596	977	596	-
18.	Orissa	9985	15656	9985	8462
19.	Punjab	3870	3324	3870	1125
20.	Rajasthan	10813	9830	10813	1965
21.	Sikkim	184	156	184	0
22.	Tamilnadu	16082	20940	16082	4178
23.	Tripura	1689	2680	1689	921
24.	Uttar Pradesh	63649	62394	63649	38629
25.	West Bengal	17421	20711	17421	10474
26.	A&N Islands	476	448	476	39
27.	Daman & Diu	30	145	30	75
28.	D&N Haveli	25	95	25	12
29.	Lakshadweep	4	11	4	12
30.	Pondicherry	184	356	184	-
Total		303821	281874	303821	199660

Off-Shore Divers on Strike

845. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the off-shore divers working for ONGC have threatened to go on strike;

(b) if so, the detail of their demands; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) Bharatiya Gotakhor Sangh, an Association representing divers employed by a contractor engaged by ONGC Ltd., has raised certain issues with the Corporation and has stated that in case proper action was not taken to rectify the same, the Association would be forced to give a call for strike.

(b) (i) Direct employment for divers and technicians;

(ii) Deboarding of foreign divers engaged by the contractor from the vessels deployed by the contractor and deportation of such foreign divers from the country;

(iii) Strict adoption of international safety norms relating to diving; and

(iv) Ensuring payment of unpaid wages of divers by the contractor.

(c) Services of divers through contractor are obtained

on contract by ONGC Ltd., strictly based on need. The Corporation ensures that various terms of the contract agreement entered into with the contractor, including strict compliance of international safety norms and payment of wages by the contractor to his employees, are followed by the contractor.

Public Sector Oil Companies

846. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed and achievements made with respect to exploratory drilling and development drilling by various Public Sector Oil Companies during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the names of the sites where both kinds of drilling have been carried out during the last two years;

(c) whether target fixed has been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) The targets and achievements of ONGC and OIL, the two Public Sector Undertakings, in respect of exploratory and development drillings metreage during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97, are given in the Statement enclosed.

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

(c) and (d) In the case of ONGC development drilling targets have been overachieved in both the years whereas there was shortfall in exploratory drilling. Drilling achievements in both the years were marginally less due to environmental problems in North-East, drilling of deeper wells and undertaking exploratory drilling in frontier areas.

As regards Oil India Ltd., there has been a shortfall in achieving the drilling targets mainly on account of the following reasons :-

ASSAM & ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- i) Environmental problems like bandhs and niscrant activities.
- ii) Delay in preparation of drilling sites due to excessive rain/water logging/floods.
- iii) Various surface and sub-surface problems in a number of drilling wells arising out of ageing rigs.
- iv) Non-availability of Man-Management Contract Services for drilling rigs as planned.
- v) Non-availability of the charter hired rigs throughout the year 1995-96.
- vi) Unusually slow progress in a superdeep (6100 m) exploratory well in A.P. due to No. of surface and sub-surface complications.
- vii) Drilling in the North Bank of River Brahmaputra could not be started because of reasons connected to contract finalisation/mobilization.

SAURASHTRA EXPLORATION PROJECT

Severe sub-surface problems encountered while drilling the first well.

NORTH-EAST COAST

Programme deferred.

Statement

Targets and achievements of ONGC and OIL in respect of exploratory and development drilling during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97.

ONGC

	(1995-96) Targets (as per MOU)	('000 m) Actual Achievement
Exploratory drilling	629.015	472.861
Development drilling	377.681	418.012
Total	1006.696	890.873

(1996-97)

	(April'96 - January'97) Targets (as per Draft MOU 1996-97)	('000 m) Actual Achievement
Exploratory drilling	506.130	363.530
Development drilling	269.105	282.162
Total	775.235	645.692

Note: ONGC M.O.U. has not been signed for 1996-97.

OIL INDIA LIMITED

	1995-96 Targets	('000 m) Achievements
Exploratory drilling	73.50	31.530
Development drilling	49.00	51.452
Total	122.50	82.982

	1996-97 Target	('000 m) Achievement
Exploratory drilling	70.70	46.37
Development drilling	69.30	59.00
Total	140.00	105.37

Grants for NGOs

847. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants given to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) all over the country;

(b) the criteria adopted for sanction of grants to these NGOs;

(c) whether the utilisation of these funds by NGOs are monitored by the Government; and

(d) If so, whether any misuse of funds have been detected by the Government and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to prevent these misuse of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), a registered society under the aegis of this Ministry, provides financial assistance to voluntary organisations having at least three years experience after registration as a society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 or under the corresponding State Act, or as a Trust registered under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or the Charitable and Religious Trusts Act, 1920 for undertaking rural development projects. While considering

project proposals for financial assistance inter alia, the technical feasibility and economic viability of the project proposals and the administrative capability of the voluntary organisations are taken into account.

The total amount released by CAPART to Voluntary Organisations upto 31.3.1996 is approximately Rs.278 crores.

The sanctioned projects are periodically monitored by CAPART either through its own officers or through empanelled project evaluators.

(d) As on 31.3.1996, for various acts of omission of commission including misuse of funds, CAPART has blacklisted 226 Voluntary Organisations. In addition, CAPART has also blacklisted 152 Voluntary Organisations which were blacklisted by other Government agencies. CAPART has reported that as per the available records, it has released approx. Rs.5.88 crores upto 31.3.1996 to the blacklisted voluntary organisations. CAPART has also intimated that many such voluntary organisations have had completed the sanctioned project satisfactorily but were blacklisted on account of acts of omission or commission in some later projects. As such, the misutilised amount may be of a much lower order.

To prevent misuse of funds by Voluntary Organisations, CAPART has reported that it has strengthened the sanctioning, monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Some important steps taken in this regard are as follows :-

- (i) With a view to bring it nearer to the grassroot Voluntary Organisations, the functioning of CAPART has been decentralised by setting up six Regional Committees. The Regional Committees have been empowered to consider and sanction project proposals upto an outlay of Rs.5 lakhs.
- (ii) National Standing Committees have been constituted to sanction financial assistance to voluntary organisations for their rural development projects.
- (iii) The representatives of voluntary organisations have considerable representation on the National Standing Committees and Regional Committees of CAPART.
- (iv) CAPART is now appraising/monitoring the projects at various stages, such as prior to funding (pre-funding appraisal), during execution (mid-term appraisal) and after completion of the project (post evaluation).
- (v) CAPART has also decided to constitute a National Standing Committee for monitoring and evaluation of the projects sanctioned by it.

Implementation of Projects

848. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has suggested to lay stress on tapping of resources and also for timely implementation of projects;

(b) whether several projects which have laudable objectives but have not borne fruits due to failure in implementation; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to identify the lacune and remedial measures for timely and effective implementation of these projects during Ninth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the meeting of National Development Council held on 16.1.1997 the various members laid stress on tapping of resources and timely implementation of projects in their speeches. It is a fact that several projects with laudable objectives have been delayed due to slow progress in implementation.

(c) The action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government vary from project to project and time to time. However, the nature of measures by the Govt. in general in the implementation is given in the enclosed Statement. The fresh initiatives taken by the Government for achieving the said targets of project implementation are (i) proposal to introduce on-line monitoring system (ii) prioritisation of projects within available resources (iii) weeding out/privatisation of projects making slow progress and laying more emphasis on accountability in project implementation through the system of Memoranda of Understanding between Govt. and the Chief Executives of project implementing agencies. The approach paper of the Ninth Five Year Plan emphasizes these policies and has been approved by the National Development Council.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of projects for reducing overrun.

- i) Two-stage project approval.
- ii) On line computerised monitoring system is being implemented.
- iii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures
- iv) Formation of Empowered Committees with adequate financial powers.
- v) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.
- vi) Setting up of project management team with tenure co-terminus with the gestation period of the project.
- vii) Improving contract management system.

viii) Delegation of powers to field level executives.

Thermal and Hydro Power Plants

849. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of some thermal power stations during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the hydro power plants which are going to be expanded during the above period; and

(c) the additional capacity expected to be added on completion of these power plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The proposals for capacity addition, including expansion of thermal power stations and hydro power plants, during the Ninth Five Year Plan are presently under examination and are yet to be finalise by the Government. The expected additional capacity would depend on various factors such as project preparedness, availability of financial resources, fuel linkages etc.

[Translation]

Basic Facilities to Slums

850. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any effective scheme and allocate funds for the overall development and providing basic facilities and solving the environmental problems of slum areas and katra in old colonies of cities in the country particularly in Delhi during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the cities including Delhi for which the Government propose to allocate funds for the development and providing basic facilities in the slum areas and kattras in old colonies of these cities and the amount proposed to be given to each city separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The States have been provided additional Central assistance for slum development in 1996-97. As far as the Ninth Five Year Plan is concerned, it is yet to be finalised.

[English]

Setting up of Power Projects/Plants in U.P.

851. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are proposing to set

up some power projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details alongwith location thereof;

(c) the total expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government have chalk out any scheme to set up power sub-stations at Azamgarh and Varanasi districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supreme Court Ruling

852. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned Judges do not want Delhi to slum it. Remove four lakh jhuggis. SC appearing in the "Times of India" dated November 21, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court in its order dated 20th November, 1996 in W.P. (Civil), No.286 of 1994 took judicial notice of the fact that in India where about 30% of the people are living below poverty line, the problems of slums in the Urban areas is a natural phenomenon. The Court further observed that primarily it is for the Government of the day to short out this problem, since it is under a Constitutional obligation to provide shelter to the people. The Hon'ble Court had directed the Secretary, Government of India. Ministry of Urban Development to hold a meeting with the concerned Departments/Organisations in Delhi for considering the problems of slums in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and file a report before the Hon'ble Court. Accordingly a report has already been filed in the Supreme Court. The Government is now required to submit a comprehensive plan indicating the time bound programme for settlement of slum dwellers and urban poor. The matter is still subjudice.

Central Electronics Limited

853. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electronics Limited (CEL) has been on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to improve its performance and to make it economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A comprehensive proposal for Capital Restructuring of the Company was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 15 January, 1997. The proposal essentially aims at improving the overall performance of CEL and making it economically viable in various areas of its operations in the new policy environment.

The Company has drawn up a strategy for strengthening of certain areas of its operations. This includes identification and inclusion of new products, upgradation of existing technologies and processes through in-house R&D efforts or in collaboration with other R&D institutions. The strategy also envisages acquiring know-how or marketing/technology tie-ups with other concerns, either indigenous or foreign.

Abraham Committee on Power

854. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Abraham Committee set up by the Union Government to evolve competitive bidding norms and a tariff structure for Private Power Projects has submitted its final recommendations;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether Government has accepted the recommendations in toto; and

(d) the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations include, inter-alia, bulk power tariff based competitive bidding instead of the cost plus approach as at present, availability based tariff etc.

(c) and (d) The recommendations are under examination.

LPG Connections

855. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA
SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT
SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI
KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH
SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of applicants in the waiting list for LPG connection by the end of 1996.

(b) whether the Government propose to make available LPG connections to all these persons by the end of March, 1997;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of LPG connections released to each State during 1995 and 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (d) State-wise Statement showing the number of persons in the waiting list as well as the number of LPG connections released during 1994-95 & 1995-96 is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Release of new connections for clearing of waiting list depends inter-alia upon product availability, slack available with the existing distributors, minimum/sustainable allocation to newly commissioned distributors, unviable distributors etc. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate a definite time frame for release of connections to the waitlisted persons. However, with the expected higher availability of LPG through imports, more connections are planned to be released and it is expected to clear the entire waiting list by the year 2000-1.

Statement

State	Waiting list as on 1.1.97 (Fig. in lakhs)	LPG Enrollment Fig. in Thousands 1994-95 1995-96
1	2	3 4
Andhra Pradesh	10.74	176.1 131.3
Arunachal Pradesh	0.19	7.1 5.2
Assam	1.93	45.3 32.2
Bihar	4.18	105.0 46.1
Goa	0.89	8.4 8.0
Gujarat	8.43	109.8 77.1
Haryana	5.14	65.1 47.2
Himachal Pradesh	1.08	48.2 116.3
Jammu & Kashmir	1.63	37.4 79.8
Karnataka	7.19	119.8 102.5
Kerala	6.79	104.2 75.8
Madhya Pradesh	7.17	104.5 72.6
Maharashtra	19.05	350.9 261.6
Manipur	0.07	6.1 6.5
Meghalaya	0.08	5.7 7.2
Mizoram	0.08	6.5 8.8
Nagaland	0.07	3.7 4.2

1	2	3	4
Orissa	2 15	60.4	29.6
Punjab	7 56	100.0	79.1
Rajasthan	7.62	73.0	78.2
Sikkim	0.03	3.3	8.8
Tamilnadu	14 73	173.0	129.0
Tripura	0.36	5.4	2.2
Uttar Pradesh	15.19	281.0	430.4
West Bengal	10.25	140.6	106.7
Union Territories			
Andman & Nicobar	0.11	4.3	0.2
Chandigarh	0.88	13.8	6.5
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.02	0.6	0.2
Delhi	7.91	129.0	96.8
Daman & Diu	0.04	0.8	0.2
Lakashadweep	0.00	0.3	0.5
Pondicherry	0.47	3.9	3.0

Oil Reserve Fund

856. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount from oil reserve fund has been transferred to meet the non-plan expenditure;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years alongwith the heads of accounts; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to meet the deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas does not administer any fund titled 'Oil Reserve Fund'.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Handing Over of Plot

857. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA has assigned a 340 Sq. m. plot for Electric Sub-station near Riverside Sports and Recreation Club in Mayur Vihar Phase-I, Ext., near Chilla Village;

(b) if so, the reasons for not handing over the plot to DESU; and

(c) the time frame fixed by DDA to made the ESS functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) DDA has not yet allotted any land to DESU for Electric Sub-station near River Side

Sports and Recreation Club in Mayur Vihar, Phase-I Extension near Chilla Village.

(b) and (c) In view of above the question does not arise.

[English]

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Inter-State Council (Amendment) Order, 1996

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Indrajit Gupta, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Inter-State Council (Amendment) Order, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.902 (E), in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996, issued under proviso to article 263 of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 1372/97]

Annual Report and Review of the Working of Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1373/97]

(2) A copy of the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1374/97]

Annual Report and Review of the working of Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for the year 1995-96 & statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): 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) Review by the Government of the working of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Account 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 1375/97]

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Rural Electrification Corporation and the Ministry of Power for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1376/97]

Annual Accounts of National Capital Region Planning Board for the year 1995-96 and Memorandum of Understanding between the National Building Construction Corporation and Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for the Year 1996-97 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Capital Region Planning Board for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon, under section 26 of the National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1377/97]

(2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Buildings Construction Corporation and the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1378/97]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing rea-

sons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1379/97]

Notifications under All India Services Act, 1951

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—

(i) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 554 in Gazette of India dated the 14th December, 1996.

(ii) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Sixth Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 555 in Gazette of India dated the 14th December, 1996.

(iii) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 587 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.

(iv) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Fourth Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 588(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.

(v) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Third Amendment Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 589 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.

(iv) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Third Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 590(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1380/97]

Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of The Working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar for the year 1987-88 etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): Sir, 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) Review by the Government of the working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1987-88.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1987-88, 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 1381/97]

Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Order, 1997

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Order, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 26 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th January, 1997, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1382/97]

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Fifth Report

[English]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN (AMBALA): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.02 1/4 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Eighth Report

[English]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGHAR (BAREILLY): Sir, I beg to present the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on the action taken on the recommendations contained in the Thirty Eighth Report of the Committee regarding National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation).

12.02 1/2 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS

Thirty-sixth Report

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY (TRIPURA WEST): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Thirty-sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on the "Insurgency situation in the North-eastern region".

12.02 3/4 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tenth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 25th February, 1997."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 25th February, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): Why do you not include the Women's Bill?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Where is the Women's Bill?

MR. SPEAKER: I understand your sentiments.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Thank you, Sir, but let Government also understand them.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM): Can you communicate your understanding to the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: I will keep it in mind, I promise you.

Before I request the Railway Minister to present the Budget, I have to dispose of the notices of Motions—there are two of them—which we have debated in the last few days. I will just give my ruling on that.

12.04 hrs.

RULINGS BY THE SPEAKER

- (i) **Issue of Admissibility of Notice of Motion Under Rule 164 for Constitution of a Parliamentary Committee to go into all aspects of Bofors Gun Deal**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: On the 24th February, 1997, Shri Jaswant Singh, Member of Parliament, had given a notice of Motion under Rule 184 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha for constituting a Committee of both House to go into all aspects of the documents received from the Swiss authorities and to consider the Government's response thereto.

The question of admissibility of the Motion tabled by Shri Jaswant Singh and the scope of constituting another Parliamentary Committee was discussed yesterday, the 25th February, 1997, in the Zero Hour. I have heard the valuable views expressed by hon. Members as well as the Government's view expressed by Shri Ramakant D. Khalap, Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice, referring to the undertaking given by Government of India to Swiss authorities. The Minister stated as under.

"There are many more investigations which are going on and there are solemn undertakings between the two sovereign countries, If today we violate the undertaking given to the Swiss authorities, with what face could we go again to them and ask for further documents?"

Informing about the conditionalities attached, the Minister stated as under:

"The document transmitted and the information contained therein may be used for investigatory purposes or as evidence only in the interest of the prosecution regarding an ordinary criminal offence. Any other use of this document and the information contained therein is subject to the explicit and previous authorisation of the Federal Office for Police Matter.

The Minister added:

"Therefore, anticipating that such a question would be raised here, we requested the Swiss authorities whether they would allow us to disclose these papers. We have received last night a fax message from them saying that they cannot agree to this proposal of placing these documents on the Table of the House."

The Law Minister, on being asked, as to whether the CBI had disclosed the names, stated as under;

"There was a lot of kite flying going on. The newspapers were publishing so many things....

Therefore the CB through it proper to inform the country that these were the entire set of names which they have received."

When asked to specify those names, the Minister added:

"They are before everybody."

There is no doubt that it is as much incumbent on the Parliament as on the Government to honour international commitments and abide by the conditionalities mentioned by the Minister. It is, however, not clear why

the CBI took an inconsistent stand and thought it proper to disclose the names, which the Parliament, as it turns now, is not entitled to know. This is therefore a serious matter to be taken note of by the Government and appropriate action taken by them under intimation to the House.

It may be recalled that a Joint Parliament Committee to enquire into the Bofors contract was constituted in 1987. The Committee held 50 sittings taking 140.25 hours in its deliberations. I mentioned it yesterday. The Report of the Committee was presented on the 26 April, 1988. The Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was discussed in the House on the 4th and the 5th May, 1988. Apart from this, the Bofors issue was discussed in one form or the other during the Eighth Lok Sabha and Ninth Lok Sabha for about 60 hours.

After going into all aspects of the matter, I am of the opinion that no useful purpose will be served by appointing another Parliamentary Committee. I am therefore, not admitting the notice.

(ii) Issue of Admissibility of Notice of Motion Under Rule 184 Regarding Failure of Constitutional Machinery in Uttar Pradesh

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices of Motion under Rule 184 from Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Jaswant Singh and Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, M.Ps., for recall of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh for the failure of the Constitutional machinery in Uttar Pradesh. I have also received notices of Motion under Rule 184 from Sarvashri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Murli Manohar Joshi, Jaswant Singh Rajendra Agnihotri and Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, M.Ps., for recall of Governor of Uttar Pradesh for his failure to control the deteriorating law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh.

The thrust of the first set of notices for recall of the Governor is that the Governor has failed in taking appropriate steps to form a Government in Uttar Pradesh after completion of the election process which has resulted in the failure of the Constitutional machinery in that State.

Hon. Members will recall that this issue was also sought to be raised in the House during the previous Session by way of notices of Adjournment Motion given by several Members. I had on 27 November, 1996 withheld my consent to the notices on the ground that the matter was pending before the Allahabad High Court.

The matter is at present pending before the Supreme Court. There is no material change in the situation inasmuch as the highest Court of the land is now seized of the matter. The issue involves interpretation of a number of complicated legal points on which the Court has yet to give its final verdict.

In view of this, I am disinclined to admit the notices of Motion under Rule 184 on the ground of failure of Constitutional machinery in the State.

Reverting to the second set of notices, they rest

broadly on the logic that the deteriorating law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh merits the recall of the Governor.

The Ministry of Home Affairs to whom copies of notices were forwarded for furnishing a factual note, have forwarded a note on the law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh. The note, while giving break-up of various categories of crimes in the State of the past five years, states that the law and order situation in the State cannot be said to have worsened after the imposition of the President's Rule. It is, however, admitted that "it is true that there have been some sensational cases of kidnapping and murder in recent past."

The matter was also raised in the House on 24 February, 1997. Almost all the Members who participated in the discussion were of the view that there was total break-down of the law and order situation in the State. The Home Minister is on record having admitted that Uttar Pradesh was "heading for anarchy, chaos and destruction." If that be the perception of the Home Minister of the country regarding the state of affairs in Uttar Pradesh, I feel that the Members are justified in demanding a discussion.

The question is whether the discussion should necessarily be under Rule 184. In this context, hon. Members may recall that the Minister of Home Affairs while replying to supplementaries to Starred Question No. 43 on 25 February, 1997, had stated that "wherever any State is brought under the President's rule, an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives of different political parties is constituted for acting during the period of the President's rule. Unfortunately, in the case of U.P. such a Committee has not yet been constituted as there is some technical and legal hitch. We are trying to overcome that as soon as possible so that an Advisory Committee is set up."

Considering the entire facts and circumstances of the case, including the above assurance given by the hon. Home Minister and his genuine and candid concern for the State, and also further taking into account opportunities that may be available to the Members at the time of passing of U.P. Budget, I find that a detailed discussion under Rule 193 should be adequate. I am, therefore, inclined to admit a Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 and allow it accordingly.

Let me also hasten to direct that the Government should immediately establish an Advisory Committee of the Parliamentarians of U.P. truly representative of the various political parties so that the U.P. Governor if fully informed of the ground realities as perceived by the people's representatives.

BUDGET (RAILWAYS)-1997-98

12.14 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 15 - Railway Budget.

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI NORTH): Sir, on Railway Budget, I am on a Point of Order. I have given a notice also...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (PURNIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say something...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, there is no Zero Hour. Today is the Railway Budget.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jena, can you make your Member understand that today there is no Zero hour. I do not expect it from the ruling Party.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the Railway Budget was to be presented on 24th February. Now it is being presented today. Like the trains, the Railway Budget is also being delayed by two days and the Minister has said that there has been a delay in printing.

My main objection is—we have passed the Business Advisory Committee's Report—we have decided in the Business Advisory Committee Meeting that we will discuss the Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1996-97. In the List of Business, which is given today, the Railway Budget presentation and Demands for Excess Grants for 1994-95 are there. But the List of Business does not indicate the Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1996-97.

Sir, you are aware that if we have to give any Cut Motions against the Railway Budget or the Supplementary Demands for Grants, we require two days notice for giving the cut motions. Now if these three things are to be discussed together and if the Supplementary Demands are not being presented, then we will not have sufficient time of two days because already it has been decided that discussion on Railway Budget would start on the 3rd March. Now there are two days left in this week and if the Supplementary Demands are not presented today, how can we send the Cut Motions against the Supplementary Demands. From that point of view, these Supplementary Demands must be presented today. Since they are not being presented, I have raised a point of order and I hope that you will appreciate the view and then take a decision. But this should not be allowed to be done.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the hon. Member had a point because in the List of Business, it is said that all things would be discussed on 3rd, 4th and 5th of March. According to the intimation that I have received, Supplementary Railway Budget will be introduced only on the 4th of March. Therefore, that technical difficulty will come. I think, we can sort it out in the next Business Advisory Committee Meeting.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PUDRAUNA): Mr. Speaker, what about U.P...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, Not now.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Railway Minister may please read his Budget speech.

12.18 hrs.

[Translation]

The Minister of Railways (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to present the Revised Estimates for 1996-97 and Budget Estimates for 1997-98 for the Indian Railways.

Before I present a review of the performance during the current year, I wish to apprise this august House that during the presentation of Railway Budget for 1996-97, I had clearly mentioned that we want the Railway to function not only as a commercial institution but also an efficient and public welfare organisation for the development of backward regions.

Even after fifty years of independence, be it the north east regions of Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh or Sikkim, railways have not reached these States. Similarly, Kashmir also does not have any railway line. The region of Bihar adjoining Nepal and Uttarakhand are also backward as far as railway network is concerned. In my opinion, it will not be possible to develop rail infrastructure in these backward regions as long as financial viability of a railway line is the norm and these regions will continue to remain backward.

Keeping these in view, our Government in the last nine months have decided to construct Udhampur-Baramulla railway line in Jammu & Kashmir State and Kumarghat-Agartala, Lumding-Silchar, Harmuti-Itanagar and Bogibeel Bridge on Brahmaputra river in North East region. We are also providing sufficient funds for completion of these projects. We are making a provision of Rs. 400 cr. as against Rs. 220 cr. for the last year. This is the highest ever provision made for new lines. More than Rs. 300 cr. have been allotted for development and expansion of rail infrastructure in North Eastern States alone. More than Rs. 100 cr. have been provided for expansion of railway line in Jammu & Kashmir this year. Similarly, we have provided increased outlays as far as possible for the backward regions of different States. Details of these provisions have been given in the Pink Book.

On the one hand, development of backward regions is being stressed, on the other the need to gradually

increase the transportation capacity of railways for freight and passenger traffic is also being kept in view to meet the growing demand. The House would be happy to know that this year we made a provision of Rs. 4,100 cr. to be spent on rolling stock as against a provision of Rs. 2,900 cr. during 1995-96. We have provided necessary funds for procurement of 26,000 wagons, more than 2,000 passenger coaches and more than 300 locos during the year 1997-98. We are quite hopeful that this will enable us to discharge our role in the sphere of transport and contribute to economic progress of the nation.

With the permission of the House, I would like to apprise the difficult conditions under which I, as Railway Minister, have to present this Budget. 16 lakh people work in railways which is 40% of the total Central Government employees. On the one hand, Fifth Pay Commission recommendations will result in an unprecedented rise in working expenses to the extent of Rs. 385 cr., on the other, there have been regular demands from Hon'ble members for expansion and development of new lines. I can assure you that but for this additional burden of Rs. 385 cr., the pace of development as desired by Hon'ble Members would have been much more despite all constraints. I requested the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Planning Commission and the Hon'ble Prime Minister for increasing the budgetary support. I would like to thank the Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda ji who not only gave encouragement but also increased the budgetary support despite all financial problems. I also thank the Finance Minister who despite all constraints, gave the budgetary support of Rs. 1,831 cr. ...*(Interruptions)*. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has given an assurance that in order to complete various projects for development of backward regions, he will try to extend maximum possible financial support in future.

I have no hesitation in informing this august House that Indian Railways are passing through a very difficult phase. Whereas there are separate tracks for goods and passenger traffic in developed countries, in India, barring exceptions, the track is common for goods, passenger, express and superfast trains. Railway network spans more than 62,000 route kilometers and one lakh seven thousand track kilometers. There is also a need for 10 per cent track renewal. In addition to this replacement of 20,000 wagons, 2,000 coaches and many locomotives is required to be done every year due to over age. There are 24,554 unmanned level crossings. All these require enormous resources which are beyond the capacity of Railways keeping in view the resource crunch. However, we are doing our best with in limited resources and I am proud to say that Indian Railways is the only one in the World Railways which is making profit after meeting all expenses and is using the resources for development of Railways.

Traffic Performance 1996-97

Indian Railways had achieved a loading of 290 million tonnes during 1995-96 and for the year 1996-97, target of 410 million tonnes of revenue earning freight traffic was fixed. Railways are fully poised to achieve this target during the current year despite shortfall in offer of traffic during the season.

Financial Performance 1996-97

The financial performance of Indian Railways in the current year has been satisfactory. The "Excess" of Rs. 1916 cr. as projected in the Budget Estimates has now been revised upward to Rs. 2,241 cr. The Annual Plan which was initially fixed at Rs. 8,130 cr. was modified to Rs. 8,300 cr. on grant of additional budgetary support of Rs. 170 cr. from the General Exchequer. The Railways had invited private investment, as was done last year, through 'BOLT' and 'OYW' schemes. In the last year, the response to BOLT was disappointing but in 'OYW' private investment was very encouraging. Rs. 530 cr. are expected to materialise this year in these schemes. IRFC has already made available approximately Rs. 1,500 cr. and it is expected that it will exceed its target of Rs. 1,850 cr. for the current year.

Traffic Prospects 1997-98

A target of 430 million tonnes of revenue earning freight traffic has been fixed for 1997-98, which is the first year of the 9th Five Year Plan. This is 20 million tonnes more than the loading target of 1996-97. We hope to achieve this target during the year with the likely boost in the economic progress.

There has been commendable increase in passenger traffic during 1996-97 and we hope to achieve the target of 3% increase during 1997-98.

Passenger Services

I would like to apprise the Hon'ble members about the steps taken by the railways for the benefit of rail users.

Mr. Speaker, computerisation of passenger reservations has been in existence for many years. This has been widely acclaimed publicly as well as by this august House. This facility has been provided at 271 locations to end of 1995-96. By March, 1997, this would be available at more than 300 locations. I am happy to inform the Hon'ble members that this facility has been provided at even those places which are not even connected by rail like Srinagar, Port Blair, Panjim, Shillong, Agartala, Imphal, and Gangtok, etc. This facility has also been installed at Aizawl, Itanagar and Kohima which will be operationalised soon. This has been hailed by the people of these areas as an extremely customer-friendly gesture on the part of Indian Railways. Aizawl, Itanagar, Kohima.

Now demands are being raised for providing universal facility of return and onward reservations covering all computerised locations. A networking software is under development to meet this demand. This software has been operational at New Delhi and Secunderabad PRS and efforts are on for networking of these systems. Efforts to extend this system to the other three locations viz. Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai are also being made. I had given an assurance last time in this august House that to improve customer satisfaction, efforts would be made to introduce satellite based telephone services on long distance trains. I am happy to inform that this facility has been successfully

introduced on Mumbai-Delhi Rajdhani Express and I have decided to provide this on all the Rajdhani by the end of next year.

Monitoring cells have been set up at zonal headquarters and ministry's level for ensuring passenger amenities, cleanliness, catering and punctuality.

I had announced in my last Budget Speech that AC 2-tier/AC 3-tier accommodation will be provided on all mail/express involving overnight journey in a phased manner. I am glad to inform the august House that 15 pairs of such trains have been provided with AC 2-tier accommodation since October, 96 and this will be progressively increased on the availability of more AC Coaches. AC 3-Tier coaches are now operating on all Rajdhani Express trains and 51 pairs of other mail/express trains.

I had given an assurance in the last Budget that at least two unreserved second class coaches would be attached to mail/express trains. These unreserved coaches have been attached to many trains during the last year and efforts in this regard will be progressively expedited.

Public Grievances

Everyday, 16 lakhs railway employees toil day and night to run 7,500 passenger trains and provide services to 11 million passengers every day. It is quite natural that there are complaints despite all our best efforts. For redressal of these grievances, public grievances cell are functioning not only at Zonal level, at Ministry level also due attention is being paid. I have also set up a complaint cell under my supervision which is making all efforts to bring improvement. Timely and remedial action is being taken in all cases of complaint.

Catering Services

Despite all efforts to provide catering facilities to the passengers, complaints are being received. The position is still not satisfactory although strict action has been taken against railway employees and private contractors in several cases. Other options for improving catering are also being explored. In order to further improve the catering services, staff is being suitably trained and professionally qualified degree/diploma holders staff is also being recruited.

Pantry car services have been introduced on the six new trains during the current year:

2309/2310 New Delhi-Patna Rajdhani Express

8001/8002 Howrah-Mumbai Mail

2633/2634 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express

9767/9768 Jaipur-Chennai Express

8561/8562 Kazipet-Vishakhapatnam-Kazipet Link Express

9769/9770 Jaipur-Purna-Jaipur Express

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

It has also been decided to introduce Pantry Car Services on some more trains, such as, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal to Ferozepur-Punjab Mail, Nizamuddin to Visakhapatnam-Samta Express, and Bokaro to Alleppy Express etc.

Safety

Rail accidents are most painful for the Railway Minister. Some of the accidents are beyond the control of Railways like sabotage, bomb blasts and terrorist activities. Railway Protection Force cannot interfere in these cases as law and order is a state subject. This subject was intensively discussed for two days in last September with D.G./Police of several states, D.G./RPF and officials of Railway Board. We have written to the concerned State Government for seeking their support and I am quite hopeful that they take necessary steps.

As against 360 deaths in rails accidents during the period June, 1995 to January, 1996, the casualties have come down to 3 since June, 1996. Although there is comparative reduction in derailments, yet this does not provide any relief.

Mr. Speaker, safety in train operation is being accorded the highest priority and improvement in this direction is an on-going process. During the year upto January, there were 306 accidents against 313 during the same period last year.

Sabotage has been the cause of many serious accidents. Bomb blast between Kokrajhar and Fakiragram in Assam on 30.12.96 resulted in derailment of Brahmaputra Mail and loss of 33 lives. Bomb blast in Jhelum Express at Ambala Cantt. on 2nd December, 1996 resulted in death of 10 passengers. During the year up to January, 1997 there have been 12 sabotage cases. We have requested the State Governments to improve the law and order situation and tighten up security arrangements to avoid such accidents.

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): What about Dindigul....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Everything is there. Please wait ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I am mentioning the accidents that have taken place in the recent past. I am talking about the accidents that have been caused due to terrorist activities and the bomb blasts that took place in Ambala and Kokrajhar. In all, 12 such accidents have taken place.

Another area of concern has been level crossing accidents due to rash and careless driving of road vehicles. 43 such accidents have occurred till January, 1997. There is need for strict screening by State Governments while giving licences to the road vehicle drivers.

Annual Plan 1997-98

The plan outlay for 1997-98 has been fixed at Rs. 8,300 cr. For the year 1997-98 the budgetary support is Rs. 1,831 cr. which is approximately Rs. 400 cr. higher than 1996-97 budgetary support. Once again I express my gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Finance Minister for increasing this amount. I hope this amount will be further increased in future. An amount of Rs. 3,419 cr. will be internally generated by the Railways to finance the plan outlay. Remaining amount of Rs. 3,050 cr. is proposed to be raised through the issue of bonds by Indian Railway Finance Corporation and Private investment under BOLT/OYW schemes.

Like last year, this year also the thrust will be on augmentation and updating of rolling stock, doubling, track renewals, gauge conversion, electrification and new rail lines.

Projects of New Lines, Doubling and Gauge Conversion etc.

New Lines

During the current year, we have completed the construction work of Beas-Goindwal new line, Chitauri-Bagha rail link and Karanjali-Nischintapur line.

There have been pressing demands from Hon'ble members from all parts of the country and from the State Governments for taking up new line projects. As you are all aware our Government took a policy decision to accord top priority to the development of rail infrastructure in backward areas, particularly in the North Eastern Region. In pursuance to this policy, we had included the construction of several new lines in the Supplementary Budget, 96-97, with the proviso that work would be started on these as soon as the necessary clearances have been obtained. I am happy to inform the House that the required clearances for taking up the work have since been obtained for most of these projects including new lines from Harmuti-Itanagar, Hassan to Bangalore via Shravanbelagola, Khagaria to Kusheshwarsthan and Hubli to Ankola, as well as for the project of construction of a new line from Lohardanga to Tori. Necessary action has been initiated for obtaining the clearance for Karur-Salem new line and work on this project would be started after obtaining the same.

While presenting the last Budget, I had indicated that Government have decided to take up the construction of Brahmaputra Bridge at Bogibeel near Dibrugarh and Ganga Bridge at Patna. The Prime Minister has since laid the foundation stones for these works and these works are now being included in the Budget, with sufficient outlay for taking up the land acquisition work. The actual work on these bridges would be taken up once the land becomes available. In the meantime, the funding pattern of these bridges is also being sorted out, including the cost sharing for the Bogibeel Bridge with the other beneficiaries, since this is going to be a rail-cum-road bridge.

In pursuance of our policy to rail link the capitals of the N.E. States, I had included the work of Kumarghat-Agartala new line in the Budget, 96-97 and Harmuti-Iltanagar in the Supplementary Budget. Members will be happy to know that I am including the work of Diphu-Karong new railway line in the first phase of the BG line to Imphal the capital of Manipur in this Budget. Work on this line would be taken up once the necessary clearances have been obtained. I have also ordered the updating of the survey from Bhairabi to Sairang so that we can take up the new line to Sairang/Aizawl, to rail link the capital of Mizoram, in the coming years.

Requisite clearances have been received for Dausa-Gangapur City and Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajinath new line projects which were already included in the Railway Budget. We would be starting the work on these projects in the coming financial year.

I have carefully considered the demands for new line projects, received from the Hon'ble members and in pursuance of our Government's policy to develop the rail infrastructure in backward areas, I have decided to take up construction of new lines from Lalitpur-Satna via Khajuraho and Rewa to Singrauli ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI M. SELVARASU (NAGAPATTINAM): What about Tiruchi-Nagore....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (KHAJURAHU): On behalf of Madhya Pradesh, I thank you for the proposal to connect Khajuraho with Rail-Line.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: All right. You are thanking me. I also thank you very much.

From Baramati to Lonand and Kopergaon to Shirdi, from Tarantaran to Goindwal and Chandigarh to Ludhiana, Muzafarpur to Sitamari and Ara to Sasaram, from Giridih to Kodarma as the first phase of Giridih-Barkakhana-Ranchi line, Munirabad to Mehboobnagar, and Bangalore to Satyamangalam and from Dharmavaram to Penukonda via Puttaparthi and Angamali to Sabarimala as new works in the Budget, 97-98. These works would be taken up after the required clearances have been obtained. ...(*Interruptions*)

There have been persistent demands for construction of new lines from Bishrampur to Ambikapur. These projects had been referred to the Planning Commission who did not agree for taking up these lines. However, based on representations from the Hon'ble members from these areas, the survey is being updated and after reviewing the results of survey, this will again be sent to the Planning Commission.

Necessary clearances are also being obtained for new lines from Talcher-Sukhinda Road, Bidar-Bulbarga and Gadwal to Raichur and once these become available, I will

come to the august House for sanction to take up these works.

I am fully conscious of the need to develop the rail infrastructure in the Uttarakhand Region. Accordingly, surveys for Saharanpur-Dehradun and Rishikesh-Karanprayag new lines have been taken up. Once the survey reports becomes available, I would obtain the necessary clearances and then come to the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

why do you not listen ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt like this.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: My Speech is not yet finished.

Coming to the progress of ongoing projects, I am happy to report that good progress is being made on Talcher-Sambalpur, Daitari-Banspani, Jammu-Udhampur and Guna-Etawah projects. All efforts will be made to complete Talcher-Sambalpur in 97-98. The other three projects would get completed by Dec '99.

The Government have provided Rs. 20 crs. in the current year for the first phase work between Udhampur and Katra on the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla line and Rs. 75 crs. have been provided in 97-98 for this line. We will make all out efforts to speed up work on this project.

Gauge Conversion

I am happy to report that Project Unigauge has been making excellent progress and Gauge conversion continues to be a priority area in the railways development plan. This year we have completed Wadsa-Nagbir, Arasikere-Hassan, Hossur-Salem, Mau-Shahganj and Mehsana-Marwar-Ajmer. By the end of March we hope to further open Hassan-Holenarsipur, Guntakal-Nandyal, Sagauli-Narkatiaganj, Castle Rock-Vasco, Dimapur to Dibrugarh and Tinsukhia to Lekhapani. We will also complete Bangarpet-Kolar. We will complete 6,900 kms. in the 8th plan much in excess of the target of 6,000 kms.

Work on the Gauge conversion projects on hand is making good progress and we hope to complete the following sections in 97-98:

- (i) Jodhpur-Marwar
- (ii) Hotgi-Bijapur
- (iii) Nagbir-Chandafort
- (iv) Mehboobnagar-Dronachellam
- (v) Mysore-Holenarsipur

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

- (vi) Chennai-Tiruchy
- (vii) Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar ...*(Interruptions)*
- (viii) Mariani-Furkating loop
- (ix) Hajipur-Bachawara
- (x) Tirchy-Thanjavur
- (xi) Hassan-Sakleshpur
- (xii) Simalguri-Moranhat ...*(Interruptions)*

These would make a total of over 1200 kms.

Work on some other projects is also making good progress and we hope to complete Katpadi-Tirupati and Gorakhpur-Chhitauni by the middle of the next financial year. We also intend to increase the scope of Mansi-Forbesganj gauge conversion project upto Katihar.

There have been persistent demand for taking up new Gauge conversion projects. Keeping in view the policy of this Government to take up infrastructure development in the backward areas on priority, as well as the need to develop alternative routes and links on the BG, we had included Gauge conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi, Ajmer-Udaipur-Chhitaugarh, Ranchi-Lohardanga and Surendernagar-Bhavnagar-Dhola-Dhasa-Mahuva with extension to Pipavav in the Supplementary Demands 96-97. I am happy to inform the House that the requisite clearances for starting the work have since been obtained in respect of the three projects i.e. Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi, Ranchi-Lohardanga and Ajmer-Udaipur-Chhitaugarh. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (UDAIPUR): Hon'ble Minister, please tell us about Udaipur also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please do not be impatient. Kindly listen about the new projects ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Please listen. These are the projects which are already going on ...*(Interruptions)*. It will be better for you to listen to the translation...*(Interruptions)*. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request all the hon. Members to hear patiently. These are the projects which are already going on. These are not new projects. These projects are already going on. Why do you not try to hear? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister finish his speech. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Why do you not try to listen? First you try to listen. Let my speech be over. Then if you have any problem, you can tell ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Baalu, why do you not tell your colleagues to listen? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

We have also decided to include certain new Gauge conversion projects in the budget 97-98. These include Gauge conversion of Mudkhed-Secunderabad, Jaynagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj and Samastipur-Khagaria, Rewari-Sadulpur, Mysore-Chamarajanagar with extension to Mettupalayam, Quilon-Tirunelveli-Trichandur and Tenkasi-Virudnagar, Naupada-Gunupur and Villupuram-Pondicherry to provide a BG link to the State capital of Pondicherry, Sriganaganagar to Sarupsar, Luni-Barmer-Munabao and as the first phase of the conversion of the canal loop, Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly and New Jalpaiguri-Bongaigaon.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR): Hon'ble Minister, please tell us about the Baandikuin-Agra line also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HISSAR): Hon'ble Minister, Haryana does not figure at all in the budget. How could you have forgotten to mention Haryana ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: If you do not want to listen, I will go ahead.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (SURAT): Hon'ble Minister, a decision was taken with regard to Surendranagar and Bhavnagar line last year also but nothing concrete has been done so far ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Of these the requisite clearances have been obtained for Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly Gauge conversion project and work on this would be taken up after the budget is passed. For the remaining projects, necessary action for obtaining the updated project reports and clearance has already been initiated and we would start the work once these formalities are completed.

Gauge conversion of Bikaner-Hissar is in progress. Once the survey report becomes available I would obtain the necessary clearances.

Doubling

Hon'ble members will be happy to know that doubling of Kengeri-Ramnagaram, Renigunta-Gudur, Patna-Gaya, Yeshwantpur-Tumkur to strengthen the rail network around Bangalore, Gorakhpur-Sajanva have been included in the budget.

Doubling of Champa-Sarabgundia, Rahama-Paradeep, Bilaspur-Urkura 3rd line, Sarona-Bhilai 3rd line, Titlagarh-Lanjigarh and Goelkera-Manoharpur 3rd line have also been included in the budget. Doubling of these lines would ease the traffic flows and create additional carrying capacity on some of the most saturated sections of the railways.

The requisite clearance has also been obtained for

doubling of Hospet-Guntakal section and work would be started on this project shortly. During the last budget speech, several Hon'ble members had made a demand for doubling of Shornur-Mangalore Line. I would like to inform the House that sections of four blocks of Shornur-Mangalore Route will be opened for traffic by June 1997
...(Interruptions)

[English]

Last time you were pressuring me. Now the doubling work on Shoravur-Mangalore section is making good progress. We will complete it and open four blocks by June 1997.

[Translation]

We have opened four blocks.

Construction of a Workshop

At present, there is no ROH Depot for air brake wagons on N.E. Railway. Therefore, to meet the growing demand of maintenance, a work for creation of facilities for ROH of 250 air brake wagons per month is proposed at Barauni at a cost of Rs. 25 cr.

Surveys

Considering the requests received from the Hon'ble members and from the State Governments, I have decided to take up the following new surveys for new lines in the Budget 97-98:

- (a) Cuddapah to Nellore via Badvel and Atmakur and Butchireddipalem
- (b) Nalgonda to Macherla via Nagarajunsagar
- (c) Kurnool to Kamalapuram
- (d) Nadikudi and Srikalahasti via Karampudi, Venukonda, Kanigiri
- (e) Bhadrachallam Road and Vishakapatnam
- (f) Kakinada to Pithapuram
- (g) Pattancheru to Adilabad
- (h) Kachiguda to Chityal
- (i) Fatua-Islampur-Rajgir-Manpur-Gaya
- (j) Rewari to Rohtak
- (k) Bijapur-Athani-Shedbal
- (l) Bangalore city-Mudigere-Shringeri
- (m) Belgaum Dharwad via Bailhongal and Kitur
- (n) Medikere-Channarayana-Patna via Holenarsipur, Arakalgud, Mercera
- (o) Kushalnagar-Channarayana-Patna via Kunanur
- (p) Davangere to Bhadravati via Chineri

- (q) Gadag-Wadi
- (r) Bidar-Gulbaraga-Hospet
- (s) New Moinaguri-Mathabanga-New Coochbehar to Jogighopa via Boxirhat
- (t) Updating survey for new line from Bhairabi-Sairang/Aizwal
- (u) Sivok to Gangtok
- (v) Barpeta Road to Tihu
- (w) Hoshiarpur to Una BG
- (x) Nokha-Sikar via Bedasar and Sujangarh
- (y) Churu to Taranagar
- (z) Kolayat-Pokaran-Barmer
- (aa) Tindivanam to Pondicherry
- (bb) Chola to Bulandshahar
- (cc) Budge Budge to Falta
- (dd) Budge Budge-Namkhana-Frazerganj
- (ee) Kursela-Rupoli-Saharsa
- (ff) Koparia/Samri-Bhaktiyarpur-Alamnagar-Bihariganj
- (gg) Khalilabad to Naugarh
- (hh) Hassanpur Barauni
- (ii) Nanjangod-Badagara via Vyitri-Poozhithod
- (jj) Supual to Araria via Triveniganj and Raniganj

Hon'ble members have demanded a survey for new line between Gola Gokran Nath and Farrukhabad via Mohammadi and Shahjahanpur.

We have already sanctioned the surveys.

[English]

These are the lines where we will conduct the survey.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (RANCHI): Please get conducted the survey of Chhatra-Hazaribagh line also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I assure the Hon'ble Member that so far as survey is concerned, we will get the survey conducted when you express your views on Rail budget as this matter is very much within our jurisdiction. Please raise this point at that time and we will take up the chhatra-Hazaribagh line also.

Survey for the following lines have been taken up for gauge conversion:—

- (a) Badarpur-Kumarghat, katakhal-Bhairabi, Silchar-Jiribam Baraigram-Dulabchera

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

- (b) Gonda-Bahraich-Mailani
- (c) Katpadi-Villupuram
- (d) Kaptanganj-Siwan, Thawe-Chhapra
- (e) Bareilly-Lalkhuan

Survey for doubling of following lines have also been taken up:—

- (a) Shahdara-Shamli
- (b) Jharsuguda-Titlagarh
- (c) Dehri-on-Sone to Jadunathpur via Banjari

I would like to inform the Hon'ble members that those surveys which were undertaken in the past i.e. new line surveys for Nirmali-Bhapatiyai, Sirsa-Fatehabad-Agroha-Hissar, Patiala-Samana-Nirwana, Abhohar-Fazilka, Galgalia-Araria, Panipat-Meerut, Jammu-Rajouri-Pooch, Quilon-Kotarakara-Trivandrum, Saradarsahar-Hanumangarh, Dungarpur-Ratlam-Barasta-Banswada, and for gauge conversion of Rewari-Phulera-Loharu-Jhunjunu-Sikar, section and for extending the under construction new Gunama-Etawah line up to Mainpuri, Pilibhit-Lakhimpur-Sitamarhi-Lucknow-Gonda-Gorakhpur Loop, Selam-Cuddalore, Ratangarh-Degana, Ratlam-Akola-Khandawa are in progress and I have instructed for early completion of these surveys. After the completion of surveys, further action would be considered.

Master plan will be prepared for Optimization and rationalization of maintenance facilities and for integrated development of rail infrastructure in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta and Patna areas.

Konkan Railway Corporation

Hon'ble members will be happy to know that the work on the Konkan Railway project has been completed to the extent of 98%. Out of the 760 kms. long line, Roha to Sawantwadi (364 kms.) and Mangalore to Kundapura (100 kms.) has already been commissioned. On the remaining length, all the earthwork and bridges have been completed. Due to unforeseen geological problems, two tunnels in Goa sector spanning only 500 metres remains to be made through and foreign consultancy is being obtained to solve this problem.

I have personally inspected the tunnels. We are making all out efforts and we hope to complete the line by June, 1997. It is hoped that through train services will be started from one end to the other by June, 1997. Meanwhile, trains are already being run on lines falling in Maharashtra and will shortly be started in Karnataka.

Metropolitan Transport Projects

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to inform the House that Calcutta Metro Railway is already in operation. About two lakh passengers use this system everyday. At present, only

some residual works are in progress. These are likely to be completed by the end of March, 1997.

Techno-economic studies for extension of Metro from Tollyganj to New Garia has since been completed. Another techno-economic study for extension from Dum Dum to Barrackpore is in progress.

As the Hon'ble members are aware, the Circular Railway is in operation from Dum Dum to Princepghat. Keeping in view the problems of the commuters in Calcutta area, I propose to take up the survey for extension of the Circular Railway from Princepghat to Majerhat.

In addition, the commuters face considerable problems in switching from Metro to the suburban system at Dum Dum Railway station. The Budget provides for traffic facilities at Tala station including electrification of the section from Tala to Dum Dum so that in the peak hours, commuter services can be started from Tala for the northern suburbs.

In order to improve the suburban services in the northern parts of Calcutta and to alleviate the problems of commuters of Krishnanagar industrial area, I am including in the budget, a scheme for electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon sections.

The first phase of MRTS/Chennai Project is nearing completion. The remaining section from Chepauk to Luz will be opened by March, 1997. The work of extension of MRTS from Luz to Vellachery is also in progress. This is being constructed in coordination with the Tamil Nadu State Government and a budget provision of Rs. 50 crore has been proposed during 1997-98.

Mr. Speaker, the House is aware that various measures are being taken to improve the suburban services in Mumbai area. Some new projects have also been identified for being taken up to improve the services. Rail India Techno Economic Services has been commissioned to undertake detailed studies for laying of fifth and sixth lines from Mumbai Central to Borivali on Western Railway and fifth and sixth line from Mumbai CST to Kurla on Central Railway. Some more works have also been identified for inclusion in the Mumbai Urban Transport Project-II. Studies are in progress in four different areas to find solution to the problems being faced by suburban passengers.

Development of transport facilities in New Mumbai area have also been given priority to decongest the main island city. In this direction, construction of a new electrified track is under execution in collaboration with the State Government of Maharashtra.

Extension of fifth line from Santa Cruz to Borivli and Construction of fifth and sixth line from Kurla to Bhandup (Phase-I of Kurla-Thane) are in progress.

The existing 1500 volt DC system in Mumbai area has reached its operational limits and this is causing a serious constraint in handling any additional traffic. Accordingly, the

existing 1500 volt DC traction system is being converted into 25 kv AC single phase 50 Hz system on both Central and Western Railways.

Despite all financial constraints, Rs. 170 cr. have been provided during 1997-98 for Metropolitan Transport Projects.

13.00 hrs.

Electrification

Mr. Speaker, effort is on to complete the target of electrification of 634 route kms in 1996-97. With this, railways will have a total of 13,509 route kms of track fully electrified. With this VIII Plan target of 2,700 kms. could also be met. It is proposed to electrify the dense corridors, some of the missing links and the high density route on East Coast Line. An outlay of Rs. 350 cr. has been provided for this purpose in the Budget for 1997-98.

Track Renewal

A target of 9,600 km was kept for VIII Five Year Plan. In 1996-97, the target was kept at 2,564 km which would be achieved. With this VIII Five Year Plan target will also be achieved. Arrears of track renewal have been cleared to a large extent, however, still 9,000 km are left. An all time high provision of Rs. 1,250 cr. has been provided during 1997-98.

English]

Sir, with your permission, now I go from paragraph 5 to paragraph 80 as I do not want to waste your time.

Translation]

Railway Production Units

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to inform this House that all the Railway Production Units i.e. Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan, Integral Coach Factory, Chennai, Wheel & Axle Plant, Bangalore, Diesel Component Works, Patiala have achieved their production targets. Only Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala could not achieve its target due to diverse industrial relations. Due to strike during 1996-97 also the production of RCF has been adversely affected. However, the problems have been sorted out and it is hoped that this Production Unit will be able to achieve its production capacity in future.

Public Sector Undertakings

The performance of all the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Railways was commendable during 1995-96.

IRCON International

In 1995-96 IRCON had a turn over of Rs. 626 cr. and earned foreign exchange worth Rs. 189 cr. As compared to 1994-95 this was a highly commendable performance.

IRCON earned a profit of Rs. 163 cr. before tax and

paid a dividend of Rs. 1.98 cr. It completed various projects in Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Nepal and Indonesia and also secured new contracts from Bangladesh, Nepal, Botswana, Tanzania, Angola and Malaysia.

Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES)

RITES had a turn over of Rs. 109.9 cr. in 1995-96 and earned foreign exchange worth Rs. 42.5 cr. It secured new business from Tunisia, Botswana, Kampuchia, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, Vietnam and Zambia. RITES paid a dividend of Rs. 60 lakhs.

Container Corporation of India (CONCOR)

During 1995-96, two new terminals have been commissioned, a Port Side Container Terminal (PSCT) at Milavittan (Tuticorin) and an Inland Container Depot (ICD). Two ICDs at Gwalior and Nagpur are also ready for commissioning. The Corporation's total turn over increased from Rs. 217 cr. in 1994-95 to Rs. 389 cr. in 1995-96. In the coming year CONCOR proposes to construct new ICDs at Aurangabad, Balasore and a major new terminal at Dadri in Greater NOIDA near Delhi.

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC)

IRFC was to raise Rs. 1,850 cr. from domestic as well as foreign markets during 1996-97. It has already made available approximately Rs. 1,500 cr. to end of January, 1997. The Corporation made a profit of Rs. 205.76 cr. in 1995-96 and has paid a dividend of 20% on the paid up share capital amounting to Rs. 46.40 cr..

During 1997-98, IRFC has been given a target of Rs. 2,150 cr. to be raised from the domestic and foreign market.

Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO)

RDSO in Lucknow occupies a special place for Indian Railways in the field of development of design and research. It functions as consultant to the Indian Railways in technical matters.

Sports

Railways' performance in sports has been very impressive in 1995-96. Railway emerged as a national title holder in as many as 16 different championships. The trend continues in the current year as well. Upto January, 1997, Railways have already won 13 championships. Railways have impressive representation in international participation. Two railways sports persons were amongst the proud recipient of Arjuna Award during the year.

The House will be happy to know that for further improve the level of sports on the Railways I organised a meeting with the eminent sports persons working on the railways who had been participants of International/National sports events with a view to elicit their suggestions. Based on these suggestions, incentives to sports persons achieving excellence are being improved in addition to taking various other measures.

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

Medicare

Railway doctors and para medical staff are providing satisfactory medical facilities to the railway employees. Perumbur hospital of Indian Railways occupies a special place in Open Heart Surgery and it is now linked to the National Library of Medicine in U.S.A. for regular updating of knowledge on the subject.

Railway Protection Force (RPF)

The responsibility for security of railway passengers and their belongings is on the State Government Police and this issue is being discussed with the State Governments to make security in trains more effective. RPF is performing very well in protecting the railway property and the statistics indicate that cases of theft of railway property have reduced.

A special recruitment drive has been launched in Northeast Frontier Region, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir for filling up the vacancies. This will ensure adequate representation of SC, ST and other backward classes in the Force. In addition, 750 women constables are also being recruited. This recruitment process will be completed in about two months.

Labour Participation in Management

We are continuing to have cordial industrial relations. In the matter of Labour Participation in Management, I am glad to inform the House that leaders of recognised Labour Federations participated in the General Managers' and Chief Personnel Officers' Conference. Apart from the above, formal meetings under the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) and Permanent Negotiating Machinery (PNM) Schemes have been held regularly at the Railway Board's level. The affiliated Union leaders participate in the Principal Officers Meetings at the Zonal Railway level and in the Divisional Officers Meetings at the Divisional level.

Special Recruitment Drive to Clear the Backlog of SCs/STs

As already announced last year in my Budget Speech, Railways have more than 25% of the employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and our performance in achieving the prescribed percentage of reservation is one of the best. However, in line with the directives of the Government, a special drive was launched in July 1996 to clear the backlog of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in recruitment categories. I am happy to report that about 1,700 SC/ST candidates have been recruited since then and the drive is still on.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (KANGRA): We do not consider this to be a balanced budget. Not a single Rail line of Himachal Pradesh has been included in it. Nothing has been done for development of Railways in Himachal Pradesh ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (SIMLA): Our area has been

ignored. This budget is not correct. We do not accept it ...*(Interruptions)*

13.04 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sat Mahajan and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot talk like that. You cannot go to the Minister. You can go. Please go back to your seats. What is this?

13.07 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sat Mahajan and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

MR. SPEAKER: One minute, Mr. Minister, Please sit down. Mr. Mahajan.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ranaji, that is not the way. Please listen.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Listen to me. Please sit down. I am telling you to sit down. Do not complicate the matter now. I expect cooperation from all the senior Members. Please listen to me. I fully understand the feelings of the hon. Members representing their States and constituencies that they would certainly like something to be done for them. I understand that. I fully share your sentiments.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen. You cannot stand up now. Nobody can stand up now. Anybody standing will have to go back to their homes. I am going to name. Listen to me. Why do you not listen to me?

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI NORTH): Sir, the Railway Minister is standing.

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Naikji, why do you not listen to me. Sit down. That is not the way to get your things done. You listen to the speech carefully. You will have enough opportunity for discussion on the floor of the House. At that time, you can demand whatever you want to demand. But this is not the way to get your things done. I do not think you are going to get things done. I am not going to tolerate. If you want to be in this House, please behave yourself. I do not have to name you. The whole country is watching you. Do I have to tell you everyday that the country is watching you?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The senior people cannot act like that. please. Please do not interrupt.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Abolition of Contractual System in Cleanliness

According to the announcement made during the last session, the contractual system of cleanliness in railways has been abolished. This activity will now be done by railways themselves and recruitment of personnel has already started for the purpose.

Regularisation of Casual Labour

Measures to improve the lot of casual labour of the Railways were mentioned in the last Budget Speech. I am happy to report that over 16,000 casual labour have been regularised since then and the number is likely to reach the figure of 30,000 by the end of March 1997. All the 56,000 casual labour will be regularised by the end of the next financial year i.e. 31st March 1998.

Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB)

Indian Railways had taken initiative in introducing the concept of Productivity Linked Bonus in Government. This matter is always discussed with the organised labour unions. PLB equivalent to 52 days wages was paid to Group 'C' & 'D' railway employees without any eligibility wage ceiling for the year 1995-96. It is hoped that railway employees will continue to contribute in increasing the productivity in Railways.

Inventory Control

Due to sustained attention on material management and inventory control, inventory turn over ratio has come down and during 1995-96, this was 14% which is a record and a substantial improvement over 33% of 1990-91. Special efforts for sale of scrap continued and during 1995-96, an all time high sale of Rs. 1,018 cr. was achieved. We have also decided that minimum inventory is maintained in the depots and they should be issued to the user departments.

Indian Railways procure material worth Rs. 7,000 cr. approximately every year ranging from railway locomotives to cloth for dresses of the staff. It is natural that such enormous purchases affect the national industries, especially the small scale industries. I have taken following decisions for ensuring transparency, increasing competition and improving the quality of the purchases:—

Details of all major purchases by the Railways will be published regularly.

All Zonal Railways will arrange for a permanent distribution in their areas for displaying items of purchase being procured and likely to be purchased in future. Necessary information, e.g., previous procurement price, sources of purchase and specifications will also be made available. At the Central level, Railway Board will also organise a permanent exhibition in Delhi area.

An Investigation Cell Will be set up in Railway Board and also at each Zonal Railway for maintaining information on correct procurement price, assessment of quality and sources of supply of materials purchased by Indian Railways.

Computerisation

Computerisation on railways has been very successful and it is being further extended. One can not even imagine the state of reservations without the present computerised PRS. Computerised Self Printing Ticketing Machines are also being provided. Computerised season tickets are now also being issued from any station of Central and Western Railways to any other station of these Railways in the Mumbai suburban area. The Zonal Headquarters computers have been replaced. In addition, the use of computers in Divisions, Workshops, Store Depots, Training Institutes and RDSO is being increased rapidly. Introduction of railways much talked Operation Information System is also being expedited.

Railway Passenger Services

For introduction of new train services, rolling stock, new lines and gauge conversion all need to be increased as these three are complementary to each other. Efforts in this direction are continuing. Hon'ble members have suggested a large number of demands. Although it is not possible to fulfill all these demands, despite resource constraints, following new services were introduced during the last year:—

Soon after the formation of the Government, I introduced Amritsar-Jammu Tawi Express and Jaipur-Ajmer Link Express, thus, fulfilling the long standing demand of the people.

During 1996-97 (upto Jan. '97), 82 new trains were introduced. In addition, frequency of 22 trains was increased and 62 trains were extended. This also includes trains which were in addition to the trains announced in my Budget Speech. The main among them are as under:

- (i) Jodhpur-Jaisalmer Express.
- (ii) Kurla-Ratnagiri-Sawantwadi Express.
- (iii) Patna-Darbhanga Intercity.
- (iv) Singrauli-Garwa Road Link Express.

In order to clear extra rush of traffic during summer vacations and marriage season, Railways ran as many as 1,214 special trains on 30 routes. This year also we propose to run special trains at the same level. Out of the new passenger services announced during last budget speech, some train services which could not be introduced due to gauge conversion work, would be introduced shortly.

In addition to the above, to meet the demands of Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Muslims, Christians and various

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

religious groups, pilgrim specials were run through out the country.

Members may recall that I had mentioned on the Floor of the House regarding the introduction of Dikshabhoomi Express connecting Gaya with Nagpur. As you all know Bodh Gaya is the hallowed place where Mahatma Buddha received enlightenment and Nagpur is the city where Baba Saheb Ambedkar embraced Buddhism. I have asked the Railways to develop terminal facilities at Gaya and once these are developed, this train will be introduced during 1997-98.

New Train Services

1997-98 is the Golden Jubilee year of Indian independence. On this occasion, I have decided to introduce following Golden Jubilee trains:-

- (i) Ahmedabad-Delhi Rajdhani Express (Weekly)
- (ii) Secunderabad-Nizamuddin Rajdhani Express (Weekly)
- (iii) Bangalore-Nizamuddin Express via Hubly (Weekly)
- (iv) Ranchi-Delhi Express (Bi-weekly)
- (v) Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Express via Vijayawada (Bi-weekly)

Following more new trains will also be run:

- (i) Madras-Tirupati Intercity
- (ii) Vasco-Bangalore Express
- (iii) Surat-Patna Express
- (iv) Gorakhpur-Dehradun Express (Bi-weekly)
- (v) Koraput-Rayagada Link Express to Bhubaneswar
- (vi) Katihar-Barauni Link Express to Tatanagar.

There have been pressing demands for a fast day-time service between Bangalore and Coimbatore. In deference to the wishes of the people, I propose to introduce a Shatabdi service between these two important cities of south India.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILON): You assured the House. What happened to your assurance? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please listen. Why do you not listen to me? I will explain. ... (Interruptions) Sir, please ask them to listen to me. I will explain.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. The Minister is going to explain. Please listen to his explanation. Please sit down. He is going to explain. If you do not want to listen, what can I do?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, it is true that I had assured the Members from Kerala that I would start one train. Please listen to me. Why do you not listen? I had assured that Member from Kerala that I would start one train from Thiruvananthapuram to Delhi.

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI NORTH): Sir, I have a point of order. It is because we are not interrupting, according to the wishes of some hon. Members, he is explaining.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Yes, you are right.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Now somebody is shouting and the Minister is responding to that.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I do not think the Minister should respond to that. There is no need to respond. I agree with you. I uphold your point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Frequency of the following trains will be increased:-

- (i) 9767/9768 Jaipur-Chennai Express from 1 to 3.
- (ii) 7611/7612 Nanded-Amritsar Express from 1 to 3.
- (iii) 4245/4246 Surat-Varanasi from 4 to 5.
- (iv) 3301/3302 Dhanbad-Tatanagar Suvarnrekha Express (Daily)

The run of the following trains will be extended:-

- (i) 4609/4610 Jammu Tawi-Ferozepur Express to Jodhpur (via Bhatinda/Bikaner).
- (ii) 3307/3308 Dhanbad-Ludhiana Express to Ferozepur.
- (iii) 6315/6316 Cochin-Howrah weekly Express to Trivandrum.
- (iv) 3327/3328 Howrah-Singrauli Shaktipunj Express to Jabalpur.
- (v) 4047/4048 Delhi-Gonda Express to Gorakhpur.
- (vi) 5217/5218 Kurla-Muzaffarpur Express to Darbhanga on one more day.

(vii) 6311/6312 Bangalore-Howrah Weekly Express to Guwahati.

(viii) 7663/7664 Kacheguda-Aurangabad Express to Manmad.

(ix) 8005/8006 Howrah-Rayagada Express to Koraput.

(x) 5323/5324 Gorakhpur-Darbhanga Express to Jainagar

There has been a demand for extension of Hyderabad-Cochin Express (7029/7030) upto Kanniyakumari. It has not been possible to implement this on account of line capacity constraints on Ernakulam-Trivandrum section and lack of

terminal capacity both at Nagercoil and Trivandrum. Once the above facilities are developed, this train will be extended to Kanniyakumari.

There has been a demand for an additional service between Visakhapatnam-Madras. To fulfill this, it has been decided to augment 6003/6004 Madras-Howrah Mail and 2841/2842 Madras-Howrah Coromandal Express by three coaches each with electrification getting completed upto Visakhapatnam.

Rajdhani Services:

There have been pressing demands for the increase in frequency of existing Rajdhani services. During the last Budget Session, I had announced increase in frequency of Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani and New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express and had also asked for the manufacture of coaches for the introduction of the services. Now that the coaches are available, I propose to introduce these within the current financial year.

(i) You will also be happy to know that I propose to increase the frequency of Nizamuddin-Madras Rajdhani Express from weekly to bi-weekly.

(ii) I had promised to extend Guwahati Rajdhani Express upto Dimapur. Now that gauge conversion work upto Dibrugarh is progressing very well and terminal facilities are being developed, I propose to extend Guwahati Rajdhani Express upto Dibrugarh via Dimapur as a weekly service.

(iii) You will also be happy to know that with the commissioning of the Konkan Railway, the existing Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express will get diverted via the Konkan Railway thus providing an exclusive Rajdhani Express for Goa and Keraia.

[English]

I had assured the Members at that time that in between I would ...*(Interruptions)* If you do not want to listen, donot listen...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA): What happened to your promise? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I wanted to tell that I will accept to your demands but you do not want to listen. What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Why the facility extended to former M.Ps for travelling in Rajdhani Express trains has been withdrawn.

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: That has been renewed. That has been continued.

[Translation]

With the commissioning of the Konkan Railway the

distance between the North and the West to Goa, Mangalore and Kerala will get reduced. Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Kerala have been asking for additional service to Delhi. I, therefore, propose to divert the Mangala Express via Konkan Railway and extend it to Ernakulam so as to provide a new service from Ernakulam to Delhi. With this change in route the travelling time from Delhi to Managalore will reduce by more than 12 hours.

I propose to divert Kurla-Mangalore/Cochin Netravati Express via Konkan Railway which will reduce the running time for Mangalore by more than 20 hours and for Cochin by approximately 10 hours.

EMU, DMU and Rail Buses were started some time back and these have been greatly appreciated by the public.

Most of the E.M.U., D.M.U. and push-pull passenger train services announced in the previous budget speech, have been started and the remaining rail services would be started by 31 March, 1997. The details of the rail services proposed to be introduced during the next year-1997-98 are as follows:

Main Line EMU services will be started on the following sections:-

- (i) Purulia-Asansol-Bardhaman
- (ii) Asansol-Chittaranjan-Jhajha
- (iii) Dhanbad-Gomoh-Gaya
- (iv) Gaya-Dehri-on-Sone-Mughalsarai
- (v) Kanpur-Agra

DMU services will be started on the following sections:-

- (i) Amritsar-Derababa Nanak
- (ii) Amritsar-Atari
- (iii) Satna-Maihar
- (iv) Nidadavolu-Bhimavaram-Narsapur

Rail Bus services are proposed to be introduced on the following sections:-

Broad Gauge:

- (i) Jalamb-Khamgaon
- (ii) Etah-Barhan
- (iii) Tinpahar-Raj Mahal

Metre Gauge:

- (i) Kalol-Vijapur-Ambliyan
- (ii) Garhi Harsaru-Farukhnagar

It has been decided to provide, Rail Bus on the following sections after their restoration:

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

- (i) Dankura-Damodar
- (ii) Bodeli-Chhota Udepur
- (iii) Maharajganj-Duraundha
- (iv) Ankleshwar-Raj Pipla

Punctuality

Indian Railways are making all efforts for improvement in punctuality including intensive chasing, round the clock monitoring, periodic punctuality drive, etc. These efforts have resulted in notable improvement in punctuality. I would like to assure the august House that the Railways will continue to make efforts in this direction. I wanted to announce some more concessions and facilities but due to financial constraints, I make the following announcements :

Special Announcements

In order to further improve the lot of the licensed porters, we have decided to provide one set of winter uniform every second year in lieu one shirt of summer uniform, for those licensed porters working in cold regions. This is in addition to other facilities, such as concessional travel and medical facilities extended to them earlier.

Even though the porters (coolies) working on the railway stations are not railway servants, but presently they are being allowed 75% travel concession by sleeper class for self only once a year. I propose to make this travel free for them once a year.

I am happy to announce that the Press Correspondents accredited to the Headquarters of Government of India and to the State Governments/Union Territories for travel on business connected with bona-fide press work, will now be able to travel in upper classes also within their monetary entitlements already given under the existing concessions.

At present medical facilities available to the retired railway employees are not at par with the serving employees, the retired employees being in slightly disadvantageous position. In line with our policy to look after the senior citizens, I propose to bring the medical facilities available to the retired railway employees at par with the serving employees.

The scheme of complimentary passes to winners of Gallantry Awards has already been extended to winners of President's Police Medals for Gallantry and President's Police Medal also.

Recently, a function was organised under the auspicious of International Children's Excellence Fund to honour the children who have made significant contributions in their own fields. I had made an announcement at the function in the presence of the Prime Minister that all awarded children alongwith one of their parent will be allowed a free one time travel pass by sleeper class to be availed during the period of one year.

The uniforms of Rail employees are continuing since long and were last revised in the year 1980. To commemorate the 50th year of Indian Independence, dress changes will be introduced for certain categories of railway staff with effect from 15th August, 1997.

Refund of tickets will be made by the Station Managers/Superintendents at stations where tickets have been issued.

The facility of credit card has now been made available at 30 stations and also made broad-based.

Budget Estimates 1997-98

On the basis of the traffic projections of 430 million tonnes and passenger growth of 3% over 96-97, the Gross Traffic Receipts at the current fare and freight rates are estimated at Rs. 26,055 cr. There is an increase of Rs. 1,605 cr. over the Revised Estimates of the current year. This additional revenue is expected on account of additional traffic output expected during 1997-98.

The Ordinary Working Expenses in 1997-98 are estimated at Rs. 20,935 cr. There is an increase of Rs. 4,785 cr. over the Revised Estimates for the current year. This increase will take care of the cost of inputs for the increased traffic, expected increase in prices, additional payment of dearness allowance, higher payment of lease charges to Indian Railway Finance Corporation and the impact on account of recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission.

The appropriation to Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF) is proposed at Rs. 2,000 cr. in 1997-98 as against Rs. 2,115 cr. provided in the Revised Estimates of 1996-97.

The contribution from revenue to Pension Fund is proposed to be kept at Rs. 2,200 cr. and Rs. 300 cr. are proposed to be drawn from the balance of Pension Fund. Thus Rs. 2,500 cr. have been provided for withdrawal from Pension Fund during 1997-98.

A memorandum on the rate of dividend payable to General Revenues has been submitted to the Railway Convention Committee. The dividend for 1997-98 has been provided at the same rate as adopted for 1996-97 subject to suitable adjustments on receipt of recommendations of Railway Convention Committee. On this basis, the dividend liability for 1997-98 works out to Rs. 1,630 cr.

The Total Working Expenses comprising Ordinary Working Expenses, Contribution to Depreciation Reserve Fund and Pension Fund works out to Rs. 25,135 cr. and the Gross Traffic Receipts are estimated at Rs. 26,055 cr. Thus, the Net Traffic Receipts work out to Rs. 920 cr. Adding the Net Miscellaneous Receipts of Rs. 284 cr., the Net Railway Revenue is estimated at Rs. 1,204 cr. This revenue is not adequate to fulfil the dividend liability of Rs. 1,630 cr. and to finance the works chargeable to Development Fund and Capital Fund. There is a marginal shortfall of Rs. 426 cr. We have to cover this deficit and also to provide funds for works chargeable to Development Fund and Capital Fund.

Need for Additional Resources

Sir, the railway finances have come under great strain this year as provision of funds have been made to meet the liability on account of Fifth Pay Commission recommendations, increased cost of inputs and the requirement of funds to undertake various projects for the development of rail network in North East region, backward/neglected areas inhabited by the tribals. The internal resources available on the basis of existing fare and freight rates are Rs. 1,619 cr. Borrowings through Indian Railway Finance Corporation have been estimated at Rs. 2,150 cr. and an investment of Rs. 900 cr. under BOLT/OYW schemes is expected. Taking into account the budgetary support of Rs. 1,831 cr. from General Revenues, the total resources becoming available for executing the annual plan of Rs. 8,300 cr. are Rs. 6,500 cr. only. Thus there is a gap of Rs. 1,800 cr. There is an option before me to further reduce the Railways' Annual Plan. But this would affect not only the Railways' network development but also the economy as a whole. Therefore, this option has not been accepted. The Government, therefore, has decided to retain the Annual Plan of Rs. 8,300 cr. This has necessitated raising of additional resources amounting to Rs. 1,800 cr., in fares and freight rates. I shall now refer to these proposals.

Mr. Speaker, this august House is aware that majority of the passengers using rail transport are from the poor section of the society. They travel predominantly in the Second Class Ordinary and Second Class Mail/Express trains. In the major metropolitan towns like Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai, the season ticket holders are also mainly from the poorer section of the society. Out of a total of more than 400 crore passengers using the rail transport, 93 percent travel in the Second Class and in the suburban rail services. Hon'ble members would recall that while presenting the Budget last year, I had not increased the fares for the Second Class ordinary, Second Class Mail/Express, Second Class and First Class Season Tickets as also the Sleeper Class (Mail/Express) upto 200 kms. I again propose not to increase the fares of Second Class Ordinary, Second Class Mail/Express and monthly and quarterly season tickets for Second and First Class for all distances for the year 1997-98 as well. I am also not increasing the charges for platform tickets.

I never wanted to put any financial burden on the common man. But on the one side, Railway finances have come under great strain and on the other the need of higher resources for the development of rail network and infrastructure is compelling me to appeal to you to share a little financial burden. In view of the need for additional resources, I with great reluctance, propose to effect a modest increase of 5 percent in fares of Sleeper Class (Mail/Express and ordinary) for all distances. Now you'll say that development is also essential. I have increased the fares only by 5 percent you should at least applaud this announcement. The fares for Air-conditioned First Class, Air-conditioned 2-Tier Sleeper, Air-conditioned 3-Tier Sleeper, Air-conditioned Chair Car and First Class (Mail/Express and Ordinary) are proposed to be increased by 10 percent. The

fares of all Shatabdi Expresses and Rajdhani Expresses including August Kranti Express are also proposed to be increased by 10 percent. There has been a demand to provide catering in all Rajdhani Expresses. It is, therefore, proposed to provide this facility in Hazrat Nizamuddin-Trivandrum, Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore and Hazrat Nizamuddin-Jammu Tawi Rajdhani Expresses also in all classes and levy fares inclusive of catering charges w.e.f. 1.4.1997, as in other Rajdhani Expresses.

I do not propose any increase in the existing Parcel and Luggage rates.

The proposals in regard to freight rates are as under:-

The existing freight rates of all commodities shall be enhanced by 12 percent at all distances. But this increase will not be applicable on commodities of consumption by masses, as I do not wish to put any extra burden on the common man. I have, therefore, decided to exempt the following commodities from this increase. Had we not exempted these items, their prices would have gone up. Hence, it was essential to exempt the following commodities:

- (i) Foodgrains and Pulses,
- (ii) Edible Salt,
- (iii) Edible Oils,
- (iv) Urea as Chemical Fertilizer,
- (v) Kerosene,
- (vi) Sugar,
- (vii) Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG),
- (viii) Fruits fresh (including Bananas), vegetables and betel leaves,
- (ix) Fodder (other than Oil Cakes),
- (x) Livestock,
- (xi) Oilseeds,
- (xii) Organic Manures,
- (xiii) Gur, Shakkar and Jaggery
- (xiv) Hydrogenated Oils, and
- (xv) Vegetable Oils (refined)

The changes proposed in fares and freight rates shall come into force from 1.4.1997.

These charges are expected to yield an additional revenue of about Rs. 1,800 crores during the financial year, 1997-98. I would like to assure the august House that the resources so generated will be effectively used to develop rail network and infrastructure and to strengthen it.

Sir, as I stated at the very outset that our government is committed to take the rail network to northeast region

[SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN]

and other backward/neglected areas. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sh. H.D. Deve Gowda ji has been a great source of support and encouragement in all our developmental efforts. I wish to express my gratitude for all the support given by him. I also wish to place on record our appreciation of the dedication and devotion with which the railwaymen have carried out their assigned tasks.

With these words, Sir, I commend the Railway Budget for 1997-98 to the House.

13.39 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

***DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS
(RAILWAYS) 1994-95**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move a statement (Hindi and English Version) Showing the Demands for excess grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for the year 1994-95.

*Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for the year
1994-95 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand to be submitted to the Vote of the House
1	2	3
8	Operating Expenses- Rolling Stock & Equipment	1,57,81,798
14	Appropriation to Funds	366,39,46,659
16	Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement <i>Other Expenditure</i>	
	Capital	23,53,27,736
	Total	391,50,56,193

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet at 2.40 p.m.

13.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till forty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President:

14.48 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Forty Eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

**(I) Need for conversion of Railway line between
Neemuch and Ratlam into Broad Gauge**

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDAY (MANDSAUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the conversion work of metre gauge into broad gauge from Kota to Neemuch under Western railway Ratlam-Ajmer division has been completed and every year allocation is being made in the Budget for gauge conversion between Neemuch and Ratlam. But due to inadequate allocations for this purpose every year, the conversion work which was to be completed in 1995-96, has not yet been completed and its work is going at snail pace. Though some work relating to construction of bridges, widening of track and repair works of some of the old bridges on this line has been done but still a lot of work has yet to be done. After gauge conversion, this line would facilitate the transportation of cement, sugar and oil and a broad gauge line would be available to the passengers between Ratlam-Kota. The public representatives, autonomous bodies, industrialists and general public have drawn the attention of the Government time and again towards this gauge conversion. I would also like to request this Government that this gauge conversion would not only improve the traffic between Ratlam and Kota but it would also enhance the railway revenue.

Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister to make provision for adequate funds for this gauge conversion work.

**(II) Need to Solve the Problem of Erosion Caused
by River Yamuna Between Khair Tehsil (UP) and
Palwal Tahsil (Haryana)**

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM (ALIGARH): Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw your attention towards the flow of river Yamuna between block Tappal of Tehsil Khair of District Aligarh which comes under my Parliamentary constituency and Tahsil Palwal of Haryana.

Soil erosion is being caused by the floods which comes every year due to which land of Uttar Pradesh is being shifted towards Haryana. Chief Executive Engineer of Uttar Pradesh has clarified that Haryana State has executed works or the right bank of Yamuna in violation of the norms fixed by the Yamuna water commission as a result of which soil erosion towards Uttar Pradesh is obvious. It has also damaged one Kilometer strip of the national highway.

I, therefore, request you that this may be sorted out immediately calling an urgent meeting of Yamuna Water Committee.

(iii) Need for Early Probe into illicit traffic in Indian antiques by London-based art auction house

[*English*]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (JORHAT): Sir, the recent revelations that the world famous London-based art auction house of Sotheby's is involved in illicit traffic in Indian antiques are terribly shocking and shows to what an extent culture is commercialised.

What is tragic is that had there been no exposé by Mr. Peter Watson in his book "Sotheby's; Inside story" followed by the Times newspaper's serialisation and the B.B.C. Channel 4 documentary on the sale of smuggled pieces giving the names of the art dealers of Mumbai and even recording their voices how they sold the art objects clandestinely, supported by Sotheby's internal documents, this cultural plunder would not have shocked the conscience of the people of the world and would have petered out to a tame complaint voiced occasionally by the Archaeological Survey of India (A.S.I.). For, such complaints, not supported by any firm evidence, date back to 1986, if not earlier. Since no follow up action was taken in the wake of the rule that export of items more than one hundred years old was banned from India, Indian artifacts sneaked into the hands of acquisitive curators, rapacious collectors and thieving art dealers. It is shameful that those racketeers are our own people. Not only that, there is an allegation that diplomatic bags or the diplomats are also conduits for this antique smuggling.

I urge upon the Government to hold a probe into this racket as promptly as done by the trade and commerce department of British Government in the wake of these revelations in the United Kingdom.

(iv) Need to Release more funds for providing relief to the people affected by acute drought in Orissa

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (CUTTACK): Sir, there is acute drought situation in Orissa. The matter was discussed in the Parliament during the third session. Hon. Agriculture Minister and the hon. Prime Minister promised to release Rs. 220 crore to ameliorate the conditions of the affected people. Unfortunately, only Rs. 13 crore were released and that too from the Relief Fund.

In the meanwhile the harvesting has been over and it has been found that 28 out of 30 districts of Orissa have sustained become cropless ranging from 50 to 74 per cent, 28,953 villages are affected by drought. The immediate requirement is provision of drinking water, employment to the affected people and sanction of short-term loans in the Agriculture sector. Government of India may take immediate steps for release of Rs. 187 crore under the E.A.S. Scheme and for short-term assistance to the affected villages.

(v) Need to Improve the Functioning of Telephones in Rural Areas, Particularly in Sunderbans Area, West Bengal

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): Sir, it

is a matter of deep concern that while Government in its anxiety to improve the living conditions in the rural areas, particularly where *Gram Panchayats* are working, introduced with much enthusiasm the Multi Access Rural Radio system (MARR). Unfortunately the Department of Telecommunications and its functionaries in the States could not ensure that this line of communication was efficiently maintained. In my constituency, Sunderbans area in West Bengal, which is renowned for its unique flora and fauna and bio-diversity, the whole system is in utter shambles. My area falls under Canning and GOSABA Telephone exchanges and I am revealing a very startling situation that telephones in most of the *Gram Panchayats* are dead since June, 1995. It is a pity that it is nobody's concern.

I request the hon. Minister of Communications to take note of this alarming and somewhat fantastic situation and ensure that telephones in *Gram Panchayats* not only in my constituency but also all over the country are well-maintained and any faults in their functioning should be eradicated immediately and these should be restored to normal working conditions, so that this paradoxical situation is barked down once for all.

(vi) Need to Connect Azamgarh in U.P. By Direct Train Service with other Important Cities

[*Translation*]

DR. BALIRAM (LALGANJ): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir I wish to draw attention of the Government through you, towards District Azamgarh of Uttar Pradesh. The people of this District are settled in Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Assam and even abroad but these people have to face lot of difficulties due to lack of any direct rail services to Azamgarh. This is one of the main reasons for its backwardness. Local people and the public representatives of this area had been demanding since long that narrow line of Shahganj-Azamgarh-Mhow should be converted into a broad gauge line by the department of Railways. This work has already been completed but no rail service has been introduced on this line from Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Lucknow.

I, therefore, urge the central Government a long route Mail and Express train Services be introduced from Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow etc. for District Azamgarh so as to solve the problems of the people of this area.

(vii) Need to take over Nagapattinam Port in Tamil Nadu and to Develop it as a Major Port

[*English*]

SHRI M. SELVARASU (NAGAPATTINAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I raise the following matter under Rule 377.

The Nagapattinam port is one of the ancient and historical ports built by the Dutch. The export of leather, salt, dry fish and the import of onion, cement etc. were being carried out through this port. Lakhs of NRI citizens of Singapore, Malaysia and Burma visit their families in the adjoining districts. They used to visit India by sea which is their cheapest mode of transport.

[SHRI M. SELVARASU]

In 1988, the movement of ships was stopped and the activities in the port came to a grinding halt depriving thousands of people of their livelihood. Lakhs of people were directly or indirectly affected due to the closure of the port.

I like to mention here that the port already has the basic infrastructure necessary for a port. It has light house, warehouse, Customs office and railway network. The proposal to revive the port has already been supported by the State Government. So, I request the Union Government to take over the port and declare it as a major port.

The operation of cargo as well as passenger ships should be started and a unit of Dredging Corporation should be set up.

14.59 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS...CONTD...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up motion of thanks on the President's Address.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (OUTER DELHI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Yesterday I placed some points before you. Without taking much time I shall make a few more submissions in brief. The Prime Minister of the Present Government is being perceived as a Prime Minister of promises. He makes too many promises which he may not fulfil. He never feels miserly to make promises but his action does not give any indication that he is serious about the promises. For example, he made an announcement from the rampart of the Red Fort that a separate State of Uttarakhand be created. The same thing he said at the time of electioneering in Uttar Pradesh. But neither any Bill has been brought nor any effort has been made by him in this regard.

15.00 hrs.

There was a newspaper report that during the last 8 months he made as many as 8,000 promises. We do not know the exact number, but it is my sincere advice to him that he should not make promises and if he makes he should fulfil them. This will increase the credibility of his Government. One more thing that, I would like to bring to the notice of his Government is about Delhi. Delhi has been given a legislative Assembly. The strange thing is that, now it is neither a Union Territory nor does it enjoy the powers of a full State. In the entire country there is hardly any other State which has no control on land or law and order. A State can not function without law and order under its control. We have heard about landless labour, but not landless Government. There is a Government; but it has

no right on land. There are small States in the country which consist of 5 to 7 lakh population, but they have been given the status of full statehood. So I feel that, the Government should enact a new Act in respect of Delhi and it should essentially be given the status of full statehood. Till such time law and order is placed at its disposal, it will be difficult for the Government to effect full control.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many a thing has been said and we were branded communalists. If a Government is constituted in violation of the constitutional provision, what should it be called? Under the directive principles of State Policy Article 48 of the Constitution states that the State shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds and prohibiting the slaughter, of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle. Till such time these provision continue to remain under directive principles, Cow slaughter will continue in one or the other state. I therefore, demand that the Government should enact a Central Act for this purpose and put a ban on cow slaughter. If making a demand to put a ban on cow slaughter in this country is communal, I cannot help without farmer, cow and ox, we cannot move. While Article 48 makes the above stipulations, Article 44 speaks of a uniform civil code for the entire country. The Government goes to the extent of speaking against Article 44. It may be Article 48 or 44, if the Government or the members of treasury bench speak against these provisions, what should we call it? The 42nd amendment was made in 1976. This amendment and the preamble of this Constitution state that the country will be a secular and socialistic country. Words like unity and integrity were added to it. The provisions of socialism and secularism incorporated in the preamble in 1976 have not so far applied to Jammu and Kashmir. Is Jammu and Kashmir a separate state? Is it not a part of this country? Don't we need secularism there? This type of situation is being created. It is the duty of the Government to abide by the constitutional provisions and get them implemented. It does not believe to the Government to speak against the constitution or to disrespect it.

Under Chapter-IV, Article 51(a) of the Constitution states that it will be the duty of every citizen of India to abide by the constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem. If the Government disrespects it or does not abide by its provisions, what should we do? In a democratic set up, there can be no argument for violation of the constitution by the people who are at the helm of affairs. You will also agree that it is not good for any one.

Sir, I will conclude after making few more submissions. A lot of things have been said in the Address about poor. As I have said earlier that the situation of 1971 is being repeated and crocodile's tears are being shed for the poor. In this regard I would like to state here the feelings expressed by the poor people. They say that you have shed enough tears for them but now leave them to their

own fate. In this context I would like to convey the feelings of the poor to the Government through a urdu couplet.

"Mujhe Tajurba hai khaloos ka,
mujhe baksh do mere hakimon,
mujhe mere hal par chhod kar,
na daya karo, na dava karo".

In this couplet the poor person says that if you leave him to his own fate, he would get survived and the treatment, which you are giving to him, would lead him to death.

In the end I would like to say one more thing. It is being said that they are all united against the communal forces. You may get united but one thing must be kept in mind that this Government neither have public mandate nor public support. Under such circumstances if a Government is formed that can survive only for a short period. I cannot say how long this Government would survive. But they must keep one thing in mind that they neither have public mandate nor enjoy public support and that is why their Government will not last long. They are also getting such lessons one after the other. This Government have been cobbled together and the public has given be filing reply to it in the different elections held in January and February 1997. Punjab Assembly elections, Chhindwara's by-elections, election for Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Mumbai and Cantonment Board elections of Delhi have shown that the public opinion is against this Government. These elections have shown that general public has rejected this coalition Government. They are not getting support even on a single seat. These all parties have come into existence because of splits or defections and now they are saying that they would lead this country. They should first see their own party strength before making any tall claims of saving this country.

One thing I would like to say to the Government that, first of all, they should forget that they can provide leadership to the country. They have no control over anything and they cannot give any direction to the country. Many small groups have come together to form a Government so what leadership they can provide to the country. They all have come into existence after causing split or defection in their own parties and now they are claiming to lead the country. I think it is a very difficult thing.

In the end I would like to say one more thing that recently the differences between Shri Chavan and Shri Narasimha Rao have come to light. Shri Chavan says that he wanted to prevent Ayodhya incident but Shri Rao did not allow him to do so. What is the mystery behind it? Both Shri Rao and Shri Chavan should state as to what informations they have had about Ayodhya. Why they do not say anything about it? Why they do not take the Parliament into confidence? Why they are giving statement outside the Parliament? They should come here and tell the House about the facts. All the Congress leaders including Shri Rao should tell about the information that they have had about Ayodhya. I would say that these two leaders should also be made party in the on going legal proceeding of Ayodhya Case. One more thing I would like

to tell to the so called secular forces that in 1984 this country witnessed unprecedented communal riots and at that time this party fought elections by fanning anti-sikhs and anti Punjab sentiments all over the country. This type of secularism suits them only and not to us.

Sir, Shri Sharad Pawar is not present here. Mumbai riots took place in 1993 but no such communal riots took place anywhere in BJP ruled states. Every one knows who was Dawood and who were involved in riots...*(Interruptions)* Riots like Mumbai were not there...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (MORADABAD): That was the reaction of your people...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: All right, if that was our reaction then why that reaction took place in a Congress ruled state and why not in BJP ruled state. If that was because of us, the reaction should have taken place in BJP ruled state. But there were no riots in those states. The Congress party had done it in a well planned manner and the consequential incidents indicate the facts...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. MALLIKARJUN (MAHBUBNAGAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this kind of allegation cannot be tolerated. How can a senior Member like him speak like this? He must know that Congress is a secular Party and it cannot indulge itself in these things.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: I have given the example of 1984 riots. After which the Congress lost its secular credentials.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Why are they interrupting like this?

DR. MALLIKARJUN: This is your illusion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please let him conclude.

DR. MALLIKARJUN: We will remain a secular and socialistic Party.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Sir, The Punjab remained a terrorist affected state for ten years from 1980. Who is responsible for the terrorism in Punjab? Who is responsible for terrorism in Kashmir? Why the Congress Party does not accept the responsibility? You tell me who is responsible for all these things?...*(Interruptions)* First you make allegations against anyone and then prove them. That is why I would like to say that in view of the incidents, that are taking place in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh now a days, we would have to think as to who is responsible for them too...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (LADAKH): When Babri mosque was demolished, your party's Chief Minister, Shri Kalyan Singh was there in power...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: The peace that was

[SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA]

maintained in UP and the law and order that was maintained by Shri Kalyan Singh during his tenure is still remembered by the people of Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)* Every one knows about it and there is no need to say anything about it.

Sir, I have to conclude with the words that this Government could neither generate employment opportunities, nor increase national income, nor it could change the fate of the poor people. If at all it has increased something, it is debt, unemployment and dearthness. Therefore, such Government has no right to ask for a support on this address. Infact, they have no right to take the name of secularism.

I am concluding after making one more submission. These all parties have come together to form a Government but even then it is a lame duck Government. Therefore, the Government must go. I challenge that if all of you combine together...*(Interruptions)* My challenge is that all of you should fight our election against us on this very issue of secularism. Then we will tell you that if any leader has secular image today, he is Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee and any party which has secular image that is Bharatiya Janata Party only. We would like to throw this challenge to you and all of you should accept it. You all should fight elections unitedly, so that you may not say that you have lost because you fought with one another.

Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak. I oppose this Motion of thanks. This Government has no right to ask for support on this motion or expect any help to get this motion passed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar to speak.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already given the notice stating that I would give my speech in Marathi. So, accordingly, I hope that arrangements would have been made for interpretation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It must have been made.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: So, I will start my speech in Marathi.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (MURSHIDABAD): I want to speak in Bengali.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: You are welcome to do that.

[Translation]

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR (BARAMULLA): Please speak in Hindi.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR): He wants to speak in his mother tongue.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No intervention please. You please speak when you get a chance.

15.24 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

*SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): Mr. Chairman Sir, Hon. Member Shri Sharad Yadav moved a motion of Thanks on President's Address and Hon. Member Shri N.S.V. Chitthan seconded the motion. I rise to speak on this motion. Hon. President of our country is a scholar and respectable person. As a proverb says that a learned person is respected everywhere. I express my respect for Hon. President. He has a long experience of administration. However, I rise here to express my views on the President's Address on behalf of my party.

Mr. Chairman Sir, President's Address is a document which reviews the good work done in the past and provides an outline of work to be taken up in future to this House and to the whole nation. It is also expected to serve as a guideline for the Government to carry on its administration in future.

However, after reading this Address, the thoughts which struck me were of a different nature.

The Government has completed a tenure of eight months. It is necessary to see the direction in which this Government has made the progress. If we look at page 2 of this Address, Hon. President has referred to the present situation in Jammu & Kashmir. What is happening in Jammu & Kashmir? The elections were held. The Government elected by the people is ruling that state...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No intervention please. You speak when you get your turn.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: The whole country and the world knows about the law and order situation. I am also happy that a duly elected Government is ruling that State. Elections were held and popular Government was installed in that State. But the incidents which took place after the elections are really painful. Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir said that if they wanted half of the Kashmir could be given to them. But let us solve the problem of Kashmir. The question before me is that who gave the authority to the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir to make such a statement. This is a very important question. Apart from this, recently our Prime Minister said that we are prepared to make some compromise in some respects. I am not aware as to what is the nature of this compromise. But he had made a statement to the effect

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

that we could solve the problem of Kashmir by making some compromise. But later on I came to know that he said that he had not made such a statement. If he had not made such a statement, then it is well and good. I congratulate him. In my opinion, when the question of the sovereignty of the country is involved. It is not proper for the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir or Prime Minister of India to make such a statement without taking this August House into confidence. There is no reference of this statement in the President's Address.

On page 2 of the President's address, there is an indication of economic policy of our country. What is the economic policy of our country? It also briefly dwells on economic situation in the country. I cannot agree with this observation made in President's address because it does not reflect factual position correctly.

It is also the duty of the Government to face the ground reality. From this point of view, let me point out that President's address fails to reflect the factual position regarding the state of economy.

Sir, page 4 of the President's address dwells upon power generation in our country. It is proposed to entrust power generation to the private sector for significantly augmenting power generation and meeting the power requirement of our country. Without power generation, we cannot achieve progress of our country. In my opinion, without adequate power generation industries also cannot grow. Without growth of industries we cannot also achieve economic progress. But when we seek external debt for raising power projects in our country, it is very necessary that the Government has full control over these power projects. Otherwise, slowly we may hand over reins of our country in the hands of foreign countries. We also have the apprehension that our economic policy may be controlled by those countries. Our apprehension is not without any logic. Therefore, the Government should be cautious of this aspect.

There is another statement on page No. 4 of the address which I could not fully comprehend. It says, "We are taking steps to attract long term pension and insurances, funds from abroad". The question that arises is that if you are going to invite foreign capital in this sector, are you going to hand over insurance sector also to the foreign countries? This is the doubt which arises in my mind. Insurance is a big industry in our country. We have nationalised this industry. In such a situation, it will not be proper for us to allow foreigners to intervene in this sector. If this is allowed, it is bound to adversely affect insurance sector in our country.

Paragraph No. 16 of the President's Address refers to national highways. Through an ordinance provision has been made to acquire land. There is no doubt that national highway should be properly maintained. As long as all national highways are properly maintained, communication network cannot be called to be satisfactory. As there are veins in the human body, similarly roads are veins of a country. If the highways are not properly maintained, the

progress of the country is next to impossible. If we look at the history of past 50 years, we find that only a few highways are properly maintained. Rest of the roads are in a poor shape. One does not know whether one should find a pit on a road or road in a pit. If land of poor people is going to be acquired for national highway, compensation at present market rate should be paid to the poor people whose land is going to be acquired for this purpose. If this is done, there is no need to oppose the presidential ordinance in this regard. But I would like to humbly suggest the Government that it should pay compensation at market rate to the persons who are affected by acquisition of land.

On page 15 of the address, it is mentioned that oil deficit is of the order of 15500 crores of rupees. However the Government may deny, I am sure that hike in petroleum prices is unavoidable in this year's budget. If another major hike of prices of petroleum products is going to take place within a period of six months, it is bound to push up the prices of all commodities enormously in the country and the life of the people will become miserable. If you are going to increase the prices of petroleum products, you should consider the fate of the people, especially poor people in the country. We should also try to find out which are the factors responsible for crisis in the petroleum sector. If there is deficit of 15500 crore rupees only in one sector, it only means that necessary decisions which should have been taken in oil sector well in time have not been taken. Everytime the decision was postponed. It was thought that the next Government would take the decision. This was the approach which was adopted. As a result of that today we are facing the situation of enormous hike in the prices of petroleum products. It has almost become a policy that in every year's budget, there is hike of prices of petroleum products. I am not happy about this trend and we must find a remedy for this situation. It is said that we must save fuel. But how can we do it? There is traffic jam on all the roads in Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta and Chennai because of which we are wasting so much of fuel. In spite of campaign to save fuel and so many banners displayed all around, we are not in a position to save fuel. Thousands of litres of petrol/diesel is wasted everyday because of traffic jams in our country. It is only leading to pollution which is adversely affecting the health of the people. On one hand pollution is affecting the health of the people, and on the other they have to bear the brunt of price hike of petroleum products. The Government should be careful about it and should not go in for further price hike of petroleum products.

Paragraph No. 19 deals with agriculture sector. Ours is an agricultural country. We have to take necessary steps to improve the condition of agriculture in our country. Water management is a basic problem. Since it is not proper it has adversely affected agriculture. In the past 50 years we have failed to have proper planning of water management. As a result this year we had to import 20 lakh tons of wheat. Instead of exporting wheat which we grow in huge quantity in our country, we have to import it. As reported by newspapers the wheat which is being imported is not of good standard. If we have to import wheat and if it is

[SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR]

going to adversely affect health of our people for generations to come, it is certainly a matter of grave concern. Though there is a reference in President's Address that our agriculture should be self sufficient, more reference will not be enough. We have to formulate concrete action plan for this purpose. Even in case of urea, the corruption involved is of the order of Rs. 33,000 crores and it is needed a matter of serious concern. Since we are surrounded by corruption all around, it depends upon the Government as to how we will take up our schemes and complete them. The Government should be vigilant about corruption which has crept in our system and it should take steps to improve agriculture in our country. If we pay necessary attention to the sector of agriculture, I am sure it would go long way in improving the economy of our country. I am sure that proper water management, adequate availability of urea and other inputs needed by farmers would make agriculture profitable proposition. We have to establish proper linkages between agricultural produce and marketing. Presently we find that middlemen operating in the market are cornering the entire profit and poor farmers are left in the lurch. The farmers work hard for growing foodgrains. Yet they do not get any share of profit. They remain where they are. This is the feeling which is growing in the country. That is why there is resentment in the farming community over this issue. That is why the Government must pay necessary attention to agricultural sector and improve the lot of farmers.

We do not have proper management of water resources in our country. Recently a scheme called "Ganga Kalyan Yojana" is being implemented by the Government. Schemes of this nature should be implemented by the Government. This point is included in paragraph No. 22 of the President's Address. "Provisions for irrigation facilities for small and marginal farmers, especially those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has received impetus through a new programme called Ganga Kalyan." Different schemes are given very good names which evoke pious sentiments. When we say 'Ganga', we visualise pure water of the river Ganga. But are you really going to impelment a beneficial scheme befitting the name of the sacred river? Many schemes are announced, funds are announced for this scheme, yet these schemes are not implemented. This has become a tendency of the Government. It is necessary that whatever schemes are announced. They are implemented fully in the interest of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and poor people of the country. Any decision taken by the Government in the interest of poor people will definitely be supported by all members of Parliament and everybody would welcome such schemes. But these schemes should not remain merely on paper but these schemes should be actually implemented. Whatever planning we do, it must be executed. The funds which are allotted should be actually spent on those schemes. It is necessary to create this confidence among the people. This is the need of the hour and I hope that Government will take necessary measures in this direction.

Poverty alleviation is a major task. There is a reference to it in para No. 24 of this address. I toured three or four States of the country. I asked some questions to the Chief Secretaries of these States regarding poverty alleviation. I asked them about the exact number of families living below the poverty line in their States. But I did not get satisfactory reply from anyone of the States. We have taken a decision to provide foodgrains to the people living below the poverty line at half the price of foodgrains available in public distribution system. 33 crores of people are said to be living below the poverty line. But I have my doubts whether really 33 crores of people are living below the poverty line because the method of collecting information regarding people living below poverty line is faulty. If the schemes meant for poverty alleviation really help the poor people. I will be happy about it. But a scheme is announced and it is misused by some people. We must find out who are the people who are misusing these schemes. We must ensure that poverty alleviation schemes are strictly implemented and intended beneficiaries get their benefit.

There is a reference to unemployment of educated people in this address. The number of educated unemployed persons is very huge in our country. It is misfortune of this country that highly qualified young men of our country are wandering from pillar to post. Yet they fail to get employment or start any occupation. For combating this situation a remedy has been suggested in para 27 of this address. This raises a doubt in my mind. Lakhs of educated people are unemployed in this country. About their employment it is mentioned in the address that at least one million educated unemployed youth will be supported every year to start viable enterprises and business through better subsidy, training and credit arrangements. It is very good to write all this and read it. It appears that we would give jobs to one million people. It is like the lamp of Alladin to these people. It creates the impression that crores of people would get the jobs tomorrow. While making such announcements the Government should be cautious. Had the Government indicated the exact number of people who would be given jobs in the next four years, that would have been better. At least we would have felt that the Government is doing something concrete for these people. This is just a general statement which will only arouse hopes of these people and nothing tangible would be achieved. If this scheme is honestly implemented with proper planning, and if we are in a position to give jobs to the educated unemployed youth, I would welcome this scheme. But I have my doubts whether such a scheme would be actually implemented because our experience of 45 years shows that we give only slogan of 'Garibi Hatao'. But in reality poverty is not alleviated and the poor remain where they are. Giving catchy slogans and creating hopes in the minds of people is one thing and actually impelmenting these schemes is quite other. So Government should not merely announce schemes, but it should actually take action and implement them.

There is a mention of 7 point Employment Programme which was finalised in the meeting of Chief Ministers. Hon. Prime Minister held meetings with Chief Ministers and it

was decided to implement a programme which would help unemployed people. It is all very good. In our country the same party which rules at the Centre does not rule in the States. There was a time when a single party used to get 400-450 seats and rule the country. But today ten parties come together to form coalition Government. In the States also different parties are in power and they are grappling with the local issues. That is why a single party is not in power at the Centre and also in the States. In such a situation, Hon. Prime Minister deserves to be congratulated for convening Chief Ministers' Conference and announcing 7 point programme before them. I am happy that Drinking Water Programme has also been taken up. There are lakhs of villages in our country which do not have drinking water even after 50 years of independence. They have to travel a distance of 2 or 3 kms. to fetch drinking water and somehow quench their thirst. So a decision has been taken in regard to supply of drinking water. A programme of Primary Health Care to cater to needs of every group of 5000 persons is going to be taken up. Similarly a programme of universal and compulsory education and measures to spread literacy is going to be taken up. In this connection I would like to point out that only 40% of our people are educated while 60% of the people are deprived of education. 50 years have passed after independence. We are celebrating golden jubilee of our independence. Yet there are lakhs and lakhs of persons in our villages who have not derived any benefit of independence. They have never tasted fruit of independence and they do not know what independence is. There are lakhs of villages in the country which are yet to be visited by Prime Minister, Chief Minister or any Minister. In this background, it is good that 7 point programme to promote employment has been announced. I would only plead that it should be implemented. As this point has been mentioned in the President's address, it would be binding on the Government to implement this programme. Therefore, I hope that the Government would implement this programme.

Paragraph No. 27 mentions that 32 crore families are living below the poverty line. A provision of Rs. 2216 crores has been made for this purpose. A special Central assistance of Rs. 2216 crore has placed at the disposal of the States. Here I would like to point out one thing. This amount has to be preserved and utilised by the states. There is an item called "Special Component". We must find out how many States are spending funds under the head of Special Component. There are some instances in our country where some States are keeping the funds under special component plan in the bank and that amount was used for some other purpose. Those funds were not used for the persons for whom those were meant. So, instead of announcing the scheme and making significant provision creating the impression that something great is being achieved for these people, it would be better to implement this scheme effectively.

There is also provision for assistance to shelterless poor for housing activity. It is very good. There are lakhs of families which do not have shelter. It is important to

provide them shelter. When a meeting was held in Delhi to chalk out programmes for celebrating golden jubilee of independence, so many programmes were proposed. Crores of rupees were proposed to be spent on this programme. The programmes were to be organised in various States. Many programmes would be telecast on TV but while celebrating golden jubilee of independence, we must ask whether we have provided houses to the poor. It is the responsibility of the rulers to meet the basic needs of the people. Food, clothing and shelter are the basic needs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: I am the only person to speak from my party.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted to your party is only 14 minutes and you have taken 28 minutes. Now, you may try to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: But there are some Hon. Members who have taken around one-and-a-half hours.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the point. You have taken double the time that has been allotted to your party. You cannot take more than that.

(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not expect a reply from the Chair. Total time allotted is nine hours. You get to know the time allotted to each party from the Chief Whip. Shri Sarpotdar, now you may try to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: I will conclude, but please give me some time.

The amount meant for poverty alleviation should reach 32 crores of families living below poverty line. But I am doubtful whether this would really happen. It is necessary to raise a machinery for this purpose and see that share which is allotted to the State is spent on the poor people. This is a good programme but I would plead that its implementation should be proper. I hope that the Government would do it.

There is a proposal to provide reservation for women. Everyday there is discussion on this issue. I had expressed my views on this issue in the beginning. But there was opposition to those views. An International Conference was convened to discuss this issue. Women representatives of all countries were invited. Their opinion was ascertained in this Conference. A view was expressed in this Confer-

[SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR]

ence that political parties should be asked to give maximum representation to women. It may even go upto 50%. But there is no need to provide reservation to women. This was the opinion expressed by International Women's Conference. But let me inform this House that Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and Maharashtra Legislative Council have passed resolution providing reservation for women in these bodies. But International Women's conference on which crores of rupees were spent had expressed different opinion and I feel that opinion expressed by the Conference should not be neglected in this manner.

There is a reference to protection of workers, minimum wages, unorganised workers, assured wages to agricultural workers and such other issues have also been referred to in this Address. I would like to point out that many industries have become sick, many have been referred to BIFR, many workers have become jobless. The condition of jobless workers is really very bad. In cities like Mumbai and Calcutta many old factories have closed down, under voluntary retirement scheme many workers have been paid their dues and they are sitting idle at home. This has created a situation that many people are jobless and those also are having jobs are also becoming jobless. If this situation has to be improved, the Government of the day should pay attention to it. We must implement the concept of minimum wages in all the States. Government should pay attention to unorganised sector. Agricultural workers should also be paid assured wages as mentioned in the President's address.

Our scientists have done significant research in the area of space. Our scientists are second to none in the world. In fact, they are better than other scientists in the world. I congratulate our scientists who have enhanced our prestige in the world. All the necessary assistance and equipment should be made available to the scientists and see that our country makes progress in the world. Our army, navy and air force are doing commendable job. They should be given all assistance, equipment, sophisticated weapons which they need. If this is done, our armed forces can prove to be the best in the world. They have proved their valour not only once but four times so far. Therefore, the Government should use all its might in supporting our armed forces. Our armed forces are prepared to face any situation. Therefore, the whole country should rally behind them. They have the capability and will. But they lack arms. Arms should be supplied to them.

A point was made about our relationship with Pakistan. It was said that we will sort out issues by dialogue and discussion. I am in favour of improving relationship with Pakistan. But it does not mean that Pakistan will be allowed to play havoc in this country. Recently there were two bomb blasts in Delhi. Who are the people behind destabilising this country. Government has told several times that Pakistan has hand in it. If Pakistan has hand in it, then it must be dealt firmly. Our armed forces have got the capacity to deal firmly. We must therefore ensure that nobody is allowed to interfere in our affairs and have an upper hand.

The Government should ensure that nobody is allowed to destabilise this country. I request the Government to take this responsibility.

I am very happy that the problem of sharing water between West Bengal and Bangladesh has been solved. I am happy that at least one problem has been solved. But the problem of crores of Bangladeshi infiltrators ought to have been solved. I am surprised that there is no reference to this problem in President's Address. We are not in a position to meet the basic needs of our people. How will we support these Bangladeshis who are in large number in big cities. If outsiders come, they would pose a great danger to our country.

I congratulate the Government for improving relations with Israel. We did not improve relations with Israel thinking that Arab countries would be displeased because of this. Therefore, we did not have diplomatic ties with Israel. Now we will have diplomatic relations with Israel. Israel's expertise in agriculture and technology will be helpful to us. We should have exchange of thoughts and ideas with Israel and also establish friendly relations with other countries. We should make our country rich and prosperous by taking these steps. The sovereign House of Lok Sabha has a responsibility to discharge. We have resolved in the past that we would get back our land from China and also get back Azad Kashmir. We must implement these resolutions and take steps in that direction. The Government should also take steps in this regard and should not merely announce slogans.

Hon. Member Shri Somnath Chatterjee always refers to Dr. Datta Samant. So, I would just like to make passing reference to it. Dr. Samant was assassinated in Mumbai. I would never support that assassination. It is necessary to go into causes and circumstances which led to his assassination. Investigation in this case is going on. People have a feeling that there is a party behind this murder. But I would like to point out that this is not a fact. Dr. Samant was a staunch leader. He was a close friend of mine. I had close relation with him even before he entered trade union activity. But it is necessary to find out how many people were killed because of his trade union activity. It is not necessary to eliminate people in trade union activity. I only want to point out that crocodile tears which are being shed in this context is not a proper thing to do.

With these words, I oppose the Motion of Thanks on President's Address and thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on this motion.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Motion of thanks on President's Address is being discussed in the House. I have listened to the speeches of Shri Sharad Yadav, Congress leader Shri Sharad Pawar and some other hon. members very seriously and carefully.

The country is passing through a very unique situation. When we listen to the speeches, we do not find any consistency between the speeches and the prevailing political scenario of the country when Shri Sharad Pawar

was moving the Motion of thanks he did not utter even in single word in support of the so called liberalisation policy of the Government whereas in the President's Address it was this very policy for which the Government has claimed maximum credit for its achievements.

It is a unique situation that this United Front constitutes of 13 different political parties. Someone was saying that number has increased to 14. Two constituents of this Front—Tiwari Congress and Madhya Pradesh Vikas Party—have been merged with Congress Party but still its number remains 13 or may be 14 because Kishan Kamgar Party has also joined it...(*Interruptions*) It is all right but it is a unique arithmetic that its number always remain 13 ...(*Interruptions*) The biggest constituent of this Front is Janata Dal and in the last Lok Sabha they were sitting in opposition benches. So, I would like to remind them of their views that they were having at that time about the economic policies of Congress Party. Now they are sitting on treasury benches and saying repeatedly that they would continue with the economic policies of Congress Party. What are the policies of the Congress Party to which they want to continue? In the name of economic liberalisation, they are creating a situation in which doors have been fully opened for multinational companies and now any company can come to India, manufacture some products, earn as much profit as they can and take back the earning to their respective countries...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Excepting 'Chaara'.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is only Janata Dal people who are involved in fodder scam. That expertise is available in our country. Foreign people can learn such tactics from our people. Our people learn so many things from foreign countries so they should also learn something from us. We should export this talent...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb Shri Nitish Kumar. The time is very limited.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I agree with him. This suggestion of Congress Party should be accepted and this technology of fodder scam should be exported. By doing so we can earn a lot...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please address the Chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: All related technology should be exported.

16.00 hrs.

It has been declared by the Government that they would continue with the policy of the previous Government and would allow the foreign companies to earn as much profit as they can. I have listened to the speeches of some hon. Members and found that Congress Party is a unique party. Shri Deve Gowda says that his Government would continue with the policies of Shri Narasimha Rao and Shri Man Mohan Singh. But this Congress Party change its stand on the spur of the moment. After the removal of Shri Narasimha Rao from the leadership of Congress Party a new look has been given to it. It feel surprised to hear the statement of Congress spokesman Shri V.N. Gadgil. Now Shri Deve Gowda and his Government have adopted the policy of liberalisation so the Congress has once again turned towards its past policies. That is why I have said that Congress is a unique party. It had done nationalisation. It gave a slogan of (*Garibi Hatao*) poverty alleviation. It had done so many other things also in this country. After that they became very fond of liberalisation. We realised in the last Lok Sabha and they also said it here that it appeared as if everything has gone wrong in this country. I would like to know as to who had done it. It was your party which has been running the Government and implementing its policies. But I would like to say that when there is change of leadership, they change their policies too. I do not know what is the stand of congress party regarding these policies.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. They are diverting your attention.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, in a way, they are helping me.

[*Translation*]

It hardly matters, yesterday I got an opportunity to listen to the speech of Shri Sharad Pawar. It did not appear me that I was listening to a speech of Congress Party leader. That entire speech was worth delivering from the Red Fort. Therefore, the United Front should understand that Shri Sharad Pawar was doing rehearsal for delivering speech from the Red Fort. They should understand this situation. The Government says that it would continue with the policies of the Congress Party but the Congress Party is itself not clear about its policies. It has been mentioned with pride in President's Address.

[*English*]

SHRI A.C. JOS (IDUKKI): Now only you are coming to the Rashtrapati's speech...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Now discussion on President's Address is going on. It is also a unique thing. The context of President's Address is prepared by the Government and

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR]

the same is read by the Hon. President. But this time when the Hon. President moved from Rashtrapati Bhavan to Parliament House, he had another copy of the Address and later on a line was deleted from it. Some newspapers also covered this news. I do not know how far it is true, either the Hon. President knows about it or the Government know about it. There was some indirect criticism of the Congress Party and that was later on deleted. It has been mentioned in the Address at paragraph 16 that

[English]

"In case of Ports, a comprehensive policy has been announced for attracting private investment and providing for automatic approval for foreign equity up to 74 per cent".

[Translation]

It means you are allowing foreign equity upto 74 per cent. It means foreign companies would invest money and build ports. During Congress regime the Government asked Cargil company to build port at Kandla. A massive movement was launched under the leadership of Shri George Fernandes against this move and a large number of Satyagrahi from different parts of country joined that agitation. Consequently the Government had to change its policy. Earlier a port was already there at Kandla but after partition that became part of Pakistan. That port was built from strategic point of view. That was very important from security point of view. There is lot of earning from this port. Cargil company was being given land there to build port. Now foreign companies can build ports anywhere in India... (Interruption) That was a separate case of making salt but building of port was also there. Cargil company was given contract for making salt which was ultimately forced to flee by the people. Earlier, coco cola was also forced to flee from the country but later on when Congress Party again came to power, they first brought Pepsi cola and later on Coco Cola. I would like to know from the government as to what was the necessity to call foreign companies to construct ports. I would like to know whether our port do not have enough earnings? Are they running into loss? If they are not running into loss and are able to mobilise their own internal resources, then they can do their modernisation too.

Today Rail Budget has been presented. The Railway take its developmental activities through its own internal resources. So similarly port can make its own development by its internal resources. A few days back the hon. Minister of industry was saying in reply to a question that automation is taking place all over the world and our ports are becoming out moded and the Government is bringing foreign investment for their automation. There is no harm in it. When the security matter was raised, he said that now a days it has become satellite imagery. If every thing is satellite imagery then why photography is still prohibited at the air ports. In port areas one cannot take photograph. What kind of policies the Government is going to adopt? Ports are important from security point of view and you are

inviting foreign companies to make investment there. MNCs will come here, earn profits and will go back to their countries. They may come or may not come but you have made your intention clear. You have not expressed any concern about the security of the country. Shri Sharad Pawar has said so many things about defence forces. He was discussing the need to provide sophisticated weapons to our forces. Whenever we talk about nation security, we directly link it with our defence forces only but the real threat to national security is from the separatist elements who are involved in the sporadic incidents of violence in different parts of the country and who are bent upon disintegrating this country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask, through you, whether we have threat to our national security only from the people who are involved in terrorist activities or whether we have threat only at our borders from the neighbouring countries with whom we do not have friendly relations? We do have threat from them but inspite of that we are facing threat to our national security from other quarters also. Just now I have mentioned one of such threats that the indiscriminate foreign investment, which is being allowed in the country is also a threat to our security.

Secondly, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a news item appeared in 'Time Magazine' dated 23rd December. I do not know whether Government's attention has been drawn towards it or not. It has been stated that three India news reporters have collected this news at a very high risk. They have published a photograph of More which is situated at Indo-Burma border. There is unrestricted smuggling activities of heroin at More from neighbouring country Burma. All of us know that the democracy has been crushed and there is military rule in Burma. It is also a well known fact that Military Government of Burma is getting all kinds of support from anti-Indian forces. We are fail to understand as to what is the foreign policy of our Government. Burma can be our good friend. People of Burma are friendly to us but the present Government of Burma is not behaving like a friendly nation. There is golden triangle consist of Burma, Thailand and Laos where opium is grown in a large quantity and it is used as raw material for heroin. Opium is being smuggled to More where heroin is produced from it. Unrestricted smuggling activities of opium and heroin is going on at our border but our Government remains indiffererent to it. Every one knows what is the condition of Manipur State. The number of AIDS patients is rapidly increasing there. The AIDS is spreading there because of the use of drug syringes. All such activities are going on at More and from there it is being smuggled to Kathmandu, Delhi and other parts of our country. Out of this smuggled quantity of heroin, 60 per cent is being consumed in the country itself. At present 3000 tonnes of heroin is being produced in Burma. At More the cost of one kg. heroin is 10,000 dollar i.e. Rs. 3 lakh 70 thousand. In foreign countries its cost would increae by 4 to 5 times. One tonne of heroin's cost is Rs. 36 crore whereas the total production of Burma is 3000 tonnes. Even then our Government

remain indifferent to such problem. Is it not a threat to our national security. AIDS is spreading rapidly in the entire North-east areas. The number of drug addicts are also increasing. Many people are involved in smuggling. The news reporters, who have published this report, have asked whether a business on such a large scale is possible without any patronage. I do not want to say anything more than that. I also do not want to say anything about the people deployed at the border. I would like to leave that thing to the country and the Government. I would like to quote one sentence.

[*English*]

A Western drug control expert who visited the area, once asked a senior police officer what he recounts the corruption level to be on his force. "About 100 per cent", came the reply.

[*Translation*]

When Police officer was asked about the level of corruption in his force, he said, "100 percent". That is the situation on the border. No such business on such a large scale can be done without any connivance. Drug Mafia is also a subject of discussion in our country. There is hardly any film which does not picturise about the drug Mafia. It is more in the North-East from where this net is being spread all over the country and our Government is least bothered about it. Is it not a threat to national security? Corruption is widespread from top to bottom in our country. A large scale corruption is there among the upper class people of the society. Is it not a threat to the national security? If any concern is expressed about the security of the country, that must be discussed in the House. There is no mention about these things in the President's Address. The Government lack resolve and as such it is unconcerned about it.

Just three days ago the hon. Prime Minister made an announcement that people living below the poverty line would be supplied ration at half the cost from fair price shops. What does poverty line mean? Let us define the words, "people living below the poverty line". Mr. Alagh is sitting in the House I do not know what are the views of other hon. Members in this regard, but Mr. Alagh will definitely tell us the number of people living below the poverty line. The fact remains that the poverty line will be drawn according to the number of people to be shown below the poverty line. This Government has decided that the family which has a maximum of Rs. 15,000 annual income will be considered to be below the poverty line. The total number of people living below the poverty line will be counted on this basis. If this is the yardstick, the daily income of a family living below the poverty line is about Rs. 8. What is the value of Rs. 8 these days. Let anybody say what can be purchased by Rs. 8 these days. The approach paper of the Planning Commission throws light on many such things. There was an indication in one such paper that a person with an annual income of Rs. 20,000 will be considered to be below the poverty line. If Rs. 15,000 is taken as annual income, the people living

below the poverty line will be 35%. If Rs. 20,000 is taken as annual income, the number of such people comes to be 58%. This is how figures are judged about the number of people living below the poverty line. If we take Rs. 15,000 as annual income, the daily income comes to be Rs. 8/-. Similarly in case Rs. 20,000 is the annual income, the daily income works out to be Rs. 11/-. If the Government makes an announcement under the above situation, it bears no meaning. They have shown the number of people living below the poverty line as per their capacity to provide food grains to them. This is how they are manipulating the figures. The Government have no direction, no thinking. They are taking it lightly. The Government is in a state of hallucination.

Yesterday, we heard Shri Rajesh Pilot's speech. Shri Sharad Pawar's speech was of different nature. It is so because he knows that if he is to assume country's leadership, he has to take support from various parties. That is why he is making a round about talk. But some of the hon. Members from the Congress Party were of the view that....

AN HON. MEMBER: Shri Kesri is holding the post of Party Chief.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: When Kesriji is holding post of party chief, people should understand the situation. There is a saying in our State. There is no noting, no account. What Shri Sitaram Kesri says is correct. This is the fate of people who occupy posts on the basis of various calculations. There is a saying about Kesriji in Bihar. Anyhow, that is a different thing. This is a matter between Shri Pawar and him, or between Shri Chavan and him. It is an internal affair of their party. Nothing is certain about their party. It is a peculiar party.

Sir, we viewed Shri Chavan's interview. I am going to tell you a different thing...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Nitish Kumar, these are very good points, but you may not get time to complete it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I will not take much of your time.

16.16 hrs.

[*SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE in the chair*]

Madam Chairperson, this type of speech these people make, whether they belong to the Congress Party or any other party. Yesterday during the course of his speech Shri Pawar said that Shri Chatterjee had gone to Singapore. Begging due apology from the CPM cadres. I would like to make a submission. The stand they used to take while sitting in opposition benches has changed now. Their earlier stand in regards to entry of foreigners in the insurance sector is not there now. I beg your pardon. It is not known the extent to which they are going to make

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR]

compromises...*(Interruptions)*. On the day of introduction, these people did not allow voting in the House. When the Bill was introduced and a discussion followed, these people did not participate in the division. This attitude proved that they have a mild approach to this issue. Otherwise, introduction would not have taken place at all. Bill would not have been introduced in the House at all at the situation that prevailed in the House at that time. However, it was introduced by their grace. They may do here whatever they like for the consumption of the unions and the general public, but there is no denying this fact that Somnath Chatterjee had been to Singapore. It has become a tendency with all people in power to go on tour abroad. Some people visit foreign countries for inviting capital. A few days ago I had the opportunity of visiting Mumbai. There I came to know that Shri Pawar and Shri Thakre are chalking out plans to make Mumbai another Singapore. Shri Somnath Chatterjee is visiting Singapore. When John Major comes on a visit to Calcutta all vendors and hawkers are driven out of the streets and sent to footpaths. We have a psyche of a slave. It is but natural that we will tell anguished over these things because we were governed by the Britishers. We have no objection to welcome the John Major. But he should not be welcomed at the cost of labourers. They say that all the rickshaw pullers of Bihar should be driven out and again give a call that all the working class in the world over should be united...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED MAJUDAL HOSSAIN: You can say that we have chased away the rickshaw pullers, but do not say that we have chased away the rickshaw pullers of Bihar. Being the native of Bihar, you should not say such a thing

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is all right you also know that 99.99 per cent rickshaw pullers of Calcutta belong to Bihar. I am expressing of Bihar's anguish here...*(Interruptions)*. They have gone there for last many years...*(Interruptions)*. The rickshaw pullers, vendors and hawkers have been driven out by the authorities. These people give a call to all the labourers of the world to get united. Just to welcome John Major, the city of Calcutta had been decorated in a grand way so that Mr. Major did not have any complaint in this regard and did not stop his country's capital investment to the State. There is a competition to invite foreign investment to the country. Mr. Pawar and Mr. Thakre with the help of some other persons want to make Mumbai another Singapore. We would like to know if Calcutta is being converted into Singapore. We would also like to know as to what does it mean. We have heard several meanings of Singapore. In what sense they want to make this country Singapore and the direction to which they want to take the culture of this country. They may criticise the Government to any extent, but ultimately they will continue to extend their support to this Government.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Patna is also being converted into Singapore.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You know very well what shape

Patna has taken? There is no need to hold a discussion on that here. The State Legislative Assembly is in session and the Assembly must be holding a discussion in this regard. There the situation has come to such a pass which has crossed the limits of discussions. What is there in it? People will behave in accordance with the culture they follow...*(Interruptions)*. We do not know who is their 'Guru'. Is their Guru going to convert Calcutta into Singapore or is John Major their Guru? We thought that their Guru is a labourer who gave the call to the labourers of the world to unite. It is altogether a different thing if somebody else has become their Guru. They may say Comrade or friend, but we belong to the tradition of friends and not the tradition of Guru and Shishya. They may shout as much as they can, but ultimately they will extend their support to the Government. That is why the Government takes it lightly and remains sleeping. Take any of the photographs published, you will find the Government is sleeping more than half the time. It is found sleeping during the course of the debate, during the Budget and during the Question Hour. Its leaders are sleeping. They do so because they know well that Basudeb Acharya and his colleague will continue their support to this Government despite shouting at the highest pitch in the House. Now there is no way out because the country has been divided on secular and non-secular lines. Yesterday while delivering a speech he expressed the view that there should be national consensus on certain issues. Is national consensus possible after dividing the country on secular and non-secular lines. We favour social justice, but we are against this type of political untouchability. If this is the state of affairs how there can be national consensus. What I want to say is that the present state of affairs in the country is attributed to lack of issue based politics. Some of the hon. Members from the Congress Party have rightly said that they should demonstrate this posture outside also. If they quarrel outside also, they would get the result. Mr. Acharya, your position is very strange, you are also a member of the United Front. You were a party at the time of selecting the leader, but you did not join the Government. You lost a historical opportunity. Shri Jyoti Basu has rightly said that you have committed a historical blunder and here you are following the Government you may pull up the Government from outside as much as you can, but you have to ensure that this Government lasts. If you want to see the Government run, you should talk of basic needs that Shri Lohia espouses. There are people in the House who follow Shri Lohia's principles and sometimes they take his name. Today, one person has replaced Lohia. Only one person has replaced Jai Prakash Ji. Now take the name of one person only. Now there was a reference to basic needs. There are seven basic needs. Will anybody have some opposition on this question? Everybody supports this cause. The most pitiable thing is the question of constructing lavatories. Construction of lavatories should be our first priority. Even today our agricultural labourers have no suitable site for defecation. Along with drinking water lavatory is of utmost necessity. It should be given first or second place in the priority list. Every morning our women experience a very humiliating situation. How did the

Government forget such a basic need. When walking along the road we find our women defecating in a very indecent manner on both the sides of the road. They have to stand up everytime. They fall within the focus of the light of every passing vehicle to save their modesty. What about that proposal. Did it not strike to the mind of the Government that is being run under the leadership of an humble and poor farmer. If they do a good thing, that will be appreciated. He said that the water shed programme will be approached through single window system. On 19th November he said:

[*English*]

"The Government is committed to bringing together all the sub-systems constituting watershed-based development under one umbrella to facilitate sharper focus, better irrigation and more efficient micro-level planning and programme implementation"

[*Translation*]

It is a commendable thing. We have been making this demand at the very outset. The standing Committee of the previous Lok Sabha has also made such a recommendation. Please implement it at the earliest. There is no mention as to which is the single window. Only intentions are there. Agriculture, minor irrigation and water resources also come under water shed programme.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: When there is no door, how can there be a window?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You are right. We should have clear views in this regard. There was a discussion on providing mid-day meals. There was also a question in this regard. Where is that proposal? Where children are provided mid-day meals? At least it is not given in Bihar. After a gap of 15 or 30 days, people are brought to block headquarters with children on their shoulders and asked to lift foodgrains. There is no mention in the President's Address about areas where mid-day meals are not supplied properly. The country is passing through a very strange situation in the midst of coalition politics. It is a strange to Government. It is a front of selfish people. The People belonging to the Congress Party and C.P.M. are in league with them. They have lot of contradictions in their ideologies. One of their Chief Ministers declared in the State Capital that if somebody torched his house he will see that his opponents entire palace is torched. He is the President of their party...(*Interruptions*) Where is Lanka. Lanka is in south. It is neither with the BJP nor with the Samata Party. By this he meant Deve Gowda. It is a very strange situation. He was of the view that if the chargesheet is filed and action taken, he would dislodge the Government ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (PATNA): What he meant to say is that whoever perpetrates atrocities on poor people the rich would not be spared. The United Front Government will not tolerate atrocities on poor people under any circumstances.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Yadav ji, Lanka was the symbol of the palace. Please try to understand. Lanka was in south.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: It may be in your mind...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Today a man from south is sitting on the seat of power in Delhi. Your Chief Minister made a reference to him with the threat to ruin him. Simple thing is that he was hinting at Deve Gowda. Which Government's Address is this?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Please forget your principles, You may have such a feeling. But we do not have such a feeling of divide and rule.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Which Government's Address is this? Where is this Government? It is a non-Government. It is a Chief Minister of their Party will say like this, the direction of which this Government will move?

When these people made a mention of 14 parties, I could understand the arithmetic. One of the parties, the Madhya Pradesh Vikas Party has left them. One party got up to occasion in Gandhi Maidan of Patna and said that if its house is torched it would torch the house of the perpetrator. Is the vision of the people giving outside support is clear about the Governments. It is a non-functioning Government. It is a non Government. People who should have been united are separated today. Nobody has any interest in it. In the meantime many compromises are being made with the country's interest.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to make an appeal to Members belonging to cross section of the House to arrive at a national consensus and give up the feeling of political untouchability. The more this feeling is aggravated, the more they are caught. The more they try to weaken a party, the stronger it is emerging.

Madam Chairperson, recently Mr. Chavan's interview appeared in the media. When the Babri Mosque was demolished in 1992. There was a No-confidence Motion against the Government in this august House. Several hon. Members including me levelled charges that the Prime Minister was sleeping when the Babri Mosque was being demolished. Thereafter came an amendment that he was viewing T.V. at that time. He knows what he was viewing on the T.V. He knows what was being telecast over the T.V. If Mr. Chavan does not elaborate, Mr. Pawar who used to be the Minister of Defence at that time will elaborate as to what the Prime Minister was viewing on T.V. at that time.

One thing is clear that in demolishing the Babri Mosque, people who demolished it are culprit and at the same time those people are also a party to it who created a conducive atmosphere for this. No action has been taken against them. Today these people are supporting the Government. Please look at today's situation and think how to strengthen the country on the social path. The multi national companies are making this country their home. We have already become a partner of the W.T.O. with the

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR]

acceptance of WTO membership, the Parliament has become meaningless. Please try to understand the strength of people to protect the freedom and sovereignty of this country. Please utilise that strength to build the future of this country. Do not underestimate it. Do not think that we will get foreign funds and carry out development work. Do not be in illusion. Please do justice to the future generation of the country and help strengthen the country. Then only country's interests will be served and we can do social justice to the future generation of the country.

Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

16.33 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Tripartite Agreement between India, Iran and Turkmenistan

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): Madam, with your permission, may I have the pleasure of informing the hon. Members of this august House that on February 22, 1997 in Tehran, India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed at the level of Foreign Ministers an agreement on the international transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan?

This has brought to fruition the process begun in April 1995 when the three countries signed a trilateral MOU on this subject. The three sides have worked together in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and constructive cooperation in finalising this agreement. Its signing reflects the traditionally close relations India has with Iran and Turkmenistan. It is also in keeping with the vision of the Governments of these countries to promote economic cooperation amongst themselves and with other CIS countries which accede to it in future.

The cardinal objective of the agreement is to provide a suitable juridical and legal framework for the multi-modal movement of goods from India to Iran and Turkmenistan, and other countries that join the arrangement in the future, and vice-versa. The salient features of the agreement are:

It facilitates, simplifies and accelerates customs and other formalities including minimising the documentation and inspection requirements for the transit of goods. For example, it provides that the goods transiting under this agreement will not be subject to examination through the customs jurisdiction *en route* except when irregularities are suspected.

It provides for the exemption of import and export duties or other taxes for goods in transit. Only charges for specific services can be levied as stipulated by internal legislation and as applicable to all other countries.

The signatories have agreed to examine the possibility of setting up a simplified visa regime for personnel engaged in the transit of cargo under this agreement.

There will be a regular joint mechanism for supervising the implementation of the agreement, for recommending changes to it and to consider any other related matter.

The agreement meets the need for developing an efficient, reliable, dependable and cost effective route for trade and other forms of economic interaction between India, Iran and Turkmenistan and our other economic partners in the CIS region. My counterparts from Turkmenistan and Iran have joined me in underlining the importance of expanding and developing cooperative endeavours between our three countries in the field of trade and industry. I believe that the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods will be a key element in meeting this objective.

I am also happy to inform the hon. Members that the President of Turkmenistan, His Excellency, Mr. Saparmurad A. Niyazov is currently paying a goodwill State visit to India. Discussions clearly brought out the identity of views on both sides on important bilateral, regional and international issues. The two sides have warmly welcomed the signing of the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan. They agreed that this landmark agreement would further enhance trade and other forms of economic cooperation amongst these three countries, and CIS countries which accede to it in the future. The agreement will foster a harmonious climate for multilayered economic cooperation and strengthen the cause of peace, stability and development in the region.

In conclusion, I would like to place on record our appreciation of the cooperation extended by the Government of Iran and Turkmenistan in reaching this agreement and of the constructive spirit in which the officials of the different Ministries and Departments of the three Governments have worked together in this regard.

16.38 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS— *Contd.*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD): Madam Chairperson I rise to speak in support of the motion of thanks on the President's Address.

Before I come to the main point, I would like to say something about what Shri Nitish ji was saying just now. When the people quit the treasury benches and join the opposition ranks. He said so in Shakuni's style while addressing in Gandhi Maidan. Laloo ji had challenged that he would destroy their Lanka if they dared to destroy the huts of the poor. What does it mean? It means the feudal forces who constitute 10 percent of the country's total population, who ruled the country for fifty years after

independence and who did not allow the poor, the dalits and the backward and the exploited people to rule the country, are making a lot of hue and cry when Shri Laloo Yadav fought for these people's rights and when he tried to empower them. These forces have tried to destroy these poor people and when Shri Laloo Yadav raised his voice against these forces, it is causing a heart burn to these forces...*(Interruptions)* I have just started, still I am on my legs. You are attacking the United Front Government and the Congress every now and then. But once you were also with us and we were good at that time and how we were good at that time. Have you ever thought over it? Were you supporting us or not and we did not desert you even when you demolished the Babri Masjid and now we are getting the support of Congress because Congress can imagine well as to who can strengthen secularism and who can uplift the poor masses and the downtrodden. Can your party do that? But these people can. That is why they supported us.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): Why didn't you fight elections in Delhi together? If you are stopping the Communal forces then why did you fight elections separately and not together.

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SH. C.M. IBRAHIM): You run all the Municipalities and we would run the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH: You may also speak. You would also get an opportunity to speak. You can clearly see that our Government has adopted the Employment Guarantee Scheme which was once started by the Congress Party. But it was a good work done by the Congress which must be appreciated. Our 80 percent people reside in villages and not in the cities. You people argue in favour of L.P.G. gas because you are urban people and reside in Delhi. You reside in municipal areas. But more than 80 per cent people reside in villages. More than 80 percent of people work in the fields. Our Government is implementing the scheme of Employment Guarantee for these poor people throughout the country. This scheme was initiated by the Congress Government but we are continuing this scheme. There is no harm in it and you must also appreciate that.

SHRI SOHAN BEER (MUZAFFAR NAGAR): The scheme being run by the Government is Corruption Guarantee scheme and not Employment Guarantee Scheme...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH: You might be knowing that and the most important thing is that our Government has brought a Bill for the betterment of that Unorganised labour which was not organised earlier and there was none to look after them. When we are working through the Common Minimum Programme to organise them in better way and to provide them certain basic facilities you don't like that. Sometimes you criticise Laloo Yadav, sometimes you talk of fodder scam, sometimes you criticise Sharad Pawar and sometimes you attack Congress

and Kesari ji. You are not tolerating our Government of 13-14 parties belonging to 40-45 persons. You have to tolerate it and you must realise that you preach something and practise something else. Have you ever been to villages? Have you ever come across the poor village people? You must try to feel the plight of the village people of villages...*(Interruptions)*. This Government is bringing a Bill for the Agricultural Labour. Nothing was done by any Government earlier for them. Did you ever think about that labour...*(Interruptions)*. You will have your turn. You may speak at that time.

One of the most commendable thing is that this Government is very much concerned about the irrigational facilities for the farmers of the country. We are going to enhance the irrigational facilities under this Ganga Action Plan. I am very clearly saying that this Government complete its full term of 5 years. You just have patience and go on watching. We are committed to the cause of the poor, the downtrodden the exploited and the 90 crore people. We would bring one after another Bill for them and amend them. I am also urging the Government to change the very system. They have to overhaul the whole system from top to bottom. They have to change the collector system which is the legacy of the British Raj. There is a huge network of I.A.S. officers. All most all the Ministries and Departments are having IAS officer. Even the Health Secretary is an IAS. What knowledge he has got about the medical science? This whole system has to be changed...*(Interruptions)* I am also requesting you to please cooperate it changing this system. We have to change this system. We have to change the bureaucracy and this System.

This system is also in the country. The other day I met a Sardarji. He was an officer in the Army. He retired some years ago. When he went to collect his pension after five years he was asked to produce a proof to the effect that he was alive. See, this sort of certificate is required to be given there. Sardarji produced a certificate to this effect for one year. Sardar ji was told that this certificate pertains to this year only. He was asked to produce the same for the previous year, whether he was alive in the last year or not. He was asked to furnish the certificate for the last five years. See this is the system in the country if we are alive today, were we also alive last year? Our senior leaders have to ponder over this. They must come forward.

I am saying that our Government has will power. When in 1989 Janata Dal came to power it implemented the Report of the Mandal Commission. Reservation to the backward and the Dalits was provided. There was upheaval throughout the country. But truth is truth. Many Commissions like Kalekar Commission had been appointed earlier. If Shri V.P. Singh had not been sincere he would have appointed another Commission. Lot of change had taken place between 1977 and 1989.

Similarly Women Bill has been brought. I would urge all the senior leaders that they should not get it lapsed by appointing a Commission and strengthen your will power

[SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH]

and get this Bill passed and enforced. Whatever lacunae this Bill has regarding OBC's or minorities it should be cleared immediately by plugging the loopholes. It is the will power...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much more time you will take.

SHRI VIRENDERA KUMAR SINGH: I am just concluding...*(Interruptions)* I can speak for hours together even without drinking water. I belong to a village where you have never been there. You have never come across such a situation. You must take care of Bihar. You must have will power like us. We are directly giving money for Indira Awas Yojana. We want Indira Awas Yojana to be implemented for the poor. I support all the policies of the Government and I am just concluding by emphasising over one more point that Members of Parliament are given Rs. One Crore for implementing the centrally sponsored schemes including the Employment Guarantee Scheme. It is urged that you must make it mandatory that all such scheme must invariably carry the recommendations of the members of Parliament before these are implemented.

With these words I conclude and support the motion of thanks on the President's Address.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA (SANGRUR): Madam Chairperson, I am grateful for having given me an opportunity to speak on the motion of thanks on the President's Address.

Much emphasis has been laid on the Common Minimum Programmes. The whole stress has been laid on this and it has been mentioned that a lot of progress is going to take place as a result of this Programme. It has been stated that lot of prosperity and well being would be there. I can't say anything about prosperity whether it is increasing or not because it could not be assessed as yet but other things are increasing. Prices have increased in the country. Prices of almost all commodities have increased. You can see from these things whether prosperity has increased or not. Prices of flour, rice, clothes and pulses have increased. You name anything the price of which has not increased.

Everybody knows that poverty has increased during this period and it was also mentioned that at present 32 crore people are living below poverty line. An effort is made to provide food grains at cheaper rates through the Public Distribution System even after 50 years of achieving independence. Corruption has increased and it has spread everywhere. Sometimes we are really surprised to see how it has grown in different Departments. Day before yesterday I met several of my friends. They were going to Chandigarh from here by Shatabdi Express but they could not get ticket. They were three in number and their appointment was fixed there in the Secretariat. So it was very necessary for them to go there. When they approached the booking window they found written there that all seats were full. A man was standing nearby who told them that there was nothing

to worry and they could get ticket just now if they request the checker. They tried and got three tickets for Rs. 1200 each though the fare for chair car was Rs. 300 per ticket. When they narrated the incident to me I suggested that they must report the matter. They are complaining and of course some action would be taken. But we never imagined that corruption would be rampant in this department also. It is really surprising.

17.00 hrs

Corruption has also spread there. Similarly it has been mentioned that population has increased. The population in our country is increasing rapidly. No solution in this regard has been suggested in the President's Address as to how it can be tackled, what methods should be devised to check it. There is just mention of this problem. There would be no solution to this problem, the way it is increasing. We are perhaps competing with China which is the biggest country in the world. All the time we are busy in increasing the population but no efforts are being made to check it which is very important.

Similarly there is no mention of checking the pollution in the Address. Delhi is the fourth most polluted city of the world. So many diseases are spreading because of pollution. New types of diseases are being spread. It is a burning problem. Foreign debt is rapidly mounting. It has increased to an extent where we are not even in a position to pay interest thereon. There is recent hike in the prices of Urea. I am mentioning those things the prices of which are increasing. Prices of food grains are also increasing. I am at loss to understand as to what is the limit of all this.

If we see carefully then we shall come to know that everything is not increasing but there is decline also. Food production has fallen down and it is diminishing due to which we have to resort to import. Even yesterday it was mentioned that we are importing two million tons of wheat. Production of fertilizers which is so important for food production is also declining. Value of Rupee is also decreasing. It is diminishing as compared to Dollar, Yen and other currencies. Some things are increasing, it is bad. Other things are decreasing; it is all the more bad.

It has been mentioned in the Common minimum programme that...

[English]

It contains specific policies and guide-lines for strengthening our federal structure.

[Translation]

It has repeatedly been mentioned that federal structure would be strengthened but nowhere it has been mentioned as to how it will be strengthened. We are really happy to note that they want to strengthen the federal structure. We also agree that there must be federal structure in the country. I was just hearing the speeches of Hon. Members who said that—

[English]

Restructuring of the Constitution to make it really a federal system of constitution.

[Translation]

Besides this there is also mention of Art. 356 in the Presidential Address. This Article has all along been misused. There is no mention as to how the abuse of this article has to be checked. We also agree this article 356 has been frequently abused. This was frequently abused against us in Punjab. Whenever there was non Congress Government in Punjab it was dismissed. Seven times Akali Government supported by other parties came to power in Punjab but everytime after 2-3 years it was dismissed on one pretext or the other. But something else was behind this. Our Government was dismissed on the ground that law and order situation was bad but it further deteriorated under the Governor's rule. But the main reason behind the dismissal was elections in Haryana was going to be held and somebody suggested that if the Akali Government in Punjab is dismissed then perhaps they may get good votes in Haryana. But things were otherwise and the result was reverse. This made the people of Punjab against Congress because elected Government there was dismissed by using Article 356 unconstitutionally. But Congress could secure only 5 seats in Haryana. This provision was misused. Some drastic steps should be taken in this direction or it should be deleted so that it may not be misused in future by any Government. Anandpur Sahib resolution was also brought into focus here which was also criticised by the Congress people. They said that B.J.P. has committed a blunder in supporting the Akali Government in Punjab. Only those people says so who have never gone through the text of the Anandpur Sahib resolution. Anandpur Sahib resolution was never meant to divide the country but it was meant to strengthen the integrity of the country and not to disintegrate it. This resolution was discussed at several occasions and it was ultimately made an issue. Rajiv-Longowal accord was also made an issue and it was referred to the Sarkaria Commission. Both the Houses passed this but after such a long time it was wrong to say that this is dangerous and against the country. There was nothing against the country in that very resolution. Only more autonomy for states was called for. Now everybody wants more autonomy for States. It was only about the federal structure. Now all parties are saying that we should have federal structure. Present structure should be changed. Constitution should be amended accordingly. They are talking of State autonomy so that they can assert. Rights of States have been curtailed presently. All such things were covered in that resolution and it was discussed here. This resolution was referred to the Sarkaria Commission. The Sarkaria Commission has submitted its report and United Front Government is of the view that the report of the Sarkaria Commission should be implemented. We have implemented several thing and propose to implement the rest of the things. It is mentioned:—

[English]

"The Inter-State Council at its meeting on Oct 15, 1996 accepted a majority of recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission for implementation by the Government".

[Translation]

But unfortunately Congress always tried that somehow or the other people should be kept divided. The policy of "Divide and Rule" must continue. It was tried to divide the two communities. Efforts were made to divide Hindus and Sikhs. It was a deep rooted conspiracy. You must remember that Shri Rajiv Gandhi came to power with thumping majority after the 1984 elections. Misleading campaign was made. All Sikhs were branded as terrorists. Posters were pasted everywhere branding Sikhs as terrorists. You would remember the posters of that time depicting a taxi whose driver was having a turban which appears to be Sikh but his face was not visible and it was written. Can you feel safe and protected to travel with him? Such things went on deliberately to malign the Sikh Community throughout the country. They were branded as terrorists through the media and the result was the massacre of 1984.

Then the situation underwent a change. I think nothing could be more unfortunate than this. Delhi saw genocide of such a magnitude that, as per Parliament's records, three thousand people were butchered. The then Government did not consider even calling the Army, imposing curfew, or opening fire even as three thousand people were killed. That was the biggest genocide in Delhi after the one which was ordered by Nadirshah. It is regrettable that not even a two minutes silence for the tragic incident was observed here in Parliament. Our minds are deeply hurt by that episode. That nobody should have felt sorry or uttered a word of sympathy on the occurrence of such a big tragic incident in a city like Delhi, is a really sinister feature. 10-12 years have elapsed since. The reports that have come pinpoint the persons responsible for the genocide. In utter disregard of such reports, bigwigs belonging to a political party who had a hand in the incidents, were brought in Parliament through elections and even made ministers. They were not prosecuted. Unfortunately people did not get justice. This is the largest democracy of the world, but people going from pillar to post to seek justice are unable to get it. I would like to say that justice may be provided to those people who have been denied justice so far. They are now still in search of justice. It is good that the judiciary has started taking some steps. Judiciary is moving in a right direction. The judiciary had faltered after the Emergency coming out with loose judicial pronouncements, only now it is acting with some responsibility. It was decided to give Rs. Three lakh as compensation to each of the families of those killed in the genocide, but no action has been taken so far in that direction. Out of the people to be given compensation, someone lost husband, someone else lost father, but no action to give them compensation has been taken. It was said that a committee will be appointed, but no effort was made by the Government to provide relief to the people. I would like to submit that such

[SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA]

treatment has been meted out to those people who were called the sword-arm of the country, who were ever ready to shed their blood and sweat to defend the country. Even such people did not get justice. It is repeatedly said that the justice needed was not done. I would urge upon the Government to take steps to implement the judicial pronouncement as early as possible.

Much has been said about power generation that it is very much required. So regarding Punjab, we are sitting far away from the coal mines and we had repeatedly raised this question in the previous session and drawn the Government's attention thereto saying that two thermal power projects in Punjab were on the verge of closure on account of this because it is difficult to get coal coming as it does from a very distant place. Sometimes coal gets stuck up on its way, sometimes it is diverted by somebody to another place and it reaches somewhere else. It was not reaching our place even as we tried hard to take it there. We have scanty hydel power Thien Dam is in the making for the last so many years because necessary funds were not provided for that. Rajivji had laid its foundation stone. We had got the foundations laid during our own regime but the pace became slow after that. What was the result? Ravi waters flow off to Pakistan because we could not construct a dam over Ravi. The dam under construction is largely complete. The project, once estimated to be of the order of Rs. 84 crore, has now escalated to as much as Rs. four thousand crores. More than half of the work is already complete. Some more funds are still required and we will be getting both electricity and water through it. Both these are essential.

Sir, regarding power, I would like to talk of Thien Dam, the Govt. may pay attention to it so that it is complete at the earliest and water belonging to our country may be utilised within it, this is essential. We have also been trying for atomic energy asking for an atomic plant as the coal comes, from a very distant place. We have asked for the atomic energy plant several times during the last 15-16 years but with no result. This is the position regarding power.

Sir, there has been some mention of agriculture also. Punjab which is solely dependent on agriculture, has no mines or minerals, no deposits of oil or any kind of thing found under the surface. It has only farm produce, therefore, we lay more emphasis on it for which inputs are required. All these things are getting costlier now. The prices of Urea have only recently been increased, the prices of rest of the fertilisers were increased already. The prices of pesticides have also increased. Therefore, agriculture is no longer a remunerative occupation. People have become very much indebted. The prices of wheat fixed now...*(Interruptions)*. All these inputs must be made cheaper to facilitate agriculture at least to some extent, otherwise it will not be as easy as it should be. Foodgrain production is decreasing because we have not been able to give incentive to farmers which they deserve. There was a time when I was in the Ministry and farmers were given

incentives which made them very enthusiastic. The Green Revolution was a resultant of that. The Green Revolution was the result of both the farmers' efforts as well as Governmental assistance. We became self-sufficient. But I am sorry to say that the policies often go wrong. Last year we saw that 22 lakh tonnes of foodgrains was sent abroad without considering what quantity thereof will be left with us, how much foodgrains we are going to produce, how much reserves of foodgrains we have. Two months later, we came to know that foodgrains are in short supply and imports thereof have to be made. 20 lakh of foodgrains is now being imported. Our Minister was telling the other day how much foodgrains have already arrived and how much are yet to arrive from abroad. It is to be noted at what price these imports are proposed to be made. Perhaps the landed cost thereof is Rs. 622.7 as I have gathered from his statement. It may be pointed out to me if I mistake. Now consider the price being given to the farmers in our own country. The procurement price has been fixed at Rs. 415. As against this the Government propose to give the farmers of Australia or Canada a price of Rs. 622. The farmers cannot but resent it.

The farmer is worried at the shabby treatment meted out to him. Through you, I would like to caution the Government that it will not be able to make procurements this year. The procurement this time will not be as much as required or as have so far been made on previous occasions. This time the farmer has made up his mind not to sell his foodgrains to the Government readily as he understands that prices will increase. When the Government expects the farmers to be content with the price of Rs. 415/- as against Rs. 622/- given to the farmers abroad and it will not be able to make this type of procurement. Rs. 40 to 45 are incurred as over-head expenses about Rs. 620/-. Therefore, this time the Government will have to make additional arrangements.

Punjab produces cotton also in large quantity. This time huge losses have incurred by the farmers due to fall in the prices of cotton but this rise seems to have no effect on cloth. The cloth has become costlier instead of becoming cheaper. The cotton produced by the farmers has become very cheap which makes him feel as cheated. It is not only the cotton all other agricultural produce are also becoming scanty. The country is unable to produce the required quantity of pulses and oil seeds both of which are being imported from outside. This has been so during the past.

The same is the case with sugar. There is dire need of sugar mills in Punjab. I have come to know that the Government has recently relaxed its policy. Punjab should get five more sugar mills. We have submitted applications for that purpose. I would like to say that the Anandpur Sahib resolution also speaks of at least some autonomy to the State. Our sugarcane which is sent to crushers gets sold at throw away prices. This is why we require sugar mills.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS-

TRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I respect hon. Member in the context of sugar mills. I would like to say that the previous process for sugar licensing has undergone a change. Now LOI would be issued within one month of starting of the process. The limit of 25 kilometres has been reduced to 15 kilometres. The sugar mills will be provided at the desired place even if sugarcane is not produced there immediately, if only sugarcane production takes place anywhere in the district.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: I have come to know that this Government is giving some relaxation. We have been seeking sugar mills for the last five years but not a single sugar mill has provided to us. The production of sugar also has gone down due to this...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Barnala, will you please mind congratulating the Minister now for this.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: That is why I have congratulated him. Now what is happening. People ask whether this Government will survive or not. On our part we tell them that this Government should continue for some more time. They should also get an opportunity but the condition in the House and outside it makes one country because sometimes these people look like supporting the Government and sometimes they start intimidating it saying that the support will be continued only on selective items. Now what is this selective support? For how long it is likely to continue and what purpose it is intended to serve? The whole matter rests in their hands. Now we have to see how long it continues.

Madam Chairperson, yesterday the Congress displayed a very aggressive attitude here. The CPM people also had an aggressive attitude both were seen in aggressive mood. One wonders what will happen next, how and for how much time it will continue. It is our wish that the Government may continue and go on doing good things. This Government should speak of federalism. It should not go so soon. This is our thinking. Nobody wants elections at this time. These people say that we are outcast and we will not be allowed to come to power. I want the Congress and CPM to make their policy somewhat clear so that this Government may be able to work. They are always holding the Chair at their command. All their attention is centred on power and they are always worried about their exit or continuance. The policy of the party changes with the change of the head of the party and new policy takes over. Thus the policy of the party undergoes frequent changes. The existing policy changes whenever a meeting takes place. They do not pay much attention to the running of the Government. Their attention is rather diverted to the question of continuing their presence in the Government. Those who are extending their support to the Government should clarify the shape of their policy in any case. Once I had given a suggestion that all parties should put their heads together to form a national Government in order to put an end to the strife once for all. There is still time for such a thinking. Once an opportunity is lost, the whole thing gets out of hand. This should be thought

of. The suggestion of a National Government is still valid.

[*English*]

SHIR K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

The President, in his Address, says that this is his first Address to Parliament after the present Government assumed Office. So, this is the first opportunity we have of taking a look at this Government.

For the first time, the regional and sub-regional parties have been given an opportunity by the people of India to play a role in the centrestage.

17.28 hrs.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*]

So, we have before us a fourteen member conglomerate, which has prepared a hastily drawn out agenda known as the Common Minimum Programme. And although the Rashtrapati's Address does mention the Common Minimum Programme more than once, it does not emphasise any time limit or any programme as such, but for platitudes and pious hopes. It also hopes that a coalition Government can be stable and promote durable socio-economic development.

We had seen this before. In 1977, there was a conglomerate of seven parties. At that time—the senior most Member of Parliament, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is very much with us—for the first time, I think, he failed to get into Parliament. And within two years, the people of India thought differently and brought back Shrimati Indira Gandhi with a two-thirds majority.

Once again the people of India, the real masters of this country, gave a chance to non-Congress parties to form the Government in November, 1989. At that time, my friends on the Right, the so-called *Rampanthis* and the friends on the left, the *vaampanthis*—the Leftists and the Rightists did prop up the Government. Mr. Chariman, Sir, I think you were part of that set-up at that time. That also had a very short-lived existence of eleven and a half months. It went out. There were great constitutional, economic and social disasters which the country had to face.

Once again the people of India, by a fractured verdict have given a chance to these regional and sub-regional parties. The friends on the Right who belonged to a national party are in the Opposition and the members belonging to the other national party, i.e. Indian National Congress are in the Centre. So, if you go through the results of the May, 1996 elections, you will find that the Congress has representation in 26 out of 31 States, the BJP has representation in 17 States and the rest of them have representation in only three or four States. Some of them are adorning the Ministerial Chairs.

I think the debates of the Constituent Assembly also did indicate or the sense of it, I am subject to correction,

[SHIR K.P. SINGH DEO]

that it would be a Council of States or unity of States. But what it became was a unitary type of structure.

Any way this Government, the United Front Government, has got a wonderful opportunity to serve better since they come from the States. I hope that some of the States, like Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, may be some portions of Andhra Pradesh, may be some portions of Maharashtra, the tribal areas of North-East will get a much fairer deal from this Government because we have been crying hoarse in this House that the planning process has not taken into consideration the regional problems in this unitary or the holistic or the normative approach.

Just now we heard the speech of the hon. former Chief Minister of Punjab, Shri Barnala, who was also the Minister of Agriculture and Food. He was my distinguished predecessor in that Department. He was speaking about Green revolution. What is the performance of my State and your State? We have not seen the Green revolution after fifty years of Independence. The President's Address talks about small farmers, marginal farmers, rain fed areas, unirrigated areas, irrigated areas and watershed development which you explained so eloquently. But why has it not seen the light of the day in Orissa? I come from a constituency which has now three districts. Thanks to my uncle, Shri Biju Pattnaik. On the 1st April, 1994 he divided my constituency in to three districts—Dhenkanal, Angul and Subarnapur. In one district the irrigation potentiality is only seven per cent; in the other it is thirteen per cent and in the third district, it is only two per cent. The all-India average is 36 per cent, whereas Orissa's average is 19 per cent. As members of the Estimates Committee, we had the opportunity to look Gandak and Kosi in your State. The projects belonged to the First Plan. The dams were complete but there was no canal system. Same is the case with Rangali, a multi-purpose project which will serve Bihar and which will serve Orissa also. The project in the River Brahmani was started in 1973. Rs. 273 crore were allotted. Smt. Indira Gandhi and Dr. K.L. Rao laid the foundation stone. The head walls are complete. Rs. 1400 crore have been spent. This year in Orissa, 26 out of 30 districts are under drought. Hon. Agriculture Minister, Shri Chaturanan Mishra and the hon. Prime Minister, the humble poor farmer as you have said have visited Bolangir, Kalahandi and Koraput districts. Prior to April, 1994 seven Prime Ministers have visited. People are migrating from there.

Money has been promised like it has been promised here. North-East has been promised money; Jammu & Kashmir has been promised money; and so many others also have been promised. Why are people migrating? You are depending on the State Government to use the ways and means—whether it will be reimbursed, whether it will be a grant or it will be a loan. There is no transparency in this. We were all present here when the hon. Prime Minister was replying. He said, "Do not worry about money; money will come; we will discuss later on, about the issue of whether it is to be a loan or a grant."

Today there is water shortage. Today we had a question in Parliament about Gujrat situation. Gujrat gets less rainfall than what we get. From March to May or may be till 15th June when the first monsoon comes, people may die of thirst and along with water scarcity, there will be diarrhoea, dysentery and gastroenteritis as has happened before. This is not the first time it is happening in Orissa. Only timely action and timely monitoring about which Shri Rajesh Pilot mentioned, will help. There may be any number of Central Government Projects for Orissa, but there is no special plan for Orissa like we have for hilly areas or for areas under Schedule VI. Now it has been said that the North-Eastern States have been brought into the ambit of Nagar Palika and Panchayati Raj. But neither we come under hilly areas, nor do we come under the Special States, nor do we come under Uttarakhand area. We are not terrorists; we do not have terrorism in Orissa. We are quite far from Delhi.

For the first time, some regional and subregional parties have come. I do hope that this time, your State, my State, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, may be portions of West Bengal and the North-East will get a fairer share than what we have got for the last 50 years. Otherwise, our hopes will be belied.

Then, we talk of internal security. Here in the President's Address, it has been mentioned. 'National security' is a far greater term. There may be internal threats and there may be external threats. Yesterday, one of our stalwarts, Shri Sharad Pawar, former Defence Minister and Shri Rajesh Pilot, former Minister of Internal Security, a defence personnel, an Air Force personnel and who flew during the 1971 War to Bangladesh, did mention about the inadequacy of funds for Army, Navy and Air Force. They have also said various other things; I will not dwell into that.

Air Force, somehow, has been eased to a certain extent with the induction of SU-30 Mark II. It took five years for our good friend, Shri Mallikarjun to process it; we congratulate Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav for having clinched the deal. In the Navy a debate is still going on whether we require an aircraft carrier or not. Some people have said that the electronically guided missile has turned the offensive capability of an aircraft carrier into a defensive liability. While the debate goes on, our friendly neighbours are equipping, re-equipping and modernising. Modernisation, off-loading and economising are not a one time job or effort. It is a continuous effort.

The Britishers set up the Indian Army—the evolution of the Indian Army from the East India Company's mercenary army like the one we have now in Afganistan—for the war, for the first time as a National Army in 1947 when our nascent Independence was under threat. Today we have Prof. Soz as our Minister of Council of Ministers with a Cabinet rank. Today, he would not be here in this House had it not been for the supreme sacrifice of the people like Major Somnath Sharma, Naik Jaghunath Singh, Hawaldar Major Peeru Singh, Subedar Karam Singh and Second Lt. Rane.

A few days after our independence was achieved, the whole of Kashmir would have been cut off. Today also, we have not resolved our international boundary dispute. He mentioned about the many foreign delegations, Presidents and Prime Ministers who had come. I would like to compliment Shri Inder Kumar Gujral for having continued the good work and taken some fresh initiatives. In fact, the Agreement with Iran was a masterpiece. Today, we can have Iran and Central Asian Republics as our industrial and economic allies. But what I was trying to say is that the Britishers had evolved the Army as mercenary Army some 10,000 to 15,000 miles away. We have not changed. That leap-frogging, that teeth to tail ratio is still as high as it ever was. Today, the inventory control only under the Engineer-in-Chief's Branch has some 99,000 different items. Some have become junk. Today, we are unable to offload them because of line of least resistance. We must go with what has been handed over to us for the last 200 years.

Today, we are not bothered about manpower. Why is it that 87,000 people are short? Today, a very ham-handed news item has come out that JCOs are to be promoted to colonels. I am sure that Members of Parliament are not a bunch of nursery or kindergarten kids of swallow this. JCO is a Junior Commissioned Officer. He is not even an officer. Such an officer to be promoted to Colonel means he will be in charge of 845 men and crores of rupees worth of equipments. It is there in today morning's papers. We are not trying to do introspection to fill up the deficiencies. Why are people not coming to join the Armed Forces? Why was it that it used to be over-subscribed? Today, no youngster is coming forward, not even the children of Generals, Admirals and Air Marshals because we have not given them dignity. It is not only for money that they were coming forward. They were coming for idealism and challenge. Young people like challenges and excitement. I am sorry to say that today the Armed Forces do not have the respect which they used to have in society. We have run them down. I think this is the fourth or fifth Rashtrapati's Address delivered as the Supreme Commander. I have had the privilege of being his ADC. It is not his fault. He is only reflecting what the Government of the day is reflecting. This is a mention that they have prepared. Of course, they have prepared. The moment they join the Army, they forfeit their lives. They know that their question is not 'how' and 'why' and that their aim is 'do' and 'die'.

In the last Supplementary Demands for Grants, I was mentioning that I had gone to Ladakh as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and I was given a presentation on the areas of Ladakh. I had the privilege of going and being at Rizang La where Major Shaitan Singh got his Param Vir Chakra. With the last grenade in his hand, the entire Company was wiped out in 1962. That is what Indian Army's men and Officers are made of. That was what Abdul Hameed was made of. That was what Albert Ekta was made of and that was what Nirmal Sondhi was made of. But what did they put at stake? While we are waving the Tricolour at Vijay Chowk, someone forgot the boundaries of this country and our soldiers are still dying and suffering in Siachen. Today, all of us are safe because

our people are on vigil in the border, whether it is the BSF or the CRPF or the ITBP or the Armed Forces or the Navy or the Air Force...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You people would not go by his utterance but, at least you can listen to him.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The other day, we celebrated 25 years of 'Vijay Divas'—1971 Operations. The very fact that we have not had a war for 25 years means that our diplomacy and our diplomatic initiatives have been successful. But is it any reason why we should neglect the Armed Forces? Today, can all of us put our hands on our heart and say that we have a credible Defence, credible in the sense that the hostile country or the adversary will be afraid of us? Is it a deterrent? We cannot say so.

Today, the Navy has become the Brown Water Navy slightly better than the Coast Guard. I am not apportioning blame to any one side. It is no use living in the past. We must live for the future. There is no use raking up the past deeds and basking in reflected glory and blaming the past administrators or the past Government. I am not blaming your Government of yesteryears or the previous Government. But what I am saying is that we are looking at the 21st century. We must have a credible Defence. Today, we must have a Defence where every Indian is proud of. Today, every Indian must be involved with defence of the motherland whether it is internal threat or, as you said, drug trafficking, smuggling, disinformation, misinformation, terrorism, militancy, crime against women or whatever it. These are all internal threats to our security and also the external security. How long is diplomacy going to avert a war? Did the diplomacy avert the low-intensity proxy warfare which Punjab had seen for the last seven or eight years? We could not do so. Therefore, we shall have to be ready for all eventualities and all emergencies. For that to happen and not to have knee-jerk reactions, whenever a scenario erupts suddenly, we must have a continuous evaluation. The continuous evaluation should be by whom? It should be only by the Members of Parliament who are not shown any documents pertaining to the Ministry of Defence or any such thing. There is no transparency there. Is it only going to be some bureaucrats or is it going to be only Generals? Someone has said, "War is too serious to be left to Generals alone".

Today, everything is economic. Shri Saddam Hussain had the finest qualities of leadership. But only because of economic reasons, he was tried to be smashed and destroyed. But it goes to his credit that he has come back.

It is not enough for modernisation; it is not enough for retrofitting and it is not enough for replacements as well.

You are going to open or establish a National Finance Development Corporation for the disabled people. You have done it for women; you have done it for the small scale

[SHIR K.P. SINGH DEO]

industries; you have done it for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and you are going to do it for many other people. But what about the 50 lakh ex-Servicemen? You could not find Rs. 180 crore from the Centre and Rs. 170 crore from 29 States of the Union over a period of five years. It is a partly sum of Rs. 350 crore to be equally shared by the Centre and 29 States of the Union—Rs. 180 crore by the Centre and Rs. 170 crore by 29 States of the Union - over a period of five years. Mr. Chidambaram while replying to the Supplementary Demands for Grants in December said, 'when I present my Budget on the 28th of February 1987, I shall tackle it'. It is not an assurance; but it is an intention only. I do not know. 28th of February is not very far off, we would see how he tackles this.

The second point is about one rank one pension. You have done it for the Judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court. Now, we, the Members of Parliament, are also getting one rank one pension irrespective of our date of retirement. What have the poor ex-Servicemen done? They fought for the freedom of this country; they maintained the freedom of this country; they have safeguarded the freedom of this country and they are still safeguarding it with their lives - the supreme sacrifice. Now, for someone who had retired in the 1950s when the pay was paltry, the pension is calculated thus : The last pay drawn for ten months - this is the qualifying criteria - multiplied by 1/33, because a civilian enters service at the age of 25 years and retires at the age of 58, from there that figure 33 is taken. Now, a poor Army *jawan* or an Airman of the Air Force or a Naval rating joins service at the age of 18 years and is relieved of his duties at the age of 33 years. At the age of 33 years, where does he go ? He is not the Centre's baby; he is not the State's baby; he is not the baby of the Armed Forces either. So, he is left at the mercy of the Almighty, *Ram Bharose*. The nation has paid for him; the nation has trained him. He is a disciplined, dedicated, motivated, a nationalist and a patriot. We only allow him to go and fend for himself in the streets. It is because he does not agitate; he does not have the power of collective bargaining and because he does not have a union, we allow him get swept under the carpet.

For the first time in this context, I would like to thank Shri V.P. Singh; I was in the Ministry of Personnel and requested him about this and he changed the terms of reference—the subject of pension was included in the Fourth Pay Commission. The Fifth Pay Commission—of course, from whatever we read in the newspapers, we have not seen the Report—has also advocated one rank one pension from a prospective date. This was an instance which was given by late Major General Sparrow, Mahavir Chakra award winner—he won his first Mahavir Chakra in the year 1947 when he defended Srinagar; then he got it in Jajila and then in 1965 when he knocked out the Pakistani tanks in the battle of Hasaluttar and in Khemkaran. He retired from the Services in the year 1966. He was

also a Minister, I think, in the Cabinet of Mr. Barnala or, maybe, in the Cabinet of Shri Gurnam Singh Gill. He said that when he used to go to get his pension, he used to find that the difference between his pension and that of the pension of a Major General who had retired in 1984 or 1985—at that time he was a Member of this House—was three to four times.

So, here was a Major General, Mahavir Chakra award winner, who retired in 1966 and got something like, say 'X' amount. And here was another Major General who retired in 1985 or, maybe, 1986, by which time the Government had made certain improvements—on the 1st of April, 1979 some amount of the Dearness Allowance was merged with the basic pay—gets, say 'Y' amount and everytime the Government or the Pay Commission improves it, there is always going to be a wide disparity.

Sir, therefore, when the pensioner is old, when he is incapable, when he has social obligations, when there is price rise, when there is inflation, when there are difficulties due to the shrinking purchasing power of the rupee, when really he wants it, he does not have enough money. Whereas a younger man gets far more because the Government has been thoughtful and considerate. The Finance Commission has been considerate. I am concluding, Sir.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR): I request you to extend the time of the House by one hour because tomorrow we will have the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Many Members want to have their say.

[English]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (KANPUR): No, not today.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Do you not want to speak?

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: We want to speak, but not today. It was long back decided ... (Interruptions) We have a meeting at 6.00 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete first. I will then take the sense of the House.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: I am very grateful to my old friend, Mr. Ibrahim.

[Translation]

Mr. Ibrahim I am admiring you.

[English]

I am very grateful to my very old and dear friend, Mr. Ibrahim. I do not know whether he is still my friend or not but he used to be my friend before he came to Information and Broadcasting Ministry. When I was there in that

Ministry, we did a small experiment. That experiment was known as the Pilot Project Field Inter Personnel Experiment, conducted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. All the segments of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Doordarshan, Akashvani, Field Publicity Unit, Song and Drama Division, Indian Institute of Mass Communion, Photo Division and Film Division, were involved in that experiment. What did we do? We were not agricultural experts. Some excellent work was done by ICAR and CRRI, where my friend Shri Ram Kripal Yadav is also a member. He was a Member of the Consultative Committee. They have done some yeomen work for 30 years but there was no transfer of technology from laboratory to land. The Information and Broadcasting Ministry became Dr. Goebbels of Hitlerite fame. For four months instead of broadcasting, it narrow-cast and one low power transmitter was put in a stand down of stand alone mode and gave only one programme, from 6.00 o'clock to 7.00 o'clock, on rainfed high land paddy increased rice production in high-land and up-land areas—because in Orissa there is no irrigation. Because of this interaction of inter-personnel, after four months...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to continue tomorrow or you want to finish it today?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: I have come to the end. I will conclude by 6.00 o'clock.

[*Translation*]

No, I will not speak tomorrow. Tomorrow I have to attend the meeting of the standing committee of the Railways, which is to be attended by the cabinet secretary.

[*English*]

So, I have to be there otherwise our Chairman, Mr. Acharya will get angry.

It was a communication exercise where the farmers of Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, the Professors of Orissa University of Agricultural Technology, Bhubaneswar and the farmers in 15 villages which were under the ambit of low power transmitter, Dhenkanal, were involved. About 237 farmers were given mini-kits by the Agriculture Department but at a price, it was not given free. They interacted in the local dialect through the Song and Drama Division. Every evening they would ask questions to the scientists who in turn would reply in their own dialect. In these four months, we found that per hectare where we were getting only half a tonne of rice, we got about nine-and-a-half tonne of rice, that is, 19 times more rice was produced in those 15 villages. I have been writing to Mr. Ibrahim, Prof. Dandavate and also to Mr. Chaturanan Mishra. I am waiting for the reply so that we can share that experiment. The Green revolution, which Mr. Barnala was mentioning, has not gone to the rest of India. So, at least the rain-fed, dry land tribal areas of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput, Angul, Dhenkanal and Phulbani may also get some benefit of it because they also deserve to get the benefits of Science and Technology.

18.00 hrs.

Lastly, I would like to say that Orissa is a drought-affected area. This is an year of the worst drought for Orissa. There is drinking water sortage everywhere.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (MURSHIDABAD): It is so in Bihar also.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Yes, it is there in Bihar also.

We should not leave it to only the State Government to tackle these problems. Rashtrapati Abhibhashan also mentioned that there should be cooperation between the Centre and the States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Railways is my last point, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In that case, you may have to continue tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: I will conclude in just one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had assured to conclude by six o'clock. Please conclude in two minutes.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the Talcher-Bimlagarh, Talcher-Sukhinda railway line which will connect Haridaspur and Paradip. Surveys have said that the internal receipt of revenue on this line would be 29.83 per cent. Six months back, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan made a solemn promise here that he will send it to the Planning Commission and will take it up after technical evaluation is done. The technical evaluation is already done but it is being delayed. This delay is happening in a project which will get back a revenue of Rs. 577 crore in two years' time. It is because six steel plants and a cement plant are coming up. That line and Bolangir-Khurda line, which had been promised last year on the floor of this House, should be taken up to let Orissa up amongst the comity of States. This would help ensure that the 55 per cent people—our Chief Minister says that it is 38 per cent, Shri Biju Patnaik says that it is 55 per cent, the Planning Commission says that it is 48 per cent; whatever the statistics are—living below the poverty line in Orissa are benefited.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, tomorrow is the last date for this discussion. The Prime Minister is supposed to reply to the debate at four o'clock tomorrow. If we adjourn now, tomorrow there will be hardly one hour left for Members to participate in the debate. Therefore, I request that the suggestion given by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev be accepted. Let us extend the sitting by an hour today so that more Members can participate in the debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you have come into the

House at the fag—end of the day and saying this now.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I was thinking that since the Members are taking a little more time, if you kindly extend the sitting ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If Members take more time, what can the Chair do?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, I am just requesting you to ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: You started thinking about it very late Mr. Jana.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should have come here earlier and requested others also.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I think everybody will accept it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the sense of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Extend the sitting by one hour.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: No, Sir, not today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, we will extend the sitting by one hour.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: We strictly object to this. The reason is the Minister came and on the spur of the moment asked for extension.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A majority of the Members are saying that the sitting be extended.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: We have a meeting of all Members at seven o'clock. At the most extend it till 6.30 p.m.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): The Minister should have thought of it in the morning. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Singhania, Members can come and go. Those who are interested in speaking are sitting here. Very few Members are listening.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: There is no compulsion but people should be sitting here to listen also. If they want to address an empty House, they are welcome to do so.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: The hon. Minister intervened at the last moment to say this and it is basically wrong. He should have done it much before and not at six o'clock.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I had told the Parliamentary Affairs Minister that he had entered at the fag end, he should have come earlier to make his statements.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: This is not the way to conduct business in the House. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should have been present in the House before.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: In your turn you spoke for more than an hour.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Some people have taken one and a half hours.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: It is not fair that every time you will dictate your terms. What is this? Some Members of the small parties have not spoken at all.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Where is the question of dictating?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you may please take your seats. The time of the House has been extended by one hour.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: But all other people have set an example before that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: That is why we are not discussing that. ...*(Interruptions)* Let us listen to them. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Let us strictly adhere to the principle. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only what Shri Dileep Sanghani is speaking will go on record. Why are you wasting after having got it extended?

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (AMRELI): I rise to express my views on the Presidential Address. I am looking for a name which can be given to this Government. The way the Morarji Desai Government was working for the poor, these very Congress people were calling it as a Khichri Government comprising various parties. Currently there is a 14 party Government surviving on the Congress support. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you mean by the Khichri Government?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Khichri is a very digestive food for that matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bhelpuri is also very delicious in taste.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I fail to understand the negative sense in it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: There is not one single idea of a coalition Government. In a democracy whenever elections come, various parties combine to seek public support with a single elections symbol and a single ideology. The views of a combination of 13-14 parties cannot be similar. What George Fernandes spoke while asking for support for the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, was a very nice thing. I do not want to go into that. The results of the parliamentary elections held last and the Punjab elections are before us. Even today various parties have combined just for the sake of power after having fought the elections on different party planks. The Congress misused Article 356 of the Constitution in Punjab and elsewhere, in U.P., in Gujarat. In my view it is high time to think over all these issues. You know that in the entire country.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time has been extended so that all Members from all parties may be given some time to speak. Members from your party also are to speak. A decision has been taken in the House, otherwise as you wish. You have been told if speakers take less time, more Members will be able to have their say.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL: (LADAKH): It would have been better if had been timely implementation of rationing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have told them so that more Members may have their say.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: I was saying that no discussion has taken place regarding the use of Article 356. The reason being that there was Congress rule in the Center and States for 25-30 years and no cause for dissent. This question then was always resolved on party line, but that is not the situation today. Today we have Governments by different parties at the Central and State levels. Therefore this particular Article is being used through the Governors to prevent proper functioning of the State Governments. The whole scenario is being watched and disliked by the people of the country. All are aware of the situation obtaining in Gujarat. The Members from the Bhartiya Janata Party went to the Governor's house in order to prove their majority, but the Governor said that the majority cannot be proved at his residence. That was not going to take a headcount there. Those people then approached the President in Delhi and got disappointed here also. Thereafter, the Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, the party leader and Congress held a joint meeting. In the situation that was obtaining, majority was proved before the Governor after contriving defections of MLAs of the Bhartiya Janata Party. This role of the Governor was improper. I would like that this matter may also be discussed. Frequent use of this Article should be prevented.

The Presidential Address also speaks of the elections held in Kashmir. I would ask whether conditions have improved there. Recall the time when our country became free and even when it had not become free, anybody from any corner of the country could visit Kashmir as a tourist. Today, with the elections over in Kashmir, nobody dares to visit the State. When we were young, we would imagine Kashmir as a paradise. At least for honeymoon the youth of the country used to visit Kashmir.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: You can still go there for that purpose.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Can go. It is because of the wrong policies of this Government and the Congress that even the Prime Minister cannot go there on 15th August and 26th January to hoist the national flag. I tried to visit that place as an MP. I regret to say that I contacted four departments on telephone in connection with my visit, but I was told that I could not go there. I was told that I can visit a foreign country but I cannot go to Kashmir. One can safely come back from a foreign country but not from Kashmir. The situation today is so worse that provisions enshrined in the constitution are not being properly implemented.

Sir, unless the article 370 is abolished chaos cannot end. Peace cannot be restored. I would like to add that Pakistan is training the terrorists. Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav had said that India and Pakistan should be merged together again, i.e. pre-partition position. We do not have objection to that provided there is united India and peaceful atmosphere as was prevailing before partition. In that situation anybody can go there. But it is a dream. We know that this Government is unable to achieve it. This Government does not represent the will of the people. Just now someone mentioned about the Wage Board. There is no mention of the Wage Board in the President's Address also. He should have made a mention of it.

Sir, I am pained to point out that casteism is being flared up in the country. Unless casteism is wiped out, this country cannot become strong. To bury casteism we would have to give priority to policies and not to any particular community or caste. In Bihar and many other States atrocities are being committed on Scheduled Castes and untouchability is being practiced even today. That is why a legislation was brought about in this regard and the founding fathers of the Constitution would have never thought that this legislation would be misused. Because of untouchability many innocent people have been framed up in police cases in Gujarat and they are being unnecessarily harassed. Therefore, it should be categorically made clear where the legislation in regard to atrocities would be invoked and where some other legislation is to be invoked. The need of hour is to reconsider all these issues.

Sir, the Prime Minister was speaking about agriculture. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices for agriculture produce like cotton and other crops. The MP Quota for LPG connection has been cancelled today morning. I am also in its favour. Here I would like to mention

[SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI]

one point that through this MP Quota we could give LPG connections to poor people in rural areas within a range of 20-25 Kms. Therefore, my point is that the rural people should get an LPG connection conveniently, wherever a gas agency is available within 25 Kms. range. There are some policies of the Government which are basically against the national economic policies. There is abundance of coal in Bihar which is supplied to Gujarat similarly the gas available in Gujarat is supplied to Mathura. I demand that the gas available in Gujarat should be first supplied to those industries in Gujarat which are gas based. They should get priority in this regard.

Sir, the Narmada Project of Gujarat is an ambitious project. During the last few years the World Bank used to give assistance for the project. The Central Government gave an assurance to the State Government that they should not take the assistance from the World Bank because whatever assistance they need would be provided by the Central Government and the Narmada Project would progress. The Central Government should declare this scheme as a national scheme and provide assistance on the same terms and conditions as was given by the World Bank. The Central Government does not provide assistance to Gujarat on the same pattern as is provided to other two partner States namely Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Therefore, we demand that Gujarat should also be provided its share of financial assistance.

Sir, there is abundance of salt in Gujarat. There is Salt Office in Jaipur. I demand that a Salt Office should also be opened in Zaffrabad in my constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly leave a few issues for the budget discussion also.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: The Cooperative Banks have been given exemption under Section 80 (P) of Income Tax Act. I am the Chairman of Amreli district Cooperative Bank also the area MP. The Income Tax Officials harass and humiliate the Cooperative Sector Banks because they want their palms to be greased. I had written a letter to the hon. Finance Minister and requested him to conduct an inquiry in this matter. On page No. 7 of the Address the scheme to cater to the basic necessities is mentioned. On Page No. 4 there is a mention of providing housing to the homeless and poor people. I was surprised to find out that the Government has already started implementing the schemes mentioned in the President's Address. The beginning has been made by allotting House No. 35, Lodhi Colony to Priyanka after her marriage. Now it is to be seen how far the poor in the country could benefit from the housing scheme. Now I come to my last point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are more interested to know how many minutes you would take to conclude.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: When the BJP was in majority in Gujarat the Prime Minister himself informed that there has been lot of hue and cry in the State Assembly. It was also stated at that time that the BJP Government

would be dismissed and article 356 would be invoked. But worse than that yesterday in the State Assembly an Ex-Minister and the family members of an MLA of Saurashtra who are charged of murder came and beat a Minister in the Assembly. But no action has been taken in this regard. There is no law and order in Gujarat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everything is happening there but not walk-out.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: The Central Government is withdrawing from its earlier stand of providing gas to the people of Gujarat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken for 25 minutes.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Kindly give me 5 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 25 minutes. There are members from other parties also who have not spoken so far on this subject. You were on the last point and still you are on the last point.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: With these words I thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I accept your thanks.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: The Government should have coordination with all the parties so that it can smoothly function and work according to the provisions of the Constitution. I do not support the President's Address because there is no mention of the points therein which I have mentioned here.

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA (SATNA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing opportunity to even small parties to speak on the President's Address. After Independence, the people had lot of aspirations that the new dawn would improve the lot of the down-trodden, under privileged the exploited and the Dalits. There was a hope that they would get equal opportunities of development according to their merits. The ideal at that time was "Bahujan Sukhai, Bahujan Hitai". This was our resolve. Unfortunately, even after 50 years of Independence, all these promises have merely remained on paper. They have not been implemented.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, many hon. Members have spoken in favour and against this Motion of Thanks. I have been elected to this House for the first time and therefore, I want your protection. I should also be given a few minutes time. The President's Address has rightly admired the U.F. Government as it is a unique experiment in the world where those championing the cause of the exploited, the down-trodden have come to power. I had great hope that this Government would take steps to ameliorate the conditions of the poor and the helpless people of this country but they have not taken any positive steps in this direction. This Address reflects false promises and mere illusion. Nothing is stated which is down to earth.

The all round development in socio-economic and

political fields is the basis of all round development of the people of any country. I am pained to point out that our ancestors have been punished because they were illiterate. Before the Constitution was framed by Baba Saheb Ambedkar, the Black Law of Manu used to hold its sway in this country. According to it "Stri Shudho Madhi Tamti Shruti".

A few examples of our illitracy because of which our ancestors suffered are the cutting of throat of Shambuk and the cutting of thumb of Eklavya. Even today tall claims are made of providing facilities to the Dalits and the down-troddens but all these promises have turned false. The portals of education have been closed on us just as they were closed on our ancestors. It was for the first time in 1848 in Pune, Maharashtra that Mahatma Jotibarao Phule was born and he opened these doors for us. I belong to the Scheduled Caste and I am proud that it was because of the sacrifice of that great soul of Mahatma Phule that thousands of our youths have got education. Several Committees have been set up to bring about educational reforms in the country. Many Commission were also set up for this purpose but their reports are lying in the dustbin. No report has been implemented. We had great hope that this U.F. Government would bring about basic changes in the colonial system of our education but in vain, nothing has been done. Even today the Dalit and the down-trodden are getting opportunities but they are not coming to the fore-front. This is all because of inherent flaws in our education system. I would like to cite an example here. We often say that science has not progressed in this country. It is because we have not produced scientists. When an Indian goes abroad, he becomes a scientist, but in his own country he has no value. This is because of colonial system of education. Today the student is confused. When he studies different subjects one teacher tells him that the water boils at 100°C and the distance of Sun from the Earth is crores of miles and the Sun is 13 lakh times bigger than Earth. Whereas the teacher who teaches Hindi tell, the student about the fiction of Hanuman who gobbled the Sun and there was total darkness in the entire universe. The student gets confused this is an irony. We have to spare the student this confusion. Therefore there is need to bring about reforms in the colonial system of education but there is no mention of it is the President's Address.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the time is short and I do not want to go into details but I would like to specifically mention one point. Lot of schemes have been launched for the welfare of Dalits, Backward Classes, SC/STs but the benefit has not reached them so far. All these schemes are illusory and hollow. We should try to build a society which was the dream of Baba Saheb Ambedkar—an egalitarian society. The mask of 'Manuwadi' society should be thrown off the face because the dalits, the down-trodden are victims of this Manuwadi society and they suffer from inferiority complex.

There is a conspiracy in the 'Varna' system to crush the backwards. We are also part of Hindu 'Dharam' where-

in all of us are divided in four varnas viz., Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra. There is a distinction between 'Varna' and caste. Among the Brahmins there are Pandey Tiwaris, Shuklas, and Sharmas but when it comes to 'varna' they are all Brahmins. Similarly among the Kshatriyas there are such castes as Bhagel, Parihar, Chandel, Chauhan, Rathor and Rajput but all of them constitute one varna i.e. Kshatriya. Throughout there is no other country except India where this 'Varna' system is in vogue even today. There is strength in unity 'Sanghe Shakti Yuge Yuge'. That is true today because all these sub castes get together is the name of Varna.

Third is the Vaishya Varna, in which also Hotwani, Kesarvani, Gupta, Aggrawal, Lalwani, Advani, Patwa, Jain all are mingled into one by being given an omnibus certificate of Vaishya and they live in peace by taking over the trade all over the country. But it comes to the fourth Varna, they are taken to Ayodhya and made to sacrifice their lives in the name of Hindu, they are abandoned on the roads only to be killed by spreading communal frenzy. but when the name Sukhlal Kushwaha comes, it is certified that he is a Kachi. Budhsen Patel is certified as a Kurmi, Ram Vilas Paswan as a Chamar and a certain Yadav as Ahir. All of them are called as belonging to the Shudra Varna. I would like to say only this much that we do not require any refuge in this country, nor any employment guarantee scheme. We do not need anybody's mercy or compassion. You know that there are as many as 6743 divisions of castes in the society. If Sukhlal Kushwaha is certified as a Sudra in this country as a Pandey is certified as Brahman, Baghel as Kshatriya and Patwa as Vaisya, then, of course I cannot say whether it will be a religious or an irreligious act, but certainly, the day these 6743 castes are certified as Sudras, the helpless and toothless Government of today will not be a minority but a majority Government needing support or mercy from none in the House. He who the reins of power is the society, has the key to social change. That will be the day when Shudra community will hold away from Delhi to Lucknow, Patna, Bhopal, Bangalore and all around and that will obviate the necessity of any kind of reservation, assured employment scheme or mid-day meal to them. By making their children beg with a begging bowl in their hand is nothing but an insult to them. It is not a reward for their service rendered by them. 80 per cent of the people constituting Dalits and labourers in this country who have sweated and toiled for this country, who have added to its glory by working for it with devotion and dutifully but have got nothing in return except the begging bowl in the hands of their lads for receiving mid-day meals. This is what the Government intends whereas there is no dearth of anything in this country. Nature has endowed us with plenty of mineral resources as free gifts. We have no shortage of anything. Iron ore is produced here only to be exported to Japan. Japan is ahead of us whereas there is a beeline of beggars in our country and this is where we are lagging. We are not lacking in resources. There is no need of shedding crocodile tears for the Dalits and backwards in our society, what is needed is firm determination. If we want to have peace in the country and see smile on their face, then

[SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA]

I would only say that the country has borrowed millions of rupees from the World Bank for land reforms and environmental purposes and consequently, is neck deep in foreign debt. But there is 40 lakh hectares of land in this country which can be made cultivable and distributed to the poor people. If a labourer who is landless and houseless, gets just two hectares of arable land, then his son no longer have to take to begging or depend on mid-day meals. But for that to happen, firm determination is required.

I would like to say one more thing that several times I have written to Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Law Minister. It is my opinion all the leaders sitting here, with some possible exceptions must have suffered imprisonment sometime or the other in recent times. Patwa ji has just gone out, when he was the Chief Minister he had put me into jail as a reward. I study in the jail for three years and I know the miseries and pains and the real story of the inmates of the jail. I had not gone to jail as a political prisoner. To be put in 'B' Class category. I underwent imprisonment as a ordinary inmate for three years and saw the miseries, sorrows and difficulties of fellow prisoners from close quarters that is why I wrote to the about dignatories. I was hoping that in this House the Government of hon. Deve Gowda ji will think of lakhs of helpless prisoners, under the imprison for 20-25 years. The Human Rights Commission set up in this country delivers no fruitful results. I had written to the hon. President that with the enactment of Section 433 in the Cr. P.C. with effect from 18.12.78, in the Constitution, the prisoners have been deprived of the respite or remission in sentence which use to be available to them on 15th August or 26 January by the Superintendent or Jailor, the life prisoners have no benefit of the same because having undergone imprisonment for 20 years, the said respite has got no meaning for them. They get no remark irrespective of whether they have been of good character, restraint and discipline during their jail term in the eyes of the Superintendent or Jailor. Otherwise the Jailor or Superintendent release the prisoners having undergone so much imprisonment. But prisoners for 20 years term come under the jurisdiction of the State Government which fails to look after them. You see that the State Governments has many challenges to face in the present situation and therefore, no time for looking at the jail affairs. That is why I had wished in this House and urged upon Hon'ble President to provide justice through the agency of this House to those people who have undergone imprisonment for 20 years. Therefore, I would urge upon that for the prisoners who have been in jail for a period upto 28 years, the jail superintendent, the jailor and the officers in-charge of the jail should be re-empowered to release those prisoners by deleting Section 433 of the Cr.P.C. so that such people may also get the benefit of 50th Anniversary of our Independence on the auspicious occasions of the coming 15th August and 26th January and such helpless persons may be liberated from this horrible life of slavery and may return to their homes to the cheering of the helpless

children wife and parents at the fag end of their life. With this expectations, I would like to say one more thing that I have gone through the President's Address which contains 52 points. I have pleasure that today we have a Government representing 52 per cent of the population. But I am constraint to oppose the present Motion of Thanks because I speak of 85 per cent of the population by rising above the figure of just 52 per cent.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you for having giving me the opportunity to speak and with this I conclude.

SHRI RAMSAGAR (BARABANKI): Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, I thank you for having given me the opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. The House is aware that in the recently held Lok Sabha elections no party, whether national or regional, has got majority in Lok Sabha. Therefore Bhartiya Janata Party was the first party to have tried to come to power by forming a front with Shiv Sena, Akali Dal etc. The reason why I point to this is that the 14 party front ruling here has been criticised much while efforts at forming a United Front were made on both sides. It is good that various parties other than three or four allied parties did not lend their support to Bhartiya Janta Party. I owe my thanks to them as it was they who made it possible to bring about a 14 party Government. I understand that these parties belong to different parts of the country speaking different languages and in a way symbolise unity in diversity. Before the formation of the National Front Government, the Bhartiya Janta Party, which is disintegrating force, had generated hatred among the masses by its deeds. It made brothers thirsty of blood of one another resulting in the spread of disharmony all over the country. The President in his Address has today given top priority to the atmosphere of brother-hood, end of hatred and peace brought about by the United Front Government, this is our achievement. What has been happening hitherto is that whenever elections were due in any State, the Central leadership always thought in terms of votes likely to be got by it in that particular State and it used to have elections there only if there was likelihood of its getting enough votes. Otherwise election were postponed on one pretext or another. But this has never been the intention of our National Front Government whether it was the case of Punjab or Jammu-Kashmir...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: National Front or United Front.

SHRI RAMSAGAR: National Front. Many thanks to you. The country cannot afford this feeling. Our own party may not have got seats there but as is evident from the election results in Maharashtra it will be seen how this feeling of ours was responsible. You would be glad to know that the Smajwadi Party has created an important place for itself there. It won 21 seats in the elections to the Nagar Parishad. This is a tremendous achievement.

Mr. Chairman Sir, day before yesterday, I heard many hon. Member, especially Dr. Murli Monohar Joshi, saying during their speeches on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address that this Address contained nothing.

I had attentively listened to the speech of Shri Nitish Kumar, leader of the Samta Party who is in the Chair right now. This is true that our Government accorded top priority to providing drinking water. He has lightly said that there is no arrangement for toilets for women in rural areas. The problem should also be added in the Address. The Government has done right thing by according topmost priority to primary education and by targetting those children who do not have facilities for education, mid-day meals and health. In my view, the issues to which priority has been given in the President's Address are all very important. The people understand the importance of these issues. It is another matter that some people who do not believe in the good of the poor do not realise it. Our farm workers who have made an important contribution in increasing the agricultural yield really deserve congratulations.

Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev of the Congress Party is present here. A promise was made by the previous Government that funds would be provided to the backward rural areas under the Employment Guarantee Scheme so that assets could be created there through the workers. The workers employed under this scheme would be paid wages as per the Government norms and they would be assured of 100 days employment in a year. This would provide employment to the poor on the one hand and would pave way for the development of backward villages. We consider it to be a good programme. Our Government has increased the allocation of funds to expand this programme. Last time 3-3, 4-4 blocks of the district were selected for this scheme but this time the number of blocks has been increased 2-3 fold. Not only this, there is a provision to provide housing facility to the poor homeless. The work relating to tree plantation, construction of check dams and levelling of uneven and uncultivable land are all well-intended schemes because under this scheme the land can be made fertile and distributed among the poor and creating employment thereby. These are the good programmes of this Government. Today we are happy to note that our Government has taken a number of steps for social justice. Just now, my colleague was speaking and the direction to which he has hinted...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you could conclude early, one more hon. Member could have been given a chance to speak.

SHRI RAMSAGAR: I am concluding. The women belonging to the oppressed classes of the society were not getting representation in Panchayats, Parishads, Nagar Panchayats, Block Area Committees. Now that they have got the representation in these bodies, they are not being given charge at many places on the pretext that they have no experience. But the good thing that has happened in that the people belonging to backward communities, minorities, oppressed classes have all started getting representation in the local bodies. Now they can explain their problems, they can speak about the development of their localities. Thus, the policies of our Government are aimed at creating an egalitarian society, all round development

of the country and strengthening the unity of the country. These policies will also help in removing the feeling of hatred and inculcating the feeling of brotherhood which can make the country strong.

But there are some problems too. For instance, the problem of corruption is there. We allocate funds for the Employment Guarantee Scheme, but by the time it reaches the villages, a major part of these funds is siphoned off. These are some shortcomings in the schemes relating to housing. Although our P.D.S. is okay, yet the Government has given some hints about improving it. The United Front Government headed by Shri Deve Gowda and under the leadership of Shri Mulayam Singh and leaders of other parties is going in the right direction. The President's Address, in fact, points towards that direction. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No Member has spoken from the DMK Party so far.

SHRI RAMSAGAR: Only by taking this direction, the farmers and villages of this country can be made strong.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is understood that you will support it.

[Translation]

*SHRI M. RAMANATHAN (COIMBATORE): It gives me great pleasure to take part in the discussion on Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address delivered to both the Houses of Parliament. I thank you for having provided me with an opportunity to speak on this Address that pronounces the policy of the multi-party Government at the Centre.

After fifty years of independence, at a time when we celebrate the Golden Jubilee celebrations of our free country, we have a coalition Government at the Centre. At the recently concluded elections, people have given a verdict for a Government by the federation of various parties. I thank the President for having soundly echoed the sentiments of all the 14 parties which have come together to provide a secular and stable Government. The essence of the principles of all the parties is emphasized in his Address to the Parliament.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramanathan, you will continue your speech tomorrow. Please take your seat. The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

19.00 Hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, February, 27, 1997/Phalgun 8, 1918 (Saka)