

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Statement

Thursday, August 19, 2004/Sravana 28, 1926 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

11.00 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabodh Panda. Q.No. 342.

[English]

Introduction of Direct to Home Service

+
*342. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI UDAY SINGH

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

(a) whether DD and some private broadcasters have urged the Government to clear the DTH project;

(b) if so, the details and present status thereof;

(c) the number of channels likely to be broadcast by DTH operators;

(d) the impact thereof on the monopoly of the cable operators;

(e) whether the subscribers would have to pay a monthly subscription for the service;

(f) if so, the subscription and installation charges fixed for the service; and

(g) the time by which this service is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (g) Pursuant to the decision of the Government taken on 2nd November, 2000 to open up the DTH broadcasting service in India, detailed guidelines were issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 15th March 2001, for obtaining licence for operating DTH broadcasting service in India. Of the four applications received so far, ASC Enterprises Ltd. has been granted licence on 16.9.2003. They have launched the service w.e.f. 2.10.2003. The other three applications, viz., M/s Space T.V., Essel Shyam Communications Ltd. and Noida Software Technology Park Ltd. are under process.

The Government had approved Ku band transmission project of Doordarshan involving an investment of approximately Rs. 164 crore. This project envisages distribution of 30 free-to-air channels i.e. 20 Doordarshan and 10 channels of private broadcasters, particularly, regional channels. In the initial phase, to encourage adoption of this new technology, as part of the pilot project covering Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Gujarat and North Eastern Region, the public institutions like Anganwadis, Schools, Public Health Centres, Panchayats, Youth Clubs, Co-operative Societies will be provided the Set Top Boxes (STBs) and dish antenna for receiving bouquet of 30 channels. Ten thousand full sets containing dish antenna, satellite receiving equipment excluding T.V. receiver would be provided free of cost to these institutions. The project is expected to be launched soon.

DTH and cable network service are two different modes of delivery of content. Both DTH and cable service can co-exist. The DTH is a new concept to India whereas it has been in operation abroad for several years. As far as the subscription rates and installation charges are concerned, they are fixed by the D.T.H. Licensee. However, as per the provisions of article 7.7. of the Terms and Conditions of the Licence Agreement, as set out in Schedule to Form-B of the Agreement, the Licensee shall adhere to any guidelines/regulations which may be laid down by the Licensor in the interest of the consumers, such as pricing of bouquet(s) of tier(s) of channels, etc. The subscribers of Doordarshan's Ku band project will not be required to pay any monthly subscription charges. Messrs. ASC Enterprises Ltd., is currently reported to be providing 78 channels in the DTH bouquet and proposes to include around 100 channels in future.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, I will give you a minute to speak, because you want to put supplementary question to any Question. Therefore, I will give you a chance irrespective of the subject.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, the reply that has been laid on the Table of the House is not satisfactory, rather it is disheartening. The hon. Minister may be aware of the fact that there was a report about one pornographic channel, which was a DTH channel, which was accused of disrespecting our national flag. The Government had banned DTH services in our country in 1997 when the present Minister was also the Minister in Shri Deve Gowda Government.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: My question is this: How did the DTH services get licence in our country? It was cleared by the Cabinet. I know it was cleared not by this Government, it was cleared by the NDA Government. But my question is this: Are you going to follow the footsteps of that Government in this regard? This is part (a) of my question.

MR. SPEAKER: You will have another chance to ask supplementary question.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: This is part (a) of my question.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no such rule. You cannot make your own rules. According to you, you have raised a very pertinent question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I think the hon. Minister, sorry hon. Member, has raised a number of questions. ...*(Interruptions)* Old habits die hard. I have been a Member for too long.

The hon. Member has raised a number of relevant questions. I compliment him for that. When the Ku band, that is DTH, was banned in 1997 the circumstances were different. At that time we did not have mandatory uplinking powers. Secondly, there was no policy decision in regard to cap on foreign equity. In the meantime, we have fulfilled these two conditions. We have mandatory uplinking. There is equity and foreign cap. Therefore, the DTH platform has been permitted.

He raised a question about the possibility or even the practice of pornographic stuff being made available

from DTH platform. As of now, I can only submit to you that we have no definite information on that count.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: It is not only that the question related to the pornographic content but also it related to the internal security. Various insurgent groups, terrorist organisations, the ISI and other anti-national outfits are there. They can use the DTH platform for sending secret messages. Sir, under your kind Chairmanship of the Standing Committee on Information Technology, the Committee emphatically made a recommendation. I quote:

"The Committee urge the Government to take Parliament into confidence over such an important matter and consider bringing about a comprehensive legislation covering all the aspects of DTH."

So, my question is that without taking this House into confidence, how could the Cabinet clear the DTH? Even the present Government is not willing to bring the matter before the House. I would like to know whether the DTH technology in our country should be stopped so long as this matter is not brought out in this House.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The Government through a Group of Ministers headed by the then Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani, took a view in the matter and it looked at the whole issue from two angles—one of national security and the other of morality. The Group of Ministers, in its wisdom, at that time took the view that neither of these two considerations was being compromised with. Therefore, the DTH service was started.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Why can you not tell us about it? What about Parliament? It was a recommendation of the Standing Committee that Parliament should be taken into confidence.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not binding on the Government.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: What is the opinion of the Government? Are they thinking of honouring this Parliament, the Standing Committee? Are they thinking of not disrespecting it?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, you were the hon. Chairman of that Standing Committee. At that time, the Government took the view. I cannot make a comment on the view taken by the Government then. But I continue to represent the Government. Government is a continuous process. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, now the DTH has come into operation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He says that subject to the safeguards, it can be permitted. That is what he has said.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It has already been permitted. One company has already been given permission and that company is already offering its services.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, what he says is that you should keep a close watch on this.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Of course, I appreciate the point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panda, I have put the question on your behalf. Please sit down.

• SHRI PRABODH PANDA: My point is that this matter should be brought to the notice of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the new Standing Committee may review it.

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has tried to give an answer. Now, there is no point in trying to keep the technology away. If the DTH is the technology of the future, so be it.

The question that my colleague raised here is pertaining to national security and morality. Both are extremely valid. I would like to put this question to the Minister. Is there a plan by the Government to evolve a national consensus on the content that has to be provided so that right from the beginning when the DTH is taking off in India, guidelines can be worked out and framework can be established? The content which we do not want to be broadcast in India should be done right from the beginning because we have seen that later on while we are considering the issue, technology takes over and then it is very difficult to check it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The licence which was given contains enough safeguards for the Government to intervene at any time. Every licence is liable for cancellation if the conditions are violated. However, I appreciate the plea of the Member to regulate the content and the Government is looking at this aspect.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Pandaji has told that the information given in reply it is not satisfactory. I would like to correct that

[English]

out of four applicants, only one has been granted permission to operate DTH service. It has been told in reply that 78 channels are operating now. But the position is, ASC Enterprises is operating 79 channels and as per my information they are proposing to operate 400 channels. In the answer, it is stated that they propose to operate 100 channels. I am just giving the preliminary information that I have. The guidelines that have been issued on 15th March, 2001, I have gone through this guidelines. There are three major lacunae. DTH operator do not need to take permission from any one to operate any channel. They have to just inform the WPC. Secondly, as my colleague has said, there is no actual control on pornography. DTH operator can pass any information or message to any of its subscribers, we do not have any control over it. The only control is that 90 days recording should be submitted, if demanded. This is the only control which they have.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mohite, this is not a debate. Please put your question.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Sir, from the point of view of security, if any DTH operator gives information or permission to any foreign channel

[English]

and if any message or information is passed on to another country like Pakistan and if there are no proper checks and balances in the policy, my question is this—when there are three major lacunae in our guidelines and policy,

[Translation]

before issuing the licence, will the Government have proper checks and balances, and monitoring system will be updated?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, before the licence is issued, the clearance of the Home Ministry is required apart from the WPC. Therefore, the security aspect is being taken into consideration. Secondly, when the licence condition insisted that a record of three months must be kept up for inspection by the concerned authorities, that

also takes care of any possible clandestine messages. I think the fears are being overblown.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently the Government has ordered for suspension of one Telugu channel. It is said that that channel did not have any licence or permission. Is the Government going to act on all private channels telecasting without permission in the same way and can these private channels telecast regular news bulletins?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: If any channel is operating without licence, that channel would be cancelled. There will be no discriminatory application of these conditions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, four companies had applied for it, out of which only ASC Enterprises has been given licence and the rest of the three companies have not been given licence as yet though they have submitted all the record. NDA Government gave licence to just one company but now they are in the power and they have the applications of those three companies and they want to develop the DTH broadcasting system too, through you, I want to ask the hon. Minister by what time he would give licence to these three companies?

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Friends, anybody who fulfils the conditions will be given the licence; not only three more are welcomed. More the merrier. Point is, the other three have not been given apparently because all the conditions have not been fulfilled. Nobody will be barred provided the conditions are fulfilled.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, four days ago there was a report in Hindustan Times that such cards are available in market, which are being used in DTH pornographic channels and the people are using it in large number. These cards which are smuggled at the rate of 1200-1400 are being sold in Delhi at the rate of Rs. 50,000 I would like to know as to what measures have been adopted to prevent pornographic channels which are coming in large numbers with DTH? He has not made it clear in his reply. Proper arrangements should be made to check those channels otherwise it would have a negative impact on the children and family members.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, recently a Public Interest Litigation has been filed in the High Court drawing the attention of the Government to these aspects. The High Court while not admitting the PIL has asked the Government to look at all these aspects. The Government is going to look into these things. But I can tell you, as of now, we have not received any specific complaint about pornographic stuff being made available from this platform.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: As our experience during the last five years has shown, the licences have shown scant regard for various conditions of licence, rather those have been disregarded with impunity. Given that situation, when we talk of regulating the content and the carriage, there was an effort earlier to bring about the Communication Convergence bill which would take care of both in quite a viable way by setting up of super regulator in the form of Communication Commission of India with a different bench for regulating the content and different bench of the Commission regulating the carriage. I would like to know from the hon. Minister—the Minister has referred to the cable operators also in his reply—whether the Government is stipulating to ensure that these people do not raise the charges at will. They offer people these services at prices which are luring, but subsequently once those people install those things, the prices are jacked up. How do you keep the interests of the consumers in mind?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am aware of the fact that the Standing Committee headed by none other than you, Sir, considered the Communication Convergence Bill and made certain recommendations. The Government is now examining whether we should have one grand convergence regulator both for carriage and content or whether we should have separate regulators one for carriage another for content. In the mean time the Act relating to Telecom Regulatory Authority has been so amended as to take care of broadcasting aspect. So, at the moment TRAI is operating as a regulator at least for matters relating to carriage. As for the cable operators, TRAI has already passed an order that the cable operators should not raise their fee. However, I appreciate the point that we need to have a more detailed guideline in the matter. We need to have a more regulatory authority and all these aspects are being examined.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: May I know from the hon. Minister when this DTH is going to come into operation—as the Minister has assured a few days back that by

October some of the centres may come into operation; I am not sure whether this Press report is dependable or not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Is it Doordarshan or Calcutta DTH?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I am talking of Calcutta DTH. You have said that by October it will come into operation. The Communication Policy as such, based on the convergence that is required, may be that we are not prepared for such an arrangement. What I want to now is whether the Government has already worked out a broadband policy and allocation of frequency, which may go a long way to contribute to the development of this convergence.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: This aspect is to be looked into by the Telecom Ministry and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. However, the hon. Member did not ask me, but I would like to volunteer to say that Doordarshan is launching its own DTH, Direct to Home. It will contain many channels of Doordarshan and many private channels. We have already spent nearly Rs. 160 crore. Doordarshan DTH has four transponders because of which we will be able to provide 40 channels from the DTH platform of Doordarshan. You can call it *aam admi ka DTH* or poor man's DTH. From Doordarshan DTH, you will be free from the hassles of monthly subscription and free from the hassles of cable operators. I would request all of you to strengthen my hands in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is being considered to stop increasing obscenity in advertisements on Doordarshan? Whether it is not true that western culture is invading our civilisation and culture and what steps the Government propose to take to stop this?

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I would like to request the hon. Member not to confuse Doordarshan with all other private channels. Doordarshan has not attracted this charge of indulging in immorality. As for other channels, there are authorities, there are laws to look into that, and we have an inter-Ministerial Group. I share his concern.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: I am putting this supplementary question to the answers given by the hon'ble Minister of the supplementary.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: He is welcome.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is good that Doordarshan too would be associated with DTH but the concern of the Members or the public for which they even moved High Court, is that the people might misuse DTH services provided by Doordarshan. This question is not related to private service providers which are using DTH platform. People have engineers mind this problem was not existing when the Group of Ministers gave clearance to it but now such technology is available by which DTH can be used as a device by using conditional access module CAM card, about which Modi Ji mentioned and that it is being smuggled. The Government would monitor the service provider and its center through TRAI or regulatory authority or any other authority but how would they monitor each and every place in such a vast country where signals are received. My question is whether he would give permission after considering pros and cons of it and making all arrangements by setting up regulatory regime or do all these things and then think of regulatory regime. He himself has said that regulatory regime would be set up after considering pros and cons of it. TRAI can not do this job as they have already stated that they can monitor the carriage, not contractor. When broadcasting bill was brought in, convergence bill was talked about and many things have been discussed in the last decade but permission was given to it like cable TV and then efforts were made to monitor its network when it spread to a great extent. So my question is whether he would give permission after putting monitoring and regulatory regime in place or would encourage the channels that create concern about security or pornography?

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: As I have said before, these aspects relating to morality and security will have to be studied afresh in view of the Press reports and in view of the Public Interest Litigation. But as of now, we have not received any information. Since we granted licence to one company, we cannot delay the process in regard to others. But all the precautions will be taken both through law and authorities.

MR. SPEAKER: Question 343, Shri Anandrao V. Adsul. Shri Adsul, please put your Question.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will not let the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Mani Shankar Aiyer speak until he tenders apology for making remarks against freedom fighter, Veer Sawarkarji. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: A statement will be made at 2 o'clock. You know that.

Since you are not putting the Question, I will go to the next Question. I am passing over that Question.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Since you are not putting that Question, I am passing it over. Therefore, you are not absent.

... (Interruptions)

11.26 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Mohan Rawale and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER: Question 344, Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Since he has not put his Question, I am going to the next Question.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There should not be any cross statements thereon.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It has been decided that the hon. Minister would give statement at 2 o'clock.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. I would request all of you to go to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not want the House to run, I cannot help it. It was agreed yesterday that at 2 o'clock, a statement would be made.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you talking about?

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me speak for once.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You keep quite please.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You, please keep quite.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not right.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: At two o'clock Mr. Minister will make a statement.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I took the second question because he did not ask his question.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER; I cannot compel him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You don't do so. Everyone respects Veer Savarkar.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody can change the history.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Subodh Mohite, you are not paying respect to Veer Savarkar like this.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way to show respect towards Veer Savarkar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER; Statement would be given at 2 o'clock.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 1145 hours.

11.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

11.48 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Forty Eight Minutes past Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me an opportunity to speak for a minute.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request all of you to maintain order in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The whole country is looking at us. We are trying to co-operate with each other to see that the House runs.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Let me speak for a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you, hence you speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All right, everybody is having his own feelings. We have our feelings, you have your feelings and they have their feelings.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I would like to conclude in a minute. We have been raising the issue of disrespect of Veer Savarkar by the hon. Minister of Petroleum Mani Shankar Aiyar for the last two days.
...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: The same thing is being repeated.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly hold your patience. What is the matter? If this is the way the House conducts, I will adjourn the House. I will run the House only for passing of the Finance Bill and nothing else. Even school children behave better than this.

Mr. Anant Gangaram Geete, please conclude in one minute.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been demanding for the last two days that Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, the Minister of Petroleum should make a statement regarding his utterance amounting to the disrespect of Veer Savarkar as he was present in the House on both the days. This news has published in all newspapers. However he has neither refuted the allegation levelled against him nor has made a statement on the floor of the House. Hon. Pranab Mukherjee made a statement yesterday and has agreed to make a statement at two O'clock today and we have also accepted it. However, it is the bouden duty of the person against whom allegation has been levelled that he should inform the House about his statement. Disrespect has been inflicted on late Shri Savarkarji ...(*Interruptions*) he should inform the House about the factual position in this regard.

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. You please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It was agreed yesterday—and I am obliged to all the hon. Leaders for their co-operation—that at two o'clock today a statement would be made. It would be made at two o'clock and I shall permit him to make that statement.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, if the hon. Member wants that the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas should make a statement, he would do it at two o'clock. ...(*Interruptions*)

11.52 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*Contd.*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Adsul, would you put your Question?

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Let me be given an opportunity to ask a supplementary question.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, you are a senior Member. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

*343 [Treated as withdrawn under rule 39 (1) (Proviso)]

MR. SPEAKER: Question 344, Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal.

Allotment of Wasteland to Landless Poor

*344. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of total area of wasteland arid/semi arid in the country, State-wise break-up thereof;

(b) the measure taken/proposed to be taken to make such potential land productive;

(c) whether the Government propose to give such land to the landless poor in order to empower them; and

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

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Wastelands Atlas of India (2000) brought out by the Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad, estimated the extent of wastelands in the country as 638518.31 sq. kms. (63.85 million hectares). For the development of semi-arid and arid areas, the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) are being implemented. A Technical Committee set up by the Ministry in 1994, reviewed these Programmes and identified 745914 sq. kms. (74.59 million hectares) in 182 districts as semi-arid (drought prone area) and 457949 sq. kms. (45.79 million

hectares) in 40 districts as arid (desert areas). The State-wise details of these wastelands, arid and semi-arid areas are at Annexures-I and II.

(b) For overall development of these identified wastelands, semi-arid and arid areas, the Ministry is implementing three specific area development programmes namely, the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP). At the village level, these programmes are being executed through the Gram Panchayats on a watershed basis with main focus on activities relating to land development, soil-

moisture conservation, water resources development and afforestation/pasture development in the watershed area. The actual watershed works and activities to be taken up are decided by the local community after taking into consideration the local needs and aspirations as reflected by the requirements of the User Groups and Self Help Groups.

(c) and (d) Land is a State subject and the State Governments are distributing Government wastelands to landless poor. The extent of such land distributed as on March 2003, State-wise, is at Annexure-III.

Annexure I

State-wise Wastelands of India

(Area in Sq. Kms)

Sl.No.	State	Number of Districts Covered	Total geographical area of districts covered	Total wastelands area in districts covered	%of wastelands to total geographical Area
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	275068.00	51750.19	18.81
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	83743.00	18326.25	21.88
3.	Assam	23	78438.00	20019.17	25.52
4.	Bihar	55	173877.00	20997.55	12.08
5.	Goa	02	3702.00	613.27	16.57
6.	Gujarat	25	196024.00	43021.28	21.95
7.	Haryana	19	44212.00	3733.98	8.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	55673.00	31659.00	56.87
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	222236.00	65444.24	64.55
10.	Karnataka	27	191791.00	20839.28	10.87
11.	Kerala	14	38863.00	1448.18	3.73
12.	Madhya Pradesh	62	443446.00	69713.75	15.72
13.	Maharashtra	32	307690.00	53489.08	17.38
14.	Manipur	09	22327.00	12948.62	58.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Meghalaya	07	22429.00	9904.38	44.16
16.	Mizoram	03	21081.00	4071.68	19.31
17.	Nagaland	07	16579.00	8404.10	50.69
18.	Orissa	30	155707.00	21341.71	13.71
19.	Punjab	17	50362.00	2228.40	4.42
20.	Rajasthan	32	342239.00	105639.11	30.87
21.	Sikkim	04	7096.00	3569.58	50.30
22.	Tripura	04	10486.00	1276.03	12.17
23.	Tamil Nadu	29	130058.00	23013.90	17.70
24.	Uttar Pradesh	83	294411.00	38772.80	13.17
25.	West Bengal	18	88752.00	5718.48	6.44
26.	Union Territories	20	10973.00	574.30	5.23
Total		584	3287263.00	638518.31	20.17

Note: 1,20,849 sq. kms. in Jammu & Kashmir is not mapped and hence not considered for calculating the percentage.

Annexure II

Extent of State-wise Semi-Arid (Drought Prone) and Arid (Desert) Areas

Sl.No.	State	Area in Sq. Kms.	
		Semi-Arid (Drought Prone)	Arid (Desert)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99218	19136
2.	Bihar	9533	—
3.	Chhattisgarh	21801	—
4.	Gujarat	43938	55424
5.	Haryana	—	20542
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3319	35107
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	14705	96701

1	2	3	4
8.	Jharkhand	34843	—
9.	Karnataka	84332	32295
10.	Madhya Pradesh	89101	—
11.	Maharashtra	194473	—
12.	Orissa	26178	—
13.	Rajasthan	31969	198744
14.	Tamil Nadu	29416	—
15.	Uttar Pradesh	35698	—
16.	Uttaranchal	15796	—
17.	West Bengal	11594	—
Total		745914	457949

Annexure III*Distribution of Government Wastelands
as on March, 2003*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Area Distributed in Lakh Hectares
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.81
2.	Assam	2.36
3.	Bihar*	5.28
4.	Gujarat	5.52
5.	Haryana	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.07
7.	Karnataka	5.49
8.	Kerala	1.83
9.	Madhya Pradesh#	0.32
10.	Maharashtra	4.09
11.	Manipur	0.13
12.	Punjab	0.44
13.	Orissa	2.90
14.	Tamil Nadu	0.83
15.	Tripura	0.53
16.	Uttar Pradesh@	9.96
17.	West Bengal	1.73
18.	Goa	0.02
19.	Mizoram	0.30
20.	Rajasthan	0.37
21.	Delhi	0.02
Total		59.00

* Including Jharkhand

Including Chhattisgarh

@ Including Uttaranchal

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Sir, 9.96 lakh hectares land has been distributed among the poors in Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Goyal, let it be to the point, a pointed supplementary without any speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: I would like to ask whether the Government have conducted any survey to know as to whether the land distributed among the poors is still with them and if so, what they are doing with this land?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a state subject. Hence it is the responsibility of the state Government to ensure that the landless poor keep possession of the land distributed among them. But at the same time we also urge upon the state Governments to see that landless person is not evicted from the land allotted to them. We have been in correspondence in this regard with the State Governments.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Second supplementary please.

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You have no other question, alright.

Shri Jaswant Singh Bishnoi.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, prior to independence the land in possession of the villagers could be categorised namely, barren land, uncultivated land, arable land and Gochar (pastures) land etc. However, gradually these types of land are being allotted. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to where the livestock and other wild animals go if the land reserved for them is acquired for other purpose. Whether the hon. Minister has conducted any survey in this regard. Deforestation would also cause threat to the survival of human beings, whether the Government have thought about this aspect.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: There is no provision under which the forest land could be acquired and allotted. However, on the contrary, afforestation on

increasing area is being encouraged. Only desert land, barren wasteland that is not used for cultivation, is being distributed among the poors after making it fertile under various programmes like IWDP, DPAP and DBP etc. and the funds allocated under the various schemes and programmes are utilized to make these lands fertile through treatment.

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Vast tract of land in my Parliamentary Constituency, Etawah is wasteland and hilly due to which this area has been declared as dacoit infested area. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether any scheme is being formulated to convert this wasteland and hill area into plain area and whether any financial assistance is being provided to the State Government so that this area could be made plain and the land be allotted to the poors?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The Central Government is always ready to extend help in the matter of efforts of the State Government or to provide assistance sought by them for converting the Wasteland or arid land or semi-arid land into fertile lands. If there is any scheme to convert the infertile lands into fertile lands, the Central Government will provide adequate assistance.

[English]

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Out of the total area of 1,30,058 square kilometres in 29 districts in Tamil Nadu, only 23,013 square kilometres have been covered in 24 districts. Out of the total funds of Rs. 80,704 lakh allotted in the country, the Tamil Nadu Government has released only Rs. 3,615 lakh.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these figures include the allotment for the landless poor from the downtrodden community as they face the socio-economic discrimination in the villages. I would also like to know whether there are any agencies to monitor the implementation of this scheme for speeding up the programme or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon. Minister, does it arise out of this Question?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a provision to spend the amount at the rate of Rs. 6 thousand per acre for converting the infertile

land into fertile, for its treatment and for watershed management. The Central Government provide assistance for this purpose as per this criteria and it is implemented through a scheme. But as far as the monitoring is concerned, it is implemented at Panchayat level, Block level and Zila Parishad level. Monitoring Committees have been set up everywhere. Rural Development Committees are being re-constituted. Committees have been set up for monitoring at state level and national level. In our Common Minimum Programme, it has been directed that provisions be made for monitoring only and the funds being provided may reach to the genuine beneficiary.

Earnings by Cinema Industry

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*345. **SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:**
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether there has been a continuous increase in the foreign exchange earning potential of the cinema industry of the country during the last few years;

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

(c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for the development and expansion of the cinema industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to information received from the Film Federation of India (FFI), year-wise break-up of foreign exchange earned by the film industry during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
2000-01	450
2001-02	900
2002-03	1040

(c) and (d) The Government has taken several initiatives to bring about changes in the entertainment sector in the interest of the overall development of this sector.

- Access to institutional and bank financing has been facilitated for the entertainment industry, including films.
- 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the film sector has been permitted on the automatic route.
- International visibility has been afforded to Indian films by participation in global markets.
- Film weeks and festivals are held on a reciprocal basis with various countries.
- Possibility of entering into audiovisual co production agreements on a government-to-government basis is being explored in order to expand the finances and creative inputs as well as the market access of the Indian film industry.
- In order to suggest a policy framework for the entertainment industry, both at the centre and the States, a Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector has been set up.
- The Committee's recommendations, *inter alia*, include recommendation to reduce entertainment tax; facilitating a single point clearance by State Governments for foreign film crews shooting in India. These have been persuasively communicated to State Governments.
- In order to bring about a receptive investment regime in the entertainment sector, within India, a Committee has been setup to suggest a strategy to facilitate the flow of venture capital into the sector.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, the hon. Minister has given the data in respect of the foreign exchange earning by the Film Federation of India during the last three years, that is in 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03. In 2002-03, the hon. Minister has given the figure as Rs. 1,040 crore. It is a very big amount which is given from the cinema industry to the Central Government. Whatever benefits they are getting and whatever revenue they are getting from the industry, in equal level the film industry is not getting the benefits of the duty reduction imposed by the Government. The Industry is totally dependent on the imported equipment and raw materials. The Government imposes a very heavy duty. The customs duty is approximately 16 per cent. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to waive off the customs duty.

At the same time, can the countervailing duties imposed by the Government be waived off?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I would like to assure the hon. Member that it is the policy of the Government to encourage the cinema industry. As has been reflected in the answer given by me, the foreign exchange earnings are going up with every passing year. As for the question relating to customs duty, I think it is for the hon. Minister of Finance to consider. However, I, representing this Ministry, will be quite sympathetic to the matter.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir you know about the industry itself where there is very uncertainty. There is no limitation for the stardom. Those who are from the industry—any personality who was in the limelight earlier and deteriorates in the career—do not know where to go. The situation is so bad. I want to know whether there is any provision for the Government side for providing benefits to the artistes or the technicians like insurance or provident fund. Is there any source or can the Government give an assurance on this?

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow the hon. Minister to answer.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, we have a scheme for indigent artistes. Well, I do agree that a large number of people are not benefited by it. We will see how the scheme can be strengthened.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Damage to Railways by Flood

*346. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage caused by recent flood to Railways in various parts of the country especially in Central and Eastern States;

(b) the details of train services disrupted and the loss suffered by Railways as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for carrying out repairs/restoration of the damages caused and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) The details of the services disrupted (Mail/Express & Passenger trains on Broad Gauge & Metre Gauge) due to recent flood on Railways upto 12.8.2004 are as below:

Railway	No. of train trips cancelled	No. of train trips partially cancelled	No. of train trips diverted.
East Central	2005	230	218
Northern	1174	—	230
Northeast Frontier	394	222	—
Western	121	128	27
Central	105	4	61

The loss suffered by Railways due to disruption of freight & passenger train services is approx. Rs. 91 Cr.

(c) The monsoon reserves (boulders, ash, cinders, gunny bags etc.) kept in readiness are immediately mobilised at damaged/breached locations. The repairs are carried out by mobilising departmental/contractual men, material and machinery. Damaged bridges are temporarily restored using service girders.

As per the approximate assessment, the expenditure till 16.08.04 is about Rs. 48 Cr. excluding the expenditure to be done on permanent repairs in due course.

Statement

Sections on Indian Railways affected due to Flood/Breaches and Land Slips during 2004-05 (Position as on 16.8.04)

Sl.No.	Rly.	State	Section	Location/Rly. Km.	From	To	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Central Railway	Maharashtra	Kasara-Igatpuri (BG)	132-133, 132/29 to 134/8-9, 132/7-134/8-9	03-08-04	05-08-04	Up and Middle line restored. Down line work in progress expected by 18.8.04
2.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Sitamarhi-Darbhanga (MG)	44/9-45/3, 45/7-10, 57/4-5, 57/10-12	09-07-04	20-07-04	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	41/2-420, 42/2-6	09-07-04	23.07.04	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	42/0-1, 42/1-2, 43/2-7, 45/11-12, 46/2-7, 61/8-62/3, 64/11-12, 65/11-12, 93/10-13, 94/12-13	09-07-04	09-08-04	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	59/11-60/0, 60/14-15, 61/4-5	09-07-04	02-08-04	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	46/7-8, 65/10-11, 65/13-14, 65/15-66/9, 66/10-67/1, 67/2-3, 68/6-7	09-07-04	10-08-04	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	62/4-5, 63/12-13, 64/4-5, 64/7-10	09-07-04	05-08-04	Breaches at various locations.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	64/1-2, 66/9-10, 92/10-11, 93/5-7	09-07-04	20-08-04 (Expected)	Breaches at various locations.
			Sitamarhi-Darbhanga	103/6-7, 103/12-13, 104/7-8, 104/9-12	09-07-04	07-08-04	Breaches at various locations.
3.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Jhanjharpur-Nirmali	39/4-5, 39/12-16, 40/1-8, 40/9-41/9, 41/10-11, 41/12- 42/1, 45/3-4, 45/11-12, 46/9- 10, 46/11-12, 47/2-5	30-06-04	02-08-04	Flood water over topped rail level. Br.No. 106, 98, 95 & 92 affected due to flood.
			Jhanjharpur-Nirmali (MG)	47/14-48/4, 62/4-11, 65/1-3	30-06-04	30-08-04 (Expected)	Flood water over topped rail level.
			Jhanjharpur-Laukha Bazar(MG)	0/15-16, 1/5-6, 1/10-11, 1/13- 2/0, 2/2-3, 2/4-5, 2/11-12, 6/9-10, 6/11-12, 8/9-10, 8/12, 15, 9/1-6, 9/7-9, 9/15-10/0, 10/0-12, 10/13-15, 12/7-11, 24/10-11	09-07-04	30-8-04 (Expected)	Flood water over topped rail level
4.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Jhanjharpur-Sakri (MG)	26/14-27/8	09-07-04	15-07-04	Flood water over topped rail level
			Jhanjharpur-Sakri	35/6-11, 35/15-36/1, 36/2-3, 37/1-2, 38/8-10	09-07-04	16-07-04	Flood water over topped rail level.
5.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Darbhanga-Sakri (MG)	1/15, 1/17-18, 7/6-8	12-97-04	16-07-04	Breaches.
			Darbhanga-Sakri	1/18-2/9	12-07-04	17-07-04	Breaches.
			Darbhanga-Sakri	2/11-15, 4/4-8	12-07-04	18-07-04	Breaches.
			Darbhanga-Sakri	4/8-11	12-07-04	21-07-04	Breaches.
			Darbhanga-Sakri	1/11-14, 4/15-5/4, 5/8-11, 5/13-15	12-07-04	24-07-04	Breaches.
6.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Khagaria-Mansi (MG)	121/14, 122/5-6	19-07-04	20-07-04	Ballast washed away by flood Water.
7.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Mansi-Saharsa (MG)	2/17-3/1, 4/3-7 Br. No. 52, 4/15, 5/9-14, 16/10-11, 17/8-9	11-07-04	15-08-04 (Expected)	Cutting on approached and breaches
8.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Muzafarpur-Samastipur (BG)	61/14-15, 62/1-5, 63/14-15, 64/5-6, 66/3-4	16-07-04	24-07-04	Ballast washed away by flood Water.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Muzafarpur-Sugauli (BG)	164/7-8	09-07-04	10-07-04	Subsidence of embankment.
10.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Saharsa-Banmankhi (MG)	33/0-32/13, 64/3-4	11-07-04	14-07-04	Flood water touched the girder of bridge.
11.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Saharsa-Forbisganj (MG)	89/5-6, 150/11-16	09-07-04	15-07-04	Subsidence of embankment
12.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Samastipur-Darbhanga (BG)	8/2-3, 8/6-7	12-07-04	26-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	8/7-9	12-07-04	26-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	9/6-8, 9/9-10	12-07-04	06-08-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	11/10-11	12-07-04	03-08-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	11/13-14, 12/2-3, 12/8-9	12-07-04	25-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	14/0-2, 16/4-5	12-07-04	26-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	15/2-4, 15/11-12, 15/13-14	12-07-04	22-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	15/15-16/1	12-07-04	31-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	16/1-4	12-07-04	06-08-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	21/3-4, 21/5-6, 21/15-22/1, 25/7-8	12-07-04	31-07-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	25/9-26/1	12-07-04	12-08-04	Breaches due to water over flowing.
			Samastipur-Darbhanga	27/1-2, 27/5-6, 28/5-7, 21/0-3	12-07-04	30-08-04 (Expected)	Breaches due to water over flowing.
13.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Samastipur-Mansi (MG)	44/4-5, 44/0-3, 43/12-13, 41/1-4, 40/10-12	12-07-04	21-07-04	Breaches.
	East Central Railway	Bihar	Samastipur-Mansi	43/0-2, 42/8-10, 42/4-5, 42/1-3	12-07-04	20-07-04	Breaches.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	East Central Railway	Bihar	Samastipur-Mansi	27/5-6, 14/6 (Br. 7, 21/9-10) (Br. 9, 23/8-9)	12-07-04	20-08-04 (Expected)	Breaches.
14.	East Central Railway	Bihar	Raxaul-Sitamarhi (MG)	126/10-11	09-07-04	06-08-04	Breaches, Br. No. 88 affected.
			Raxaul-Sitamarhi	137/2-3, 137/9-10, 139/11-140/0	11-07-04	10-08-04	Breaches, Br. No. 4A, 5 and 7 affected.
15.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Guwahati-Lumding (BG)	135-137, 104/9-105/4, 29/3- 4, 79/2-80/5, 81/3-7, 88/2- 90/0, 87/3-7, 83/6-7	18-07-04	02-08-04	Ballast washed away by flood Water.
16.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Katihar-Jogbani (MG)	96/6-12	10-07-04	15-07-04	Flood water over topped rail level.
17.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Lumding-Badarpur (MG)	84/1-4, 146/0-1, 147/6-7 161/1-6, 160/3-7, 160/1-2, 147/0-1, 147/3-5, 151/0-1, 150/2-3, 149/1-9, 153/3-4, 157/0-6, 157/9-158/0, 150/8-9, 152/7-9, 107/9-108/0	15-04-04	30-04-04	Water over flowed the track, breaches occurred at different locations.
18.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Lumding-Badarpur	110/6-8, 152/4-5	12-05-04	13-06-04	35000 cum of earth fallen on track due to land slips.
19.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Lumding-Badarpur	2/5-14/0-1, 149/5-6, 145/6- 8, 130/1-4, 29/3-4, 30/2-3, 35/0-36/0, 43/6-7, 103/0- 139/0, 135/9-136/0, 28/0-1 & 28/4-5, 61/8-9, 58/2-3, 81/7-82/2, 83/2-5, 85/7-8, 1/0-7/1, 7/0-12/13	27-06-04	16-08-04	Land slides and ballast washed out. Track sinkage, water overflowed.
20.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Rangia-Murkongselek (MG)	358/9-10	14-05-04	28-05-04	Embankment eroded on approaches of bridge No. 348 for 10 mtrs & 11 mtrs.
21.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Rangia-Murkongselek (MG)	356/9-10, 8/8-11/10, 43/10- 11, 389/4-5 & 445/12-1 4, 130/8-9	17-06-04	05-08-04	Water over topped, breaches occurred, Erosion of bank
22.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Rangia-Rangapara (MG)	8/13-9/0-1	23-06/04	24-06-04	Water risen due to breach of marginal bund of Puthimari River

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Northeast Frontier Railway	Assam	Siliguri-Darjeeling (NG)	36/11-12	17-07-04	29-07-04	Formation wall collapsed and sunk.
24.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Ankeleshwar-Rajpipla (NG)	308/28-310/8, 315/20-22, 321-322	05-08-04	till date	Bank wash out due to heavy rain
25.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Bharuch-Chavaj-Kavi Section (NG)	—	04-08-04	14-08-04	Traffic suspended due to heavy rain
26.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Billimora-Waghai (NG)	62/2	03-08-04	05-08-04	Water over topped.
27.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Kosamba-Umarpada Section (NG)	—	03-08-04	till date	Traffic suspended due to heavy rain
28.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Sabarmati-Bhatod (MG)	27/8-9	31-07-04	02-08-04	Br. No. 22 damaged due to heavy rain
29.	Western Railway	Gujarat & Maharashtra	Virar-Surat (BG)	168/14-24, 168/13-15	03-08-04	05-08-04	Water overtopped Br. No. 275
30.	Western Railway	Gujarat	Godra-Ratlam	510/16-28, 513-514, 519/4-6, 495/0-3, 505/20-506/6	13-08-04	15-08-04	Water overtopping the track level. Up line restored on 15-08-04. Down line work in progress.
31.	Northern Railway	Haryana	Ambala-Kalka (BG)	206/14-15, 207/1-2, 207/15-16, 16, 210/0-3, 218/1-2, 236/7-12, 237/1-3, 239/11-12, 251/1-2	03-08-04	09-08-04	One bridge has been damaged beyond repairs and needs reconstruction. Service girder used for temporary restoration. Total length affected was about 400m. Bank was washed out at 5 locations, ballast washed out in stretch of 190m length. Bank settled at.
32.	Northern Railway	Haryana	Ambala-Rajpur (BG)	275/15-17, 275/9-13, 275/1-7, 274/25-27, 271/5-7	03-08-04	13-08-04	Embankment was breached at 7 locations between Ambala-Shambhu stations over a stretch of 4.4 kms.
33.	Eastern Railway	Bihar	Bhagalpur-Mandar hill section		21-06-04	01-07-04	

STD/ISD/PCO Booths at Railway Stations/Platforms

*347. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that new STD/ISD/PCO booths at Railway Stations/Platforms are not allotted owing to some legal hitch;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the passengers are facing inconvenience due to non-availability of sufficient booths at Railway stations/platforms;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide more booths;

(e) whether the Government is considering setting up of STD booths in other trains on the lines of such facility already being provided in Rajdhani Trains;

(f) whether the cost of calls made from STD booths of Rajdhani Express is very high; and

(g) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce the cost?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) With a view to provide better telecom facilities to passengers, the policy on allotment of Subscriber Trunk Dialing (STD)/International Subscriber Dialing (ISD)/Public Call Office (PCO) booths has been rationalized and Zonal Railways have been directed to initiate action to provide additional booths at more and more stations progressively.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) The Telephone facility initially provided in Rajdhani Express trains was based on INMARSAT Satellite telephones. This facility was provided through equipment owned and maintained by M/s. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited. The call charges for the services were fixed by M/s. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited and were relatively on the higher side as the service was routed through INMARSAT satellite.

With proliferation of public cellular phone services in the country, usage of the satellite phones provided in Rajdhani Express Trains declined considerably and the services have since been discontinued.

Empowerment of Minorities

*348. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Human Development Report, 2004 has emphasized the need for empowerment of minorities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken for empowerment of minorities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Human Development Report, 2004 does not mention the need for empowerment of minorities in the country.

(c) In furtherance of the commitment to promote modern and technical education and economic development of socially and economically backward sections amongst minorities, the following schemes are in operation:

- (i) Pre-examination coaching to the SCs, OBCs and Minorities through Universities and NGOs.
- (ii) Maulana Azad Education Foundation funds minority educational institutions for construction of schools, hostels, laboratories, etc. It also provides scholarships to meritorious girls students of minority communities.
- (iii) Sections of the minorities who have been declared as OBCs also avail of pre and post-matric scholarship and also hostel facilities and vocational training through NGOs.
- (iv) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing a Scheme of Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernization Programme with the objective of developing educational infrastructure and modernization of Madrasa Education.

- (v) The Ministry of Human Resource Development also implements a scheme of Financial Assistance for Appointment of Urdu Teachers and Grant of Honorarium for teaching Urdu in States and UTs.
- (vi) National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) under the aegis of the Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing various schemes for promotion of Urdu language.
- (vii) The sections of the minorities who have been declared as OBCs also avail of Pre and Post Matric Scholarships and also hostel facilities and vocational training through NGOs.
- (viii) The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation provides low interest loans for self-employment projects and also for pursuing technical/professional courses.

The minorities also avail of all the development schemes being implemented by the Government for all citizens.

Earnings by Doordarshan

*349. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the revenue position of DD;
- (b) whether the operational cost of Doordarshan (DD) is increasing and revenue is falling; and
- (c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring the DD out of the red?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The position of gross commercial revenue of Doordarshan for the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)	
Year	Doordarshan
2001-02	615.20
2002-03	553.81
2003-04	530.23

(b) The operational cost of Doordarshan has been increasing due to various factors including payment of service tax, income tax, sales tax, Octroi and other taxes, increase in expenditure on salary due to D.A. merger and power supply, additional expenditure on DD-News Channel, payment of rights fees for Athens Olympics, etc. While DD's revenue in 2003-04 was lower than in the previous year, it has shown an upward trend during the current year. During the first four months of the Financial Year 2004-05 (April to July) the revenue is Rs. 129.55 crore which is higher than the Rs. 64.82 crores realized during the corresponding period last year.

(c) The Government has taken up the matter regarding relaxation from payment of various taxes with appropriate authorities. Prasar Bharati has recently been registered as a Charitable Institution under Section 12A read with Section 12AA (1) (b) of Income Tax Act, 1961. With this registration, the income of Prasar Bharati for charitable purpose is exempted according to Section 11 to 13 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Besides this, the steps taken by Doordarshan to enhance revenue are as under:

- (1) In order to improve marketing of programmes, marketing divisions have been operationalised at Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Delhi, Kolkata and Bangalore.
- (2) Steps have been taken to fully exploit the commercial potential of various programmes including films and film-based programmes.
- (3) Development Communications Division has been established for securing business from and catering to the publicity requirements of various Ministries/Government Departments/PSUs.
- (4) Efforts are being made to ensure that slots on various channels do not remain vacant.
- (5) Computerisation of billing system of Doordarshan Commercial Service at Delhi has been done in order to ensure timely preparation of bills.
- (6) In order to promote the programmes of Doordarshan and its brand image, barter arrangements for newspaper publicity have been made with various newspapers and magazines.

Black Listed Companies

*350. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that about 60 companies which have been black listed by Prasar Bharati are again doing business with Prasar Bharati under the changed names;

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

(c) the names of companies black listed by the Prasar Bharati during the last three years and till date and the nature of the charges leveled against each of these companies; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that 34 companies have been black listed for non completion of work assigned, financial and other irregularities, of which 28 are programme production houses, and 5 are equipment suppliers and one is a construction firm. The names of companies black listed alongwith reasons therefor are given in the statement enclosed. Prasar Bharati has further informed that the names of all these companies have been circulated to all Doordarshan Kendras and AIR stations with direction not to entertain any offer of business from them and to ensure that no such company comes for business from back door by a changed name.

Statement

List of Companies Blacklisted by Prasar Bharati

Sl.No.	Name of Producer/company	Status
1	2	3
1.	Ms. Indira Sehgal, New Delhi.	Under the scheme of Commissioning, the producer received advance payment. However, he failed to complete the production of the work and did not refund the money.
2.	Shri Uma Shankar, New Delhi.	-do-
3.	Shri Lekh Tandon, Mumbai.	-do-
4.	M/s. J.K. Vision, (Ms. Jyotsna Singh), New Delhi.	-do-
5.	M/s. Devika Chitra, New Delhi	-do-
6.	M/s. Harbans Films, (Dr. Rani Balbir Kaur), Chandigarh.	-do-
7.	M/s. Live Videotech (Shri Suresh Jindal), New Delhi.	-do-
8.	M/s. Auriam Multichannel Pvt. Ltd., (Shri Manmohan Singh), New Delhi	-do-
9.	Shri Sujatullah Khan, New Delhi.	-do-
10.	M/s. Mediar Film Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	-do-
11.	M/s. Sri Aurobindo Samiti	-do-
12.	Shri Suhasis Chattopadhyay, Kolkata.	-do-
13.	Shri D.S. Natarajan, Hyderabad.	-do-

1	2	3
14.	M/s. Commentators & Contributors India, Lucknow.	Under the scheme of Commissioning, the producer received advance payment. However, he failed to complete the production of the work and did not refund the money.
15.	Ms. Reena Munjal, Lucknow.	-do-
16.	M/s. Sree Pavan Art Creations, Hyderabad.	-do-
17.	M/s. Jwala Movies, Bhubaneshwar.	-do-
18.	M/s. ATMA, (Shri Mukul Roy Chowdhary), Kolkata.	-do-
19.	Shri B.P. Tanna, Ahmedabad.	-do-
20.	Shri Sanjay Roy, New Delhi.	-do-
21.	Shri Pinaki Chaudhari, Kolkata.	Under the scheme of Commissioning, the producer received advance payment but failed to complete the production of the work. Principal money returned by producer, but he failed to pay the interest over it.
22.	M/s. Jyoti Cine Arts, (Shri Chandra Kr. Saikia), Guwahati.	Submitted fake Bank Guarantee and case pending in High Court.
23.	M/s. Rang, (Shri Parag Sarma), Guwahati.	Submitted fake Bank Guarantee and case pending in High Court.
24.	M/s. Megha Ad Vision, Jaipur.	Submitted fake Bank Guarantee.
25.	M/s. Group 7 Production, New Delhi.	Blacklisted on the recommendation of the CBI on the grounds of collusion with officials for assignment of programmes.
26.	M/s. Peer Panchal Films, (Shri G.R. Khan), Srinagar.	Submitted fake Bank Guarantee.
27.	M/s. Irum Productions, (Ms. Tabassum Fatima), New Delhi.	-do-
28.	M/s. Sood Telefilms, (Shri Sunil Sood), Delhi	-do-
29.	M/s. Maheshwari Electronics & Electricals, Bikaner.	On the advice of CBI
30.	M/s. S.B. Electric Company, Bikaner	-do-
31.	M/s. Najamuddin Contractor, Bikaner	-do-
32.	M/s. Jay Mata Electro Vision, Bikaner	-do-
33.	M/s. C.G. Enterprises, Delhi	-do-
34.	M/s. Deep Jyoti Electronics, Delhi.	-do- (matter is subjudice)

Rural School Sanitation Programme

*351. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Toilets sanctioned under Rural School Sanitation Programme-CRSP, Total Sanitation Campaign, is lagging behind and a very small number of toilets have been completed so far;

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

(c) the funds allocated by the Union Government during each of the last three years and till date, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for not constructing the sanctioned toilets so far; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to complete the same within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) No, Sir. So

far, 3.23 crore household toilets, 3.53 lakh schools toilets blocks and 25,236 community sanitary complexes have been sanctioned under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) projects in 398 districts of the country. These projects are to be implemented over a period of 4-5 years. So far, 86.92 lakh household toilets, 1.04 lakh school toilets, and 3,576 community sanitary complexes have been constructed. State-wise toilets sanctioned and constructed are given in statement-I enclosed.

The State-wise allocation of funds by Union Government for Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) during the last three years, is given in statement-II enclosed. Till date, Rs. 770.63 crore has been released to states under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC).

Government of India has taken various steps to motivate TSC implementing agencies to complete construction of the sanctioned toilets. "Nirmal Gram Puraskar" has been instituted to give incentive to Panchayati Raj Institutions, which attain full sanitation coverage. To speed up implementation, regular review meetings are held and technical and financial support is being provided to the States. For giving technical guidance on construction of school toilets, two technical notes have been prepared and circulated to the project districts.

Statement I

State-wise number of Toilets sanctioned and constructed in TSC projects which are implemented over a period of 4-5 years

Sl.No.	State	Toilets sanctioned			Toilets constructed		
		Individual house-hold toilets	School Toilets	Community toilets	Individual house-hold toilets	School Toilets Constructed	Community Toilets Constructed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3462766	26218	0	2345559	31460	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	63735	533	0	5404	323	0
3.	Assam	379376	2801	0	14805	90	0
4.	Bihar	2324994	14224	5862	34234	380	198
5.	Chhattisgarh	2432998	16045	47	1149	1222	15
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2480	0	12	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Goa	15000	283	150	0	0	0
8.	Gujarat	183898	5948	0	2316	1961	0
9.	Haryana	549060	5043	551	82809	1279	65
10.	Himachal Pradesh	38360	1758	86	107	267	36
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	587833	7297	578	1491	127	25
12.	Jharkhand	757064	5413	2913	9425	809	58
13.	Karnataka	187000	4384	70	42664	1015	19
14.	Kerala	900028	3792	1040	239909	963	403
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3311313	56583	801	174979	5114	87
16.	Maharashtra	2531829	41193	2688	234833	8136	784
17.	Manipur	63578	606	56	0	0	0
18.	Meghalaya	86669	1574	100	0	0	0
19.	Mizoram	9221	389	50	0	0	0
20.	Nagaland	67522	568	1176	26574	284	65
21.	Orissa	2370426	16972	942	381183	7034	61
22.	Pondicherry	18000	26	0	900	26	1
23.	Punjab	337843	11845	259	24525	398	57
24.	Rajasthan	613478	25089	325	60079	5428	10
25.	Sikkim	15715	891	165	4135	728	120
26.	Tamilnadu	2120136	26504	1682	1183709	12689	448
27.	Tripura	332629	2529	0	311474	1096	13
28.	Uttar Pradesh	4195887	35198	1187	704484	6036	567
29.	Uttaranchal	324030	8750	80	12498	5	2
30.	West Bengal	4073756	30585	4416	2793323	13412	532
Grand Total		32340624	353041	25236	8692568	104282	3576

Statement II***The Central Releases******State-wise release of funds for the last 3 years and till date under TSC***

Sl.No.	State	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	Total Release since inception
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1895.70	1600.87	4660.35	10371.43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.80	0.00	0.00	152.26
3.	Assam	464.65	0.00	199.31	832.91
4.	Bihar	1663.56	1548.70	0.00	4456.09
5.	Chhattisgarh	229.33	175.64	0.00	1485.14
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	3.15	0.00	3.15
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	0.00	94.65	0.00	643.75
9.	Haryana	62.06	402.90	62.06	1490.05
10.	Himachal Pradesh	36.28	79.29	0.00	132.82
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	76.48	1163.26
12.	Jharkhand	632.71	223.87	284.61	1704.93
13.	Karnataka	62.19	0.00	0.00	978.04
14.	Kerala	875.02	439.27	864.13	2855.47
15.	Madhya Pradesh	219.17	644.93	4425.96	7972.12
16.	Maharashtra	108.55	591.37	725.05	6581.24
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	103.56	151.64
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	221.37	221.37
19.	Mizoram	2.03	0.00	11.51	11.51
20.	Nagaland	0.00	13.79	0.00	132.12
21.	Orissa	567.83	1113.85	284.16	3269.96
22.	Pondicherry	47.42	0.00	0.00	94.84
23.	Punjab	142.17	52.67	0.0	1212.33
24.	Rajasthan	0.00	265.62	119.12	2299.75
25.	Sikkim	126.43	17.98	38.37	272.82
26.	Tamilnadu	1758.98	2192.49	2770.53	8746.57

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Tripura	364.63	249.56	819.21	1940.72
28.	Uttar Pradesh	2475.03	2137.30	3120.44	11096.38
29.	Uttaranchal	34.62	151.16	13.40	702.41
30.	West Bengal	1170.99	2011.21	1181.10	6087.89
31.	Support Services	13.86	100.00	519.28	670.14
Total		13006.01	14110.27	20500.00	77740.11

World Bank Report on Control of Panchayats

*352. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank in its report has suggested that Panchayats should adopt hire and fire policy to enable local administration to deal with resource crunch so as to better control their budget;

(b) if so, whether they have pointed out that without powers gram panchayats cannot control their budgets and handle the resource crunch;

(c) if so, whether Government has considered the suggestion made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the Union Government has urged States to change policy so that Gram Panchayats can control and implement schemes for the betterment of the people?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) The World Bank Report has made certain recommendations for strengthening local governments including the recommendation for budgetary autonomy. It has been suggested that local governments should have the power to hire, fire and determine the compensation level for their employees. According to the World Bank Report it would otherwise be difficult for local governments to control their budgets and be held to a hard budget constraint. According to the World Bank these powers would eliminate the dual responsibility that conflicts local government employees between

accountability to the government unit for whom they work, and accountability to the level of government that determines their well being in the work place. Effective implementation of service delivery by rural local governments would seem to require accountability of their officers. The World Bank Report has emphasized that priority should be given to empower Gram Panchayats. This has been recommended because the Gram Panchayats are closest to the people and can best detect and respond to people's preferences and needs. The long term goal should be to endow them with sufficient autonomy and resources to respond to local needs. Gram Panchayats should be allowed to spend public resources according to their priorities, to recruit and fire their own staff, and to procure technical assistance, contractors and other services from the private, NGO or public sector as they see fit. Plans, budgets, funds and assets should be treated as theirs and higher level panchayats should refrain from intervening in their affairs.

The Government is fully aware of the issues pointed out in the World Bank Report. Necessary steps are being taken by the Government to strengthen the Panchayats for planning and implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice and to become institutions of self-government. As a first step towards this, a Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in-charge of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj on Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj was held at New Delhi on 29-30 June, 2004 jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Conference decided to hold seven Round Table Conferences to chalk out a joint programme of action to secure implementation of Part IX of the constitution. The Round Table Meetings have been scheduled as under:

Schedule of Seven Round Tables to be held on different aspects of Panchayati Raj

Round Table I

Sat-Sun, 24-25 July: Kolkata: "Panchayati Raj: Effective Devolution", comprising Functions, Functionaries and Finances, as well empowerment of Gram Sabhas.

Round Table II

Sat-Sun., 28-29 August: Bangalore—"Panchayati Raj: Planning and Implementation and Rural Business Hubs", including the question of parallel bodies.

Round Table III

Wed.-Thursday 22-23 September: Raipur—"Reservations in Panchayati Raj", comprising Scheduled Tribes (including implementation of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), Scheduled Castes and Women.

Round Table IV

Sat-Sun 2-3 October: Chandigarh—"Panchayati Raj in Union Territories and Panchayati Raj jurisprudence".

Round Table V

Wed.-Thur. 27-28 October: (Venue to be decided)—"Annual Reports on the State of the Panchayats" (including preparation of a Devolution Index).

Round Table VI

Sat.-Sun., 27-28 November: Guwahati—"Panchayati Raj Elections and Audit".

Round Table VII

Sat.—Sun., 11-12 December: Pune—"Capacity Building and Training for Panchayati Raj Institutions".

The first Round Table Conference on "Panchayati Raj: Effective Devolution", comprising Functions, Functionaries and Finances, as well empowerment of Gram Sabhas has already been held at Kolkata on 24-25 July, 2004 in which the State Governments have agreed in-principle that the constitution (Article 243G) provides for "devolution", that is, the empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions and that the key objective is to ensure that Panchayati Raj Institutions function as

institutions of self government rather than as mere implementing agencies for other authorities.

[Translation]

Sanitation Facilities in Rural Areas

*353. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the rural population who have been provided sanitation facilities in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve sanitation facilities in rural areas, State-wise;

(c) the extent to which the Non Government Organisations are being engaged for providing help in this field; and

(d) the amount given as assistance to these NGOs during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The State-wise percentage of rural population having access to sanitation facilities in the country, as per Census 2001, is enclosed as statement.

(b) In order to improve the rural sanitation coverage, Government of India has launched Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), which is under implementation in 398 districts of the country. In addition, 130 districts have been sanctioned Rs. 10 lakh each to conduct baseline survey and prepare detailed project reports for TSC. Government of India has also launched an incentive scheme, called Nirmal Gram Puraskar, to reward the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) which attain full sanitation coverage.

(c) and (d) Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) guidelines permit engagement of NGOs at the district level for taking up information, education & communication campaign, capacity development activities, setting up of Production Centers/Rural Sanitary Marts and social mobilization. The engagement of NGOs is done by the district implementing agencies only. No financial assistance has been given to any NGO directly by Government of India for implementing the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) programme.

Statement**State-wise Statement on Rural Households
having Latrines**

Sl.No.	State	% of rural Households having latrines
1	2	3
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	41.80
2.	Himachal Pradesh	27.72
3.	Punjab	40.91
4.	Chandigarh	68.53
5.	Uttaranchal	31.60
6.	Haryana	28.66
7.	Delhi	62.89
8.	Rajasthan	14.61
9.	Uttar Pradesh	19.23
10.	Bihar	13.91
11.	Sikkim	59.35
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	47.34
13.	Nagaland	64.64
14.	Manipur	77.50
15.	Mizoram	79.74
16.	Tripura	77.93
17.	Meghalaya	40.10
18.	Assam	59.57
19.	West Bengal	26.93
20.	Jharkhand	6.57
21.	Orissa	7.71
22.	Chhattisgarh	5.18
23.	Madhya Pradesh	8.94
24.	Gujarat	21.65
25.	Daman & Diu	32.02
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	17.32

1	2	3
27.	Maharashtra	18.21
28.	Andhra Pradesh	18.15
29.	Karnataka	17.40
30.	Goa	48.21
31.	Lakshadweep	93.14
32.	Kerala	81.33
33.	Tamil Nadu	14.36
34.	Pondicherry	21.42
35.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	43.33
Total India		21.92

*[English]***Review of Performance of Welfare Schemes
for SCs/OBCs**

*354. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of various schemes running for the welfare of SCs and OBCs;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith changes needed for their better implementation;

(c) whether the Government has taken notice of any lapse by State Governments/UT administrations in utilization of funds allocated by the Union Government for several schemes for the welfare of SCs and OBCs in the country during the last three years till date;

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

(e) the measures taken by the Union Government to monitor the proper utilization of funds by State Governments/UT administrations?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and

(b) The various schemes meant for the welfare of SCs and OBCs are regularly reviewed in consultation with State Governments, UT Administrations etc. Based on the review of the schemes necessary remedial measures including modification of the scheme wherever necessary are taken. Some of the important changes made in various schemes are as follow:

Post-Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Castes

- (a) Rates of maintenance allowance and other allowances have been enhanced.
- (b) Income ceiling for eligibility has been increased to widen the coverage.

Pre-Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations:

- (c) Rates of scholarship have been increased.
- (d) The amount of annual ad-hoc grant admissible under the scheme has been enhanced.

National Overseas Scholarship Scheme

- (e) Rates of maintenance allowance and other allowances, have been enhanced.
- (f) Income ceiling for eligibility has been increased to widen the coverage.

(c) and (d) No case of lapse of utilization of funds by the State Government/UT Administration has come to notice.

(e) State Governments/UT Administrations are required to furnish Quarterly Progress Reports under various schemes. Generally, Central assistance is released on receipt of utilization certificates for the previous grants. officers of the Ministry visit States/UTs from time to time to monitor implementation of the schemes.

Manpower in Railways

*355. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has failed to cut manpower in Railways despite massive computerisation and modernisation of railway network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether C&AG has also pointed out in its report of 2002-2003 about the necessity of modernisation with a view to rationalise the utilisation of manpower;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(e) whether the Government has worked out the excess manpower in railways;

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

(g) whether the Government has any proposal to bring attractive VRS for railway employees; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Owing to changing pattern of traffic and absorption of advanced technology in the system, requirement of manpower gets reduced in certain areas. The manpower in such areas, therefore gets rendered surplus for a temporary period of time till they get retrained and redeployed. While above action leads to reduction of manpower in certain activities, it also leads to increased need for manpower in newer areas. There are approximately 3332 surplus staff as on 30.6.04. Since accrual of surpluses and their re-deployment is a continuous process, these figures keep varying from month to month.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme is being introduced on the lines of existing scheme of Department of Personnel & Training for permanent Group 'C' and 'D' employees who have been declared surplus. An optee of this scheme will be entitled to receive an ex-gratia amount equal to basic pay plus Dearness Allowance @ 35 days for each completed year and 25 days for each remaining year of service. Payment of such ex-gratia would be over and above the normal retirement entitlements.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen

*356. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen as on date in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of schemes being implemented for the welfare, rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-servicemen;

(c) the number of ex-servicemen benefited thereby, State-wise;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years and current year so far, State-wise;

(e) whether there is any proposal to increase the amount for rehabilitation of ex-servicemen;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the ex-servicemen are not getting respectable placement; and

(h) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to ex-servicemen?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (h) As per statistics maintained by the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), a total of 18,52,680 ex-servicemen (ESM) have been registered and reported to be surviving as on 30 June 2004. State-wise number of ex-servicemen is given in the enclosed statement.

2. Rehabilitation of ex-servicemen is a continuous process and Government is having a number of schemes for this purpose. These include schemes of reservation in Government jobs, training programmes to improve their employability after retirement or release from Service, grant of loan facilities for setting up of self-employment ventures, employment opportunities through ex-servicemen Security Agencies, ex-servicemen Coal Transportation Companies, etc. State Governments are also having schemes for their rehabilitation. Besides, a number of ex-servicemen are re-employed in private sector. The data concerning ex-servicemen rehabilitated by various schemes is not monitored state-wise. The following

schemes for the welfare, rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-servicemen are being implemented:

I. REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES:

(A) Re-employment:

(i) **Reservations in Jobs:** The Central and State Governments are providing a number of concessions to ex-servicemen for their re-employment in Central/State Government posts. These include reservation of posts/relaxation in age and educational qualifications, exemption from payment of application/examination fees, priority employment to disabled ex-servicemen. The Central Government has reserved 10% of vacancies in Group C posts and 20% in Group D posts for ex-servicemen. Central Public Sector Undertakings and Nationalised Banks provide 14.5% reservation in Group C and 24.5% in Group D posts available with them. 10% posts of Assistant Commandants in Central Para Military Forces are also reserved for ex-servicemen. 100% posts are reserved for ex-servicemen in Defence Security Corps. In addition, many State Governments are providing reservation to ex-servicemen in the State Government jobs.

During the year 2003, 11659 ex-servicemen were provided re-employment.

(ii) **Security Agencies:** The Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR) registers/sponsors security agencies for providing security guards to various Public Sector Undertakings and industries in private sector. The Scheme, besides offering employment opportunities to ex-servicemen, also provides self-employment to retired defence officers. During the year 2003, 9543 ex-servicemen were provided re-employment under the scheme.

(B) Self-employment:

(i) **Loan Assistance Schemes:** Government has formulated several schemes for encouraging and giving financial support by way of loans to ex-servicemen entrepreneurs intending to set up small and medium industries. Important self employment schemes are Self Employment for Ex-Servicemen II (SEMFEX-II), National Equity Fund Scheme and SEMFEX-III. Applications for sanction of loans are submitted by ex-servicemen directly to the concerned Zila Sainik Boards in the States. Applications are scrutinised and those who satisfy eligibility criteria and other terms and conditions are recommended

for sanction of loan through banks and financial institutions. Number of beneficiaries and the amount sanctioned under SEMFEX-II, SEMFEX-III and NEF during the last three years, are given below:

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Year	SEMFEX-II		SEMFEX-III		NEF	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
2001-2002	335	380.59	33	77.73	11	76.41
2002-2003	427	275.98	23	46.93	02	0.350
2003-2004	251	440.37	16	58.66	12	80.98

(ii) Ex-Servicemen Coal Transportation Scheme:

Directorate General Resettlement sponsors Ex-Servicemen Coal Transport Companies for the execution of loading and transportation of coal in various coal subsidiaries of Coal India Limited. The unemployed retired officers registered with Directorate General Resettlement are selected to form ex-servicemen Coal Transport Companies and are sponsored to respective coal subsidiaries for five years, extendable by another four years. Presently, 96 such companies are operating under the various coal subsidiaries of Coal India Limited.

(iii) Coal Tipper Scheme: The widows of defence personnel who died while in service due to causes attributable to military service can be sponsored by DGR for attaching one tipper truck in their name with an Ex-Servicemen Coal Transport Company. The eligible widows have to deposit Rs. 85,000/- with any one of the nominated companies towards margin money, loan processing, insurance, road tax etc. for the tipper to be acquired. The coal transport company is responsible for processing, running and maintenance costs of the tipper. The widow is paid Rs. 3,000/- per month for five years and thereafter, the initial deposit amount of Rs. 85,000/- is repaid to the widow. At present 227 widows/disabled soldiers are availing the benefit of this scheme.

(iv) Allotment of Oil Product Agencies under Defence Category: Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas have reserved eight percent of the Oil Product Agencies, i.e. LPG dealership, petrol pumps, kerosene distributorship etc. in the marketing plan for widows and dependents of those who died in war/peace with death

attributable to military service and disabled soldiers with disability of 20 percent and above attributable to military service. 521 eligibility certificates have been issued under Defence Category by Directorate General Resettlement during 2004.

(v) Management of CNG Stations in National Capital Region (NCR): The scheme for management of CNG stations belonging to Indraprastha Gas Ltd. was launched as a pilot project in July 2001. The scheme has been extended to retired officers. During 2003-04, 96 ex-servicemen have been provided placement under the scheme.

(vi) Allotment of Army Surplus Vehicles: Ex-Servicemen/widows of Defence personnel who died while in service are eligible to apply for allotment of Army surplus/phased out vehicles. Ex-servicemen can apply to Zila/Rajya Sainik Boards for registration and onward transmission to Army Headquarters for allotment on the basis of depot-wise seniority maintained by them. During the year 2003-04, 352 surplus vehicles were allotted to ex-servicemen.

(vii) Allotment of Mother Dairy Milk and Fruit & Vegetable Shops in and around Delhi: Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks are allotted Mother Dairy Milk Shops and Fruit & Vegetable shops in National Capital Region. During the year 2003-04, 1850 ex-servicemen were provided placement by allotment of Mother Dairy Booths and Fruit & Vegetable shops.

II. TRAINING:

Training for both ex-servicemen and retiring service personnel is one of the major tasks involved in the rehabilitation and resettlement. The emphasis of the programmes run by Director General Resettlement has been on organizing employment/self-employment oriented training so as to provide viable options to such trainees for commencing second career after retirement. These training programmes include courses on management, technology, imparting of technical skills, and knowledge about agro based industry etc. The number of ex-servicemen/retiring defence personnel imparted training during the last three years and the expenditure incurred is given below:

Year	Number of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rupees in lakhs)
2001-2002	7,221	44.76
2002-2003	6,704	152.19
2003-2004	8,450	190.45

III. WELFARE SCHEMES FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

(i) **Financial Assistance from Raksha Mantri's Discretionary Fund:** A portion of the earnings of Armed Forces Flag Day Fund is set apart as Raksha Mantri's Discretionary Fund which is used to provide financial assistance to poor and needy ex-servicemen for various purposes viz. medical treatment, daughters marriage, house repair, education of children etc. Monthly financial assistance of Rs. 1000/-for up to a period of two years is also provided to old and infirm ex-servicemen/widows of ex-servicemen living in penury. Number of beneficiaries and the total amount of assistance provided to them during the last three years is as under:

Year	Number of beneficiaries	Expenditure (Rupees in lakhs)
2001-2002	754	61.66
2002-2003	2011	107.69
2003-2004	402	45.14

(ii) **Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS):** Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme, introduced with effect from 1st April, 2003 is based on the pattern of Central Government Health Scheme. On retirement, every service personnel drawing pension will compulsorily become a member of the scheme by contributing his/her share. Similarly, ex-servicemen who have already retired can become members by making a one time contribution or in three consecutive yearly instalments. The rates of contribution vary from Rs. 1800 p.m. to Rs. 18,000 p.m. based on pension/family pension. The war widows have been exempted from payment of ECHS contribution. During 2003-04, an expenditure of Rs. 17.22 crores has been incurred under ECHS.

Ex-servicemen/dependents who are non-pensioners would continue to get financial assistance from Armed

Forces Flag Day Fund for treatment of specified serious diseases.

(iii) **Educational Concessions and facilities for wards of ex-servicemen/widows:** Reservation of seats have been made for the wards of ex-servicemen/widows in Sainik Schools, MBBS, IITs/Polytechnics and other professional courses. Free educational facilities to children of defence personnel killed or disabled in action is provided in schools/colleges recognised by the Central or State Governments.

(iv) **Canteen Stores Department (CSD) facilities:** Ex-Servicemen and their families are entitled to Canteen facilities available in Units/establishments.

(v) **Travel Concession:**

Rail Travel Concession: 75% concessions in rail fare for travel in II Class is available to war widows. Besides, recipients and widows of posthumous recipients of Chakra series of gallantry awards along with a companion are entitled to free rail pass for travelling in Class I/II AC Sleeper.

Air Travel Concession: Gallantry Award winners and permanently war disabled officers and their dependents are eligible for 75% and 50% concession respectively.

3. There is no specific budget allocation for operating various schemes for the rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-servicemen. The Government, however, provide budgetary allocation to Directorate General Resettlement for conducting training to ex-servicemen. Various rehabilitation and resettlement schemes are implemented by respective agencies, such as Banks, Financial Institutions, Oil Companies under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Coal India Limited, etc.

4. About 60,000 persons are added to the existing population of ex-servicemen every year. Because of limited job opportunities in the Government Sector, it is not possible to provide placement to all the ex-servicemen seeking employment assistance. Therefore, emphasis is given on creating opportunities for self-employment and placement in Private Sector by involving Financial Institutions and Corporate Sector.

Statement

Sl.No.	RSB/ZSB	No. of Ex-servicemen as on 30.6.2004
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66552
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	284
3.	Assam	23505
4.	Bihar	55890
5.	Chhattisgarh	3896
6.	Goa	1772
7.	Gujarat	17503
8.	Himachal Pradesh	89753
9.	Haryana	194141
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	61227
11.	Jharkhand	15876
12.	Karnataka	56854
13.	Kerala	143710
14.	Madhya Pradesh	33045
15.	Maharashtra	157300
16.	Manipur	4312
17.	Meghalaya	2040
18.	Mizoram	4369
19.	Nagaland	2239
20.	Orissa	22807
21.	Punjab	230616
22.	Rajasthan	125875
23.	Sikkim	1144
24.	Tamil Nadu	114466
25.	Tripura	1965
26.	Uttar Pradesh	213816
27.	Uttaranchal	113571
28.	West Bengal	51361
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	511

1	2	3
30.	Chandigarh	7345
31.	Delhi	33545
32.	Pondicherry	1390
Total		1852680

Note: Figures for the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Island are provisional.

[English]

Mobile Lab to Check Adulteration

*357. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the adulteration of Petrol and Petroleum Products probably in nexus between the Tank operators and the petrol pump owners in the country;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh and some other States have requested the Union Government to increase the number of Mobile Labs in each district to check adulteration of petrol and Petroleum Products;

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

(d) the number of Petrol Pumps found involved in said activities in each State during the year 2003-2004 alongwith action taken against them; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the petroleum adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Government does receive reports of adulteration of transportation fuels and other such malpractices by unscrupulous elements.

(b) and (c) A request was received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for provision of additional mobile laboratories for the State of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government was advised to ensure optimum utilization of

the capacity available at the 9 static and 3 mobile laboratories situated in the State. In case of exigencies, the services of the laboratories situated in neighbouring states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa can also be utilized as is being done in other regions.

(d) Statewise details of the number of Petrol Pumps found involved in adulteration and action taken against them during 2003-2004 is given at Statement enclosed.

(e) Government is committed to supplying clean and unadulterated fuel in correct quantity to customers. In order to reduce, minimize and eventually eliminate adulteration, as well as to prevent other malpractices, the following important steps have been taken:

- Government have issued Control Orders under the Essential Commodities Ac, 1955 to prevent misuse of petroleum products for adulteration of auto fuels, and other malpractices. These Orders provide power of search and seizure to the officers of the State Governments and Oil Marketing Companies.
- Oil Marketing Companies undertake regular inspections of Retail Outlets and take action under Marketing Discipline guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement against those indulging in adulteration and malpractices. Penalty of termination of dealership is invoked in established cases of adulteration.
- Oil Marketing Companies have also introduced new tamper-proof tank-truck locking systems to prevent en route adulteration by transporters.
- Trials are being conducted for introduction of Marker System.
- The import of Kerosene has been canalized through Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies.
- IT solutions like monitoring movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS) and monitoring level of fuel tanks in Retail Outlets through retail automation are being introduced.
- Branding of Retail Outlets and third party certification of Retail Outlets have been initiated.

Statement

State-wise details of Adulteration cases detected during 2003-04 and action taken against them

State/UT	No. of cases of adulteration detected
Andhra Pradesh	28
Bihar	07
Delhi	03
Gujarat	20
Haryana	08
Jammu & Kashmir	01
Jharkhand	04
Karnataka	07
Kerala	05
Madhya Pradesh	15
Maharashtra	26
North East States	02
Orissa	05
Punjab	12
Rajasthan	10
Tamil Nadu	22
Uttar Pradesh	36
Uttaranchal	02
West Bengal	03
Total	216

In these cases action has been taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines which provides penal action of fine along with suspension of sales & supply in the first instance and termination of dealership in the second instance.

[Translation]

Consumption of LPG in the Country

*358. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the yearly consumption of LPG in the country;

(b) if so, the approximate total requirement and consumption of LPG for commercial and domestic use in the country during the current year;

(c) whether the LPG produced through indigenous sources is inadequate to meet its demand and is imported from foreign countries;

(d) if so, the quantum of LPG supplies through indigenous sources and imported from foreign countries during the last three years; and

(e) the amount of subsidy being provided on per cylinder on imported and indigenous gas by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The consumption of LPG is assessed on an yearly basis. Estimated consumption for the current year i.e. 2004-05 is as under:

	(Figures in Thousand Metric Tons (TMT))
Domestic	9,582
Non-Domestic	545
Total	10,127

(c) and (d) production of LPG from indigenous sources is inadequate to meet the demand in the country at present. The shortfall in availability is met through imports. Indigenous production and imports of LPG in the last three years are as under:

	Figures in TMT	
Year	Indigenous Production	Imports
2001-02	6,992	650
2002-03	7,288	1,073
2003-04 (Provisional)	7,651	1,708

(e) The estimated subsidy provided by Government on domestic LPG for the year 2004-05 is Rs. 40.65 per

cylinder, based on the phasing out the subsidy in 5 years.

[English]

Identification of Socially Backward Classes

*359. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the socially backward classes in different States and Union Territories have been identified;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted therefor;

(c) whether the State Governments/UT administrations have submitted the lists to the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the steps taken for early completion of the lists?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The socially and educationally backward classes in different States and Union Administrations have been identified.

(b) The Government of India has, so far, issued 21 Gazette Notifications including approximately 4582 castes/communities (including synonyms) in the Central List of OBCs for different States/UTs.

The Government of India has set up the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) under the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) Act, 1993. As per provision under the NCBC Act, 1993, the Commission examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizen as a backward class in the list and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists based on social and educational and economic aspect of backwardness and tender such advice to the Central Government as it such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate.

The Government of India decides cases for inclusion/ amendment in the Central List of Backward classes based on the advice tendered by the NCBC and details thereof are notified from time to time.

(c) So far as the State lists of backward classes is concerned, the State Governments/UT Adms. are not required to submit their lists to the Union Government.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Violence and Obscenity in DD Programmes

*360. SHRI LAL CHANDRA KOL:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of programmes and advertisements being telecast on Doordarshan and cable T.V. are full of vulgarity, obscenity and violence;

(b) if so, whether the Government has identified such advertisements and programmes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to frame any National Policy on television or enact any new law for electronic media including cable T.V. to check the increasing violence, crimes and obscenity on T.V.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Programmes and advertisements of all satellite TV channels, transmitted/retransmitted through the cable network are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

Programme Code, *inter alia*, provides that no programme should be carried in the cable service which offends against good taste or decency, contains anything obscene, is likely to encourage or incite violence, contravenes the provisions of the Cinematography Act, 1952 and is not suitable for unrestricted public exhibition. Similarly, Advertising Code provides that advertisements carried in the cable service shall be so designed as to conform to the laws of the country and should not offend morality, decency and religious susceptibilities of the subscribers. The Advertising Code, *inter alia*, provides

that no advertisement shall be permitted which tends to incite people to crimes, cause disorder or violence or breach of law or glorifies violence or obscenity in any way. The Code further provides that indecent, vulgar, suggestive, repulsive or offensive themes or treatment shall be avoided in all advertisements.

The action for violations of the codes can be taken by any authorised officer i.e. SDM, DM or Commissioner of Police or another officer notified in the official gazette by the Central Government or State Government. The Central Government has constituted two inter-ministerial committees under Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to look into the violations of the Programme and Advertising Code either *suo-moto* or on receipt of specific complaint. On the recommendations of these committees, appropriate action is taken against TV channels for violations of the provisions of the Codes. This is a continuing process.

Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan Advertisement Code does not allow vulgar languages, obscenity and violence. Doordarshan Broadcast Code *inter alia* does not permit anything obscene, incitement to violence etc.

(d) and (e) The matter is under consideration.

[English]

Accessibility for Disabled Persons

*361. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inaccessibility to buildings and present transportation system have deprived the disabled from getting better education and job opportunities;

(b) if so, whether the National Centre for promotion of employment for disabled has urged the Government to bring forward a bill making accessibility for the disabled persons mandatory in the new buildings and transportation system;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) It is commonly acknowledged that lack of barrier free built

environment has been one of the impediments for access to education and job opportunities. However, there is no study to quantify extent and pattern of such deprivation amongst different types of disabilities and persons with disabilities.

(b) to (d) This Ministry is not in receipt of a proposal from National Centre for promotion of employment for disabled. However, this Ministry has taken the following steps:

- (1) A legal provision has been made under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 wherein non-discrimination in transport, non-discrimination on road and non-discrimination in built environment have been provided for.
- (2) The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities conducts access audit of public buildings to make them barrier free and hence accessible to persons with disabilities.
- (3) Ministry of Urban Development has prepared Model Building Bye Laws containing provisions for barrier free built environment. These guidelines and space standards have been circulated to the State Governments and Union Territories for adoption.
- (4) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) envisages barrier free environments in all the schools to provide equal access to the children with disabilities.
- (5) The Government is providing financial assistance for removal of architectural barriers in existing/new schools under the scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC).
- (6) Instructions have been issued to the Association of State Road Transport Undertakings (ASRTU) requesting them to issue instructions to all State Transport Undertakings to incorporate and enforce handicapped friendly features in their vehicles, both at the production as well as operation stages.

Changes in Cultural Institutions

3138. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for crucial changes in key cultural institutions;

(b) if so, whether the General Council is also being reconstituted to elect a new Chairman; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Non-transfer of powers to Panchayats in Daman and Diu

3139. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panchayats in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu have not been given full powers as per Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the non transfer of powers to panchayats in Daman and Diu have resulted in the slowing down of development process in this Union Territory; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to give full powers to the panchayats in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) After the Panchayat Regulations came into force in Daman & Diu in 1994, out of the 29 subjects listed in Schedule XI of the Constitution, the UT Administration of Daman & Diu fully transferred five functions in Daman & Diu and in addition nine functions were partially transferred. Along with these functions, a total staff of 266 functionaries was also transferred. The Administrator had taken a review of all the 29 subjects in Schedule XI of the Constitution with the concerned officials of the Union Territory in July, 2004. The Administration of Daman and Diu is contemplating further devolution of powers with respect to certain other functions. The Chief Executive Officer, Panchayat has been asked to undertake an activity mapping of those functions which can be transferred to the District Panchayat through an amendment in their proposed regulation. The UT Administration has informed that considerable devaluation of powers on 14 functions has taken place in Daman & Diu. Significant transfer of functionaries has also been done and the total volume of funds transferred is also substantial at Rs. 16.70 crore.

There has been no slow down in the development process as adequate funds have been placed at the disposal of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. UT Administration have also proposed comprehensive amendments to the existing Panchayat Regulations governing the functions and powers of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the Union Territory so that all the subjects mentioned in the XI Schedule to the Constitution are considered for transfer to the PRIs.

(c) Union Government has constituted a Group of officials under the Chairpersonship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and including representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Rural Development to review Panchayati Raj in the Union Territories and suggest improvements. The Officials Group would consult with the Government of India representatives of the Union Territories and elected representatives in the Panchayats and Lok Sabha as well as Think Tanks/NGOs familiar with the subject. The Group will submit their report to their Ministers concerned to enable them to resolve outstanding issues in time before the Round Table scheduled to be held at Chandigarh in early October, 2004 at which Panchayati Raj in the Union Territories is to be discussed.

[Translation]

Drinking Water for Villagers along Polluted Rivers

3140. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the villages located along the polluted rivers where villagers and their cattles are facing the problem of drinking water, river-wise, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any scheme to provide drinking water in the villages, which are located along the polluted rivers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Provision of drinking water supply is a state subject. Schemes for providing safe drinking water facilities, including in the villages located along polluted rivers, are planned, executed and implemented by the State Governments. Accordingly, number of villages located along polluted rivers where villagers and cattles are facing problem of drinking water, river-wise and State-wise, is not maintained. As per the survey conducted by the States at the instance of RGNDWM in 1991 and subsequently updated in 1999, State-wise number of rural habitations affected with chemical contamination is enclosed as statement. Approximately 85% of rural drinking water sources are ground water based.

(b) to (d) Government of India, however, supplements the efforts of the states by providing financial and technical assistance under the centrally sponsored accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). As per the guidelines of the ARWSP, State Governments are required to utilize 15% of funds allocated to them under ARWSP for Sub-Mission projects on quality. With effect from 1.4.1998, powers have been delegated to the states to plan, sanction and implement the Sub-Mission projects on quality. According to the Executive Guidelines for Implementation of Water Quality Testing Laboratories, issued by Government of India, all the public drinking water supply sources in villages are required to be tested for 14 routine parameters at least twice a year, preferably before and after rains. Besides, all the spot sources namely, Handpumps, Tubewells, Sanitary wells are subjected to periodic chlorination. Wherever problem of drinking water quality is detected, remedial measures are taken by State Governments.

Statement

Status of Quality Affected Habitations as on 1.4.99 as received from State Govts. in response of Secretary Letter No. Q-14018/67/99-TM (STAT) dated 17 November, 1999

Sl.No.	State/UT	Habitations affected by						Total
		Fluoride	Salinity	Iron	Arsenic	Nitrate	Other	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8301	5518	441	0	0	0	14260
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	7	0	0	0	7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Assam	12	0	40972	0	0	0	40984
4.	Bihar	18	—	23514	0	0	0	23532
5.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	1175	256	0	0	0	0	1431
7.	Haryana	131	0	0	0	0	0	131
8.	Himachal Pradesh	738	106	450	0	0	0	1294
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Karnataka	954	1002	483	0	0	0	2439
11.	Kerala	115	37	549	0	0	0	701
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1686	788	3297	2	0	0	5773
13.	Maharashtra	21	480	0	0	0	0	501
14.	Manipur	0	0	15	0	0	0	15
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	282	0	0	0	282
16.	Mizoram	0	—	—	—	—	—	0
17.	Nagaland	0	0	128	0	0	0	128
18.	Orissa	2712	3361	58060	0	0	0	64133
19.	Punjab	997	776	28	0	0	0	1801
20.	Rajasthan	16560	14415	0	0	0	0	30975
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Tamilnadu	1835	5219	1000	0	4000	1400	13454
23.	Tripura	0	0	7283	0	0	0	7283
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1667	624	2115	0	0	0	4406
25.	West Bengal	52	—	—	3133	0	0	3185
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	29	0	0	0	29
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Lakshadweep	0	10	0	0	0	0	10
31.	Pondicherry	14	5	17	1	3	0	40
32.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		36988	32597	138670	3136	4003	1400	216794

*[English]***Fixing of Foodgrain Prices under SGRY**

3141. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to fix the rates of foodgrains to be sold/distributed under the Samapoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana below the rate of Below Poverty Line foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether similar requests have also been received from other State Governments; and

(c) if so, the Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such requests have been received from any other Government.

(c) According to the Guidelines of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana, the rate of foodgrains cannot be lower than the BPL rate.

**Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
in Tribal Areas**

3142. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has been extended and being implemented by the Government in Tribal sub-plan areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with funds spent/allocated during the last three years and till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is being implemented in all parts of the country including Tribal (Schedule V) areas, in accordance with the population based priority prescribed for selection of habitations to be provided connectivity through the programme.

(b) Allocations are made State-wise. Under the PMGSY, States have been advised to make district-wise allocation giving 80% of funds on the basis of road length required for providing connectivity to Unconnected Habitations and 20% on the basis of road length requiring Upgradation.

*[Translation]***Construction of Boudh Stupa by ASI**

3143. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval of the Archaeological Survey of India (A.S.I.) has been taken for construction of the Boudh Stupa being constructed by the D.D.A. at the Millennium Park behind the old fort located in Delhi;

(b) whether the ASI has ascertained that the beauty and grandeur of the tomb of Humayun, will not be adversely affected due to the construction of the above stupa;

(c) whether the approval of the Archaeological Department is essential for the construction of such a structure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Although the site of construction is beyond the regulated area of nearest protected monument, view of the Humayun's Tumb from the east and beyond, specially Ring Road, would certainly get obstructed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. It is not mandatory to obtain permission from ASI for construction in the area beyond the regulated area of the Centrally protected monuments.

*[English]***Financial Assistance to Indigent Artists**

3144. SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce a new policy for financial assistance to indigent artists;

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

(c) if not, the budgetary allocation for the financial assistance to indigent artists for the current year; and

(d) the break-up of the financial assistance given to the indigent artists and the number of artists are going to get the assistance, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total budget of Rs. 2.40 crores has been allocated for the scheme of financial assistance to indigent artists for the current financial year i.e. 2004-05.

(d) A statement showing number of current beneficiaries State-wise is attached.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	82
2.	Assam	13
3.	Bihar	12
4.	Chandigarh	2
5.	Delhi	39
6.	Goa	22
7.	Gujarat	3
8.	Haryana	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2
10.	Karnataka	74
11.	Kerala	113
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14
13.	Manipur	57
14.	Mizoram	3
15.	Maharashtra	50

1	2	3
16.	Orissa	168
17.	Pondicherry	1
18.	Punjab	2
19.	Rajasthan	6
20.	Tamil Nadu	6
21.	Uttar Pradesh	154
22.	West Bengal	16
Total		843

Documentary Films by Doordarshan

3145. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan makes documentary films on different subjects every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total amount allocated for making documentary films/16 mm/video coverage during the last three financial years till date;

(c) whether any film has been made on any subject of North-East region during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any such films are likely to be made in the current financial year also on any subjects of North-East region and on bordering areas of NE region; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Prasara Bharati has informed that Programme Production Centre, Guwahati produced 26 documentaries during the last 3 years and all of them were concerned with topics pertaining to the North-East, such as tourism development, cultural heritage, music & dance, festivals and other developmental activities.

Doordarshan's Central Production Centre, New Delhi produced 52 short features and 5 full-length documentaries during the last three years.

No separate budget was allocated for the purpose and expenditure was met out of the normal budget of these centres.

(e) and (f) Prasar Bharati has informed that production of such programmes in the current financial year is dependent on availability of funds.

Digging of Canal

3146. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Defence is considering a proposal to take water of Narmada through digging a canal along the Kutchh border in Gujarat with Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether wire fencing along the Kutchh border with Pakistan is more suitable than digging of canal; and

(c) if so, the reasons for digging of canal?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Water Supply from Bisalpur and Budhapushkar Jal Yojana in Ajmer

3147. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway take water from both the Bisalpur and Budhapushkar Jal Yojana in Ajmer;

(b) if so, the quantity, name of those places from where water use to be taken and the rate therefor;

(c) the reasons for not taking full quantity of water from Bisalpur Jal Yojana by the Railway Factories;

(d) whether water level of Pushkar Sarovar and its nearby villages has been depleted drastically due to continuously taking water from wells of Budhapushkar by Railways;

(e) if so, whether any representation has been received from the villages of Ajmer division for not taking water from Budhapushkar; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Railways thereto?

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

(b) (i) Bisalpur Jal Yojana—2800 kilo litres per day at the rate of Rs. 11.80 per kilo litres, and (ii) Railway's Source—1700 kilo litres per day.

(c) Railway services are essential in nature so it cannot be dependent on one source alone, that too outside agency Railways are having their own source at Budha Pushkar from where water is being drawn for more than 100 years. Supply of water through Bisalpur Jal Yojana is not very reliable. Whenever there is any problem in water supply through Bisalpur Jal Yojana, Railway is the first affected party and in turn the passenger services get adversely affected.

(d) No, Sir. Water level of Budha Pushkar which is a natural spring is approximately 18 metres higher than Pushkar Sarovar and this cannot be a cause of depletion of water level if any, at Pushkar Sarovar. Depletion of water level may be due to scanty rainfall in the area in the recent past.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Railway has taken up the matter with the State Government at the highest level and a letter has been written by the Minister for Railways to the Chief Minister, Rajasthan.

Funds for Welfare Schemes

3148. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals/projects received from various State Governments/UT administrations under various schemes of the Ministry and funds allocated/sanctioned thereunder during 2003-04 and 2004-05, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise;

(b) the funds actually utilized by States/UTs out of the total allocation made during the said period, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise;

(c) whether complaints regarding mis-utilisation of funds have been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State/UT-wise; and

(e) the method and rules adopted/prescribed by the Government in regard to the unutilized amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI

SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) A statement giving scheme-wise details of funds released and utilized by State Governments/UT Administrations during 2003-04 and 2004-05 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) State Governments/UT Administrations are generally released grant during the Current year only after utilization certificate of previous releases have been received.

Statement

2003-04

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No	States/UTs	Special Central Assistance for Special Component Plan		Post Metric Scholarship for SC students		Pre Metric Sch. for children of those engaged in unclean occupation		Construction of Hostels for Scheduled Caste boys		Construction of Hostels for Scheduled Caste girls		Coaching & Allied scheme for weaker sections incl. SCs, OBC & Min.		Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 & prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989		Upgradation of Merit for SCs	
		R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6222.90	5595.74	5449.14	UCA	458.90	UCA	42.67	42.67	649.90	505.50	34.05	UCA	464.42	379.00	42.00	42.00
2.	Assam	625.21	305.76	412.41	280.83	10.07	8.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	933.00	500.00	0.00	24.00	32.79	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.82	UCA	0.00	0.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	408.29	65.00	352.71	152.10	20.54	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.10	UCA	15.00	7.95
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	0.32	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.73	0.50	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	644.46	320.36	1373.70	1055.28	345.57	UCA	0.00	0.00	17.54	UCA	0.00	0.00	256.63	29.64	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	1434.00	856.22	228.53	166.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.23	18.38	7.05	UCA
8.	Himachal Pradesh	248.66	362.07	11.82	UCA	0.00	0.00	28.96	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	148.46	112.69	95.98	28.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	281.03	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	2124.76	2124.76	2481.93	UCA	0.00	0.00	406.35	406.35	319.20	319.20	14.33	UCA	0.00	300.63	21.55	UCA
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	677.57	UCA	0.00	0.00	40.25	UCA	33.00	UCA	20.54	UCA	43.70	43.05	3.00	3.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2955.43	3277.34	1278.93	UCA	85.7	UCA	999.42	UCA	0.00	0.00	25.63	25.63	1280.97	UCA	58.00	UCA
14.	Maharashtra	1991.36	2881.63	2765.57	UCA	157.73	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.40	UCA	0.00	0.00
15.	Manipur	4.42	0.00	82.76	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	15.55	8.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	779.30	1728.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.04	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.95	UCA	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18.	Punjab	680.03	380.28	0.00	0.00	18.51	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.43	UCA	0.00	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	2984.25	3608.94	1207.70	1007.86	124.59	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.68	54.29	0.00	0.00
20.	Sikkim	1.12	34.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	48.00	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.95	UCA	2.25	2.25
21.	Tamil Nadu	3800.74	5123.08	2184.45	2328.88	91.04	UCA	1134.00	UCA	378.00	UCA	0.00	0.00	124.61	UCA	0.00	0.00
22.	Tripura	76.80	178.91	174.23	181.89	6.64	7.28	0.00	0.00	4.35	4.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	1.20
23.	Uttar Pradesh	7817.94	13417.94	5137.58	UCA	92.56	51.72	91.83	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1030.22	570.20	34.31	34.31
24.	Uttaranchal	407.74	538.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.45	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	West Bengal	3994.68	2140.69	2165.81	UCA	6.81	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
U.Ts																	
26.	Chandigarh	12.50	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Dadra & Nager Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.42	32.39	0.00	0.00
28.	Delhi	99.37	0.00	22.16	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	99.73	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	3.13	11.33	99.73	UCA	0.45	UCA	0.00	0.00	100.00	UCA	0.00	0.00	34.63	UCA	0.00	0.00

R = Amount Released

U = Amount for which U.C. received

UCA = U.C. awaited.

2003-04

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Post Matric Scholarship for OBC		Pre Matric Scholarship for OBCs		Construction of Hostels for OBC boys and girls		Employment of the Handicapped		Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment	
		R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	299.02	UCA	402.60	UCA	220.00	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	UCA
2.	Assam	1.61	UCA	26.00	UCA	2.00	UCA	0.00	0.00	43.30	UCA
3.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.18	54.18
4.	Goa	3.26	3.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.88	5.07
5.	Gujarat	323.25	323.26	207.3	207.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.91	UCA
6.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.79	23.27
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.16	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	UCA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8.	Karnataka	187.25	UCA	26.57	UCA	296.02	UCA	0.00	0.00	79.41	UCA
9.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.26	UCA
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	106.86	UCA
11.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	742.75	UCA
12.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.13	UCA
13.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.37	UCA
14.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.56	UCA
15.	Orissa	18.09	UCA	0.00	0.00	161.67	UCA	0.00	0.00	5.43	UCA
16.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.56	UCA
17.	Rajasthan	326.72	UCA	194.24	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.18	13.55
18.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.33	2.33
19.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	68.48	68.48	0.00	0.00	106.85	106.85
20.	Tripura	240	240	175	175	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	UCA
21.	Uttar Pradesh	987.91	UCA	615.29	615.29	195.47	195.47	19.84	Not Appl	127.35	UCA
22.	Uttaranchal	11.9	UCA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	UCA
23.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.84	UCA
U.T.s											
24.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	UCA
25.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	Not Appl	UCA

R = Amount released

U = Amount for which U.C. received.

UCA = U.C. awaited.

2004-05

(Rs. in lakh)

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
3.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	100.00	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	117.66	Not due	1567.79	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	1.93	Not due	0.33	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	Not due	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	412.11	Not due	103.67	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.71	Not due	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	0.00	1866.72	68.56	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.84	Not due	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	394.13	Not due	3.55	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	382.39	Not due	28.80	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	84.21	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	1008.32	Not due	744.58	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	458.50	Not due	0.00	0.00
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	203.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1132.84	Not due	383.68	Not due	25.68	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Maharashtra	931.05	Not due	829.67	Not due	47.32	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Manipur	3.82	Not due	24.83	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	4.67	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	345.70	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.55	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	407.43	779.58	362.31	Not due	37.38	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Sikkim	14.75	Not due	0.00	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	784.82	Not due	0.00	Not due	27.31	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	195.84	Not due	5.98	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	3897.99	Not due	1541.27	Not due	88.32	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Uttaranchal	168.24	85.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	West Bengal	2985.42	Not due	649.74	Not due	2.05	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
U.T.s																	
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	Not due	0.00	0.00
27.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	6.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	29.92	0.00	2.54	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Note: Utilization certificates is obtained for previous releases at the time of release of current year releases.

In case of 2004-05, UC will become due in the financial year 2005-06

R = Amount Released

U = Amount for which U.C. received

UCA = U.C. awaited.

2004-05

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Post Matric Scholarship for OBC		Pre Matric Scholarship for OBCs		Construction of Hostels for OBC boys and girls		Employment of the Handicapped		Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment	
		R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U	R	U
1.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.00	Not due
2.	Goa	5.96	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	260.30	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.59	Not due
5.	Maharashtra	13.76	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Manipur	108.50	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.92	Not due
8.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.73	0.00
9.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.95	Not due
10.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.33	Not due
11.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	138.18	Not due
12.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	120.67	Not due	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
U.T.s											
13.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	Not due	0.00	0.00

Note: Utilization certificates is obtained for previous releases at the time of release of current year releases. In case of 2004-05, UC will become due in the financial year 2005-06.

R = Amount Released

U = Amount for which U.C. received

UCA = U.C. awaited.

[English]

Rail Vikas Nigam

3149. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited for the execution of projects aimed at strengthening the Golden Quadrilaterals;

(b) if so, the details of the projects handled by the RVNL, for strengthening the Golden Quadrilaterals, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the coordination, cooperation and functioning of National Rail Vikas Yojana differ from that R.V.N.L. (Rail Vikas Nigam Limited)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL) has been set up for execution of bankable projects for strengthening of Golden Quadrilaterals and Diagonals and port connectivity/hinterland development.

(b) The details of the projects alongwith the State in which they fall, transferred to RVNL are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited is executing some of the projects covered under National Rail Vikas Yojana which are bankable. The other projects under National Rail Vikas Yojana are being executed by Railways.

Statement

List of Sanctioned Works Transferred to Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Project	State	Anticipated Cost	Outlay 2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
New Lines				
1.	Daitari-Banspani	Orissa	590.60	83.00
2.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	Orissa	301.63	6.00
Gauge Conversion				
3.	Gonda-Gorakhpur Loop with Anand Nagar Nautanwa	Uttar Pradesh	381.17	20.00
4.	Thanjavur-Villupuram	Tamilnadu	231.00	15.00
5.	Arasikere-Hassan-Mangalore	Karnataka	357.11	0.01
6.	Bhildi-Samdri	Rajasthan/Gujarat	244.74	20.00
7.	Delhi-Rewari	Delhi/Haryana	140.00	0.00
8.	Rangia-Murkongselek alongwith linked fingers	Assam/NE Region	915.70	3.00
9.	Gandhidham-Palanpur	Gujarat	344.63	13.00
10.	Cuddalore-Salem via Vriddhachalam	Tamilnadu	261.00	25.00
Doubling				
11.	Tikiapara-Santragachi IV line	West Bengal	22.50	20.00
12.	Bilaspur-Urkura	Chhattisgarh	227.36	72.00
13.	Attipattu-Korukkupettai	Tamilnadu	70.56	6.00
14.	New Delhi-Tilak Bridge 5th and 8th line	Delhi	33.74	15.00
15.	Diva Kalyan doubling of 5-6 line	Maharashtra	48.06	9.00
16.	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Bridges on Mahanadi & Birupa)	Orissa	109.45	10.99

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Hospet-Guntakal	Karnataka/Andhra Pradesh	154.14	65.00
18.	Gurup-Shaktigarh 3rd line	West Bengal	55.58	4.00
19.	Pakni-Solapur	Maharashtra	38.52	25.00
20.	Chennai Beach-Attipattu 4th line	Tamilnadu	50.23	5.00
21.	Khurda Road-Barang 3rd line	Orissa	133.41	10.00
22.	Cuttack-Barang	Orissa	127.13	20.00
23.	Barauni-Tilrath Bypass	Bihar	15.37	12.00
24.	Raichur-Guntakal	Karnataka/Andhra Pradesh	136.62	10.00
25.	Chennai Bech-Korukkupet	Tamilnadu	55.23	5.00
26.	Aligarh-Ghaziabad 3rd line	Uttar Pradesh	230.73	10.00
27.	Rajatgarh-Barang	Orissa	157.98	15.00
28.	Pakni-Mahol	Maharashtra	42.73	10.00
29.	Panskura-Haldia PH-I	West Bengal	26.02	10.00
30.	Pattabiram-Tiruvallur 4th line (15.06 km) & Tiruvallur-Arakkonam 3rd line (26.83 km)	Tamilnadu	71.94	6.00
31.	Gooty-Renigunta-Patch doubling	Andhra Pradesh	305.95	37.50
32.	Balapalle-Pullampet-PH-I of Gooty-Renigunta	Andhra Pradesh	85.59	5.00
33.	Panvel-Jasai-JNPT	Maharashtra	53.25	25.00
34.	Sahibabad-Anand Vihar-3rd & 4th line	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh	49.57	7.50
Metropolitan Transport Project				
35.	Thane-Mumbai 5th and 6th line	Maharashtra	49.34	0.01
Railway Electrification				
36.	Renigunta-Guntakal	Andhra Pradesh	168.34	40.00
37.	Bhubaneswar-Kottavalasa	Orissa/Andhra Pradesh	322.71	35.00
38.	Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar including Talcher-Pradeep	West Bengal/Orissa	325.18	36.00

List of unsanctioned works transferred to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

Sl.No.	Project	State	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crore)
Doubling			
39.	Jn. Cabin-Palwal: 4th Line	Haryana	210.00
40.	Palwal-Bhuteshwar 3rd Line	Haryana/Uttar Pradesh	240.43
41.	Bhopal-Bina: 3rd Line	Madhya Pradesh	200.00
42.	Kalyan-Kasara: 3rd Line	Maharashtra	166.85
43.	Igatpuri-Bhusaval: 3rd Line	Maharashtra	400.00
44.	Panskura-Kharagpur: 3rd Line	West Bengal	120.00
45.	Bhigwan-Gulbarga	Maharashtra	394.00
46.	Mumbra-Diva 5th and 6th Line	Maharashtra	50.00
Gauge Conversion			
47.	Bharuch-Samni-Dahej	Gujarat	150.00
48.	Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari	Rajasthan/Haryana	746.00
New Lines			
49.	Vallarpadam-Idapally	Kerala	84.00
50.	Hastavaram-Krishnapattnam	Andhra Pradesh	335.00
51.	Surat-Hajira	Gujarat	200.00
52.	Bhadrak-Dhamra	Orissa	200.00
53.	Chhatrapur-Gopalpur	Orissa	50.00
54.	Tuglakabad-Dadri ICD	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh	242.00
Other Works			
55.	Pune-Guntakal Electrification	Maharashtra/Andhra Pradesh	380.00
56.	Upgradation works to run freight trains at 100 kmph	—	3500.00

*[Translation]***Computerised Booking Offices of Railway Stations
in Gujarat**

3150. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE
PATIL:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of such railway stations and city booking offices in Gujarat and Maharashtra, which have been equipped with the computerised return journey ticket booking facility, station-wise and city booking office-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase their number if the above States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The return journey reservation from any station to any station in any train can be done from any Computerized Rail Reservation Centre. A list of such stations in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra is given in enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The facility is being extended continuously to more and more cities in the country. There

is a plan to extend this facility at Roha Bhivandi, Tata Memorial Hospital (Mumbai), Wadsa, Boisar and Amalner in the State of Maharashtra and Dakor, Kosamba, Morvi, Athwalines (Surat City) and Bodeli in the State of Gujarat.

Statement

List of computerised Reservation locations already commissioned in the State of Maharashtra and Gujarat

Sl.No.	Location
1	2

Maharashtra

1. Achalpur
2. Ahmadnagar
3. Ajni
4. Akola
5. Alibagh
6. Ambarnath
7. Amravati
8. Anandpur Trust
9. Andheri (Mumbai)
10. Aurangabad
11. Badnera
12. Balaghat
13. Balharshah
14. Bandra Terminus
15. Baramati
16. Belapur
17. Belapur CBO
18. Bhandra Road Rly. Stn.
19. Bhandup
20. Bhayandar (Mumbai)
21. Bhusaval
22. Borivili (Mumbai)

1	2
23.	Byculla
24.	Chalisgaon
25.	Chandrapur
26.	Chembur
27.	Chinchwad
28.	Chiplun
29.	Churchh Gate (Mumbai)
30.	Dadar
31.	Dahanu Road
32.	Daund
33.	Deccan Gymkhana (Pune)
34.	Deolali
35.	Dhule
36.	Dombivli (Mumbai)
37.	Ghatkopar (Mumbai)
38.	Ghoradongri
39.	Gondia
40.	Harisons CTSP
41.	Hinganghat
42.	Hingloi Deccan
43.	INS Hamla
44.	INS Shivaji Lonavala
45.	Itwari (Nagpur)
46.	Jalgaon
47.	Jalna
48.	Kalyan
49.	Karad
50.	Karjat
51.	Khadki
52.	Khopoli

1	2
53.	Kolhapur
54.	Kudal
55.	Kurudwadi
56.	Latur
57.	Lokmanya Tilak Terminal
58.	Lonavala
59.	Maharashtra Assembly
60.	Mahavir CTSP
61.	Malad (Mumbai)
62.	Malkapur
63.	Mandla Fort
64.	Mankhurd
65.	Manmad
66.	Minakshi CTSP
67.	Miraj
68.	Mulund (Mumbai)
69.	Mumbai Central
70.	Mumbai CST
71.	Nagpur
72.	Nainpur
73.	Nanded
74.	Nandurbar
75.	Nasik
76.	Nasik CBO
77.	Navy Nagar, Colaba
78.	Neral
79.	Osmanabad
80.	Palghar
81.	Pandharpur
82.	Panvel (Mumbai)

1	2
83.	Parbhani
84.	Parli Vajinath
85.	Pune
86.	Pune Cantonment
87.	Ratnagiri
88.	Raviwar Peth (Pune)
89.	Sahar Airport Mumbai
90.	Sangli
91.	Santhra Market (Nagpur)
92.	Satara
93.	Seoni
94.	Sewagram
95.	Shankar Seth (Pune)
96.	Shegaon
97.	Shirdi
98.	Solapur
99.	Thane
100.	Thivim
101.	Tumsar Road
102.	Ulhasnagar
103.	Vartak Nagar
104.	Vasai Road (Mumbai)
105.	Vashi
106.	Virar (Mumbai)
107.	Wardha
108.	Washim
109.	Yavatmal
110.	Zonal Training School
Gujarat	
1.	Ahmedabad

1	2
2.	Alkapuri
3.	Amreli
4.	Anand
5.	Ankleshwar
6.	Bhachau
7.	Bhaktinagar
8.	Bharuch
9.	Bhavnagar
10.	Billimora
11.	Dahod
12.	Dharangadhra
13.	Dwarka
14.	Gandhidham
15.	Gandhigram
16.	Gandhinagar
17.	Godhra
18.	Hapa
19.	Himmatnagar
20.	Jamnagar
21.	Junagarh
22.	Maninagar (Ahmadabad)
23.	Mehsana
24.	Nadiad
25.	Navagadh
26.	Navsari
27.	New Bhuj
28.	Okha
29.	Padmavati Complex CBO (Vadodara)
30.	Palanpur

1	2
31.	Patan
32.	Porbandar
33.	Pratapnagar (Vadodara)
34.	Rajkot
35.	Sabarmati
36.	Sardargram
37.	Surat
38.	Surendranagar
39.	Udhna
40.	Vadodara
41.	Valsad
42.	Vapi
43.	Vastrapur
44.	Veraval
45.	Viramgam

[English]

Decline in allocation of Fund under PMGSY

3151. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocations made for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been sharp decline in the allocation of fund in the annual plan for 2004-05 for PMGSY; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) While the allocation of funds from the Central Road Fund for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) from 2000-01 to 2002-03 was Rs. 2500 crore per year, it was reduced to Rs. 2325 crore during 2003-04 and further reduced to Rs. 21.48 crore during 2004-05, reportedly on account of lower accruals from the cess on High Speed Diesel (HSD) into the Central Road Fund.

The additional cess of 50 paise per litre imposed on HSD in the Union Budget of 2003-04 has so far not become available for PMGSY.

Conversion of INS Vikrant into Museum

3152. SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final decision has been taken by the Government to convert INS Vikrant into a museum;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government so far to convert INS Vikrant into a museum;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in taking the decision to convert heritage warship into museum; and

(d) the time by when the INS Vikrant is likely to be converted into museum?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Vikrant was opened to the public as an in-house museum from December 2001 till February 2003. Thereafter, the ship has been docked at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, for repairs. Government of Maharashtra has in June, 2004 committed an investment of only Rs. 25 crore for infrastructure works to convert Vikrant into a museum. No final decision has been taken by the Government of India for additional financial support required for converting the ship into a museum.

(d) No definite time frame can be given for conversion of Vikrant into a museum.

[Translation]

Transportation of Perishable Goods

3153. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway stations where loading and transportation of perishable goods has been stopped which were in operation since 2003-04 or earlier;

(b) the date and reasons behind implementation of this decision and alternate facility for transportation of such goods;

(c) the names of stations deprived of goods loading on Delhi-Mumbai route; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make available the fresh items to the public on affected stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No station has been closed exclusively for loading and transportation of perishable goods since 2003-04.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Baresharia Bhaona

3154. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a project proposal for construction of a permanent structure of Baresharia Bhaona and allied structures at Jamuguri in District Sowspur, Assam in the State priority list of proposals for funding through Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources;

(b) if so, the details and cost of the project; and

(c) the action taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Profit earned by ONGC

3155. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the net profit earned by ONGC during the last three years;

(b) whether the net profit during 2003-04 has declined sharply;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost its revenue and profit?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) During the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) earned a net annual profit of Rs. 6198 Crore, Rs. 10529 Crore, and Rs. 8664 Crore respectively.

(b) and (c) The net profit of ONGC during the last year 2003-04 has declined by Rs. 1865 Crore (17.71%) as compared to the year 2002-03. The main reason for the decline in profit is the allowing of discount given by ONGC to public sector refineries and OMCs as per the decision of the Government, in the prices of crude oil, LPG and SKO, to share the burden of under-recoveries of Oil Marketing Companies on PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG.

(d) A number of measures have been taken by ONGC as also by the Government to boost the revenue and profits of ONGC. These, *inter alia*, include maximization of revenues through optimization of prices; optimum product-mix for value-addition; improvement in production through Improved Oil Recovery/Enhanced Oil Recovery schemes; optimisation of cost at all stages; acquisition of oil fields abroad; emphasis on operational efficiency; introduction of new technologies, introduction of innovative financial and administrative measures, etc.

Criteria for Allotment of Petrol Pumps

3156. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by the Union Government for allotment of petrol pumps to persons belonging to General and SCs/STs category;

(b) whether the Union Government has received representation regarding violation of the criteria;

(c) if so, the total number of representations received from various districts of Gujarat and other States; and

(d) the number of petrol pumps allotted in 2002-2003 to various districts of Gujarat and other States in

violation of fixed criteria and action taken by the Union Government on the representations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Government have authorized the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) to select dealers/distributors of petroleum products, including those for petrol pumps. While asking the OMCs to frame their own guidelines for the purpose, the Government have advised them of certain broad and objective parameters for inclusion in the guidelines. One of these parameters is to provide for reservation of dealerships/distributorships for different sections of the society. The Ministry has also advised the OMCs to continue the Corpus Fund Scheme for financial assistance to SC/ST candidates. The OMCs have accordingly framed their guidelines and have been making selections and allotments as per these guidelines. The said guidelines provide for 25% reservation of dealerships/distributorships for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, and 50% are available to the general category. The candidates interviewed under the SC/ST category are not evaluated under the parameter 'capability to provide infrastructure'.

(b) to (d) While the guidelines, laying down various criteria for selection of dealers/distributors, including quota reserved for different categories, is followed by all concerned in making selections, the OMCs and the Government too, from time to time, receive complaints alleging irregularity in some selections. These complaints are looked into and remedial action taken after inquiry.

Smart Village Project in Gujarat

3157. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has forwarded a proposal under the Smart Village Project (SVP) to the Ministry of Rural Development for sanction of one village for each 225 talukas of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Releasing of amount for Rural Development Schemes

3159. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by the Union Government of State Governments for various schemes of Rural Development during the current year 2004-2005; and

(b) the details of the amount released by the Union Government, State-wise, Scheme-wise?

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development implements the major schemes, namely, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), the Desert Development Programme (DDP) and the Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP), the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). State-wise and Scheme-wise details of the amounts released by the Ministry of Rural Development during the current financial year i.e. 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Rs. 20 crore has been provided for the project in the Budget, 2004-05, An expenditure of about Rs. 0.56 crore (provisional) has been incurred on the project upto 30.06.04.

(d) No target date has yet been fixed.

Statement

Funds released to the State Governments for various Schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development during the year 2004-2005

(Rs. in lakhs)

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7.	Gujarat	6169.98	998.64	2583.96	0.00	291.00	968.00	199.00	2445.00	200.00	13875.58
8.	Haryana	3250.42	587.52	873.74	0.00	0.00	436.00	208.00	729.00	811.13	6895.81
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1207.36	245.30	386.53	0.00	59.00	0.00	187.00	2003.50	0.00	4088.69
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1700.76	299.49	485.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.00	4615.50	964.73	8131.61
11.	Jharkhand	18926.12	2378.99	7175.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1088.83	130.00	29699.75
12.	Karnataka	10523.85	2003.38	4650.78	0.00	120.00	394.00	453.00	3708.89	441.99	22295.89
13.	Kerala	4722.06	898.91	2881.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	99.00	1737.00	502.00	10840.95
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16985.19	2882.44	5365.47	0.00	1392.00	0.00	776.00	2859.50	1909.51	32170.11
15.	Maharashtra	20803.28	3960.20	8251.82	0.00	19.00	0.00	801.00	5896.00	2955.24	42776.54
16.	Manipur	739.57	0.00	296.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	167.00	956.00	0.00	2159.13
17.	Meghalaya	1109.69	46.27	639.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1795.06
18.	Mizoram	337.90	62.53	157.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	68.00	790.00	0.00	1415.51
19.	Nagaland	1001.64	77.43	407.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	810.50	0.00	2296.84
20.	Orissa	15940.39	3034.66	7238.58	0.00	25.00	0.00	482.00	2560.00	90.00	29370.63
21.	Punjab	3615.34	285.53	578.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1039.00	699.94	6218.60
22.	Rajasthan	7991.19	1521.23	2438.12	13000.00	277.00	2242.00	575.00	7528.35	296.33	35869.22
23.	Sikkim	374.11	69.23	113.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.07	630.64
24.	Tamil Nadu	12322.86	2345.83	4515.00	0.00	508.00	0.00	801.00	2630.50	801.26	23924.45
25.	Tripura	2353.68	435.46	955.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.00	977.00	253.66	5006.05
26.	Uttar Pradesh	47097.04	8575.36	16279.86	0.00	49.00	0.00	160.00	4796.00	1668.59	78625.85
27.	Uttaranchal	3145.57	477.55	1709.84	0.00	24500	0.00	401.00	1428.00	503.23	7910.19
28.	West Bengal	16170.23	3002.54	9685.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3148.00	424.56	32430.94
Total		266723.97	47668.55	124977.41	14897.00	4362.00	5298.00	7353.00	62069.07	15080.90	548429.90

SGRY—Sampoorna Gram Rozgar Yojana
 SGSY—Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
 IAY—Indira Awas Yojana
 PMGSY—Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

DPAP—Drought Prone Areas Programme
 DDP—Desert Development Programme
 IWDP—Integrated Watershed Development Programme
 RWSP—Rural Water Supply Programme
 CRSP/TSC—Central Rural Sanitation Programme/Total Sanitation Campaign.

*[English]***Allotment of Bookstalls at Stations**

3160. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to allotment of bookstalls to educated unemployed as well as the weaker section of the society as per the new Bookstall policy announced in the Budget;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration for getting the "B", "C" and "D" category stations vacated from A.H. Wheeler & Co. in favour of above mentioned categories;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any ceiling limit fixed by the Railways for holding of bookstalls by the Contractors and the number of bookstalls to be held by A.H. Wheeler & Co. and Higginbothams Ltd.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As the new Bookstall Policy came into effect from 11.06.2004 the zonal railways are identifying railway stations for allotment of bookstalls to the unemployed graduate and weaker section of the society.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Wheels Manufactured at Bhilai and Durgapur Plants

3161. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the faulty tracks, defective coaches, inattentive drivers, it is now inferior quality wheels which have been blamed for causing railway accidents;

(b) if so, whether the wheels manufactured at Durgapur and Bhilai Steel Plants were found to be faulty, prone to fractures; and

(c) if so, the efforts being taken or proposed to be taken to avoid such situation?

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

(b) A few cases of failure of loco wheels during the period July 2001 to June 2003, manufactured by Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) were reported. A few cases of failure of coach wheels manufactured at DSP in 1995-98 have also occurred in the period December 1999 to October 2003.

(c) The Specification of Wheels has been revised to take care of manufacturing quality, Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO), Lucknow is also carrying out quality audit in Durgapur Steel Plant from time to time.

Subsidy on Diesel for Farmers

3162. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked oil companies to finalise the subsidy on diesel to be given to farmers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the oil companies in that regard; and

(c) the amount of subsidy being given to the farmers in different States by these oil companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The issue regarding providing relief to farmers using diesel pump sets for irrigation is under examination of the Government.

International Film Festival

3163. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Film Festival of India is proposed to be held at Panaji in November, 2004;

(b) if so, the efforts being made by the Ministry and IFFI to build infrastructure there; and

(c) the amounts likely to be spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The International Film Festival of India is proposed to be held at Panaji from 29th November, 2004 to 9th December, 2004. The required infrastructure is being built by the Government of Goa. The entire expenditure on building the infrastructure will be met by the Government of Goa.

[*Translation*]

Ajmer-Pushkar Rail Line

3164. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in land-acquisition for laying proposed Ajmer-Pushkar new rail line in Rajasthan;

(b) the amount of compensation paid to the persons who lost their land;

(c) whether this rail line has been extended through a longer route whereas it could have been shorter; and

(d) the time by which the process of land acquisition is likely to be completed and the total amount spent so far in this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Land acquisition is in process. The possession of 63.77 hectares of private land has been taken over by Railways in 13 villages. Government land is yet to be handed over by the State Government.

(b) An amount of Rs. 10.93 crore has been deposited with the State Government against land acquisition which is to be disbursed to land owners by State Government.

(c) The alignment has been finalised after detailed survey.

(d) As the possession of land is to be handed over by the State Government of Rajasthan, it is not feasible to indicate the time by which the land acquisition will be completed. An expenditure of Rs. 10.97 crore has been incurred upto March, 2004.

[*English*]

Funds for Implementation of Sub-Mission Projects in Karnataka

3165. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal to Union Government to provide additional funds for implementation of sub-mission projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main reasons for delay and the time by which additional funds would be provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal to Union Government to provide additional funds for implementation of Sub-Mission Projects in April, 2003. The request was examined and a reply was furnished to State Government in August 2003.

(c) Water supply is a state subject. Government of India supports the efforts of the States by releasing funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for implementing rural water supply schemes. The criterion for inter-State allocation of funds under ARWSP is as under:

	Weightage for	Percentage
(a)	Rural Population	40
(b)	States under DDP, DPAP, HADP & special category hill States in terms of rural areas	35
(c)	Not Covered/Partially Covered Villages (at 2:1 ratio)	15
(d)	Quality affected villages	10
	Total	100

With effect from 1.4.1998, full powers have been delegated to the State Governments to sanction and implement Sub-Mission projects for tackling quality problems. As per ARWSP Guidelines, 15% of ARWSP allocation every year is earmarked for implementing Sub-Mission Projects for tackling quality problem of drinking water supply in rural areas. Fully covered States can utilize more than 15% of ARWSP funds for tackling water quality with the approval of Government of India.

Pilferage of Crude Oil in Assam

3166. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of pilferage of crude oil in Assam have come to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in each case;

(c) whether such a case of theft of crude oil in Assam is under investigation of CBI; and

(d) if so, the preliminary findings thereof and the date by which the final report of CBI is likely to be received by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Both OIL and ONGC have informed that there have been some incidents of theft/pilferage of crude oil from their pipeline networks. During the last three years, i.e., from April 2001 to March 2004, Oil India Limited has reported 30 cases of theft/pilferage of crude oil from pipelines. ONGC has reported 16 such cases during the same period.

A number of measures have been taken to reduce, minimize and eventually eliminate such theft/pilferage. These measures, *inter-alia*, include close coordination between the oil companies, the Central and State Governments and the law enforcement agencies, and also involve deployment of Village Defence Parties, periodical surveillance by helicopters, joint patrolling exercises, deployment of dog squads, mobilization of public support, etc. The Government have also put in place an institutional mechanism by way of the Onshore Security Coordination Committee (OSCC) for the State of Assam to monitor the position periodically. OIL and ONGC have reported that 77 arrests were made in this connection during the last three years.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

[Translation]

Consumption of Steel in Railways

3167. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of domestic steel consumed in different projects in Railways during the last three year; and

(b) the quality of steel imported by the Railways during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) On Railway projects, steel is used in different activities, like construction of bridges, tunnels, buildings & structures, track material, signalling & electrical equipments, etc. The quantum of steel consumed in different projects is not available as required supplies are arranged by the contractors directly in most of the cases.

(b) 15764 Metric Tonne (MT) of imported rails were received during the last 3 years and the supply has been as per Railway's specifications.

[English]

Corruption in the Rajban Cement Factory of CCI

3168. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware about the loss of huge revenue through illegal payment of service commission to M/s. Techno Steel, Lucknow in case of supply of Cement to Maneria Bhali Department, Uttarakashi, by Rajban Cement Factory of Cement Corporation of India Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the loss of Government revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Sir, there is no loss of revenue to Cement Corporation of India Ltd., through payment of service commission to M/s. Techno steel, Lucknow, for supply of cement to Maneri Bhali Project, Uttarkashi, Government of Uttaranchal. Such commission is paid under provisions of the Marketing Manual of the Company.

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

Financial Assistance to CCI for Voluntary Retirement Fund

3169. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rupees one crore given by the Ministry of Heavy Industries to the Cement Corporation of India for voluntary retirement fund has been diverted for making payment to private firms and contractors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against those involved for this financial irregularity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. VRS funds released by the Government have been utilized by CCI for the purpose for which these were released by the Government.

(c) In view of reply as above, the question does not arise.

Development under CAPART in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

3170. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary agencies for Rural Development under Council of Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(b) the details of specific programmes undertaken under CAPART during the last three years; and

(c) the extent to which it has helped to curb rural unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to

(c) One Voluntary Organisation (VO) viz. Vivekananda Smriti Samiti Kollinpur, PO-Haerbatabadi, District Andaman had sent a project proposal to CAPART during the last three years (i.e. on 20-03-2002) and the same was rejected as it was not in CAPART's prescribed format.

[Translation]

Survey on Places of Archaeological Importance in Rajasthan

3171. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kota, Bundi, Baran and Jhalwar districts are included among places of archaeological importance in Rajasthan;

(b) whether a survey has been conducted of places of archaeological importance in above districts;

(c) if so, the locations thereof;

(d) whether the Government has received evidence about the existence of the objects of archaeological importance in village Sishaula, Panchayat Samiti-Nainanwa, district Bundi;

(e) if so, whether any plan has been prepared for the protection, preservation and exploration of above things; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are several centrally protected monuments in the districts of Kota, Bundi, Baran and Jhalwar.

(c) A list of centrally protected monuments is at statement enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The evidence gathered do not warrant their central protection at this point of time.

Statement*List of the Locations of the Centrally Protected Monuments and Sites**List of Monuments & Sites Protected by Archaeological Survey of India in Baran, Bundi Jhalawar and Kota District in Rajasthan*

Sl.No.	Tehsil	Locality	Name of the monument
Baran District			
1.	Atru	Atru/Ganeshganj	Ruins of Temple
2.	Mangrol	Badva	Yupa Pillars
3.	Baran	Baran	Temple (12th century)
4.	Sahabad	Krishna Vilas	Ancient Ruins and Structural Remains, Old Temple, Statues and Inscriptions
5.	Atru	Sharegarh	Old Temple, Statues and Inscriptions
Bundi District			
1.	Bundi	Bundi	Wall Paintings of Hardoti School in the Palace
2.	Keshawrai	Keshawraipatan	Ancient Mound
	Patan		
3.	Naiwa	Naiwa	Ancient Mound
Jhalawar District			
1.	Dag	Binnayaga	Buddhist Caves and Pillars
2.	Dag	Dag	Caves of Niranjani etc.
3.	Gangdhar	Dalsagar	Ancient Ruins
4.	Gangdhar	Dudhaliya	Ancient Ruins
5.	Dag	Hathiagor	Buddhist Caves
6.	Jhalrapatan	Jhalrapatan	Old Temples near the Chandrabhaga
7.	Dag	Kolvi	Buddhist Caves, Pillars, Idols
Kota District			
1.	Sangol	Charchoma	Siva Temple and two unpublished Gupta Inscriptions
2.	Ramganj Mandi	Dara	Temple, Fort wall and Statues
3.	Kota	Kanswa	Temple with Inscription

*[English]***Waste Land for Plantation**

3172. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government to allot waste land and forest land to farmers or landless persons in rural areas for plantation of fruit trees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to allocate funds for this purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Allotment of wastelands to landless persons is a State subject. There is no such scheme under consideration of Central Government. However, wastelands distributed by the States as on March 2003 is given in the Statement enclosed. There is no scheme for allotment of forest lands to landless poor for plantation or otherwise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement*Distribution of Government Wastelands as on March, 2003*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Area Distributed (in Lakh Acres)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42.02
2.	Assam	5.89
3.	Bihar*	13.21
4.	Gujarat	13.81
5.	Haryana	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.17
7.	Karnataka	13.72

1	2	3
8.	Kerala	4.57
9.	Madhya Pradesh**	0.79
10.	Maharashtra	10.23
11.	Manipur	0.32
12.	Punjab	1.10
13.	Orissa	7.26
14.	Tamil Nadu	2.07
15.	Tripura	1.32
16.	Uttar Pradesh@	24.89
17.	West Bengal	4.32
18.	Goa	0.05
19.	Mizoram	0.74
20.	Rajasthan	0.93
21.	Delhi	0.06
Total		147.47

*Including Jharkhand

**Including Chhattisgarh

@Including Uttaranchal

Gauge Conversion In Fakiragram-Dhubri

3173. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in the gauge conversion work of Fakiragram-Dhubri rail line in Assam; and

(b) the total funds allocated and utilised on the project till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) On Fakiragram-Dhubri section (66.16 kms), gauge conversion of Fakiragram-Sapathgram (7.98 kms) has been taken up where bridge works are in progress. Earthwork and bridge works have also been taken up between Golakganj and Gauripur (13.36 kms). The work on rest of the section has not been taken up because of security reasons.

(b) Fakiragram-Dhubri gauge conversion is a part of New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon including linked branch lines (419.48 kms). An expenditure of Rs. 596.49 crore has been incurred on this project upto 31.03.2004. An outlay of Rs. 30 crore has been provided for this project during 2004-05. The funds are being utilized for progressing the works on branch lines and also between New Jalpaiguri and New Bongaigaon.

[Translation]

Norms for Desert Areas under PMGSY

3174. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to give concessions in the prescribed norms regarding construction of roads in the desert areas of the country particularly for Rajasthan under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has been received from the concerned States in this regard;

(d) if so, whether these proposals have since been given approval; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Whereas the objective of PMGSY is to connect all eligible unconnected habitations of population 500 and above in other parts of the country, in respect of Hill States (North East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal), Desert Areas and Tribal (Schedule-V) areas, the objective is to connect Habitations with a population of 250 persons and above.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Cooperation of Corporate Bodies in Maintenance of Protected Monuments

3175. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to involve the corporate bodies in the maintenance of Centrally protected monuments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to sign MoU for the restoration of the Centrally protected monuments particularly in West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The National Culture Fund under the Department of Culture established in 1996 enables corporate bodies, private institutions and individuals to participate in promoting and preserving India's cultural heritage including Centrally protected monuments. These include the Aga Khan Trust for Culture's project for revitalization of gardens at Humayun's tomb at Delhi, Indian Hotels Company Limited MoU for conservation and providing tourist infrastructures at Taj Mahal, Agra and Apeejay Surendra Hotels participation in the development of Jantar Mantar at Delhi.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

National Drainage Technology Programme

3176. SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government inaugurated the implementation of the National Drainage Technology Programme;

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

(c) whether the State of Andhra Pradesh stands included in the aforesaid programme;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken to include Andhra Pradesh in the said programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) In February 2004, a centrally sponsored scheme namely "Improvement of drainage in critical areas of the country" was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 54.57 crores involving Central share of Rs. 49.62 crores. The scheme aims to improve the drainage conditions of critical areas affected due to floods in the States including Andhra Pradesh.

(c) to (e) A scheme namely "Improvement to the major drainage problematic areas in the State of Andhra Pradesh (Krishna Delta system of Guntur and Prakasham districts)" at an estimated cost of Rs. 545 crores has been included in the centrally sponsored scheme. An amount of Rs. 1.50 crore has been released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh in July, 2004 towards first instalment.

[*Translation*]

Habitations for SC/ST/OBC

3177. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper development has not been done in the habitations of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the entire country;

(b) if so, whether there is any action plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) Development of Socially disadvantaged groups including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes continues to be on the priority in the development strategy of the country. A number of development schemes are being implemented targeting the welfare/development of these sections of the society. Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a number of rural development programmes and under these programmes special provisions have also been made to ensure the smooth flow of benefits of these programmes to the weaker sections of the society. Under the wage employment programme of the Ministry namely, Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), it has been provided that 50% of allocation under Stream-II of the programme must be utilized for taking up activities in the habitations of SCs/STs. Similarly, under Stream-I of the programme, 22.5% of the resources are earmarked for individual beneficiary schemes for SCs/STs.

Under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), which is a self-employment programme, special safeguards have been provided by way of reserving 50% benefits for SCs & STs. For Rural Housing, the Ministry is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) under which it

has been provided that at least 60% of the total allocation must be provided for SC/ST households. Similarly under Drinking Water Supply also the guidelines provide that at least 35% funds of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is to be utilized for the benefit of SCs & STs.

[*English*]

Recognition of KILA

3178. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to declare Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) as a national centre of excellence in Panchayati Raj and strengthen its capacities and potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the present status of this pioneer institution in the country alongwith the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get the recognition and promotional aid from International agencies including UN?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Panchayati Raj recognizes the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) as a premier institute of research and training but has not received any proposal for declaring the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) a National Center of Excellence in Panchayati Raj or for strengthening its capacities and potential. However, an amount of Rs. 84.00 lakhs has been released as Central Assistance to KILA for conducting training for elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State and other Rural Development functionaries in two instalments during 2003-04 and 2004-05.

Panchayati Raj Elections

3179. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of States and Union Territories where the elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions have not been held even after the enactment of 73rd Amendment Act, 1992;

(b) the specific causes for not holding elections in these States and Union Territories; and

(c) whether the Union Government arrange to hold Panchayat elections in the Union Territories of Pondicherry, where elected bodies are not in place for more than three decades; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions have not been held in Pondicherry and Jharkhand.

(b) to (d) Elections have not been held in Jharkhand on account of some controversy on the issue of non-tribal population in Schedule-V Areas. The Government of Jharkhand has informed the Government of India that the State Government has since amended the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act 2001 in November 2003 and elections will be held by the end of this year. The Union Territory of Pondicherry has informed that the election in Pondicherry could not be held as there were court cases pertaining to reservation for backward classes. As the matter has now been settled, elections will be held in Pondicherry shortly.

Distribution of Surplus Land

3180. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any details regarding surplus land available in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government is considering to distribute these surplus land among the landless workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as provided in Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) to the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The Union Government has been playing only an advisory and coordinating role in this field. State-wise details about ceiling surplus land and its distribution since inception is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

The distribution of Ceiling Surplus Land as on 31st March, 2004 (since inception)

(Area in acres)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Area Declared Surplus	Area Taken possession	Area Distributed to individual beneficiary
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	789910	646521	582188
2.	Assam	613405	575337	545875
3.	Bihar	415447	390752	306964
4.	Gujarat	226043	161716	146578
5.	Haryana	107067	103171	102388
6.	Himachal Pradesh	316556	304895	6167
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	455575	450000	450000

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Karnataka	268478	164675	123412
9.	Kerala	141427	96851	68745
10.	Madhya Pradesh	298763	260323	186942
11.	Maharashtra	708098	650031	613965
12.	Manipur	1830	1685	1682
13.	Orissa	180301	168035	158030
14.	Punjab	223115	105858	104257
15.	Rajasthan	611912	570290	463547
16.	Tamil Nadu	202795	194118	183670
17.	Tripura	1995	1944	1598
18.	Uttar Pradesh	366176	335099	259334
19.	West Bengal	1394180	1304185	1088445
20.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	9406	9305	6851
21.	Delhi	1132	394	394
22.	Pondicherry	2326	1286	1070
Total		7335937	6496471	5402102

[Translation]

Discovery of Mummies

3181. DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in the country where mummies have been found and their condition;

(b) whether a five hundred years old mummy has been found in a Buddhist monastery in Spiti area, Himachal Pradesh;

(c) the arrangements made for their protection and maintenance; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the protection of such cultured heritages and for development of such places as tourist spot?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI

S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No mummy has so far been found by the Archaeological Survey of India in the country.

(b) A buried body, dried in arid climate, was a chance-find near the village of Giu, District Lahul and Spiti, Himachal Pradesh. There is no scientific date available to estimate the period of the body under reference.

(c) The body at present is kept in a room of the village temple being maintained by the villagers.

(d) The village is located in the border area with restricted entry. Common people and tourists are not allowed to visit the area. Archaeological Survey of India has no proposal to protect this site at this stage.

Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture

3182. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any action plan for the preservation and promotion of languages, folk dances, art and culture of the tribals in the country;

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

(c) the details of the financial assistance given to various agencies/NGOs by the Union Government for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Culture has a number of programmes to preserve and promote tribal culture and folk art. They include a number of programmes sponsored by the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, Zonal Cultural Centres and the Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata. Besides, a number of multipurpose cultural complexes have been built in various parts of North-East and the Himalayan belt. In addition, the Ministry of Culture has other ongoing Schemes including a specific scheme for Preservation and Promotion of Tribal and Folk Art and Culture. Under this scheme, Voluntary organizations, Institutions and Individuals both tribal and non-tribal, who are engaged in the preservation of Tribal and Folk Art and Culture are provided financial assistance.

(c) The details of the financial assistance given to various agencies/NGOs during last three years is as under:

Financial Year	Amount released
2001-2002	Rs. 95,00,000
2002-2003	Rs. 95,00,000
2003-2004	Rs. 59,74,228

[English]

New Commission for Welfare of Minorities

3183. SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI RATILAL KALIADS VARMA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up two new Commissions for the welfare of the minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their composition, salient features and objectives, separately; and

(c) the time by which the said Commissions are likely to submit their report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A National Commission to submit recommendations regarding welfare of socially and economically backward sections among religious and linguistic minorities and a Commission for providing direct affiliation for minority professional institutions to Central Universities are proposed to be set up soon.

(c) The National Commission will be given six months time from the date of its constitution to submit its report.

[Translation]

Disposal of Unutilised Land

3184. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Defence has taken any decision in regard to disposal of unutilised land under defence estate;

(b) whether decision has been taken in regard to auction of defence land situated in the heart of major cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details in regard to such plots of defence land in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the replies given at (a) & (b) above.

(d) Does not arise in view of the replies given at (a) & (b) above.

*[English]***Repair of Roads**

3185. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to Army movement roads in border zone i.e. Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur suffered extensive damage;

(b) if so, whether Government of Punjab has requested for grant of funds to keep the road infrastructure in operational condition in these districts; and

(c) if so, the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Some roads in border areas are frequently used by Army for operational and logistic purposes. On the requests received from Punjab Government, 146.30 Kms. of such roads have been taken up for maintenance due to operational reasons out of Army Budget in Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur districts.

Setting up of Major Industries in Karnataka

3186. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major industries set up in Karnataka during the last two years alongwith locations thereof;

(b) the details of overall performance from the specific point of view of profit;

(c) whether the Government had ever thought of setting up any major industry in Haveri district, Karnataka with a view to developing the same and also for providing employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the provisions made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises has 48 Central Public Sector Enterprises directly under its administrative control. So far as this Ministry is concerned no major industries have been set up in the State of Karnataka in

the last two years and there is no proposal to set up any new public sector enterprise in Haveri District, Karnataka.

*[Translation]***Waiting List for LPG Connections**

3187. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:
SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE
PATIL:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received during the last three years for setting up petrol pumps and gas agencies in different States including Punjab, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Jharkhand;

(b) the district-wise details thereof;

(c) the number of allotments made so far and the number of applications lying pending;

(d) the number of consumers in the waiting list of LPG connection till date in above States, district-wise; and

(e) the time by which the consumers in the waiting lists would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The oil marketing companies (OMCs) release advertisements, from time to time, in respect of various locations in different districts in the country, including those in the States of Punjab, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Jharkhand, which are earmarked for setting up retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps) and LPG distributorships (gas agencies).

During the last three years, i.e., from 2001-02 to 2003-04, the four public sector OMCs had issued advertisements in respects of 10,376 locations for retail outlet dealerships and in respect of 1,997 locations for LPG distributorships; and the allotments made by them during the same period were 4,243 and 2,005 for RO

dealerships and LPG distributorships respectively. Out of these allotments, 1,904 and 1,109 retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships respectively were allotted against the advertisements issued in last three years, the rest being against advertisements issued earlier, Kargil allotments, etc.

(d) and (e) The current waiting list for LPG connections in the country is 84,361 numbers as on 1.8.2004. The OMCs have been advised to take effective steps to immediately liquidate this waiting list.

[English]

Rules and Regulations for Nurses

3188. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions of service and employment of Nurses working in the Military Services;

(b) whether any amendment has been made to the Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943 and Military Nursing Service (India) Rules, 1944;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Nursing Officers are entitled or Pay, Perks, Salute and other compliments by the lower ranks like other Officers of Military Services; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Military Nursing Service (MNS) Officers are governed by the Indian Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943 and Military Nursing Service (India) Rules, 1944.

The original Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943 was amended vide the Adaptation of Laws Order (A.L.O.) 1950 and the Commander-in-Chief (Change in Designation) Act, 1955 (XIX of 1955, S.2 and Schedule (7.5.1955).

The following amendments have been made in the Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943:

I. Vide the Adaptation of Laws Order (A.L.O.) 1950:

(a) The title of the Ordinance was changed from Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943 to The

Indian Military Nursing Service Ordinance, 1943.

(b) The words "in the Provinces" were omitted.

(c) "Indian Military Nursing Service" was substituted for "Military Nursing Services (India)".

(d) the word 'Crown' was substituted by the word 'Union'.

(e) The words 'His Majesty's' were substituted by the words 'The Indian'.

(f) the words 'Any British subject or any subject of an Indian State' were substituted by the words 'Any citizen of India'.

(g) The words 'and to those members of the Army in Indian Nursing Service Reserve who have engaged to serve with forces and person subject to the Indian Army Act, 1911" were omitted.

II. The words 'Commander-in-Chief India Army' were substituted by the words 'Chief of the Army Staff' by the Commander-in-Chief (Change in Designation) Act, 1955 (XIX of 1955, S.2 and Schedule (7.5.1955).

MNS Officers are entitled to pay and Perks as per Government orders issued from time to time. They are also entitled to salute and other compliments as per their Service norms. However, being an auxiliary force having different cadre, functions and responsibilities, the pay scales of the Military Nursing Service Officers are not comparable to those of the Officers of the Regular Army.

[Translation]

Cooking Gas in Rural Areas

3189. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Scheme to supply Cooking Gas in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of villages State-wise and district-wise covered under this Scheme with special reference to Dhanbad in Jharkhand State;

*Now Army Act, 1950 (XLVI of 1950).

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) As on 1.7.2004, OMCs have commissioned 1,075 out of 1,429 LPG distributorships planned under Urban/Rural category and 569 out of 1,247 LPG distributorships planned under Rural category. Further, with a view to covering uncovered Blocks/Tehsils/Mandals, the Ministry have advised the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to introduce innovative steps for low income group customers such as introduction of 5 kg. cylinders, setting up of community kitchens in villages, etc.

(b) to (d) At present, 16 LPG distributors of OMCs are serving the customers in Dhanbad District of Jharkhand, of which 1 is operating in the urban-rural area.

LPG connections are available on demand throughout the country including in Jharkhand and it is expected that due to the various innovative steps being taken by OMCs, LPG availability in rural areas of Dhanbad District will be further increased. The details of villages covered State-wise & district-wise are available with the OMCs.

[English]

Financial Assistance for Ambedkar Bhawan Complex at Ahmedabad

3190. DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal to the Union Government for financial assistance for the proposed Ambedkar Bhawan Complex at Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Gujarat has requested for financial assistance of Rs. 10.00 crores for construction of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar National Foundation at Ahmedabad. The proposal is being processed.

Metre Gauge/Broad Gauge Rail Lines in NER

3191. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of metre gauge/broad gauge rail lines in terms of route in kilometres in NER at present;

(b) the details of such rail lines, area-wise; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for development, promotion and expansion of railway lines in the State of Arunachal Pradesh during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The total length of Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge rail lines (route kilometres) in North East Region (latest available as on 31.3.2003) is given below:

States in North East Region	Length of railway lines (route kilometres)		
	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge	Total
Arunachal Pradesh	—	1.26	1.26
Assam	1227.70	1289.53	2517.23
Manipur	—	1.35	1.35
Meghalaya	—	—	—
Mizoram	—	1.50	1.50
Nagaland	11.13	1.72	12.85
Tripura	—	64.42	64.42
Total	1238.83	1359.78	2598.61

(c) The work of new line from Harmuti to Itanagar (33 kms) is already included in the budget. However, State Government of Arunachal Pradesh requested for change of alignment of the new line from Bedeti to Itanagar (45 kms) in lieu of Harmuti-Itanagar. The survey for this changed alignment is in progress. A amount of Rs. 2 crore has been provided for this project in the budget 2004-05.

[Translation]

Licences for Opening of Petrol Pumps & Gas Agencies

3192. SHRI RAMESH BAIS:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of Private Sector Oil Companies which have been provided licences for opening petrol pumps and gas agencies;

(b) the details of the rules frames for opening petrol pumps and gas agencies by above companies; and

(c) State-wise names of the cities where petrol pumps and gas agencies are being opened by above companies alongwith details?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Government have granted authorization for marketing of transportation fuels to three private companies namely, M/s. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), M/s. Essar Oil Limited (EOL) and M/s. Shell India Private Limited (SIPL). RIL, EOL and SIPL have proposed to set up 5,849, 1,700 and 2,000 Retail Outlets respectively, throughout the country. The Retail Outlets would be set up by these companies as per their commercial considerations subject to the condition that they would set up at least 5.6% of the retail outlets in remote areas and at least 5.3% of their retail outlets in low service areas. Further, they would abide by other marketing service obligations and retail service obligations as notified by the Government from time to time.

(c) The State-wise details of proposed Retail Outlets by aforesaid private companies are given in statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of Retail Outlets Proposed to be set up by Private Oil Companies

State	M/s. Reliance Industries Limited	M/s. Essar Oil Limited	Ms. Shell India Pvt. Limited
1	2	3	4
Gujarat	449	362	76
Rajasthan	302	90	77

1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	430	60	87
Chhattisgarh	77	—	43
Maharashtra	684	120	291
Goa	21	6	17
Karnataka	357	71	171
Andhra Pradesh	332	0	196
Kerala	168	50	96
Tamil Nadu	560	95	98
Pondicherry	11	0	14
West Bengal	377	64	96
Orissa	172	20	77
Bihar	354	55	47
Jharkhand	127	—	36
Punjab	255	93	134
Haryana	219	75	104
Delhi	47	19	44
Uttar Pradesh	575	250	84
Remote Areas/ Low Service Areas	332	180	112
Total	5,849	1,700	2,000

[English]

Transfer of Defence land in Bangalore

3193. SHRI D.V. SADANANDGOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the package deal of Transfer of Defence land to Government of Karnataka for Infrastructural Development of Bangalore city has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of land handed over to Bangalore Mahanagara Palika; and

(c) the areas remaining to be transferred to Bangalore Mahanagara Palika?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Only a part of the deal;

Defence land measuring 9.0547 acres of land have been handed over to Bangalore Mahanagara Palika for infrastructure development of Bangalore City. The balance land, i.e. 2.0453 acres remains to be transferred to Bangalore Mahanagara Palika.

Conversion of Machilipatnam Guriwara Rail Line

3194. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of provision for conversion of Machilipatnam Guriwara rail line from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge;

(b) the details thereof and funds allocated therefor; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started on this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The existing line between Machilipatnam-Gudivada is already on Broad Gauge.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Allotment of Land to Landless People

3195. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL:
SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot the land to landless people in rural areas who fall below poverty line on priority basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any study of shelter-less households in the country;

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

(e) the time limit by which these shelter-less will be provided land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Land and its management fall within the exclusive

legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the States as provided in Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) to the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The Union Government plays only an advisory and coordinating role in this field.

(c) and (d) No such studies have been made by the Ministry of Rural Development.

(e) Land is a State subject.

[*Translation*]

Container Depot at Udaipur Divisional Headquarter In Rajasthan

3196. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Container Depot at Udaipur divisional headquarter in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to establish a container Depot at Umarda Debari;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no Container Depot at Udaipur.

(b) Container Depot has not been planned at Udaipur as at present, as it is in the Metre Gauge section of Indian Railways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Survey for Exploration of Petroleum Products

3197. YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places in the country where survey was conducted for exploration of Petroleum products

during the last three years and the number of places where oil has been struck;

(b) the quantum of petroleum products being produced in the country at present, place-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for exploration of petroleum products during the current years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) During the last three years, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Private/Joint Venture Companies have conducted seismic surveys in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, including offshore areas.

Oil and gas finds made by ONGC, OIL and Private/JV companies during the last three years are as follows: 3 in Andhra Pradesh, 16 in Assam, 12 in Gujarat, 7 in Rajasthan, 1 each in Tamil Nadu & Tripura and 9 in Offshore areas.

(b) The details of quantum of crude oil and natural gas produced by ONGC, OIL and Private/JV companies during the year 2003-04 are given in the table below:

States/Regions	Crude Oil (in MMT)	Natural Gas (in BCM)
Andhra Pradesh	0.281	1.927
Arunachal Pradesh	0.084	0.045
Assam	4.59	2.204
Gujarat	6.135	3.518
Rajasthan	—	0.168
Tamil Nadu	0.374	0.605
Tripura	—	0.508
Offshore	21.909	22.986
Total	33.373	31.961

(c) and (d) During the year 2004-05, 44,778 Ground Line Kilometers (GLK) of 2D seismic data acquisition, 44,706 Square Kilometers of 3D seismic data acquisition and drilling of 259 exploratory wells are planned to be undertaken by ONGC, OIL and Pvt/JV companies. In addition Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) has also planned to carry out about 2300 Line Kilometers (LKM) of 2D pre-exploratory seismic survey, 35,000 GLK of aeromagnetic survey in onshore areas and 7500 LKM of 2D seismic survey in offshore areas for carving out exploration blocks.

[English]

Construction Activities around Protected Monuments

3198. **SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:**
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU
YADAV:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a dual policy in regard to restricting construction activities around the protected monuments in the country;

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

(c) whether Delhi High Court has recently asked the Government to review its notification regarding construction around the protected monuments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the notification issued in 1992 under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959, construction in the prohibited area of the centrally protected monuments is not permissible. Even in the regulated area, further beyond 200m of the prohibited area, licence is required to be obtained for undertaking any construction.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has directed the Central Government to consider for evolving a mechanism where the prohibition is imposed or relaxed on case to case basis because the degree and type of protection depends upon variables such as the nature of the protected monuments, its local the weather conditions, the topography, the soil, etc. The Court has also observed that the public interest lies in the protection, preservation of the monuments on the one hand and development and progress on the other hand, hence the two opposing forces need to be harmonized and balanced in the context of time and space. The Court has further ordered that there may be instances where larger prohibited and regulated areas are necessary, while in other, smaller areas of prohibition and regulation would suffice. The Court has finally issued direction to the Central Government to review the notification dated 16.06.1992 within a period of six months from the date of the judgement.

(e) As per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the notification dated. 16.06.1992 is under review.

Daitari-Banspani Railway Line Project in Orissa

3199. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the efforts made to shift Daitari-Banspani Railway Line project in Orissa to the jurisdiction of South Eastern Railway Zone from East Coast Railway Zone, whose headquarter is at Kolkata;

(b) if so, whether the shifting of the project will have very adverse effect on the earning of revenue of East Coast Railways; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to reject any such move initiated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Construction of new line is being done by East Coast Railway only.

(b) and (c) Train Operation in a part length of the project upto Keonjhar, which at present has connectivity only with South Eastern Railway, will be managed temporarily by South Eastern Railway due to operational convenience and this arrangement will continue till connectivity with East Coast Railway is established.

Revenue sharing between the two Railways will be done as per extant practice.

[Translation]

Railway Bridge at Balawali Station on Ganga River

3200. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a Railway Bridge which was constructed at Balawali Station on the Ganga river has been damaged;

(b) if so, when this bridge was constructed and the reasons for its damage; and

(c) the action taken against the officers under whose supervision this bridge was constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The new Railway Bridge over river Ganga near Balawali Railway Station was commissioned for traffic in May 2000. After commissioning, signs of distress like bulging in some of the elastomeric bearings as well as thermal cracks on the surface of pre-stressed concrete girders were noticed. This was due to inadequate design. The bearings have since been replaced and thermal cracks in the girders sealed. the Bridge has been in use since its commissioning.

(c) Does not arise, as there was no fault in supervision during construction.

[English]

Income Tax Exempted Pension to War Widows

3201. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal was sent to the Government in May 2001 by Indian Army to grant liberalised, i.e. Income Tax exempted pension to war widows; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue being a policy matter relating to taxation, is under active consideration of the Ministry of

Finance and a decision in the matter will be taken in due course.

[Translation]

Running of 'Palace on Wheels' from Safdarjung Station

3202. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that adequate facilities are not available at present at Delhi Cantt. Station for the passenger of 'Palace on Wheel' train running from the same station;

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

(c) whether the Department of Tourism has submitted any proposal to run this train from Safdarjung station instead of Delhi Cantt.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Delhi Cantonment is an important "A" class station. All the prestigious trains like the "Place on Wheels", "Royal Orient Express" and the "Fairy Queen" run from Delhi Cantonment station. This station has all the necessary facilities like Very Important Person (VIP) lounge, Pedestrian Path-way, Water Cooler, Foot over bridge, Passenger Reservation System (PRS), Catering/Vending stalls, Coolies etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Memorandum of Understanding on Drinking Water

3203. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:
SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press news-item captioned "States cold to Centre's water plan" as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 12, 2004;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government is proposing to sign Memorandum of Understanding with State Governments on various rural drinking water programmes;

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

(d) to what extent MoU with State Government is going to implement the various rural drinking water programmes effectively; and

(e) the names of the State which have not been responsive to the scheme stating the nature of differences in coming to an agreement with the Union Government for the drinking water scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Para 4.2 of the Swajaldhara Guidelines stipulates that in order to avail of funds under Swajaldhara, the State Governments would be required to enter into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development wherein the State Government would give their commitment to the reform principles in the water and sanitation sector.

Accordingly, Government of India have circulated a model draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to all the State Governments in November 2003. The MoU will be a State specific document, to be prepared taking into account the local context, specific requirements of the sector—particularly in respect of system and source sustainability water quality, and strengths and weaknesses of the institutional structure in the State. The steps in the MoU process include preparation of the Sector Status Study; finalization of the State Vision Statement; preparation of comprehensive water and sanitation policy for the State; the Agreed Action Framework and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government of India and preparation of detailed Annual Action Plan by the State Governments. The final MoU will be prepared in consultation with the State Government and will include an agreed action framework for implementing the reform initiative in a time bound manner in the rural drinking water supply and sanitation sector. The State Governments have been told that the MoU will

provide the framework for all funding arrangements with Government of India and also external support agencies.

Presently, the State Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have prepared the first draft of the Sector Status Study while other States have commenced action in this regard. The MoU will be signed only upon completion of the various steps in the MoU process indicated above and the implementation of the Agreed Action Framework will thereafter be monitored by independent monitors/supervisory missions.

[Translation]

Manufacturing of Rail Engines by BHEL, Jhansi

3204. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details and number of orders received by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Jhansi for the manufacture of engines during the last three years;

(b) whether the BHEL has increased its capacity, machines, other instruments used in the manufacture of engines and manpower but today it is at the verge of closure due to non-receipt of orders; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check its closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) BHEL, Jhansi has not received any order for the supply of engines during the last three years.

(b) BHEL had earlier invested an amount of Rs. 23 Crore in making a new block for production of locomotives and manpower strength of more than 500 were also deployed. Special purpose facilities were created for an installed capacity of 30 nos. locomotives per annum. These are largely lying idle. However, the general purpose machines and manpower are being deployed for other use with lower value addition resulting into low turnover and profitability of the unit.

(c) Matter has been pursued with the Indian Railways and others to help in utilizing these facilities.

[English]

Pradhan Mantri Grameen Jal Samvardhan Yojana

3205. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalized and implemented the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Jal Samvardhan Yojana (PMGJSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith salient features of this Yojana;

(c) the States in which it has been implemented or is likely to be implemented during the current plan;

(d) whether any funds have been sanctioned for States under the Yojana;

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

(f) whether special attention is to be provided to Orissa State;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the likely impact of the Yojana to combat the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (h) The proposal to launch the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Jal Samvardhan Yojana was submitted to the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance on 18.12.2003 for consideration by their Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC). The Department of Expenditure has made certain observations on the proposal and sought clarifications. The issue is under examination of the Ministry.

Expenditure on Media and Publicity

3206. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred by the Government during last one year and the current year for Media and Publicity, especially in Karnataka State;

(b) whether the expenditure of the said purpose in the year 2002-03 was more than the budgetary provisions;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor.

(d) whether there has been diversion of fund to meet the extra expenditure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Media and Publicity Campaigns through various modes are mounted by the Ministry of Rural Development for the country as a whole and not State-wise. The details of the expenditure incurred during the last one year and the current year are as under:

Sl.No.	Year	Expenditure (Rupees in lakhs)
1.	2003-04	2605.00
2.	2004-05	500.13 (As on 16-8-2004)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Installation of HPT/LPT/VLPTs in Ladakh

3207. SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of HPT/LPTs and VLPTs installed in Ladakh region with their location;

(b) whether there has been lot of demand for installation of HPT/LPT/VLPTs from Ladakh both Leh and Kargil districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government on each demand?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) There are 33 transmitters of Doordarshan (HPT-1, LPTs-2, VLPTs-30) which are currently functioning in Ladakh region. Details are given at the statement.

(b) to (d) Requests for installation of new transmitters in Leh & Kargil districts had been received in the past from various quarters and these were considered while formulating Doordarshan's expansion Plans for J&K. All the transmitters sanctioned for Leh & Kargil districts have since been commissioned, and there is no scheme to set up additional transmitters there. TV coverage to uncovered areas of the country is now envisaged to be provided through satellite transmission in KU-band, which is expected to commence shortly.

Statement

Doordarshan transmitters functioning in Ladakh region

HPT (1)—	Leh			
LPTs (2)—	Kargil	Leh (DD News)		
VLPTs (30)—	Abran	Basgo	Batalik	Bodh Khurboo
	Chumathang	Chushul	Dah	Daskit
	Domchuk	Fatula	Hanle	Ichar
	Khalsi	Khattai	Nimu	Nyema
	Panamik	Panicker	Sakti	Siachene (Base Camp)
	Tangtse	Timsogam	Turtok	Zangla
	Dras	Mulbekh	Padam	Ringdom Gompa
	Sankoo	Kargil (DD News)		

*[Translation]***Regiments existed in Army**

3208. SHRI KHIREN RIJJU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Regiments existing at present in the Army;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal from any State to form Regiments after the name of their State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A list of names of 29 regiments of the Indian Army is enclosed as statement.

(b) Proposals have been received from time to time to raise regiments after the name of various States. Requests from some States like Arunachal, Gujarat, Kamataka and Himachal Pradesh Governments have been received in this regard.

(c) and (d) The policy of the Government is not to raise any new Regiment based on any particular class, creed, community, religion or region, but to have an Army in which all Indians have representation. The State Governments have been informed accordingly.

Statement

Names of Regiments:

- (a) The Brigade of Guards
- (b) Parachute
- (c) Mechanised Infantry
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Madras
- (f) Grenadiers
- (g) Maratha Light Infantry
- (h) Rajputana Rifles
- (i) Rajput
- (j) Jat

- (k) Sikh
- (l) Sikh Light Infantry
- (m) Dogra
- (n) Garhwal Rifles
- (o) Kumaon
- (p) Assam
- (q) Bihar
- (r) Mahar
- (s) Jammu and Kashmir Rifles
- (t) Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry
- (u) Ladakh Scouts
- (v) Naga
- (w) 1st Gorkha Rifles
- (x) 3rd Gorkha Rifles
- (y) 4th Gorkha Rifles
- (z) 5th Gorkha Rifles
- (aa) 8th Gorkha Rifles
- (ab) 9th Gorkha Rifles
- (ac) 11th Gorkha Rifles

*[English]***Rural Development Projects in Punjab**

3209. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major poverty alleviation programmes and Rural Development Schemes undertaken in the State of Punjab during the last three years and till date;

(b) the achievements made under these programmes in the State with compared to the national average;

(c) the specific programmes drawn up for the Tenth Plan to bring down poverty ratio in Punjab; and

(d) the funds released and the achievements made under various schemes during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing the majors schemes, namely, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), and the Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in the State of Punjab during the last three years. The main objective of the Swarnjayanti gram Swarozgar Yojana

(SGSY) is to bring the assisted poor families above the poverty line by providing them with income generating opportunities through a mix of Government subsidy and Bank credit.

(b) to (d) The funds released by the Ministry of Rural Development and the achievement made under various schemes during the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 (upto July, 2004) are given in the Statement enclosed. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is a specific scheme to bring down poverty ratio in the rural areas including Punjab.

Statement

Central Release of All Rural Development Programme in the State of Punjab during the year 2001-2002 to 2004-2005 upto (July 2004)

Sl.No.	Name of Programme	Central Release during the years (Rs. in Lakhs)				Physical Achievements during the years				Units
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	
1.	EAS/SGRY-I	1048.38	1183.87	1349.38	3615.34	9.75	9.88	14.40	9.26	Emp. Generated (Lakh Mandays)
2.	JGSY/SGRY-II	1067.80	2665.11	3270.70	—	8.75	15148.00	15853.00	—	Emp. Generated (Lakh Mandays) Work Completed
3.	SGSY	325.37	391.58	443.97	285.53	6272.00	6547.00	6554.00	987.00	Total Swarozgaries Assisted (Nos.)
4.	DARDA Admn.	453.41	420.44	450.95	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	IAY	862.13	598.55	802.72	578.79	5317.00	5651.00	6050.00	359.00	Dwelling Units (Nos.)
6.	NFBS	99.82	0.00	0.00	—	966.00	0.00	0.00	—	Families Assisted (Nos.)
7.	NOAPS	329.25	0.00	0.00	—	45265.00	0.00	0.00	—	Person Assisted (Nos.)
8.	Annapurna	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	No. of beneficiaries
Department of Land Resource										
9.	IWDP	186.61	0.00	50.66	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	Water Sheds (Nos.)
10.	SRA&ULR	0.00	50.00	55.85	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Department of Drinking Water Supply										
11.	ARWSP	1985.50	3081.00	2289.00	1039.00	282.00	710.00	748.00	NA	Habitations Covered (Nos.)
12.	RSP	142.17	52.67	0.00	699.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA	—

(i)-The Schemes of food for work (FFW), and Annapurna have been discontinued w.e.f. 2002-2003.

(ii)-National Family Benefit Scheme, National Old Age Pension Scheme have been transferred to the State Govt. w.e.f. 2002-2003.

(iii)-The EAS/(SGRY-I) and JGSY (SGRY-II) have been merged together in a single Wage Employment as SGRY w.e.f. 01.04.2004.

(iv)-NA—Not Available.

*[Translation]***Ara-Sasaram Rail Line**

3210. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project work of Ara-Sasaram railway line is in progress and the same is decided to be completed by 2005;

(b) if so, whether the project is not likely to be completed within stipulated time due to slow pace; and

(c) if so, the time by which the railway operation is likely to be started by completing the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Ara-Sasaram new BG rail line (98 kms) was included in the Budget 1997-98 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 189.14 crore. Sasaram-Nokha section (20 kms) has been completed. Nokha-Sanjauli section (10 kms) is targeted for completion during 2004-05, where earthwork and bridge works are in advanced stage of completion. Furthermore, in Sanjauli-Piro section (32 kms), land acquisition, earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress. An outlay of Rs. 16 crore has been provided for the work in the Budget 2004-05. No target for completion of the entire project has yet been fixed which would depend upon availability of resources.

*[English]***Purchase of NTC's Land by Railways**

3211. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to purchase the NTC land for the future development of the Railways in Coimbatore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Fire/Blast in Ordnance Factories/Depots**

3212. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU
YADAV:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fire/blast incidents taking place in ordnance factories/depots during 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and so far;

(b) the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof, incident-wise;

(c) the outcome of the enquiries conducted in each case; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government on the recommendations made by each enquiry committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) A Statement is attached.

Statement

Sl.No.	Date	Factory	Details of accident	Loss of human life	Financial loss in Rs.	Findings of Enquiry Committee	Remedial measures suggested	Status of implementation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

(a) Fire/blast incidents during 2003-04

1.	31/10/03	Ordnance Factory, Chanda	Accident occurred while conducting proof of advance	1	NIL	The fuze might have been subjected to test with safety clip, which may have damaged the	(i) Stringent implementation of specified proof procedure (ii) Only, well-experienced person, who is conversant in proof procedures, should be	All remedial measures have been implemented.
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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sample of
Fuze Mine 1-C

shear washer.
The fuze might
have functioned
the moment,
safety clip was
pulled

made in-charge of proof
activities.
(iii) In case of misfire, drill
as per General Safety
Directions to be followed.
(iv) Possibility of
introduction of proof test
apparatus to be explored.

(b) Fire/blast incidents during 2004-05 (Upto 10.8.2004)

1.	13/4/04	Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur	Fire took place in the store yard outside production shop where packing wood scrap was kept	Nil	3,02,56,000/-	Enquiry Committee could ascertain no specific cause. However, the following probable causes were identified: (i) Throwing of lighted cigarette/bidi butt by unknown person. (ii) Excessive ambient temperature of 42°C.	(i) To identify other possible sites to store packing wood scrap. (ii) To shift the packing wood scrap to designated sites on day to day basis. (iii) Fire fighting arrangement should be strengthened. (iv) Immediate disposal of non-moving/surplus inventories.	All remedial measures are under implementation.
2.	21/4/04	Ordnance Factory, Khamaria	During assembly of secondary Combustible Cartridge Cases with shot of 125mm ammunition	1	2,19,31,500/-	The fire was probably caused due to electrical short circuit.	(i) To install flame proof fittings and wiring through metallic conduit pipes. (ii) Lightning Protector testing records of the building, should be maintained by electrical Section and production section. (iii) Not to exceed Authorised Explosive Limit of 800 Kg (Hazard Division 1.3). (iv) Not to exceed authorised man limit of 30 men.	The building is being renovated, after which the proposed remedial measures will be implemented.
3.	28/4/04	Ordnance Factory, Varangaon	Explosion of Lead Styphante	1	Negligible	Accident occurred during filtration of Lead Styphnate by using Funnel (manual operation). Death occurred due to the explosion.	(i) Personal tester should be available in Bldg. No. 90-91 (ii) To install equipment for discharge of personal static charge at the door of the room. (iii) Vacuum pump should be provided with pressure gauge and control system. (iv) Suitable arrangement should be made for maintaining Relative Humidity of 65-70% with temperature 25±2°C.	All remedial measures, except point (iv) have been implemented. Point (iv) will be implemented after repair & re- commissioning of the building.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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(v) Explosive limit in one room should be maximum 1 Kg i.e. only one initiator to be under process in that room.
 (vi) General Safety Directives should clearly specify duration of suction level of moisture content of initiator, before and after drying.

*[English]***New Rail Line in Punjab and J&K**

3213. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
 SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals under consideration of the Government for laying of new railway line in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) whether the Government has started work on new rail line between Jalandhar and Jammu;

(c) if so, the present status of the same;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to start work on these railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) At present, no such proposal is under consideration.

(b) to (e) Rail link between Jalandhar and Jammu Tawi already exists. The work of doubling between Jalandhar-Jammu Tawi has also been taken up. The work is in progress and three sections viz. Suchipind-Bhogpur-Sirwal (26 kms), Mukerian-Mirthal (18 kms) and Bharoli-Madhopur Punjab (13 kms) are targeted for completion during 2004-05. The whole project is targeted for completion during 2007-08.

Irregularities in Awarding Marketing Telecast Rights

3214. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities in awarding marketing telecast rights of French Open, Wimbledon, Independence Cup in 1997, ICC Knock Out Tournament 1998 and World Cup 1999 have been investigated;

(b) if so, the outcome of the investigations; and

(c) the actions proposed against those responsible for the irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The cases in respect of Independence Cup, 1997 and World Cup, 1999 have been closed, in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission, after the Central Bureau of Investigation reported that allegations could not be substantiated.

In respect of Wimbledon, 1997, CVC advised the closure of case on the same grounds. CBI Court has, however, directed CBI to re-investigate the matter. In respect of French Open, 1997, the case has been closed in respect of two officers in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission. The action against other two officers is under way. In respect of International Cricket Council Knockout Cricket Tournament, 1998, departmental proceedings for major penalty have been initiated against the officers involved.

Financial Status of DRVN

3215. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the structural and financial status of Departmental Railway Vikas Nigam (DRVN);

(b) the funds allocated for laying of new rail lines under West Coast Railway zone through DRVN; and

(c) the funds utilized thereon so far, particularly in the coastal regions of Karnataka during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Board of Directors of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) comprises of one part-time Chairman, five functional Directors (including one Managing Director), one Government Director and four part-time non-official Directors. The process of selection of full time directors is in vogue.

The authorized capital of the company is Rs. 3000 crores and the paid up capital is Rs. 500 crores. The allotment for the current financial year is Rs. 717 crores, which will be paid on call for the equity capital from the company.

(b) and (c) There is no West Coast Railway Zone on Indian Railways. The reference is perhaps for South Western Railway Zone. No new line project in the coastal region of Karnataka in South Western Railway Zone has been transferred to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited and hence, no funds under Deposit RVNL have been provided.

2002-2003

Special Railway Safety Fund

3216. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the source of financing special Railway Safety Fund and amount available for the year 2004-05;

(b) the amount allotted for carrying out repairs of dilapidated rail bridges and railway tracks during each of the last two years and expenditure incurred for the said purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is aware that railway stations of Dhanbad and Ranchi districts in Jharkhand are lack of adequate facilities;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate facilities at these stations; and

(e) the effects of utilization of SRF funds and to what extent the accidents/mishaps have been reduced since creation of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The funding of Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) is through a dividend free grant of Rs. 12000 crores from the General Exchequer and Rs. 5000 crores, to be generated by the Ministry of Railways, by levy of safety surcharge on passenger fares. For the year 2004-05, the total Budget Estimate (Net) for Special Railway Safety Fund is Rs. 2933 crores. This constitutes Rs. 2075 crores from the General Exchequer and Rs. 700 crores by the Ministry of Railways through levy of safety surcharge and Rs. 158 crores from its revenues.

(b) The allotment of funds and expenditure on Indian Railways is not maintained State-wise but is being done zonal railway-wise. The zonal railway-wise figures for amount allotted and expenditure incurred during the last two years, for carrying out repairs of rail bridges and railway tracks are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Zonal Railway	Repair/Renewal of Track		Repair/Rehabilitation of Bridges	
	Allocation (Gross) (Revised Estimate)	Expenditure (Gross)	Allocation (Gross) (Revised Estimate)	Expenditure (Gross)
1	2	3	4	5
Central	204.00	267.35	36.00	24.52
Eastern	110.00	165.41	13.90	24.32

1	2	3	4	5
Northern	346.00	353.47	22.60	29.51
North Eastern	41.28	60.02	4.98	6.73
Northeast Frontier	43.00	54.30	19.00	15.33
South Central	204.15	223.85	11.23	9.13
South Eastern	401.62	427.62	16.03	18.19
Southern	129.00	157.30	6.23	6.04
Western	263.00	297.35	15.50	17.84
East Central	131.01	—	9.80	—
East Coast	—	—	—	—
North Western	24.03	—	1.50	—
North Central	—	—	—	—
South East Central	—	—	—	—
South Western	—	—	—	—
West Central	—	—	—	—
Total Gross	1897.09	2006.67	156.77	151.61
Credit	434.46	349.22	0.88	0.49
Total (Net)	1462.63	1657.45	155.89	151.12

2003-2004

(Rs. in crores)

Zonal Railway	Repair/Renewal of Track		Repair/Rehabilitation of Bridges	
	Allocation (Gross) (Revised Estimate)	Expenditure (Gross) (Provisional)	Allocation (Gross) (Revised Estimate)	Expenditure (Gross) (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
Central	135.85	122.14	22.16	20.54
Eastern	115.00	120.99	4.09	4.31
Northern	281.00	309.52	45.25	43.93
North Eastern	42.00	41.77	12.00	12.00
Northeast Frontier	53.00	65.32	10.00	8.66

1	2	3	4	5
South Central	167.30	156.26	21.12	15.71
South Eastern	143.00	143.65	6.48	6.87
Southern	155.00	150.22	7.53	6.65
Western	167.00	169.03	15.31	11.43
East Central	109.00	124.41	15.20	11.17
East Coast	83.86	96.52	4.54	1.08
North Western	117.60	124.99	1.11	1.36
North Central	9306	92.61	5.17	3.85
South East Central	95.00	102.20	3.23	2.52
South Western	16.21	26.44	2.43	1.10
West Central	80.00	97.83	11.87	6.09
Total Gross	1853.89	1943.90	187.52	157.27
Credit	43.93	330.81	2.75	1.38
Total (Net)	1417.96	1613.09	184.77	155.89

(c) and (d) Railway's maintain the position Division-wise & not District-wise. The status of amenities in the Ranchi (South Eastern Railway) & Dhanbad (East Central Railway) Divisions is as under:

- (i) Ranchi Division—Minimum Essential Amenities as per the laid down norms have been provided at all the stations of the Division.
- (ii) Dhanbad Division—Minimum Essential Amenities as per the laid down norms have been provided at the stations except for certain quantitative deficiencies (for example 1 booking counter is available as against the requirement of 2), in the areas of number of Booking counters, urinals/toilets etc. However, works for elimination of such deficiencies are targeted for completion by March, 2004.

(e) To improve safety, Indian Railways have been taking various measures, in addition to replacement of over aged assets through SRSF. It is, therefore, not feasible to quantify the reduction in number of accidents on account of SRSF alone. However, the number of

consequential train accidents has come down from 414 in 2001-02 to 351 in 2002-03 and further to 325 in 2003-04.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Public Sector Enterprises

3217. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI D.P. SAROJ:

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

(a) whether the Government is suffering losses worth crores of rupees due to irregularities being committed in the Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the reasons of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of officers dismissed from the service for their involvement in irregularities during the last three years alongwith details thereof, enterprise-wise; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The reasons for losses suffered by loss incurring Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) are many. These include old plant & machinery, obsolete technology, resource crunch, high input cost, surplus manpower, high interest burden, low capacity utilization, low order book position, shortage/non-availability of raw material, management deficiency, etc. It would be difficult to segregate and attribute the losses to specific reasons including irregularities.

(c) and (d) Managements of PSEs enjoy autonomy in regard to recruitment, removal, etc. of all officers of the respective PSEs. The PSEs are not required to consult the government for imposing punishments. Thus the information in this regard is not maintained centrally. However, various guidelines on several measures like strengthening the vigilance machinery and streamlining procurement procedures, etc. in PSEs have been taken by the Government.

Material Manufacture in Jamalpur Railway Workshop

3218. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway material is manufactured/produced in the Jamalpur Railway workshop, Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years;

(c) whether this workshop is earning profits continuously;

(d) if so, the details of income earned and expenditure made during each of the last three years, year wise;

(e) whether the Ministry of Railway has accorded sanction to a plan of manufacturing of train wheels in the Jamalpur workshop; and

(f) if so, the time by which this manufacturing work is likely to begin in the said Workshop?

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

(b) The details are as follows:

Sl.No.	Manufacturing items	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
		No.	Value (Rs. Cr.)	No.	Value (Rs. Cr.)	No.	Value (Rs. Cr.)
1.	140 Tonne Breakdown Crane	Nil	Nil	6	46.08	Nil	Nil
2.	Overhead Electric Car	5	4.0	Nil	Nil	6	6.0
3.	20 Tonne Crane	Nil	Nil	1	1.04	3	3.12
4.	Lifting Jacks	79	1.82	120	2.76	79	1.82
5.	Railway components	—	39.7	—	43.6	—	35.0
Total		—	45.52	—	93.48	—	45.94

(c) Jamalpur workshop does in-house repair and Periodic Overhaul of rolling stock, manufacture of spares, manufacture of cranes etc. Since these items are for Railway's own consumption, profit is not calculated in the present system.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Closing of Publicity Photo Division and Song and Drama Division

3219. SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD:
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to close down the Directorate of Field Publicity Photo Division and Song and Drama Division;

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

(c) the number of employees likely to become surplus as a result thereof; and

(d) the strategy adopted by the Government for absorbing such surplus employees in other Departments of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had initially agreed to abolition of 1334 posts, subject to certain steps to be taken for rationalization of different organizations.

The matter regarding implementation of the ERC's recommendations was placed before the Committee of Secretaries which in its meeting held on 28th April, 2004, *inter alia* proposed that the Field Publicity and Song & Drama Division be closed down and the Photo Division, Publications Division and Films Division be downsized substantially.

The matter is proposed to be reviewed before the Committee of Secretaries after the completion of a detailed study of the various issues and options. Therefore, revised estimation with regard to the number of posts to be abolished has not been worked out as yet.

Foreign Fellowship by Ambedkar Foundation

3220. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign Fellowship is being awarded by the Ambedkar Foundation for higher education;

(b) if so, the details of fellowship awarded each of the last three years till date alongwith the names of the receiving persons; and

(c) the norms being adopted for the selection of the fellowship beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Suggestion to Amplify Rule 43

3221. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining a suggestion to amplify Rule 43 of Petroleum Rules, 2002 to cover ship breaking activities; and

(b) if so, the status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have received a suggestion from the Government of Gujarat to amend Rule 43 of the Petroleum Rules, 2002 to include ship breaking activities so that inspection of ships after beaching is done by the Explosives Department.

(b) No decision has been taken as yet.

[Translation]

Construction of New Rail Line

3222. SHRI TARACHAND SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds made during each of the last three years and in the current financial year for the construction of New Rail Lines, zone-wise;

(b) the actual amount incurred on each railway line;

(c) the estimated income likely to be accrued from each railway line;

(d) whether the laying of some railway line has been stopped;

(e) if so, the date on which these were stopped and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started on these lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

(d) The works are being progressed depending upon their priority and availability of resources.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Statement

The allocation made during each of the last three years and in the current financial year for the construction of new Rail lines, zonewise, and actual amount incurred on each project upto March, 2004 are given in the following table. The rate of return of each Railway line had been worked out at the time of taking up the projects and is also given below against each project

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Project	Outlay 2001-02	Outlay 2002-03	Outlay 2003-04	Outlay 2004-05	Actual Exp. upto Mar. 2004	Rate of Return (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Central Railway							
1.	Baramati-Lonad	4.00	5.00	4.00	4.00	6.62	Negative
2.	Panvel-Karjat	14.00	20.00	20.00	5.00	113.82	4.8
3.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajinath	3.00	15.00	15.37	20.00	11.75	3
4.	Amravati Narkher	8.00	10.00	10.00	16.49	107.00	10.41
5.	Puntamba-Shirdi	4.00	10.00	10.00	8.92	13.15	5.08
East Coast Railway							
6.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	20.00	5.00	20.00	6.00	24.10	13.59
7.	Talcher-Sambalpur	1.00	0.01	1.00	1.00	454.61	2.61
8.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	2.00	2.00	5.00	8.00	18.45	4.38
9.	Talcher-Bimlagarh	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.00	0.00	-3.77
10.	Angul-Sukinda Road	23.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	0.66	23.43
11.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	15.00	5.00	15.00	15.38	28.24	14.41
12.	Daitari-Banspani	50.00	40.00	75.00	83.00	446.52	16.43
13.	Koraput-Rayagada	1.00	0.01	0.01	5.01	484.80	13.24
East Central Railway							
14.	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	10.00	10.00	12.00	10.10	41.75	Negative
15.	Hajipur-Sagauli	0.00	0.00	0.10	10.00	3.83	-5.35
16.	Koderma-Tilaiya	0.01	10.00	15.00	15.00	8.25	14.52
17.	Munger-rail-cum-road Bridge on river Ganga	5.00	5.00	30.00	30.00	22.52	1.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Fatuha-Islampur Restoration and Sheikhpura to Neora via Daniawan	15.00	15.00	12.00	10.00	149.42	Negative
19.	Kosi Bridge	0.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.71	Negative
20.	Koderma-Ranchi	20.00	35.00	50.00	50.00	217.63	Negative
21.	Giridih-Koderma	6.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	74.67	Negative
22.	Khagaria-Kusheshwarsthan	5.00	5.00	2.00	2.00	9.63	Negative
23.	Ara-Sasaram	6.00	5.00	16.00	16.00	70.94	4.82
24.	Sakti-Hassanpur	5.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	24.41	1.32
25.	Patna-Ganga bridge with linking lines between Patna and Hajipur	15.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	116.26	5.6
26.	Rajgir-Hisua-Tilaiya & Islampur-Natesar Eastern Railway	5.00	15.00	12.00	12.00	97.07	Negative
27.	Azimgarj (Nasipur)-Jiyagarj up to the Ghat	0.01	0.01	2.00	0.01	0.00	Negative
28.	Mandarhill-Rampurhat via Dumka	6.00	7.00	10.00	10.00	53.73	Negative
29.	Laxmikantapur-Namkhana	15.00	3.00	7.00	1.00	94.30	4.4
30.	Deogarh-Dumka	4.00	12.43	15.00	15.00	35.54	Negative
31.	Bongaon-Petrapole	0.99	0.01	0.02	0.02	8.17	Negative
32.	Deogarh-Sultanganj, Banka-Barahat and Banka-Bhitia Road	12.00	15.00	9.00	8.00	43.09	Negative
33.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur with Ext up to Kumarkundu Bypass connecting Howrah-Bardhaman Chord North Central Railway	25.00	1.00	1.00	2.99	22.65	Negative
34.	Etawah-Mainpuri	5.00	1.00	10.00	10.00	19.89	Negative
35.	Guna-Etawah	25.00	40.00	40.00	31.00	329.54	2.87
36.	Agra-Etawah via Fatehabad and Beh	10.00	20.00	20.00	5.00	39.04	Negative
37.	Lalitpur-Satna & Rewa-Singrauli North Eastern Railway	5.00	30.00	32.45	32.00	29.33	Negative
38.	Kichha-Khatia	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.37	0.01	-3.24
39.	Duraunda-Maharajgarj	0.10	5.00	1.00	1.00	7.56	8.68
40.	Maharajgarj-Masrakh	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.00	0.01	-2.14
41.	Katra-Faizabad	13.50	10.00	3.00	1.00	88.95	0.3
42.	Rampur-Lalkuan-Kathgodam ROB on NH	0.10	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.08	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Northeast Frontier Railway							
43.	Bogibeel bridge with linking lines between Dibrugarh and North Bank line	14.89	40.00	60.00	60.00	156.31	NA
44.	Harmuti-Itanagar	5.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.04	Negative
45.	Jogighopa-Guwahati including Rail-cum-Road Bridge across river Brahmaputra at Jogighopa	15.00	5.00	0.98	0.98	722.39	4.05
46.	Jiribam-Imphal (Tupul)	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.00	0.00	-19.39
47.	Kumarghat-Agartala	40.00	80.00	85.00	80.00	343.97	2.17
48.	New Maynaguri-Jogighopa	20.00	8.00	25.00	42.00	33.97	Negative
49.	Dudhnoi-Depa	0.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.50	Negative
50.	Ekdakhi-Balurghat	50.00	20.0	15.00	5.00	207.25	Negative
Northern Railway							
51.	Kalka-Parvanoo	10.00	4.05	0.01	0.15	0.15	Negative
52.	Rewari-Rohtak	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.00	0.00	3.35
53.	Jind-Sonapat	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.89	0.00	-15.64
54.	Chandigarh-Ludhiana	35.00	15.20	15.00	20.00	119.32	Negative
55.	Nangal Dam-Talwara & Taking over siding of Mukerian Talwara	10.00	10.00	12.31	11.00	91.47	Negative
56.	Taran Taran-Goindwal	10.00	3.00	2.00	1.00	10.34	Negative
57.	Jammu Tawi-Udhampur	40.00	36.00	30.00	10.4	483.00	0.5
58.	Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1289.78	Negative
59.	Beas to Dera Baba Jaimal Singh	0.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	Negative
60.	Abohar-Fazilka	2.00	2.00	1.51	1.00	2.02	Negative
North Western Railway							
61.	Kolayat-Phalodi	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	15.55	Negative
62.	Ajmer-Pushkar	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	10.97	Negative
63.	Dausa-Gangapur City	0.10	15.00	10.00	5.00	10.27	Negative
64.	Munirabad-Mehbubnagar	5.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	24.44	1.67
65.	Kakinada-Kotipalli	10.00	10.00	21.32	15.00	45.13	10.93
66.	Gulbarga-Bidar	10.00	15.00	15.00	10.00	20.01	1.64
67.	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	20.00	10.00	15.00	15.00	86.62	6.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
68.	Macherla-Nalgonda	0.10	0.01	1.00	1.00	0.25	5.86
69.	Gadwal-Raichur	5.00	1.00	5.00	5.00	9.24	Negative
70.	Kakinada-Pithapuram	10.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	8.08
71.	Kotipalli-Narsapur	20.00	8.00	5.00	2.00	9.31	Negative
72.	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	2.00	1.00	5.00	5.00	14.33	7.82
	South East Central Railway						
73.	Dallirajahara-Jagdalpur	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.43	16.25
74.	Bishrampur-Ambikapur	10.0	10.00	26.00	20.00	28.49	0.45
	South Eastern Railway						
75.	Howrah-Amta	30.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	71.06	7.76
76.	Tamluk-Digha	0.00	20.00	15.00	11.00	244.05	2.53
	Southern Railway						
77.	Angamali-Sabanimala	20.00	10.00	10.00	2.00	5.40	Negative
78.	Tanur (Kuttipuram)-Guruvayoor	5.00	0.01	3.00	3.00	6.72	Negative
79.	Karur-Salem	10.00	15.00	15.60	5.00	64.60	11.19
80.	Kottayam-Erumeli	5.00	0.01	2.00	2.00	0.14	Negative
	South Western Railway						
81.	Hubli-Ankola	20.00	20.00	15.00	18.02	49.03	10.59
82.	Dharmavaram-Penukonda Via Puttaparthi	20.00	0.52	0.02	0.02	112.35	14.14
83.	Kottur-Hanthar via Harpanhalli	1.00	7.00	5.00	3.00	11.32	1.92
84.	Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakdesphur	3.00	9.00	15.00	15.00	32.86	Negative
85.	Bangalore-Satyamanglam	2.00	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.27	Negative
86.	Hassan-Bangalore	15.00	8.00	26.00	29.00	120.78	Negative
	West Central Railway						
87.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal	5.00	20.00	20.00	27.00	6.72	Negative
	Western Railway						
88.	Kapadvanj-Modasa	1.00	0.01	0.16	0.16	60.13	Negative
89.	Gandhinagar-Adrej Moti-Kalol	10.00	10.00	15.00	20.00	14.00	Negative
90.	Godhra-Indore & Dewas-Maksi	15.00	22.10	20.00	15.00	58.10	11.62

*[English]***Consumption of Diesel Oil**

3223. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumption of diesel oil has remained declining over the last few years;

(b) whether the consumption of kerosene oil has been recording a steady growth in inverse proportion to diesel;

(c) whether the decline in the consumption of diesel is due to wide-spread adulteration with kerosene; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent large scale adulteration of diesel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to. (d) While there was a decline a diesel consumption by 3.7% during the year 2001-02, it has grown by 0.3% and 1.8% during 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively. In case of kerosene, consumption has declined by .7.7%, 0.3% and 1.9% during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively.

With a view to containing adulteration, a number of steps have been taken by the Government. These *inter alia* include canalizing kerosene imports through State Trading Enterprises, requesting State Government in increase sales tax rates on non-PDS kerosene, regular and surprise inspections by oil companies, amendments of Marketing Discipline Guidelines from time to time for making penal action against the erring dealers more stringent, etc.

Setting up of Wheel and Axle Plant

3224. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Wheel and Axle plants in the country alongwith their rate of performance?

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a new Wheel and Axle Plant in Chhapra, Bihar; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Railways are presently manufacturing Wheels and Axles in house at Rail Wheel

Factory (RWF), Bangalore besides getting indigenous supplies from Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP). The total wheels and axles produced in these plants during the last three years are as under:

		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
RWF	Wheels	83760	101554	110407
	Axles	35911	43322	50513
DSP	Wheels	43371	41686	46020
	Axles	6533	6260	3941

(b) An announcement has been made in the Railway Budget speech for the year 2004-05. This proposed plant will be for manufacturing wheels only.

(c) There is expected to be a shortfall in the wheels manufacture capacity available in the country.

*[Translation]***Privatised Enterprises**

3225. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enterprises under the Ministry have been privatized/disinvested;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their number and names;

(c) the amount received by the Government, Enterprise-wise;

(d) whether the Government is aware of the alleged irregularities committed in the privatization/disinvestment of the above enterprises;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has taken/proposed to take any action for a thorough enquiry into the matter;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There are two Public Enterprises under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises where equity has been disinvested to a private partner during the last five years.

(b) and (c) The names of the enterprises, date of disinvestment and amount received are as under:

- (i) Lagan Jute Machinery Corporation Ltd. (LJMC) on 4.7.2000, amount being Rs. 2.53 crore.
- (ii) Jessop & Co. Ltd. (Jessops) on 29.8.2003, amount being Rs. 18.18 crore.

(d) Government is not aware of any irregularities committed on the disinvestment process.

(e) to (h) Does not arise.

Expansion Plan of GAIL

3226. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated an expansion plan of the GAIL—a Public Sector Petroleum Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sources from which funds are likely to be mobilised for this purpose; and

(d) the time by which the expansion plan is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir, Government have not formulated any expansion plan of GAIL. GAIL is a Navratna Public Sector Undertakings (PSU). The boards of Navratna PSUs have been delegated powers to formulate expansion plans. Formulation of expansion plans by GAIL is a continuous and on-going process. GAIL is expanding its operations in areas such as laying of natural gas pipelines for transportation of natural gas, petrochemicals, telecommunications, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) regassification, city gas distribution, Exploration & Production through equity/joint venture participations.

In addition to the above, GAIL is also focusing on globalization of business mainly in areas of its core

competence in Egypt, Turkey, Bangladesh, Iran, Philippines, Myanmar, etc.

(c) The funding of these projects will be through internal resource generation and market borrowings.

(d) Formulation and execution of expansion plan is a continuous and ongoing process.

[English]

Transportation of Vegetables

3227. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase vegetable transportation by Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of vegetables transported by Railways from Patna-New Delhi through special refrigerated van during the months of June, 2004 to July, 2004;

(d) the total amount earned by Railways as profit;

(e) whether the first refrigerated van that reached Delhi was full of rotten vegetables resulting in loss incurred thereby; and

(f) the details of the modifications made and steps taken for successful implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A total of 10 Refrigerated Vans have been introduced so far on Indian Railways for transportation of perishable commodities, including fruits, vegetables, frozen foods etc.

(c) and (d) 125 packages weighing 8.68 tonnes of vegetables were booked by a Refrigerated Van on 20th June, 2004 from Patna to New Delhi. The Railways earned a freight of Rs. 14,100/- from this traffic.

(e) and (f) All the packages reached New Delhi in fresh condition. Ten packages of vegetables remained unclaimed and were ultimately got destroyed. Railways did not suffer any loss on this account.

Rail Connectivity

3228. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the districts in various States which are not connected by Rail;

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

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration for providing rail connectivity to such districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, particularly to connect Phulbani district in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. There is no such policy to connect various districts by rail.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) A survey for new line from Phulbani to Berhampur in the State of Orissa was conducted in 2002-03 as per which the cost of construction of this 160 kms long line was assessed as Rs. 500.42 crore with rate of return of (-) 1.56%. In view of unremunerative nature of the project, heavy throw-forward of ongoing projects and acute constraint of resources, the proposal could not be considered.

[*Translation*]

Land Improvement Programme for Farmers

3229. SHRI DHAN SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to run land improvement programme for the development for farmers; and

(b) if so, the action plan formulated alongwith funds allocated/released in each State of the country particularly for Udaipur block of Southern Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Land improvement is covered by the Area Development Programmes namely Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) being implemented by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development on watershed basis. The objectives of these programmes *inter-alia* Development on watershed basis. The objectives of these programmes *inter-alia* include employment generation, poverty alleviation and development of human & other economic resources of the rural areas. Activities under these programmes are carried out on ridge to valley approach, which include soil-moisture conservation, afforestation, pasture development, horticulture & floriculture, pisciculture etc. Area sanctioned and funds released from 1.4.1995 to 31.3.2004 under these programmes are placed at statement enclosed. The targeted area under these programmes does not all come under cultivation. Some of it goes towards increase in forest coverage, pasture land, non agriculture uses etc. No Area Development Programme is going on in Udaipur block of Southern Rajasthan at present.

Statement

Area sanctioned and Funds Released under Area Development Programmes from 1.4.1995 to 31.3.2004

State	IWDP		DPAP		DDP	
	Area sanctioned (in Ha)	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	Area sanctioned (in Ha)	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	Area sanctioned (in Ha)	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	427912	12897.01	1626500	30599.02	331000	5849.38
Bihar	54000	919.25	147500	2257.17	—	—
Chhattisgarh	139106	2692.57	384500	4309.76	—	—
Goa	10000	82.50	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gujarat	320669	7590.15	804500	13158.18	987000	16282.17
Haryana	72962	1168.48	—	—	386000	8966.68
Himachal Pradesh	287857	6465.85	139000	1936.09	210000	4474.36
Jammu & Kashmir	62447	1432.31	170000	2141.05	288.500	7014.22
Jharkhand	57679	738.60	509500	3334.57	—	—
Karnataka	278682	6877.68	806500	13149.70	499000	7458.58
Kerala	44551	1123.38	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra	258143	3435.87	1177500	12851.89	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	407810	10490.66	1253500	23833.62	—	—
Orissa	251481	5810.38	415000	4882.29	—	—
Punjab	14731	477.14	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	276739	7002.60	388000	7360.19	2236500	53484.9
Tamil Nadu	227237	5609.08	532000	8797.91	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	475506	11431.69	613000	11475.90	—	—
Uttaranchal	129346	1405.24	271000	1684.48	—	—
West Bengal	15460	514.50	163500	1531.19	—	—
Others	—	—	—	1116.62	—	557.25
Total	3812318	88164.74	9401500	144219.63	4938000	104087.54
Arunachal Pradesh	95971	905.28	—	—	—	—
Assam	373688	5569.03	—	—	—	—
Manipur	148968	2244.44	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	62725	764.98	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	193803	2751.83	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	275930	7345.17	—	—	—	—
Sikkim	96006	291.84	—	—	—	—
Tripura	19423	2072.17	—	—	—	—
Total	1266514	21944.74	—	—	—	—
Grand Total	5078832	110109.48	9401500.00	144219.63	4938000.00	104087.54

*[English]***Production of Bio-Diesel**

3230. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to produce bio-diesel from Non-edible oil seed plants like *Jatropha* (*Ratan Jyot*);

(b) whether Government has any pilot project for the same;

(c) if so, the details of plans to produce Bio-Diesel as a co-producer with the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission set-up a Committee on Development of Bio-Fuel, which in its report recommended, inter alia, production of bio-diesel from *jatropha curcas*. The Ministry of Rural Development, which is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the report of the Committee, has commissioned the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) New Delhi for the purpose.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Research & Development Centre of M/s Indian Oil Corporation and Indian Railways for developing and undertaking a joint programme to produce bio-diesel, blend it with diesel and to use the blend in operating diesel engines owned by Indian Railways. For this purpose, the technology developed by IOC (R&D) and the land available with Indian Railways adjacent to railway tracks is to be employed. A work order for plantation of *jatropha curcas* on 70 hectares of Railways land has been awarded and work started at Surendra Nagar District in Gujarat.

*[Translation]***Hindustan Cables Limited**

3231. SHRI RAJARAM PAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Cables Ltd., Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh is the only unit of Government of India which produce Fibre Optical Cables;

(b) if so, the production of optical fibre during the last three years (year-wise);

(c) whether the Hindustan Cables Ltd. is on the verge of closure;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action being taken by the Government to maintain production capacity of this institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details as asked for are as under:

Year	Production in Fibre Kilo Metre (FKM)
2001-02	6,498
2002-03	Nil
2003-04	Nil

(c) Production in Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) is suspended since April, 2003 except for two months from November end, 2003 when an order for supply of 10 Lakh Core Kilo Metre (LCKM) of Polyethylene Insulated Jelly Filled (PIJF) cable was received from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. HCL is a sick company registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) who have not taken decision in respect of HCL yet.

(d) Some of the main reasons for sickness include:

- (i) High cost of production of telecom cable; and
- (ii) Lack of orders in view of uncompetitive prices.

(e) While the Department of Telecommunications have been requested to place orders on HCL, the company has commissioned Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur for conducting a techno-economic study to establish HCL's long term viability.

*[English]***Procurement of DG Set by CCI**

3232. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether without ascertaining actual requirement before placing order, Cement Corporation of India Limited procured a DG set in August 1996 which remained unutilized resulting in avoidable expenditure of Rs. 16.71 crore;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been conducted against the management/board of directors for procuring the DG set without considering the changes on the ground and for blocking investment of Rs. 16.71 crore unnecessarily;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the persons responsible for blocking the Government money unnecessarily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) No Sir, in view of reply to question (a) above.

[Translation]

Production of Oil Refineries during April 2004 to June 2004

3233. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets fixed for the production by the Oil Refineries have been achieved during the period from April 2004 to June 2004;

(b) the total production during the said period;

(c) whether there has been any decrease in the production;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the decrease in the production of Oil Refineries has indirectly affected the foreign exchange reserves of the country; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that such situation does not re-occur again in future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total production from refineries including Public Sector Undertakings and Private, during April, 2004—June, 2004 was 29719 Thousand Metric Tonnes.

(c) No, Sir. The production during the corresponding period April, 2003—June, 2003 was 28687 Thousand Metric Tonnes.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Funds Utilised for Gauge Conversion

3234. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount utilised for the Gauge Conversion of Railway lines from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The gross expenditure on gauge conversion works was Rs. 739.77 crore, Rs. 847.52 crore and Rs. 1217.56 crore (provisional) during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively.

(b) Details of expenditure are maintained railwaywise and not Statewise.

Construction of Railway Over Bridge in A.P.

3235. SHRI MADHUSUDAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding construction of Railway Over Bridge at Raigir of Nalgonda district and Railway under bridge at Mahabubabad town of Warangal District on Secunderabad-Vijayawada line via Kazeipet in South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A proposal for construction of Road over bridge (ROB) in lieu of Level Crossing No. 33 Km. 251/11-14 between Raigir and Wangapalli stations was received from the State Govt. of

Andhra Pradesh in August, 2003. Traffic density at this level crossing is 14040 Train Vehicle Units as on March'04, hence, does not qualify for replacement by ROB on cost sharing basis under extant rules. Accordingly, the State Govt. was devised. But no proposal for construction of Road under bridge at Mahaboobabad Town has been received so far. However, a road over bridge at Mahaboobabad was sanctioned in 1999-2000 in lieu of LC No. 82 and it has been completed and commissioned to traffic in March 2004.

[*Translation*]

Reservation for women in Panchayats

3236. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a uniform reservation policy for the women candidates in the election of Panchayats;

(b) if so, whether the reservation facility has not been provided for scheduled caste, scheduled tribe women candidates for the single post of Mukhiya, Pramukh and Chairman in Panchayat elections in Bihar and some other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the present status of reservation of Dalit and tribal women in Panchayats of different States; and

(e) the steps taken or to be taken by the Government to provide reservation to these women in the country particularly in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The provisions in respect of reservations for women members and chairperson operate in every State with the exception of Bihar where no reservation for women has been provided for the seat of Chairperson. In regard to Bihar, Patna High Court in CWJC No. 3351 of 1994 and analogous cases disposed of a batch of writ petitions striking down certain provisions of the Bihar Panchayati Raj Act, 1993 relating to the reservation of seats for backward classes and also held that there should not be reservations for the post of Mukhiya of a Gram Panchayat, Pramukh of a Panchayat Samiti and Adhyaksha of a Zilla Parishad on the ground that these are solitary posts and such reservation would

amount to 100% reservation. The Government of Bihar filed an SLP in the Supreme Court challenging the aforesaid order of the High Court. Subsequently, the Supreme Court clarified on 29.8.2000 on an application from the Government of Bihar that the Government may hold Panchayat elections in the State in accordance with the law, as it stands today, subject to the final decision of the Supreme Court in pending appeals. Based on the orders of the Apex Court, the Government of Bihar held Panchayat election in April, 2001 without providing for reservation for scheduled castes/scheduled tribes/women to the offices of the chairpersons at all the three levels of Panchayat. The case is still pending in the Supreme Court.

(d) and (e) Article 243D of the Constitution provides that seats shall be reserved for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every Panchayat and the number of seats so reserved shall bear, as nearly as may be, the same proportion to the total number of seats to be filled by direct elections in that Panchayat as the population of the scheduled castes in that Panchayat area or of the scheduled tribes in that Panchayat area bears to the total population of that area and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Panchayat. Not less than 1/3rd of the total number of seats reserved for as above shall be reserved for women belonging to the scheduled castes or, as the case may be, the scheduled tribes, As regard reservation for scheduled tribes in Bihar, the matter is subjudice. Such reservations have been operationalised in all States where Panchayat elections have been held, and are provided for in the legislations of the two States/UTs, Jharkhand and Pondicherry, where elections to the Panchayats are still to be held.

During the Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in charge of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj on Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj held at New Delhi on 29-30 June, 2004 jointly organized by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Conference decided to hold seven Round Table Conferences to formulate a draft action plan for achieving the objectives of strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions to enable them to become true institutions of self-government for the implementation of programme of economic development and social justice as envisioned in the Constitution. Round Table-II scheduled to be held on 22-23 September, 2004 will discuss issues pertaining to reservation for Panchayati Raj.

*[English]***Clearing of Music and Video Albums**

3237. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for clearing music and video albums to release;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the statement made by the Chairman of Censor Board of Film Certification (CBFC) that the Censor Board should clear the music video albums in the country;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take decision in this regard;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) As per the Cinematograph Act, 1952, and Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 all films including videos are required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification before public exhibition. The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies film and video content in terms of the various provisions under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines notified by the Government.

Rural Languages Programmes from DDK, Bangalore

3238. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the duration of rural languages programmes relayed from Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra, language-wise;

(b) whether there is any scheme to increase the said time limit;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount made available to the Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra for relaying programmes under the commission category during the last financial year;

(e) whether any proposal to increase the amount of commission and number of programmes under the said category during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Prasar Bharati has given the following break up of specific rural audience programmes telecast per month by Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore:

(i) Kannada—1680 minutes (i.e. 28 hours)

(ii) Konkani—60 minutes

(iii) Kodava—30 minutes

(iv) Tulu—30 minutes

(b) and (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that telecast of an additional half an hour of rural programme has commenced from 16th August 2004 on the Chandana Channel at 6.30 AM on Mondays.

(d) to (f) Prasar Bharati has informed that an amount of Rs. 2,22,44,000/- was provided to the Kendra for normal commissioning of programmes during the last financial year. The number of programmes to be taken up under commissioned category this year will depend on the availability of funds.

*[Translation]***Offloading of Goods at Mehatpur Station, H.P.**

3239. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether New Himachal Goods Truck Owners Union, Mehatpur, District-Una of Himachal Pradesh have demanded that the goods like coal and fertilizer carried by Railway for Himachal Pradesh may be offloaded on Mehatpur Railway Station of Himachal Pradesh instead of Nangal and Kiratpur Railway Stations of Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the representatives of Himachal Pradesh have requested the Hon'ble Minister in August, 2003 to accept their demands; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rai Mehatpur Station does not have any infrastructure for handling of freight traffic. Kiratpur Station which is in close vicinity of Rai Mehatpur Station, has adequate infrastructure to handle freight traffic. The infrastructural facilities available at Kiratpur for loading/unloading of goods traffic are not fully utilized. Furthermore, any investment in creating infrastructure at Rai Mehatpur for handling freight traffic diverted from Kiratpur will not be financially viable. As such, the request of New Himachal Goods Truck Owners Union, could not be agreed to.

[English]

Rail Passes to Individuals/Organisations

3240. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is issuing passes and concessions to various categories of individuals and organisations;

(b) if so, the details of passes and concessions issued to various individuals and organisations by the Railways during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) the criteria adopted for issuing such concessions/ passes to individuals and organisations;

(d) whether there is any proposal to issue passes to Scheduled Tribes families living below poverty line once in a year to visit various religious places in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) Complimentary card passes/concessions are given to categories of persons/organizations as per schemes announced from time to time. Complimentary card passes are also issued to individuals/organisations under discretionary power of Minister of Railways.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

As per the schemes in vogue during the last three years till date Complimentary card/cheque passes/concessions have been given to the following categories of persons/organisations:

I. Card Passes:

- (1) Freedom Fighters.
- (2) Arjuna Awardees/Olympic Medalists/ Asian & Commonwealth Gold Medalists/Dronacharya Awardees.
- (3) Winners of Chakra series Gallantry Awards (Defence).
- (4) Winners of President's Police Medal For Gallantry & Police Medal for Gallantry (Police).
- (5) Bharat Ratna Awardees.
- (6) Ex. Minister of Railways/Minister of State for Railways/Deputy Minister of Railways.
- (7) Non-official Members of Hindi Salahakar Samiti.
- (8) Eminent persons/Organisations engaged in social/cultural/educational/sports/welfare activities & others on medial grounds, etc. under the discretionary powers of Minister for Railways.

II. Cheque Passes:

Complimentary single journey (to and fro) passes known as Cheque Passes are issued to:

- (1) Licensed Porters.
- (2) Individuals and organisations engaged in social, cultural, educational, sports and welfare activities under the discretionary powers of Minister for Railways, Minister of State for Railways & Members of Railway board, as per guidelines evolved by the Ministry of Railways.

III. Concessions:

1. Orthopaedically Handicapped/Paraplegic persons alongwith an escort (for both)—travelling for any purpose.
2. Blind persons travelling alone or with an escort (for both)—travelling for any purpose.

3. Mentally retarded persons travelling with an escort (for both)—travelling for any purpose.
4. Deaf & Dumb persons (both afflictions together in the same person)—travelling for any purpose.
5. Cancer patients travelling alone or with an escort (for both)—for treatment/periodic check-up.
6. T.B./Lupas Valgaris patients travelling along or with an escort (for both)—for treatment/periodic check-up.
7. Non-infectious Leprosy patients—for treatment/periodic check-up.
8. Thalassemia patients travelling alone or with an escort (for both)—for treatment/periodic check-up.
9. Heart patients travelling alone or with an escort for heart surgery (for both).
10. Kidney patients travelling alone or with an escort (for both)—for kidney transplant Operation/ Dialysis.
11. Ostomy patients—travelling for any purpose.
12. Sr. Citizens of minimum 60 years—travelling for any purpose.
13. Recipients of President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service, after attaining the age of 60 years—travelling for any purpose.
14. Shram Awardees—Industrial Workers awarded the Prime Minister's Shram Award for Productivity and Innovation—travelling for any purpose.
15. National Awardee Teachers—Teachers honoured with National Award by the President of India for exemplary service in the field of education.—travelling for any purpose.
16. Either of parents accompanying the Child Recipients of National Bravery Award.—travelling for any purpose.
17. War Widows.—travelling for any purpose.
18. Widows of Indian Peace Keeping Force Personnel killed in action in Sri Lanka.—travelling for any purpose.
19. Widows of Policemen & Paramilitary personnel killed in action against Terrorists and Extremists.—travelling for any purpose.
20. Widows of Martyrs of Operation Vijay in Kargil in 1999.—travelling for any purpose.
21. Widows of defence personnel killed in action against terrorists & extremists.
22. Bonafide students.
23. Youths attending National Integration Camps of:
 - (a) National Youth Project
 - (b) Manav Uththan Sewa Samiti
24. Students and non-students participating in Work Camps.
25. Unemployed youths attending interviews for jobs in PSUs.
26. Cadets and Marine Engineers apprentices undergoing Navigational/engineering training for Mercantile Marine—for travel between home and training ship.
27. Bharat Scouts & Guides—for scouting duty.
28. Teachers of Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools—for educational tours.
29. Kisans and Industrial Labourers—for visit to agricultural/industrial exhibitions.
30. Kisans travelling by Govt. sponsored Special trains.
31. Delegates attending Annual Conferences of certain All India bodies of social/cultural/ educational importance.
32. Nurses & Midwives—for leave and duty.
33. Members of St. John Ambulance Brigade and Relief Welfare Ambulance Corps, Calcutta—for ambulance camps/competitions.
34. Bharat Sewa Dal, Bangalore—for attending camps/meetings/rallies/trekking programmes.
35. Volunteers of Service Civil International—for social service.
36. Artistes—for performance.
37. Sportsmen participating All India, State and National tournaments.
38. Persons taking part in Mountaineering Expeditions organised by IMF

39. Press Correspondents accredited to the Headquarters of Government of India/State Governments/Union Territories/Districts for press work.
40. Persons with income less than Rs. 400 p.m. working in unorganised sectors—for journeys upto maximum 100 Kms.

Rail Line between Diphu and Karong in Manipur

3241. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal to lay a rail line between Diphu and Karong has been abandoned;
- (b) if not, the details of the work progress;
- (c) the details of fund allocated so far for this project;
- (d) the time by which the actual work is likely to be started;
- (e) whether there is any new project for Manipur; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The work of new line from Jiribam to Imphal (Tupul) has been included in the Supplementary Budget 2003-04. The preliminary arrangements for taking up the work like final location survey, preparation of plans and estimate have been processed. An outlay of Rs. 3 crore has been provided for this project during 2004-05.

Corruption in Railways

3242. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that railway staff allowed passengers to travel on the Rajdhani Express after taking full fares for tickets but issued them en route and pocketed the balance as appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated July 19, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officials; and

(d) the steps being taken to check corruption in the Railways?

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

(b) On 13.07.2004, Northern Railway Vigilance organised a surprise check in Train No. 2423 (Guwahati-Rajdhani Express). During check, six passengers without ticket were found in different coaches who claimed that they had boarded enroute at different stations, namely, Guwahati and New Jalpaiguri and their fare had been collected by the coach TTEs while boarding train but no ticket was issued to them even after making request several times. Vigilance found that one TTE had issued one combined Excess Fare Ticket in haste after the vigilance check for nine passengers travelling without ticket ex-New Jalpaiguri although these passengers were found travelling separately in different coaches. Remaining three passengers whose Excess Fare Ticket was made could not be located during the check.

(c) Two coach TTEs who were found carrying the passengers without ticket in their respective coaches were suspended. Regular departmental action under Discipline & Appeal Rules has been initiated against both of them.

(d) Besides investigation of complaints, regular preventive and decoy checks are conducted by the Vigilance organisation of the Railways to check the corrupt activities in different areas of its working in the Railways. Central Bureau of Investigation is also associated in some of these checks/investigations. During the year 2003-04, 29985 preventive checks were conducted by the Vigilance, 1346 complaints were investigated, 486 decoy checks done and 8758 officials who were held responsible for various irregularities were punished.

Rail Projects in Maharashtra

3243. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing/pending rail projects and surveys made and opening of new divisions in Maharashtra alongwith the progress made thereof, project-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred on each of the project so far;

(c) the target fixed for completion of each project;

(d) whether some projects are lagging behind their schedule;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A Statement is attached.

(d) to (f) The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources. Efforts are being made to augment additional resources to expedite completion of projects.

Statement

The details of ongoing projects alongwith expenditure incurred and present position wherever fixed with targets

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Details of the ongoing projects	Km	Anticipated cost	Expenditure up to March 2004	Outlay during 2004-05	Present position of the project and likely date of completion wherever fixed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Lines						
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajinath	250	353.08 (under revision)	11.75	20	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition completed in 15 km length (Ahmednagar-Narayandoh section) where Earthwork, bridge work are in progress.
2.	Amravati-Narkher	138	284.27	107.17	16.49	Land acquisition, earthwork, minor and major bridges are in progress. Section from Amravati to Chandur Bazar (44 kms) is targeted for completion during 2004-05.
3.	Baramati-Lonad	54	138.48	6.62	4	Final location survey completed. Land papers for Lonad-Phaltan (27 Km) submitted to State Government. Tender for earth work processed. Bridge works are in progress.
4.	Parvel-Karjat	28	137.96	113.82	5	Work completed. It is yet to be commissioned to traffic.
5.	Pantamba-Shirdi	16.6	48.78	13.15	8.92	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition in progress. 7 minor bridges out of 9 have been completed.
Gauge Conversion						
1.	Akola-Purna	210	245.5	19.39	20	Earthwork, bridges work are in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat Katangi	285	511.86	96.44	38.06	On Gondia-Balaghat (42 km) section, all preliminary works have been completed. Mega block has been taken from 17-01-03. Earthwork and bridges are in progress. Gondia-Balaghat (41 km) section is targeted for completion during 2004-05.
3.	Miraj-Latur	374	515.57	192.78	25	The work is being progressed in phases. Kurduwadi to Pandharpur (52 km) and Latur-Latur Road (33 km) have been completed. Earthwork and bridges are in progress in Kurduwadi-Latur section. Ballast in this stretch is being provided by State Government under "Employment Guarantee Scheme" but the progress is extremely slow. Work has also been taken up between Miraj-Pandharpur.
4.	Mudkhed-Adilabad	167	199.06	59.85	30	Works are in various stages of progress. Adilabad-Kinwat (45 Km.) is targeted for completion during 2004-05.
5.	Secunderabad-Mudkhed-& Jankhampet-Bodhan	269	287.83	206.38	25	Mudkhed-Dharmabad-Nizamabad, Bolarum-Manoharabad and Jankhampet to Bodhan have already been converted and opened to traffic. The gauge conversion work between Manoharabad-Nizamabad (118 kms) is targeted for completion during 2004-05.
6.	Solapur (Holgi)-Gadag	300	276	200.38	15	Solapur to Bijapur (110 km) section have been completed. Bijapur-Bagalkot (93 kms) is targeted for completion in 2004-05.
Doubling						
1.	Diva-Kalyan	11	48.06	28.37	9	Land acquisition, Earthwork, bridgework, ballasting and track linking are in progress.
2.	Pakni-Mohol	17	42.73	15.00	10	The work included in the Budget 2003-04. Preliminary arrangements like preparation of plans and estimates taken up.
3.	Pakni-Solapur	16.28	38.52	6.09	25	Earthwork and bridge works are in progress.
4.	Panvel-Jasai-JNPT	28.5	53.23	20.50	25	Earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress.
Metropolitan Transport Projects						
1.	Belapur-Panvel doubling of commuter double line as part of East-West Corridor	10.9	92.50	85.88	0.50	Double line has been commissioned and opened for commuter traffic on 14-04-2000. Balance works to be executed by City & Industrial Development Corporation, Maharashtra are in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Belapur-Seawood-Uran Electrified double line	22.3	163.49	44.39	8	Works are in progress. CIDCO is giving low priority to this project due to constraint of resources.
3.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)	108.8	3125.2	646.78	232.97	The various sub works are in progress.
4.	Thane Turbhe Nerul/Vashi part of corridor no. 1 in New Mumbai	22.5	131.47	95.1	3	In phase-I 90% work done. Commissioning of the project is subject to shifting of in safety zones. In phase-II due to fund constraint with CIDCO, low priority is assigned by CIDCO.
5.	Thane-Mumbra-Diva 5th and 6th line	9.42	86.87	1.20	5.01	Recently approved by competent authorities.

The projects which have been completed but appearing in the Budget for residual work and financial adjustments have not been shown above.

The details of ongoing surveys in Maharashtra are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Kms
1.	Shirpur-Mhow New Line	185
2.	Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad New Line	60
3.	Chinchwad and Roha New Line	95
4.	Achalpur-Murtapur-Yavatmal, Pulgaon-Arvi Gauge Conversion	225
5.	Latur Road-Mudkhed New Line	120
6.	Chhindwara-Nagpur Gauge Conversion	150
7.	Updating Survey for Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur Doubling	326

As regards new Division in Maharashtra, Divisions at Pune and Nanded have been operationalised w.e.f. 01.04.03. The work of administrative building and ancillary structures are in progress.

Extension of Barasat Hasnabad Section

3244. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for extension of Barasat-Hasnabad section upto Bimagar to facilitate the people of Sundarbans;

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

(c) whether the Government is actively considering for doubling and electrifying of Barasat-Hasnabad rail line under Eastern Railway;

(d) if so, the details of the project and also cost involved therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Barasat-Hasnabad electrification work has already been completed and commissioned.

The doubling with electrification of Barasat-Hasnabad (Phase-I) that is, Barasat-Sondalia section is an approved work at an anticipated cost of Rs. 23.65 crore. Earthwork, blanketing and bridgeworks are in progress, which would be progressed and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

Dacoities In Trains

3245. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of train dacoities have not decreased inspite of assurance given by the Government and deployment of R.P.F. personnels in the trains for the security of passengers;

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

(c) whether an incident of train dacoity took place recently in 'Intercity' train coming from Varanasi to Ranchi;

(d) if so, whether the incident of dacoity took place inspite of deployment of R.P.F. personnels in that train; and

(e) if so, the details of the incident and the action taken against those R.P.F. personnels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recruitment of Anchors/Reporters on DD News

3246. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether anchors/reporters and others on temporary posts were recruited in Doordarshan news on a large scale since November, 2003 and afterwards;

(b) if so, whether they were given higher pay scale than what is permissible;

(c) if so, whether Doordarshan news had to incur huge expenses as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct an enquiry in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether reservation rules in the above appointments were also not followed;

(g) if so, whether the Government propose to implement reservation policy in appointments; and

(h) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Some Anchors/Reporters have been engaged on assignment basis since 2002. Their engagement is on contract basis and not against any regular post.

(b) Prasara Bharati informs that fee to be paid to persons engaged on contract basis is decided by Prasara Bharati taking into account the market situation and other allied factors.

(c) According to Prasara Bharati, the fee being paid to the Anchors/Reporters is quite commensurate with the experience of the individuals concerned.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The contractual assignments were done in accordance with the procedure decided for the purpose by Prasara Bharati.

(f) The engagement of Anchor cum Reporter is purely on professional grounds and not against any post for which recruitment is held. In view of this, and also having

regard to the fact that there is no post of Anchor/Reporter against which the professional media experts have been engaged, no reservation was made while obtaining the services of outside personnel on assignment basis.

(g) and (h) Does not arise.

[English]

LPG Service through Pipelines

3247. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG services through pipeline for domestic use has been started in some cities;

(b) the names of the cities where such facility is available at present;

(c) the cities selected for introducing the facility in the near future; and

(d) the rates being charged for supplying LPG through pipelines?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have introduced LPG reticulated system to supply LPG through pipelines to domestic customers in housing complexes in 27 cities (as per Table-I of Statement). The system is proposed to be introduced in 7 other cities (as per Table-II of Statement) depending upon the customers' willingness to adopt the system and commercial consideration of the OMCs.

(d) The rates charged by OMCs for supplying LPG through pipelines is as per the same flat rate of subsidy as is applicable to domestic LPG customers through cylinders.

Statement

Table I

Names of Cities where Reticulated LPG Facility is Available

Northern Region	Eastern Region	Western Region	Southern Region
Noida	Kolkatta	Mumbai	Chennai
Jaipur		Pune	Madurai
Lucknow		Navi Mumbai	Pondicherry
Gurgaon		Nagpur	Hyderabad
Chandigarh		Nasik	Bangalore
Delhi		Rajkot	Trichy
		Surat	Tirunelveli
			Coimbatore
			Trivendrum
			Cochin
			Mangalore
			Guntur

Table II*Cities where reticulated LPG Facility is proposed to be Introduced.*

Northem Region	Eastern Region	Western Region	Southern Region
Bikaner		Raipur	Hubli
Jalandhar			Vizag
			Vijaywada
			Ongole

*[Translation]***ROBs in Jharkhand**

3248. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places in Jharkhand where work is in progress for rail over bridge/RUBs and the number of places where approval has been given for construction of rail over bridge but the work has not been completed due to lack of funds since last three years till date;

(b) the target fixed for completion of ongoing works, the number of such cases where work was started but it was stopped midway due to some reasons, the details of those places where works are halted; and

(c) the details of approximate amount provided for this work during the year 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) There are 21 works of Road over/under bridges sanctioned on cost sharing basis falling in Jharkhand State, out of which 19 works are in various stages of execution. In case of two works State Govt. has not yet decided the plan of work. No on-going works are held up on account of funds constraints. On-going works are targeted to be completed between Aug. 2004 to Dec. 2006.

(c) Funds are not allocated State-wise and instead it is done Railway-wise. However, funds to the tune of Rs. 21.75 crore have been allotted during 2004-05 for execution of Railway portion of these works.

Misuse of NCC Fund

3249. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the entry fee taken from the NCC Cadets all over the country is deposited in the Regimental Fund in the office of Directorate General of National Cadet Corps and this fund is being used by the officers to equip and furnish offices and residences of Director and Additional Directors;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to use the funds for the welfare of the Cadets?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A sum of Rs. 4/- per annum is subscribed by the enrolled NCC Cadets, which is deposited in the Regimental Fund of the NCC Directorate. The amount allotted is utilized for activities for the welfare of NCC Cadets and Staff only and not for furnishing the offices and residences of Director and Additional Director of NCC.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Power Plant by BHEL**

3250. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL has secured an order for setting up of a 40 MW co-generation captive power plant on turnkey basis at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. BHEL has secured in June, 2004 an order worth Rs. 18 Crore for setting up of two units of 20 MW each Co-generation Captive Power Plant from M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Vishakhapatnam.

The scope of work involved in this order includes manufacture and supply as well as civil work, erection and commissioning of the Plant to be completed in 18 months for unit I and 21 months for Unit II.

LPG Bottling Plant in Various States

3251. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to set up new LPG bottling plants in various States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have plans to set up 7 new LPG bottling plants in various States during the year 2004-05 as given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Locations for setting up of LPG Bottling Plants in various States during the year 2004-05

Sl.No.	State	Location	Proposed capacity in TMTA
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	44
2.	Karnataka	Bangalore	44
3.	Mizoram	Mualkhang	5
4.	Manipur	Sekmai	10
5.	Maharashtra	(i) Vasai	10
		(ii) Mahul	88
6.	Madhya Pradesh	*Rahukhadi	44
Total			245

*Plant proposed to be set up by resitment of existing LPG plant of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) at Mangliia (Madhya Pradesh) of 34 TMTA capacity.

Stampede during Recruitment In Bihar

3252. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some students were injured in a stampede during an Army recruitment drive in Ara, Bihar in June, 2004;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) An army recruitment rally was planned at Ara, Bihar from 13th June to 15th June 2004. The rally was to be conducted in a stadium at Ara and scheduled to commence at 0500 hrs. On the morning of 13th June, 2004 at about 0430 hrs, there was heavy rush and some candidates tried to gate crash into the stadium and fell down in the restricted passage at the gate and were stamped over by the candidates following behind, resulting in minor injuries to some candidates, two of whom were evacuated to the Patna Medical College & Hospital at Patna. The police force brought the situation under control.

(c) The rally is planned in a manner that each day is allocated to candidates of a separate district/tehsil to reduce rush of candidates and enable better crowd management. Liaison is maintained with the State Government to ensure adequate police force for maintaining law and order including crowd control.

Drinking Water for Mountaineers Areas

3253. SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA': Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from the Ministry for providing drinking water specially to mountaineers rural areas of the country particularly for Uttaranchal State;

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

(c) the number of schemes relating to providing drinking water in mountaineers areas of the country particularly in Uttaranchal which are pending with the Union Government for approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and

(b) Water supply is a State subject. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State in covering all rural habitations in the country by providing funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

While allocating funds, 35% weightage is given for states under Hilly areas development programme. The criterion for inter-state allocation is as under:

	Weightage for	Percentage (%)
(a)	Rural Population	40
(b)	States under DDP, DPAP, HADP & special category hill States in terms of rural areas	35
(c)	Not Covered/Partially covered villages (at 2:1 ratio)	15
(d)	Quality affected villages	10
	Total	100

The State-wise detail of funds allocated during 2004-2005 is given as statement enclosed.

planned, approved and implemented at the State level and there is no need for sending such proposals to Government of India for approval.

(b) The individual Water Supply Schemes are

Statement

State-wise release position under ARWSP (Normal & DDP) as on 13.8.04

					Rs. in Lakh
Sl.No.	State	Allocation	Release as on 13.8.04	Release on account of drought	Total release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9661.00	4830.50	1724.00	6554.50
2.	Bihar	5467.00	—	—	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	1966.00	983.00	—	983.00
4.	Goa	89.00	—	—	0.00
5.	Gujarat	4890.00	2445.00	—	2445.00
6.	Haryana	1458.00	729.00	—	729.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4007.00	2003.50	—	2003.50
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	9231.00	4615.50	—	4615.50
9.	Jharkhand	2178.00	1088.83	—	1088.83

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Karnataka	7418.00	3708.89	—	3708.89
11.	Kerala	2914.00	1457.00	280.00	1737.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5719.00	2859.50	—	2859.50
13.	Maharashtra	11792.00	5896.00	—	5896.00
14.	Orissa	5120.00	2560.00	—	2560.00
15.	Punjab	2078.00	1039.00	—	1039.00
16.	Rajasthan	15057.00	7528.35	—	7528.35
17.	Tamil Nadu	5261.00	2630.50	—	2630.50
18.	Uttaranchal	2241.00	1120.50	307.50	1428.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	9592.00	4796.00	—	4796.60
20.	West Bengal	6296.00	3148.00	—	3148.00
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5.63	—	—	0.00
22.	Chandigarh	0	—	—	0.00
23.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	3.75	—	—	0.00
24.	Daman & Diu	0	—	—	0.00
25.	Delhi	2.81	—	—	0.00
26.	Lakshadweep	0	—	—	0.00
27.	Pondicherry	2.81	—	—	0.00
	Sub Total (A)	112450.00	53439.07	2311.50	55750.57
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	5570	2785.00	—	2785.00
29.	Assam	9395	—	—	—
30.	Manipur	1912	956.00	—	956.00
31.	Meghalaya	2203	—	—	—
32.	Mizoram	1580	790.00	—	790.00
33.	Nagaland	1621	810.50	—	810.50
34.	Sikkim	665	—	—	—
35.	Tripura	1954	977.00	—	977.00
	Sub Total (B)	24900.00	6318.50	—	6318.50
	Total (A+(B)	137350.00	59757.57	2311.50	62069.07

1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Releases under DDP</i>					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	609.00	304.50	—	304.50
2.	Gujarat	66.00	33.00	—	33.00
3.	Haryana	660.00	330.00	—	330.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	5.00	—	5.00
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	330.00	165.00	—	165.00
6.	Karnataka	1559.00	779.50	—	779.50
7.	Rajasthan	7966.00	3983.00	—	3983.00
Total		11200.00	5600.00	—	5600.00

Special Package for NER

3254. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY:

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

(a) the allocation/special package made for improvement of AIR/DD Network in North East Region during the last three years and current year, year-wise;

(b) the implementation status of special packages showing total outlay and project-wise allocations and utilization made in each year, state-wise; and

(c) the target set for completion of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI

S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The allocation of funds under special package for expansion & improvement of AIR & DD services in NE region during the last three years & the current years & the current year is as under:

(Rs. in crores)		
Year	Doordarshan	AIR
2001-02	Nil	Nil
2002-03	45.35	12.50
2003-04	40.50	16.00
2004-05	43.20	18.80

(b) and (c) The status of implementation of schemes approved as part of Special Package for NE (Phase-I) alongwith their outlay and expenditure incurred so far is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement**A. Doordarshan**

Sl.No.	Project	Approved cost (in crores)	Expenditure	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Upgradation of 5 HPTs (1 KW to 10 KW) at Shillong, Kohima, Imphal, Aizawal & Itanagar	22.7	2002-03- 9.73 2003-04- 3.23 2004-05- 0.072 (Till July, 04)	All 5 HPTs upgraded.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Satellite earth Stations at Aizawal and Shillong	15.02	2002-03- 7.84 2003-04- 1.58 2004-05- 0.027 (Till July, 04)	Both the earth Stations commissioned.
3.	Satellite videophones	1.65	2002-03- 1.81 2003-04- Nil 2004-05- Nil (Till July, 04)	Satellite videophones procured & in use.
4.	Cable Headends in 160 villages (20 in each NE States)	7.15	2002-03- 7.12 2003-04- Nil 2004-05- Nil (Till July, 04)	133 Cable headends set up. Remaining 27 Cable Headends are expected to be set up during 2004-05.

B. All India Radio:

Sl.No.	Project	Approved cost (in Lakhs)	Expenditure (in Lakhs)	Status
1.	10 kW FM Tr. & Stereo studio (Itanagar)	610	2002-03- 185.91 2003-04- 22.96 2004-05- Nil (Till July, 04)	Completed
2.	10 kW FM T. & Stereo studio (Kohima)	610	2002-03 12 2003-04- 22.47 2004-05- Nil (Till July, 04)	Interim set up with 1 kW FM Tr. has been completed.
3.	10 kW FM Tr. & Stereo studio (Port Blair)	660	2002-03- 174 2003-04- 85.98 2004-05- Nil (Till July, 04)	Completed
4.	Upgradation of CES Guwahati Shillong Itanagar	600	2002-03- 305 2003-04 -1.88 2004-05- Nil (Till July,04)	Completed

Chinese Model of Rural Development

3255. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplates to revamp of rural development programmes on the lines of the Chinese model; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the salient features of those models?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) A Conference of Chief

Ministers and State Ministers in charge of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj on Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj was organized in New Delhi on 29-30 June, 2004 jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Prime Minister in his inaugural address at this Conference emphasized the need to learn from the Chinese Model of Rural Business Hubs that add value to agricultural produce within the rural areas. The Conference decided to hold seven Round Table Conferences to formulate a draft action plan for achieving the objectives of strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions to enable them to become true institutions of self-government for planning and implementation of programmes of economic

development and social justice as envisioned in the Constitution. Round Table-II scheduled to be held on 28-29 August, 2004 at Mysore will discuss "Panchayati Raj: Planning and implementation and Rural Business Hubs". Inter-alia, the Chinese Model of Rural Business Hubs will be discussed during this Round Table Conference. Several Indian business organisations (including FICCI, CII, ASSOCHAM and others) are providing inputs to the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Contemporary Studies which is coordinating the initial presentation of the issues at the Mysore meeting.

Grant for Libraries

3256. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has granted any additional grants to States for State level libraries under the Library Development Scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India, Ministry of Culture has given grants to State level libraries directly and through Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, an autonomous body fully funded by the Ministry during the year 2003-04.

(b) Statements I & II indicating the details is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement I

State-wise details of projects and funds sanctioned by Ministry of Culture directly.

State	Project	Amount Sanctioned
Maharashtra	State Central Library, Mumbai for Maintenance of Delivery of Books Act Section	Rs. 15.00 lakhs
Tamilnadu	(i) Connemara Public Library, Chennai for Maintenance of Delivery of Delivery of Books Act Section	Rs. 55.00 lakhs
	(ii) Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur for developmental activities.	Rs. 13.00 lakhs

Statement II

State-wise details of projects and funds sanctioned by Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata.

State	Project	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	(i) Allahabad Public Library, Allahabad for purchase of Racks and books	Rs. 10,50,000/-
	(ii) J.P. Trust, Ballia for supply of books	Rs. 9,65,945/-
Arunachal Pradesh	Modernization of State Central Library for purchase of books	Rs. 12,50,000/-
		Rs. 9,74,343/-

1	2	3
Manipur	Modernization of State Central	Rs. 12,50,000/-
	Library Purchase of books	Rs. 1,04,511/-
Meghalaya	Purchase of books	Rs. 6,00,687/-
Mizoram	Purchase of books	Rs. 10,00,000/-
Nagaland	Modernization of State Central Library	Rs. 17,00,000/-
	Training of Rural Librarian	Rs. 3,50,000/-
Sikkim	Modernization of State Central	Rs. 12,50,000/-
	Library Purchase of books	Rs. 9,94,404/-

Drinking Water for Schools

3257. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGWM) has been created to solve the drinking water problem;

(b) if so, whether drinking water supply in all primary schools would also be covered under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission; and

(c) if not, which scheme will look after the problems of non-availability of drinking water at several primary schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Various programmes of the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) and the Department of Adult Literacy and Elementary Education under the Ministry of Human Resource Development aim for covering all rural schools with drinking water supply.

Hike in Crude Oil

3258. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU
YADAV:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of unprecedented hike in crude oil in international market the Government propose to reduce import duty on LPG and Kerosene;

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

(c) the amount of revenue loss to the Government thereafter;

(d) the manner in which the Government will fill such revenue loss?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Railway Bridge at Bisrambagh

3259. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Miraj-Sangli railway bridge at Bisrambagh has become very weak;

(b) if so, whether a proposal for its repair is pending with the Government for a long time; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay and time by which the repair work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The exact location of Railway Bridge has not been mentioned. However, it is understood that the issue raised pertains to Road Under

Bridge at Kms 274/8-9 between Miraj Bisrambagh on Pune-Miraj Section.

The bridge has been inspected by Chief Bridge Engineer of Central Railway and some cracks in the wing walls have been noticed. The wing walls have been temporarily protected by providing rail strutting. However, the existing condition of the bridge is safe for rail and road traffic.

(b) The permanent repair work in form of re-building of the wing walls costing Rs. 12.86 Lakh has been sanctioned during 2004-05.

(c) There has been no delay in sanction of repair works. The repair work has been sanctioned within the power of General Manager. The repair works will commence after Monsoon from December 2004.

Agreement with Germany for Safety of Rail Coaches

3260. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with Germany for modernization and safety of Rail Coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions of the said agreement particularly for technology transfer;

(d) the name of ongoing projects of modernization of coaches; and

(e) the trains in which such coaches have been provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) State-of-the-art coaches are being manufactured in India based on the technology procured by Indian Railways through entering into a contract with M/s ALSTOM LHB, Germany, signed in Oct. 1995.

(e) 24 imported Coaches procured as part of the contract are running in the New Delhi-Lucknow Shatabdi Express and the coaches which are being manufactured to this design in India are running in the New Delhi-Mumbai Rajdhani Express trains.

Display of Nizam Jewellery at Hyderabad

3261. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to consider grant approval for permanent display of Nizam Jewellery at Hyderabad and to construct a State of Art Gallery adjoining the proposed Gems and Jewellery Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh vide his letter dated 3rd July, 2003 had informed that the State Government is developing a state-of-the-art Gems & Jewellery Park in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, in collaboration with a Malaysian firm. The State Government has offered to provide one acre of land within the layout of the said Park for establishing a permanent gallery of Nizams' Jewels.

(c) Having regard to special security needs a considered view was taken by the Government in October, 2003 to keep them in one of the galleries of National Museum, New Delhi. However, the Government is now contemplating the possibility of organising exhibition of jewels in Hyderabad city from time to time.

[Translation]

New Rail Lines in Maharashtra

3262. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that survey for laying the new rail line between Kalyan and Ahmednagar through Malshej Ghat-Darya Ghat (Shivenri), Junnar in Maharashtra was carried out in the year 1974; and

(b) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The updating survey for new line from Kalyan to Ahmednagar via Murbad was completed in 2000-01. As per the survey, cost of construction of this 204 km long line was assessed

as Rs. 772.11 crore with rate of return of (-) 0.54%. Keeping in view heavy throw forward of ongoing projects, unremunerative nature of project and acute constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to consider the proposed line.

[English]

Black Marketing of LPG Cylinders

3263. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI D.P. SAROJ:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the black marketing of LPG cylinders in States including U.P and J&K;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received against the gas agencies and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the precautionary measures being taken by the Government to check black marketing and to ensure regular distribution of LPG cylinders?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Action against erring distributors is undertaken in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have received 15 complaints against their distributors in Uttar Pradesh and 5 complaints in Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2003-04, relating to over charging on LPG cylinders.

(c) Following measures are being taken to prevent overcharging by LPG distributors of OMCs:—

(i) Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has been promulgated. As per the Order, overcharging on domestic LPG cylinders by the distribution of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) is prohibited. Such offence is punishable with imprisonment from 3 months to 7 years under the Essential Commodities Act.

(ii) State Governments are empowered to take action the erring distributors under the provisions of the above Order.

(iii) Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) for LPG distributors of OMCs have been laid down by the Government in April, 2001. According to these guidelines in case of establishment of any overcharging on refill/installation charges etc., warning for 1st offence, a fine of Rs. 5,000 for 2nd offence, Rs. 15,000 for 3rd offence, and termination for 4th offence, against the distributor is imposed.

(iv) LPG distributors of OMCs are under strict instructions not to overcharge on domestic cylinders from customers. The officials of OMCs carry out random checks at distributor's godown, delivery point as well as enroute to ensure that no over charging takes place. On the establishment of any complaint of over charging, action against the erring distributor is taken in terms of MDG and/or Distributorship Agreement.

Unakoti as World Heritage

3264. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India has recommended that Unakoti in Tripura may be declared as world heritage Centre;

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

(c) the steps taken to develop and protect Unakoti as also to publicize as a tourist destination;

(d) whether the Government is aware that excavations are required to be carried out at Shibani near Unakoti, at Pilak and Kamalpur in Tripura where significant monuments are likely to be discovered; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Conservation, preservation, maintenance and upkeep of environment of protected monument is a continuous process. A number of tourist friendly measures like approach pathways along the rock out has relief and

the sculptures, bridges over nalas, staircases and clearance of vegetation had been undertaken. Besides signboards have been erected describing the historical importance of the site and for giving directions at some of the vulnerable points.

(d) and (e) The Shibani Archaeological site near Unakoti, is not centrally protected. The officials of Archaeological Survey of India have inspected the site and reported the findings of Rock Cut Sivalingas dated to Circa 12th Century A.D. The Archaeological sites at Pilak like Thakurani Tila and Shyamsunder Tila have already been excavated. The site of Kamalapur was also inspected by a team of field officials of Archaeological Survey of India. The exploration has been carried out near Lalcharra under Dhalai District of Tripura. Although some burnt brick structures have been reported to substantial evidence of ancient habitation is reported. Hence, there is no proposal for further excavation of the site.

New Rail Lines

3265. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the work relating to laying of the New BG-Electrified Railway line Panvel-Karjat, Baramati-Lonand new line, Amravati-Narkher new line, New Line Ahmednagar Beed-Vajinath, Purambar-Shirdi and Miraj-Latur has going on as per original schedule;

(b) if not, the extent of delay in execution of the work; and

(c) the progress made and expenditure incurred so far thereon and the cost escalation, if any, suffered by these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

(c) The projects are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

Statement

S.No.	Details of the ongoing projects	Kms	Original Cost. (Rs. in crore)	Anticipated cost (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure up to March 2004 (Rs. in crore)	Outlay during 2004-05 (Rs. in crore)	Present position of the project and likely date of completion wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
New Line							
1.	Panvel-Karjat	28	1.66	137.96	113.82	5	Work completed. It is yet to be commissioned to traffic.
2.	Baramati-Lonad	54	75	138.48	6.62	4	Final Location Survey completed. Land papers for Lonad-Phaltan (27 Kms) submitted to State Government. Tender for earth work processed and bridge work commenced.
3.	Amravati-Narkher	138	121	284.27	107.17	16.49	Land acquisition, earthwork, minor and major bridges are in progress. Section from Amravati to Chandur Bazar (44 kms) is targeted for completion by 31.3.2005.
4.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajinath	250	353.08	353.08	11.75	20	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition completed in 15 kms length (Ahmednagar-Narayandoh section) where Earthwork, bridge work are in progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Puntamba-Shirdi	16.6	48.78	48.78	13.15	8.92	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition is in progress. 7 minor bridges out of 9 have bridges out of 9 have been completed.
Gauge Conversion							
1.	Miraj-Latur	374	225	515.57	192.78	25	The work is being progressed in phases. Kurduwadi to Pandharpur (52 kms) and Latur-Latur Road (33 kms) have been completed. Earthwork and bridges are in progress in Kurduwadi-Latur section. Ballast in this stretch is being provided by State Government under "Employment Guarantee Scheme" but the progress is extremely slow. Work has also been taken up between Miraj-Pandharpur.

PMGSY Programme in Andhra Pradesh

3266. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to issue clearance for a shelf of projects costing Rs. 500 crores meeting the guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh Government has entered into an agreement with the UTI Bank for providing Rs. 500 crores to leverage PMGSY programme in the State;

(c) if so, whether all necessary papers in this regard have been submitted to the Ministry;

(d) if so, whether Ministry has been requested to issue clearance for the proposal;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the final clearance will be given; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) As intimated by Government of Andhra Pradesh, UTI Bank has made a proposal to the State Government offering to arrange for a loan of Rs. 500 crores for construction of rural roads. However no agreement has been finalised.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Oil Wells in Barmer

3267. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge reserve of oil/petroleum has been found in Barmer and Jaisalmer region of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the area-wise and quantity-wise details thereof;

(c) the share of Central Government and the State Government in this reserve;

(d) whether ONGC is conducting survey to bore more wells; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s Cairn Energy India Pvt. Ltd., the operator of block RJ-ON-90/1, has made 9 oil discoveries, of which 8 are in the Barmer District and 1 in the Jalore District of Rajasthan. The

operator has declared 4 oil discoveries in Barmer and 1 oil discovery in Jalore District as commercial discoveries. The in-place reserves estimated by the operator in respect of 5 oil discoveries namely Saraswati, Rageshwari, NA-1, Mangla and GR-F are 44.88 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) and remaining 4 discoveries are under appraisal. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) also, have 12.55 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) of in-place gas reserves in Jaisalmer region of Rajasthan.

(c) After development and commencement of oil production from commercial oil discoveries in the block, the State Government would receive royalty on the crude oil production, whereas the Central Government would receive cess on the crude oil production and part of the profit petroleum after recovery of contract costs by the contractor as per the Production Sharing Contract.

(d) and (e) ONGC is carrying out 3D seismic survey in the South Kharatar area of Jaisalmer District for further delineation of the gas find made in Chinnewala Tibba during 2002-03.

[English]

Siphoning of Funds under IAY

3268. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to

Unstarred Question No. 2094 dated December 16, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the Government has since conducted the probe into allegations of siphoning of the funds allocated under the Indira Awas Yojana to Assam;

(b) if so, the funds allocated during 2003-2004 and that for 2004-2005 under the IAY and the number of units constructed and to be constructed under the Yojana; and

(c) how far the targets fixed under the Yojana for 2000-2001 to 2003-2004 were achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) Government of Assam has informed that an enquiry has been ordered to be conducted by the Project Director, DRDA, Kamrup into the allegations as published in "*Assam Tribune*" dated 17th September 2003. The report is yet to be submitted from the State Government.

(b) The funds allocated and the number of units constructed/upgraded against the targets under the Indira Awaas Yojana during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 are given as under:

Sl.No.	Year	Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)			Number of Houses*		
		Central	State	Total	Target	Constructed/ upgraded	Houses construction
1.	2003-2004	11424	4708	18832	10614	78752	29389
2.	2004-2005	18584	6195	24779	11175	6917	116166

*Reported upto May 2004 (Provisional)

(c) The details of houses constructed/upgraded against the target under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)

during 2000-2001 to 2003-2004 are given as under:

(Nos. in units)

Sl. No.	Year	Number of Houses	
		Target	Constructed/Upgraded
1.	2000-2001	98857	65089
2.	2001-2002	99913	46817
3.	2002-2003	96371	65587
4.	2003-2004	106149	78752

Staff Strength in North East AIR/DD Kendras

3269. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many posts are shifted from North-East alongwith the transfer of programme and engineering staff of AIR and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether such transfer goes against the interest of North-East leading to a decrease of posts in the near future;

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

(e) the number of programme and engineering posts presently lying vacant in different AIR and Doordarshan Kendras with respect to its sanctioned strength;

(f) whether there is shortage of cameramen in most of the DDK's in North-East; and

(g) if so, the number of such posts and steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Remix Songs

3270. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that every time one switches on the T.V. set, one is bombarded with remixes, fast beats and vulgar scenes in old songs are in vogue;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for such remixes;

(c) whether the Government proposes to protect old songs from remixes;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) The nodal Ministry for the Copyright Act 1957, is the Ministry for Human Resource Development (Copyright Division, in the Department of Education). According to information received from that Department, the problem of remix in songs has been brought to their notice in the context of financial loss etc. to the music industry due to inadequate payment of royalty by those engaged in remixes.

A Core Group has been set up in the Department of Education to consider amendments to the Copyright Act 1957 and different groups of the music industry have made their submissions with regard to retention/deletion/modification of section 52(1)(j) which covers remixes.

Screening of Film with Criminal Background

3271. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned, "Film inspired Seths killers" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the June 26, 2004;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to stop screening of films with criminal background as majority of children are addicting to crimes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The film mentioned in the news-item captioned 'Film inspired Seth's killers' Hum se Hai Zamaana' was certified on 8.8.83 as per the guidelines framed under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the Board recommended 'U' Certificate subject to cuts.

(b) to (e) The films are certified by CBFC under Section 5B (1) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and guidelines thereunder. Care is taken to see that no unnecessary violence is depicted in the films. The following guidelines are relevant:—

- 2(I) Anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified(.)
- 2(II) The modus operandi of criminals, other visual or words likely to incite commission of any offence and not depicted(.)
- 2(III) Scenes—
- A) Showing involvement of children in violence as victims or as perpetrators or as forced witnesses to violence, or showing children as being subjected to any form of child abuse(.)
 - (B) Showing abuse or ridicule of physically and mentally handicapped persons; and
 - (C) Showing cruelty to, or abuse of animals are not presented needlessly(.)
- 2(IV) Pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes or violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitizing or dehumanizing people are not shown(.)

Panchayati Raj in Fifth Schedule Areas

3272. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the aims and objectives of Panchayati Raj envisaged in the Constitution has been achieved particularly with regards to Fifth Schedule Areas and as institution of self-government;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly with regards to extension of panchayat in Fifth Schedule Area;

(c) whether this Ministry will confence a meeting of State Governments having Scheduled Areas, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and other concerned Ministries to discuss the issue relates to Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes to find out the achievements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) To a very large extent, mandatory provisions of Parts IX of the Constitution have been complied with almost entirely in letter and, to some extent, in spirit as well.

However, with regard to the devolution of funds, functions and functionaries as provided for in Article 243G as also the mandatory provisions relating to District Planning Committees much work remains to be done in most States and Union Territories. In Panchayati Raj Institutions, reservations have been provided for on the lines set out in the Constitution. In so far as Fifth Schedule Areas are concerned, the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 came into force with effect from 24.12.1996. This Act has been extended to the Tribal Areas of nine States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. All these States had amended the State Panchayati Raj Acts in terms of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension of the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), but some of the States are yet to take up amendments of the subject laws relating to land, minor minerals, water bodies, village markets etc. During the Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on 'Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj', it was decided to hold seven Round Table Conferences on different aspects of Panchayati Raj to be attended by the Ministers of Panchayati Raj of various States/UTs along with their officials. Round Table—III will be held on 22-23 September, 2004 at Raipur on the subject of "Reservations in Panchayati Raj". The implementation of PESA and issues relating to reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Women will be discussed in this Round Table.

Special Project under SGSY in Karnataka

3273. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has submitted a proposal for Special Project under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the main reasons for delay and time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A statement of the projects received under Special Projects component of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) from the Government of Karnataka is enclosed.

(c) The system of sanctioning of special projects requires that the projects are first examined in accordance with the Guidelines of the SGSY Special Projects, and then placed before a Project Screening Committee (PSC), provided they fulfill the requirements of the Guidelines. Projects deficient in any respect are sent back to the States. The projects found suitable by PSC are then placed before the Project Approval Committee (PAC) of the Department of Rural Development. After approval of PAC, action to release funds is initiated. The projects received from Karnataka are at various stages of the sanctioning process.

Statement

The list of Special Projects received from Govt. of Karnataka since inception, 1.4.1999

1. Special Project on the programme through media of employment generation and poverty of rural areas in Kolar District, Karnataka.
2. Project Report Raichur Major lift Irrigation scheme in Raichur District Karnataka.
3. Special project for dairy development in Gulbarga District, Karnataka.
4. Project for taking up income generating activities in farm and non farm sector by Kshetra Dharmasthala in Dakshini Kannada District.
5. Special project for Artisan's village at Pitikula Nisarga Dhama, Moddashedde village, Mangalore District, Karnataka.
6. Project for infrastructure development for upliftment of dairy farming BPL families in Kolar District, Karnataka.
7. Sachethana—SGSY Special Project for sustainable Management of Natural Resources for Poverty Alleviation in Chikanayakanahally Taluk Tumkur District of Karnataka.
8. Project for establishment of marketing complexes at Chamarajanagar District of Karnataka.
9. Dairy Development in Shimoga District, Karnataka.
10. Women Apparel Park at Bellary in Karnataka.
11. Project for empowerment BPL farm families through multiple income generation activity in Gadag District, Karnataka.
12. Project for setting up a cashew processing unit to manufacturing cashew kernel in Udapi District of Karnataka.
13. Project for taking up of income generation activities in Udapi District of Karnataka.
14. Project for dairy farming, milk procurement, processing and marketing in Uttara Kannada District Karnataka.
15. Project in improve the socio-economic conditions of the sheppards and woolen weavers in Belgaum District Karnataka.
16. Project for employment generation for rural folk through Agri-enterprises in Mysore District Karnataka.
17. Project for dairy development activities in Mysore and Chamrajanagar District Karnataka.
18. Project for revitalizing dairy activities in Bijapur District Karnataka.
19. Project for dairy farming, milk procurement, processing and marketing in Devangere District Karnataka.
20. Project for promotion of Green House Technology in Dharward District Karnataka.

Conversion of Broad gauge line between Rajkot to Varaval

3274. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has completed the work on conversion of broad gauge line between Rajkot to Varaval (Somnath) in Junagarh District, Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the inspection has taken place after the completion of work; and

(c) if so, the time by which the trains were likely be introduced in this sector?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. The Commissioner for Railway Safety (CRS) has already inspected the section and certified fit for passenger train operations after compliance of certain items.

(c) The section is already opened for goods train services. However, passenger services would be introduced after compliance of items pointed out by CRS which may be over by 30.9.2004.

[*Translation*]

Railway Routes

3275. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of railway routes which have more than 80% traffic saturation;

(b) the degree of traffic saturation on Delhi-Kota Mumbai route indicating is percentage in Sawai Madhopur-Vadodara and Vadodara-Mumbai sections;

(c) whether the railways contemplate to make it extremely saturated rail routes of four lane; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The Railways do not maintain route-wise data on traffic saturation. It is maintained only section-wise since a very few trains traverse the entire route comprising of a number of sections.

(b) Most of the sections of the Delhi-Kota-Mumbai route are saturated. The Percentage Utilization of sections of Sawai Madhopur-Vadodara and Vadodara-Mumbai is enclosed of statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Sawai Madhopur—Vadodara section

Section	% age
1	2
Sawai Madhopur-Gurla	124
Gurla-Kota	153.4
Kota-Nagda	110.7

1	2
Nagda-Ratlam	160.8
Ratlam-Godhra	157.2
Godhra-Vadodara	126.1

Vadodara-Mumbai section

Vadodara-Bharuch	149.4
Bharuch-Surat	148.1
Surat-Udhna	140.0
Udhna-Valsad	138.3
Valsad-Dahanu Road	137.1
Dahanu Road-Virar	114.9
Virar-Vasai Road	127.8
Vasai Road-Borivali	132.5
Borivali-Jogeshwari	138.1
Jogeshwari-Andheri	139.7
Andheri-Bandra	176.2
Bandra-Mahim Jn.	113.9
Mahim Jn.-Mumbai Central	103.9

[*English*]

Letter of Intent for DTH Telecast

3276. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL.
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

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

(a) whether Doordarshan and ASC Enterprises Ltd. (Zee Group Company) have been given Letter of Intent (LoI) for DTH telecast;

(b) if so, the number of applications for DTH are pending with the Government for issue of LoI with names of companies;

(c) whether some DTH applications are pending inspite of being cleared by FIPB and other agencies and acceptance of Entry Fee by the Government; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor and by when these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Government had approved KU Band transmission project of Doordarshan which envisages distribution of 30 free to air channels. M/s. ASC Enterprises Ltd. have been granted licence on 16 September, 2003. under relevant DTH guidelines.

(b) Three applications concerning M/s. Space TV, Essel Shyam Communications Ltd. and NOIDA Software Technology Park Ltd. are under process in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) M/s. Space Ltd. have deposited the entry fee alongwith the requisite documents. Their application is currently under process in the Ministry. No time limit can be indicated for the grant of letter of intent to the applicant company.

Central Assistance for OBCs Schemes

3277. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has asked for cent percent Central Assistance for operating schemes for the welfare of Other Backward Classes (OBCs);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to sanction Central Assistance to that State accordingly;

(c) whether the State Governments/UT administrations have also asked for such assistance;

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

(e) the provision made in this regard during 2004-05, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Opening of Qutab Minar for Tourists

3278. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether heritage site 'Qutab Minar' has not been opened to public/tourists;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the Qutab Minar is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The World Heritage site complex comprising Qutab Minar and other monuments are open to public and tourists. However, the tourists are not allowed to climb the Qutab Minar as the staircase is closed since 1981 after the stampede in which 45 persons had died and 20 were injured.

(c) The Staircase will be opened to public only after adequate security measures envisaged are implemented.

Drought Prone Areas in Madhya Pradesh

3279. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals of water facility, storage and recharging in drought prone areas of Madhya Pradesh received sanctioned and pending during the last three years and till date;

(b) the funds allocated in this regard during the said period; and

(c) the details of the scheme of Rs. 100 crore for drought prone areas announced in the budget alongwith the modalities of disbursing the grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) is being implemented in Madhya Pradesh on watershed basis with the objective of drought proofing and rejuvenating the natural resource base by taking activities of soil-moisture conservation, water resource development, afforestation, pasture development etc. Under DPAP specific allocation of funds to the programme States is not made. Ministry of Rural Development sanctions new projects, each of 500 hectares, as per the Guidelines for Watershed Development and funds are released to Zila Panchayats

in installments over the project period of five years. The first installment of central funds is released with the sanction of new projects and the programme being demand driven, subsequent installments are released on receipt of specific proposals from the State Govt./Zila Panchayat along with Utilization Certificate, Audited Statement of Accounts, Quarterly Progress Reports etc. While releasing the central funds, it is ensured Zila Panchayat has utilized more than 50% of the last installment of funds released to it. An amount of Rs. 154.96 Crore has been released to Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and till date under DPAP.

(c) A scheme, at an estimated cost of Rs. 100 Crore has been proposed in the budget to repair, restore and renovate the water bodies that are directly, linked to agriculture. The nodal Ministry for release of grants under this scheme is Ministry of Water Resources.

[*Translation*]

Norms for Construction of Roads under PMGSY

3280. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the provision made for allocation of funds to link the villages of all the States including Maharashtra having population of more than one thousand with the main roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) the norms prescribed for treating a village of population of one thousand; and

(c) the norms prescribed for construction of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) During the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 2468 crore has been proposed for PMGSY out of which Rs. 320 crore is for externally funded projects. Against this, an amount of Rs. 2230 crore has been normatively allocated to the States, including Rs. 130 crore for Maharashtra. As per the guidelines of the programme, a minimum of 80% of the funds are to be used for providing connectivity to unconnected habitations, with priority accorded to connecting habitations having population of 1000 and above.

(b) The unit for coverage under PMGSY is a "Habitation" which is the cluster of population living in an area, the location of which does not change over time. The population of all habitations within a radius of 500

metre (1.5 km. of path distance in case of Hills) may be clubbed together for the purpose of determining the population size. The population as recorded in the Census 2001 shall be the basis.

(c) The geometric standards and structural design for the construction of Rural Roads are as per Indian Roads Congress Rural Roads Manual IRC SP 20: 2002. The Manual prescribes design norms based on traffic expected, nature of the soil and terrain and climatic factors.

[*English*]

Ban on using of Foreign owned Satellites

3281. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) whether there is a ban to use foreign owned satellites for beaming down programme directly to DTH operators;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is considering to lift such ban; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) As per the provisions of article 11 of the Terms and Conditions of the Licence Agreement, the Licensee can use the bandwidth capacity for DTH service on both Indian as well as foreign satellites. However, proposals envisaging use of Indian satellites will be extended preferential treatment. Besides, the Licensee is required to ensure that its operations will conform to the provisions of the Inter-System Co-ordination Agreement between INSAT and the satellite being used by the Licensee.

Summer Special Trains

3282. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains running as summer special every year;

(b) whether advance time table has not been issued for all the summer special trains;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Railways to issue advance time table to give information to public for all the summer special trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Every year, Indian Railways run Special trains during peak seasons including summer season and other festive occasions, to cater to the needs of passengers. These are run on various sectors depending on traffic justification, operational feasibility of availability of resources. However, 2026 and 1769 Summer special trains were run during 2003 and 2004 respectively.

(b) Summer Time Tables were made available to travelling public well in time.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Indigenous Production of LPG

3283. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether maximum percentage of domestic requirement of LPG is met from the indigenous production;

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

(c) whether the basic production cost of the indigenously produced LPG is worked out on the basis of expenditure incurred on the LPG; and

(d) if not, the facts in this regard and the norms fixed by the Government for working out the basic cost of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) During the year 2003-04,

about 82% of domestic requirement of LPG was met from indigenous production.

(c) and (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are paying import parity price for domestically produced LPG to the refineries and fractionators. Thus the import parity price of LPG is considered as the cost to OMCs.

[English]

Rail Line between Qadian and Beas

3284. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rail link between Qadian & Beas was sanctioned long ago;

(b) if so, the present status of the above line; and

(c) the time by which the above line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Qadian-Beas section of the proposed Batala-Beas broad gauge rail line project was sanctioned in January, 1928.

(b) and (c) The section between Batala and Qadian was completed and opened to traffic in December, 1928. However, the construction of line between Qadian-Beas was abandoned due to financial constraints.

Kishan Channel

3285. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the channel launched in January, 2004 for showing farmers their own Kishan T.V.;

(b) whether this channel is facing resource crunch and also shortage of manpower;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the above problems?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI

S. JAIPAL REDDY: (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that the Kisan Channel was started on 21st January, 2004 in narrowcasting mode from Daltonganj, Dibrugarh, Gulbarga, Hissar, Indore, Jalpaiguri, Muzaffarpur, Rajkot, Sambalpur, Shillong, Varanasi and Vijayawada. The agriculture programmes are being telecast from Jalpaiguri between 5.30 PM to 6.00 PM and from other Kendras between 6.00 PM to 6.30 PM.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that this Channel is presently not facing either resource crunch or shortage of manpower.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Pending Railway Projects in Jharkhand

3286. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:
DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects relating to the railways in Jharkhand State are lying pending;

(b) if so, the present status of pending/ongoing rail projects and surveys in the above State, project-wise;

(c) target set for completion of each of these projects and surveys;

(d) the amount spent and likely to be spent on these projects; and

(e) the steps initiated by the Government to complete the aforesaid projects within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The pending projects are considered as those projects, which had been included in the Budget with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances. No such project is pending in the State of Jharkhand. The status of various ongoing projects falling fully or partly in Jharkhand, their anticipated cost and outlay for 2004-05, expenditure incurred upto 31.3.2004 and the target date of completion, wherever fixed are given as under:—

S.No.	Name of Project	Anticipated cost (Rs. in cr.)	Anticipated Expenditure upto 31.3.2004 (Rs. in cr.)	Outlay 2004-2005 (Rs. in cr.)	Current Status/Target date for completion wherever fixed.
1	2	3	4	5	6
NEW LINES					
1.	Deogarh-Dumka (60 kms)	180.72	33.51	15.00	Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works are in progress. Work is targeted for completion during 2006-07. 2/3rd cost of the project is being shared by Jharkhand Government.
2.	Deogarh-Sultangari, Banka-Barahat and Banka-Bhitiah Road (147 kms)	312.00	42.86	8.00	Final location survey, land acquisition and bridge works are in progress. Banka-Barahat (13 kms) is targeted for completion during 2004-05.
3.	Mandarhill- Rampurhat via Dumka (130 kms)	254.07	57.43	10.00	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition proceedings are in progress. Work on earthwork, bridges and other activities are in progress. Jharkhand Government is sharing part cost of the work.

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Girdih-Moderna (105 kms)	371.36	78.71	15.00	Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge works are in progress on Koderna-Maheshpur section. Work is targeted for completion during 2006-07. 2/3rd cost of the project is being shared by Jharkhand Government.
5.	Koderma-Ranchi (189 kms)	1033.00	215.24	50.00	Work taken up in phases. Land acquisition completed on Koderna-Hazaribagh Town. Earthwork and bridge works are in progress in entire length. Work is targeted for completion during 2006-07. 2/3rd cost of the project is being shared by Jharkhand Government.
6.	Koderma-Tilaiya (68 kms.)	307.71	7.53	15.00	Final location survey completed. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress. Work is targeted for completion during 2005-06. The part cost is being shared by Jharkhand Government.
GAUGE CONVERSION					
1.	Ranchi-Lohardaga with extension of Tori (113 kms)	185.32	44.43	17.34	On Ranchi-Lohardaga section, earthwork and bridge works are in progress and conversion of the line is targeted for completion during 2004-05. 2/3rd cost of the project is being shared by Jharkhand Government.
DOUBLING					
1.	Goelkera- Manoharpur 3rd line (Chakradharpur- Bondamunda (40 kms)	186.92	1.97	0.01	Work has been given low operational priority.

The ongoing surveys in the State of Jharkhand with likely date of completion are as under:—

Name of the Survey	Anticipated cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Likely target date of completion
1	2	3
NEW LINES		
Hazaribagh-Garwa Road	17.96 (for Koderna- Hazaribagh-Garwa Road on which Koderna-Hazaribagh has already been sanctioned.	31.03.2005
Chatra-Tori	2.92	31.03.2005
Gaya-Chatra	0.60	Not yet fixed.

1	2	3
Hansdia-Godda	1.96	Not yet fixed.
Ranchi-Kandra	3.00	31.03.2005
Kandra-Namkom	5.2	Not yet fixed.
Jhajha-Giridih	5.74	31.03.2005
DOUBLING		
Chakradharpur-	N.A.	31.12.2004
Bondamunda third line		

*[English]***Statement****Allocation of Funds for up-gradation of Roads***Allocation of funds under the PMGSY for 2004-05*

3287. DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI DINSHA PATEL:

#	States/UTs	Annual Allocation (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35
3.	Assam	75
4.	Bihar	150
5.	Chhattisgarh	87
6.	Goa	5
7.	Gujarat	50
8.	Haryana	20
9.	Himachal Pradesh	60
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20
11.	Jharkhand	110
12.	Karnataka	95
13.	Kerala	20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	213
15.	Maharashtra	130
16.	Manipur	20

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is allocating funds for up-gradation of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) if so, the proposed allocation of funds under this scheme for 2004-05, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for not allocating sufficient funds for up-gradation of roads in some States particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) State-wise allocation of funds under PMGSY covering both new connectivity and upgradation is given in Statement enclosed. No separate allocation is made for upgradation. However, since upgradation is not central to the programme, it cannot exceed 20% of the State allocation as long as eligible habitations remain to be connected.

(c) Does not arise.

1	2	3
17.	Meghalaya	35
18.	Mizoram	20
19.	Nagaland	20
20.	Orissa	175
21.	Punjab	25
22.	Rajasthan	130
23.	Sikkim	20
24.	Tamil Nadu	80
25.	Tripura	25
26.	Uttar Pradesh	315
27.	Uttaranchal	60
28.	West Bengal	135
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	10
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5
31.	Daman & Diu	5
32.	Delhi	5
33.	Lakshadweep	5
34.	Pondicherry	5
Total		2255

**Recommendations of National Commission
for SCs on Reservation**

3288. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various recommendations made by the National Commissions for SCs in connection with the enactment of laws to enforce reservations in public sector/private sector undertakings, banks, Government services, universities and in other Government departments during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken by Government for implementation of those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI

SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) set up on 20.02.2004 has not made any recommendation so far. However, the erstwhile National Commission for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes has made recommendations in its Sixth and Seventh Reports to enact a Reservation Act which would systematize the implementation of the reservation policy.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Free Rail Passes to Railway Employees

3289. SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by the Railways on providing free rail passes to their employees during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Expenditure Reform Commission has recently recommended to the Government that expenditure on this account be curtailed substantially; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Railways administration thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Passes to Railway Employees are given free of cost and as such its cost is not computed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The recommendations of the Expenditure Reform Commission to discontinue the passes to railway employees has not been found feasible for acceptance by Railways and the Committee of Secretaries. The disagreement is being conveyed to the Cabinet.

[Translation]

Corruption in Parcel Booking Offices

3290. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether corruption is rampant in the parcel/freight booking offices of Railway;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard during the last two years Zone-wise; and

(c) the number of officers found guilty on the basis of complaints and the action taken against them as on date alongwith the outcome of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. However, a few complaints have been received about corruption in parcel/freight booking offices of Zonal Railways.

(b) and (c) 492 complaints were received in this regard during the last two years in various zonal railways & 226 officials including officers, who were found guilty, have been taken up under Discipline and Appeal Rules. Outcome of action taken would be known after finalisation of DAR proceeding which is time consuming and continuous process. Details of the number of complaints and officials including officers found guilty Zone-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Zonal Railways	No. of complaints received	No. of officials including Officers found guilty
1.	Central	72	46
2.	Eastern	28	Nil
3.	Northern	161	105
4.	North Eastern	04	01
5.	Northeast Frontier	Nil	Nil
6.	Southern	32	08
7.	South Central	50	08
8.	South Eastern	11	67
9.	Western	40	05
10.	East Central	14	Nil
11.	East Coast	Nil	Nil
12.	North Central	36	11
13.	North Western	17*	Nil
14.	South East Central	Nil	Nil
15.	South Western	01*	Nil
16.	West Central	26	15
Total		492	266

*Complaints are under investigation

[English]

Allotment of Petrol, Diesel and Cooking Gas Agencies

3291. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the methodology being implemented by the Government for allotting the agencies of Petrol, Diesel, Kerosene and Cooking Gas;

(b) the details of the allotment of the outlet of the Petrol, Diesel, Kerosene and Cooking Gas in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether certain complaints have come up regarding the irregularities of the allotment of such agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Government have authorized the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) to select retail outlet (petrol pump) dealers, SKO-LDO dealers and LPG distributors. While asking the OMCs to frame their own guidelines for the purpose, the Government have advised them of certain broad and objective parameters for inclusion in those guidelines. The OMCs have accordingly framed their guidelines and have been making selection and allotments as per these guidelines. The said guidelines provide for detailed procedure to be followed by the OMCs in making selection and allotment of dealers/distributors. The procedure includes selection of dealers/distributors by the selection committee of the OMC concerned on the basis of evaluation of the suitability of the candidates vis-a-vis certain laid down parameters and weightage therefor.

In addition, the Government also make allotments of dealerships/distributorships under the following two schemes, which are outside the purview of normal selection process followed by the OMCs:—

- (i) Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships to widows/next of kin of defence personnel killed in action in 'Operation Vijay' in Kargil.

(ii) A discretionary quota of dealerships/distributorships for allotment in genuine compassionate grounds to deserving persons in the following two categories:—

- Dependents of defence/para-military/police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.
- Dependents of Central/State Government employees, who are killed or permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated.

(b) The OMCs-wise allotments of dealership/distributorship made during the last three years, *i.e.*, 2001-02 to 2003-04, are as under:—

Name of the OMC	Number of Retail Outlet dealerships (petrol/diesel pumps) allotted	Number of LPG distributorships allotted	Number of SKO-LDO dealerships allotted
IOC	1339	1046	113
HPC	1094	476	31
BPC	303	425	36
IBP	1507	58	5
Total	4243	2005	185

(c) and (d) The OMCs and the Government do receive, from time to time, complaints alleging irregularity in selections/allotments. These complaints are looked into and remedial action taken after inquiry.

Petrochemical Plants by GAIL

3292. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether GAIL India proposed to set up petrochemical plants in Southern and Eastern India;

(b) if so, the details of locations selected and the amount likely to be spent on these plants; and

(c) the time by which the plants would be ready for production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI

SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) GAIL is exploring the possibilities of setting up Petrochemical plants in Kerala and Assam. The location of the Petrochemical Complex in Kerala is proposed to Kasargod, 212 km from Kochi, and in Assam at a distance of 15 km from Dibrugarh. The details have not been worked out.

[Translation]

Use of Bio-Diesel in Trains

3293. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any test has been conducted for use of bio-diesel as fuel in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Railway authorities expect to run trains by bio-diesel;

(c) whether the Government is also aware that thousands of trees have been planted along the Railway lines for production of bio-diesel in Kharagpur in West Bengal;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government intend to plant these trees to facilitate production of bio-diesel in other States of the country including Gujarat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Preliminary studies, including field trials, have been done for running diesel locomotives on bio-diesel. As and when bio-diesel becomes freely available commercially, detailed planning will be undertaken to exploit this fuel as a regular option. However, as a pilot project the Railways have a Memorandum of understanding with a petroleum company to promote plantations on Railways land that would yield the required product for various blends.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Railway has planted 24,000 *Jatropha Curcas* upto July, 2004.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) A target of planting 57 lakhs of *Jatropha Curcas* sapling through departmental effort has been fixed for the current year 2004-05.

[English]

**Gauge Conversion of Mangalore-Hassan
Railway Track**

3294. SHRI D.V. SADANANDGOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan railway track;

(b) the details of the length remaining for gauge conversion and the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(c) the details of the amount required for the completion of the work;

(d) whether the entire Railways in Karnataka State has been merged with the South Western Railway;

(e) if so, whether the Mangalore railway station has not been handed over to the South Western Railway; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) On Mangalore-Hassan section, work on Hassan-Sakleshpur (42 kms) and Kankanadi-Kabakaputtur (44 kms.) has already been completed and the sections commissioned for train services. Work on Kabakaputtur-Subramanya Road (42 kms.) has been completed recently. Work on the balance portion *i.e.* Subramanya Road-Sakleshpur (56 kms.) is targeted for completion during 2004-05 where works are in advance stage of completion.

(c) The balance amount required for completion of Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion project is about Rs. 7 crore.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Contract to US Subsidiary SAW Pipes by GAIL

3295. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether GAIL had awarded a contract to US subsidiary SAW Pipes for Dehej Vijapur Pipeline Project;

(b) if so, the details of terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether SAW Pipes Limited has refused to Refund one forth of the contract which is saved on freight and customs;

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

(e) whether SAW Pipes has violated the terms and conditions of the contract; and

(f) if so, the action taken against the SAW Pipes?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. GAIL had awarded the contract to M/s Saw Pipes Limited, India and not to Saw Pipes, USA. The awarded value of the contract is about Rs. 467 crore. The purchase order on Saw Pipes Limited, India, was for the supply of 270 Km of line pipes for Dahej-Vijaypur Pipeline (DVPL).

(c) and (d) M/s SAW Pipes Limited (SPL) has refused to pass on to GAIL the commercial benefit due for the deviation granted to them. Therefore, an amount of Rs. 23 crores (commercial benefit, as estimated by M/s Engineers India Limited (EIL), the Project Management Consultant of (GAIL) has been deducted by GAIL from the invoices of M/s SPL. In addition to this, excise duty of Rs. 5.91 crores has not been reimbursed by GAIL to M/s Saw Pipes Limited.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Preservation of Rock-Cut Caves in Maharashtra

3296. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Archaeological Survey of India has drawn towards set of rock-cut caves belonging to Megalithic period in some district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether ASI has taken steps to preserve these caves;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Income from the Freight by Railways

3297. YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of income from the freight by railways during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there has been upswing in the freight during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of quantity of material transported by railway on paid basis during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The details of total Income from freight during the last three years are as under:

(Figures in Crore of Rs.)

Year	(Amount)
2001-2002	24845.40
2002-2003	26504.82
2003-2004	27617.97 (Provisional)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There has been an upswing in the freight during the current year. As compared to 133.17 Million Tonnes of freight in the first quarter (upto June) of 2003-04, the corresponding figure for the current quarter is 141.26 million tonnes. The freight earnings (provisional) have also registered an increase from Rs. 6,275 crore (upto June 03) to Rs. 7,091 crore (upto June 04). The month-wise details are tabulated below:

	2003-04 Freight in		2004-05 Freight in		Variation Freight in	
	Million Tonnes	Earnings Rs. in Cr.	Million Tonnes	Earnings Rs. in Cr.	Million Tonnes	Earnings Rs. in Cr.
April	43.07	2025.38	45.54	2218.78	+2.47	+193.40
May	45.77	2196.68	48.75	2354.88	+2.98	+158.20
June	44.33	2052.89	46.97	2517.68	+2.64	+464.79
	133.17	6274.95	141.26	7091.34	+8.09	+816.39

(d) The year-wise quantity of revenue earning material transported by railway in reference to freight income given in part (a) of the question is as under:

Year	Quantity of Material Transported (In Million Tonnes)
2001-02	492.50
2002-03	518.74
2003-04	557.39 (Provisional)

[English]

Proposal to Develop-Computerised Competence Evaluation System

3298. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to develop computerise competence evaluation system for various categories of staff on safety-related knowledge and skill in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its financial implications; and

(c) the time by which the new system will put in place?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Security Deposit on Cooking Gas Cylinders

3299. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR:
SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State owned Oil Companies and IOC has demanded the Government to increase the security deposit for Gas Cylinders;

(b) if so, the details of action taken by the Government on their demand;

(c) whether the said oil companies have withheld the issue of new LPG connection till their said demand is not accepted by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The PSU oil marketing companies (OMCs) have approached the Government for increase in security deposit for LPG cylinders due to hike in procurement cost of cylinders in view of increase in steel prices. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) OMCs have registered waiting lists of LPG customers in some States. The Government have advised OMCs to liquidate the waiting list, as on 1.8.2004, within a period of the one month.

Goods Terminal Centre in Thani

3300. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open Goods terminal & Goods booking center in Thani District, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closure of Heavy Engineering Corporation

3301. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

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

(a) whether the BIFR has finally recommended closure of Heavy Engineering Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the efforts made by the Government to revive the HEC;

(c) whether the interest of workers and employees would be protected before its closure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), on 6.7.2004 has recommended for winding up of heavy Engineering Corporation Limited (HEC) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA).

A number of revival packages have been implemented for HEC from 1972 to 1996. The last one which was sanctioned in 1996 has also been declared failed by BIFR. In the last 3 years itself Rs. 890.32 crore have been infused by way of equity/loan/grant (under Plan Rs. 144.67 crore and under Non-plan Rs. 424.71 crore) and Rs. 294.14 crore written off. However, another attempt is being made to study and scrutinize the possibilities and prospects of HEC revival. In the meanwhile, appeal is being preferred to AAIFR against the order of BIFR.

(c) and (d) Before the closure of the company, interest of the workers and employees would be protected by providing the benefits available under Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS).

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds

3302. SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for appointment on compassionate grounds are pending with the Southern Naval Command, Kochi;

(b) since when these applications are pending with Southern Naval Command;

(c) the reasons for not giving appointment in each case; and

(d) the guidelines issued by the Government regarding appointment on compassionate grounds in the Defence departments?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There are 78 applications pending as follows:-

Year	Number
Prior to 2001	44
2002	24
2003	09
2004	10
Total	87

(c) Due to non-availability of vacancies earmarked for such appointments.

(d) The guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel & Training for appointment on compassionate grounds are followed by the Ministry of Defence. Compassionate appointments can be made only to 5% of the direct recruitment vacancies in Group 'C' & 'D' posts. Further, in terms of their recent instructions, all Ministries/Departments are permitted to fill only 1/3rd of the available direct recruitment vacancies in a year, further subject to 1% of the sanctioned strength of that department under the Annual Recruitment Plan. This has resulted in limited availability of vacancies for compassionate appointments.

Status of Rail Project

3303. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway projects announced during each of the last three years and current financial year;

(b) the number of projects completed and lying pending, State-wise;

(c) the present status of pending projects and reasons for their pendency;

(d) the amount allocated for these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A total of 9, 13, 39 and 5 projects have been included in the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) to (a) All the 240 projects, excluding 6 pending

projects, are in various stages of progress. The six pending projects are under various stages of approvals. A total of Rs. 3803.37 crore has been allocated for these projects of new lines, gauge conversion, doubling, railway electrification and metropolitan transport projects for 2004-05. These projects are likely to be completed in coming years as per the availability of resources.

Statement

A total of 88 projects have been completed. The pending projects in railway parlance are the projects which have been included in the budget with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances. At present there are 6 such pending projects. There are 240 projects in progress which include the 6 pending projects also. The Statewise details are given below:—

S.No.	State	No. of Works	Completed	Balance in Progress including pending projects
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27	7	20
2.	Assam & North East States	12	2	10
3.	Bihar	47	15	32
4.	Chhattisgarh	10	5	5
5.	Delhi	4	0	4
6.	Gujarat	14	5	9
7.	Haryana	7	0	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	0	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	2
10.	Jharkhand	11	3	8
11.	Karnataka	22	4	18
12.	Kerala	14	2	12
13.	Madhya Pradesh	10	1	9
14.	Maharashtra	27	8	19
15.	Orissa	25	6	19
16.	Punjab	7	1	6
17.	Rajasthan	15	4	11
18.	Tamil Nadu	25	6	19
19.	Uttar Pradesh	47	14	33
20.	Uttaranchal	3	1	2
21.	West Bengal	45	15	30

Note: *The projects falling in more than one state have been shown in each state.

Illegal Consignment

3304. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that recently in March 2004, during search of lease parcel van of 1916 Ashram Express by an Army Intelligence Unit, packets containing gold, silver, gems and lacs of Rupees in cash were recovered regarding which no information was given to the railways in the declaration form by the leaseholder;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop illegal consignment of goods through lease parcel vans and to make this facility fool proof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On the information received from Army Intelligence, Delhi Police Special Branch and Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff/Delhi Main checked 56 packages during loading of Leased Front Brake-Van (SLR) of Train No. 2916 (and not 1916 as mentioned in the Question). Ashram Express on 3.3.2004. Out of these 8 packages were detected having 886 Kgs. Silver Ingots, chains, utensils; 7.3 Kgs. Gold ornaments and biscuits; Rs. 55,03,255/- in cash, (total worth Rs. 1.77 crores approximately) which have seized by Delhi Police Special Branch Under Section 102 of Criminal Procedure Code and deposited with Delhi Railway Police. Later on, all seized consignments were handed over to the Income Tax Department.

The packages were loaded in leased Front-SLR of Train No. 2916 Ashram Express by M/s Jai Laxmi Parcel Service, Ahmedabad. The party had declared the contents of packages as general goods in the Forwarding Note and accordingly Parcel Way (PW) Bill No. 845922 dated 3.3.2004 was issued to the lease-holder by the Railway.

(c) The Railways have been asked to take following preventive measures:-

- (i) For detection of explosive materials, dog squads are being utilised.
- (ii) The Lease-Holders are asked to furnish a certificate that no illegal goods are being transported in the leased SLR.

(iii) Government Railway Police (GRP), RPF and Commercial staff have been advised to gear up intelligence in a coordinated manner and keep a close watch on movements of suspicious characters in the Station area.

(iv) To avoid recurrence of such incidents, surprise checks are conducted by the Railways.

Supply of Locos to Railways by BHEL

3305. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (Company) supplied locos to Railways and was required to keep the same in working condition during the warranty period;

(b) whether the company failed to fulfil its warranty obligations resulting into non-recovery of lease rentals of Rs. 6.82 crore during 1997-98 to 2001-02;

(c) if so, whether the matter inquired into; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) BHEL supplied 65 Nos. AC/DC locomotives to the Indian Railways under Build-Operate-Lease (BOL) Scheme during 1996-97 to 1999-2000, which were required to be kept in working condition during the warranty period.

(b) to (d) Rs. 6.82 crore were deducted by the Indian Railways out of lease rentals payable for 19 locomotives supplied, and the entire issue has been examined by the Board Level Audit Committee (BLAC) of BHEL in their meeting held on 11-12 July, 2004. The main reasons for the locomotives not being kept in working condition during the warranty period were the non-availability of high value imported spares and additional modifications as requested for by the Railways. Certain deductions were also made beyond warranty period, for which the BLAC has recommended obtaining of legal opinion and taking up the matter with the Railways if found necessary. Further, in some cases of individual locomotives, the BLAC has also recommended investigations and analysis of delays and quality of repairs done by the Jhansi Unit of BHEL.

Outlay in Budget

3306. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decrease in the projected passenger earnings from Rs. 14,200 crores in the interim budget to Rs. 13,940 crores due to growing competition from domestic air travel which is becoming cheaper;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to bridge this gap;

(c) whether the Railways has to resort to market borrowing of Rs. 3,400 crores to meet the outlay of Rs. 14,898 crores for the year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The net plan outlay for 2004-05 has been fixed at Rs. 14,498 crore and not Rs. 14,898 crore. This includes Rs. 3,400 crore to be financed through Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) for procurement of rolling stock. Part financing of the Railway Plan through market borrowings from IRFC, which has been an integral part of Railway's Annual Plan for the past several years, is need based and depends on procurement of rolling stock planned in a financial year.

The details of items of rolling stock planned to be procured through IRFC Bonds during 2004-05 are given in this year's Budget document named Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme, Part-II".

Progress in Rural Development in Orissa

3307. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether poverty alleviation schemes of the Government have fallen flat as per a report during March, 2003;

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

(c) the steps taken to make these schemes viable and beneficial, to the rural people in the country specially in Orissa;

(d) whether the Government is aware that implementing State agencies as well as State Machineries are not caring about the schemes and even haven't call for a meeting in most of the district of Orissa;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the extent of success achieved in this regard; and

(g) the efforts to be made to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the progress reports received from the State Government of Orissa for the year 2003-04, total utilisation of the funds under Rural Development Schemes was Rs. 79019.80 lakhs against the total available funds of Rs. 98007.96 lakhs which shows that 80.36% funds have been spent on poverty alleviation programmes.

The Ministry of Rural Development has developed a comprehensive system of Monitoring the implementation of the programmes including utilisation of funds through various Mechanism such as Monitoring through periodical progress reports, Performance Review Committee (PRC), Area Officer Schemes, Inspection by State/District officials, Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC) and State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC). In addition to this, the Ministry has also introduced Monitoring through the District level Monitors and National Level Monitors.

(c) to (f) The State Governments including Orissa have also been advised to adopt a four point strategy *i.e.* creating awareness about the schemes, transparency, people's participation and accountability—Social Audit by Gram Sabha, as evolved by the Ministry and also monitor the Rural Development Programmes effectively.

(g) The Ministry of Rural Development has been impressing upon the Statement Government for timely completion of projects sanctioned under various programmes and to implement the schemes as per the programme guidelines so that the benefits of the schemes reach the target groups.

Funds to NGOs for Education and Training of Helpless Children

3308. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance allocated and released by the Union Government to the NGOs in Karnataka and other States/UTs for education and training of the helpless children during 2003-2004 and 2004-05, State/UT-wise and NGO-wise;

(b) the funds spent by these organizations for the above purpose during the said period State/UT-wise and NGO-wise;

(c) whether these organizations have fulfilled the stipulated norms; and

(d) if not, the names of organizations against whom action has been taken in this regard, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI

SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) A statement showing funds released to NGOs for education and training of children in Karnataka and other States/UTs during 2003-04 and 2004-05 as on 18.8.2004 is enclosed. Details regarding funds released NGO-wise during 2003-04 are given in the Annual Report of the Ministry for 2003-04. The Ministry also regularly updates its website to give details of funds released to the NGOs during the year.

(b) to (d) The utilization certificates in respect of funds released to NGOs in the previous years are submitted by them to the Ministry alongwith the application for release of second instalment of grant during the year. These proposals are received in the second half of the financial year and the utilization certificates are not yet due.

Statement

Funds to NGOs for Education and Training of Helpless Children

(As on 18.8.2004)
(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	States/UTs	Grant in aid to Voluntary Organization working for Scheduled Castes		Assistance to Voluntary Organization for the welfare of CBCs		Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme		An Integrated Programme for Street Children		General Grant in Aid for assistance in the field of Social Defence	
		2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	276.09	140.59	18.94	3.90	1571.02	343.93	124.56	51.86	0.80	1.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.32	3.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	47.19	0.00	15.73	3.21	56.18	0.00	11.65	3.89	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	85.71	7.54	0.00	0.00	181.28	11.27	5.01	2.62	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.02	0.00	1.52	5.13	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	63.33	23.41	2.30	0.00	91.95	13.39	120.58	4.60	0.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	11.97	7.15	11.24	0.00	115.70	37.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	2.73	0.00	0.00	23.14	1.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.56	0.00	2.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	9.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.28	3.89	3.47	3.31	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12.	Karnataka	269.95	51.09	6.65	2.48	928.96	99.16	37.52	9.22	0.00	0.00
13.	Kerala	11.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	542.46	78.02	27.50	16.36	0.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	164.69	49.15	24.33	4.16	90.22	28.75	8.57	5.23	0.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	244.74	54.99	102.32	33.08	212.80	24.66	79.28	47.99	6.81	0.00
16.	Manipur	30.48	2.61	59.88	14.56	77.00	9.87	4.75	7.30	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.06	2.78	2.18	3.53	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Orissa	380.07	12.56	14.52	0.00	378.00	55.78	18.79	11.96	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	109.66	36.33	14.28	7.59	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	190.52	79.45	51.32	13.81	143.24	18.94	30.77	10.06	0.00	0.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	38.57	0.00	7.59	0.00	514.76	99.66	92.65	27.69	0.00	0.00
24.	Tripura	7.42	5.95	0.00	0.00	13.63	6.46	3.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	205.10	54.75	66.61	20.61	656.85	116.22	89.09	17.81	3.99	2.00
26.	Uttaranchal	43.42	0.00	5.49	1.64	51.62	10.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	West Bengal	116.92	58.11	10.45	5.17	536.06	106.87	223.93	84.76	0.00	9.18
UTs											
28.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.5	0.00
29.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.87	0.00	19.84	6.50	0.00	0.00
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Delhi	185.76	21.79	48.82	17.48	646.69	87.14	67.88	7.80	0.00	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.75	3.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Testing of Agni Missile

3309. SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agni-I India's surface to surface missile, with a range of over 700 km, third in the Agni series, had been successfully testfired on July 4, 2004;

(b) if so, the main features of this missile, and how far the test was successful;

(c) the number of tests of Agni series missiles conducted so far;

(d) whether it matches Pakistan's Ghauri missile;

(e) if so, how it compares with Ghauri; and

(f) time by which Agni-I missile is likely to be inducted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Agni-I missile system has been flight tested on July 4, 2004.

(b) Agni-I can carry one tonne payload and it can be launched from road/rail launcher. The flight test achieved all the mission objectives set for it.

(c) In all five flight tests have been conducted on Agni-I and Agni-II missiles so far.

(d) and (e) Agni-I meets the threat perception with its range capability and Agni-II has a longer range, more than Ghauri.

(f) It is in production for induction in Army.

Doubling Project of Irugur-Coimbatore Line

3310. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the doubling project of Irugur-Coimbatore line sanctioned in 1996 with an outlay of Rs. 20 crores has not yet been completed due to allocation of inadequate funds in the consequent budgets;

(b) if so, the progress made so far on the construction of the project and the revised estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The work of doubling of Irugur-Coimbatore was accorded lower operation priority keeping in view the availability of resources.

(b) The up line between Coimbatore and Coimbatore North has already been completed and commissioned. Earthwork, bridge works and ballast supply are in progress in balance portion. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 38.66 crore.

(c) The work is likely to be completed depending upon availability of resources.

Project for Setting up of Refinery in Bhatinda District, Punjab

3311. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project for setting-up of a refinery in Bhatinda district of Punjab is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the amount likely to be spent by the Central Government and the amount already spent on the project;

(c) the position of this project at present and the time by which this project is likely to be completed; and

(d) the number of people to be employed in this project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The refinery project at Bhatinda (Punjab) is being implemented by Guru Govind Singh Refineries Limited (GGSRL), a subsidiary company of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

(b) The approved project cost is Rs. 9,806 crore (at June 1998 prices). An expenditure of Rs. 288.1 crore has been incurred on the project upto July, 2004.

(c) Major activities completed in respect of the project are as follows:—

- (i) 1,992 acres of land at Bhatinda has been acquired for the refinery, and work relating to site grading, roads, canals, drains, area lighting and tank foundations has been completed.
- (ii) Steel plates for storage tankages have been procured.
- (iii) For crude oil terminal at Mundra, 310 acres of land has been acquired and site development of 185 acres of land has been completed.
- (iv) Right of use for the entire stretch of the crude oil pipeline has been acquired.

Government of Punjab (GOP) had during 1998-2000 granted a financial package of incentives, including sales tax exemption. To facilitate the financing of the project, it became necessary to formalise the incentive package through a Memorandum of Understanding. Accordingly, a Deed of Assurance (DOA) covering obligations of GOP and HPCL to the project was proposed in September 2001. However, due to delay in receipt of DOA from GOP, major project activities have been under suspension since April, 2003.

(d) About 995 persons will be employed by HPCL/ GGSRL post commissioning of the refinery to full capacity.

[*Translation*]

Publication of Foreign Newspapers

3312. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRI SITA RAM YADAV:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) the details of the foreign newspapers and other publications have been allowed to operate in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to relax norms for the foreign newspaper groups who want to print from India;

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

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to amend the Press and Registration Act for giving legal sanctity to the Cabinet Resolution of 1955;

(e) whether the Government has also decided to come out with a law to strengthen guidelines for FDI in Print Media; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The requisite details are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) The Government is contemplating legislation in the matter.

Statement

List of Cases approved by this Ministry

Sl. No.	Name of the Applicant Company	Name of Magazine	Date of Approval Letter
1	2	3	4
<i>1. Indian edition of foreign scientific/technical/speciality magazines/journals/periodicals</i>			
1.	M/s. Living Media India Limited	Golf Digest	22nd January 2003
2.	M/s. Living Media India Limited	Scientific American	3rd February 2003
3.	M/s. Living Media India Limited	Cosmopolitan	4th July 2003
4.	M/s. Living Media India Limited	Readers' Digest	15th September 2003
5.	M/s. Exposure Media Marketing Private Limited	Par Golf	15th October 2003
6.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	The Journal of Anti microbial Chemotherapy	19th February 2004
7.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Human Reproduction	19th February 2004
8.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Journal of Dermatological Treatment	19th February 2004
9.	M/s. Exposure Media Marketing Private Limited	ASIASPA	19th February 2004
10.	M/s. Living Media India Limited	Good Housekeeping	16th April 2004
11.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Blood Pressure	16th July 2004
12.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology	20th July 2004

1	2	3	4
13.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Hematology	20th July 2004
14.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice	20th July 2004
15.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Uro Oncology	29th July 2004
16.	M/s. Prism Books Private Limited	Aids Abstracts	17th August 2004
17.	M/s. Quintessence Science Communications Private Limited	Quintessence International	17 August 2004

II. Foreign Investment in Indian entities publishing scientific/technical/speciality magazines/journals/periodicals

1.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Better Photography	7th April 2003
2.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Search	3rd June 2003
3.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Overdrive	3rd June 2003
4.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Auto Minotir	3rd June 2003
5.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Overdrive Grand prix	3rd June 2003
6.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	AV Max	7th May 2003
7.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Khana Pina	20th November 2003
8.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Yellow Line Office Guide	20th November 2003
9.	M/s. Sorabjee Automotive Communications Private Limited	Autocar India	19th February 2004
10.	M/s. Tata Infomedia Limited	Photo Imaging	19th February 2004
11.	M/s. Sage Publications India Limited	Insage	1st March 2004
12.	M/s. TBW Publishing & Media Private Limited	Intelligent Computing Chip	1st March 2004
13.	M/s. Banyan Netiaqs Pvt. Ltd.	The Brand Reporter	1st March 2004

III. Foreign Direct Investment in Indian entities publishing newspapers and periodicals dealing in news and current affairs

1.	M/s. HT Media Limited	News and Current Affairs publications	3 December 2003
2.	M/s. Business Standard Limited	New and Current Affairs publications	9th March 2004 29th March 2004 and 5th April 2004

Tax Levied on Petrol and Diesel by State Governments

3313. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether besides Central taxes the State Government have also levied taxes on petrol and diesel;

(b) if so, the norms and rates of taxes levied on petrol and diesel in each of the States during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(c) the average annual requirement of petrol and diesel in each State?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sales tax and other levies imposed by various State Governments are broadly categorised into two categories, namely, recoverable and irrecoverable taxes/levies. The levies which are included in retail selling price,

i.e., effect of which is borne by the consumers are recoverable taxes, whereas those absorbed by oil companies without directly passing on the same to the end-consumers are irrecoverable taxes. The details about the rates of sales tax and other levies imposed by various States, which were applicable as on 1st April, 2003 and 1st April, 2004 are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(c) The details of sales by the public sector oil marketing companies of petrol and diesel in various States for the year 2003-04 are at Statement-III.

Statement I

State-wise Recoverable and Irrecoverable Taxes as of 1.4.2003

Sl.No.	States/Tax	MS	HSD
1	2	3	4
1.	MAHARASHTRA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	29.00	31.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	Rs. 1/Ltr.	Rs. 1/Ltr.
	Turn over Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	29.00	31.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	BMC Octroi	3.00	3.00
	Entry Tax	29% + Re. 1/Ltr.	31% + Re. 1/Ltr.
	1. Eff. 1.7.2002, rates of sales tax for MS & HSD are 30% & 34% respectively & surcharge Rs. 1/Ltr. for Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai.		
	2. Cess @1% for sale within Mun., limits and 0.1% for sale O/S Mun. limits is levied by Navi Mumbai Mun. Corpn. on MS & HSD imported into the Mun. limited of Navi Mumbai.		
	3. Effective 1.10.2002, Maharashtra Govt. has levied entry tax on petroleum products. Rates of entry tax on MS & HSD are 30% and 34% plus Re. 1 per litre for Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane.		
	The Entry Tax is leviable on import of petroleum products for consumption/use within the State of Maharashtra. Entry tax is not levied on Import of petroleum products for resale within Maharashtra or inter state sale.		
2.	Gujarat		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	18.00
	Additional Tax	20.00	20.00

1	2	3	4
	Cess	2.00	3.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Entry Tax	0.00	21.60
	Turnover Tax	2.00	2.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax paid on stock transfers is allowed as set off against the local sales tax payable. However, no set off is available on HSD since it is covered under Motor Spirit Taxation Act.		
	Contravention liability equivalent to local sales tax is application if products purchased without payment of tax are not sold within the state of Gujarat.		
3.	MADHYA PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	15.00	15.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Terminal Tax	0.00	0.00
4.	CHHATTISGARH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Terminal Tax	0.00	0.00
5.	GOA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	19.00	17.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
6.	UTTAR PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00

1	2	3	4
7.	UTTARANCHAL		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
8.	DELHI		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
10.	JAMMU & KASHMIR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
11.	PUNJAB		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	8.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
	Cess	Rs. 1000/KL	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
12.	RAJASTHAN		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	23.00	16.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	15.00	15.00
	Turn Over Tax	0.25	0.25
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
13.	HARYANA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax#		
	CST	4.00	4.00

1	2	3	4
Local Area Development Tax			
1. VAT (Multipoint Tax) has been implemented in Haryana eff. 1.4.2003. There is no change in rates of Tax			
2. Sales Tax exemption on inter oil company sales transactions has been withdrawn eff. 1.4.2003 consequent to implementation of VAT			
3. Even though there is provision of Purchase Tax under the Haryana VAT Act, there will be no purchase tax liability on oil companies due to payment of VAT on inter oil company transactions			
14.	CHANDIGARH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	29.00	11.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
15.	ANDHRA PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	30.55	19.33
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	10.00	10.00
	Turnover Tax	2.00	2.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
16.	TAMIL NADU		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	30.00	25.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on GST/Turnover Tax	0.00	0.00
	Purchase Tax	9.00	9.00
	Surcharge on Purchase Tax	5.00	5.00
	Addi. Tax on Pur. Turnover	0.00	0.00
	Effective Purchase Tax	9.45	9.45
	CST#	4.00	4.00
	Additional Tax on CST to unregistered dealers	0.00	0.00
	Purchase Tax (Chennai)		
	#CST to Unregistered dealers is levied at 10% or regular GST rate whichever is higher. Additional tax on CST sale to unregd. dealers is irrecoverable.		

1	2	3	4
17.	KERALA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	28.00	24.00
	Addi. Tax on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
18.	KARNATAKA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	28.00	17.50
	Entry Tax	5.00	5.00
	Road/Infrastructure Cess (w.e.f. 01.02.2004)	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	28.00	4.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax		
19.	ORISSA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
20.	ASSAM		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Additional Tax on ST	10.00	10.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	4.00	4.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
21.	BIHAR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	21.50.	17.00
	Additional Tax on Sales Turnover# and Sales Tax	1.00	1.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Surcharge on ST + Addi. Tax	10.00	10.00
	CST	4.00	4.00

#Additional tax on Sales turnover becomes irrecoverable on inter oil company purchase by HPCL, BPCL & IBP.

1	2	3	4
22.	JHARKHAND		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	15.00
	Additional Tax on Sales Turnover† and Sales Tax	1.00	1.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Surcharge on ST + Addl. Tax	10.00	10.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	#Additional tax on Sales turnover becomes Irrecoverable on inter oil company purchase by HPCL, BPCL, IBP.		
23.	WEST BENGAL		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.55
	Surcharge on sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Cess	Rs. 1000/KL	Rs. 1000/KL
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on Sales Tax	20.00	2.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Note: There is a tax rebate of Rs. 17/KL on MS Sales		
24.	MEGHALAYA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	8.00
	Surcharge on ST	2.00	2.00
25.	MANIPUR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
26.	NAGALAND		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	24.00	15.00
27.	TRIPURA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.50	0.50
28.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
29.	MIZORAM		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.00	0.00

Statement II*State-wise Recoverable and Irrecoverable Taxes as of 1.4.2004*

Sl.No.	States/Tax	MS	HSD
1	2	3	4
1.	MAHARASHTRA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	29.00	31.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	Rs. 1/Ltr.	Rs. 1/Ltr.
	Turn over Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	29.00	31.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	BMC Octroi	3.00	3.00
	Entry Tax	29% +Re. 1/Ltr.	31% + Re. 1/Ltr.
	<p>1. Eff. 1.7.2002, rates of sales tax for MS & HSD are 30% & 34% respectively & surcharge Rs. 1/Ltr. for Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai.</p> <p>2. Cess @1% for sale within Mun., limits and 0.1% for sale O/S Mun. limits is levied by Navi Mumbai Mun. Corpn. on MS & HSD imported into the Mun. limited of Navi Mumbai.</p> <p>3. Effective 1.10.2002, Maharashtra Govt. has levied entry tax on petroleum products. Rates of entry tax on MS & HSD are 30% and 34% plus Re. 1 per litre for Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane.</p> <p>The Entry Tax is leviable on import of petroleum products for consumption/use within the State of Maharashtra. Entry tax is not levied on Import of petroleum products for resale within Maharashtra or inter state sale.</p>		
2.	GUJARAT		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	18.00
	Additional Tax	20.00	20.00
	Cess	2.00	3.00

1	2	3	4
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Entry Tax	0.00	21.60
	Turnover Tax	2.00	2.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Note: 1. Entry Tax paid on stock transfers is allowed as set off against the local sales tax payable. However, no set off is available on HSD since it is covered under Motor Spirit Taxation Act.		
	2. Contravention liability equivalent to local sales tax is applicable if products purchased without payment of tax are not sold within the state of Gujarat.		
3.	MADHYA PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	15.00	15.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Terminal Tax	0.00	0.00
4.	CHHATTISGARH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Terminal Tax	0.00	0.00
5.	GOA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	19.00	17.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on Sales Tax	25.00	25.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
6.	UTTAR PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax	—	5.00
	Entry Tax is payable on entry of products into local area from any place outside that local area including a place outside the State of Uttar Pradesh for consumption, use or sale therein and can be set off against sales tax payable.		

1	2	3	4
7.	UTTARANCHAL		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
8.	DELHI		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
9.	HIMACHAL PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	14.00
10.	JAMMU & KASHMIR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Cess	Rs. 1000/KL	0.00
11.	PUNJAB		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	8.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
	Cess	Rs. 1000/KL	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
12.	RAJASTHAN		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	23.00	16.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	15.00	15.00
	Turn Over Tax	0.50	0.50
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
13.	HARYANA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Local Area Development Tax		

1. VAT (Multipoint Tax) has been implemented in Haryana eff. 1.4.2003. There is no change in rates of Tax

2. Sales Tax exemption on interoil company sales transactions has been withdrawn eff. 1.4.2003 consequent to implementation of VAT. However, effective 8.7.2003, Sales Tax @4% is payable in inter oil company purchases including RPL.

3. Even though there is provision of Purchase Tax under the Haryana VAT Act, there will be no purchase tax liability on oil companies due to payment of VAT on inter oil company transactions

1	2	3	4
14.	CHANDIGARH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	11.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
15.	ANDHRA PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	30.55	19.33
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	10.00	10.00
	Turnover Tax	2.00	2.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
16.	TAMIL NADU		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	30.00	25.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on GST/Turnover Tax	0.00	0.00
	Purchase Tax	9.00	9.00
	Surcharge on Purchase Tax	5.00	5.00
	Addi. Tax on Pur. Turnover	0.00	0.00
	Effective Purchase Tax	9.45	9.45
	CST#	4.00	4.00
	Additional Tax on CST to unregistered dealers	0.00	0.00
	Purchase Tax (Chennai)		
	#CST to Unregistered dealers is levied at 10% or regular GST rate whichever is higher. Additional tax on CST sale to unregd. dealers is irrecoverable.		
17.	KERALA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	28.00	24.00
	Addi. Tax on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00

1	2	3	4
18.	KARNATAKA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	28.00	17.50
	Entry Tax	5.00	5.00
	Road/Infrastructure Cess (w.e.f. 01.02.2004)	0.00	0.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	28.00	4.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax		
19.	ORISSA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
	Entry Tax	1.00	1.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	10.00	10.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	CST	4.00	4.00
20.	ASSAM		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Additional Tax on ST	10.00	10.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Purchase Tax	4.00	4.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
21.	BIHAR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	21.50	17.00
	Additional Tax on Sales Turnover [#] and Sales Tax	1.00	1.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Surcharge on ST + Addi. Tax	10.00	10.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax	16.00	16.00

[#]Additional tax on Sales turnover becomes irrecoverable on inter oil company purchase by HPCL, BPCL & IBP.

*Entry Tax on products is adjustable against sales tax payable.

1

14.

15.

16.

17.

1	2	3	4
22.	JHARKHAND		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	15.00
	Additional Tax on Sales Turnover# and Sales Tax	1.00	1.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Surcharge on ST+Addi. Tax	10.00	10.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Entry Tax*		
	#Additional tax on Sales turnover becomes Irrecoverable on inter oil company purchase by HPCL, BPCL, IBP.		
23.	WEST BENGAL		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	25.00	17.00
	Surcharge on Sales Tax	0.00	0.00
	Cess	Rs. 1000/KL	Rs. 1000/KL
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax on Sales Tax	20.00	20.00
	CST	4.00	4.00
	Note: There is a tax rebate of Rs. 17/KL on MS Sales		
24.	MEGHALAYA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	8.00
	Surcharge on ST	2.00	2.00
25.	MANIPUR		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
26.	NAGALAND		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	24.00	12.00
27.	SIKKIM		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.50
28.	TRIPURA		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.50	0.50

1	2	3	4
29.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.00	0.00
30.	MIZORAM		
	Recoverable Tax		
	Sales Tax	20.00	12.00
	Irrecoverable Tax		
	Additional Tax	0.00	0.00

Statement III*PSU Sales : 2003-04 (Prov.)*

(TMT)		
States	HSD	MS
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	3474	576
Andaman & Nikobar	52	6
Arunachal Pradesh	39	12
Assam	413	89
Bihar	1051	115
Chandigarh	63	57
Chhattisgarh	522	96
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	112	7
Daman & Diu	48	7
Delhi	1130	607
Goa	265	60
Gujarat	2123	663
Haryana	2031	273
Himachal Pradesh	286	59
Jammu & Kashmir	312	80
Jharkhand	768	117

1	2	3
Karnataka	2383	504
Kerala	1326	423
Lakshadweep	7	0
Madhya Pradesh	1519	297
Maharashtra	3449	1141
Manipur	31	13
Meghalaya	153	23
Mizoram	23	10
Nagaland	21	12
Orissa	881	145
Pondicherry	198	42
Punjab	2122	451
Rajasthan	2686	334
Sikkim	30	5
Tamil Nadu	3051	712
Tripura	45	13
Uttar Pradesh	4229	675
Uttaranchal	320	67
West Bengal	1840	218
Total	37044	7919

Note: Total sales include Nepal & Bhutan also

*(English)***Use of Fake Documents for Dealership**

3314. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and number of cases in which the dealers appointed by Public Sector oil companies used fake documents to meet the criteria for dealership during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the punitive action taken against them; and

(c) the measures taken by oil companies to check use of fake documents by dealers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The process for selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products involves, among other matters, verification, at the time of interview, of the original of attached copies of all the relevant documents and prescribed certificates issued by the competent authority, as submitted by the candidates along with their applications. Cross-checking is also done by the designated officer of the oil company concerned while conducting field investigations of the selected dealers/distributors. All allegations of fake documents leads to cancellation of dealership or refusal to convert Letters of Intent into a final contract.

Out of the dealerships/distributorships appointed by the oil marketing companies (OMCs) during the period from 2001-02 to 2003-04, one case each of submission of a forged certificate for an LPG distributorship of Indian Oil Corporation Limited in the State of Manipur and a false affidavit for a retail outlet (petrol pump) dealership of the same company in the State of Rajasthan, was detected. While the LPG distributorship has been terminated, the case of the retail outlet dealership is subjudice.

The dealership/distributorship agreement that a public sector oil marketing company (OMC) enters into with the dealer/distributor select before appointment, does contain a clause by virtue of which if any information furnished by the dealer/distributor in his/her application is found to be false in any material respect, the OMC can terminate the dealership/distributorship under this agreement.

Recovery of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of IRCTC

3315. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) at present; and

(b) the measures taken/being taken by the IRTDC for recovery of such assets and the details of success achieved thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There are no non-performing assets with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Encroachment around Protected Monuments

3316. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land encroached upon around the protected monuments in the country;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to stop encroachments around the protected monuments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to remove the encroachments around protected monuments?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The information is being collected from the field offices and would be laid on the table of the House.

(b) to (e) The Central Government has issued a notification in 1992 under the provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites & Remains Act,

1958 and Rules 1959 and has declared the area upto 100 metres from the protected limit and beyond upto 200 metres near or adjoining protected monuments to be prohibited and regulated areas respectively for purposes of both mining operation and construction. Further, under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, the Superintending Archaeologists of the circles have been vested with the powers of Estate Officer for initiating action for the removal of encroachment in the protected area of a centrally protected monument. State Governments have been requested to issue suitable instructions to district authorities for strict compliance of the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 & Rules 1959.

[*Translation*]

Abolition of Posts

3317. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has, on the proposal of Expenditure Reforms Committee constituted by the Ministry of Finance, decided to abolish number of posts in the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had initially agreed to abolition of 1334 posts, subject to certain steps to be taken for rationalization of different organizations.

The matter regarding implementation of the ERC's recommendations was placed before the Committee of Secretaries which in its meeting held on 28th April, 2004, inter alia proposed that the Field Publicity and Song & Drama Division be closed down and the Photo Division, Publications Division and Films Division be downsized substantially.

The matter is proposed to be reviewed before the Committee of Secretaries after the completion of a detailed study of the various issues and options. Therefore, revised estimation with regard to the number of posts to be abolished has not been worked out as yet.

[*English*]

Convenience Stores by BPCL

3318. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) proposes to set up some modern convenience stores in its outlet;

(b) if so, the number of convenience stores proposed to be set up by BPCL; and

(c) the States where these outlets are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) BPCL proposes to set up 75 Convenience Stores during 2004-2005 at its Retail Outlets in the States of Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Chandigarh (U.T.).

National Policy on Prohibition of Liquor Consumption

3319. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated/proposed to formulate any National Policy on Prohibition of Liquor Consumption in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any objection from State Governments in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Union Government does not propose to formulate National Policy on prohibition of Liquor consumption, since it is a State subject.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Old Railway Bridges in Gujarat

3320. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rail bridges in Gujarat and other State which are more than eighty years old;

(b) whether Railway do not have appropriate and adequate database about railway bridges due to which their proper monitoring is very difficult;

(c) if so, the main reasons for not maintaining appropriate database about railway bridges; and

(d) the manner in which the Union Government are monitoring and maintaining such old bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The position of Railway bridges is maintained Railway-wise and not State-wise. There are about 75600 Rail Bridges spread over 16 Railway zones, which are more than 80 years old.

(b) Adequate & appropriate information about railway bridges is available for proper monitoring. However, Railway has further decided to modernize inspection & management systems.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Railways have a well laid down multi-tier schedule of annual inspection of bridges and each bridge is inspected atleast once in a year. The defects noticed during such inspections are attended to promptly or suitable speed restrictions are imposed, if required, till such time repairs are carried out.

[Translation]

Proposals from Madhya Pradesh

3321. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent certain projects for approval;

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

(c) the action being taken by the Government for according approval to these projects; and

(d) the reasons for lying projects pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises essentially deals with Public Sector related matters only. As such, no industrial project proposal has been received in this Ministry from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Laying a Gas Pipeline from Jagdishpur to Haldia

3322. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made by GAIL in laying a gas pipeline from Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh to Haldia in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Based on a preliminary study, GAIL propose to lay a natural gas pipeline from Jagdishpur in U.P. to Haldia in West Bengal. However, the progress of the pipeline project is dependent on the sourcing of gas and downstream marketing tie-ups.

Production of Warships

3323. SHRI MADHUSUDAN REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to produce warships with indigenous technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

Warship construction involves design and building of platforms on which weapons, sensors and other equipment are placed. Warships are being constructed in India since 1961 with increasing levels of indigenous technology. Warships of the category of Advance Offshore Patrol Vessels and Fast Patrol Vessels are already being built with indigenous design and technology at the Defence Shipyards. Indigenous capability for design and construction of platform has also been achieved for higher classes of warships including frigates and corvettes. Weapons and sensors for which technology is not available in India are however, being procured from abroad for installation on these platforms to meet the Navy's requirements for state of the art weapon systems.

[Translation]

Dhar-Makshi-Godhara Rail Line

3324. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned sufficient amount during the current financial year to complete Dhar-Makshi-Godhara Railway Line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. An outlay of Rs. 15 crore could only be provided for the project during 2004-05.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources.

[English]

Guidelines for Petrol Pumps on Highways

3325. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government has issued some new set of guidelines for specifications of petrol pumps on highways;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) the total number of petrol pumps on highways;

(d) the number of these petrol pumps come up to the standards which have so far been prescribed; and

(e) the action being taken by Government against those petrol pumps which have not yet come up to the prescribed standard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India, in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH), have issued norms for access to fuel stations, service stations, etc., along the National Highways. These norms are applicable to all the new retail outlets (petrol pumps) being set up along the National Highways with effect from 17.10.2003.

(c) As on the 1st July, 2004, the total number of retail outlets that the four public sector oil marketing companies had along the National Highways was 7,896.

(d) and (e) All retail outlets along National Highways, being set up after 17.10.2003 are in line with the new norms laid down by MORTH. The outlets set up prior to 17.10.2003 have to comply with the earlier norms. In case of the retail outlets set up after 1983 on National Highways, the norms laid by Indian Roads Congress (IRC) in 1983 were to be fulfilled. The oil companies have initiated action to rectify the deficiencies, wherever necessary, to comply with the IRC norms. However, in respect of some retail outlets where compliance with the said norms is not feasible due to unavoidable reasons, MORTH has been requested for exempting those retail outlets from compliance to IRC norms.

Awards of NCC Cadets

3326. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year various awards from Secretary (Defence) and DG (NCC) level are awarded to NCC cadets from various Directorates;

(b) if so, the details of such awards given during the last three years, Directorate-wise;

(c) whether any proposal from Kerala and Lakshadweep Directorate has been received any awaiting clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of such awards given to NCC cadets during the last three years, Directorate-wise are enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) In the year 2002, two proposals were received for Kerala & Lakshadweep Directorate which were both accepted and the DG NCC Commendation Cards were awarded.

(e) It takes two months to process the citations. The citations are received from Directorates by 10th October every year and the awards are announced on the last Sunday of November on NCC Day. All efforts are made to finalize the proposals expeditiously.

Statement

*Details of the Awards to the NCC Cadets at the level of Defence Secretary and Director General
NCC during the last three years*

S.No.		2001			2002			2003		
		*DSCC		*DGCC	*DSCC		*DGCC	*DSCC		*DGCC
		Citations received	Awarded	Awarded	Citations received	Awarded	Awarded	Citations received	Awarded	Awarded
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	—	5	2	—	2	9	—	4
2.	Bihar	1	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	1
3.	Delhi	2	—	1	5	—	3	1	—	1
4.	Gujarat	13	5	6	23	—	7	1	—	—
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
7.	Karnataka & Goa	4	—	3	9	—	6	11	—	5
8.	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	3	—	1	4	—	3
9.	Maharashtra	6	—	5	8	—	2	6	1	3
10.	North Eastern Region	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2
11.	Orissa	4	—	3	1	—	1	6	2	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Punjab	2	—	1	3	—	1	8	—	5
13.	Rajasthan	1	—	1	7	—	5	3	—	2
14.	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	3	—	3	4	—	3	4	—	2
15.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	7	—	6	12	5	3	12	2	6
16.	West Bengal & Sikkim	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1
Total		53	5	35	82	5	39	71	5	38

*DSCC : Defence Secretary's Commendation Card.

*DGCC : Director General NCC's Commendation Card.

[*Translation*]

Inclusion of Carpenter (Tarkhan) and Lohar Communities in SCs List

3327. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 500 dated December 4, 2003 regarding inclusion of Carpenter and Lohar communities in SCs List and state:

(a) whether the Registrar General of India has sent their comments to the Union Government on the said proposal of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Now the proposal of Government of Himachal Pradesh to include Tarkhan in the list of Scheduled Castes of Himachal Pradesh has been sent to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes for their comments.

Toilets Facilities in Rural Areas

3328. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Hindi daily "Hindustan" dated June 16, 2004 under the caption "Desh Ki Adikansh Aabadi Shauchalaya Suvidhaon Se Vanchit";

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any time limit to provide toilet facilities in the rural areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per findings of Census 2001, only about 22% of rural population had access to basic sanitation.

(c) and (d) In order to accelerate the rural sanitation coverage, Government of India has launched the *Total Sanitation Campaign* (TSC) project. At present, these projects have been sanctioned in 398 districts of the country. In addition, Rs. 10 lakh each have been sanctioned to 130 more districts to conduct baseline survey and prepare TSC project reports. Government of India has also launched an incentive scheme called "Nirmal Gram Puraskar" to reward the Panchayati Raj Institutions, which attain full sanitation coverage. It is proposed to extend the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) projects to all the districts by the end of the Xth Plan.

Schools for BHEL Employees' Children

3329. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether separate schools have been set up for the children of BHEL employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of Education Circle of BHEL in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the employees and teachers of these schools have also been provided facilities similar to the employees of BHEL;

(d) if not, whether the Government is formulating any scheme in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In all, sixty-six schools including special schools for the handicapped and disabled are functioning in various townships of BHEL across the country. These schools are functioning at eight townships of BHEL located in different States. In Madhya Pradesh, there are 26 such schools, all of which are located in the Bhopal township of BHEL. These schools are not run by BHEL directly but are managed by independent Societies and Educational Management Boards which have their own terms and conditions of service for their employees. BHEL has only given these Societies and Boards land or in some cases buildings on lease for running the schools. These schools also admit children other than wards of BHEL employees.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. As mentioned in (a) and (b) above, the teachers and the other employees of these schools are governed by the terms and conditions of service of the respective Educational Management Boards and independent educational societies/trusts running the schools and not that of BHEL. The facilities provided by them hence cannot be compared to that of the employees of BHEL. Government have no plans to formulate any scheme in this regard.

[English]

Opening of Sainik Schools in North Eastern States

3330. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for opening of Sainik Schools pending with the Government as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open Sainik Schools in the North Eastern States including Sikkim;

(c) if so, the details alongwith locations thereof; and

(d) the time by when these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The proposal of the Government of Mizoram for the opening of a Sainik School in Mizoram is pending and is under examination in the Ministry of Defence. The Ministry of Defence has approved the opening of a Sainik School at Pungtwa in Nagaland. So far as the proposal to open a Sainik School in Sikkim is concerned, on the request the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, the detailed guidelines for the formulation of the proposal for the opening of a Sainik School have been forwarded to the State Government. However, the submission of the project proposal for the opening of a Sainik School in Sikkim is awaited.

The opening of Sainik School largely depends on the provision of infrastructure by the State Government and fulfillment of its share of financial obligations for running the School.

[Translation]

Preservation of Indian Culture

3331. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to launch any mass awareness drive at national level to preserve the Indian Culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of such programmes being run at national level?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the Government is implementing various schemes for the promotion, preservation and propagation/dissemination of Art and Culture of India.

A number of institutions such as the Archaeological Survey of India, National Archives of India, Anthropological Survey of India, Institutes of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, various Museums and Libraries under the administrative control of the Government, Zonal Cultural Centres, Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), National Museum Institute, Sangeet Natak Akademy, Lalit Kala Akademy, Sahitya Akademy, National School of Drama and National Mission for Manuscripts are also engaged

in activities that include exhibitions, seminars, workshops, documentation, publications, conservation, etc.

[*English*]

Unclaimed Bodies of Pakistani Soldiers

3332. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that bodies of over hundred Pakistani soldiers who had intruded in India during Kargil war, lie buried in Indian soil unclaimed and unhonoured;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan had refused to collect/claim these bodies; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The information sought is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The Government of Pakistan had falsely claimed at that time that none of their soldiers had crossed the Line of Control in the Kargil sector.

New System for Level Crossing

3333. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway has developed a new lights and siren system at level crossings to prevent accidents;

(b) if so, the main features of new system; and

(c) the results of experiments conducted in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) The system warns road users about an approaching train through audio siren and visual flashing light after detecting it from a distance of more than 2000 metres away. The work of provision of Train Actuated Warning Device based on Digital Axle Detector is in

progress on 90 Level Crossing (L.C.) gates (including 20 unmanned L.C. gates) for conducting extended trials to check its working under varied local conditions & environment. The work is targeted for completion at these gates in 2004-05 on Northern, North Eastern, North Western, North Central, East Central, Southern, South Eastern and South Central Railways. The result of extended trial is expected to be known by March' 05.

[*Translation*]

Rail Line between Koderma and Giridih

3334. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land was acquired for laying railway line between Koderma and Giridih in the year 2002 and the work was also started;

(b) if so, whether the work was stopped due to lack of funds;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide sufficient funds for laying the said railway line;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The land acquisition was processed in the year 2002 and part land was only handed over by State Government during the year. The work is already in progress. This work is being done on cost sharing with Jharkhand State Government. The necessary funds are being provided as per the availability of resources.

[*English*]

Excavation Projects

3335. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:
SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing excavation projects in the country, project-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred on excavation work during the last three years, till date; and

(c) the details of the new sites identified by ASI for excavation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The details of the ongoing excavation works undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India in the country are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The expenditure incurred on excavations during the last three years till date, is as follows:

Year	Expenditure (in lakhs)
2001-2002	168.70
2002-2003	399.43
2003-2004	342.07

(c) State-wise details of the new sites proposed as this stage for excavation by ASI during field season 2004-05 are at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Project-wise details of the ongoing excavations undertaken by ASI in the country

Sl. No.	Name of the site
1	2
1.	Adi Badri, Distt. Yamunanagar, Haryana
2.	Adichanallur, Distt. Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu
3.	Ahichhatra, Distt. Bareilly, U.P.
4.	Bakraur (Sujata Kutir), Distt. Gaya, Bihar
5.	Barabati Fort, Distt. Cuttack, Orissa
6.	Baror, Distt. Sriganganagar, Rajasthan
7.	Bhimbetka, Distt. Raisen, Madhya Pradesh
8.	Bhirrana, Distt. Fatehabad, Haryana
9.	Chak 86 & Tarkhanawala Dera, Distt. Sriganganagar, Rajasthan
10.	Chandor, Goa, Goa

1	2
11.	Daulatabad Fort, Distt. Daulatabad, Maharashtra
12.	Dholavira, District Kachchh, Gujarat
13.	Excavation at Harsh-ka-Tila, Thanewar, Distt. Kurukshetra, Haryana
14.	Fort at Chitradurga, Distt. Chitradurga, Karnataka
15.	Hampi, Distt. Bellary, Karnataka
16.	Hansi, Distt. Hissar, Haryana
17.	Juni Kuran, Distt. Kachchh, Gujarat
18.	Kalinjer Fort, Distt. Banda, U.P.
19.	Kesariya, Distt. East Champaran, Bihar
20.	Mound adjacent to Baisgazi wall, known as Palace area of ancient Gaur, Distt. Maldah, West Bengal
21.	Mound at Boxanagar, Distt. West Tripura, Tripura
22.	Musabagh, Lucknow, U.P.
23.	Raighat, Distt. Varanasi, U.P.
24.	Residency, Lucknow, U.P.
25.	Saridkel, Khunti, Distt. Ranchi, Jharkhand
26.	Scientific clearance at St. Augustine Complex, North Goa, Goa
27.	Scientific Clearance at Swayambhu Temple complex, Warangal Fort, Distt. Warangal, Andhra Pradesh
28.	Scientific clearance Buddhist site, Ratnagiri, Distt. Jajpur, Orissa
29.	Tughluqabad Fort, South NCT, Delhi, New Delhi
30.	Barabati Fort, Distt. Cuttack, Orissa
Under Water Excavations	
1.	Excavation of Princes Royal, Off Bangaram, Distt. Kavaratti, Lakshadweep
2.	Mahabalipuram, Distt. Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu
3.	Elephanta, Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra

Statement II**State-wise list of new sites proposed by ASI for
Excavation during 2004-05**

Sl.No.	State	Name of the site
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Ancient mound, Kotturu, district Visakhapatnam
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Chaturbhuj Nala, district Mandasur
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Gondarmau, district Bhopal
4.	Orissa	Aragarh, district Puri
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Sanauli, district Baghpat
6.	Uttar Pradesh	Latiya, district Ghazipur

Rakesh Mohan Committee Report

3336. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee of senior officers of railway board constituted, to study various recommendations made in the report of Dr. Rakesh Mohan Committee has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rehabilitation of Oustees

3337. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an area of 100 meters around DRDL boundary has to be got vacated in view of the sensitive nature of installation;

(b) whether some encroachment are to be vacated from this area;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested Ministry of Defence to bear the rehabilitation and resettlement cost of affected persons residing in the vicinity of DRDL at Kanchanbagh, Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the action taken or being taken by the Union Government on the request of Andhra Pradesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details proposal of evacuation and rehabilitation from the Government of Andhra Pradesh is awaited.

Doubling of Rail Lines

3338. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far for doubling of railway lines of Diva-Kalyan, 5th and 6th line (10.73 kms) ROR, Panvel-Jasai (JNPT) (28.5 km) ROR 20%, Pakni-Solapur (16.28 kms) ROR-3 and Pakni-Mohal (17 kms) and the expenditure incurred thereon till date; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Details of the ongoing projects	Km	Anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March 2004	Outlay during 2004-05	Present position of the project and likely date of completion wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Doubling						
1.	Divia-Kalyan 5th & 6th line	11	48.06	28.37	9	Land acquisition, Earthwork, bridgework, ballasting and track linking are in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Panvel-Jasai-JNPT	28.5	53.23	20.50	25	Earthwork and bridge works are in progress.
3.	Pakni-Solapur	16.28	38.52	6.09	25	Earthwork and bridge work are in progress.
4.	Pakni-Mohol	17	42.73	15.00	10	The work included in the Budget 2003-04. Preliminary arrangements like preparation of plans and estimates taken up.

All the above mentioned projects are covered under National Rail Vikas Yojana which is planned for completion in five years period.

Conversion of Meter Gauge Line into Broad Gauge Line

3339. SHRI M.K. SURBA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the State Governments of Assam has underlined the threat posed by conversion of the meter gauge lines into Broadgauge in Assam ones and re-alignment work associated therewith, to the environment and the natural habitat of elephants and other wild life;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of threat voiced by the committee as communicated to the Railways and the recommendations and suggestions made to avert and minimise such threat to environment; and

(c) the reaction and response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Railway has not been informed of Committee constituted by State Govt. of Assam, if any, to examine the threat posed by conversion of the meter gauge line into board gauge in Assam to the environment and the natural habitat of elephants and other wild life.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Study on Rail Safety

3340. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study on Railway Safety has been conducted by research organizations/academic institution independently during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways is not aware of any such study conducted by research organization/academic institution independently. However, the Research and Development wing of Indian Railways, viz. Research, Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) undertakes Studies/ Projects/Missions which have an important bearing on safety of train operations.

Expenditure incurred on Railway Police of Maharashtra

3341. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of arrears of expenditure incurred by Government of Maharashtra on Railway Police, is due from the Railways;

(b) if so, the amount of such arrears as on March 31, 2003 and 2004;

(c) whether any procedure has been laid down for streamlining the clearance of such dues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. The claims amounting to Rs. 24.92 crore only are outstanding for want of non-availability of Audit Certificate, operation of unsanctioned posts by State Government, etc. The matter is under discussion between the State Government and Railways concerned.

(b) The outstanding amount payable to Government of Maharashtra as on 31.03.2003 and 31.03.2004 was Rs. 25.21 crore and Rs. 39.52 crore respectively. However out of Rs. 39.52 crore outstanding on 31.03.2004, payment of Rs. 14.60 crore has already been made and the outstanding amount as on date is Rs. 24.92 crore only.

(c) and (d) Railways have standing instructions to pay all clearly admissible bills.

Air Stations in Tribal and Hilly Areas in Orissa

3342. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the All India Radio stations located in tribal areas, Hilly and remote areas of Orissa State needs separate personnel policy, exclusive programming, development of the stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) All India Radio follows uniform personnel, programme and development policies for all Stations.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Modernisation of DD Kendras in Gujarat

3343. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat proposed to be modernised and digitalised during the Tenth Plan;

(b) the time by which the modernisation and digitalisation work in these Kendras is likely to be completed; and

(c) the total amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Doordarshan Kendras (DDKs) at Ahmedabad and Rajkot, in Gujarat, are envisaged to be modernised and digitalised, during the Tenth Plan. DDK, Ahmedabad is envisaged to be fully digitalized whereas DDK, Rajkot is envisaged to be digitalised to the extent of 50% during the 10th Plan period. The complete digitalization of DDK, Ahmedabad and 50% digitalization of DDK, Rajkot is expected to be completed by 2005-06 at a total cost of Rs. 10.35 crores.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Statues and Architectural Remains

3344. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of items related to the cultural heritage of statues and architectural remains to temples smuggled out to foreign countries;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to stop theft of such statues and architectural remains;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to bring back these statues and architectural remains; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government by through such steps?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) According to the report received from CBI, one stone antique image of Sun God was smuggled out of the country.

(b) Under the provisions of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972, steps have been taken by the ASI

in consultation with the law enforcing agencies like the CBI, Customs, DRI and State Government Police to prevent thefts of antiquities and smuggling by stepping up vigilance and intensifying checking at the customs exit channels.

(c) and (d) The image of Sun God was seized by the US Customs and later restituted to India.

[English]

Coffin Scam

3345. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to enquire into the "Coffin Scam";

(b) if so, whether any enquiry committee has been set up in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of composition of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration in the Ministry of Defence.

Laying of Railway Line on Forest Land

3346. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forest land falling on the ongoing railway line laying project have been forwarded by the Railway authorities to the Chief Conservator of Forests for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, whether this project has been clearance by Chief Conservator of Forests;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the progress made in this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) There is no specific mention of a particular project in the Question. It is therefore not possible to offer a subject-wise precise reply to the Question.

[Translation]

Production Cost of Kerosene and LPG

3347. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has worked out the basic cost of production of kerosene and LPG after working out the actual (basic) cost of production of petrol and diesel in the country;

(b) if so, the average cost of the above items assessed for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the obstacles coming in way in working out the basic cost of production of LPG and kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Oil refining being a continuous process industry with multi-product output, product-wise cost of production is not worked out separately. The oil marketing companies pay to refineries the prices of kerosene and LPG on import parity basis. The average import parity prices of kerosene during 2002-03 and 2003-04 were Rs. 10,244 per KL and Rs. 10,854 per KL respectively. The corresponding average import parity prices of LPG during these years were Rs. 15,637 per MT and Rs. 10,671 per MT respectively.

[English]

Upgradation of LPT into HPT in Rajasthan

3348. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the HPT/LPT/VLPTs in Rajasthan, location-wise;

(b) whether the proposal to upgrade more VLPT/LPT into HPT in Rajasthan are pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the steps taken to upgrade those Doordarshan Kendras in that States during last three years till date; and

(d) the proposal for upgradation mooted for the year 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) There are 100 transmitters of Doordarshan (HPTs-10, LPTs-71, VLPTs-19) which are presently functioning in Rajasthan. The details are given in the Statement.

(b) to (d) During the last three years, two LPTs (DDI & DD News) at Ajmer have been upgraded to HPTs. Scheme of upgradation of the existing LPT at Bikaner to an HPT is presently under implementation. No other LPT/ VLPT in Rajasthan is envisaged to be upgraded to an HPT.

Statement

TV transmitters functioning in Rajasthan

HPT (10)

Ajmer	Ajmer (DD News)	Barmer (Int.)
Bundi	Bundi (DD News)	Jaipur
Jaipur (DD News)	Jaisalmer	Jodhpur
Jodhpur (DD News)		

LPT (71)

Alwar	Alwar (DD News)	Anupgarh
Bali	Bansi (DD News)	Banswara
Baran	Bari Sadri	Barmer
Basava	Bhadra	Bharatpur
Bhilwara	Bhinmal	Bikaner
Bikaner (DD News)	Chirawa	Chittargarh
Churu	Deeg	Dungarpur
Ganganagar	Gangapur	Hanumangarh
Hindaun	Jaisalmer	Jalore
Jhalawar	Jhunjhunu	Karanpur
Karauli	Kesriaji	Khetri
Kishangarh Vas	Kota (DD News)	Kotputli
Kushalgarh	Makrana	Mt. Abu
Nagar	Nagaur	Nathdwara
Navalgarh	Nimaj	Nohar
Nokha	Pali	Phalodi
Pilani	Pirawa	Pratagarh
Raisinghnagar	Rajgarh	Ratangarh
Rawatsar	Sagwara	Salumber
Sardarshahr	Swaimadhopur	Shahpura

Sikar	Sirohi	Sojat
Sridungargarh	Sujargarh	Suratgarh
Taranagar	Tonk	Udaipur
Udaipur (DD News)	Vallabhnagar	

VLPT (19)

Aandhi	Amet	Bhim
Chaumahla	Deogarh	Fatehpur
Gangapur	Kotra	Kumbhalgarh
Laxmangarh	Mandalgarh	Neem Ka Thana
Rajgarh	Rawatbhata	Sikrai
Tibi	Viratnagar	Jamua Ramgarh
Lalsot		

Housing Scheme for Haveri District in Karnataka

3349. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to implement housing scheme in Haveri district in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has any proposal to grant financial assistance under 'special category' to this district;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Indira Awaas Yojana is being implemented in all the districts of Karnataka including Haveri district. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 286.20 lakhs has been allocated as central share to Haveri District under Indira Awaas Yojana for construction of houses. An amount of Rs. 143.10 lakhs has already been released to the district as 1st instalment.

(c) to (e) No Sir. There is no provision to provide 'special category' status to any district under Indira Awaas Yojana.

Power Plant by ONGC in Gujarat and Tripura

3350. DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY:
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
 SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
 SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
 SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has entered into MoU with a Government of Gujarat Organisation to establish a large power plant at Dahej in Gujarat;

(b) whether ONGC propose to set up a power plant in Tripura also;

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard;

(d) the likely date of commissioning of these power plants and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the portion of the power to be used for captive consumption and other users in those area?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has not entered into any MoU with any Government of Gujarat organization to establish a power plant at Dahej.

(b) to (e) ONGC's plan to set up power plants in Tripura and also other parts of the country is at a concept stage.

Policy for Products and Services to CPSEs

3351. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Standing Committee of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has demanded continuation of Policy of purchase references for products and services of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) for some time more;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has suggested that the present Policy of Purchase Preference for products and services of CPSEs may be extended for another two years i.e. upto 31.3.2006 as it will facilitate in promoting sales of PSEs to other PSEs and to Government bodies, a much needed support to PSEs.

(c) The matter relating to extension of the Purchase Preference Policy beyond 31.3.2004 is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of the Commission for Disabled

3352. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Central Commission for disabled to study their problems and formulate guidelines for solving them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work of the Commission is likely to start; and

(d) the time by which the Commission is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JEGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD), has been set up to discharge following functions:

- (i) Recommended to the Central Government specific programmes of action towards elimination of inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities for disabled persons so that they are assessed for their abilities despite disabilities and given the appropriate education, vocational training and poverty alleviation packages, employment and other support services to achieve the goal of psycho-social and acceptance and full participation in the social and economic life of the country.

- (ii) Review the status and condition of Institutions delivering services in the disability sector and make recommendations; and
- (iii) Submit annual reports to the Central and State Government on matters concerning persons with disabilities alongwith their recommendations.
- (iv) Discharge any other work assigned by the Central Government from time to time.

The Commission consists of one Chairperson, one Member Secretary, 2 full time members and 5 associate members. Currently, there are only 4 associate members in addition to the full time members, Chairperson and Member Secretary.

(c) and (d) The Commission had started functioning in March 2004 and is required to submit Annual Reports.

[Translation]

Setting up of New AIR/DD Centres

3353. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

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

- (a) the number of AIR and Doordarshan centres in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received requests from various States for setting up of new AIR/DD centres;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any plan to set up new TV centres and increase the capacity of old TV centres;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;
- (f) the report in respect of each of the above centres as on date;
- (f) the time by which the above said centres are likely to be set up; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) 59 Studios, 1407 transmitters of

Doordarshan and 215 All India Radio Stations are presently functioning in the country. State-wise details are enclosed at Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Requests for setting up of new All India Radio & Doordarshan centres are received from various quarters viz. VIPs, State Governments, General Public etc. from time to time. These are taken into account while formulating plans for expansion of AIR & Doordarshan network, subject to availability of resources.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. 67 projects of new TV centres and upgradation of existing TV centres are presently under implementation in various parts of the country. Locations of the above projects are enclosed at Statement-II.

(f) to (h) The above mentioned projects are at different stages of implementation and are expected to be completed, in phases, during the Tenth Plan period.

Statement I

S.No.	State/UT	Doordarshan		All India Radio Stations
		Studios	Transmitters	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	103	12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	49	5
3.	Assam	4	28	10
4.	Bihar	2	41	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	27	5
6.	Goa	1	2	1
7.	Gujarat	2	73	7
8.	Haryana	1	20	3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	53	6
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	133	11
11.	Jharkhand	2	27	5
12.	Karnataka	2	66	14
13.	Kerala	2	33	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3	78	14
15.	Maharashtra	3	124	20

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Manipur	1	8	1
17.	Meghalaya	2	10	5
18.	Mizoram	1	8	3
19.	Nagaland	1	14	4
20.	Orissa	3	94	11
21.	Punjab	1	12	3
22.	Rajasthan	1	101	17
23.	Sikkim	0	8	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	1	71	9
25.	Tripura	1	9	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7	85	14
27.	Uttaranchal	1	54	6
28.	West Bengal	3	35	6
29.	A & N Islands	1	15	1
30.	Chandigarh	1	2	1
31.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	1	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	2	1
33.	Delhi	2	5	1
34.	Lakshadweep Islands	0	10	1
35.	Pondicherry	1	6	2
Total		59	1407	215

Statement II*TV projects under implementation***I. Studio projects**

Warangal #

Calicut #

Patiala #

Coimbatore #

Madurai #

Delhi (DD Bhawan)

Rajouri #

Gorakhpur (pmt.)

Ranchi (aug.)

Raipur (aug.)

Dehradun (pmt.)

II. Transmitter projects

HPT Ambajogai (DD News-pmt.)

HPT Amritsar (20KW-pmt.)

HPT Amritsar (DD News-pmt.)

HPT Balguarh (pmt.)

HPT Barmer (pmt.)

HPT Bhatinda (DD News)

HPT Bikaner

HPT Bilaspur

HPT Calicut (DD News)

HPT Cannanore (pmt.)

HPT Chhatarpur

HPT Dharamshala

HPT Dharmapuri

HPT Dharwad (DD News-pmt.)

HPT Fazilka (pmt.)

HPT Hissar

HPT Hissar (DD News)

HPT Jalgaon (pmt.)

HPT Karnal

HPT Kasauli (DD News)

HPT Kharagpur

HPT Kumbakonam (pmt.)

HPT Kupwara (DD News-pmt.)

HPT Kupwara (pmt.)

HPT Kureseong (DD News)

HPT Lakhimpur (pmt.)

HPT Naushera (DD News-pmt.)

HPT Naushera (pmt.)

HPT Pondicherry (pmt.)
 HPT Radhanpur
 HPT Rajkot (DD News-pmt.)
 HPT Sagar
 HPT Saharasa
 HPT Samba (DD New-pmt.)
 HPT Samba (pmt.)
 HPT Srinagar (DD News-pmt.)
 HPT Srinagar (Kashir Ch-upgr.)
 HPT Surat (DD News-pmt.)
 HPT Tirunelveli
 HPT Tithwal
 HPT Vadodara
 HPT Vadodara (DD News)
 LPT Ambassa
 LPT Bahalda #
 LPT Fatehabad
 LPT Kaithal #
 LPT Kjahuwala #
 LPT Kolhapur #
 LPT Miryalaguda #
 LPT Mudhol #
 LPT Punganpur #
 LPT Satarsal #
 LPT Shindhnr #
 VPLT Devbhog
 VLPT Marhaura

#Installation completed. Staff yet to be sanctioned.

[*English*]

Task Force on Unemployed in Rural Areas

3354. SHRI K.S. RAO:
 SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to constitute a Task Force to work out the opportunities of employment for rural people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to commence; and

(d) the extent to which rural unemployed persons are likely to be benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Rural Development has no proposal to constitute a Task Force to work out the opportunities of employment for rural people.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Funds for Railway Projects

3355. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for railway projects during the current financial year;

(b) the amount provided out of it to be spent on the railway projects in Gujarat State; and

(c) the target set for the Annual Plan Outlay of the railway during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) An outlay of Rs. 3803.37 crore has been provided for New Lines, Gauge Conversion, Doubling, Railway Electrification and Metropolitan Transport Projects for 2004-05.

(b) The total outlay provided for various projects during 2004-05 falling partly/fully in the State of Gujarat is Rs. 123.22 crore. In addition, Rs. 500 crore is also available for Viramagam-Mehsana gauge conversion project through Build, Own & Transfer (BOT).

(c) the Annual Plan Outlay for 2004-05 has been fixed at Rs. 14,498 crore.

*(English)***Rajiv Gandhi Pilot Project**

3356. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more funds to the places where Rajiv Gandhi Pilot Projects were partly implemented;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether the Panchayats who have deposited their part of 10 per cent of the amount will be provided funds under Swajaldhara Yojana as estimates are submitted in the name of Rajiv Gandhi Pilot Project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) Under Swajaldhara, Government of India makes State/ Union Territory-wise allocation of funds as per the inter State Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) allocation ratio fixed for the year and the State Governments, in turn, are required to make the district-wise allocation, including for districts where Sector Reform Pilot Projects were implemented. It is expected that the State Governments would keep in mind the district-wise number of schemes in hand, where requisite community contribution has already been mobilized, while finalising the district-wise allocations under Swajaldhara. Schemes which could not be taken up under Sector Reform Pilot Projects and which conform to Swajaldhara Guidelines are eligible for clearance under Swajaldhara by the District Water and Sanitation Committee (DWSC) within the allocated amount.

Central Rural Sanitation Programme

3357. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include more districts under Central Rural Sanitation Programme in the country;

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

(c) the funds likely to be provided under the schemes, district-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India propose to sanction Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) projects for all districts of the country, including those in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) Total Sanitation Campaign is a demand driven programme under which no *a-priori* statewide allocations are made. A TSC project is sanctioned based on the project report submitted by the State Government/District implementing agency in accordance with TSC funding norms.

Ongoing Rail Line Projects in Tamil Nadu

3358. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of status of ongoing railway projects and surveys for laying new rail lines and flyovers in Tamil Nadu, project-wise;

(b) whether any target set for completion of each of these projects and surveys;

(c) if so, the funds allocated and utilised by these projects so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) In Tamil Nadu Karur-Salem and Bangalore-Satyamangalam new line projects are in progress. On Karur-Salem new line project, earthwork, bridge works and other activities are in various stages of progress. There have been litigations regarding land acquisition and the same are being attended to. An expenditure of Rs. 64.69 crore has so far been made on this project upto 31.3.2004. An outlay of Rs. 5 crore has been provided during 2004-05. The work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources. Efforts are being made to augment additional resources to expedite completion of the ongoing project.

On Bangalore-Satyamangalam new line project, Final Location Survey is in progress. Survey work was slowed down due to hostile situation in the forest area. An expenditure of Rs. 0.27 crore has so far been made on this project upto 31.3.2004. An outlay of Rs. 0.10 crore has been provided during 2004-05. The work will be completed in the coming year as per availability of resources.

Details of on-going surveys for new lines is as under:

Survey	Length (in km.)	Target Date for completion
New Broad Gauge (BG) line for Madurai-Kottayam	232	December, 2004
New BG line for Erumeli-Punalur-Trivandrum (Updating survey)	136	March, 2005
New BG line from Thanjavur to Chennai Egmore via Ariyalur	320	December, 2004
New BG line between Tindivanam-Cuddalore via Pondicherry	71	September, 2004

Besides above, surveys for construction of new line from Tindivanam to Nagari via Vandivash, Cheyyur, Arani, Arcot, Ranipet, Walajahpet, Sholinghur, R.K. Pet, Podatur and Pallipattu (165 Km) and Chennai to Sriperumbudur via Poonamalli (42 Km) and updating survey for Jolarpettai-Hossur via Krishnagiri with a connectivity from Krishnagiri to Dharmapuri (159.20 Km) have also been included in the Budget 2004-05. Necessary instructions have also been issued for timely completion of these surveys.

As regards flyover under construction in the State of

Tamil Nadu, information, is given in the statement attached. Railways undertake construction of their portion of the flyover *i.e.* bridge proper over the tracks and approaches are constructed by the State Government concerned, hence target for completion depends on the completion of approaches by State Government. However, all out efforts are being made by the Railways to complete the works simultaneously with the work of approaches. During the year, an amount of Rs. 28.52 crore has been allocated to the Railways serving Tamil Nadu for taking up these works. Rs. 14.35 crore were utilized on these works during last year.

Statement

Status of Flyovers in Tamil Nadu State (sanctioned on cost sharing basis)

Sl. No.	Name of work	Year of sanction	Rly. share (Rs. in lakhs)	State share (Rs. in lakhs)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Magudanchavadi ROB in lieu of LC No. 116 at km. 354/32-34 on Jolarpettai-Erode Sec.	2000-01	560	554	Estimate sanctioned by GM. Work awarded on 17.4.03. Work is in progress.
2.	Kudal nagar-ROB in lieu of LC No. 360 at Km. 490/7-8 in Dindigul-Palanadu road	2000-01	542	537	Revised GAD concurred by CE/H. Altered GAD with change in skew angle issued. Estimate sanctioned. Sub structure drawing issued. Work in progress.
3.	Thiruninravur ROB at Chennai Central-Tiruvellore in lieu of LC No. 12 at Km. 28/21-23 between Pattabiram & Tirumminbravur stations on Chennai Central-Tiruvellur section.	2000-01	578	570	GAD prepared and sent to CE/H for concurrence.

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Pattabiram ROB in lieu of LC No. 10 at Km. 25/4-6 in Chennai Central-Arakkonam section	2000-01	578	570	CBEs observations under compliance for the countersignature of the GAD.
5.	Kathivalkam ROB in lieu of LC No. 10 at Km. 13/2-3 in Chennai-Gudur section	2000-01	560	554	GAD sent to CE/H for concurrence
6.	Erode-Tirupur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 129 at Km. 431/10-12	2000-01	560	554	CBEs observations under compliance for the countersignature of the GAD. Estimate sanctioned. Retendered due to poor response.
7.	Tiruthani-ROB in lieu of LC No. 33 at km 71A-36-38	2000-01	560	554	GAD concurred by CE/H. Estimate sanctioned by GM on 6.1.04
8.	Thanjavur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 303 at km. 353/1-2 on Mayiladuturai-Thanjavur Sec.	2000-01	542	537	Revised GAD concurred by CE/H. GAD countersigned by CBE. Road estimate awaited from CE/H. Tender opened and is under finalisation.
9.	Gudiyatham-ROB in lieu of LC No. 64 at km. 154/12-14 on Arakkonam-Renigunta Sec.	2000-01	560	554	GAD concurred by CE/H. Modified estimate sent to CE/H for countersignature.
10.	Omair ROB in lieu of LC No. 9 at km. 8/6-7 on Salem-Mettur Dam Sec.	2000-01	542	537	GAD concurred. Estimate sanctioned. Substructure drawing approved and issued. Work in progress.
11.	Tuticorin ROB in lieu of LC No. 485 in Vanchimaniyachchi-Tirunelveli section	2000-01	542	537	GAD concurred by CE/H. Estimate sanctioned on 27.6.02. Drawing for substructure issued. Work in progress.
12.	Virudhunagar-Vanchimaniyachchi-ROB in lieu of LC No. 437 at km. 586/1-2 on Virudhunagar-Vanchimaniyachchi Sec.	2000-01	542	537	Railway portion completed. Modified estimate sent to CE/H for acceptance of road width. Work on approaches to be started.
13.	Kovilpatti-ROB in lieu of LC No. 440 at km. 588/9-10 on Virudhunagar-Vanchimaniyachchi Sec.	2000-01	542	537	Modified estimate is in correspondence with CE/H regarding road width. Rly. portion completed. Approach work about to start.
14.	Vandakur ROB in lieu of LC No. 34 at km. 34/5-6 on Chennai-Villupuram Sec.	2000-01	578	570	GAD sent to CE/H on 12.9.03 for concurrence.
15.	Tirupadripuliyur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 159 at Km. 205/6 1x15m PSC with 1 girders pile 12 Nos. RCC trestle	1996-97	332	404	Railway portion work completed. Piling work is in progress in the approaches.
16.	Jolarpet-Erode-ROB in lieu of LC No. 90 at Km. 222/8-10 between Tripathur and Salem stations on Jolarpettai-Erode section.	2000-01	387	382	GAD concerned by CE/H. Estimate to be sanctioned by Board. Work awarded.

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	MIT Gate-ROB in lieu of LC No. 28 at Km. 26/1-2 between Chromepet and Tambaram station near MIT Gate	1998-99	422	422	Boards queries regarding sanction of estimate are being attended to. Rly portion and approaches nearing completion
18.	Palakkarai-ROB in lieu of existing LC No. 85 at Km. 139/2-3 between Palakkarai and TPJ Fort	1998-99	724	798	Bridge portion work completed. Approach work in progress. Due to public representation, it is stated that further works on this ROB will be taken up after commissioning ROB 84.
19.	Chidambaram-ROB in lieu of LC No. 202 at Km. 247/2, 1x28m pile foundation RCC trestle PSC Box.	1996-97	223	482	GAD countersigned by CBE, Detail estimate for road approaches awaited from Highways. Tender opened and under finalisation.
20.	Ukkadam-ROB between Combatore and Podanur stations-UKKADAM Bye-pass Road in lieu of LC at K. 18/10-11	1993-94	80	149	GAD concurred by CF/H. Estimate sent to party for countersignature. Retendered on 28.8.03 which is again discharged and tender to be called.
21.	Tennur High Road-ROB in lieu of existing LC No. 84 at Km. 137/18-19 between	1998-99	532	643	Bridge portion work completed. Approach work also completed and opened for traffic.
22.	Banaras-Cape-Comerin Road-ROB in lieu of LC No. 363 at Km. 493/4-5 between on Dindigul-Madurai section.	2000-01	542	537	Substructure completed. Ty. Staging drawing countersigned by CBE. CRS sanction is being obtained for casting super structure. Work on approaches just started.
23.	Tiruvallore ROB in lieu of LC No. 18 at Km. 41/33-43/2 on Chennai Beach —Arakkonam sec.	1999-00	569	569	GAD approved. Estimate sanctioned Pilling and pilecap column work completed. 7 out of 8 trestle beam completed. 3 out of 6 PSC girder cast. CRS sanction received for Ty staging. Work in progress.
24.	Morappur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 100 at km 267/4-6	1998-99	380	470	GAD countersigned by CBE. Estimate sanctioned by GM. CRS application for temporary LC has been processed. Superstructure drawing issued. Ty. Staging drawing under verification. Work in progress.
25.	Karur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 37 @ Km 64/2-3 in old NH 7	1998-99	627	616	GAD concurred by CE/H and sent to CBE for countersignature. Estimate sanctioned. Substructure drg. approved. Work in progress.
26.	Ondipudur ROB @ Km. 477/6-7 in Coimbatore Corp. Inugur & Podanur stations in lieu of LC no. 145 at km 477/6-7	1999-00	451	1185	CBE office GAD concurred by CE/H Estimate sanctioned by GM. Retender opened on 28.8.03. Which is also discharged and again tender called on 29.1.03 which is under finalisation.

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Salem ROB in lieu of LC No. 114 at km. 335/10-12 Jolarpettai-Erode Sec.	2000-01	560	554	GAD concurred by CE/H Estimate sanctioned by Board. Work awarded on 19.6.03. Design of box issued.
28.	Erode-Podanur ROB in lieu of LC No. 126 at km. 411/30-32 on Erode-Podanur Sec.	2000-01	560	554	GAD sent to CBE for countersignature and is under scrutiny. Estimate sanctioned. Work in progress.
29.	Virudhunagar-Vanchimaniyachchi-ROB in lieu of LC No. 439 at Km 587/6-7	2000-01	546	546	GAD concurred by CE/H Estimate sanctioned. This work can be taken up after the completion of LC No. 437 & 440 and after traffic diversion.
30.	Tirupattur ROB between Jolarpettai-Erode in lieu of LC No.91 at km. 223/0-2 on Jolarpettai-Erode Sec.	2000-01	560	554	GAD concurred by CE/H CBEs queries under compliance. Detail road cost awaited from CE/H. Tender opened on 10.7.03 which is discharged and retender opened and under finalisation.
31.	Uthukkuli ROB between Erode-Podanur in lieu of LC no. 128 at km. 429/8-10 on Erode-Podanur Sec.	2000-01	560	554	GAD concurred in CE/H Estimate sanctioned. Work awarded and is in progress.
32.	Sirkazhi ROB between Mayiladuturai-Tanjavur in lieu of LC No. 216 at km 262/9-10 on Mayiladuturai-Thanjavur Sec.	2000-01	542	537	L.S. & site Plan yet to be received from CE/H
33.	Tiruvalem-Sevur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 50 at km. 120/14-16 between Tiruvalem and Sevur stations on Arakonam-Katpadi Sec	2000-01	515	506	GAD concurred by CE/H and countersigned by CBE. Estimate sent to party for countersignature.
34.	Valadi-Pichchandar-ROB in lieu of LC No. 234 at Km. 321/6-7 between Valadi and Pichchandar Kovil stations on Villupuram—Trichy chord section	2000-01	603	597	GAD countersigned by CBE. Estimate sanctioned. Both side trestle beam completed. Ty. Arrangement drawing submitted by the Contractor is under check.
35.	ROB in lieu of LC No. 139 at Km 459/30-32 at Somanur station	2004-05	595	595	Sanctioned during the Works Programme of 2004-05.
36.	ROB in lieu of LC No. 4 at km 11/32-43 at Villivakkam and Kurratur stations	2004-05	563	563	Sanctioned during the Works Programme of 2004-05.
37.	RUB in lieu of LC No. 6 at Km 10/10-12 between Wimconagar and Tiruvottiyur stations	2004-05	275	275	Sanctioned during the Works Programme of 2004-05.
38.	ROB in lieu of LC No. 32A and 685B at Malpakkam Yard	2004-05	724	724	Sanctioned during the Works Programme of 2004-05.

Abbreviations Used:

ROB-Rail Over Bridge

LC-Level Crossing

RUB - Rail Under Bridge

GAD-General Agreement Drawing

CBE-Chief Bridge Engineer

CE-Chief Engineer

GM-General Manager

Setting up of Production Studios

3359. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA':

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new/extra production studios in various Doordarshan Kendras in the country;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which these studios are likely to be made functional, studio-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given the Statement.

(c) Approved capital cost of the above mentioned studio projects is Rs. 143.86 crores.

(d) Target date of completion of each studio project is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement*Doordarshan Studio projects under implementation*

State/UT	Location	Target Date
Andhra Pradesh	Warangal	Technically ready
Chhattisgarh	Raipur (augmentation)	2005
Delhi	DD Bhawan	2004
Jharkhand	Ranchi (augmentation)	2005
Jammu & Kashmir	Rajouri	Technically ready
Kerala	Calicut	Technically ready
Punjab	Patiala	Technically ready
Sikkim	Gangtok	Technically ready
Tamilnadu	Coimbatore	Technically ready
	Madurai	Technically ready
Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur (permanent)	2006
Uttaranchal	Dehradun (permanent)	2006

Setting up of a Defence Modernisation Fund

3360. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA:

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Defence had observed in their 21st report that on account of lapsing of Defence Budgets the defence deals get adversely affected and therefor setting up a Defence Modernisation Fund (DMF) is a dire necessity;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Defence has formulated modalities and procedures for operating the proposed fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for Defence Modernisations Fund during the current financial year;

(d) the names of the projects being undertaken/ proposed to be undertaken with DMF during the current year; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the DMF is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In their 21st Report, the Standing Committee on Defence had desired the Ministry of Defence to expedite the formulation of modalities and procedures for operating the Defence Modernisation Fund.

(b) The Ministry of Defence had drawn up a detailed accounting procedure for operationalising the Defence Modernisation Fund and sent the proposal for approval to concerned authorities including Comptroller & Auditor General.

(c) to (e) According to the proposal formulated by Ministry of Defence, Defence Modernisation Fund is to be created in the Public Account of India is to cater for all capital acquisitions of the three Services and Integrated Defence Staff. In the General Budget 2004-05 presented on 8th July, 2004, no provision has been made for Defence Modernisation Fund for the current financial year.

[Translation]

Construction of Houses under PMGY

3361. SHRI RAMDAS BANDU ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of houses built under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) during the last three years and till date;

(b) the amount spent for this purpose State-wise;

(c) whether any target was fixed for the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, separately; and

(e) the number of persons benefited from this scheme during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (e) Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (*Rural Shelter*) was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development during 2000-2001 and has been transferred to the Planning Commission from the year 2002-2003. The number of houses constructed under the Rural Shelter Component of Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana during the last three years (2001-2002 to 2003-2004) is of the order of 675790 as intimated by the State Governments. Since the inception of the Scheme till date, 934128 houses have been constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana.

(b) A statement giving the State-wise allocation and release of the Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for the Rural Shelter Component of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana during the last four years is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No targets are fixed for Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana.

Statement

State-wise Allocation and Releases for Rural Shelter component under PMGY during 2000-2001 to 2003-2004

Sl. No.	Name of State	ACA Allocation (2000-2001)	ACA Release (2000-2001)	ACA Allocation (2001-2002)	ACA Release (2001-2002)	ACA Allocation (2002-2003)	ACA Release (2002-2003)	ACA Allocation (2003-2004)	ACA Release (2003-2004)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2130.90	1065.45	2841.20	2841.20	2841.20	2841.20	2841.20	2841.20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1022.55	511.28	764.00	382.00	764.00	764.00	764.00	764.00
3.	Assam	2693.55	1346.78	2011.00	2011.00	2500.00	2500.00	2900.00	2900.00
4.	Bihar	3291.90	3291.00	8602.65	4301.32	8460.55	8460.55	8460.55	8460.55
5.	Chhattisgarh	471.00	471.00	351.70	351.70	515.00	515.00	515.00	515.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	Goa	11.70	11.70	11.70	5.85	12.00	12.00	8.70	4.35
7.	Gujarat	971.85	485.92	725.60	362.80	0.00	0.00	1068.30	1068.30
8.	Haryana	251.70	251.70	187.90	187.90	187.90	93.95	187.90	187.90
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1059.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2573.70	1286.85	450.00	0.00	470.00	470.00	400.00	400.00
11.	Jharkhand	1016.85	1016.85	3416.40	379.60	1861.50	930.75	744.60	744.60
12.	Karnataka	1128.95	563.47	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00
13.	Kerala	1036.20	518.10	800.00	400.00	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1235.55	853.27	1460.62	730.31	1275.00	1275.00	1275.00	637.50
15.	Maharashtra	1486.95	1486.95	1110.30	555.15	396.00	396.00	60.87	30.43
16.	Manipur	728.40	364.20	550.00	0.00	400.00	200.00	400.00	200.00
17.	Meghalaya	608.86	608.86	454.60	454.60	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
18.	Mizoram	606.15	606.15	606.15	606.15	626.00	626.00	626.00	626.00
19.	Nagaland	616.96	616.95	452.60	230.35	700.00	350.00	2228.00	2228.00
20.	Orissa	1478.25	1478.25	1103.80	1103.80	1236.80	618.00	436.00	436.00
21.	Punjab	606.00	606.00	452.50	226.25	444.00	444.00	667.00	333.50
22.	Rajasthan	1446.00	1446.00	1446.00	1446.00	1061.00	300.00	1061.00	1061.00
23.	Sikkim	421.65	210.83	950.00	950.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1571.85	2330.85	2222.76	2222.76	1877.76	1877.76	1877.76	1877.76
25.	Tripura	762.45	762.44	2124.90	2124.90	1550.00	1550.00	1208.00	1208.00
26.	Uttaranchal	188.40	188.40	390.70	70.35	200.00	200.00	300.00	300.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5045.25	5045.25	3767.00	3767.00	3700.00	3700.00	3710.00	3710.00
28.	West Bengal	2517.30	1258.65	1880.00	940.00	1849.00	1849.00	1849.00	1849.00
Total		36978.01	28684.05	40634.08	28150.99	37827.71	34873.21	39088.88	37883.09

[English]

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation had decided to enter the power generation business;

ONGC Entrance into Power Generation

(b) if so, the details thereof;

3362. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(c) whether the ONGC had signed agreement with the State Governments for setting up special economic zone; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)'s plan to set up power plants is at a concept stage only.

(c) and (d) ONGC has not signed any agreement with State Governments to set up Special Economic Zones. However, an MOU has been entered into with the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation and discussions are taking place with Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka states for establishing units in their SEZs.

East Coast Railway Zone

3363. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the East Coast Railway Zone has not yet become fully operational;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to function it as a full fledged zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. The East Coast Railway Zone has already become fully operational with effect from 01.04.2003.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rail Over Bridges and under Bridges in Karnataka

3364. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail over/under bridges in Karnataka, location-wise;

(b) the number of rail over/under bridges which are dilapidated condition;

(c) the number of such bridges proposed to be repaired during current financial year;

(d) whether the Government has initiated any new plan for the modernisation and construction of railway bridges;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount allocated for the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Nil.

(c) Nil.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Statement

Sl.No.	Section	Between Stations	Br. No.	Location
1	2	3	4	5

(a) Existing Road Over Bridges

1.	Bangalore - Hubli	Mallasandra - Gubbi	283A	84/5-4
2.	Bangalore - Hubli	Gubbi - Nittur	273A	90/11-12
3.	Bangalore - Hubli	Tiptur - Honnavalli Road	215	144/9-10
4.	Bangalore - Hubli	Adihalli - Arsikere	194 A	163/1314
5.	Bangalore - Hubli	Tolahunse - Davangere	21A	320/5-6
6.	Bangalore - Hubli	Harihara - Kumarapatnam S	89 A	340/15-16

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Mysore - Arsikere	Doranhalli - Krishnarajanagara	247	33/7-8
8.	Mysore - Arsikere	Krishnarajanagara - Hampapura	246 A	34/9-35/0
9.	Mysore - Arsikere	Mandagere - Holenarsipura	134A	76/9-77/0
10.	Mysore - Arsikere	Hassan - Bageshpura	59A	119/9-10
11.	Mysore - Arsikere	Hassan - Bageshpura	43	134/8-9
12.	Mysore - Chamarajanagar	Mysore - Chamarajapuram	759	0/14-15
13.	Chikijajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	41	34/6-7
14.	Chikijajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	60	40/12-13
15.	Chikijajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	67	44/7-8
16.	Chikijajur - Rayadurga	Challakere - Talaku	94	70/4-5
17.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	11	2/12-3/0
18.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	24	7/11-12
19.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	37	13/13-14
20.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	43	15/9-10
21.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	98	33/5-6
22.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	114	39/1-2
23.	Hasan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	33A	24/1-2
24.	Jolarapattai - Bangalore	Krishnarajapuram - Baiyyappanahalli	832A	341/40-42
25.	Jolarapattai - Bangalore	Krishnarajapuram - Baiyyappanahalli	835A	345/2-4
26.	Jolarapattai - Bangalore	Bangalore East - Bangalore Cantt.	839B	349/100-200
27.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Bangarpate - BMEL Nagar	K9	7/4-5
28.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	BMEL Nagar - Coramandal	K13	8/6-7
29.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Coramandal - Orgaum	K18	9/7-8
30.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Coramandal - Orgaum	K24	11/5-6
31.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Orgaum - Champion	K29	12/7
32.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Orgaum - Champion	K35	13/8-9
33.	Bangarpate - Marikuppam	Champion - Marikuppam	K43	15/12-13
34.	Bangalore - Salem	Hosur - Anekal Road	420	160/8-9
35.	Bangalore - Salem	Kermelaram - Belandur Road	516	196/3-4
36.	Bangalore - Hubli	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	418	2/3-4

	1	2	3	4	5
	37.	Bangalore - Hubli	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	416A	3/6-7
	38.	Bangalore - Hubli	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	414A	4/9-10
	39.	Bangalore - Hubli	Yeshvantapur- Chikkabanavara	410A	8/1-2
	40.	Bangalore - Hubli	Yeshvantapur- Chikkabanavara	408B	8/9-10
	41.	Bangalore - Hubli	Yeshvantapur- Chikkabanavara	407A	9/6-7
	42.	Bangalore - Hubli	Nidvanda - Hirahalli	339A	50/6-7
	43.	Bangalore - Hubli	Nidvanda - Hirahalli	332A	56/1-2
	44.	Bangalore - Hubli	Nidvanda - Hirahalli	331	58/10-11
	45.	Bangalore - Hubli	Kyatsandra - Timkur	NEW	65/0000-100
	46.	Bangalore - Hubli	Kyatsandra - Timkur	313A	64/12-13
	47.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bangalore City - Nayandahalli	431	3/4-5
	48.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bangalore City - Nayandahalli	438	5/4-5
	49.	Bangalore - Mysore	Kengeri - Hejjala	481	13/5-6
	50.	Bangalore - Mysore	Kengeri - Hejjala	481	22/7-8
	51.	Bangalore - Mysore	Hejjala - Bidadi	488	25/12
	52.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bidadi - Ramanagaram	504	30/8-9
	53.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bidadi - Ramanagaram	509	32/2-3
	54.	Bangalore - Mysore	Ramanagaram - Channapatana	551	46/4-5
	55.	Bangalore - Mysore	Ramanagaram - Channapatana	563	51/9-10
	56.	Bangalore - Mysore	Channapatana - Settihalli	575 NEW	57/3-4
	57.	Bangalore - Mysore	Hannkere - Mandya	667	92/600-700
	58.	Bangalore - Mysore	Yeliyur - Byadrahalli	690	105/7-8
	59.	Bangalore - Mysore	Yeliyur - Byadrahalli	694	105/
	60.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Chanasandra Yard	547	3/7-8
	61.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Chanasandra - Yelahanka	538	6/11-12
	62.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Dolballapur - Oddarahalli	461	40/3-4
	63.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Oddarahalli - Makalidurga	454A	45/6-7
	64.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Oddarahalli - Makalidurga	422	52/11-12
	65.	Yeshvantapur - Yalahanka	Yeshvantapur - Yalahanka	520A	39/43
	66.	Hubli - Miraj	Hubli - Unkal	251	46/9/9-10

1	2	3	4	5
67.	Hubli - Miraj	Navalur - Dharwad	235A	484/9-10
68.	Hubli - Miraj	Dharwad - Kyarkop	230-A	489/6-7
69.	Hubli - Miraj	Mugad - Kambarganvi	187	509/10-11
70.	Hubli - Miraj	Mugad - Kambarganvi	179	511/1-2
71.	Hubli - Miraj	Londa - Gunji	2	560/6-7
72.	Hubli - Miraj	Khanapur - Desur	54	585/14-15
73.	Hubli - Miraj	Desur - Belgaum	126-A	610/2-3
74.	Hubli - Miraj	Belgaum -Sambre	26-A	613/4-5
75.	Hubli - Miraj	Raybag - Kudachi	181A	713/12-13
76.	Hubli - Miraj	Raybag - Kudachi	181B	714/5-6
77.	Hubli - Miraj	Ugarkhurd - Shedbal	201-A	730/3-4
78.	Gadag - Sholapur	Almatti - Wandal	63-C	128/14-15
79.	Gadag - Sholapur	Jumnal - Bijapur	77-E	189/12-13
80.	Gadag - Sholapur	Bijapur - Minchant	77-F	191/3-4
81.	Bellary - Hospet	Bellary - Bellary Cant	262A	207/7-8
82.	Bellary - Hospet	Torangallu - Gadiganuru	202A	175/2-1
83.	Bellary - Hospet	Papinayakanahalli - Kariganuru	153A	151/14-13
EXISTING ROAD UNDER BRIDGES				
1.	Bangalore - Hubli	Banasandra - Kardi	242A	118/15-16
2.	Bangalore - Hubli	Kardi - Tiptur	222A	138/14-15
3.	Bangalore - Hubli	Adihalli - Arsikere	192D	164/14-15
4.	Bangalore - Hubli	Devanur - Kadur	138B	204/1-2
5.	Bangalore - Hubli	Birur - Navagangala	131A	211/3-4
6.	Bangalore - Hubli	Tolahunse - Davangere	21	320/14-15
7.	Bangalore - Hubli	Tolahunse - Davangere	16A	323/15-324/1
8.	Bangalore - Hubli	Tolahunse - Davangere	15D	325/2-3
9.	Bangalore - Hubli	Davangere - Harihara	15A	325/7-8
10.	Bangalore - Hubli	Davangere - Harihara	14B	326/5-6
11.	Bangalore - Hubli	Davangere - Harihara	92	338/9-10
12.	Bangalore - Hubli	Haveri - Byadgi	43A	393/11-12

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Mysore - Arsikere	Mysore - Belagula	301A	07-8
14.	Mysore - Arsikere	Belagula - Sagarkatte	278A	11/13-14
15.	Mysore - Arsikere	Asagarakatte - Krishnarajanagara	250	32/5-6
16.	Mysore - Chamarajanagar	Mysore - Chamarajapuram	757	04-5
17.	Mysore - Chamarajanagar	Chamarajapuram - Ashokapuram	763	2/10-11
18.	Mysore - Chamarajanagar	Ashokapuram - Kadakola	765A	6/3-4
19.	Mysore - Chamarajanagar	Kadakola - Najangud Town	773A	16/2-3
20.	Chikjajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	43	35/1-2
21.	Chikjajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	45	35/13-14
22.	Chikjajur - Rayadurga	Chitradurga - Balenahalli	61	41/6-7
23.	Chikjajur - Rayadurga	Balenahalli - Chailakere	89	66/8-9
24.	Hassan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	20	5/11-12
25.	Hassan - Mangalore	Hassan - Sakleshpur	92	30/9-10
26.	Hassan - Mangalore	Subrahmanya Road - Kaniuru	366	98/2-3
27.	Hassan - Mangalore	Kabakaputtur - Bantawal	513	140/7-8
28.	Hassan - Mangalore	Kabakaputtur - Bantawal	539	146/16-17
29.	Hassan - Mangalore	Kabakaputtur - Bantawal	577	157/3-4
30.	Hassan - Mangalore	Bantawal - Kankanadi	607	166/6-7
31.	Hassan - Mangalore	Bantawal - Kankanadi	663	181/8-9
32.	Birur - Shimoga Town	Bhadravathi - Shimoga Bidare	60A	45/1-2
33.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Malanur - Devangonthi	804	315/24-26
34.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Baiyyappanahalli - Bangalore East	838A	347/16-18
35.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore East - Bangalore Cant	842B	350/24-26
36.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore East - Bangalore Cant.	845	351/48-50
37.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	848A	352/26-28
38.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	852	353/8-10
39.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	853A	353/12-14
40.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	858A	354/13-15
41.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	863	354/40-42
42.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	865B	355/8-14

1	2	3	4	5
43.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	867	355/31-33
44.	Bangalore - Jolarpettai	Bangalore Cant - Bangalore City	867	355/8-9
45.	Bangalore - Salem	Rayakkottai - Periyanaagathunai	306	123/6-7
46.	Bangalore - Salem	Kelamangalam - Hosur	410	156/4-5
47.	Bangalore - Salem	Anekal Road - Heelalige	470	178/16-17
48.	Bangalore - Salem	Karmelaram - Belandur Road	511	193/12-13
49.	Bangalore - Salem	Belandur Raad - Banaswadi	531	202/9-10
50.	Bangalore - Timkur	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	423	0/8-9
51.	Bangalore - Timkur	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	422	0/13-14
52.	Bangalore - Timkur	Bangalore City - Yeshvantapur	420	1/13-14
53.	Bangalore - Timkur	Nidvanda - Hirehalli	330	57/6-7
54.	Bangalore - Timkur	Timkur - Mallasandra	305A	69/10-11
55.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bangalore City - Nayandahalli	424	0/800-900
56.	Bangalore - Mysore	Nayandahalli - Kengeri	446A	8/3-4
57.	Bangalore - Mysore	Nayandahalli - Kengeri	448	8/400-500
58.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bidadi - Ramanagaram	506	31/6-7
59.	Bangalore - Mysore	Bidadi - Ramanagaram	512	33/5-6
60.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Chanasandara - Yelahanka	535	7/9-10
61.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Rajanakunti - Doddballapur	490	29/4-5
62.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Dodballapur Yard	476	36/9-10
63.	Baiyyappanahalli - Dharmavaram	Makali Durg - Thondebhavi	367A	62/6-7
64.	Hubli - Miraj	Hubli - Unkal	253	469/1-2
65.	Hubli - Miraj	Dharwad - Kyarkop	228-A	490/3-4
66.	Hubli - Miraj	Kambarganvi - Alnavar	151-A	525/7-8
67.	Hubli - Bellary	Hulkoti - Gadag	29-A	57/10-11
68.	Hubli - Bellary	Gagag - Kanginhal	31-A	58/8-9
69.	Hubli - Bellary	Bellary Yard	266-A	208/13-14
70.	Gadag - Sholapur	Kadlimatti - Almatti	62E	120/12-13
71.	Gadag - Sholapur	Kadlimatti - Almatti	62M	125/1-2
72.	Gadag - Sholapur	Kadlimatti - Almatti	63A	127/4-5

*[Translation]***Condition of Railway Workshops**

3365. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway workshops all over the country are in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of concrete steps taken by the Government to revive these workshops;

(d) whether the Government has provided any financial assistance for the said purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Time to time inputs for improvement of workshops and maintenance depots have been made by way of works provisioned in the Works Programme (Plan head 42) and commissioning of machinery & plant provisioned in the M&P Programme (Planhead 41) depending on the Railway's requirement. The year-wise expenditure under Works Programme (Planhead 42) and M&P Programme (Planhead 41) during the last 6 years is as under:

(Figures in Rupees crore)

Year	Works Programme	M&P Programme
1999-2000	167.59	91.01
2000-01	165.51	91.65
2001-02	206.91	82.92
2002-03	209.52	72.74
2003-04	211.90 (Provisional)	154.11 (Provisional)
2004-05	275.10 (Proposed)	160.02 (Proposed)

LPG Demand from Domestic Production

3366. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to meet LPG demand from domestic production after successfully meeting the demand of Petrol and Diesel in the country from domestic production;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government has ascertained the reasons which are creating hindrance in production to meet the present demand of LPG from domestic production and to increase the LPG production of the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time limit fixed for the production to meet the demand in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The current quantum of LPG available from indigenous sources is not adequate to meet the demand in the country. The shortfall between supply and demand of LPG is met through imports.

(c) to (e) All refineries in the country are making efforts to maximise LPG production. The current production pattern from processing of crude oil is not adequate to meet the high LPG demand. However, Research and Development efforts are on to explore possibilities of increasing LPG production from surplus products like Naptha and Heavy ends.

*[English]***Financial Assistance to bogus NGOs**

3367. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAPART has provided financial assistance to the Bogus/Fake NGOs during the year 1997 to 2002 in Haryana state;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned, released and utilized NGO-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted by CAPART of these NGOs before and after funding these NGOs under different schemes;

(d) if so, the outcome of the investigation in this regard;

(e) whether any action has been taken/proposed to be taken against CAPART officers who involved in processing, approval, sanctioning and release of funds to these bogus NGOs;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) CAPART has provided financial assistance to 91 NGOs in the State of Haryana during 1997 to 2002 out of which 6 NGOs were later found to be bogus/fake and have been blacklisted.

(b) The details are given in statement.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Project proposals received from the voluntary organizations are sanctioned by CAPART after an appraisal both of the project and working of the organization. Sanctioned funds are released in instalments as per the progress made & after a due assessment of the physical progress reported.

On receipt of a complaint, comprehensive evaluation of the 6 NGOs mentioned in the Annexure was carried

out by a joint team of empanelled monitors and CAPART officials in early January 2003.

All the six organizations were found to be managed by proxy, by an individual, namely, Shri S.K. Jain of Bansogate, Chaura Bazar, Kamal. The report establish mis-appropriation of funds/manipulation of records by these organizations in connivance with the CAPART officials working in the Regional Centre. The team suggested the blacklisting of all the organizations and recovery of assistance extended to them. All the six organizations have been blacklisted and criminal cases filed with the Haryana Police against them. Initially the wife of Shri S.K. Jain was arrested on 27.2.2004 and Shri S.K. Jain and his son were declared proclaimed offenders by Haryana Police. Shri S.K. Jain and his son surrendered on 25.3.2004 and they are under judicial custody till date. The wife of Shri S.K. Jain was released on bail on 27.3.2004.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. CAPART has already initiated disciplinary action for imposition of major penalty under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 against 2 CAPART officers, who prima facie appear to be involved in processing, sanctioning and release of funds to these six Voluntary Organisations.

(g) In view of reply to part (e & f) above, the question does not arise.

Statement

Details of the amount sanctioned, released & utilized (NGOs & project-wise)

(Amount in Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the VOs & address	Title of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released	Amount utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.(i)	Rashtriya Khadi Gramudyog Mandal, Vill. Ranwar, Distt. Karnal Haryana	Hand made paper training cum production unit at Ranwar Village under ARTs	8,75,700	7,15,700	Utilisation certificate not received
(ii)	Rashtriya Khadi Gramudyog Mandal, Vill. Ranwar, Distt. Karnal Haryana	Integrated project for training and production in Kalash Village under PC scheme	13,05,832	7,48,440	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6
(iii)	Rashtriya Khadi Gramodyog Mandal, Vill. Ranwar, Distt. Karnal Haryana	Khas making under PC scheme	5,69,250	5,69,250	5,69,250
2.(i)	Kaushik Gramodyog Mandal Jogi Dass Building Chaura Bazar, Distt. Karnal	Installation of handpump under PC scheme	5,82,309	5,82,309	5,82,309
(ii)	Kaushik Gramodyog Mandal Jogi Dass Building Chaura Bazar, Distt. Karnal	Training and production in Katabagh Village under PC scheme	5,73,056	3,64,144	3,64,144
3.	Khadi Seva Niketan Vill. & Post Jundla, Distt. Karnal	Training and production Centre for Yam & Candle making and repair of handpumps & tree plantation at village Jundla under PC scheme	5,57,480	5,57,480	Utilisation certificate not received
4.	Anjum Udyog Mandal Banso Gate, Karnal	Training in tailoring, dairy farming and installation of handpumps in Ranwar Villages under PC scheme	6,42,290	6,42,290	6,42,290
5.	Karan Khadi Gramodyog Samiti Vill. Kabaori, Distt. Panipat	Training cum production in pottery, candle making handpump repairing & dairy unit in Kabaori village under PC scheme	5,96,600	5,96,600	5,96,600
6.	Anil Gramodyog Mandal Vill. Bari, Po Thanesar Distt. Kurukshetra	Training cum production in yam, candle making & tree plantation in Mariyapur Village in Kurukshetra Distt. Under PC scheme	4,80,634	4,36,184	4,36,184

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cantonment Boards, for the year 2002-2003.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 517/04]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, Batote, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) of the working of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, Batote, for the year 2002-2003.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 518/04]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) of the working of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 519/04]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) of the working of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, for the year 2002-2003.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 520/04]

- (9) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 521/04]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 522/04]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) of the Government of the working of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2001-2002.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 523/04]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihar, Nalanda, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihar, Nalanda, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihar, Nalanda, for the year 2002-2003.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 524/04]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 525/04]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, for the year 2002-2003.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 526/04]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 2002-2003.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 527/04]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Samath, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) by the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Samath, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Samath for the year 2002-2003.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 528/04]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Oil Industry (Development) Amendments Rules, 2004 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 489(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2004 under sub-section (3) of section 31 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 529/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULASKHMI JEGADEESAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 530/04]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 531/04]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 532/04]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 533/04]

- (7) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 534/04]

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

First Report

[*English*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (2004-2005) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2004-05.

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

First and Second Reports

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT (Mumbai-North East): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy (2004-2005):—

- (1) First Report on Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Power; and
- (2) Second Report on Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR**First and Second Reports***[English]*

SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR (Thiruvananthapuram): Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour:-

- (1) First Report on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Ministry of Labour and Employment; and
- (2) Second Report on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Ministry of Textiles.

12.05 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS**First Report***[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a copy of the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Railways on "Demands for Grants 2004-05" of the Ministry of Railways.

12.05¹/₂ hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT****Third and Fourth Reports***[English]*

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA (Sikar): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2004-2005):—

- (1) Third Report on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development); and
- (2) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

12.06 hrs.

PRESENTATION OF PETITION**[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Ramakrishna S. Keni, Secretary, All India Food Corporation of India Retired Employees' Welfare Association, Mumbai, and others requesting to amend section 12A-4A of the Food Corporation Act, 1964 enabling Food Transferees of FCI, to opt for liberalized Pension Scheme of Central Government.

12.06¹/₂ hrs.**MOTION RE: THIRD REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE***[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I beg to move the following:—

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th August, 2004."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th August, 2004."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pathak, I have received your notices of questions of privilege dated 18th and 19th August, 2004 against the Minister of Finance for allegedly misleading the House regarding abolition of gift tax during his Budget Speech. I have called for comments of the Finance Minister in the Matter. I will take a decision as soon as I receive them.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Thank you.
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You people are so impatient.

...*(Interruptions)*

*Also placed in Library, ~~see~~ No. LT 535/04.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not turn everything into zero in this House. There is no 'Zero Hour'. This is an hour, time after the Question Hour.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important question. There should be uniformity in justice irrespective of caste and religion. Everyone may feel that he or she is getting justice in India. With this objective I would like to submit to the House that incidents of various types of riots take place at different places in the country. For example incidents of riot took place in Delhi in 1984 in which Sikhs were victimised and affected. There were bomb blasts in Mumbai in 1993 that led to riots in which different sections of society were victimised and affected. Similarly the incidents of riot happen in various parts of the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): There were riots in Gujarat you should also speak on that ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: There were riots in Gujarat also. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, just a minute. I am trying to address.

Hon. Members, are we bound to accept everybody's statement here? Will the hon. Members have no right to speak their own minds? Are we going to dictate every hon. Member as to what he or she will say? She is an hon. Member of the House. She has her own perception. So long as it is not unparliamentary and so long as I have allowed her, she is entitled to have her say. Similarly, you will also have the right. I request both sides not to interrupt each other. I am making particular appeal to all the hon. leaders with folded hands to please see that the House functions. You make your own observation. Then, that will be recorded. If there are only shouts and counter-shouts, nothing is being recorded. Therefore, I am appealing to you that please co-operate with each other and give some respite to the Chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for this.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give opportunity to all of you to Speak.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: It is a fact that riots had also happened in Gujarat. It is a commendable step that recently cases have been transferred to other places with a view to provide justice to the people of certain committees and it has also been decided to reopen cases. It is commendable. However I would like that such system of providing the uniform system of transfer of cases should be available to all. So I would like that in such criminal cases when many times it appears ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, but that is a judicial order.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Sir, I am not saying anything about the judicial order. ...(*Interruptions*) I am not quoting judicial order. ...(*Interruptions*) I am not saying anything. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What has happened to you? Have all the cases been decided otherwise? If she makes an observation, what happens to you? How does it affect the merits of the case? The orders of the Supreme Court will be carried out. She is making her observation.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why should you disturb her? Is she not entitled to have her own views? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): I am not disputing that. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Then, why are you interrupting, Shri Mistry?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I was just reminding. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to remind her. She can look after herself as you can look after yourself. A Speaker is there to regulate the proceedings of the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, please try to conclude as soon as possible. I have given you a chance.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. I am not referring to any particular case or any judgement. I would like to tell only this that it is commendable things, however, such opportunity should be provided to all.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude as there are other hon. Members also who want to speak.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: From this point of view I would like that if justice has to be provided to the people in different states and certain amendment is needed in the light of the judgement, that should be done.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am going according to the list.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will try and give everybody an opportunity to speak provided you all cooperate with the Chair. There are 39 hon. Members who want to speak today.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, efforts are being continuously made to ensure that in expensive and expeditious justice should be provided to the people, however, it seems that gradually common people are getting deprived of justice. The main reason for it is that the number of cases right from the lower courts to the Supreme Court keep on increasing.

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak in brief. Please be brief as there are 39 subjects today.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I am speaking briefly. If we do not pay attention to it we will not be able to do justice to common people.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Supreme Court has ordered to setup fast track courts. I would not like to mention the name of any state, however, there are 11 such states which have not setup Fast-Track Courts despite Supreme Court's order.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is the only state which has set up 242 Fast Track Courts out of the 1488

such courts at present and all these courts are functioning. This is the 15 percent of the total courts. On one hand, while it is order of the Supreme Court to setup fast track courts to facilitate affordable and easily accessibly justice to the people and on the other hand some states are not setting up such courts and it is on account of this that common people are not getting justice. Through you, I would like to request the Government to make efforts, such as contacting state Governments land correspondence with them besides calling meetings to set up Fast Track court. So as to provide inexpensive expeditious justice to the common people.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, you can associate yourself as you have given notice on the same issue. Please associate yourself.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the Supreme Court has ordered to setup Fast Track Courts so that all may get affordable and easily accessible justice.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If anybody interrupts him now, then he will not be given a chance to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I was going to call you next, but I will not call you if you keep interrupting him like this.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a long list of cases lying pending in the courts of all states. The number of pending cases are further increasing due to the slow speed of disposal of cases and the Government is not able to dispose of the cases with the speed with which it intends to get the cases disposed of. So, the poor people are not able to get affordable and easily accessible justice. It is an important question. I would not like to comment on judiciary however, the pace at which the number of pending cases are increasing, is not good and the hon.

Member who spoke before me has proposed to setup Fast Track Courts for speedy disposal of these cases.

Hon'ble Supreme Court has also given orders in this regard. I just want to know from the Government that while adopting the positive attitude, will the Government take initiative in this regard so as to provide timely and affordable justice to poor people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not talking of establishing Fast Track Courts at the level of High Court only rather I would like the Central Government to ponder over this problem of increasing number of pending cases right from the lower courts to Districts Courts and High Courts and will the Government enforce the states to set up Fast Track Courts as ordered by the Supreme Court so that the crores of pending cases could be decided.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Government should consider this issue seriously. Now, Chaudhary Lal Singh. Please be brief.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No other comments will be taken note of.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Sir, I am highly grateful to you. Sir, my issue is very important.

MR. SPEAKER: Please finish it speedily.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, I would have finished my matter in the time you have taken to say this.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, for your advice. You better look after yourself.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are very well aware of the situation of my State Jammu and Kashmir. The entire country is aware of it. It will be quite different matter if this state is compared with any other State of the country. You are aware that a ban has been

imposed on recruitment in Jammu & Kashmir. Tourism, handicrafts, agriculture, and horticulture sectors of the State have been affected. The State is in bad shape. A very few employment opportunities have been left and youth there is unemployed. They have no more sources for their livelihood.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, 25,000 posts are lying vacant in the State which is affecting the areas of electricity, health and drinking water. Basically, the youth there is in distress. Therefore, I request the Government to consider it. Ban imposed here on recruitment should be withdrawn so that youth of the State indulging in misdeeds could be brought back on the right path by providing them employment. So that peace could be restored in our State and people could get employment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry if my words have hurt you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, it is not a matter of getting annoyed, it is about the functioning of the House. This is not a club.

[English]

This is the House of the people of Parliament of India. We are not conducting ourselves in that matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. As per the report of Commission for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, 45 crore acres of land in the country is waste land. Out of it 20 crore acres of land can be converted into cultivable land in one or two years. Government should make efforts in this regard and mobilize the resources for this purpose. This land can be distributed among the 4 crore people belonging to scheduled caste community at the rate of 5 acres per person.

Sir, I would like to request the Central Government to enact some law in this regard. Though the matter of land is concerned with State Government but hon'ble Prime Minister may call a meeting of Chief Ministers of all the States and distribute the waste barren land among the people of Scheduled Caste. It will bring social revolution and people would get employment opportunities also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bir Singh Mahato—Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, vide letter no. F.No. 9(1)98 SAIL dt. 10.8.04, Ministry of Steel, an order was issued not to provide the benefit of N.J.C.S. to Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. (ISCO) an ancillary unit of Steel Authority of India till the formation of revival package of it. On 20.11.2003, B.I.F.R. approved the revival package as a result of which financial position of ISCO improved a lot and with the hard work of officers, Staff and workers, the company is now earning profits.

Sir, despite the losses, SAIL was provided the benefit of N.J.C.S. whereas its ancillary unit ISCO was deprived of it. Now ISCO has started earning profits and Minister of Steel and the higher officers of SAIL have given assurance several time that they will be provided the benefits of N.J.C.S., Mohan Pay Commission and National Coal Pay Agreement No. 6-7 but it has not been implemented till date.

Sir, I demand from the Government that the facilities as per N.J.C.S. Mohan Pay Commission and National Coal Pay Agreement No. 6-7 may be implemented without any delay so that the profits of ISCO may not turn into losses and the employees of ISCO could get justice.

Sir, it is a very important issue, it should be considered with all seriousness. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for raising this matter.

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the factory of Birla Alloy Steel Ltd. Situated in Patratu area of Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand has been laying closed since 1996. 2500 people were working in this factory. When it did not reopen for 3-4 years, 1500 workers took V.R.S from the company with a meagre amount of Rs. 25000 only. More than 1000 workers are still having hope that the factory will reopen one day and they would be able to earn their livelihood.

Sir, more than 50 workers have died due to starvation and ailment due to closure of this factory. More than 2 dozen girls have committed suicide by swallowing poison and drowning. The water and electricity supply for the workers living in the colony where the factory is situated,

has been discontinued. Jharkhand Government is not willing to take any step in this regard. Therefore, I demand from the Government to take appropriate action to reopen this factory.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, to limit the arbitrary import of natural rubber, the previous Government had made an order that the import should be limited to only two ports, that is, Kolkata and Vizag. Now, a new order has been passed by the Ministry of Commerce to the effect that this shall be free from all ports. If the import is made through all the ports, it will affect, not only the quantity but also quality. Just like pepper and some other products are coming from various ports, natural rubber will also start pouring into India. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister and the Government to take urgent steps to revive the earlier decision of the Ministry of Commerce to the effect that the import should be limited to only two ports, namely, Kolkata and Vizag.

Export to rubber is also facing a problem, that has been encouraged by the previous Government and about 7,000 tonnes has been exported. It is contrary to any previous export. This was done by giving a small subsidy for export. Now, that period is over and the present Government has to take a decision on extending this facility further. I would request the Commerce Ministry to take action on this matter also.

MR. SPEAKER: All the Members are requested to be brief.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, recently, the Kerala Assembly has unanimously passed a Resolution requesting the Central Government for establishing a Bench of the Kerala High Court at Trivandrum. This unanimous decision was taken in the light of the observation made by the retired Chief Justice that establishment of a Division Bench is not in the public interest. So strange the judicial opinion is! He has no business to make such an observation. In the light of the observation, the Kerala Assembly passed a unanimous Resolution to that effect requesting the Central Government towards the establishment of a Bench of the Kerala High Court at Trivandrum, which is the only State capital where there is no Bench. It was functioning earlier and it must be revived. Hence, I would request the Central Government to take immediate steps in the light of the Kerala Assembly's unanimous decision towards the establishment of a Bench of the High Court at Trivandrum. The matter has been pending for decision for a long

time. I think the Government will rise to the occasion and take a decision in this matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, H.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, lakhs of post offices in the entire country are undertaking the job of the small savings for the past 113 years. There would be no exaggeration if we say that they have monopoly over the small savings. They have mobilized more than 4.31 lakh crore rupees through Indira Vikas Patra, Kisan Vikas Patra and small savings. Hon'ble Finance Minister in his budget speech has stated that now this job would be done through some high profile banks. I request him to cancel this decision otherwise it will affect the money being mobilized through the post offices of far-flung rural areas and also deteriorate the condition of the post offices which were getting 40% commission on these saving. These post-offices are already not in good condition. This is my request to the hon'ble Finance Minister.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment the Member for raising this issue.

12.23 hrs.

RE: PROBLEMS BEING FACED BY THE PEOPLE OF LAHUAL-SPITI AND CHAMBA DISTRICTS DUE TO NON-FUNCTIONING OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent Mandi constituency in Himachal Pradesh. Mandi Kullu, Chamba and Kinnaur district fall in my constituency. This is the second largest constituency of the country. There are very few telephone exchanges in the bordering scheduled castes dominated and backward district Lahaul-Spiti, district Kinnaur, Pangi and Bharmaur tehsils of Chamba and subdivision Kilad of my constituency. The condition of existing telephone exchanges there is also not good, it is very common that the telephone exchanges remain non-functional for 20 days in a month at a stretch. Whatever few are functioning do not provide satisfactory services to the users.

Sir, telephone exchanges are not being established in the said areas due to new telecom policy. The proposals to set up telephone exchanges approved earlier have now been cancelled due to the new policy.

Telephone exchanges should not be set up with a view to earn profit or from an economic point of view in such backward and remote border areas. Himachal Pradesh is sparsely populated. People live in difficult circumstances, it would add to their difficulties if telephone facility is not provided to them.

Telephone exchanges were to be set up through MCPC in Darcha and Tingrat of tribal area—Lahaul-Spiti but it could not be done due to new policy. Similarly people have done registration for telephones in Hansa and Kyot villages. These villages are comparatively thickly populated but they have not been linked to Lossar Telephone Exchange as they are at a distance of 10 kilometers from it. ADR has not been made in divisional headquarter Spiti of Lahaul-Spiti, Subdivision Kilad of Pangi valley in district Chamba and Bharmaur valley due to which people there are deprived of telephone services.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, the hon'ble Minister will take note of this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Being remote and hilly areas ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have spoken on your behalf to the Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: I have to make one more point. It was proposed that telephone exchanges will be set up through wireless in loopline but it has not been done. Similarly in Sarkaghat Tehsil of Mandi district, Matiyara in Gopalpur area, Taurkhola in Dharampur and Shilibagi in Chachyot area. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sent details, Hon. Minister would see to it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Through you, I request the hon. Minister Communications and Information Technology to pay attention towards providing telecom facilities in remote areas.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your cooperation.

[Translation]

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the House towards the fact that the artificial lake created due to heavy rains and land slides in Himachal Pradesh and Tibet, has hindered the flow of Parichu river.
...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you speaking? You have to seek information about flood assistance.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given two notices. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can not speak on two notices, please speak on floods as this is more important. One subject will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: The other projects have not been implemented.

MR. SPEAKER: You want funds, so speak about that.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, dialogue is being held with China and images that have been taken through satellite show that the artificial lake is hindering the flow of the river and thus it should be cleared. I urge upon you that this has caused danger and created an atmosphere of terror there, the Government of India should hold talks with China and make efforts to clear this lake so that people of that area might be saved.

*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY (Nandyal): Sir, the Medical Council of India gives formal recognition to the various degrees conferred by the medical colleges in India. Before extending necessary approval, the Medical Council deputed a medical team to the concerned medical college. In May, 2001, a team headed by Dr. Ebneizer Williams, Professor and Head of the Department in Madras College was sent to Shri Venkateswara Medical College, Tirupati for inspection with reference to the Department of Biochemistry. The team sent its findings soon thereafter to the Medical Council. The report was not received at the Medical Council and so it was sent for a second time on 4th May, 2004. But till date, no action has been taken so far, and delay is affecting adversely the chances of the candidates covered by the report of the team.

I request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to direct the Medical Council of India to expedite action.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has no such powers, Mr. Reddy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the Government that Bhojpuri is a very popular language. More than about 20 crore people in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal, Assam, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and other parts of the country speak Bhojpuri ...(Interruptions) Sir, I should be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: Who would not listen to you?

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Bhojpuri is the only language of India that has been recognised in several other nations other than India of them, Mauritius, Surinam, Trinidad, British Guyana, Nepal, Fiji, South America and some Islands of West India are main.

Approximately 25 to 50 percent people of the said countries are Bhojpuri speaking. Only Bhojpuri is such a language that can be easily understood by every Hindi speaking person. Each Hindi cinema or Hindi serial in Television generally have a Bhojpuri speaking character. Bhojpuri programmes are aired from the Doordarshan and All India Radio Kendras of Patna, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Ranchi, Muzzaffarpur etc. Besides, several newspapers, periodicals and other piece of literature are published in Bhojpuri language.

Bhojpuri language is target upto MA level in various universities like B.R. Ambedkar University, Muzzaffarpur, J.P. University, Chhapra, Veer Kunwar Singh Universities, Arrah, Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur and Jaunpur University. However, there is no provision in Lok Sabha of speaking and taking oath by an MP in Bhojpuri language.

Sir, it falls under your jurisdiction. I would like to request you that the Santhali language of Jharkhand being spoken by two lakh persons ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Not two lakhs, there are more than one crores Santhali speaking people ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: You have allowed him. ...(*Interruptions*) I urge upon you to make a provision providing the right to speak and take the oath in the said language. I would like to congratulate the previous Government that Maithaili was. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are talking about the Eighth Schedule.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Yes, Sir, I am talking about both. Mathili has been included in the eighth schedule, but Bhojpuri has been left. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not harp on the issue of Bhojpuri language.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I demand from the present Government that Bhojpuri be included in the Eighth Schedule. It is our request. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not listen to our request why should be pay heed to any of yours?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I would like to know as to what things are permitted to be brought in the House. One hon'ble Member of Orissa comes in the House with a lathi. If you allow me to bring something with me then. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not permitted at all. You do not bring anything with you.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: If bringing lathi is permissible then I should also bring. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have already spoken a lot, hence, you do not speak further.

...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, maganese reserves in our country are extremely important and are mostly located in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. Several industries including the steel, production of ferro maganese, electrolytic maganese dioxide, and dry battery etc. are based on magnese. Maganese ore was nationalised and several small scale industries involving Rs. 1500 crore of banks in the country are based on maganese. Under such situation Maganese ore Limited on 9th September made one announcement to dispose maganese ore by inviting a tender that has led to this crisis. This would result in winding up of all the small industries involving an investment of Rs. 1500 crore. Hence, I would like to say that the decision that has been taken first time to dispose if magnese ore by inviting tenders is not correct. I would like to request the Government that instead of disposing it by inviting tender, the Government should provide it to the small scale industries in order to save the small industries. I request the Government to revoke its decision, which has been taken on 9th September to dispose maganese ore through open tender so as to provide this ore to the multinationals being the highest price in the world.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Hemlal Murmu — Not present.

Shrimati Minati Sen.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Sir, as you may probably know, the Anganwadi workers and helpers under ICDS are rendering untiring services to nourish the rural children, taking due care for preliminary education, social awareness, serving the pre and post-natal women and doing other multifarious jobs related to health care of children and women of rural India. But the Anganwadi workers and helpers are given a very meagre honorarium which is far inadequate to meet the basic needs of survival. I request the Government to bring the Anganwadi workers and helpers under a scale of pay in the best interests of rural India.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava. A discussion on the Railway Budget is to take place, but still you can make your submission in one minute.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state that there was a metre gauge railway line between Jaipur and Diggi Malpura which was removed in the name of converting it into broad gauge but work is not being undertaken on this line due to which the farmers and other travelers are facing a lot of inconvenience. Kalyanji temple is situated in Diggin Malpura where lakhs of devotees visit every year. And lakhs of people would visit this place on the coming 22nd August. Most of devotees travel on foot to the Kalyanji temple at Diggi but there is no other means of transport when they come back. Existing railway line was already removed in the name of converting into broad gauge. Hence I request the hon. Minister to start the construction work of broad gauge line there immediately which would not only benefit the villages of the area but also the people visiting of Kalyanji's temple. You are also invited to visit Diggi and it would also lead to your welfare.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister has also listened.

[English]

Shri Bikash Chowdhry. We are carrying on very well. So many important issues are being raised. It is good.

SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY (Asansol): Sir, the North East Coal Field Limited in Assam has transferred all the physicians from the hospitals. These coal mines are situated in the Far East or North Eastern Assam. There are about 5,000 workers working in those mines, just on the border of Burma and Arunachal Pradesh. They remain unattended and so, they have demanded that those who had been transferred should be re-transferred to that place because the physicians from outside are not ready to go there, since the place is infested with ULFA. So, I urge upon the Minister concerned to re-transfer all the physicians to the hospitals of North-East Coal Field Limited. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the increase in the price of the essential commodities in the country. Today the essential commodities have gone beyond the reach of common people. Farmers too are not getting any benefit from it. Rather the hoarders are getting a lot of benefit.

I would like to request the Government to control the price escalation of the essential commodities meant for general consumers. Yesterday a TV channel was showing that a lot of people have died of starvation in the country. This is a matter of great concern and hence the Government should pay attention towards it.

[English]

SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA (Mangalore): As far as admission to the medical and engineering colleges in Karnataka is concerned, there is a great mess. Practically, nearly 50,000 students and their parents are facing severe problem and mental torture due to the hike in fee structure. In fact the Karnataka Government has passed a Resolution and later on legislation has also been brought out in this regard. No student can pay so much of fees to get admission to the medical and engineering colleges. There has been several talks in the all-Party meetings on this but in spite of that the Government has not taken any serious step in this regard. The private management is colluding with the Karnataka Government and taking steps so that the meritorious students do not get admission to these colleges. If the last year's fee structure is adopted, it will help the students, otherwise the fee structure has been raised four times to that of the last year.

I think is the right time that the Centre should intervene and make a Central legislation in this regard. For the time being the Center should direct the State Government to adopt the normal fee structure as that of last year's to give opportunity to the meritorious students. If that is not done a number of meritorious and poor children will not be able to get admission to the medical and engineering colleges in Karnataka. This is a very serious matter. So, I urge upon the Center to intervene immediately with a Central legislation and direct the State Government to provide seats to the meritorious students under the same fee structure as that of the last year.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Maharajas of many States had done very good works before independence period. Maharaja Ummed Singh Ji of Marwad did great works in the field of civil aviation sector. He had a fleet of 9-10 planes at that time. The Government of India have received a proposal from the State Government to name the Jodhpur airport after Maharaja Ummed Singh. The State Government has already sent its consent through the

proposal. I request the Union Government to rename the Jodhpur airport as Maharaja Umed Singh Airport.

[*English*]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (Berhampore, West Bengal): I would like to draw the attention of the concerned Ministry, through you, that the National Highway 34, which passes through the State of West Bengal has been deteriorated to such an extent that free and facile movement of vehicles have become next to impossible. There are ditches and depressions on the entire stretch, which have become the natural speed breakers. Now, there is no need of any speed breaker on the road. In some areas the ditches are so deep that you can easily cultivate pisciculture. The entire traffic has been disrupted for months together and there is no sign of restoration either from the Central Government or the State Government.

Sir, you know that NH 34 is the economic lifeline of the State of West Bengal. So, I would urge upon the Centre through you that restoration work should be started as fast as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: I may also support you on this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Department of Tribal Welfare imparts five different types of training to educated unemployed tribals with the stipend of Rs. 350 per month. Training is given for repairing motor cycles, radios, computers, electricity lines and for manufacturing TV. They are also given Rs. 350 as stipend. It is less than Rs. 12 per day. How can the scheduled tribes people work in such condition? Training is being given for five trades only in one district while training should be imparted for 10 trades in each district. Training for only one trade is being given in Ratanpur in Bilaspur district and that too only to 10 persons which is nominal. Hence the number of trainees to these trade and the amount of stipend should be increased. Persons from backward classes should also be included alongwith persons from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. This will strengthen unity among people. Besides it will not promote casteism. The number of trainers should be increased, that is, it should be increased from 50 to at least 100 and the training should be imparted to the people of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes. The amount of stipend should be raised to Rs. 1000 and arrangements should be made to provide

drinking water and accommodation to these people. Though the people are trained they are not provided loans to start their business after training. Loans should be made available to them so that their financial position may improve.

SHRI SITA RAM YADAV (Sitamarhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 6 scorpion submarines are proposed to be purchased from France at the cost of 2 crore dollars as per the agreement. Out of them 2 submarines will be brought from France and four would be manufactured in Majhgaon Dockyard in Mumbai. Through you, Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether this submarine has been tested from every aspect. Whether it would enhance the strength of our Navy? Secondly, whether Majhgaon dockyard is capable of manufacturing such scorpion submarines or technology alongwith the technologist would be brought from France? I would like to say that the Government should manufacture these submarines with its own technology indigenously.

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 6 Bangladeshis snatched the national flag from the hands of a headmaster and burnt it when he was going to hoist it on 15th August in Megnapur Kanaknagar village of Kendrapada district in Orissa. I congratulate the Government for the immediate arrest of all those six persons and request the Government that the Bangladeshis who have infiltrated our country must be deported. Secondly, there are reports that ISI activities are increasing in that area. The Union Government should examine the matter closely and take immediate action to deport the Bangladeshis who have infiltrated.

SHRI NIHAL CHAND (Sriganganagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent Sriganganagar constituency of Rajasthan. It is situated on Indo-Pakistan border. The farmers have not been given compensation for the land acquired by the Govt. for fencing along Indo-Pakistan border in Rajasthan. Farmers can not enter that area, they can neither irrigate that land nor cultivate it. Farmers in the border area of Punjab have been given the compensation but it has not been paid in case of farmers of Rajasthan. Fencing has been done at two places and Rs. four crore have been paid to the farmers for the land lying in between but the Union Government has not paid the total amount of compensation for that land. My only request is that it should be paid.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after Godhara incident took 30 youths to Pakistan and trained them in connivance with Pakistan's intelligence agency

[Shri P.S. Gadhavi]

ISI. The sole purpose of the training is the assassination of Shri Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat. This would increase the already rising activities of terrorism in the state. I urge upon the Union Government to look into the matter immediately and take stringent action in this regard and try to check the activities of terrorism.

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): Sir, I would like to call the attention of the Government to a very important matter. The Kerala Legislative Assembly has unanimously resolved to request the Central Government and Civil Aviation authority to reduce the higher rates of air travels to and fro to Gulf countries from Kerala. As compared to charges of other national and international flights, the airfare of this route is quite exorbitant and unjust. This unscrupulous activity resorted to by the airlines operating in Gulf sector has been criticised by NRIs living in the Gulf countries. They have appealed to the Central Government and the concerned authorities but it has all gone in vain.

Sir, through you, I would like to urge upon the Central Government and the Civil Aviation authorities to consider the request of the NRIs as well the unanimous resolution of the Kerala Legislative Assembly to reduce the exorbitant rates and also to allow the international flights to land in our airports according to the terms and conditions as stipulated by the Government of India.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the funds released by CRF and NCCF for flood victims in Bihar has almost been spent and there has been acute shortage of foodgrains over there due to which warlike situation has arisen as regarding food. As a result of this, police fired at the flood victims in Darbhanga district, three days back due to which two flood victims lost their lives. Earlier a flood victim was killed in police firing in Patnapur. Godowns are being looted there and anarchy is spreading in the State. I request the Union Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): He is making a wrong statement and misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Oh! Leave it, why do you do like this.

[English]

That is not binding on you.

[Translation]

You do not listen, Okay, you please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: How can he give wrong statement in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not appropriate.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Is it good to say wrong thing.

MR. SPEAKER: You please listen to your leader, your leader has forbidden you.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, three persons have died so far due to starvation in Bihar. I would like the Government of India to provide five lakh metric tons of rice. The Government should immediately provide rice to Bihar free of cost. Money is being charged for the rice being supplied. On one account funds are provided and on the other account money is charged. At present firing has taken place only at two places but if immediate assistance is not provided to Bihar, the prevailing situation may compel the Government to open firing at dozens of places. Till now six hundred people have been killed in Bihar. Bihar Government has completely failed in relief distribution among flood affected people. The State Government had demanded for eight thousand crore rupees however only 1.25 hundreds crore rupees have been given.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that an amount of Rs. 258 crore was demanded, however, not a single paisa has been given. The Bihar Government has not sent any report on drought situation. The day before yesterday Shri Sharad Pawar ji in his reply had said that there is no drought situation prevailing in Bihar. I would like to submit that 2.5 crore people have been affected by flood. Though flood water has receded, however, foodgrains are required for that area. If all these things are not provided at the earliest, the situation will be terrible.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have done it very ably.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: I would like to request you to instruct the Government to stop firing. Instead of providing wheat as relief to the flood affected people, police is resorting to firing. It should be immediately stopped.

MR. SPEAKER: You have completed your speech, you please do not repeat the same thing.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: He is saying wrong.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basudeb Acharia—not present.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.52 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

14.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at one minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The statements under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to provide rail linkage to Rajouri-Poonch in Jammu & Kashmir**

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): The J & K State is highly obliged to the Central Government for extension of railway line to Udhampur, Qazigund and Baramulla in Kashmir, work on which project is in full swing.

The people of my parliamentary constituency viz. Jammu-Poonch, in the Jammu division feel discriminated

*Treated as laid on the Table.

as there is no proposal for extension of the rail link to Rajouri-Poonch, which is much convenient that the ongoing projects in the State.

The people of Rajouri-Poonch, if linked through rail can have their means of livelihood, as there are tourism/pilgrimage, spots, which can attract world tourist attention in a large number and in turn will improve economic condition of the hapless people of these areas, who are facing hardships due to ongoing turmoil for the last fifteen years.

The Hon'ble Railway Minister is, therefore, requested to have this important public demand implemented at the earliest.

- (ii) **Need to increase the height of Periyar Dam for the benefit of the farmers**

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): I raise the issue of raising the height of Periyar Dam to 152 feet. This is the most genuine request put forth by the farmers of Theni District particularly of Cumbum, Bodi, Theni, Gudalur Aundipatti and other adjacent areas. In their view, if the water level is increased from 142 to 152 feet, the storage will be doubled and all the channels will work and the people will get benefited by way of irrigation. There is need that all the small tanks in the area are channelised through these canals so that small farmers may get water through the tanks.

I request the Central Government to give suitable instructions to Tamil Nadu Government and the Government of Kerala in this regard. The wall of the reservoir has already been raised to 152 feet level and also strengthened. I request that suitable instructions be given to the Government of Kerala to accept this in the large interest of the farmers.

- (iii) **Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for operating helicopter services in the border areas of the State**

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, interior parts of border district of Lahaul-Spiti and Kinnaur of Himachal Pradesh remain cut off from the rest of the country for about six months due to heavy snow fall in the winter season. It is on account of remaining cut off for six months from the rest of the country that Government has to operate helicopter service

[Shrimati Pratibha Singh]

to evacuate people falling ill and wounded due to blizzard, severe fire incident, road accident and land slides, The State Government has been operating helicopter services with the amount of about Rupees 7 crore for last seven years. The State has small and limited resources.

Geographical and local conditions of Himachal Pradesh are similar to those in northern States. The North Eastern States are being provided this facility by the Central Government, however, even basic facilities are almost nil in remote areas of the State. So, I urge upon the Government to provide financial assistance to operate these services.

(iv) Need to develop Kurukshetra as a prominent tourist destination

[English]

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL (Kurukshetra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kurukshetra, the land of Mahabharata and Geeta is one of the most important historic sites of India.

It is a major spiritual land religious tourist attraction for both domestic and international tourists. Every year, lost of pilgrims and tourists visits this holy place. But the amenities and facilities required for the tourists need much to be desired.

I request the Minister of Tourism to develop it as a centre of tourist attraction especially for the international tourists and sanction funds for this purpose.

(v) Need for doubling of the railway track between Jalgaon and Ughana

[Translation]

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir there is 306 km. long single railway line connecting my parliamentary constituency Jalgaon central railway to Surat in Western Railways. This railway line connects 2 trunk lines, Mumbai-Delhi of Western Railways and Mumbai CST Bhusawal-Itarsi of Central Railways.

208 RKM of this section falls in Maharashtra and remaining 98 RKM in Gujarat. This section is also known as Tapti Valley section. It is also an alternative coal railway route for Gujarat and Mumbai region from Western Coal mines.

Besides, it is also useful as important cross link for long distance Mail/Express trains passing through Western and Central Railways. Electrification work on this section

has almost been completed. It is because of the single line that it takes more time in traveling and at the time of crossing of trains, mail trains have to halt again and again due to which passengers face many difficulties. Therefore, doubling of this important rail section between Jalgaon and Ughana is extremely essential. It will not only ensure smooth movement of railway traffic but also reduce unrequired halting, it will also help in the development of this region.

So, through you I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to approve the project for doubling of railway track between Jalgaon and Ughana at the earliest.

(vi) Need to take suitable steps for ensuring the release of Indians jailed in Pakistan

[English]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): A large number of youth from Punjab who were duped by dubious travel agents and were sent to foreign countries have been detained in various jails in Pakistan.

About 70 such youths have been illegally detained in Mach jail, Pakistan and more than 300 youth are illegally detained all over Pakistan. These youth who have been pushed to Pakistan through countries like Iran in order that they are pushed back to India were never sent to India. These youth who have been cheated by travel agents serve sentences in accordance with Pakistan law and even after completion of their sentences they have not been sent back to India.

A number of such youth are illegally detained in Pakistan for years even after completing their sentences. It is a matter of fact that whenever our foreign office seeks to contact these youth, the consular access is denied on one pretext or the other. Sir, you may understand that when our foreign office is also not able to help these youth who will help these youth. Why the issue is not being taken up at appropriate level by the foreign Ministry so that plight of these youth are heard and they are sent back to India. Through you, Sir, I would like to request the Government to take up the issue at Minister's level so that innocent youth from India who are mostly from Punjab are sent back to India.

(vii) Need to set up a Textile Park and re-open the closed textile mills in Sholapur Parliamentary constituency, Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH (Sholapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency Sholapur, Maharashtra plays a lead role in textile manufacturing in the country. Several small and large textile mills are located here. Yaswant cotton Textile Mills and Sholapur Cotton Mills have been closed down and the condition of several other cotton textile mills is also bad. Closure of these two mills and sad state of other mills is afflicting development of this area and the economic condition of employees of closed mills have become pitiable and they are on the verge of starvation.

In the end, through you, I would request hon. Minister to Textiles to order revival of closed textiles mills of Sholapur and take necessary action for setting up a Textiles Park at Sholapur.

(viii) Need to extend adequate Central assistance for development of tourism in the State of Rajasthan

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (Jhalawar): I draw the attention of the Government of India to the need to provide the infrastructural facilities to develop Rajasthan as an important destination of tourists. The State is one of the most favoured destinations of national as well as international tourists. According to an estimate, out of 30 lakhs foreign tourists arrival in India in 2003 more than 6.2 lakh of them visited Rajasthan. The State will be able to draw large number of tourists in the coming years if the Jaipur Airport is upgraded as an international airport. At the same time it is necessary to provide better air connectivity to and from various airports in Rajasthan. The proposal to set up an International Convention Centre, enhancement of allocation of funds for development of Mewar Complex, development of International Golf Course at Jaipur, Tourism Complex at Jaipur and Jhalawar and the provision of Central assistance to Elephant Village, Amer will accelerate the process of development of tourism in the State.

Since the State is not developed at par with other developed and developing States and there is a tremendous untapped tourist potential in the State, I demand that Government of India formulate a task force

and release adequate Central assistance to the State to develop Rajasthan as a State of National as well as international tourist interest which will generate employment for the local people and help the Centre in earning valuable foreign exchange due to the increase in the flow of foreign tourists.

(ix) Need to take steps to check the growing regional disparities in the country

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): One of the grave concern before the Nation is the growing regional/inter-State disparities. All the Central Governments which came to power after Independence had theoretically advocated narrowing down of regional disparities. The objective announced by the Planning Commission and Finance Commission were also in that line. But in reality, regional disparities including per capita income has widened. According to Ministry of Finance publication the per capita income of last ranked State which was 32% with 1st ranked State in 1980-81, went down to 11.3% in 2000-01. As a group, per capita income of 13 bottom ranked States including all North-Eastern States has gone down in past three decades compared with 4 top ranked States, which reveals concentration of wealth in certain areas of the country. I would strongly demand that appropriate measures be taken to narrow down this serious regional disparity in the interest of national integration.

(x) Need to lay a new railway line between Gajraula and Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Sambhal is an important city of Uttar Pradesh. Maintha crop at a very large scale is cultivated here and Asia's biggest maintha market is located here. In addition, it is also very famous for fine quality of handicraft items and other products related to cottage industry. Many types of products manufactured here are exported from here. But, unfortunately Sambhal is not connected by said. Therefore, for proper development of this area there is a need to sanction laying of Gajraula-Sambhal rail route and allocate funds for this purpose.

(xi) Need to provide a financial package to the Government of Bihar for rendering assistance to the people affected by floods in the State

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV (Gopalganj): I am grateful to the hon. Prime Minister for having toured flood affected areas of Bihar though he

[Shri Anirudh Prasad alias Sadhu Yadav]

had a very busy schedule. He took stock of devastation caused by flood and provided a relief of Rs. 115 crores from National Calamity Relief Fund for making food grains available. Simultaneously, he also promised providing Rs. 400 crore soon for making arrangement for drainage of flood water and strengthening of bandhs. Sir, in view of the devastation caused by the flood, said allocation is too less.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost 9291 villages of 197 blocks spread over 20 districts have faced the fury of floods and about 4986 lakh hectare land is water-logged. Crops in 13.42 lakh hectare area valued at Rs. 29634.75 lakh have been ruined. There has been great loss of lives, live-stock, nurseries and also Government property. The State Government of Bihar have sought a package of Rs. 8000 crore from the Central Govt. for construction of infrastructure in the State and for the providing relief to the affected people and their resettlement.

Therefore, I would urge the Central Govt. to expedite release of relief package sought by the Bihar Government and also to release it from National Calamity Fund in place of National Natural Calamity Relief Fund.

(xii) Need to implement Watershed Management Scheme in drought prone Tiruvannamalai and Dharmapuri Districts of Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur): The fall in ground water level is an acute problem in many Districts of the country especially the drought prone Districts of Tamil Nadu, particularly in Tiruvannamalai and Dharmapuri districts. Water has to be drawn from more than 300 feet deep borewells. Such water with fluoride contamination leads to bone diseases and even cancer. Such rain-dependent areas can augment ground water level only by way of effective watershed management. For instance, in my Tiruvannamalai Parliamentary constituency. Thakarākuppam and Thekkupattu panchayats in Natrampalli Panchayat Union could not get watersheds due to paucity of funds even after the completion of estimates and feasibility studies. Nearby towns like Vaniyampadi and Ambur have also been affected by the ground water level. Hence, I urge upon the Union Rural Development Ministry to evolve a scheme to ensure implementation of Watershed Management in drought-hit fund-starved backward areas that are affected by drinking water scarcity and fluoride related diseases. This may kindly be taken up urgently and a pilot scheme may be

taken up in my Tiruppattur constituency with the allocation of funds for the same.

(xiii) Need to sanction the funds sought by the Government of Tamil Nadu for beautification of Chidambaram town under the 'Adisankara circuit' scheme

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (Chidambaram): Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu, is my constituency. The world famous Shiva Temple is located in my constituency, Chidambaram. The Secretary, Department of Tourism, Tamil Nadu, has sent a proposal to the Central Government requesting for amount of Rs. 3.17 crore to beautify Chidambaram town under the scheme of 'Adisankara circuit'. Even now pilgrims in thousands visit the town everyday and this can be improved many fold as to generate employment and revenue for the Tourism Department and for the locals by beautifying the town and temple in all aspects. Cuddalore District is one of the backwards Districts of Tamil Nadu. There is no doubt that, if the said amount of Rs. 3.17 crore is allotted to Chidambaram, it will not only generate new employment and but also will attract world tourists. Chidambaram should be declared as one of the world heritage centres.

(xiv) Need for concrete policy guidelines to tackle the recurring problem of terrorist groups taking hostage of innocent people

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): International terrorism as a problem is proving a great menace in different parts of the world. Taking hostages of innocent people is one of its forms. India has suffered this scourge many a time in the past like the case of the daughter of Mufti Mohammed Syed, presently Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and the hijacking case of Indian Airlines flight from Kathmandu to Kandhar.

The Government of India has not laid any clear-cut policy to deal with hostage crisis. A Crisis Management Group was set up to deal with such crisis. It is not known whether it is still functioning.

At present three Indian truck drivers have been taken hostages in Iraq. The abductors are putting demands for ransom. It is more than three weeks when they were taken hostages. The families of Indian hostages are passing through great tension. It seems that the Government is not suitably equipped to handle a crisis of this nature.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to lay down concrete policy guidelines to deal with such hostage issues immediately to avoid any mismanagement in dealing with such crisis.

(xv) Need to release funds for checking the erosion caused by Brahmaputra and Dihing rivers in Assam

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (Dibrugarh): The erosion problem at Rohmaria, Bogibil, Khawang, Dirak, Sumoni, Gujjan-Dinjan of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia District by river Brahmaputra and Dihing has been continuing since 80's. The grave situation is very clearly known to the Central Government but nothing has been done so far. We have already lost tea gardens, cultivable land and big area of human habitation. Now, this has become a great threat to the historic town of Dibrugarh having Asia's one of the oldest Assam Medical College, thousands of big and small tea gardens, hundreds of villages, educational institutions, airport and above all a huge reservoir of crude oil and natural gas.

So, I urge upon the Government to urgently take up the matter and release the earlier sanctioned amount of Rs. 350 crores as per Government Notification dated 8th July, 2002 to stop the erosion without any further delay to protect the national properties.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been continuously raising the issue of insult of great revolutionary Veer Savarkar in the House and the Chair had ordered that a Statement to this effect will be made in the House at 2 O'clock, but, so far there is no information in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the House would like to say something.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, so far as this matter is concerned, as I mentioned, my commitment was to first ascertain the facts after the matter was mentioned by Mr. Geete on the very first day. The next day, that means yesterday, I shared the information which I could collect and from that information, what we find is, though the Petroleum Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the Indian Oil

Foundation which raised the structure and which took the decision, the Union Cabinet is not directly involved in it. Even the earlier decision, the Union Cabinet is not directly involved in it. Even the earlier decision was taken by the Board of Trustees. Government was not involved. This decision is also being taken by the Board of Trustees. Therefore, I am really at a loss to know the Government of India could respond to it simply because of the fact that the Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of a Board of Trustees.

In this connection, I must point out most respectfully that the Prime Minister is the Chancellor of the Vishwa Bharati University. But he does not explain his conduct on whatever action he takes when he is doing so in the capacity of the Chancellor so far as this House is concerned. So far as this House is concerned, the issues related with the official function of the individual is concerned with this House. I said whatever I had to say. I do not know what additional information I can share with the Opposition Leaders. If they indicate what type of information they ask for from the Government, I would collect it and share it with them.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Advani, Leader of the Opposition, wants to say something.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Lalu Prasad Ji, I have called Advani Ji to speak. I will give you also an opportunity.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I would like to make a request before hon. Advani Ji starts speaking,—that the Minister of Petroleum Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was sitting here who has been accused insulting Late Shri Vir Savarkar and allegations have levelled against him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have called hon. Leader of the opposition to speak. No sooner he stood up to speak, Lalu Ji started speaking in between ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Lalu Ji, it is all right. You know. Please sit down. I will give you a chance to speak. Advani Ji, now you speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called him to speak. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is for him to decide.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not show fingers.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue has been going on for the last 2-3 days. It is concerning a revolutionary Late Shri Vir Savarkar, who is highly respected in the country and such Savarkar has been insulted. Just now, I was listening to hon. Leader of the House and I was highly astonished to hear him. If Prime Minister is the Chancellor of any University, he will never use such language. It is not a question. But if so, a question can arise. Secondly, Cabinet is involved in rare cases and most of the decisions taken by the Ministers. And decisions of a Minister are considered the decisions of the Government, not of any individual. I think that a Minister in the previous Government took a decision in this matter and accordingly a plaque was put there. After a change in the Government, present Minister replaced the earlier plaque. Nobody has any objection if Mahatma's plaque is put up there but the objection is on the removal of plaque of quotes of Vir Savarkar. Due to which unsavoury controversy has been created in the entire country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Leader of Opposition is speaking. Please listen to him.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I was told that the Minister wanted to make a Statement personally, he wants to put forth his views. Then, I requested the hon'ble Speaker. This is not the question of one's willingness or unwillingness or personal views. Government took the decision. I have also been the Minister of Home Affairs. Shri Shivraj is also present here. Andaman & Nicobar is a Union Territory. A memorial in a Union Territory cannot

be built without the permission of the Government. And this memorial has been built in Cellular Jail and whatever happens there, the Government is responsible for that. Government took a decision and that decision has changed. The question was raised here as to who changed this decision, but this is not sufficient. If a person is Chairman by virtue of his office, it is not necessary to reply here his all queries. Definitely, the Government has to reply in the matter of insult to Savarkarji without which it is impossible to satisfy the people. ...(Interruptions) He has mentioned several things but those are personal views. We do not have any concern with his personal views. But there are some issues for which Government is responsible like without Government's permission, no memorial can be built in Cellular Jail. Any change in its structure cannot be carried out without the permission of the Government. Opposition want information in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, very humbly, I would like to say one thing. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very sensitive issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Members speak who want to express their views on it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, leader of the House and the hon'ble Railway Minister, Shri Laluji has raised basic question here. The controversy has been created by the statement of a Minister. He was himself present in the House and wanted to give clarification in this matter. I request you that the Minister should give statement in this regard. As the leader of Opposition and Members of other parties have stated that the discussion is going on for the last two days. It was decided in your chamber yesterday that the hon'ble Defence Minister and Leader of the House would give statement on it today at 2 PM. However, the Members from Opposition started raising questions before the statement. You are well aware of that. As a result of which such a situation has arisen. I would like to request you that Shri Manishankar Aiyar should be called in the House today or tomorrow or whenever it is possible and be asked to give personal explanation on it. He should reply to the allegations

levelled against him and clarify his position. Thereafter, truth will emerge ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion is going on for the last two-three days. ...(*Interruptions*)

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: It is being initiated. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Yes, discussion is going on or it is being initiated. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I request all of you that if you want to say something you can say.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Manishankar Aiyar is the Minister of Petroleum at present. Discussion is going on about his statement. I do not think that there is a need for those to get certificate from some members sitting in the House, who have sacrificed for the freedom of the country. He has sacrificed for the freedom of the country. If a Government had taken decision in this regard, no body objects as hon'ble Advaniji has stated and anything is added in it, but it is completely inappropriate to cancel the decision of that Government and to insult a historical personality who played an important role in the history of the country and by removing his plaque. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RABINDER KUMAR RANA (Khagria): He would be like you. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him speak.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am not talking about him. Please do not interrupt me. ...(*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us do something serious. Shri Prabhunath Singh, please address the Chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: ...(*Interruptions*)*...Mr. Speaker, Sir, please make him understand. How the

House will function if they keep on interrupting like this? ...(*Interruptions*) If he continues to behave with me like this, the situation will be worsened. ...* (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ranaji, please sit down.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Laluji, please make him understand otherwise the situation will worsen. ...(*Interruptions*) ...* I am not talking about him, I am talking about myself.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please address the Chair. Please conclude.

Please sit down. Your leader is here. He has very much presented his case. Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: ...* (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, please make him understand that I am placing my views, what he would speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. I will call you to speak. What is all this?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has used unparliamentary word. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: If any unparliamentary word is there, that will be deleted. It is very unfortunate.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

14.13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, August 20, 2004/Sravana 29, 1926 (Saka)

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

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