

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Third Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

Friday, December 6, 1996/Agrahayana 15, 1918 (Saka).

....

| Col./Line | For | Read |
|------------------------|--|--|
| 45/17 | The State Biscuits | The State Biscuits |
| 50/8 (From below) | The Minister of State for Coal | The Minister of State of the Ministry of Coal |
| 53/2 (from below) | detected is | detected in |
| 70/9 | (a) and (c) | (a) to (c) |
| 87/4 (from below) | SHRI SATYAJITSINH DALIPSINH GAEKWAD | SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD |
| 88/9 | Shich members | which members |
| 103,104/8 | 349 64 | 379 64 |
| 121,122/10 | 50 | 59 |
| 135,136/17 | 4041.47 | 4941.47 |
| 142/7 (from below) | 1373.97 | 13738.97 |
| 187/15 | | |
| 195/11 (from below) | SHRI SRIKANT JENA | SHRI SRIKANTA JENA |
| 198/23 | | |

CONTENTS

[Eleventh Series, Vol. VII, Third Session 1996/1918 (Saka)]
No. 12, Friday, December 6, 1996/Agrahayana 15, 1918 (Saka)

| SUBJECT | COLUMNS |
|--|---------|
| OBITUARY REFERENCE | 1—2 |
| WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS : | |
| Starred Question Nos. 221 - 240 | 4—44 |
| Unstarred Question Nos. 2111 - 2288 | 44—186 |
| PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE | 187—196 |
| ANNOUNCEMENT BY DEPUTY SPEAKER RE: SITTING OF LOK SABHA | 197—198 |
| COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE | |
| First Report — <i>Presented</i> | 198 |
| BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE | 198 |
| SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS - GENERAL, 1996-97 — <i>Presented</i> | 200—202 |

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 6, 1996/Agrahayana 15,
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at One Minute past
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, today is the 6th of December. On this day, in 1992, the Babri Masjid was demolished by the BJP. This day is a black day in the history of India. In future such incidents should never take place... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

There is an Obituary Reference.

11.06 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with a deep sense of sorrow of the passing away of one of our former colleagues, Shri K.J. Abbasi.

Shri K.J. Abbasi was a Member of Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabha representing Domariaganj Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1980-89.

Earlier he had been the Member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1962-67, 1969-74 and also served as a Minister in the State Government during 1971-74.

A versatile personality, Shri Abbasi was a veteran freedom fighter, agriculturist, lawyer and a political and social worker. He actively participated in the freedom movement and suffered imprisonment for several years.

A widely travelled person, Shri Abbasi attended the World Peace Conference in Berlin during 1969. He was a delegate of Government of India to Saudi Arabia during 1982.

Shri Abbasi passed away on 7th November, 1996 at Lucknow at the age of 84 years

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

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

11.08 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Question No. 221.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, today is a most significant day... (Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. I will allow you to raise this issue during the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. I have already told you that nothing would go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Please sit down. I will respect your sentiments. I will allow all of you during Zero Hour. Let us take up Question Hour. Please do not waste the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

11.13 hrs.

At this stage, Shri E. Ahamed and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

11.14 hrs.

At this stage, Shri E. Ahamed and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri P.C. Chacko, no paper should be displayed. Please put it down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do not display any paper. Put them down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

11.23 hrs.

At this stage, Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The whole country is watching you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kindly discontinue the telecast of proceedings on T.V.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is enough, please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Samik Lahiri, please mind your language. I will take action if you behave like this. Please come to your senses.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I appeal to all of you to go back to your seats. Please sit down. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is zero hour now. I will allow everyone. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p.m. today.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Production of Tea

*221. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of tea produced in the country during each of the last three years in comparison to the previous years;

(b) whether the production of tea during the current year is likely to be higher;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith its estimated production; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of tea in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. B.B. RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Data regarding production of tea in the country during the past four years and first six months of the current year with corresponding figures of the previous year is as follows :-

| Year | Production (Mn. kgs) |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1992-93 | 736.00 |
| 1993-94 | 768.05 |
| 1994-95* | 743.33 |
| 1995-96* | 762.35 |
| 1996-97* | 505.93 |
| (April-Sept.) | |
| 1995-96* | 482.31 |
| (April-Sept.) | |

* Estimated and subject to revision.

Production during the current year so far is significantly higher as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Given the trends, likely production of tea during 1996-97 is estimated at 772 million kgs.

In order to increase production, Tea Board has been operating various developmental schemes to encourage activities such as replantation, extension planting, setting up of new plantations, assistance to small growers in extension activities and research & development.

[English]

Meeting of W.T.O. at Singapore

*222. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is participating in the World Trade

Organisation (WTO) ministerial meeting in Singapore to be held in December, 1996;

(b) whether the Government had made a major move to seek changes in the World Trade Organisation's Trade Related Intellectual Property (TRIPS) agreement defying the pressures from the developed countries especially the United States and the European Union;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the stand to be taken by India at the Singapore meeting;

(e) the nature of assistance likely to be given by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to the developing countries with regard to trade issues coming up at the above meeting; and

(f) the role of the WTO in defining the natural frontiers of a body dealing with international trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). India had initiated discussion in the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) of the WTO on access to transfer environmentally sound technologies and products mandated for use under national or international law. In this connection, certain suggestions were made on amending the TRIPS Agreement suitably. This subject will continue to be discussed in the CTE after the Singapore Ministerial Conference.

(d) India's stand at the Singapore Ministerial Conference is under finalisation.

(e) From time to time, UNCTAD organises workshops, seminars and meeting to help developing countries in the WTO negotiations. Recently, UNDP/UNCTAD organised a Ministerial Round Table Meeting on "Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development" in Geneva from 30th September to 1st October, 1996.

A high level segment on Foreign Direct Investment and development in a globalising world economy, i.e. "UNCTAD Global Investment Forum" was held as a part of Trade and Development Board 43rd Session on 10th October, 1996.

(f) The scope, functions and structure of the WTO are laid down in Article II, III and IV of the Marakkesh Agreement Establishing the WTO.

Decline in Grant of Bank Loans

*223 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total loans sanctioned by the public sector banks and financial institutions during the first

half of the current financial year have declined as compared to the loans sanctioned during the same period in the last financial year;

(b) if not, the details thereof, and

(c) the reasons, if any, identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). As reported by Reserve Bank of India, the outstanding net non-food bank credit of 27 public sector banks has shown an increase as given below :

| | | (Rs. Crores) |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| As on last Friday of | Non-food bank credit | |
| September, 1996 | | 1 89.048 |
| September, 1995 | | 1.67.032 |

As far as financial/investment institutions are concerned, Industrial Development Bank of India have reported that assistance sanctioned and disbursed by these institutions during April-September 1995 and 1996 was as under :

| (Rs. crores) | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | 1995 (April- September) | 1996 (April- September) | Percentage Change |
| Sanctions | 33.526 | 23.243 | (-) 30.7 |
| Disbursements | 15.246 | 19.696 | (+) 29.2 |

The Industrial Development Bank of India have also reported that the decline in sanctions is mainly due to comparatively lower number of large projects assisted during April-September, 1996 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Committee on Pay Structure for Employees of RRBs

*224. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the RBI has appointed any Committee to examine the present pay structure for the employees of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the details of the subjects to be examined by the committee with composition thereof and the time by which it is likely to submit the report;

(c) whether any interim report has been submitted by the committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, at the instance of Government, constituted a

Committee to make recommendations with regard to determination of salaries and allowances of employees of Regional Rural Banks. A copy of the order of the RBI indicating, inter-alia, the composition, terms of reference of and the time frame prescribed for the Committee is enclosed as statement. The Committee has not submitted any report so far.

STATEMENT

Executive Director Reserve Bank of India
Central Office
Bombay

ORDER

Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)

In terms of Section 17(1) of the RRBs Act, 1976, the Government of India are required to determine the salaries and allowances payable to the employees of RRBs. Such determination was last carried out in the year 1991 and made effective from 1st September 1987. In view of the many changes which have taken place since then, the Reserve Bank of India hereby appoints a committee with the following members to study and make recommendations in this regard.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (i) Shri S.C. Mahalik | Chairman |
| Former Secretary Department of Posts Government of India | |
| (ii) Kum. V. Visvanathan | Member |
| Former Executive Director Reserve Bank of India | |
| (iii) Shri J.V. Shetty | Member |
| Former Chairman & Managing Director Canara Bank | |

2. The terms of reference of the Committee will be as follows :

- To examine the present structure of emoluments of the employees and suggest changes therein which may be desirable and feasible.
- To examine the allowances and other benefits that are presently available to the employees and suggest nationalisation and simplification thereof.
- To examine the desirability and the feasibility of introducing performance linked incentives for the Regional Rural Banks and the nature, scope and structure of such incentives.
- In making recommendations on the foregoing, the Committee shall apart from

other relevant factors, have regard to the wide differences in parameters like size, level of business, productivity ratios and profitability of the various Regional Rural Banks.

3. The Committee will devise its own procedure and may call for such information as it may consider necessary. The Committee may also elicit the views of the employees, the shareholders and such other interested bodies like depositors/borrowers' associations.

4. The Committee will make its recommendations in a period of three months from this date.

Mumbai
November 5, 1996

-Sd-
(J.R. Prabhu)

[Translation]

Outstanding dues of CIL

*225. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- whether a huge amount of the Coal India Limited is outstanding against its big consumer institutions;
- if so, the total amount outstanding against them as in March, 1996;
- the amount outstanding against major industries like steel, cement, fertilizers etc. out of the said amount;
- whether disputed amount is also included in the said outstanding amount;
- if so, the amount in dispute out of the total amount outstanding against the said big industries; and
- the reasons for the said disputes and the steps taken to resolve the disputes and realise the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). As on 31.3.1996, a total of Rs. 2962.26 crores of coal sale dues of Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies were outstanding. The consumer-wise details of the outstanding dues as on that date are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) and (f). A statement showing consumer-wise and reason-wise break-up of disputed dues as on 31.3.1996 is given at statement-II. Coal companies are having constant discussion with the consumers to resolve the disputed dues and realise the same. Umpires have also been appointed for resolving the disputed dues wherever large amounts are outstanding from the Power Utilities.

STATEMENT-I*Outstanding dues of CIL against SEBs/Power Utilities as on 31.3.96*

(Rs. in Crores)

| Consumers | Disputed | Undisputed | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) | 22.88 | 62.24 | 85.12 |
| Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) | 80.79 | 263.45 | 344.24 |
| Punjab State Electricity Board (PSEB) | 135.31 | 31.65 | 166.96 |
| Tamil Nadu electricity Board (TNEB) | 57.33 | 5.96 | 63.29 |
| Haryana State Electricity Board (HSEB) | 61.67 | 37.55 | 99.22 |
| Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) | 19.97 | 17.20 | 37.17 |
| Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) | 324.94 | 104.88 | 429.82 |
| Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board (MPEB) | 15.32 | 58.40 | 73.72 |
| Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) | 23.79 | 109.79 | 133.58 |
| West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB) | 3.55 | 64.00 | 67.55 |
| West Bengal Power Development Corporation (WBPDCC) | 8.23 | 56.71 | 64.94 |
| Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board (APSEB) | 4.44 | -2.28 | 2.16 |
| Karnataka Power Corpn. Limited (KPCL) | 5.23 | -3.75 | 1.48 |
| Durgapur Project Limited (DPL) | 5.97 | 9.61 | 15.58 |
| Damodar Valley Corpn. (DVC) | 74.17 | 85.86 | 160.03 |
| Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) | 32.79 | -10.27 | 22.52 |
| Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) | 153.70 | 199.97 | 353.67 |
| National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) | 151.11 | 46.81 | 197.92 |
| Calcutta Electric Supply Corpn. (CESC) | 1.65 | 2.00 | 3.65 |
| Ahmedabad Electric Company (AEC) | 17.52 | -4.03 | 13.49 |
| Bombay Suburban Electric Supply (BSEB) | 0.24 | -0.27 | -0.03 |
| Others | 7.57 | 11.84 | 19.41 |
| Total Power | 1208.17 | 1147.32 | 2355.49 |
| Durgapur Steel Plants (DSP) | 97.12 | 6.95 | 105.77 |
| Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) | 65.28 | -10.05 | 55.23 |
| Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) | 122.39 | 13.14 | 135.53 |
| Bokaro Steel Limited (BSL) | 61.74 | 10.11 | 71.85 |
| Other SAIL Units | | 0.14 | 0.14 |
| Indian Iron Steel Company (IISCO) | 33.66 | 13.52 | 47.18 |
| Tata Iron & Steel Company (TISCO) | 3.65 | -0.98 | 2.67 |
| Vishakhapatnam Steel Project (Vizag) | 9.49 | -1.08 | 8.41 |
| Total Steel | 393.33 | 33.45 | 426.78 |
| Railways | 49.59 | 9.49 | 59.08 |
| Other Govt. Parties | 46.80 | 23.13 | 69.93 |
| Private Parties | 76.36 | 25.38 | 50.98 |
| Grand Total | 1774.25 | 1188.01 | 2962.26 |

STATEMENT-II

Statement of reason-wise break up of disputed dues as on 31.3.96

| Name of Consumer | Quality | Weigh- ment | Cess | Other Statu- tory charges | Railway | Others | Total |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| BSEB | 17.50 | 1.54 | 3.04 | | 0.51 | 0.29 | 22.88 |
| UPSEB | 20.53 | 27.55 | 11.44 | 0.81 | 16.06 | 4.68 | 80.79 |
| PSEB | 51.74 | 16.04 | 14.32 | 0.10 | 46.65 | 6.46 | 135.31 |
| TNEB | 37.54 | 2.45 | 2.35 | 0.09 | 14.53 | 0.37 | 57.33 |
| HSEB | 37.80 | 9.76 | 6.37 | 0.05 | 3.63 | 3.86 | 61.67 |
| RSEB | 9.34 | 4.28 | 3.14 | | | 3.21 | 19.97 |
| MSEB | 142.74 | 120.16 | 5.68 | 12.19 | 35.40 | 8.77 | 324.94 |
| MPEB | 2.88 | 2.57 | 8.55 | 0.62 | | 0.70 | 15.32 |
| GEB | 1.10 | 8.24 | 10.93 | 2.86 | 0.21 | 0.45 | 23.79 |
| WBSEB | 0.53 | - | - | 1.39 | 1.41 | 0.22 | 3.55 |
| WBPDC | 6.84 | - | - | 0.05 | 0.05 | 1.29 | 8.23 |
| APSEB | - | - | - | 4.44 | - | - | 4.44 |
| KPCL | 0.85 | 4.36 | 0.02 | - | - | - | 5.23 |
| DPL | 2.92 | 0.06 | - | 1.26 | 0.62 | 1.11 | 5.97 |
| DVC | 42.79 | 0.10 | 6.43 | 4.61 | 3.40 | 16.64 | 74.17 |
| DESU | 8.86 | - | 3.69 | 0.58 | 6.85 | 12.81 | 32.79 |
| BTPS | 97.72 | 15.18 | 18.06 | 1.71 | 14.60 | 16.43 | 153.70 |
| NTPC | 13.79 | 1.97 | 50.33 | 9.96 | 1.12 | 73.94 | 151.11 |
| CESC | 0.46 | 0.30 | - | - | 0.65 | 0.24 | 1.65 |
| AEC | 10.21 | 5.96 | 0.86 | 0.27 | - | 0.22 | 17.52 |
| Others | 0.12 | 0.02 | 7.36 | 0.23 | - | 0.08 | 7.81 |
| Total Power | 506.26 | 220.54 | 142.27 | 41.42 | 145.91 | 151.77 | 1208.17 |
| DSP | 44.60 | 17.90 | 9.27 | 9.63 | 12.75 | 2.97 | 97.12 |
| RSP | 23.13 | 13.17 | 9.69 | 8.77 | 7.07 | 3.45 | 65.28 |
| BSP | 40.49 | 32.73 | 13.82 | 4.66 | 29.21 | 1.48 | 122.39 |
| BSL | 23.40 | 9.88 | 21.68 | - | 3.92 | 2.86 | 61.74 |
| IISCO | 20.97 | 1.54 | 5.93 | 2.38 | 0.03 | 2.81 | 33.66 |
| TISCO | - | - | - | 0.32 | - | 3.33 | 3.65 |
| VIZAG | 0.31 | - | 2.80 | - | 0.81 | 5.57 | 9.49 |
| Total Steel | 152.90 | 75.22 | 63.19 | 25.76 | 53.79 | 22.47 | 393.33 |
| Others (including Loco. Other Govt. parties & Private Parties) | 38.77 | 9.78 | 90.96 | 1.52 | 4.06 | 27.66 | 172.75 |
| Total | 697.93 | 365.54 | 296.42 | 68.70 | 203.76 | 201.90 | 1774.25 |

[English]

Seizure of Narcotics and Gold

*226. SHRI SURESH PRABHU :
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of narcotics and gold seized during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the smuggling of narcotics and gold in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Quantity of Narcotics seized statewise are given in Statement-I to III. The Statistics regarding seizure of gold are not being maintained statewise, hence seizures of gold are given formation wise in Statement IV.

Anti-Smuggling measures have been designed both to gather intelligence, and prevent smuggling of gold and narcotics. The measures include surveillance over sensitive areas, targetting of intelligence and use of sophisticated equipments like metal detectors, colour baggage x-ray machines in ports, airports-and land customs stations. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their skills and abilities. Vehicles and communication equipments have also been recently suitably augmented to enhance the effectiveness of the officers. Reward scheme for informers and officers is being implemented vigorously. Government have liberalised import of gold since 1992 under passenger baggage scheme to make legally imported gold available to meet the demand of the Indian market. Close co-ordination is also being maintained amongst various intelligence agencies and organisations involved in detection and prevention of smuggling.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise Seizures (in Kgs.) of Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substance - Year 1994

| State/U.T. | Opium | Heroin | Ganja | Hashish | Methaqualone |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | - | - | 35516 | - | - |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 1 | 1631 | - | - |
| 3. Assam | 3 | 5 | 12648 | - | - |
| 4. Bihar | - | 8 | 9207 | 694 | - |
| 5. Goa | - | 0.250 | 16 | 11 | - |
| 6. Gujarat | 40 | 34 | 578 | 688 | 16921 |
| 7. Haryana | 128 | - | 14 | 312 | 4 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 4 | - | 1 | 170 | - |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | - | 26 | 188 | 101 | - |
| 10. Karnataka | - | 0.005 | 2681 | 0.130 | 2999 |
| 11. Kerala | 0.048 | 1 | 297 | 0.250 | - |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 987 | 44 | 5342 | 7 | - |
| 13. Maharashtra | 5 | 194 | 8487 | 168 | 721 |
| 14. Manipur | - | 13 | 38576 | - | - |
| 15. Meghalaya | - | 8 | 1034 | - | - |
| 16. Mizoram | - | 7 | 528 | 19 | - |
| 17. Nagaland | - | 0.134 | 15260 | - | - |
| 18. Orissa | 0.317 | - | 3125 | - | - |
| 19. Punjab | 375 | 32 | - | 26 | - |
| 20. Rajasthan | 393 | 427 | 221 | 2612 | 17 |
| 21. Tamil Nadu | 40 | 28 | 44775 | - | 4529 |
| 22. Tripura | 0.250 | 2 | 225 | - | - |
| 23. Uttar Pradesh | 134 | 40 | 2507 | 589 | 322 |
| 24. West Bengal | 135 | 4 | 3094 | 15 | - |
| 25. Delhi | 11 | 98 | 1914 | 1577 | 13316 |
| 26. Pondicherry | - | - | 0.350 | - | - |
| 27. A & N Islands | - | - | 31 | - | - |
| 28. Chandigarh | - | 39 | - | 3 | - |
| Total | 2256 | 1011 | 187896 | 6992 | 45319 |

STATEMENT-II

Statewise Seizures (in Kgs.) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance — Year 1995

| State/UTs | Opium | Morphine | Heroin | Ganja | Hashish | Cocaine | Metha-qualone | Phenob-arbital | L.S.D. | Acetic Anhydride |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Andaman & Nicobar | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 8.000 | 0.095 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 66591.890 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 1.619 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 240.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Assam | 1.521 | 0.000 | 2.213 | 4702.691 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Bihar | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.375 | 2060.750 | 54.500 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Chandigarh | 35.030 | 0.000 | 87.968 | 0.000 | 0.280 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Delhi | 34.382 | 0.000 | 49.781 | 3147.380 | 556.242 | 0.000 | 6719.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 579.000 |
| Gujarat | 31.257 | 0.000 | 10.423 | 2536.464 | 461.063 | 0.000 | 3681.650 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 78.000 |
| Goa | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.012 | 16.820 | 10.581 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 113.000 | 0.000 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1.880 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 227.750 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Haryana | 82.240 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 20.500 | 144.530 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 12.600 | 0.000 | 617.030 | 12.500 | 635.194 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1095.000 |
| Kerala | 0.215 | 0.000 | 1.021 | 117.705 | 0.073 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Karnataka | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Meghalaya | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.593 | 2657.250 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Maharashtra | 72.520 | 0.000 | 116.351 | 5770.266 | 127.078 | 0.100 | 3592.250 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Manipur | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.888 | 9822.700 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 171.820 | 0.000 | 7.539 | 1225.100 | 4.900 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Mizoram | 0.480 | 0.000 | 8.169 | 133.389 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Nagaland | 0.167 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 9811.475 | 78.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Orissa | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 79.300 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Punjab | 438.820 | 0.000 | 406.060 | 1912.460 | 72.433 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 2505.000 |
| Pondicherry | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.004 | 0.573 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Rajasthan | 334.400 | 0.000 | 220.348 | 257.730 | 663.590 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5025.000 |
| Tamil Nadu | 29.175 | 2.000 | 19.684 | 3277.261 | 0.000 | 39.560 | 1848.439 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Tripura | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.950 | 411.925 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 80.308 | 1.962 | 110.356 | 3230.737 | 575.514 | 0.000 | 4643.984 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| West Bengal | 10.805 | 0.000 | 18.095 | 3823.202 | 17.396 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Total | 1339.239 | 3.962 | 1677.662 | 121873.07 | 3629.219 | 39.660 | 20485.323 | 0.000 | 113.000 | 9282.000 |

STATEMENT-III

State-wise seizures of various drugs for 1996 (Upto 31.10.96)

| State/UTs | Opium | Morphine | Heroin | Ganja | Hashish | Cocaine | Metha-qualone | Pheno-barbital | L.S.D. | Acetic Anhydride |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------------|----------------|---------|------------------|
| Andaman & Nicobar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3437.53 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 0.65 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Assam | 2.87 | 0.00 | 1.11 | 4618.75 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Bihar | 8.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 107.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 44.76 | 0.00 | 3.86 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46.00 |
| Delhi | 15.14 | 0.00 | 163.61 | 588.40 | 79.43 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2117.00 |
| Gujarat | 78.58 | 0.00 | 10.51 | 361.46 | 34.15 | 0.00 | 132.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Goa | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 2.58 | 18.96 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1285.00 | 0.00 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 60.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Haryana | 44.75 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 2.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 0.00 | 0.00 | 163.00 | 0.00 | 194.44 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 20.00 |
| Kerala | 0.30 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 97.61 | 2.06 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2156.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Maharashtra | 662.83 | 0.00 | 107.93 | 910.04 | 175.68 | 0.23 | 265.70 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Manipur | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.62 | 10718.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 402.36 | 0.00 | 33.23 | 1954.61 | 8.03 | 0.00 | 70.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Mizoram | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 28.63 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 9063.30 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Orissa | 29.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1805.38 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Punjab | 343.09 | 0.00 | 335.98 | 0.00 | 21.16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Rajasthan | 507.27 | 0.00 | 125.40 | 1403.81 | 134.62 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1010.00 |
| Tamil Nadu | 0.31 | 0.00 | 39.16 | 2070.56 | 4125.25 | 0.00 | 4.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 33.65 | 1.11 | 23.70 | 2378.67 | 458.58 | 0.00 | 9.68 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| West Bengal | 10.67 | 0.00 | 4.18 | 697.00 | 18.04 | 0.25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | 2141.071 | 1.109 | 1054.391 | 42406.08 | 5340.196 | .955 | 481.376 | 0 | 1285 | 3193 |

| S.No. | Commissionerate | Quantity of Gold Seized (In Kg.) (Prov.) | | |
|-------|--------------------------|---|---------|---------------------------|
| | | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 (till Oct, 96) |
| 1. | DGRI | 178.223 | 189.356 | 68.219 |
| 2. | CC, Sahar Airport Mumbai | 398.212 | 372.581 | 143.089 |
| 3. | CC (P), Mumbai | 67.620 | 25.917 | 46.130 |
| 4. | CC, Cochin | 0.155 | 0.087 | 2.671 |
| 5. | CCE, Cochin | 74.995 | 192.701 | 122.183 |
| 6. | CC (P), Ahmedaba | 27.663 | 15.960 | 16.537 |
| 7. | CC, Bangalore | 6.992 | 8.680 | 0.412 |
| 8. | CC, Goa | Nil | Nil | 14.997 |
| 9. | CCE, Pune | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | CCE, Aurangabad | Nil | 1.665 | Nil |
| 11. | CC, Calcutta | 25.223 | 25.478 | 1.090 |
| 12. | CC, Chennai | 103.813 | 60.462 | 54.550 |
| 13. | CC, Visakhapatnam | 0.083 | 0.518 | 0.640 |
| 14. | CCE, Hyderabad | 1.101 | 2.922 | 1.167 |
| 15. | CCE, Guntur | Nil | 1.400 | Nil |
| 16. | CC (P), West Bengal | 63.021 | 27.032 | 9.547 |
| 17. | CC (P), Lucknow | 1.563 | 6.735 | 6.780 |
| 18. | CCE, Trichy | 5.104 | 11.822 | 3.042 |
| 19. | CCE, Chandigarh | 138.327 | 41.758 | 0.146 |
| 20. | CCE, Jaipur | 24.290 | 5.351 | 0.117 |
| 21. | CC (P), Patna | 3.337 | 2.298 | 3.210 |
| 22. | CC, Delhi | 132.497 | 102.893 | 86.357 |
| 23. | CCE, Meerut | 2.167 | 8.160 | Nil |
| 24. | CCE, Kanpur | 1.682 | 5.799 | 1.116 |
| 25. | CC (P), Shillong | 19.684 | 4.964 | 3.511 |
| 26. | CCE, Raipur | Nil | 2.356 | 1.167 |
| 27. | Others | 1.466 | 31.217 | 12.736 |

DGRI - Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence.
 CC - Commissioner of Customs.
 CC (P) - Commissioner of Customs (Preventive).
 CCE - Commissioner of Customs & Central Excise.

[Translation]

Scheme For Handicraft Sector

227. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of artisans/craftsmen engaged in the handicrafts sector in each State, particularly in tribal and backward areas of Gujarat;

(b) the schemes formulated by the Government for development of handicrafts sector and for the welfare of handicrafts artisans/craftsmen;

(c) the funds provided to each State Government for development of handicrafts sector during the last three years, Scheme-wise; and

(d) the number of artisans/craftsmen benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
 (a) The details of artisans/craftsmen engaged in the handicrafts sector State-wise including in the State of Gujarat is as per Statement-I attached.

(b) The schemes formulated by the Government for development of handicrafts sector and for the welfare of

handicrafts artisans/craftsmen include : exhibition and publicity, marketing development support, design development, setting up of craft development centre, workshed-cum-housing, group insurance and health package etc. for implementation through the State Corporation and non-governmental organisations.

(c) The scheme of the Govt. does not envisage any direct assistance to the State Govt. for the promotion of handicrafts, however the financial assistance is provided to State Corporation/Apex Societies and Voluntary Organisation. The details of funds provided to such organisations (State-wise and Scheme-wise) for the development of handicrafts during the last three years is as per Statement-II attached.

(d) The number of artisans/craftsmen benefited from the funds provided by Govt. to various agencies for the development of handicrafts during the last three years is estimated at 15 lakh persons.

STATEMENT-I

Employment in Lakhs (estimated)

| State | Artisans (96-97) |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Assam | 1.46 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1.55 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 0.02 |
| A & N Island | 0.02 |
| Bihar | 2.24 |

| 1 | 2 |
|------------------|-------|
| Delhi | 1.63 |
| Haryana | 2.07 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0.85 |
| Gujarat | 4.89 |
| Goa | 0.11 |
| J & K | 7.56 |
| Karnataka | 4.21 |
| Kerala | 0.15 |
| Mizoram | 0.08 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 1.50 |
| Meghalaya | 1.02 |
| Manipur | 3.92 |
| Maharashtra | 4.74 |
| Nagaland | 1.26 |
| Orissa | 1.11 |
| Pondicherry | 0.01 |
| Punjab | 0.90 |
| Rajasthan | 5.23 |
| Sikkim | 0.15 |
| Tripura | 2.57 |
| Tamil Nadu | 1.28 |
| West Bengal | 5.72 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 14.55 |
| Total | 70.80 |

STATEMENT-II

For the Year 1993-94
(Rs. in Lakhs)

| S.No. | State | Name of the Plan Schemes | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Exhibition | Publicity | Design | Training | Marketing | Marketing Dev. Support | Survey Study | Welfare | Craft Dev. Centre | Revival of Languishing Crafts | Total of all schemes |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 15.95 | 3.00 | 3.81 | 7.56 | 12.20 | 35.78 | 0.10 | - | 8.25 | - | 86.65 |
| 2. | A & N Islands | - | - | - | 0.42 | - | - | - | - | - | 2.89 | 3.31 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | - | 1.31 | - | 2.56 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3.87 |
| 4. | Assam | 12.09 | 1.09 | - | 2.78 | 3.63 | 4.78 | 1.48 | - | - | - | 25.85 |
| 5. | Bihar | 2.00 | 2.95 | 0.12 | 7.18 | 0.80 | - | 3.51 | - | 2.84 | - | 19.40 |
| 6. | Delhi | 35.44 | 15.36 | 9.56 | 1.87 | 9.09 | - | - | - | 3.56 | - | 74.88 |
| 7. | Goa | 2.54 | - | - | 1.82 | 9.00 | 2.25 | - | - | - | - | 15.61 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 14.52 | 1.87 | 7.07 | 16.27 | - | 2.50 | 2.03 | - | 3.75 | - | 48.01 |
| 9. | Haryana | 11.99 | - | - | 3.54 | 17.09 | 24.72 | - | - | 3.09 | - | 60.43 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 16.14 | - | - | 3.64 | 0.45 | 2.50 | - | - | 1.68 | - | 24.41 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 23.06 | 3.89 | - | 5.00 | - | 5.26 | - | - | - | - | 37.21 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 10.32 | 0.15 | - | 3.76 | - | 16.82 | 4.70 | - | 4.39 | - | 40.14 |
| 13. | Kerala | 15.14 | 0.35 | - | 3.63 | - | 49.32 | - | - | 3.56 | - | 72.00 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 12.48 | 2.04 | 0.60 | 4.54 | 37.26 | 8.00 | 3.26 | - | - | - | 68.18 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 9.44 | 11.77 | - | 5.50 | - | 0.75 | 1.49 | - | - | - | 28.95 |
| 16. | Manipur | - | - | - | 8.63 | - | 6.72 | - | - | 2.25 | - | 17.60 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | - | - | - | 0.70 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.70 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 1.52 | 0.47 | - | 0.00 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1.99 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 1.79 | - | - | 0.73 | - | 2.50 | - | - | - | - | 5.02 |
| 20. | Orissa | 16.61 | 0.75 | 0.59 | 24.89 | 5.47 | 41.14 | 0.99 | - | 1.87 | 3.16 | 95.47 |
| 21. | Punjab | 9.41 | 0.50 | - | 16.96 | 0.61 | 12.58 | - | - | - | - | 40.06 |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 3.76 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3.76 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 14.65 | - | - | 2.93 | 5.80 | 9.38 | - | - | - | - | 32.76 |
| 24. | Sikkim | - | - | - | 2.19 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2.19 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 30.50 | 2.19 | 4.13 | 10.08 | - | 10.00 | - | - | 5.21 | 0.30 | 62.41 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------|--------|
| 18. Mizoram | 3.00 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4.00 | - | - | 7.00 |
| 19. Nagaland | 0.97 | 1.13 | - | 5.07 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7.17 |
| 20. Orissa | 27.23 | 5.57 | 4.59 | 13.45 | 5.13 | 14.09 | 5.08 | - | 5.13 | - | - | 5.13 | 80.27 |
| 21. Punjab | 7.60 | - | - | 5.10 | - | - | - | - | 3.10 | - | - | - | 15.80 |
| 22. Pondicherry | 1.80 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.13 | - | - | - | 1.93 |
| 23. Rajasthan | 12.64 | - | 1.20 | 6.85 | 3.37 | - | - | - | 6.76 | - | 1.66 | - | 32.48 |
| 24. Sikkim | - | - | - | 1.77 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1.77 |
| 25. Tamil Nadu | 27.50 | - | 8.46 | 11.15 | - | 17.50 | 2.57 | - | 4.54 | - | - | - | 71.72 |
| 26. Tripura | 2.42 | 1.86 | - | 5.15 | - | 0.13 | - | 12.00 | - | - | - | - | 21.56 |
| 27. Uttar Pradesh | 82.46 | 26.41 | 38.20 | 102.09 | 19.91 | 88.13 | 8.99 | - | 17.13 | 0.30 | - | - | 383.62 |
| 28. West Bengal | 15.14 | 2.57 | 3.55 | 12.79 | 12.57 | 7.84 | 3.85 | - | 4.16 | - | - | - | 62.47 |
| Total | 393.42 | 88.75 | 78.98 | 278.89 | 133.64 | 226.14 | 74.17 | 24.46 | 55.09 | 15.71 | 1369.25 | | |

Note : Figures do not include grants released for multi-State activities.

STATEMENT-IV

For the Year 1995-96
(Rs. in Lakhs)

| S.No. | State | Name of the Plan Schemes | | | | | | | | | | | Total of all schemes |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|------------------------|--------------|---------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------|
| | | Exhibition | Publicity | Design | Training | Marketing | Marketing Dev. Support | Survey Study | Welfare | Craft Dev Centre | Revival of Languishing Crafts | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 17.46 | 1.89 | 3.60 | 7.39 | 17.14 | 1.97 | 5.49 | - | 1.87 | 6.37 | 63.18 | |
| 2. | A & N Islands | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1.50 | - | - | - | 1.50 | |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | - | - | - | - | 1.75 | - | - | 1.96 | - | - | 3.71 | |
| 4. | Assam | 16.15 | 1.39 | - | 6.08 | 6.50 | 54.77 | 4.85 | 41.00 | - | - | 130.74 | |
| 5. | Bihar | 1.43 | 0.07 | 2.11 | 16.00 | 1.13 | - | 5.70 | - | - | - | 26.44 | |
| 6. | Delhi | 38.25 | 40.24 | 11.79 | 13.64 | 62.94 | - | 33.57 | - | 1.88 | - | 202.31 | |
| 7. | Goa | 3.50 | - | - | 1.58 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5.08 | |
| 8. | Gujarat | 28.66 | 2.50 | 0.80 | 19.21 | - | 10.00 | 13.62 | - | 5.63 | - | 80.42 | |
| 9. | Haryana | 10.24 | - | 3.60 | 6.04 | 5.00 | 1.93 | 4.79 | - | 1.87 | - | 33.47 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|-----|------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|---------|
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 38.32 | 1.66 | 4.20 | 5.12 | - | 45.00 | 3.08 | - | 1.87 | 0.30 | 99.55 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 26.00 | 1.66 | - | 7.44 | - | 2.50 | 3.01 | - | - | - | 40.61 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 10.67 | 1.93 | 0.43 | 2.94 | - | 2.50 | 3.42 | - | - | - | 21.89 |
| 13. | Kerala | 38.47 | - | - | 9.56 | 1.51 | 12.42 | 2.05 | - | 6.01 | - | 70.02 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 18.85 | - | 11.62 | 16.75 | 19.36 | 28.42 | 8.21 | 6.20 | 17.80 | 0.30 | 127.51 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 10.45 | 1.80 | 6.00 | 8.07 | 3.04 | - | 7.87 | - | 3.56 | - | 40.79 |
| 16. | Manipur | - | 0.28 | - | 8.06 | - | - | 6.79 | - | - | 0.30 | 15.43 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | - | - | - | 0.53 | - | - | 5.88 | - | - | - | 6.41 |
| 18. | Mizoram | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1.70 | - | - | - | 1.70 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 3.00 | 3.00 | - | 2.02 | - | - | 3.88 | - | - | - | 11.90 |
| 20. | Orissa | 37.39 | 1.27 | 2.79 | 23.75 | 2.11 | 28.56 | 5.82 | - | 8.81 | - | 110.50 |
| 21. | Punjab | 9.39 | - | - | 9.60 | 0.56 | - | 4.20 | - | - | - | 23.75 |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 3.56 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.30 | - | - | - | 3.86 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 13.61 | 1.93 | 9.92 | 6.42 | 0.81 | 1.62 | 8.21 | 8.00 | - | - | 50.52 |
| 24. | Sikkim | - | - | - | 1.17 | - | - | 0.97 | - | - | - | 2.14 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 30.14 | - | - | 20.19 | 1.12 | 10.00 | 6.16 | 7.30 | 7.12 | 0.30 | 82.33 |
| 26. | Tripura | 2.47 | 4.03 | - | 2.56 | - | - | 3.88 | - | - | - | 12.94 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 109.38 | 23.52 | 97.20 | 138.92 | 16.76 | 54.04 | 21.57 | 94.81 | 50.00 | - | 606.20 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 16.85 | 4.65 | 0.31 | 13.54 | 5.50 | 12.06 | 9.25 | - | 1.87 | - | 64.03 |
| | Total | 484.24 | 91.82 | 154.37 | 348.33 | 143.48 | 265.79 | 177.73 | 157.31 | 108.29 | 7.57 | 1938.93 |

Note : Figures do not include grant released for multi-State activities

[English]

Review of Performance of Export

*228. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up Commercial Wings in Indian Missions abroad;

(b) if so, the details of its objectives;

(c) whether the Government have recently reviewed the functioning of the above wings in connection with their export promotion performance;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have found the performance of these wings satisfactory;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the objectives of these wings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir, 66 Commercial Wings abroad are presently in existence. These Wings advise and assist in the formulation of economic and trade policies of the country, aparta from rendering assistance for the strengthening of India's trade and economic relations with the country of their accreditation.

(c) and (d). The functioning of the Commercial Wings abroad is periodically monitored on a continuous basis;

(e) and (f). The performance of the Commercial Wings has been found to be useful for increasing, diversifying and boosting India's international trade; and

(g) These include updation of two-way information exchange system, trade related data base and holding of region-wise conferences of India's Commercial representatives etc.

Enhancement of Equity Content

*229. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY, be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have cleared several proposals in which the companies had asked for enhanced equity content;

(b) if so, the proposals cleared during the current financial year; and

(c) the total amount of investment involved, installed capacity and employment generation potentiality of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A total of 85 number of proposals have been cleared by the Government involving enhanced equity content during the current financial year i.e. 1-4-96 to 30-9-96. These proposals envisage Foreign Direct Investment of Rs. 1806.12 crores in various Sectors like Power, Services, Electrical Equipments, Chemicals (other than Fertilizers) and Food Processing Industries etc. Sector-wise break-up of Foreign Direct Investment increase in equity cases approved during the period 1-4-96 to 30-9-96 is given in the Statement enclosed. The details of such proposals viz. Name and Country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

Data on employment generation with specific linkage to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) are not maintained. Employment linkage is with respect to Industrial Approvals i.e. LOI (for Licensed Sectors) and IEMs (for Delicensed Sectors). Such approvals are inclusive of projects involving Foreign Direct Investment. Similarly, installed capacity of the projects has no specific linkage to Foreign Direct Investment. With the delicensing of most of the industries in terms of Government's New Industrial Policy of 1991, capacity is not the constraint.

STATEMENT

Sector-wise Break-up of Foreign Direct Investment Increase in Equity Cases Approved During the Period (01/04/96 to 30/09/96)

(Rs. in Crores)

| S.No. | Name of Industry | Total | | | Amount of FDI Approved | % of Total Amount Approved |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|------|-----|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Total | Tech | Fin | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Mettallurgical Industries | | | | | |
| | Ferrous | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2.03 | 0.11 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|--|----|---|----|--------|-------|
| | Non-Ferrous | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.63 | 0.03 |
| | Total | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2.66 | 0.15 |
| 2. | Fuels | | | | | |
| | Power | 1 | 0 | 1 | 39.00 | 2.16 |
| | Oil Refinery | 4 | 0 | 4 | 672.18 | 37.22 |
| | Total | 5 | 0 | 5 | 711.18 | 39.38 |
| 3. | Boilers and Steam Generating Plants | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.41 | 0.02 |
| 4. | Electricals Equipment | | | | | |
| | Electrical Equipment | 8 | 0 | 8 | 138.67 | 7.68 |
| | Computer Software Industry | 2 | 0 | 2 | 8.03 | 0.44 |
| | Electronics | 4 | 0 | 4 | 22.01 | 1.22 |
| | Total | 14 | 0 | 14 | 168.71 | 9.34 |
| 5. | Telecommunications | | | | | |
| | Telecommunications | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5.10 | 0.28 |
| | Telecommunication (I & B) | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.03 | 0.00 |
| | Total | 2 | 0 | 2 | 5.13 | 0.28 |
| 6. | Transportation Industry | | | | | |
| | Automobile Industry | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5.87 | 0.32 |
| | Air/Sea Transport | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2.00 | 0.11 |
| | Total | 4 | 0 | 4 | 7.87 | 0.44 |
| 7. | Industrial Machinery | 7 | 0 | 7 | 18.43 | 1.02 |
| 8. | Machine Tools | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1.82 | 0.10 |
| 9. | Miscellaneous Mechanical & Engineering | 11 | 0 | 11 | 23.18 | 1.28 |
| 10. | Industrial Instruments | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1.69 | 0.09 |
| 11. | Chemicals (Other than Fertilizers) | 8 | 0 | 8 | 63.62 | 9.06 |
| 12. | Photographic Raw Film and Paper | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.30 | 0.02 |
| 13. | Drugs and Pharmaceuticals | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4.31 | 0.24 |
| 14. | Textiles (Incl. Dyed, Printed) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 25.79 | 1.43 |
| 15. | Food Processing Industries | | | | | |
| | Food Products | 4 | 0 | 4 | 67.20 | 3.72 |
| | Marine Products | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3.44 | 0.19 |
| | Total | 5 | 0 | 5 | 70.64 | 3.91 |
| 16. | Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4.00 | 0.22 |
| 17. | Rubber Goods | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00* |
| 18. | Leather, Leather Goods and Pickers | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.12 | 0.01 |
| 19. | Glass | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2.10 | 0.12 |
| 20. | Cement and Gypsum Products | 2 | 0 | 2 | 16.44 | 0.91 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|--------------------------|----|---|----|---------|--------|
| 21. | Consultancy Services | | | | | |
| | Design & Eng. Services | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0.45 | 0.02 |
| | Management Services | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.36 | 0.02 |
| | Marketing | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.15 | 0.01 |
| | Total | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0.95 | 0.05 |
| 22. | Service Sector | | | | | |
| | No-Financial Services | 1 | 0 | 1 | 570.30 | 31.58 |
| | Total | 1 | 0 | 1 | 570.30 | 31.58 |
| 23. | Trading Co. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.00 | 0.00** |
| 24. | Miscellaneous Industries | | | | | |
| | Horticulture | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2.05 | 0.11 |
| | Others (Misc Industries) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 4.42 | 0.24 |
| | Total | 5 | 0 | 5 | 6.47 | 0.36 |
| | Grand Total | 85 | 0 | 85 | 1806.12 | |

Increase in equity from 59.93% to 74%. Amount not indicated.

Equity is only Rs. 39,000/-

Investment on Infrastructure

*230. SHRI K PARASURAMAN :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to promote private sector in the country by involving them in the infrastructure, consumer and social sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any policy decision in this regard;

(d) if so, the field in which the private participation is proposed; and

(e) if not, by when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). The existing Industrial Policy of the Government underlines the need to promote private sector participation for investment in the infrastructure sectors. Various sectoral policies for private participation in various infrastructure sectors have also been announced by respective Ministries. As per these policies, private sector is being encouraged to participate in power, telecom, ports, roads etc.

External Commercial Borrowings

*231. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies that have taken

approval of the Government for securing external commercial borrowings during each of the last three years and the number of those companies which have not yet used those borrowings; and

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a)

| Year | No. of proposals approved for external commercial borrowings | No. of proposals where approvals have lapsed |
|---------|--|--|
| 1993-94 | 143 | 41 |
| 1994-95 | 330 | 73 |
| 1995-96 | 300 | 72 |

(b) As per the existing guidelines on external commercial borrowings, approvals are valid for a period of one year in case of power projects and six months in all other cases. If the companies fail to submit the loan agreement to the Ministry of Finance within the stipulated period, the approvals are treated as lapsed automatically.

Contract Labour in CIL

*232. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether some specific work has been assigned

to the contract labour in Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are violating the Contract Labour Abolition Act on specific work;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action the Government propose to take against the officials involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries do not engage any labour on contract for execution on work of permanent and perennial nature. However, jobs which do not fall under the prohibited categories under Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 are awarded to contractors who engage their own workers.

(c) Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries closely monitor the implementation of the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 to prevent any contravention thereof.

(d) and (e). Do not arise in view of the above.

Pending Excise Dispute

*233. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of excise disputes pending for adjudication for the last more than 5 years;

(b) how much amount is locked in these disputes and the reasons for pendency of these cases; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take for the expeditious disposal of outstanding excise disputes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The number of Excise disputes pending for adjudication for the last more than 5 years is 6813.

The amount locked up in these disputes is approximately Rs. 814.38 crores. Many of the issues involved in the cases are pending before CEGAT, High Courts or the Supreme Court.

Various measures are being taken to expedite finalisation of the cases at the stage of adjudication and appeal before the Tribunal and courts. These include sanctioning of more posts of Commissioners to deal, inter-alia, with adjudication, reviewing of powers of Adjudication of Central Excise, Officers at various levels, appointment of common adjudicators to exclusively deal with some of the cases which are complex and appointment of senior counsel to represent the Department.

[Translation]

Spices Processing and Packaging Units

*234. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ
BHAICHIKHALIA :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any scheme for encouraging spices processing packaging and oleores-in units through the Spices Board in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance is being given to such small scale industrial units.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any multinational company is marketing these products in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government have received any proposal from multinational companies for setting up joint venture industries in this sector;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the likely impact of such joint venture industries on export and production of spices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some of the schemes being implemented for promoting export of value added spices and spice oleoresins include :-

- (1) Providing grant-in-aid for technology transfer and process upgradation to spice exporters for establishing spice processing units and adopting new technology.
- (2) Providing interest free loans to exporters of spices of approved brands in consumer packs.
- (3) Assistance for undertaking R & D work for product development, research programmes through research institutions/agencies.
- (4) Providing grant-in-aid for setting up laboratory and accreditation under ISO 9000.
- (5) Providing grant-in-aid to meet packaging cost for export
- (6) Awarding 'Spice House Certificate' and 'Indian Spice Logo' to exporters of consumer packed spices as recognition of mark of quality.

(c) and (d). Small scale units can also avail of all the benefits of the various schemes of the Spices Board.

(e) and (f). Multinational companies are engaged in spice processing in the country. Multinational companies

registered as 100% EOUs in the agricultural sector including spices are permitted to sell upto 50% of their production in the domestic tariff area. McCormick and Burns Philip have not marketed their products in the country.

(g) and (h). A number of multinational companies have shown interest in establishing joint ventures/100% Export Oriented Units in the Spices Sector. Some of the major multinational companies which have established spices processing units in India as joint venture/foreign owned company are McCormick, and Burns Philip.

(i) With the establishment of these joint ventures, the country has benefitted through the induction of new technologies and capital, sourcing of raw materials from within the country for primary processing, improving the returns to the growers and enhancement of export of value-added spices/spice products.

Export of Chillies

*235. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of chillies exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(b) the target set for export of chillies for 1996-97; and

(c) the measures taken to protect the stock of chillies from the attack of fungus in view of the recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh so that exports are not rejected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. B.B. RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity and value of chillies exported during the last 3 years are given below :

| Year | Quantity (Tonnes) | Value Rs. Crores |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1993-94 | 30,776 | 72.14 |
| 1994-95 | 20,096 | 57.12 |
| 1995-96 (P) | 56,073 | 194.15 |

(Source : Spices Board, Kochi, DGCI & S. Calcutta)

(b) Government has not fixed spice-wise targets for exports. Spices Board has fixed a target of 40,000 MT valued at Rs. 160 crores for the year 1996-97 for export of chillies.

(c) Training programmes on post harvest handling of chillies are being conducted jointly with the Department of Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh by the Spices Board. In such training programmes, growers are being

advised to store harvested pods in heaps either indoors or in shade away from direct sunlight for 2-3 days, so as to develop uniform red colour, at 22° - 25° C. Subsequent to this, pods be dried in the sun by spreading them out on clean, dry mats, cemented or concreted surfaces/terraces etc. ensuring that the product does not get any contaminations from the drying yard or premises. Pods should be spread out in thin layers for uniform drying with frequent stirring which is essential for preventing mould growth and discolouration. The material should be heaped and covered by clean gunny bags/tarpaulin at night. When the moisture level in dried chilli pods is below 15%, they should be packed in clean dry gunny bags and stored ensuring protection from dampness. Dunnage has to be provided to stack the packed bags to prevent moisture ingress from the cloth. Care should be taken to stack the bags 50-60 centimetres away from the wall.

Coal Washeries

*236. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited propose to set up more coal washeries at collieries to improve quality of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). Four coal washeries, namely Kedla (coking) with 2.60 million tonnes per annum capacity and Piparwar (non-coking) with 6.5 million tonnes per annum capacity in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), Madhuband (coking) with 2.50 million tonnes per annum capacity in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Bina (non-coking) with 4.5 million tonnes per annum capacity in Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) are in the final stages of completion.

Coal India Limited (CIL) have issued Letters of Intent to private investors for setting up of washeries on 'build-own-operate' basis at the following four sites :

| Name of Washery | Capacity (Million Tonnes per annum) |
|---|--|
| Dipka (South Eastern Coalfields Limited) | 6.00 |
| Kalinga (MCL) | 8.00 |
| Ananta-Bharatpur (MCL) | 5.20 |
| Sasti (Western Coalfields Limited) | 1.50 |

In addition, CIL have identified two more sites viz. Raigarh (SECL) and Tikok (North Eastern Coalfields) for establishment of washeries.

Western Nations Restriction on Indian Goods

*237. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's exports of marine, dye and dyestuff and leather are facing problems of environmental restrictions imposed by western nations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction to help the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). The adoption of certain regulations by some of the western nations because of environmental and health and safety concerns have required the Government of India to take certain measures for preventing an adverse impact on exports of marine, dye and dyestuff and leather. The details in this regard are as follows :

Marine Products - In 1995 the European Union issued certain directives which underlined the need to improving the hygiene standards of processing plants in particular and other production related activities in general. The European Union insists that there be a total adherence to quality and hygiene standards right from the point the raw material is obtained till its final export. In this regard the exporters of marine products have been advised by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and the Export Inspection Council (EIC) of India to upgrade their facilities to match the required standards.

In the USA, consequent to a ruling of the US Court of International Trade delivered on 29.12.95, Section 619 of the US Public Law No. 101-162 which prescribes that shrimps harvested in the wild may not be imported into USA without the exporting country having been certified as a turtle safe country, shrimps sourced only from aquaculture units are being allowed into USA with effect from 1.5.96. In view of this the Government of India authorised Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to countersign with effect from 1.5.96 a certificate (DSP-121) as prescribed by the US Government authenticated by the exporters concerned that a particular consignment of shrimps for exports to USA has been sourced from aquaculture. State Govts. have also been requested to cooperate in this behalf to safeguard sea turtles and the shrimp trade in their territorial waters. Separately the Government of India jointly with the Governments of Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand have already approached World Trade Organisation under the Dispute Settlement

Mechanism for redressal of the unilateral ban imposed by the US Government.

Dye and Dye Stuffs - The German Government has banned the manufacture and use of AZO dyes based on 20 amines. The Government of India had constituted two Committees to discuss the implications of legislations evolved or likely to be evolved in the European countries banning certain dyes and chemicals. It was decided to identify alternative dyes for getting the list of substitute dyes/chemicals, their local availability and also the pricing structure of such substitutes. dyes/chemicals etc. However, India's exports to Germany in dyes and dye intermediates have not shown any downward trend. The exports on the whole in the sphere of dye and dye intermediates have shown a continuous increase from the year 1993-94 onwards.

Leather - The German Government issued an ordinance in July, 1994, effective from 1st April, 1996 banning the use of Benzidine based dyes and other similar substances in the manufacture of consumer goods, which come into regular contact with human body. The Netherlands Government also imposed a ban on Benzidine/Azo dyes, effective from 1st August, 1996. Earlier on in 1989 the German Government had also banned the use of Pentachlorophenol (PCP) in leather and leather products, which was followed by Denmark, Sweden and USA. The German Government had further issued a Packing Ordinance in June 1991 on 'Avoidance of Packaging Waste' which aimed at avoiding packaging waste which did not, however, distinguish between the domestic and the foreign packaging waste. The Government of India in association with the Council for Leather Research Institute (CLRI) and Council for Leather Exports (CLE) helped the exporters of leather and leather products to comply with the environmental bearing regulations of countries, particularly Germany and European countries to facilitate exports freely.

Agreement with Russia

*238. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Russia during July 1996 regarding co-operation in the field of coal; and

(b) if so, the salient features of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The 3rd meeting of the Indo-Russian Working Group on coal was held in New Delhi on 11th and 12th July, 1996. Both sides discussed various issues of mutual interest in coal

sector. On conclusion of the deliberations of the meeting, a protocol was signed by both sides on 12th July, 1996.

(b) Following issues were discussed during the above meeting:

- (i) Review of the cooperation in Design and Construction.
- (ii) Up-dated technology in Mining.
- (iii) Deputation of Russian Experts.
- (iv) Modernisation of Selected Mines.
- (v) Evaluation of Mineral Deposits.
- (vi) Coal Slurry Transportation.

Closure of Coffee Marketing Board

*239. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to wind up the Coffee Marketing Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the Coffee consumers from exploitation due to uncontrolled exports of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government has only decided to liberalise the marketing of coffee by all growers through introduction of 100% Free Sale Quota from 1996-97 season. The Coffee Board will continue to exist.

(c) The production of coffee in the country is much more than domestic demand and only the surplus is exported. Further, export of coffee is regulated by an export permit system operated by the Board. Also, import of instant coffee including decaffeinated instant coffee in consumer packs is permitted on payment of applicable customs duty.

[Translation]

Demurrage charges in BCCL

*240. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the yearwise details of the amount spent by BCCL on the demurrage item during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for paying the demurrage;

(c) the details regarding item-wise demurrage paid during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to minimise the demurrage of items in BCCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). The expenditure incurred by Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. under

the head "Demurrage" during the last three years was as under :

| | (Rs. in lakhs) Provisional |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 732.81 |
| 1994-95 | 679.56 |
| 1995-96 | 850.23 |

The demurrage is required to be paid when loading of rake is not completed within the permissible loading time allowed by the Railways. The reasons for such delay occurring occasionally inter-alia include the following :

- (i) Inadequate free time allowed for loading in sidings where manual loading takes place.
- (ii) Break down of equipment at loading point;
- (iii) Power failures affecting crushing of coal through feeder breakers;
- (iv) Less transportation of coal to the sidings due to break down of equipment and other reasons.

The record for item-wise payment of demurrage is not maintained by the coal company.

(d) Following steps have been taken by the coal company to reduce the incidence of payment of demurrage at the loading end :

- (i) Action is being taken to ensure that adequate stock is available at the loading sidings;
- (ii) Continuous monitoring of the loading at each of the sidings is undertaken to check the incidence of left behinds.
- (iii) Adequate and standby loading arrangements are being made to reduce the loading time.
- (iv) In case of mechanical failure of the loading system, intimation is being sent to the Railways for deferring the placement of rakes.
- (v) The link roads from the colliery to the sidings are being improved to reduce the transportation time and bottlenecks.

[English]

Closure of UP State Brushware Corporation Limited

2111. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State of Uttar Pradesh had decided to wind up or close down a Public Sector Undertaking namely "UP State Brushware Corporation Limited" Moradabad;

(b) whether a large number of employees were abruptly thrown out of employment;

(c) whether the Government issued subsequently order for employing the employees of the said corporation in other departments;

(d) whether despite orders, most of the employees have not yet been given employment; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). U.P. State Brushware Corporation Ltd., Moradabad is a State Government undertaking and as such it is not within the administrative jurisdiction of the Central Government.

Revival of 'The Sathe Biscuits and Chocolates Ltd.'

2112. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that 'The State Biscuits and Chocolates Ltd.' Pune has stopped its production and closed its working;

(b) whether the above company was declared 'sick' and the BIFR was trying to revive the company;

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

(d) the efforts made so far by the BIFR for revival of the company?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that M/s. Sathe Biscuits and Chocolates Company Limited was registered with it in 1991 under section 3(1) (O) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). The BIFR directed the Operating Agency (OA) to issue advertisement seeking offers for change in company's management. In response to the advertisement, a number of enquiries were received. The promoters of the company alongwith a co-promoter also submitted a revised revival proposal. The BIFR in its hearing held on 10.09.1996 directed the OA to examine and analyse the proposal from the point of view of its technical, commercial and economic viability and discuss the matter with all concerned.

Indo-Italian Economic Cooperation

2113. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the Indo-Italian economic cooperation since the onset of liberalisation process in July 1991 till September 1996;

(b) the details of Foreign Direct Investment proposal approved so far/under consideration and their likely impact on the economy of the country;

(c) whether the Government have initiated the dialogue between the policy makers, businessmen and professionals of the two countries and if so, the details of the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of strategies worked out for promotion of FDI from Italy in industrial ventures and promotion of exports and targets set and realised so far during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) Indo-Italian Economic Cooperation is generally monitored and reviewed at the meetings of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation. Since July, 1991 three meetings of the Joint Committee have been held. During 1996, the Italian Government has also committed soft loans of 100 billion Lire to India.

Besides interaction at official levels, interactions between the businessmen of the two countries have also taken place through a large number of visits by business delegations. These interactions have resulted in a significant increase in bilateral trade and economic activities.

Promotion of FDI from Italy, and exports to Italy is being done by dissemination of information through various channels and fora including Indian Embassy in Rome, and through frequent interaction between Indian and Italian partners.

Indian exports to Italy have increased from US\$ 558.47m. in 1990-91 to US\$ 1016.5 m. in 1995-96. Exports amounted to US\$ 378.83 million during April to August, 1996. 186 foreign direct investment proposals from Italy have been approved from August, 1991 upto September, 1996. 14 FDI proposals were approved between April and September, 1996.

Opening of Insurance/Banking Sector for Foreign Companies

2114. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the observations of the World Economic Forum wherein it has been stated that opening of Indian insurance and banking sector, for foreign companies is essential to achieve the target growth percentage; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government have seen some Press reports on the reported observations of the World Economic Forum 1995-96 held on October 27-29, 1996 at New Delhi. The policy of the Government in this regard has been laid down in the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) of the Government which says that: "There is room for public sector companies to co-exist and compete in the

financial sector. We have gained considerable experience in the working of the banking sector. The said experience will be applied to the restructuring of the insurance industry, but at the same time, public sector companies like LIC, GIC, etc. will be strengthened".

Subsequently, in July 1996, it was stated in the Budget speech that :

"An interim, non-statutory Insurance Regulatory Authority was set up in January, 1996. I now propose to introduce a Bill to make it a statutory body and to empower it suitably. When I return to the subject of insurance in the next Budget, I shall address some of the policy parameters outlined in the CMP, including the sequence of steps for the restructuring of the insurance industry".

The Government is currently processing a Bill for giving statutory basis to the Insurance Regulatory Authority set up in January, 1996. Other measures for reform of the insurance sector are being examined in consultation with the Insurance Regulatory Authority.

Setting up of PSUs

2115. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up industries in Public Sector Undertakings in the country particularly in Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal to set up industries in public sector undertakings in the country including Orissa.

Linking of Human Rights and Child Labour with Trade Agreements under W.T.O.

2116. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some developed countries are seeking to link human rights and child labour with trade agreements under World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details of such countries;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this issue with the developing countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some developed countries like USA and Norway have proposed that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) discuss the relationship between trade and core labour standards in the WTO.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The matter was discussed with other developing countries in the Preparatory Meeting to the Singapore Ministerial Meeting held in New Delhi in September 1996. In addition, India is continuously coordinating her position with other like minded countries in opposing such a linkage. The outcome on this issue will be decided at the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference to be held from December 9-13, 1996.

Rehabilitation of families affected due to Mining Operation

2117. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether 49 mouzas in West Bengal have been declared unsafe and unstable for habitation by the Director General of Mines Safety due to coal mining operation;

(b) if so, the total number of families affected;

(c) the steps taken for the shifting and rehabilitation of the people of those mouzas; and

(d) the funds sanctioned and allocated for rehabilitation of the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. An Apex Monitoring Committee consisting of representatives of the coal company, District Administration, Director General of Mines Safety, Central Mining Research Institute and public figures (MLAs, MPs) was constituted to examine 49 unstable localities of Raniganj Coalfield. This Committee opined that 38 localities covering an area of 11.8 sq. kms. are unsafe.

(b) As per assessment made by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited in 1992, a total of 24468 houses in the 49 unstable localities are affected.

(c) and (d). Instead of shifting and rehabilitation of the people of 49 unstable localities. Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) have taken steps for stabilisation of the old underground workings. As a step towards this direction, the innovative technology of hydro-pneumatic sand stowing is being given field trial in two localities. In order to establish this technology through experience gained over a wider area, two more localities have been taken up for this purpose.

Projects under Eastern Coalfield Limited

2118. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new projects under Eastern Coalfields Ltd. on which work has been started recently;

(b) whether ECL have acquired land for these projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of land looser families and the number of families evicted or going to be evicted for these projects, mouza-wise; and

(e) the details of rehabilitation package prepared and implemented for affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Puapur underground project of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) is the only new project on which the work has been started recently.

(b) and (c). Total land requirement for the project has been assessed as 10.42 hectares. Out of which 1.78 ha. has already been acquired and the balance land is under process of acquisition.

(d) and (e). Actual number of land-loser families going to be affected due to land acquisition is under assessment. Rehabilitation shall be done as per CIL's Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy of 1994.

[Translation]

Strike by Employees of Income Tax

2119. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the class 'C' and 'D' employees of Income Tax Department went on country-wide strike during October, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and their major demands; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to face and to check such strikes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The class 'C' and 'D' employees of the Income Tax Department took part in the country-wide strike during October, 1996 on the question of raising the limit of productivity-linked bonus to Group 'C' and 'D' employees of the Central Government. The strike which commenced from 23.10.96 was called off on 29.10.96.

(c) As employees of various other Departments (e.g. Postal and Telecom employees) had also participated in the aforesaid strike, the call for which was given by the Confederation of Central Government Employees and Workers, the question of facing and checking such strikes is a matter of general policy to be adopted and followed by the Central Government. However, instructions already exist to deal with the cases of employees participating in strikes, and, the manner in which the strike-period should be treated.

Textiles Designing Exhibition

2120. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textiles design exhibitions organised in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the details of export orders bagged through such exhibition till date;

(c) whether the Government propose to organise such more exhibitions in the near future in other States including Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) No exhibition exclusively on textile designing was held in Delhi during the last three years. However, the following major exhibitions and fairs on textiles were organised during this period :

(i) "Resham India" silk fair at Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi in October, 1993;

(ii) An exhibition on Jute diversified products in Parliament House Annexe in May, 1995.

(b) As a result of "Resham India", export orders worth about US \$ 4.2 million for silk goods were received. The focus of the exhibition on Jute diversified products was on new areas of development in the jute sector.

(c) and (d). No exhibition exclusively on textile designing is proposed to be held now. However, the India Trade Promotion Organisation in association with the Textile Export Promotion Councils and the Ministry of Textiles, proposes to organise "Tex Styles India" fair at New Delhi from 28th to 31st January, 1997.

National Coal Wage Agreement

2121. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to work out new National Coal Wage Agreement keeping in view the fact that the period of Fifth National Coal Wage Agreement ended on June 30, 1996;

(b) whether the provisions of Fifth National Coal Wage Agreement has been fully implemented; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry-VI is being constituted to work out the National Coal Wage Agreement-VI.

(b) and (c). All the employees are being paid wages, allowances, etc. as per the revised rates in accordance with the provision of National Coal Wage Agreement-V. Part payment of arrear wages is in progress. Modalities

for payment of arrear wages is in progress. Modalities for payment of pension are being worked out. Implementation of various welfare measures such as, construction of houses, town administration, improved medical facilities, water supply etc., is a continuing process.

[English]

Accident at Nutandanga Colliery

2122. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any accident has occurred at Nutandanga Colliery of Pandaveswar area of Eastern Coalfields Limited on 25 September, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the cause of the accident;

(c) the number of persons killed in the accident and the details of relief provided to the dependents of the victims;

(d) the action taken against the persons responsible for the accident; and

(e) the steps taken to avoid the recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d). In the early hours of 24.9.1996, three minors entered the mixing chamber of abandoned stowing bunker of Nutandanga colliery of Pandaveswar area of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and died due to deficiency of oxygen in the atmosphere of the mixing chamber.

An enquiry into the accident was conducted by the Internal Safety Organisation of the coal company which revealed that the fencing provided with iron girder at the particular place was found broken. The Agent and the Manager of the Colliery have been issued show cause notices.

Each family of the deceased has been paid Rs. 10,000/- as immediate relief.

(e) The following steps have been taken to avoid recurrence of such accidents :

- (1) Rechecking of the abandoned pits/inclines and other abandoned dangerous mine entries.
- (2) Drawing up of time bound action plan for filling and/or plugging up of the disused/abandoned entries to prevent inadvertent entry.
- (3) Apart from statutory inspection, the effectiveness of the system is monitored by a Task Force.

[Translation]

Direct Foreign Investment

2123. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether out of total permissible investment proposals of direct investment only 30 percent have been implemented after initiating liberalisation process in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). As against total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) approvals amounting to Rs. 76261 crores (excluding Euro Issues) between 1991 to 1996 (Upto September) the actual foreign direct investment inflow is Rs. 18151 crores (Upto Sept. 96) This indicates an approval: inflow ratio of roughly 4:1. However, gestation period of projects vary and mega-projects (Power, Refinery etc.) take much longer time. Excluding Mega projects (which involve nearly 50% of FDI approved) the approval: inflow ratio would be about 2:1. Inflow is showing an ever-increasing trend in as much as it has increased from Rs. 351 crores in 1991 to Rs. 675 crores during 1992, Rs. 1787 crores during 1993, Rs. 2982 crores during 1994, Rs. 6370 crores during 1995 and Rs. 5985 crores during 1996 (i.e. upto Sept., 96). The inflow of Rs. 6370 crores during 1995, is more than the total FDI inflows during the last 4 years. This trend indicates that foreign equity inflows have picked up.

(c) Government constantly reviews the investment policy so as to make it increasingly competitive and investor friendly. In addition, the Central Government has recently revamped the Foreign Investment Promotion Board to make the approval process quicker and more transparent. For promoting investment and attracting entrepreneurs to backward areas, the State Governments are offering variety of incentives such as Capital Subsidy, Sales Tax exemption, Power subsidy, allotment of Land on priority, setting up of growth centre and transport subsidy in hilly areas.

Regarding monitoring of implementation of projects, actual inflow of foreign direct investment is monitored by Reserve Bank of India. Implementation details of foreign investment projects are not centrally maintained.

Monitoring of the projects is to be primarily done by the State Governments since commissioning of most projects depends upon various state level clearances including land, power etc. However, efforts have been made by this Department from time to time, to determine the status of implementation of foreign investment projects, like letters addressed to large number of approval holders for obtaining feed-back, through the concerned Administrative Ministries etc. Further various

efforts are on in the Department to monitor implementation in collaboration with RBI. FIPB will be taking up monitoring of mega projects with a view to ascertain problems. State Government would also be involved since they have a vital role. As a part of further strengthening the monitoring of implementation of projects, procedural simplifications have been suggested at the State level.

[English]

Export of Gems and Jewellery

2124. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether export of Gems and Jewellery has been declined;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the export of Gems and Jewellery made during the last three years and the current year so far; and

(c) the steps taken to boost the export of Gems and Jewellery?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA). (a) and (b). Export of Gem and Jewellery during the last three years including for the period from April to October, 1996 has been as follows :

(Value in US \$ Million)

| Item | 1993-1994 | 1994-1995 | 1995-1996 | 1996-97 (Apr. Oct.) (Provl.) |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Diamonds | 3574.50 | 3937.00 | 4577.54 | 2546.27 |
| Gold Jewellery | 308.60 | 421.20 | 480.40 | 381.15 |
| Other | 111.60 | 142.20 | 222.50 | 95.83 |
| Total | 3994.70 | 4500.40 | 5257.44 | 3023.25 |

(c) Export of gems and jewellery is one of the major thrust areas of our exports. Government has recently taken a number of steps to boost exports in this sector which include fine tuning of Export and Import policy as announced in March, 1996, ensuring easy availability of raw materials at internationally competitive prices; encouraging exporters to participate in international exhibition; making India an international trading centre for diamonds and providing necessary assistance to the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council to develop trained man-power for the industry. Recently, the interest rates on post-shipment credits has been lowered to facilitate exports.

Tax Evasion by Owners of Ceilo Car

2125. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the massive evasion of tax has been detected is the sale of the upmarket car Ceilo to Delhi buyers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). There is as yet no conclusive evidence of evasion of sales tax as the matter is under active investigation by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[Translation]

Foreign Currency

2126. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign currency seized by the customs department from the travellers at International Airports during the current year; and

(b) the names of countries to which these passengers belong, the extent of amount seized from each of the passenger at various International Airports separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Capital Stock Exchange

2127. SHRI A. SAMPATH :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places in the country where stock exchanges are functioning;

(b) the number of shares listed, exchange-wise;

(c) the volume of business done during 1995-96, stock exchange-wise;

(d) the estimated number of share-holders in the country;

(e) the steps taken to protect the interest of the share-holders and to promote share-consciousness among the people;

(f) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding the function of the stock exchange;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Although there are twenty two recognised Stock Exchanges functioning in the country,

the number of places where these Exchanges are located is twenty because three stock Exchanges are located in one place viz. Mumbai.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the required information as furnished by SEBI is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) SEBI has indicated that the estimated number of shareholders in the country is approximately thirty million.

(e) SEBI Act 1992 and the Rules and Regulations notified thereunder and the Companies Act, 1956 contain various provisions for protecting the interests of shareholders. The functions of SEBI, inter-alia, relate to taking measures to promote the development of the securities market and investors' education.

(f) to (h). Since SEBI has been endowed with statutory powers for regulating the Stock Exchanges, communications relating to various aspects of their functioning are examined by SEBI and appropriate action is initiated in this regard by it. SEBI is also inspecting the Stock Exchanges once in a year as a part of its efforts to ensure the orderly functioning of the Exchanges and investor protection.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the Stock Exchange | Number of companies listed (As on 1.11.96) | Volume of business as on 1995-96 (Rs. Crores) |
|--------|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Ahmedabad Share and Stock Brokers Association | 3197 | 8786.36 |
| 2. | Bangalore Stock Exchange Ltd. | 560 | 890.12 |
| 3. | Bhubaneshwar Stock Exchange Association Ltd. | 69 | 226.18 |
| 4. | Calcutta Stock Exchange Association Ltd. | 3204 | 62128.00 |
| 5. | Cochin Stock Exchange Ltd. | 240 | 1803.04 |
| 6. | Coimbatore Stock Exchange Ltd. | 222 | 2503.55 |
| 7. | Delhi Stock Exchange Association Ltd. | 3794 | 10076.53 |
| 8. | Gauhati Stock Exchange Ltd. | 267 | 619.53 |
| 9. | Hyderabad Stock Exchange Ltd. | 817 | 1285.62 |
| 10. | Jaipur Stock Exchange Ltd. | 942 | 1047.76 |
| 11. | Ludhiana Stock Exchange Association Ltd. | 437 | 4849.12 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|------|----------|
| 12. | Share Brokers Association (M.P. Stock Exchange) | 357 | 204.65 |
| 13. | Madras Stock Exchange Ltd. | 1703 | 1594.20 |
| 14. | Magadh Stock Exchange Ltd. | 75 | 1629.23 |
| 15. | The Stock Exchange, Mumbai | 5941 | 50064.16 |
| 16. | Mangalore Stock Exchange Ltd. | 40 | 38.66 |
| 17. | National Stock Exchange | 1455 | 68141.92 |
| 18. | Over the Counter Exchange of India | 106 | 218.39 |
| 19. | Pune Stock Exchange Ltd. | 271 | 7071.83 |
| 20. | Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange Ltd. | 183 | 564.41 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh Stock Exchange Association Ltd. | 872 | 12373.00 |
| 22. | Vadodara Stock Exchange Ltd. | 522 | 1259.57 |

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Maharashtra

2128. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide assistance from National Renewal Fund for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the textile mill;

(b) if so, the amount provided to the State Government of Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c). Assistance from the National Renewal Fund is presently restricted to Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings and to schemes for counselling, retraining and redeployment assistance to rationalised workers including those in the textile mills.

Loan to State Governments

2129. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan taken by the State Government of Sikkim during the last three years;

(b) whether the loan granted for specific sector/ purpose has been utilised for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total amount of loan released

by the Ministry of Finance to the Government of Sikkim during the last three years is as under :

| Years | Amount (Rs. crore) |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 1993-94 | 10.99 |
| 1994-95 | 15.98 |
| 1995-96 | 17.59 |

(b) and (c). As these comprise block loans granted under Central Assistance and share of loans against small savings collections, they are not earmarked for specific purposes.

Goods Seized by Customs Authority

2130. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons and cooperative societies in Delhi have been permitted to sell confiscated goods seized by officials of Customs Department;

(b) if so, the names and addresses of such persons and Societies with formalities prescribed for seeking such permission;

(c) whether margins of profit has been fixed for sale of confiscated goods to customers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). Consumer goods seized by Delhi Customs are being sold on becoming ripe for disposal to NCCF. The address of NCCF is as follows:

National Consumer Cooperative Federation of India Limited, Deepali Building, 6th Floor, 92, Nehru Place, New Delhi.

M/s. NCCF are given a discount of 14.5% on the price fixed for the goods.

Foreign Debt Liability

2131. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in "the Hindustan Times" dated November 21, 1996 under the caption "Finance Ministry blamed for export slowdown" in the context of foreign debt liability of U.S. Dollars 100 billion on the Indian Government which have to be paid in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy to develop close coordination between the concerned ministries to boost the exports on war footing;

(c) if not, the reaction of the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) the news item referred to does not reflect the factual position since the Finance Ministry has not been blamed as mentioned therein.

The total external debt outstanding of the country has declined from US\$ 99.04 billion as on March 31, 1995 to US\$ 92.66 billion for the period ending March, 31, 1996. Moreover the debt service ratio has also declined from the peak of 35.25% during 1990-91 to a more manageable level of 25.54% during 1995-96.

(b) and (c). Export promotion is a continuous process. This includes inter alia, close inter-action with the concerned Ministries/Departments so as to provide the congenial environment for sustained increase in exports.

Trade Fairs Organised by ITPO

2132. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the national and international trade fairs sponsored, organised and hosted by the India Trade Promotion Organisation during 1995-96;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the establishment and maintenance of the Pragati Maidan during 1995-96;

(c) the total income likely to be generated by ITPO by way of organising the trade fairs during the current year.

(d) whether the ITPO has leased out the space permanently for non-promotional purposes to various parties at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details of the area with its units rent, party-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) During 1995-96 ITPO held 17 exhibitions in India which are Consumexh, Sajavat, Delhi Book Fairs, Intl. Shoe Fair, Shoe Comp. Prakash India, India International Trade and Gramawas '95 Fair, International Security Exhn., Tex-India, National Children Fair, SAARC Fair, Print Pack India, AHARA'96, National Consumex Fair, India International Leather Fair, Tex-styles India, and International Leather Goods Fair.

23 Fairs were held by third parties. They are : 1st Delhi Tourism and Travel Show, CYMO India '95, Indian Garment Fair '95, BREW BEV India '95, Korea Trade Show'95, Broadcast, Cable and Satellite, India Intl. Power Generation and Energy Exhibition and Congress, Oil and Gas Petrochem Show and Congress, 1st India Built Intl. Building Construction Material Show'95, Communication India'95, IT ASIA'95, PAPEREX'95,

INTEX'95, GARTEX'95, IMPACT'96, Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair, World Book Fair'96 WISITEX'96, TRADEX Exhb., India Intech Mart, Auto Expo'96, Carpet Fair '96, Glass Processing and Glazing, Ukraine in India, and CYMO INDIA'96.

Similarly, ITPO participated in 19 general foreign fairs, 16 specialised commodity events and 3 Indian exhibitions. They are : Nantes International Fair, Consumer Expo Kazakhstan, Overseas Import Fair 'Partners for Progress' Berlin, International Modern living Exhibition, Tel-Aviv, Damascus International Fair, Damascus, Expohogar-International Gift and Housewares Show, Barcelona, Zagreb International Autumn Fair, Nairobi International Show, Tehran International Fairs, Saitex'95, South Africa, World Tech 95 Thailand? Quang Trung International Fair, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia's International Trade Fair, Jaddah, Konsumexpo'96, Moscow, Ghana International Trade Fair, Annual Spring Fair, Basel, Expocomer International Fair, Panama, Kuwait International Fair, Overseas, Import Fair, Berlin, International Food and Drink Exhibition, London, Australia's International Engineering Exhibition, PUMPS and SYSTEMS ASEAN'95, Jakarta, National Hardware Show, Chicago Pret-A-Porter Fair, Paris, International Exhibition of Bicycles and Motorcycles, Italy, International Leather Week, Paris, Chem Asia'95 Singapore, ANUGA Food Fair, Germany, Interkama Dusseldorf, Gifts and Fashion Fair Muscat, Domotex Fair, Hannover, Heimtextile Fair 96 Paris, International Hardware Fair'96 Germany, TCF International'96, Australia, Indian Exhibition 1995 Lusaka, Indian Exhibition 1995, Tashkent and Indian Exhibition 1996, Jakarta.

(b) An expenditure amounting to Rs. 18.33 crores has been incurred by ITPO on the establishment and maintenance of Pragati Maidan Complex during 1995-96.

(c) A total income to the tune of Rs. 56.64 crores is likely to be generated by ITPO through organisation of trade fairs during the current year.

(d) and (e). ITPO has not leased out any space on long-term basis for non-promotional purposes.

[Translation]

Cases Pending in District Courts of U.P.

2133 PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Civil Criminal Dowry cases and most of the cases concerned with the land of rural society are under consideration for several years in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the judiciary system has become inactive;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any concrete step to bring improvement in the judicial procedure in Mathura district;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) As per available information, as on 31.3.1995, 43813 cases were pending in all the Civil and Criminal Courts of Mathura District.

(b) No, Sir. The pendency of cases is due to various complex factors including inadequate Courts, increased institution and also due to some cases stayed by the higher Courts.

(c) to (e). Administration of Justice in the District/ Subordinate Courts comes under the purview of concerned High Courts/State Governments. In order to consider the problem of arrears of cases in courts and to find out ways and means to deal with it as expeditiously as possible, a meeting of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices was held on 4th December, 1993 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The conference recommended several steps in a resolution it adopted for the speedy disposal of cases in the Courts/Tribunals. This resolution has been commended to all the State Governments/UT Administrations and High Courts/Tribunals for necessary action. The Administration of Justice has been made a plan item with a view to remove infrastructural bottlenecks coming in the way of expeditious disposal of cases in Courts.

Members of BIFR

2134. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Chairmen and Members, present and former, of the Bureau of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction since its constitution;

(b) the number out of them who possessed direct hand-on experience to manage industries and financial institutions;

(c) the number of those who are retired IAS officers; and

(d) the number of cases referred to BIFR since its inception and how many of them have been settled for private and public sector companies, separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total number of Chairman and Members (present and former) of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) since its inception is 22 (3 Chairmen and 19 Members).

(b) The Chairman and Members of the BIFR are appointed in accordance with the provisions of Sub-section 3 of Section 4 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) Eight persons who were Members of Indian Administrative Service have been appointed (presently and formerly) as Chairman/Members of BIFR at different times.

(d) The total number of references registered with BIFR since its inception and their disposal as on 31st October, 1996 are as under :

| | Public Sector | Private Sector | Total |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| References registered | 143 | 1688 | 1831 |
| References disposed off | 93 | 1379 | 1472 |

Promotion of Traditional Industries

2135. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to promote traditional industries of Kerala including coir and cashewnut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Government have been implementing several schemes for promoting traditional industries of Kerala including Coir and Cashewnut. The existing plan schemes aim at promotion of R & D, modernisation, elimination of drudgery and pollution, expansion of domestic market and export for the promotion and development of Coir Industry in the country. Assistance is also being provided to the State for implementation of the Integrated Coir Development Projects through the Cooperatives.

As regards development of Cashewnut, Ministry of Agriculture are implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Cashewnut in Kerala with an outlay of Rs. 5.91 crores in the VIII Five Year Plan. This schemes includes new plantation development with clones of high yielding varieties, replanting old, senile and uneconomical Cashew gardens with clones of quality planting materials, adoption of intensive pest control measures for Cashew production, adoption of comprehensive production technologies for Cashew, generation of clones and establishment of regional nurseries, farmers training programme on Cashew production technology and development of model clonal garden.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade Relation with Australia

2136. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Australia has expressed its keenness to expand trade relation with India; and

(b) if so, the details of areas identified for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Australia has shown interest in promoting exports in agri-business, telecommunications, automotive components, mining, coal, environmental management, surface transport and energy. The Joint Business Council held on 4th November, 1996 has identified the following commodities for export promotion from India to Australia :

Plantation, agricultural, marine and food products; chemicals and related products; leather and leather goods, footwear and travel goods; textiles, clothing and made-ups; engineering goods and manufactures and gems and jewellery.

Balance Sheets of Public Sector Undertakings

2137. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued notices to the Public Sector Undertakings to submit their balance sheets;

(b) the number of Public Sector Undertakings have been prosecuted so far for delaying finalisation and publication of balance sheets; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) In terms of Section 220 of the Companies Act, 1956, every company is required to file its Balance Sheet and its Profit and Loss Account with the concerned Registrar of Companies within the time-limit specified therein. These provisions equally apply to Public Sector Undertakings which have been incorporated as Companies (i.e. as Government Companies) under the Companies Act.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The need for timely finalisation of accounts and compliance of statutory provisions by the Government companies has been impressed upon the concerned administrative authorities regularly in respect of such companies which are under their administrative control.

[Translation]

Captive Power Plant

2138. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Coal Fields Limited has set up a captive power plant at Kathara in Bokaro area of Bihar by spending crores of rupees which has not been started functioning so far;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). A 2 x 10 MW Captive Power Plant has been set up by M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) on turn-key basis at Kathara under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) at an estimated cost of Rs. 85.20 crores. The plant has since been commissioned and has operated intermittently since been commissioned and has operated intermittently since June, 1994, due to delay in providing start-up power with synchronization by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), the plant could not run continuously. This issue was resolved and there were certain mechanical failures which have been rectified and the plant is expected to restart shortly.

[English]

Unclaimed Machines with Customs

2139. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of fogging machines crucial for stemming the Dengue epidemic spread in the capital are lying unclaimed with the customs authorities in Delhi;

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

(c) the reasons for not clearing these machines by custom authorities even though hundreds of people died of Dengue epidemic; and

(d) the corrective steps being taken in regard thereto;

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. No consignment of fogging machine is pending for assessment and clearance or lying unclaimed with Customs authorities at Delhi.

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

[Translation]

Scheme for Rural and Tribal Areas

2140. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes started for rural and tribal areas under the new industrial policy;

(b) the names of the States where the said schemes are being implemented;

(c) whether the people of rural and tribal areas are being benefited by these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details and the number of persons benefited by the above schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production/Import of Newsprint

2141. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of newsprint in the country is not adequate to meet the requirement of newsprint in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the newsprint is being imported to meet the requirement of the country;

(d) if so, the quantity of newsprint produced indigenously and also imported during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps being taken to produce more newsprint in the country to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The demand of newsprint in the country is more than its production. Indigenous production is, therefore, not adequate to meet the requirement of newsprint.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Data regarding indigenous production of newsprint and import during the last three years is as under :

| Year | (Lakh Tonnes) | |
|---------|-----------------------|--------|
| | Indigenous Production | Import |
| 1993-94 | 3.61 | 3.11 |
| 1994-95 | 4.02 | 2.92 |
| 1995-96 | 4.10 | 3.45 |

(e) Government is providing the following fiscal incentives for enhancing the production of the newsprint in the country to meet the demand.

(i) Newsprint is exempted from excise duty;

(ii) Customs Duty on import of wood pulp for manufacture of newsprint has been abolished;

(iii) Further under the new Industrial Policy procedures have been simplified for

establishing newsprint units. Units based on minimum 75% pulp derived from non-conventional raw-materials are exempted from compulsory industrial licensing.

These policy measures are expected to provide an environment conducive to increased production of newsprint.

Newsprint Manufacturing Paper Mills

2142. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of paper mills in public sector

| | | | |
|----|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Hindustan Newsprint Limited, Kerala | : | Central Public Sector Undertaking |
| 2. | Nepa Limited, Madhya Pradesh | : | Central Public Sector Undertaking |
| 3. | Mysore Paper Mills Limited, Karnataka | : | State Public Sector Undertaking |
| 4. | Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited, Tamil Nadu | : | State Public Sector Undertaking |

(b) to (d). Capacity utilisation and Investment by Government :

| | Capacity Utilisation (%) | | | Investment made by Central Government till April, 1996 |
|--|--------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | |
| Hindustan Newsprint Limited | 123.25 | 105.40 | 101.11 | Rs. 157.05 Crores |
| Nepa Limited | 75 | 66 | 71 | Rs. 85.46 crores |
| Mysore Paper Mills Limited | 118 | 118 | 122 | State Undertaking |
| Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (both Paper and Newsprint) | 105 | 103 | 96 | State Undertaking |

Under utilisation of capacity in Nepa Limited is due to technological obsolescence, capacity imbalances in different plants, lower sales realisation, adverse market condition etc.

In the current year on account of availability of cheaper imported newsprint, stock of indigenous newsprint has accumulated and the production of newsprint have been reduced in all the above mills and production remain suspended at Nepa Limited since 22.8.96.

(e) Profit/Loss for the last three years :

(Rs. in crores)

| | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|---|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Hindustan Newsprint Limited (After tax) | 22.47 | 37.92 | 51.26 |
| Nepa Limited | (-) 25.66 | (-) 11.85 | 0.45 |
| Mysore Paper Mills Limited (including Paper and Sugar) | 6.17 | 24.11 | 32.69 |
| Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (including Paper) | 54.05 | 56.31 | 78.74 |

Nepa Limited incurred losses in 1993-94 and 1994-95 on account of depressed market scenario and other inherent problems like high cost of production, low capacity utilisation etc.

[English]

Sick Industries with BIFR

2143. SHRI DEBI PROSAD PAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4477 on September 6, 1996 regarding Sick Industries with BIFR and state :

(a) the details of the industrial companies registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on July 31, 1996 from West Bengal;

(b) the details of cases out of the above which have been disposed of so far;

(c) whether any case of failure to comply with the provisions of the sanctioned scheme by the parties concerned has come to the notice of BIFR;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that 176 cases were registered with it from West Bengal upto 31.07.1996, out of which 130 cases have been disposed of.

(c) to (e). BIFR has reported that excepting following four cases, there has been general compliance of the provisions of the rehabilitation scheme by the concerned parties :

- (i) M/s. Kamarhatti Company Ltd.
- (ii) M/s. Shree Gouri Shankar Jute Mills.
- (iii) M/s. Tyre Corporation of India
- (iv) M/s. A.V.J. Wires Ltd.

In the above mentioned cases, the BIFR has inter alia, issued suitable directions to the concerned parties such as for settlement of issues, consideration of modified scheme, grant of further time for implementation of scheme and review of cases.

Salaries of NTC Workers

2144. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN :
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that salaries and other dues of payments like Provident Fund gratuity etc. are not being paid to the workers/employees of NTC regularly;

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

(c) whether salaries of the workers/employees of NTC have not been revised since long time; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make regular payments of salaries and other dues to the workers/employees of NTC and revise their pay scales?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). Government have been meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in payment of Wages, salaries and bonus to their Workers/employees. However, there are occasional delays in disbursal of wages and salaries due to budgetary constraints. Since the availability of funds is not sufficient for payment of statutory dues, NTC has defaulted in payment of statutory dues, such as PF, ESI and gratuity. A total of Rs. 121.56 crores is outstanding towards payment of statutory dues.

(c) and (d). The salaries of workers/employees of NTC have been revised from time to time as per region-cum-industry formula, CDA scales and IDA scales as per the rules/orders. Government have also decided to meet the wage bill of NTC, pending approval of the rehabilitation package by BIFR.

Trade with Russia

2145. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's bilateral trade with Russia improved significantly in 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target set for exports to Russia during 1996-97; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export to Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. India's bilateral trade with Russia during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 was as under :

(Value in Rs. Cr.)

| | Export | Import | Total | Growth % |
|---------|--------|--------|-------|----------|
| 1994-95 | 2534 | 1584 | 4118 | |
| 1995-96 | 3503 | 2853 | 6356 | 54 |

(c) No target has been set for exports to Russia during 1996-97. It is expected that the export level of Rs. 3503 crores to Russia achieved during 1995-96 would be more or less maintained during 1996-97 also.

(d) Both the Governments are interacting on regular basis towards enhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Following the signing of the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement in 1992 and creation of the bilateral inter Governmental Commission on Trade,

Economic, Science, Technological and Cultural Cooperation, a series of agreements between the two countries have been signed and number of mechanisms have been set up to promote trade and economic cooperation. Steps have also been taken to enlarge Indo-Russian trade on consignment export basis through the ware-houses and also ensuring greater presence of Indian banks in Russia. Both sides are also making efforts to promote bilateral trade through participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, exchange of trade information, etc.

Production of Large Cardamoms

2146. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Spices Board and the Department of Biotechnology are going ahead with their tissue culture programme for large cardamom;

(b) if so, the details of financial outlay thereof, separately;

(c) whether these Boards proposes to go ahead to multiply field tests, high yielding material and identifying genetically superior quality of large cardamom; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The project titled 'Large Cardamom Tissue Culture - Product Plan' is being implemented at a total cost of Rs. 58.05 lakhs to be shared between Department of Bio-technology and Spices Board. The project envisages large scale evaluation of the performance of Large Cardamom Tissue Culture vis-a-vis., its seedling population in planters field in four districts of Sikkim and Distt: Darjeeling, West Bengal.

(c) and (d). The first 'Programme Monitoring and Management Committee' (PMMC) meeting on tissue culture large cardamom product plan has identified eight clones namely SBLC-5, SBLC-7, SBLC-9, SBLC-10, SBLC-33, SBLC-37, SBLC-42 and SBLC-43 for invitro multiplication. The selection of the clones are based on a field level survey. The survey is intended to identify elite clones. The survey covered North, South, West and East Sikkim and Darjeeling District of West Bengal. The bench mark set up for selection of the elite clones is yield of 1000 kgs. per hectare, against the average national productivity of 225 kgs. per hectare (1995-96). The survey was undertaken by Indian Cardamom Research Institute of the Spices Board, Gangtok.

Captive Coal Mining Blocks

2147. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of proposals for allotment of captive Coal mining

blocks from companies, engaged in power generating and manufacture of Steel and Iron;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals pending for clearance with CIL alongwith the reasons for delay in giving clearance to those proposals; and

(c) the steps taken to take decision on such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (c). The Screening Committee, constituted in the Ministry of Coal have considered a number of proposals for identification of captive coal blocks for allotment to power generating companies and companies engaged in the manufacture of Iron Steel.

Based on the decision of Screening Committee 15 power generating companies and 5 Iron and steel companies have been offered captive coal blocks.

Apart from this, proposals have been received from 10 power generating companies, 2 Iron and steel companies and 5 cement companies, which are under examination in consultation with CIL and concerned Ministries of the Government.

Financial Position of STC

2148. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India (STC) had fudged its 1995-96 accounts to convert a loss of Rs. 51.36 crore into a profit of Rs. 32.67 crore, as reported in 'The Financial Express', New Delhi dated October 1,1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor-General has also made several scathing remarks on the accounting practice of STC; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). State Trading Corpn. of India has intimated that it finalised its accounts for the financial year 1995-96 on the basis of its well established accounting policies. The accounts were audited by the statutory auditors appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor General, and the same were considered and approved by the Board of Directors of STC. These audited accounts of STC reflected a profit of Rs. 32.67 crores. However, C & AG subsequently in its comments observed that the provision should be made for the following amounts :

(i) Rs. 20.02 crores to be realised on account of canalised import of newsprint in the period prior and upto 1991-92.

- (ii) Rs. 60.33 crores to be realised on account of import of fatty acids.
- (iii) Rs. 3.00 crores as investment made in Tea Trading Corporation of India (TTCI), a wholly owned subsidiary of STC.

The Board of Directors of STC considered the comment and keeping in view the facts that the amounts at (i) and (ii) above are debts to be realised from the Government and sale of tea gardens is under process in TTCI, the Board decided not to make any provisions for these amounts. The shareholders of STC in the Annual General Meeting also approved the stand taken by STC Board.

(c) and (d). The C & AG has commented upon STC's accounting policy/practice relating to turnover, investments, inventory, maintenance and reporting of loans and advances. The accounting policies of the Corporation are based on established accounting principles and are being followed from year to year.

Abid Hussain Committee

2149. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have since received the reports of Abid Hussain Committee for promotional package for the small and tiny sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it is likely to be received?

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

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

(c) The term of the Committee has been extended upto 31st December, 1996, for enabling it to submit its report.

Coir Development Project in Kerala

2150. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are extending assistance to Kerala for integrated coir development project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith date of providing such assistance;
- (c) whether the assistance has not been provided for the last two years;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the implementation of the project are standstill due to lack of funds;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken for earlier release of assistance?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Integrated Coir Development Project (ICDP) of the Government of Kerala was approved by the Central Government during 1993-94. The total cost of the project is Rs. 44.24 crores of which Government of India's share of 20% comes to Rs. 8.84 crores only. First instalment of Central assistance of Rs. 24.00 lakhs was released in 1993-94.

(c) and (d). More Funds could not be released to the State Government of Kerala due to procedural delays and for want of requisite approvals.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Necessary approval of competent authority has been obtained for release of fund for the ICDP, Kerala.

Busy Season Credit Policy for Exporters

2151. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any 'Busy Season Credit Policy' to boost exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether cost on exports has gone up due to rise in 6.5 percent interest on packing credit to 13 percent and banks have been charging arbitrary rates for bills delayed beyond 90 days;
- (d) whether the Government have received any complaints from small exporters for non-availability of adequate export credit at cheaper rates; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to remove the difficulties faced by exporters?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Monetary Policy for the second half of 1996-97 was announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 19.10.1996. The measures relating to exports announced in the policy inter alia include (i) upward revision in export credit targets in banks, from existing 10% to 12% of net bank credit to be achieved by the banks by end March, 1997 (ii) rationalisation of interest rates for post-shipment rupee credit on usance bills effective from 21st October, 1996 in terms of which the interest rate applicable upto a total period of 90 days is 13% per annum and beyond the total period of 90 days and upto 6 months from the date of shipment 15% per annum. The revision in interest rates is applicable to existing outstanding advances also.

(c) RBI has reported that from October/November 1993, exporters can avail of export credit in foreign currency at interest rates linked to LIBOR or in rupees and enjoy the forward premium available. Thus, the

interest rates for export credit are quite competitive and comparable to international rates. Further, credit is only one of the inputs for exports.

(d) and (e). Complaints from exporters received in the Government generally pertain to non-availability of adequate export credit at cheaper rates. RBI has issued detailed instructions to banks to ensure that (i) no worthwhile export suffers for want of funds (ii) cases of rejection of export credit proposals are brought to the notice of the Chief Executive explaining reasons for rejection; and (iii) grievance of exporter-borrowers in the matter of timely and adequate sanction of credit limits are redressed promptly.

Setting up of a Dry port at Kandla

2152. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the facilities to be provided at the Dry Port at Kandla and the cost of the project;

(b) the details of any other sites under consideration of the Government for setting up such dry ports in the country, Statewise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) A dry port normally means provision of facilities like warehousing of cargo, customs clearance, stuffing/destuffing, banking, services of steamer agents, freight forwarders, etc., at points away from maritime ports. In India these facilities are being provided at Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) which have been set up at various places. An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) is functioning in the Ministry of Commerce to provide single window clearance to the proposals for setting up of Dry Ports (Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs)). A proposal of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) for setting up a CFS at Kandla was cleared by the said IMC. The CFS at Kandla which has been built at a cost of approx. Rs. 1.5 crores by CWC is in operation since March, 1996.

(b) and (c). The Government considers proposals for setting up ICDs/CFSs as and when received. The proposals under consideration of Government for setting up Dry Ports in the country, State-wise are as under :

1. Kerala - (CFSs at Aroor and Cochin)
2. Maharashtra - (CFSs at Dronagiri Node and New Bombay)
3. Uttar Pradesh - (ICD at Dadri)
4. Tamil Nadu-(CFS at Tuticorin)
5. Gujarat - (CFS at Rajkot)
6. Rajasthan - (ICD at Bhiwadi)

Export of Cotton

2153. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to withdraw all restrictions from export of cotton and cotton yarn during the current cotton season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to help the cotton growers to boost its export?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An export quota of 5.15 lakh bales has already been released early in the cotton year 1996-97.

Besides, with a view to help cotton growers, Minimum Support Prices (MSP) have been announced by Government. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has been entering most of the major cotton parists to make commercial purchases. Various State Marketing Federations are also purchasing cotton from the growers directly. To enhance the production of cotton, the Ministry of Agriculture has taken various measures including the implementation of Intensive Cotton Development Programme. The CCI has also taken up extension projects for supplementing the efforts of State Governments.

[Translation]

Funds for Research and Exploration Work

2154. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for research and exploration work in coal industry during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether proper utilisation of the allocated amount was not made during the last four years of the Plan;

(c) if so, the total actual amount spent on research and exploration work till March, 1996; and

(d) the details of the research and exploration work done for the development of coal industry during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The total outlay in the Eighth Five Year Plan towards research and development activities in the coal sector and regional exploration of coal was Rs. 87 crores and Rs. 25 crores respectively. The provision of Rs. 25 crores for regional exploration was subsequently increased to Rs. 45 crores during mid-term appraisal of the Plan.

(b) to (d). A sum of about Rs. 15.19 crores has been incurred on the approved research and development projects relating to four major areas of research viz. production, productivity and safety, coal beneficiation, coal utilisation and environment and ecology during the year 1992-93 to 1995-96. As on 31.3.1996, there were 41 on-going projects relating to these activities.

The drilling meterage of regional exploration during the first four years of the Eighth Plan (1992-93 to 1995-96) has been to the tune of approximately 269148. A sum of about Rs. 33.53 crores has been incurred on the drilling activities during the period.

Sub-Standard Cement

2155. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that some buildings in which 43 Grade Bach No. 49/95 Cement of J.K. Udaipur Udyog Limited under the brand name 'J.K. Shakti Cement' Brand (I.S.I.) was used has caved in recently;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Government and the management of cement manufacturers including J.K. Udaipur Udyog Limited in the recent past;

(c) whether any compensation in this regard has been paid so far;

(d) if not, the reasons for non-payment of the compensation; and

(e) the effectiveness of the role of the Ministry of Industry in preventing such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). One complaint was received in this regard by the Government. From the test results, the cement used by the complainant passed in strength and hence the quality of cement could not be the reason for the mishap reported by the complainant.

(e) As per Cement (Quality Control) Order, 1995 no person shall himself or by any person on his behalf, manufacture or store for sale, sell or distribute cement which does not conform to the prescribed standard and which does not bear the Standard Mark. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is monitoring the quality of cement produced on a continuous basis and if cement is found to be sub-standard after testing samples, the certification granted by them is immediately revoked.

Handloom Development Centres

2156. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided by the Union Government for setting up of Handloom Development Centres and

Quality Dyeing Units in the Shape of assistance and loan during each of the last three years, state-wise; and

(b) the loan provided by other financial institutions such as NABARD for implementation of these schemes during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) The Scheme of Handloom Development Centres (HDCs) and Quality Dyeing Units (QDUs) envisages provision of a composite assistance to the tune of Rs. 27.00 lakhs per HDC and Rs. 7.83 lakhs per QDU, out of which, Rs. 10.00 lakhs per HDC and Rs. 4.265 lakhs per QDU is in the form of Central grant and balance as loan. A statement showing State-wise funds sanctioned during the last three years is attached.

(b) No such data is maintained.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | State | Assistance Provided | | |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 246.95 | 414.090 | 217.820 |
| 2. | Assam | 100.00 | 409.235 | 84.490 |
| 3. | Bihar | - | 74.460 | 114.410 |
| 4. | Gujarat | - | 20.420 | 8.250 |
| 5. | Haryana | - | - | 4.000 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 2.00 | 30.360 | 26.195 |
| 7. | Jammu and Kashmir | - | 6.080 | 3.040 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 17.50 | 84.690 | 26.695 |
| 9. | Kerala | 29.37 | 260.980 | 116.050 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 20.00 | 82.065 | 31.870 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 6.00 | 53.385 | 26.480 |
| 12. | Manipur | 113.74 | 607.525 | 132.000 |
| 13. | Nagaland | - | - | 8.000 |
| 14. | Orissa | 170.30 | 278.28 | 153.840 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | - | 3.040 | 2.235 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 124.85 | 805.830 | 449.105 |
| 17. | Tripura | - | 48.010 | 17.075 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | - | 404.890 | 140.130 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 161.29 | 336.640 | 165.855 |
| 20. | Pondicherry | - | 10.5015 | - |
| Total | | 1000.00 | 4018.5015 | 1720.340 |

Setting up of Big Industries in Uttar Pradesh

2157. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign proposals received from January 1996 onward by the Government for setting up big industries in Uttar Pradesh industry-wise; and

(b) the decisions taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). A total number of 50 foreign investment proposals have been approved during the

period from 1.1.96 to 30.9.96 by the Government for setting up industries in Uttar Pradesh. Sector-wise break-up of proposals is given in the Statement.

STATEMENT

Sector-wise break-up of Foreign Direct Investment and Technical Collaboration Approved during the period (01.01.96 to 30.09.96)

(Rs. in Crores)

| S. No. | Name of Industry | Total | | | Amount of FDI Approved | % of Total Amount Approved |
|--------|--|-------|------|-----|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Total | Tech | Fin | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Mettallurgical Industries | | | | | |
| | Ferrous | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.20 | 0.01 |
| | Total | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.20 | 0.01 |
| 2. | Fuels | | | | | |
| | Power | 1 | 0 | 1 | 15.00 | 1.01 |
| | Oil Refinery | 3 | 2 | 1 | 598.00 | 40.30 |
| | Total | 4 | 2 | 2 | 613.00 | 41.31 |
| 3. | Electricals Equipment | | | | | |
| | Electrical Equipment | 9 | 5 | 4 | 7.31 | 0.49 |
| | Computer Software Industry | 3 | 0 | 3 | 22.56 | 1.52 |
| | Electronics | 3 | 1 | 2 | 57.30 | 3.86 |
| | Total | 15 | 6 | 9 | 87.17 | 5.87 |
| 4. | Telecommunications | | | | | |
| | Telecommunications | 1 | 0 | 1 | 50.00 | 3.37 |
| | Total | 1 | 0 | 1 | 50.00 | 3.37 |
| 5. | Transportation Industry | | | | | |
| | Automobile Industry | 7 | 3 | 4 | 39.88 | 2.69 |
| | Passenger Cars | 2 | 0 | 2 | 474.47 | 31.97 |
| | Total | 9 | 3 | 6 | 514.35 | 34.66 |
| 6. | Industrial Machinery | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0.17 | 0.01 |
| 7. | Machine Tools | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8. | Miscellaneous Mechanical and Engineering | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5.59 | 0.38 |
| 9. | Commercial, Office and Household Equipment | 1 | 0 | 1 | 51.00 | 3.44 |
| 10. | Industrial Instruments | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11. | Chemicals (other than Fertilizers) | 5 | 2 | 3 | 11.58 | 0.78 |
| 12. | Textiles (Includ. Dyed, Printed) | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1.33 | 0.09 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|--|----|----|----|---------|------|
| 13. | Paper and Pulp including Paper Product | 2 | 0 | 2 | 5.62 | 0.38 |
| 14. | Fermentation Industries | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1.00 | 0.07 |
| 15. | Food Processing Industries | | | | | |
| | Food products | 7 | 1 | 6 | 128.98 | 8.69 |
| | Total | 7 | 1 | 6 | 128.98 | 8.69 |
| 16. | Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4.00 | 0.27 |
| 17. | Soaps, Cosmetics and Toilet Preparations | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.04 | 0.00 |
| 18. | Rubber Goods | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1.35 | 0.09 |
| 19. | Glass | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 20. | Ceramics | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2.59 | 0.17 |
| 21. | Service Sector | | | | | |
| | Non-Financial Services | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.24 | 0.02 |
| | Total | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.24 | 0.02 |
| 22. | Trading Co. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.05 | 0.00 |
| 23. | Miscellaneous Industries | | | | | |
| | Horticulture | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.18 | 0.01 |
| | Agriculture | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.13 | 0.01 |
| | Others (Misc Industries) | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5.50 | 0.37 |
| | Total | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5.80 | 0.39 |
| | Grand Total | 75 | 25 | 50 | 1484.05 | |

World Bank Assistance for Projects of Maharashtra

2158. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for the development of projects and canals in Maharashtra with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) the location-wise details of these projects and canals;

(c) the details of the work undertaken so far and the amount spent thereon; and

(d) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a), (b) and (d). Information is given in the attached statement.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Details of World Bank Aided Projects in the State of Maharashtra

(in US \$ million)

| S. Name of the Project No. | Location | Amount | Utilisation as on 31.10.96 | Date of Closing | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| 1. | Maharashtra Composite Irrigation-III | Jayakwadi and Majalagaon (Command areas) | 193.81 | 185.29 | 31.12.96 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----|---|---|--------|--------|----------|
| 2. | Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation | Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Beed, Buldhana, Latur, Pune, Sangli, Satara, Chandrapur and Thane districts. | 109.90 | 47.66 | 31.12.97 |
| 3. | Bombay sewage Disposal | Bombay and its Suburbs covering an area of 440 sq. km | 192.00 | 6.97 | 31.12.02 |
| 4. | Maharashtra Power-I | Koyana IV Hydroelectric Power Plant. | 354.04 | 185.04 | 31.12.96 |
| 5. | Maharashtra Power-II | Chandrapur Thermal Power station. | 350.00 | 111.74 | 30.06.98 |
| 6. | Maharashtra Earthquake Rehabilitation Project | Earthquake affected villages of Latur & Osmanabad and 11 other districts of, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Beed, Parbhani, Ahmednagar, Nanded, Kolhapur, Aurangabad, Pune and Nasik. | 276.82 | 92.50 | 30.6.97 |
| 7. | Maharashtra Forestry | Entire state of Maharashtra. | 124.00 | 37.59 | 30.09.98 |

Note :- Besides these state sector projects, there are two Multistate Projects namely Technician Education II and Hydrology Project and a number of Centrally sponsored projects in which Maharashtra is one of the participating States.

[English]

Small Savings

2159. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The total net collection through various small savings schemes during the last three years. State-wise; and

(b) The efforts made by the Government to encourage small saving schemes during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The information is furnished in the statement enclosed.

(b) The efforts made by the Government to encourage Small Saving Schemes include attractive returns, extension of tax concessions, publicity and incentives to agents. Apart from the Central Government, wide publicity to these schemes is also undertaken by the State Governments and extension agencies like the Standardised Agency Systems (SAS), Public Provident Fund (PPF) agents and Mahila Pradhan Ksheriya Bachat Yojna (MPKBY) agents.

STATEMENT

State-wise net small savings collections in Post Offices

| S.No. | Name of State | (in Rs. Crores) | | |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 (Provisional) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 605.96 | 926.80 | 618.54 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 2.47 | 7.36 | 5.53 |
| 3. | Assam | 145.11 | 641.09 | 243.55 |
| 4. | Bihar | 251.22 | 679.48 | 451.01 |
| 5. | Goa | 7.24 | 21.11 | 9.04 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 484.39 | 857.80 | 1060.58 |
| 7. | Haryana | 200.93 | 420.05 | 327.41 |
| 8. | Himáchal Pradesh | 152.05 | 599.60 | 391.18 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 96.66 | 153.28 | 162.47 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 321.03 | 1253.32 | 303.84 |
| 11. | Kerala | 309.84 | 636.14 | 300.39 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 204.64 | 407.65 | 405.27 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 253.31 | 656.21 | -509.58 |
| 14. | Manipur | 5.75 | 10.56 | 12.12 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------|---|---------|----------|---------|
| 15. Meghalaya | | 15.48 | 18.66 | -6.93 |
| 16. Mizoram | | 4.22 | 8.15 | 5.38 |
| 17. Nagaland | | 1.21 | 3.16 | 2.51 |
| 18. Orissa | | 164.49 | 335.35 | 276.98 |
| 19. Punjab | | 431.18 | 671.70 | 605.89 |
| 20. Rajasthan | | 437.29 | 680.41 | 543.01 |
| 21. Sikkim | | 0.94 | 5.72 | 6.02 |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | | 535.42 | 724.46 | 400.12 |
| 23. Tripura | | 19.84 | 28.96 | 33.18 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | | 1186.02 | 2254.89 | 2021.50 |
| 25. West Bengal | | 1259.44 | 1994.04 | 1959.43 |
| Total | | 7096.13 | 13995.95 | 8629.08 |

Ineffectiveness of RBI

2160. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Indian Bank exposes RBI's ineffectiveness" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 19 August, 1996;

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

(c) whether the losses in the Indian Bank and frauds in other private and public sector banks have taken place due to ineffective monitoring and supervision of the Reserve Bank of India;

(d) if not, the other facts responsible for the said losses and frauds; and

(e) the steps contemplated to strengthen the RBI to provide an effective and meaningful supervision and control over the commercial banks in the country?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The news item under reference alleges that the RBI has not been effective in detecting the irregularities in some of the Public Sector Banks.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The losses reflected by the Banking Industry during 1995-96 are on account of under provisioning in previous years leading to the necessity for additional provisioning in 1995-96, wage revision in the Banking Industry, additional provision on account of marking to market securities held by Banks etc. Fraud in the Banking Industry have taken place largely on account of non-observance of laid down procedures.

(e) In order to further strengthen the RBI in the discharge of its supervisory functions a number of steps have been taken, the chief among being the setting up of the Board for Financial Supervision. In addition internal control systems of banks have been

strengthened and off-site inspection has been taken up by the RBI.

[Translation]

Double Taxation between India and Cyprus

2161. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish double taxation between Cyprus and India;

(b) whether any agreement has since been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the terms and details of the agreements?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). A Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement has been signed with the Republic of Cyprus on 13.6.1994 and is applicable from the financial year 1993-94, relevant to the assessment year 1994-95.

The Agreement provides for lower rates of taxation in respect of dividends, interest, royalties and fees for technical services when compared to domestic rates. It also provides that the nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected to in the other State to any taxation or requirement connected therewith which is more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements of that other State. The Agreement further provides for elimination of double taxation and also exchange of information in preventing tax evasion or fraud.

Economic Ministers Meeting

2162. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a session of prominent economists, economic ministers and officials was held in New Delhi in September 1996 to chalk out an action plan to achieve the annual target of 10 billion foreign direct investment;

(b) if so, whether foreign delegates were also invited to attend the conference;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of action plan suggested and observations made in the session?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). An international conference titled 'Destination India-Global Summit on Investment Opportunities' was organised jointly by the Ministry of Industry, Government of India and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) during 10th-11th September, 1996. The conference was the first promotional initiative by the reconstituted FIPB.

The conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister and was attended by the Ministers of Finance,

Industry, Commerce and External Affairs, among others RBI and many high officials of various economic ministries also participated in it. Representatives of various international corporations, policy makers of Central and State Governments, Chief Executive Officers of PSUs and leading Indian companies also took part in it. Foreign delegates included representatives of foreign governments and diplomats besides a number of leading foreign companies interested in investing in India.

The conference highlighted the investment opportunities in thrust sectors and other areas in India in the context of ongoing economic reforms and liberalisation and the emerging global economic. There were interactive sessions in which the foreign delegates sought and got clarifications from Ministers and senior Government officials regarding various issues and policy matters.

Import of Coconut and Other Coconut Items

2163. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to import value added products from coconut like coconut Cream/ milk and spray dried coconut milk powder;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the above decision would adversely affect the indigenous industries in Kerala;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to review the above decision and provide financial assistance for developing the indigenous industries for producing value added products from coconut; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). Import of coconut cream and coconut milk powder has been permitted freely vide Government of India, Ministry of Commerce Notification No.8(RE-96)/92-97 dated 21st August, 1996, after interministerial consultations with a view to widening the trade among the SAARC countries.

(d) and (e). Review of the Export and Import Policy is a continuous process and changes in it are made as and when considered necessary, in the public interest.

[Translation]

Withdrawal of Pass Scheme

2164. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to withdraw the existing pass book scheme; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the alternative arrangements made to compensate the losses to be suffered by the exporter as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The Passbook Scheme has been introduced w.e.f. 1.4.95. The details of the scheme are given in Para 54 of the EXIM policy and para 114 of the Handbook of Procedures, Vol. 1 (RE-MARCH, 1996).

At present there is no proposal to withdraw the existing passbook scheme.

[English]

Salt Production in Gujarat

2165. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 70% of salt is produced in Gujarat and supplied throughout the country;

(b) whether there is a demand for shifting the Salt Commissioner's office to Gujarat in order to see the production and supply of salt in the State;

(c) whether wagons for supply of salt are adequate in Gujarat to meet the demand; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Gujarat contributes about 70% of the total salt produced in the country.

(b) There had been a consistent demand from the Government of Gujarat, Salt Manufacturers' Associations of Gujarat, etc. for shifting the Salt Commissioner's Headquarters Office to Gujarat. Considering the various aspects of the matter the Government had ordered for shifting of that Office to Gandhinagar (Gujarat) in October, 1994. However the All India Salt Department Employees' Union filed a Writ Petition in the Rajasthan High Court against the said orders and obtained a stay. The matter is now pending before the Hon'ble High Court and is therefore subjudice.

(c) Yes, Sir. At present there has been adequate supply of wagons for movement of salt from Gujarat.

(d) Question does not arise.

Liquidation of P.S.Us by BIFR

2166. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of P.S.Us recommended for liquidation by the BIFR as on date;

(b) whether Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) decision to liquidate some of the

PSUs has not been allowed to be appealed to Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR);

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the process of revamping of Public Sector Undertakings has not been proved successful; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that winding up has been recommended by it in respect of 8 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and 15 State Public Sector Undertakings upto 30.11.1996.

(b) and (c). The purport of the Question is not clear. Under Section 25(1) of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), any person aggrieved by an order of the BIFR made under SICA may, within 45 days from the date on which a copy of the order is issued to him, prefer an appeal to the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR).

(d) and (e). The action in regard to individual CPSU is to be taken by the respective CPSU in consultation with the administrative Ministry concerned.

Mixing of Chicory with Coffee

2167. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of Chicory permitted to be mixed with Coffee under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the high percentage of chicory is mixed with coffee and sold as pure coffee;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) As per the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, Chicory is permitted to be used upto 49% in Coffee.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Import of Gold

2168. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DALIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the gold imported during each of the last three years; and

(b) the value of smuggled gold seized by the Customs during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). the etimated value of gold legally imported into the country and gold seized yearwise is as under :

(Estimated Value*)
(Rs. in lakhs)

| Period | Legal Import of gold | Seizure of gold |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1994-95 | 9,88,661 | 6080 |
| 1995-96 | 12,23,128 | 5720 |
| 1996-97 (till date) | 9,05,970 | 3009 |

* Figures are provisional.

Committee for Privatisation matters

2169. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for setting up of a professional non-official body for coordinating all matters relating to privatisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Confederation of Indian Industry have suggested that it is essential to create a privatisation agency which should be attached to a Ministry reporting directly to the Cabinet. This agency should be led by competent managers and unfettered by traditional bureaucracy. No decision has been taken on the suggestion.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industries in UP

2170. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any policy under which members of families of such farmers whose land is acquired for setting up of industries can be accommodated in such industries; and

(b) if so, the number of industries set up in Sonbhadra district of U.P. and the number of local people provided employment in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). State Govts. devise suitable policies in this regard.

Fake Insurance Claims

2171. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fake insurance claims detected during 1994-95 and 1995-96 and the number of insurance officials found involved therein and the action taken thereon; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such cases in insurance sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The requisite information, as furnished by the Life Insurance Corporation of India is as under :

| Year | No. of cases | Officials involved |
|---------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1994-95 | 10 | 14 |
| 1995-96 | 10 | 20 |

In respect of General Insurance Corporation of India, the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) Whenever instances of fake claims have been detected, investigations are carried out promptly and disciplinary proceedings are initiated and domestic enquiries are undertaken under CDA rules of the Corporation. Wherever CBI intervention is considered necessary, the cases are handed over to CBI.

[English]

Setting up Passenger Car Plant

2172. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to examine feasibility of setting up a Passenger Car Plant in the port cities of Visakhapatnam or Kakinada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A request has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government for setting up of a passenger car plant by M/s. Maruti Udyog Limited in the port cities of Visakhapatnam and Kakinada. M/s. Maruti Udyog Limited is presently a non-Government Company as per the Companies Act and thus a view on the location of the plant is to be taken by Maruti Udyog Limited Board of Directors.

Foreign Institutional Investors

2173. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total investment invested by foreign institutional investors in the Indian Capital Market as on date?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : As per the periodic reports filed with Securities and Exchange Board of India by the custodians to the Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), the cumulative net investments by the FIIs in the Indian Capital market was US \$ 7092.6 Million till 20th November, 1996.

Export of Lac

2174. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed and achievement made for the export of lac during 1996-97 as on date; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of lac?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No target has been fixed for export of lac during 1996-97. For the period April-Sept. 1996, 2789 M.T. Shellac has been exported valued at Rs. 29.07 crores.

(b) The Government has agreed to grant Rs. 15.00 lakhs to Shellac Export Promotion Council for the export promotion activities for the year 1996-97.

[Translation]

Tax Exemption to Backward Areas

2175. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the developed States in the country;

(b) whether any notification has been issued for providing tax concession to the backward areas of these States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act provides tax incentive to the industrial undertakings located in the industrially backward States and Union Territories listed in the THE EIGHTH SCHEDULE to the Income-tax Act, 1961.

These are as under :

- (1) Arunachal Pradesh
- (2) Assam

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

The States and Union Territories of the country other than those mentioned above are considered industrially developed.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The matter is under consideration.

[English]

Revival of KSIC

2176. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for the revival of the Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Ltd. (KSIC) was referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR);

(b) if so, the action taken by BIFR; and

(c) if not, the step taken for the revival of KSIC?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Ltd. has made a reference to BIFR for its rehabilitation.

(b) BIFR has appointed Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) as Operating Agency and directed the Government of Karnataka and the KSIC to submit the rehabilitation proposal to the IDBI for consideration. The KSIC has submitted the proposal to Government of Karnataka & the IDBI and is awaiting approval from the State Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Incentive to Informers

2177. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government give some incentive to

the informer for detecting smuggling cases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases of smuggling detected on account of information in the country with particular reference to Saurashtra and Kutch region of Gujarat during the last three years;

(d) the details of amount and goods detected and confiscated;

(e) the amount of rewards given to the informers during the last three years;

(f) whether some of the informers have not been given any reward, on the basis of which the smuggling of goods amounting to crores of rupees were detected by the Government and confiscated; and

(g) if so, the time by which the rewards are likely to be given to the informers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Informers given clue to smuggling and/or evasion of customs duty are eligible to reward up to 20% of the value of goods seized/duty evasion detected. In cases of gold, silver and narcotics, specific rate of reward related to weight of goods seized have been prescribed.

(c) to (g). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supply of Coal to GSEB

2178. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the parameters of quarterly allocation of coal linkage for power generation;

(b) the quarterly demand of coal made by Gujarat Electricity Board during the last three years and the allocation against it;

(c) the reasons for inadequate coal linkage; and

(d) the steps taken for allocation of adequate coal linkage to Gujarat Electricity Board in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY, OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) makes recommendations for allotment of coal for each coal based power plant on the basis of generation targets fixed for them. The recommendations made by the CEA are considered by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term) which allots coal for each thermal power station on quarterly basis within the overall constraints of availability of coal, transportation, unloading facilities of the power stations and timely payment for coal supplies. The linkages sanctioned and despatches to the power stations of Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) from

Coal India Limited for the last three years are as follows :-

(Figs. in 000 tonnes)
Data Provisional

| Year | Linkage | Destoatch |
|---------|---------|-----------|
| 1993-94 | 12,465 | 11,143 |
| 1994-95 | 13,965 | 11,342 |
| 1995-96 | 13,425 | 12,135 |

(d) Coal supplies to power sector in the country including power houses of Gujarat Electricity Board is accorded highest priority. Supply of coal to power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Group. Appropriate corrective action is taken to step up coal supplies wherever necessary. G.E.S. has been requested to improved the arrangements for unloading of coal at their power stations. G.E.B. has also been requested to make timely payments so that the supplies are not required to be regulated on account of non-payment for coal supplied to them.

Trade Relation with CIS Countries

2179. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed any trade agreement with CIS countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Government of India have concluded trade agreements with all the CIS countries except with Azerbaijan.

(b) The salient features of the agreements include:

- Promotion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation on a long term and stable basis;
- Mutual Most Favoured Nation treatment
- All commercial and non-commercial transactions in freely convertible currencies;
- Encourage and facilitate contacts between their natural and juridical persons *inter alia* through exchange of visits of delegations, participation in fairs and exhibitions and exchange of information;
- Encourage economic investment and technological cooperation including through establishment of joint ventures;
- Encourage opening of branch offices of the foreign trade organisations, companies, firms, banks, etc. in each others territory in

accordance with their national laws and regulations;

- Promote cooperation in fields of science and technology, ecology, transport, communications, training of personnel and in other spheres of mutual interest.

Losses in Instrumentation Ltd., Kota

2180. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Instrumentation Ltd., Kota has been incurring losses;

(b) if so, the losses incurred by it till date;

(c) whether there is any proposal for merger of Instrumentation Ltd. with BHEL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken in this regard?

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

(b) Rs. 122.21 cr (Till 30.11.96)

(c) to (e). Instrumentation Limited had sent a proposal for merger with BHEL. After ascertaining the views of BHEL, it has been decided that this proposal need not be pursued at this stage.

Closure of Paper Mills

2181. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of paper mills closed during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of public sector mills and private sector mills amongst them;

(c) the reasons for the closure of the above mills;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to find out the causes of closure; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government for the revival of the public sector paper mills?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The data in regard to closed paper mills is not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Industry. However, according to available information the details of closed paper mills are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(b) Two subsidiaries of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (a Public Sector Mill) i.e. Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd. & Mandya National Paper Mill are lying closed. All other units are in private sector.

(c) and (d). The reasons for the closure of these units are attributable to financial constraints,

uneconomic production, poor management, old and outdated technology and low profitability.

(e) *Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd.*:

The company was referred to BIFR in 1992 and the Government has decided to revive the mill and the company since stands discharged as Sick Industrial Company from the purview of BIFR and the Government has approved the financial restructuring.

Mandya National Paper Mills :

The company was referred to BIFR in 1992 and the BIFR ordered winding up of the mill. The Government has filed appeal against the order of BIFR before AAFIR and the Government has decided to re-start the operations of the mill and privatise it as a going concern.

STATEMENT

| S.No. | Name of State | No. of Closed Mills |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Assam | 1 |
| 2. | Bihar | 3 |
| 3. | West Bengal | 15 |
| 4. | Orissa | 1 |
| 5. | Uttar Pradesh | 13 |
| 6. | Delhi | 1 |
| 7. | Punjab | 5 |
| 8. | Haryana | 4 |
| 9. | Chandigarh | 3 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 10 |
| 11. | Rajasthan | 5 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 8 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 11 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 7 |
| 15. | Andhra Pradesh | 14 |
| 16. | Karnataka | 8 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 8 |
| 18. | Kerala | 2 |
| 19. | Pondicherry | 2 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 1 |
| Total | | 122 |

Manufacture of Mini Cigarettes by ITC

2182. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to withdraw the permission granted to Indian Tobacco Company to manufacture mini cigarettes;

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

(c) whether any objections in this regard have been received from any quarter;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the profit earned by ITC since permission was granted; and

(f) whether the sale of mini cigarettes proposed to be prohibited?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Industrial Licences for the manufacture of cigarettes are granted in terms of numbers and not length-wise. The concept of mini cigarettes is relevant from the Excise Duty point of view. Since lower rate of Excise Duty on mini cigarettes has been introduced from 1994-95 and Industrial Licences for the manufacture of cigarettes were issued to M/s. ITC long ago, the question of cancellation of such licences issued under the I(D&R) Act, 1951 does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Bidi Sector has expressed apprehensions regarding lowering of Excise Duty on mini cigarettes as it may affect the Bidi industry. There has, however, been no significant change in the production of bidis since reduction of Excise Duty on mini cigarettes.

(e) M/s. ITC have indicated the following production figures in their Annual Reports for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 in respect of cigarettes :

| | Quantity (million nos.) | Value (in Rs. lakhs) |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1994 | 48387 | 29,81,45 |
| 1995 | 50609 | 33,35,72 |
| 1996 | 60972 | 41,05,98 |

Separate figures in respect of mini cigarettes are not available.

(f) No, Sir.

Defrauding of U.B.I. Mumbai

2183. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any branch of the United Bank of India, in Mumbai, was defrauded of Rs. 8 lacs during September, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the *modus operandi* adopted therein; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). United Bank of India have reported that three cheques for Rs. 8 lakhs were issued by a staff of their Kalbadevi Branch at Mumbai. These

cheques were lodged by him for crediting to his account with Sangli Sahakari Bank Ltd. When these cheques were presented by the Sangli Sahakari Bank for payment through clearing, he fraudulently managed to remove these cheques and also carried out accounting manipulations at Kalbadevi branch. In the absence of any return memo, Sangli Sahakari Bank had credited the amount to his account which was later on withdrawn by him.

The concerned staff has been placed under suspension. An FIR has been lodged with the local police who have arrested him. According to the bank the fraud has occurred apparently owing to supervisory failure in enforcing the laid down systems and procedures.

Serious Frauds Office

2184. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Raids kill spirit to take economic risks - CBI found inadequate, FM urged to set up serious Frauds Office" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated November 13, 1996;

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

(c) whether Banking and Financial market circles have also urged the Government to set up a Serious Frauds Office (SFO) or judicial cell within the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to investigate objectives of the economic offences of criminal nature; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The news items refers to inter-alia the demand for setting up of a Serious Frauds Office to investigate economic offences of a criminal nature. A proposal to set up a Sepcial Bureau of Frauds to deal with banking and financial frauds is under consideration of Government.

Weaver's Welfare Fund

2185. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the balance in the Weaver's Welfare Fund as on April 1, 1995 and April 1, 1996;

(b) the additions made to the fund during 1995-96; and

(c) the funds allocated through this Fund for the various welfare programmes for weavers during each of the last three years, Scheme-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c). There is no scheme called "Weavers Welfare Fund". However, Government of India is implementing Thrift Fund Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme and Health Package Scheme for the Welfare of Handloom Weavers. Central assistance under these Welfare Schemes have increased over the year and gone up from Rs. 699.99 lakhs during 1993-94 to Rs. 987.98 lakhs during 1995-96.

Detection of F.D. Account in Rural Branch of Allahabad Bank

2186. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PAJEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI has recently detected a fixed deposit account for lakhs of rupees in a rural branch of the Allahabad Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the *modus operandi* adopted therein;

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in regard thereto;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the enquiry so conducted; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken to check such other bogus accounts in the private and public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that during the course of investigation in animal husbandry department cases, it has detected certain suspected benami accounts aggregating Rs. 64,46,086/- at seven rural branches of the bank in Patna District. The accounts were opened without observing the necessary formalities like collection of specimen signatures, properly filling of account opening application forms, collection of photographs, etc. CBI's investigation has not yet been completed.

In order to ensure that such accounts are not opened, RBI have advised banks to obtain photographs of persons authorised to operate the accounts and also obtain confirmation of the addresses of the account holders independently. The inspecting officers are also required to ensure compliance with norms prescribed with opening of accounts.

Selection and Appointment in PSOs

2187. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of policies and or rules prescribed for regulation, selection and appointment to top level posts in the public sector enterprises;

(b) whether there was any order or rule making it mandatory for Government officers to resign or retire before they could be appointed to top posts in PSOs;

(c) whether deviations have been made from the above practice in recent years; and

(d) if so, the number of cases where Government officers have been allowed to take up such assignments on deputation or lien basis?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) According to rules and regulations, selection of Chief Executives and Functional Directors in Public enterprises is made by the Public Enterprises Selection Board operating under the Deptt. Personnel and Training and the appointment is made by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department after completing various formalities. The policy of the Government is to appoint, through a fair and objective selection procedure, outstanding professional managers to top level posts in PSOs. Government has also recognised the need to develop a cadre of professional managers within the public sector. Hence, unless markedly better candidates are available from outside, internal candidates are preferred for Board level appointments. In special cases, recruitments are made from the organised services under the Central Government.

(b) to (d). Deputation of Government officers to posts in Central public enterprises is not permitted except in the case of Chief Executives and regional/zonal chiefs who require continuous liaison and coordination with State Governments and where expertise acquired in the State Government is needed for organisational efficiency. As per available information, eight Government officers have been allowed to take up board level assignments in public enterprises on deputation basis in relaxation of the general rules/guidelines, during 1995 and 1996.

[Translation]

Investment by Australian

2188. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Australia has offered to make investment in various fields in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). During the period from 1.8.91 to 31.8.96, the Government of India has approved an investment of Rs. 20871.6 million from Australian firms in different sectors. The top 5 sectors of Australian

investment during the above period are :

| Sector | Amount (Rs. in million) | % of total amount approved for Australia |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Metallurgical Industries | 10539.72 | 49.70% |
| 2. Telecommunication | 8005.55 | 37.75% |
| 3. Electrical Equipment | 914.62 | 4.31% |
| 4. Chemical | 643.49 | 3.03% |
| 5. Miscellaneous | 521.05 | 2.46% |

[English]

Health Insurance

2189. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce some health insurance and housing security scheme for the senior citizens of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the suggestions received by the Government from various sectors in that regards; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). It has been reported by the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) that the General Insurance Industry already provides 3 major medical insurance policies viz. Mediclaim; Bhavishya Arogya and Jan Arogya, which even a senior citizen can purchase on payment of prescribed premium. The General Insurance Industry also provides Hut Insurance cover to families in rural areas whose income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 4800/- per annum. Under this scheme, a compensation of Rs. 1,000/- is payable if the hut gets destroyed by fire and Rs. 500/- if the belongings in the hut are destroyed. No premium is payable by the beneficiary. In addition, the General Insurance Industry also provides insurance cover against theft and burglary; loss or damage to buildings and contents by fire, lightning, explosion of gas in domestic appliances and other extraneous perils etc. under the 'Comprehensive house holders' insurance policy. Any citizen of the country; including a senior citizen can purchase these policy covers on payment of prescribed premium. The insurance companies constantly review the need for changes in the policies based on the experience gained by them and on receipt of suggestions from various quarters from time to time.

Export Policy on Agricultural Items

[Translation]

2190. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are in the process of finalising a long term export policy for wheat, rice, maize, pulses and other foodgrain items;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has been consulted along with various other ministries and agencies on the policy;

(d) if so, the details of suggestions made by them; and

(e) the percentage of the total output of a product likely to be fixed as exportable limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e). It is the policy of the Government to allow the exports of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise the food security system. It is with this objective in mind that Government prescribes restrictions like licensing, quantitative ceilings and minimum export price on items such as pulses, wheat, maize etc. At the same time, Government's objective is to maximise foreign exchange earnings from the agricultural sector to the benefit of the farmers.

Price of Newspaper

2191. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the selling price of the newspaper manufactured in the country is more as compared to the price of imported newspaper;

(b) if not, the assesment made by the Government in this regard;

(c) the selling price of the indigenous newspaper and the imported newspaper during the first half of the year 1996; and

(d) the steps being taken to end the disparity?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) The Government has already imposed a 10% customs duty on the import of newspaper with effect from 29.10.1996.

STATEMENT*Trend in International and Domestic Prices*

| Period | International Prices | | | Average Indigenous Prices |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | Rate (\$) | Conversion Rate | Landed Cost (Rs/MT) | |
| Sep. 95-Jan.'96 | 750 | 34.0 | 25500 | 27000 |
| Feb. 96-Mar. 96 | 700 | -do- | 23800 | 27000 |
| Apr. 96-Jun. 96 | 580 | 35.0 | 20300 | 27000 |
| July 96 | 500 | 35.80 | 17900 | 24000 |
| Aug/Sept. 96 | 480 | 35.80 | 17184 | 21000 |
| Oct., 96 | 430 | 35.80 | 15394 | 18000 |

[English]

Reluctance of Banks in Granting Loans to Women

2192. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rural women run up against unhelpful banks" appearing in the Pioneer dated October 17, 1996;

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

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by banks/ financial institutions to help women to improve their economic status?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), a sub-scheme of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was started in the year 1982-83 on a pilot basis, in 50 districts but has now been extended to all the districts of the country. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the years

1992-93 to 1995-96, as against the target of 61,900 groups to be covered, 89,185 groups were covered benefiting 15,37,662 women beneficiaries, for which

Rs. 133.13 crores were utilised. The position of performance under the scheme may be seen in the following table :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Target (No. of groups) | Achievement (No. groups formed) | No. of women | Utilisation of funds beneficiaries |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 7500 | 9029 | 1,28,744 | 1548.17 |
| 1993-94 | 11000 | 15483 | 2,68,525 | 2365.00 |
| 1994-95 | 13400 | 34964 | 5,92,026 | 3100.00 |
| 1995-96 | 30000 | 26709 | 5,48,367 | 6300.00 |
| Total | 61900 | 89185 | 15,37,662 | 13313.17 |

(c) Instructions issued by the RBI to scheduled commercial banks inter-alia included as under :-

- (i) To improve the flow of credit to women under DWCRA. Further, assistance under DWCRA may be extended to groups of women although members of their family may be defaulters to banks under IRDP or crop loan or any other borrowing irrespective of whether the default is genuine or wilful. However, if a women beneficiary under IRDP is herself a defaulter, genuine or wilful, she will not be eligible for assistance under DWCRA. Such assistance may be extended to groups whether registered or informal as per the existing guidelines.
- (ii) Not to ask for any collateral security for loans upto Rs. 50,000/- for all activities under IRDP/ DWCRA.
- (iii) To extend financial assistance under IRDP/ DWCRA to families sponsored by Voluntary Organisations for the projects approved by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART).
- (iv) Assets created under DWCRA Scheme will not be available for appropriation for advances under IRDP.
- (v) To identify as far as possible a lady officer by the lead bank in each district for giving exclusive attention to provision of credit of facilities etc. to women.
- (vi) Not to reject applications made by women applicant in particular, on grounds such as incomplete address, incomplete forms, non-possession of ration cards etc. Banks to render assistance to women applicants in filling up application forms, completion of formalities etc.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has also initiated a number of measures such schemes for women in non farm development, for linking informal Self Help Groups (SHGs) with the formal banking system etc.

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has also drawn separate schemes for the ex-tension of financial assistance on liberal terms for providing equity type of assistance for women entrepreneurs, to enable them to set up industrial units in the small scale sector. Besides this, grants/loans are also provided to Voluntary Organisations engaged in upliftment of women for providing them avenue for taking up self/wage employment activities in the industrial sphere. The special schemes of assistance to women entrepreneurs operated by SIDBI include refinance schemes, Mahila Udyog Nidhi Scheme and Mahila Vikas Nidhi.

[Translation]

Relaxation in Payment of Interest

2193. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector banks have given relaxation in payment of interest on the loans provided by them during 1995-96;

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

(c) whether this relaxation has been granted on the loans given to priority sector;

(d) if so, the percentage of benefit earned by various priority sectors therefrom; and

(e) the percentage of relaxation on interest given to non-priority sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that effective October 18, 1994, interest rates on loans by all commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) have been prescribed as follows :

| Credit limit | Rate of Interest per annum |
|--|----------------------------|
| Loans upto Rs. 25000/- | 12.0 per cent |
| Loans above Rs. 25000/- but upto Rs. 2 lakh. | 13.5 per cent |
| Loans above Rs. 2 lakhs | Free* |

excepting Export Credit for specified periods

RBI have advised banks to fix their Prime Lending Rate (PLR) which will be the minimum lending rate to be charged by them for credit limits over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks may charge higher rates of interest from their borrowers enjoying credit limit over Rs. 2 lakhs depending, inter alia, credit ratings assigned by the bank. In the monetary policy for the second half of 1996-97 announced by RBI in October, 1996, banks have also been advised that alongwith announcement of PLR, they should also announce the maximum spread under the PLR or all advances (other than consumer credit).

Manufacture of Cars/Buses

2194. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a plan for the manufacture of cars/buses with foreign collaboration in Gujarat especially in the tribal dominated areas is in existence or is under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether its impact on the existing car/bus manufacturers in the country has been analysed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Location of units is not regulated in terms of the liberalised industrial policy. Government has approved setting up of joint venture between Birla Group of Companies and General Motors of USA for manufacture of cars and commercial vehicles. The joint venture has set up manufacturing facilities at Halol in Gujarat for a capacity of 25,000 vehicles per annum. The joint venture has already commenced production.

(c) and (d). Manufacture of all types of automotive vehicles has been delicensed under the new Industrial Policy and liberal import of technology is being permitted to the industry. These measures are expected to

stimulate competitiveness and growth of the Indian automobile industry.

Smart Card Scheme

2195. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the 'Smart Card Scheme' in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme alongwith the purpose thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at present for introduction of the 'Smart Card Scheme' in the country.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

World Bank Loan for Farm Sector

2196. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has sought loan from the World Bank for farm sector;

(b) if so, the amount of loan expected to be obtained from the World Bank;

(c) the specific areas in the farm sector where the World Bank loan is likely to be utilised; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) A delegation from the Govt. of India, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) visited Washington during November 15-20, 1996 for discussion with the World Bank on Rural Finance Reform in India.

(b) The first phase of the project is expected to receive a World Bank loan of US \$ 400 million, with parallel financing of US \$ 60 million equivalent from kfw.

(c) and (d). The World Bank loan is likely to be utilised for financial sustainability of Rural Financial Institutions (RFI), to improve access for women and underserved poor, to increase cost effectiveness of selected commercial banks, RRBs for providing financial services to rural sector, to encourage financially self-sustainable rural banking improved access to such financial services, especially for underserved poor, and lay the analytical and experimental foundation for further reforms in the rural finance.

Investment in Foreign Countries

2197. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian industrialists have shown their interest in investment in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). With a view to enhancing the global competitiveness of Indian exports, the Government have streamlined and liberalised the procedures for approval of Indian investment overseas in recent years. Comprehensive and transparent guidelines in this regard were notified by the Ministry of Commerce in August 1995.

Details of number of investment proposals and the amount of investment approved over the last three years are given below :

| Calendar year | No. of proposals approved | (US\$ mn.) total amount approved |
|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1994 | 222 | 336.32 |
| 1995 | 216 | 277.18 |
| 1996 | 248 | 215.20 |

(upto 30.11.1996)

Profit earned by WCL

2198. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Limited has been incurring profit since the last several years;

(b) if so, the total profit earned by WCL during each of the last three years; and

(c) the manner in which the amount of profit has been utilised during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The profits earned by Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) during the last three years are given below :-

| Year | Amount (Rs. in Crores) |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 31.59 |
| 1994-95 | 71.57 |
| 1995-96 | 98.59 |

(c) The profit have been utilised mainly for investment in various projects of WCL during the above mentioned period.

Collapse of Software at Indira Gandhi Airport

2199. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Computer System installed at the Air Cargo Terminal in the Indira Gandhi International Airport developed glaring flaws in the software barely a week after it was taken over from the manual system;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the flaws so as to redress the grievances faced by the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The computerisation of the Delhi Custom House is being introduced in stages. The processing of import documents was computerised in May 1995 and that of export documents pertaining to free shipping bills w.e.f. 3rd June, 1996. The processing of expert documents pertaining to drawback shipping bills has been started from 1st of November 1996. There was slight slowdown of processing during the changeover in the 1st week, which is normal in any computerisation process. The system has since stabilised from 8th November 1996 onwards and the drawback shipping bills are being processed using the computer.

Settlement Commission of Central Board of Excise and Customs

2200. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for the setting up of a Settlement Commission for the early disposal of Excise disputed cases in Central Board of Excise and Customs on the lines of Settlement Commission functioning in Central Board of Direct Taxes which was meted in 1992 is still pending;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal is still under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

Assistance to State Handloom Corporation

2201. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provides financial assistance to the State Handloom Development

Corporation and the Handloom Cooperative Societies for setting up preloom and postloom proceeding facilities:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for providing such assistance; and

(d) the amount of such assistance provided under the various Schemes by the Government during each of the last three years and current years so far. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) and (b). Government of India provided assistance to State Handloom Development Corporations, State Handloom Apex Societies and Primary Weavers

Cooperative Societies under various ongoing Scheme such as the Project Package Scheme and Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme. Besides, assistance is also provided to Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies under the Scheme of Handloom Development Centre and Quality Dyeing Unit. Assistance under These Schemes inter alia, is provided for preloom and post-loom processing facilities.

(c) Central grant is released on the basis of viable project proposals received from the State Governments and Union Territories in accordance with the guidelines of these Scheme.

(d) A Statement indicating funds sanctioned to various States during the last three years under these Scheme is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(Amount in Rs. lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of States | Amount released during | | | |
|--------|-------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 457.35 | 536.52 | 505.31 | 229.86 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | - | 07.00 | - | - |
| 3. | Assam | 221.13 | 686.76 | 405.71 | 211.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 21.66 | 94.48 | 191.59 | 26.81 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 46.06 | 68.42 | 14.45 | 13.90 |
| 6. | Haryana | - | 6.25 | 11.50 | 10.27 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 59.05 | 67.52 | 77.53 | 35.45 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4.75 | 6.08 | 50.09 | - |
| 9. | Karnataka | 102.50 | 138.19 | 38.84 | 14.74 |
| 10. | Kerala | 103.37 | 504.73 | 350.00 | 6.25 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 31.60 | 113.36 | 197.03 | 2.60 |
| 12. | Meghalaya | - | 6.37 | - | - |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 14.70 | 150.86 | 120.76 | - |
| 14. | Manipur | 175.62 | 706.93 | 140.25 | 24.70 |
| 15. | Mizoram | 6.00 | - | 10.00 | - |
| 16. | Nagaland | - | 51.00 | 45.84 | 183.54 |
| 17. | Orissa | 399.21 | 496.64 | 298.12 | 137.77 |
| 18. | Pondicherry | - | 18.50 | - | - |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 12.25 | 37.61 | 339.18 | - |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 187.75 | 975.14 | 669.94 | 60.77 |
| 21. | Tripura | 25.20 | 104.46 | 101.08 | - |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 151.74 | 590.14 | 207.83 | 6.25 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 170.07 | 379.54 | 219.23 | 31.40 |

NTC Mills

2202. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to refer Arati Cotton Mill and Central Cotton Mill of Howrah under N.T.C. to BIFR; and

(b) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). The Arati Cotton Mill and Central Mill are under the NTC WBAB&O) Ltd. The NTC (WBAB&O) as a whole has been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR. The BIFR has issued notice for winding up the subsidiary. The case is scheduled to come up before the BIFR on 3.1.1997.

Disinvestment Commission

2203. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the core group of Secretaries referred 40 public sector units including Air India and Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) to disinvestment Commission;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has considered these cases at its meeting on 10 October, 1996;

(c) the total number of proposals received by the Commission so far;

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter;

(e) whether the target of Rs. 5,000 crore fixed by the Government for disinvestment during the previous year has been achieved; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d). The 40 PSUs are being analysed by the Commission, which has also been meeting various institutions and organisations. It proposes to make its recommendations after wider consideration with reference to individual PSU.

(e) and (f). The target for disinvestment fixed during the previous year, i.e. 1995-96 was Rs. 7000 crores, which could not be achieved due to unfavourable market conditions.

Amendment in the Criminal Procedure Code

2204. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have asked the Law Commission to suggest recommendations about bringing amendments in the criminal procedure code to ensure speedy disposal of criminal cases pending in the courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the Commission is likely to submit its suggestions;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to bring certain amendments in the Advocates Act, 1961 so as to ensure that the law graduates coming out of Universities to be of professional excellence; and

(d) if so, the time by which these amendments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Law Commission have submitted its 154th Report on the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Act. No. 2 of 1974) which is in the process of laying on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Cellular Phones

2205. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the rampant smuggling of cellular phones in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated loss to the exchequer as a result thereof;

(c) the modus operandi of the illegal importer/ smugglers of the cellular phones;

(d) the overall impact on the indigenous manufacturers of cellular phones; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of cellular phones?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Some cases of smuggling of cellular phones have come to the notice of Government. Smuggling is a clandestine activity and exact extent including smuggling of cellular phones cannot be estimated, hence the loss to exchequer by way of smuggling of cellular phones cannot be

estimated. Major modus operandi in smuggling of cellular phones have been concealment in baggage, misdeclaration and concealment in vehicles. Available reports indicate indigenous manufacture of cellular phone is yet to start actually. Field formations are alert to detect and prevent smuggling including smuggling of cellular phones.

Personal Law

2206. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2370 dated August 2, 1996 regarding Personal Law and State :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). In the recent past, no Committee/ Commission has been set up by the Central Government to examine the feasibility of extending personal laws to Goa.

Import of Tea

2207. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to import tea,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of total quantity of tea with its rate at which it is proposed to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Caving in Accident in Govindpur

2208. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether three women and four coal workers were killed in October, 1996 due to caving in incident in the quarry No. 11 in Bermo Dhori region and in Govindpur in the Kolthara region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, in the early hours of 16.10.1996, a few outsiders entered unauthorisedly quarry No. 11 of Amlo opencast mine of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) for the purpose of digging out the white clay occurring above the coal seam in that colliery. In the digging process a part of the overhang collapsed resulting in the death of three women and injury to another four (two men and two women).

(c) With a view to preventing such unauthorised entries security measures around mines are being reinforced.

Sale of Coal

2209. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. which were engaged in the production of coal during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 alongwith the quantum of coal produced by each subsidiary;

(b) the quantum of coal sold by each of the above subsidiaries during the above period; and

(c) the quantum of coal reserves lying with each of the above said subsidiaries at the end of the each of the above said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). The details of coal production and despatches in respect of each subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under :-

| Company-wise/ Subsidiary- wise | (million tonnes) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Production | | Despatches | |
| | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| ECL | 24.85 | 27.81 | 24.21 | 25.79 |
| BCCL | 28.75 | 27.81 | 28.34 | 26.49 |
| CCL | 31.21 | 30.76 | 31.11 | 30.74 |
| NCL | 32.50 | 35.20 | 32.91 | 35.08 |
| WCL | 27.24 | 29.01 | 27.24 | 30.35 |
| SECL | 50.00 | 53.17 | 47.82 | 52.28 |
| MCL | 27.33 | 32.70 | 26.91 | 34.31 |
| NEC | 1.9 | 0.82 | 0.83 | 1.03 |
| CIL | 223.07 | 237.28 | 219.37 | 236.07 |

(c) Presumably the Hon'ble M.P. is referring to coal stocks and as such the quantum of saleable coal stocks

at the end of 1994-95 and 1995-96 with each of the subsidiary company of CIL is as under :-

| Company | (million tonnes) | |
|---------|------------------|----------------|
| | As on 31.03.95 | As on 31.03.96 |
| ECL | 2.29 | 3.34 |
| BCCL | 4.33 | 4.86 |
| CCL | 4.64 | 4.28 |
| NCL | 1.48 | 1.59 |
| WCL | 3.08 | 1.39 |
| SECL | 8.70 | 9.13 |
| MCL | 5.14 | 3.46 |
| NEC | 1.14 | 0.90 |
| Total | 30.80 | 28.95 |

Use of Hindi in Banks

2210. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of Nationalised banks where cent percent work is being done in Hindi and the percentage of Hindi usage in other branches, bank-wise; and

(b) the time by which the cent-percent work is likely to be done in Hindi in all branches of banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Industries by IRBI

2211. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the assistance provided by the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India to sick industrial units during 1995-96 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The details of assistance sanctioned and disbursed by the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) to sick industrial units during the year 1995-96, State-wise are as under :

| State | (Rs. crore) | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Sanctions | Disbursement |
| Andhra Pradesh | Nil | 1.40 |
| Haryana | 2.67 | Nil |
| Kerala | Nil | 0.10 |
| Karnataka | 1.02 | 0.70 |
| Tamil Nadu | Nil | 0.14 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2.63 | 2.72 |

Coal Reserve in Maharashtra

2212. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Coal reserves in the coal mines of Maharashtra at present;

(b) the details of new coal reserves explored in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the details of ongoing exploration works for new coal reserves and the expenditure incurred thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) As per information furnished by Geological Survey of India (GSI), the total geological coal reserves in the different coalfields of Maharashtra upto a depth of 600 metres have been assessed as 6636 million tonnes as on 1.1.1996.

(b) On the basis of regional exploration carried out, a total of 360 million tonnes of new coal reserves have been explored in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years.

(c) Presently, GSI has been carrying out exploration work in Masar-Pirti-Pavna area, Chandrapur district, Wardha Valley Coalfield and around Katol area of Katol Sub basin, Nagpur district. The total expenditure incurred on these on-going exploration activities has been estimated as Rs. 0.46 crores.

Toy Industry

2213. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the toy industry has developed a good market both in the country and abroad;

(b) whether trained designers are not available to manufacture toys in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Toy industry abroad and in the country has supposed to have got a good market of the order of Rs. 140,000 crores and Rs. 175 crores respectively. The industry anticipates an annual growth rate of 15 to 20%

(b) and (c). Trained personnel particularly toy designers are not easily available in the country. However, various tool rooms set up by SIDO in the country have competent trained designers to design and manufacture quality moulds. In addition to existing tool rooms, government is also setting up 6 new tool rooms which are in different stages of implementation. Additionally to give exposure to Indian manufacturers, Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) organises

various exhibitions including that of toys. To help indigenous manufacturers in technology upgradation and modernisation and to assist them in marketing their products internationally, government gives grant in aid to recognised associations and export promotion councils to participate in international trade fairs and organises seminars. During 1995-96 Electronic and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ECSEPC) was assisted to participate in toy fairs in Dubai by giving grant in aid of Rs. 5.75 lakhs.

Strike by Lawyers

2214. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted for preparing proper guidelines to check the increasing number of cases consequent upon the frequent strike of lawyers and closure of courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any report has been submitted to the Government by this Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) to (e). Does not arise.

Loading of Coal

2215. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the collieries of BCCL where loading of coal by pay loader has been opposed;

(b) the reasons for such opposition; and

(c) the extent of loss suffered in the matter of coal production due to above reason during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). According to the information received from Coal India Limited (CIL) there have been no instances of coal loading through pay loaders being obstructed by the employees of BCCL. However, outsiders/unauthorised persons did obstruct loading of coal through pay loaders on certain occasions. Such obstructions have been confined to road sale of coal and transportation of coal to washeries/sidings. The name of collieries/dumps from where such instances had occurred are as under :-

1. Jealgora

3. Kusunda OCP

4. Rajapur/South Jharia OCP

5. Bera

6. Dobari

7. Kuya

8. Bastacolla

9. Nudkharkee

(c) The Coal Company has intimated that there has been some loss of production on account of the above obstructions in 1994-95, it is not possible to precisely quantify the loss on account of such obstructions.

[English]

Equity participation in Small Scale Sector

2216. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Scale Sector is allowed 24% equity participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this equity limit is sufficient for Small Scale Industrial Sector to get funds and modern technology; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Presently other industrial undertakings constituted as companies can invest up to 24 per cent in the equity of a small scale unit. If equity investment goes beyond 24 per cent, the unit loses the SSI status.

(c) and (d). The equity participation limit of 24 per cent is derived from the definition of small scale industries which states that a small scale unit cannot be owned, controlled or be a subsidiary of other industrial undertaking. 24 per cent equity participation has been allowed precisely to attract equity type investments from large industries into the small scale sector. Investments in the small scale sector using this equity route have however, not been considerable.

Control of Cement

2217. SHRI SOUMYA, RANJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the cement manufacturers are refusing to sell cement to Government departments;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to reimpose control on cement and also fix its price;

(d) if so, by when; and

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Ministry of Industry has not received any complaint regarding refusal by cement manufacturers to sell cement to Government departments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) After decontrol of distribution and price of cement there has been an impressive growth of the industry both in terms of capacity and production and technology. Since the installed capacity is much in excess of domestic demand there is competition in the market which prevents suppliers from increasing the prices unreasonably.

[Translation]

Janata Cloth Scheme

2218. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds released by the Government under the Janata Cloth Scheme to Gujarat during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any request of Gujarat for release of old subsidy amounting to several lakh of rupees under the Janata Cloth Scheme is pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the subsidy is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Details of funds released to Government of Gujarat during last three years under Janata Cloth Scheme are as follows :-

(Rs. in lakh)

| | | |
|---------|---|------------|
| 1993-94 | - | Rs. 155.37 |
| 1994-95 | - | Rs. 147.15 |
| 1995-96 | - | Rs. 27.49 |

(b) to (d). A sum of Rs. 22.76 lakhs was disallowed from the claims of Gujarat Rajya Handloom and Audyogic Sahkari Federation Limited under Janata Cloth Scheme for 1991-92, 1992-93 (for the quarters January-March'92 and April-June'92) as these claims were not found eligible as per the guidelines for implementation of the Scheme. The Government of Gujarat have represented to Government of India for release of this amount which is being re-examined and a decision would be taken soon.

Group Insurance Scheme

2219. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced Group Insurance Scheme for powerloom workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of powerloom workers covered under the scheme so far State-wise; and

(d) the number of powerloom workers likely to be covered under the scheme during the year 1996-97 State-wise and funds earmarked thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of India had introduced a Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers in association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the year 1992-93 (Statement enclosed). All powerloom workers of age between 18 and 60 years and those who had worked during the year shall be eligible for Insurance under this scheme. A weaver who had earned at least a minimum average pay of Rs. 700/- per month during a year can join the scheme. Every member of a family who satisfies the minimum income condition alongwith all other conditions of eligibility for the scheme shall be eligible to join the scheme. The scheme envisages an annual premium to be shared equality by the Central Government, the State Government and the powerloom Worker. For an insurance coverage of Rs. 10,000/- the annual premium will be Rs. 120/-. Contribution of Government of India would be channelised through the State Government on reimbursement basis.

Number of workers to be covered in a year depends upon the proposals submitted by the State Governments under the scheme.

Benefits :

- On the death of a member, the sum assured of Rs. 10,000/- under the policy shall become payable provided the member is a powerloom worker as defined for the purpose. In addition to the basic sum assured the amount accumulated in the running account would become payable with interest of 11% per annum.
- On reaching the terminal date or being disqualified as a powerloom worker, the accumulation in the running account only would become payable with interest at 11% per annum.
- In case of death due to accident an amount of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand) will be paid to the family of the member in addition to the accumulated amount in the members running account payable with interest of 11% per annum.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing the Amount of Funds Released to State Government towards Central share under the Group Insurance scheme for Powerloom Workers during the year 1992-93 to 1996-97 (November 1996)

| S.No. | State | Year | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| | | 1993-94 | | 1994-95 | | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 (upto Nov.96) | |
| | | Funds released | Workers covered | Funds released | Workers covered | Funds released | Workers covered | Funds released | Workers covered |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 8,35,000 | 20,875 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2. | Delhi | - | - | 520 | 13 | - | - | 520 | 13 |
| 3. | Himachal Pradesh | 2,360 | 50 ⁿ | 2360 | 59 | - | - | - | - |
| 4. | Karnataka | 10,00,000 | 25,000 | - | - | 10,00,000 | 25,000 | - | - |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 47,720 | 1,193 | 37,040 | 926 | 1,75,800 | 4,395 | 62,720 | 1,568 |
| 6. | Maharashtra | - | - | - | - | 10,00,000 | 25,000 | - | - |
| 7. | Orissa | - | - | 1,00,000 | 2,500 | - | - | - | - |
| 8. | Rajasthan | 12,360 | 309 | 54,920 | 1,373 | 53,680 | 1,342 | - | - |
| 9. | Tamil Nadu | - | - | - | - | 32,200 | 805 | - | - |
| 10. | Uttar Pradesh | 5,40,000 | 13,500 | 5,00,000 | 12,500 | 5,00,000 | 12,500 | - | - |
| 11. | West Bengal | - | - | - | - | - | - | 68,000 | 1,700 |
| Total | | 24,37,440 | 60,936 | 6,94,840 | 17,371 | 27,61,680 | 69,242 | 1,31,240 | 3,281 |

Limits on Banks Credit to Central Government

2220. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose statutory limits on the Bank's net credit to the Central Government in a year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to place constitutional limits on the Government power to borrow from the market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). An agreement was signed on 9th September, 1994 between Government of India and RBI to gradually phase out the system of borrowing by the Government from the latter through issue of adhoc treasury bills by 1996-97. An alternative system is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d). The feasibility of putting a statutory ceiling on borrowing by the Government is under consideration.

Setting up of new Industries in U.P.

2221. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been received by the Union Government for giving approval for setting up new industries in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the approval has been accorded by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken on the above proposals?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). During the period from January, 1994 to October, 1996 only two proposals for the State of Uttar Pradesh have been filed by Pradeshia Industrial and Investment Corporation of U.P. Ltd. (PICUP). These have been forwarded to the Administrative Ministry for comments.

[English]

Closed NTC Mills

2222. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of NTC textile Mills lying closed at present, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the loss suffered and the number of employees rendered jobless as a result of closure of these Mills;

(c) whether the Government propose to hand over such Mills to private sector or to Workers co-operatives;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (b). No mill under NTC is lying closed as per the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. There is only partial/total cessation of activities in some of the mills. Out of the 120 mills under NTC there is total

cessation of activities in 28 mills as follows :

| Name of the State | No. of mills without any activities |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| U.P. | 7 |
| Gujarat | 8 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1 |
| West Bengal | 10 |
| Bihar | 1 |
| Orissa | 1 |
| Total | 28 |

Since NTC is paying wages, salaries, bonus, etc. to all their employees, the question of any employees becoming jobless does not arise. NTC suffered a net loss of Rs. 473.02 crores (Prov.) in 1995-96 due to a variety of reasons such as excess manpower, obsolete machinery and shortage of working capital.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government have approved a revised Turn Around Plan for NTC mills, involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills, etc. The revised modernisation plan has been placed before the BIFR for its approval, since 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies.

Investment by USA

2223. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the US investment proposals have been approved during 1996-97; and

(b) the total US investment likely to be made in India and the projects that have been agreed upon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). A total of 142 number of US investment proposals envisaging Foreign Direct Investment of Rs. 7248.97 crores have been approved by the Government during the period from 1.4.96 to 30.9.96.

The details of such proposals viz; Name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

[Translation]

Financial Position of Banks in Maharashtra

2224. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial position of Public Sector banks functioning in Maharashtra, bank-wise as on date;

(b) the details of the proposals for setting up Co-operative banks in the State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) A statement showing profitability and financial position of public sector banks having their corporate offices/head office in Maharashtra is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has informed that as on date they have not received any proposal for setting up of new District Central cooperative banks/State cooperative banks in Maharashtra State. After the issue revised guidelines in May, 1993, RBI have upto 30.11.1996 received in all 288 proposals for setting up of new urban co-operative banks in Maharashtra State. Out of these, 173 proposals have been granted in principle clearance for registration and 103 banks have completed registration formalities and have been issued licences to commence banking business under Section 22 of B.R. Act, 1949 (As applicable to Co-operative Societies), 58 proposals for setting up new urban co-operative banks have been rejected as adequate urban banking facilities were already available at the respective centres and one proposal has been withdrawn. The remaining 56 proposals are either under scrutiny of RBI or/under correspondence with Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Maharashtra State, Pune for rectification of discrepancies or submission of required information/documents.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing the Financial Position as on 31.3.1996 of Banks which have Corporate/Head Office in Maharashtra

| S. No. | Name of the Bank | Paid-up Capital | Reserves and Surplus | Deposits | Advances | Net Profit/Loss | Capital Adequacy |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Bank of Baroda | 577 | 1154 | 28370 | 16013 | 204 | 11.20 |
| 2. | Bank of India | 582 | 678 | 27523 | 15596 | 276 | 8.44 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----|-----------------------|------|-----|-------|------|-------|------|
| 3. | Bank of Maharashtra | 749 | 60 | 5971 | 2692 | 13 | 8.49 |
| 4. | Central Bank of India | 1305 | 400 | 19752 | 8903 | (-74) | 2.63 |
| 5. | Dena Bank | 147 | 130 | 6476 | 3402 | 52 | 8.27 |
| 6. | Union Bank of India | 338 | 899 | 17892 | 8681 | 80 | 9.50 |

[Translation]

Misuse of Facilities by Trade and Industry

2225. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Misuse of facilities is holding up pace of reforms; Ramaiah" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated August 10, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of misuse of facilities by the trade and industry sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some complaints have been received alleging misuse of the Value Based Advance Licensing Scheme. These complaints relate to over-invoicing and misdeclaration of value, duty export related frauds, and bonafides of the exporters. Certain cases of violation of the gold/silver Jewellery articles export promotion and replenishment scheme have also been reported.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to prevent the misuse of the Value Based Advance Licence during the last 3 years. These include (i) fine tuning of the operation of the VBAL Scheme based on standard input-output norms only; (ii) mandatory imposition of export obligation both in quantity and value terms in VBAL; (iii) increasing the number of import items in the Sensitive List which are subject to quantity, or quantity and value restrictions under Value Based Licences; (iv) making the Scheme inapplicable to certain sectors, like silk; (v) stopping operations of specified categories of VBAL; (vi) issue of comprehensive instructions on 6.3.1995 for checking over-valuation of exports under VBAL; and (vii) to overcome the problems of non-reversal of MODVAT prior to export, Under the Scheme, exporters are required to pay Additional Customs Duty at the time of import with affect from 1.4.1995, subject to adjustment at a later stage. The procedure for verification of the availment of MODVAT in respect of inputs used for manufacture of export products has also been streamlined. The Deptt. of Revenue has also issued a Circular on 19.4.1996 under which the field formations have been directed to refer the cases of inflated licences to the DGFT.

As regards gold jewellery cases, the Govt. have constituted an Inter-Ministrial Group under the Chairmanship of Commissioner of Customs, Delhi, to take coordinated action against defaulting exporters of gold jewellery.

[English]

Collaboration with Germany

2226. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Federal Republic of Germany has recently extended its co-operation to meet changing demands of the industry in India regarding vocational training system by granting DM 15 million (Rs. 36 crore);

(b) whether the Union Government have taken any decision regarding collaboration with Germany in different fields; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) At the last annual Indo-German Negotiations on Development Cooperation held in Germany from 2-5 September, 1996, both sides agreed to further increase cooperation in the field of vocational training. Out of the funds for technical commitments amounting to DM 11 million for projects relating to vocational training. Prior to this, there was commitment for DM 4 million towards preparation of instructional material for improvement in the standards of training in ITIs, in the industries and the establishments implementing apprenticeship training scheme in Central Instructional Media Institute, (CIMI), Madras.

(b) and (c). The sectoral breakup of technology and investment areas of German companies approved by the Government of India from 1.8.1991 to 31.8.1996 are: Metallurgical Industry (36.23%), Transportation (12.58%), Telecommunication (9.87%), Fuels (8.32%), Electrical Equipment (7.12%) and others (25.88%).

Foreign Investment

2227. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have liberalised the parameters covering foreign investment proposals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The Foreign Investment Policy as enumerated is constantly reviewed to make it more dynamic with the objective of increasing foreign direct investment into the country particularly in priority/core sectors, including infrastructure.

Recently, the foreign investment parameters have been further liberalised to facilitate better and increased flow of foreign technology and equity and provide greater attraction to prospective investors.

It will no longer be necessary for automatic approvals by RBI that the amount of foreign equity should cover the foreign exchange requirements for import of capital goods needed for the project. The import of capital goods for the project would be, however, subject to the EXIM Policy.

The existing ceiling of Rs. 1 crore by way of payment of lumpsum fee for automatic approval has been raised to US \$ 2 million.

[Translation]

Export Oriented Units in Maharashtra

2228. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the location-wise details of the export oriented units in Maharashtra and details of the export made by them;

(b) the details of the units which have achieved their targets;

(c) the units which have not achieved their export targets with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to review the functioning of these units and ensuring that the export targets are achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Functions of Spices Trading Corporation

2229. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main function of the Spices Trading Corporation;

(b) the main objective of the Corporation;

(c) the work done by the Corporation during the last three years;

(d) the export performance and profit of the Corporation during the above period;

(e) whether the Corporation has any proposal to diversify its activities; and

(f) if so, the details of the proposal mooted by the Spices Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The Spices Trading Corporation Ltd. (formerly known as Cardamon Trading Corporation) was set up in 1982 under the Companies Act. The main functions and objectives of the corporations are; to carry on domestic and international trade in spices and their products; to conduct open auctions and sell spices regularly; to process and cure spices and spice products; to undertake research and development of spices/products and to promote and develop new markets for spices.

(c) and (d). The gross turn over and export turnover of the Corporation during the last three years is given below :

| (in Rs. lakhs) | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Year | Gross turnover | Export & turnover | Gross profit | Net profit |
| 1993-94 | 2253.00 | 201.65 | 46.73 | (-) 8.31 |
| 1994-95 | 2212.88 | 24.66 | 1.04 | (-) 28.71 |
| 1995-96 | 1065.23 | 152.19 | (-) 18.63 | (-) 75.47 |

(Source : Spices Trading Corporation Ltd., Bangalore)

(e) and (f). Scanning of various business opportunities is an ongoing process and apart from Spices, Spices Trading Corporation Ltd. is also engaged in trading of wide range of other agricultural commodities such as onions, potatoes and dry-fruits for exports and domestic sales. The Corporation also plans to enter consumer marketing of whole spices in the domestic market. It also sells agricultural inputs viz. fertilisers, pesticides and sprayers to farmers.

High Court Benches

2230. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of High Court Benches which are defunct in the country, High Court-wise;

(b) whether there is a long pressing demand for the revival of the High Court Bench of Kerala at Trivandrum; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for its revival and functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) There are no defunct High Court Benches in the country.

(b) and (c). Representations have been received for establishing a bench of the Kerala High Court at Thiruvananthapuram. However, no complete proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala, in

consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, in this regard. As such, it is not possible for the Central Government to take any action in the matter.

[Translation]

Policy on Paper

2231. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any policy on paper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether a decision is likely to be taken to formulate it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government to keep alive the paper industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e). Paper Industry has been partially delicensed since July, 1991. Paper units based on use of minimum 75% pulp from bagasse and other agricultural residues and non-conventional raw materials including waste paper are exempted from industrial licensing subject to satisfaction of locational criteria. The Entrepreneur's have only to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum with the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance for establishment of a new undertaking and effecting substantial expansion. Paper units which are primarily wood based units are required to obtain Industrial Licence.

Direct Foreign Investment upto 51% and investment upto 100% on repatriable basis from overseas corporate bodies/NRIs is being permitted automatically in the Paper Industry subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

Import of wood pulp and waste paper has been allowed without restrictions of import licence at a low rate of custom duty of 5%. Paper units using 75% or more of the unconventional raw material are charged a low rate of excise duty i.e. 5% for the first 10,000 Metric Tonnes of their production.

Alternative raw material like jute, are being developed for the manufacture of paper.

[English]

Export of Fruit and Horticulture

2232. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of fruit and other horticulture produce exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years and first six months of 1996-97, country-wise; and

(b) whether the Government have any proposal for increasing improving and modernising infrastructure

for storage and transport facilities for perishable items; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The total quantity and value of fresh fruits and vegetables and processed fruits and vegetables exported during the last three years and first six months of the current year are as under :

| | | Qty : in Mts. | |
|---------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | Value : Rs. in Crores | |
| | | Fresh Fruits and Vegetables | Processed Fruits and Vegetables |
| 1993-94 | (Quantity) | 475332 | 120522 |
| | (Value) | 385.43 | 268.50 |
| 1994-95 | (Quantity) | 554546 | 144322 |
| | (Value) | 433.27 | 348.22 |
| 1995-96 | (Quantity) | 544105 | 193510 |
| | (Value) | 531.16 | 491.59 |
| 1996-97 | (Quantity) | N.A. | N.A. |
| | (Value) | 266.16 | 164.04 |

(Source DGCI & S. Calcutta and APEDA)

(b) and (c). Some of the steps taken by the Government for creation of infrastructure for storage and transport facilities, inter-alia, include :

- (i) Providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure such as provision of refrigerated/insulated vans and setting up of pre colling/cold storage units;
- (ii) Establishing walk-in-type cold storage at five airports for export consignments awaiting clearance;
- (iii) Setting up of dedicated facility for handling export cargoes of perishable products at international airport at Delhi.

Anti Dumping Investigation

2233. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing incidence of dumping activity in India during the recent months;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received by Designated Authority for dealing with anti-dumping cases, industry-wise;

(c) the details of such cases investigated and the action taken thereon;

(d) the details of cases still under investigations; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the above Authority to deal with the dumping activities to protect the interests of domestic producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e). The Designated Authority has been receiving a number of petitions from domestic manufacturers complaining dumping of products in the country. A

statement detailing cases where anti dumping duties have been imposed, cases where duties have been recommended by the Designated Authority and cases under investigation by Designated Authority is enclosed.

The Government constantly reviews the situation to ensure that the Designated Authority is not handicapped for any reason, including manpower, in discharging its functions.

STATEMENT

A. Cases where Anti Dumping Duties Imposed

| Product | Country | Anti-dumping Duty Imposed | Duty Levied On |
|--|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. PVC Resin | Brazil | Rs. 2036/MT | 18.1.94 |
| | Mexico | Rs. 1619/MT | 18.1.94 |
| | South Korea | Rs. 1253/MT | 18.1.94 |
| | Korea | Rs. 504/MT | 18.1.94 |
| | U S A | | |
| 2. Bisphenol-A | Japan | Rs. 7477/MT | 11.3.94 |
| 3. Potassium Permanganate | China | Rs. 5992/MT | 5.9.95 |
| 4. Isobutyl Benzene | China | Rs. 10634/MT | 31.8.95 |
| 5. 3,4,5 Trimethoxy Benaldehyde (TMBA) | China | 237/Kg. | 20.10.95 |
| 6. Theophylline | China | Rs. 108/Kg. | 30.10.95 |
| | Caffeine | China | Rs. 101/Kg. |
| 7. Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (Nitrile Rubber) | Japan | Rs. 19306/MT | 14.11.95 |
| 8. Bisphenol-A | Brazil | Rs. 10263/MT | 26.12.95 |
| | Russia | Rs. 12559/MT | |
| 9. Sodium Ferrocyanide | China | Between Rs. 16358/MT to Rs. 20287/MT | 4.9.96 |

B. Cases where duties have been recommended

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Dead Burnt Magnesite (DBM) | China | Exporter-wise ranging from Rs. 1333/MT to Rs. 1925/MT | Final duties recommended on 11/11/96 |
| 2. Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC) | Russia | Between Rs. 10900/MT to Rs. 18600/MT | Final duties recommended on 3/12/96 |
| | Kazakhstan | Rs. 18500/MT | |
| 3. 8-Hydroxyquinoline | China | Between Rs. 183/kg to Rs. 206/Kg. | Provisional duties recommended |
| 4. Bisphenol-A | U S A | Rs. 10,000/MT | Provisional duties recommended |

C. Cases Under Investigation for provisional measures

| Product | Country | Remarks |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Nitrile Rubber | Germany, South Korea | Under examination for Preliminary Findings |
| 2. Catalysts | Denmark | Under examination for Preliminary Findings |
| 3. Acrylic Fibre | USA, Thailand, Korea RP | Under examination for Preliminary Findings |
| 4. Graphite Electrodes | USA, China, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Austria, France, Spain | Under examination for Preliminary Findings |

Import of Gold

2234. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of gold brought in India at Mumbai Airport by the Non-Resident Indians during each of the last three years under the liberalised gold import scheme;

(b) whether the Government are aware that gold import scheme which was introduced to curb gold smuggling is in fact being used by smuggling gangs by making use of NRIs returning from gulf countries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the smuggling of Gold through NRIs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The quantity of gold imported through Mumbai Airport by Non Resident Indians during the last three years under the liberalised gold import scheme is as under :

| Year | Quantity (in Kg.) |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1993-94 | 44047.118 |
| 1994-95 | 37709.050 |
| 1995-96 | 3081.809 |
| 1996-97 (upto 31.10.96) | 41825.973 |

(b) and (c). Recently in some of the cases investigated by the customs authorities, it appeared that the returning Non Resident Indians have been used to carry gold for a consideration in terms of air-fare and/or cash compensation.

The main objectives of the liberalised Gold Import Scheme, interalia, were to encourage the import of gold through licit channels against payment of customs duty in foreign exchange and to discourage smuggling of gold. It has been reported that the introduction of this Scheme has had a healthy impact on checking clandestine imports of gold. At present, there is no proposal before the Government to review this Scheme.

[Translation]

Credit to Foreign Trade

2235. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to instruct all the commercial banks to sanction 15 percent of total bank loan for foreign trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any fixed percentage of bank loan to foreign trade is existing at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of loans given for foreign trade during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). RBI guidelines prescribe raising the target to export credit from existing 10 percent to 12 percent of net bank credit of scheduled commercial banks to be achieved by the end of March, 1997. The export credit outstanding of scheduled commercial banks as on 18.3.1994, 31.3.1995 and 29.3.1996 was Rs. 17086 Crores, Rs. 25,051 Crores and Rs. 29,692 Crores respectively.

Export of Agricultural Products

2236. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether possibilities to export agricultural products from Gujarat and Maharashtra especially from the tribal and backward areas and also their sales in the international market have been ascertained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Union Government propose to find out the possibilities in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e). Some of the agricultural products identified for exports from Gujarat and Maharashtra (including the tribal and backward areas) are as under :

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Maharashtra | Mangoes, Grapes, Strawberries, Chikoo, Citrus fruits, Bananas, Pomegranates, Ber, Onions, Okra, Beans, Floriculture items and Cotton |
| Gujarat | Cumin, Fennel, Garlic, Chillies, derivatives of castor seeds, Bananas, Chikoo, Guava, Onions, HPS Groundnuts and deoiled cakes. |

[English]

Deposits in Banks/F.I.s

2237. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount deposited in Nationalised Banks and other Financial Institutions in the country, Bank-wise and Institution-wise;

(b) whether the deposits in Nationalised Banks and other Financial Institutions have decreased after grant of permission for opening of banks in Private Sector in the country; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The deposits of each of the nationalised banks as at the end of March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996 as furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is given in the enclosed Statement. RBI has reported that there has been no decline in the total deposits of nationalised banks since the advent of private

sector banks from 1994. RBI has also further reported that only selected All India Financial Institutions (FIs) are allowed by RBI to accept term deposits and Certificate of Deposits (CDs). FIs rely on deposits as a source of funds on a limited basis. There is hardly any comparison between deposits raised by FIs and banks *inter alia* for the reason that the terms and conditions at which FIs are allowed to raise deposits are different from those at which banks raise deposits. Further, deposits by FIs are targetted at a different segment of investors than banks. Therefore, opening of new private sector banks could not have affected the deposits raised by FIs.

STATEMENT

Bank-wise Deposits of Nationalised Banks as at time end of March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996

(Rs. Crore)

| Name of Bank | March 1994 | March 1995 | March 1996 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Allahabad Bank | 8452.80 | 9231.01 | 10148.92 |
| 2. Andhra Pradesh | 4041.47 | 5311.65 | 5962.22 |
| 3. Bank of Baroda | 23115.65 | 26286.56 | 28369.53 |
| 4. Bank of India | 21419.86 | 24480.24 | 22522.92 |
| 5. Bank of Maharashtra | 4483.76 | 5341.20 | 5921.20 |
| 6. Canara Bank | 18638.94 | 22475.11 | 26243.24 |
| 7. Central Bank | 15966.00 | 19654.55 | 19751.60 |
| 8. Corporation Bank | 4118.41 | 6136.29 | 5733.96 |
| 9. Dena Bank | 4923.57 | 5779.43 | 6476.41 |
| 10. Indian Bank | 11818.02 | 12739.96 | 13314.80 |
| 11. Indian Overseas Bank | 10804.81 | 12686.92 | 14588.74 |
| 12. Oriental Bank of Commerce | 5239.06 | 6673.46 | 8710.88 |
| 13. Punjab National Bank | 21930.87 | 24713.35 | 22122.89 |
| 14. Punjab and Sind Bank | 4025.87 | 5277.52 | 5877.42 |
| 15. Syndicate Bank | 10111.79 | 11777.01 | 12718.25 |
| 16. Union Bank | 11800.95 | 15482.52 | 17891.73 |
| 17. United Bank | 6991.95 | 8042.16 | 8789.93 |
| 18. UCO Bank | 9298.14 | 10328.34 | 11443.17 |
| 19. Vijaya Bank | 4294.62 | 5870.01 | 5988.51 |

[English]

Setting up of Tribunals

2238. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Tribunals were set up with the aim of removing delay and expediting the justice;

(b) if so, whether the aim has not been achieved;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of cases pending in the different Tribunals, tribunal-wise as on date and since when; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to tone-up the working of Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). A number of Tribunals have been set up by the Government under various Acts for dealing with cases arising under these Acts. These Tribunals

are under the administrative control of various Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The Law Commission of India has undertaken a study on the functioning of the Tribunals.

(d) A statement showing the details of the number of cases pending and the year-wise break-up of the pending cases in respect of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal and the Foreign Exchange Regulations Appellate Board which are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Law and Justice is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The number of cases pending before the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal and Foreign Exchange Regulations Appellate Board

| Year | Cases pending in the in the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal (As on 01-11-96) | Cases pending in the Foreign Exchange Regulations Appellate Board (As on 01-12-96) |
|--------------|--|---|
| 1975 | 1 | - |
| 1976 | 1 | - |
| 1977 | - | 3 |
| 1979 | 5 | - |
| 1980 | 8 | - |
| 1981 | 22 | - |
| 1982 | 31 | 5 |
| 1983 | 118 | 5 |
| 1984 | 118 | 23 |
| 1985 | 208 | 26 |
| 1986 | 306 | 93 |
| 1987 | 592 | 63 |
| 1988 | 1903 | 124 |
| 1989 | 4485 | 292 |
| 1990 | 14604 | 656 |
| 1991 | 31377 | 465 |
| 1992 | 44447 | 586 |
| 1993 | 47689 | 705 |
| 1994 | 50268 | 520 |
| 1995 | 56465 | 306 |
| 1996 | 46699 | 333 |
| | (as on 1-11-96) | (as on 1-12-96) |
| Total | 299347 | 4205 |

Recommendations of Padmanabhan Committee

2239. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations of the

Padmanabhan Committee which have been accepted and rejected by RBI;

(b) the number of recommendations that have been implemented so far; and

(c) the time by which the remaining recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is reported to have accepted almost all the recommendations of the Padmanabhan Committee. No recommendation has been rejected. One recommendation relating to the differential periodicity of the on-site inspection based on the rating of banks has been referred to the Government for consideration before implementation. The major recommendations of the Committee are listed below :

- (i) Strategy: The Working Group has recommended a shift in supervisory strategy from the current system of periodical inspections to a system of continuous on going supervision and periodical inspections. The system envisaged intergration of the newly introduced off-site monitoring system with periodical on-site inspections. There should also be target specific supplementary or bridge exercises on critical areas on an on-going basis.
- (ii) Focus of Inspections: The focus of inspections has to be on solvency, capital adequacy, liquidity, operational soundness and managerial prudence.
- (iii) Periodicity - The group has recommended on-site inspections to be conducted in two cyclical tracks viz annual biennial by dividing banks into two categories based on their reported/assessed financial and operational condition, and compliance record. The rating of banks would be an important factor for deciding the periodicity of inspections.
- (iv) Inspecting outputs : Inspection should focus and produce output relating to assessments on three broad areas, viz financial condition, operating condition (system and controls) and quality of management and regulatory compliance. Assessment of Financial condition would consist of separate assessment on asset quality, solvency, capital adequacy, liquidity and earning performance.
- (v) Supplementary vehicles : The group has recommended four types of supplementary on-site assessments between the inspections, viz. targeted appraisals, targeted appraisals at control sites, commissioned audits and monitoring visits.

- (vi) Follow-up and enforcement : After the on-site inspection action plan for the banks would be prepared based on the identified concerns and to be monitored by the Department of Supervision (DOS).
- (vii) Rating on Banks : The group has recommended to adopt a rating system for banks based on CAMEL model emphasising different rating factors. Banks would be rated on a five score scale of A to E based on their strength and soundness on rating factors viz capital adequacy, asset quality, management, earnings, liquidity, systems and controls (CAMELS) for Indian banks and capital adequacy, asset quality, compliance, systems and controls (CACs) for foreign banks.

(b) and (c). The modalities for implementation of the recommendations are being worked out and the revised inspection of banks by RBI is expected to be introduced from the Annual Inspection cycle of banks to be taken up with reference to the banks' financial position as on March 31, 1997. The revised Inspection Manual is also expected to be in place before this date.

[Translation]

Participation in World Economic Forum Conference

2240. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has participated in the World Economic Forum Conference organised in October, 1996;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the position of India in the field of information regarding world trade has been described in this conference as less than 0.1 repeat by the officers of World Trade Organisation; and

(d) if so, the achievements made by India in obtaining modern techniques in different fields from the above mentioned conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Sir, World Economic Forum, Geneva - a non-Governmental organisation - and the Confederation of Indian Industry had organised a meeting in October 1996 on "India: a global partner in the marking". It was also addressed *inter-alia* by the Prime Minister and Finance Minister of India. Trade and Industry participated at the Conference.

(c) It is learnt that at this conference a WTO official stated that India's share in world trade of information technology products is less than 0.1%.

(d) Sir, the Conference was a brain-storming meeting and provided an opportunity to Indian

participants to interact with their foreign counterparts in various areas of mutual interest.

Consumption and Export of Paper and Newsprint

2241. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total consumption and export of all type of papers and news print in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken to boost its production?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Total consumption of Paper and Newsprint in the country during the year 1995-96 was as under :

| | Indigenous Production (lakh tonnes) | Import (tonnes) |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| Paper | 27.10 | 1,10,041 |
| Newsprint | 4.10 | 3,45,000 |

There has been only marginal export of paper as well as newsprint to the neighbouring countries.

(b) The policy of the Government is to provide fiscal incentives to induce more investment in order to boost production of all types of papers and newsprint in the country. Some of the fiscal incentives are :

1. To obviate the shortage of raw material, Government is encouraging use of non-conventional raw materials for manufacturing paper by way of lower excise duty of 10% on paper manufactured by using atleast 75% non conventional raw material.
2. Exemption from Excise Duty on writing and printing paper used by State Text Book Publications Corporations/Boards for NCERT for printed educational text books.
3. Newsprint has been exempted from excise duty and on procurement of raw materials like wood pulp there is reduced customs duty.
4. Peak rate reduction in customs duty on inorganic/organic chemicals.
5. Reduction in customs duty on caustic soda and soda ash from 40% to 30%.
6. Reduction in customs duty on wood pulp and waste paper.

Moreover, procedures have been liberalised for attracting investment in paper industry. Paper and newsprint industry have been partially delicensed since July, 1991. Paper units based on use of minimum 75% pulp from bagasse and other agricultural residues and non-conventional raw materials including waste paper are exempted from industrial licensing subject to satisfaction of locational criteria.

[English]

Disinvestment Policy

2242. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are pursuing the Public Sector Undertakings disinvestment policy in luke-warm pace;

(b) whether the PSU disinvestment policy has resulted in any appreciable reduction in public debt and associated interest burden;

(c) whether the turn over of PSUs is below 3% of the capital invested in PSUs;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to consider application of commercial principles in public sector enterprises and also reduction, in phases, of the gross subsidy being given to power sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The limited exercise of disinvestment *inter alia* is aimed at raising resources without inflationary effect to reduce fiscal deficit. Now according to the Common Minimum Programme the said resources would be spent on education and health in backward areas and for PSUs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). PSUs are expected to operate along Commercial lines and by and large they do so. The CPSUs in the Power Sector already run on Commercial Principles and are not being given any subsidy.

Export of Prawn

2243. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to encourage prawn exports during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the annual target set up for its export during the remaining period of Eighth Plan; and

(c) the achievements made so far and the estimated contributions of prawn exporters from Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c). Prawns constitute one of the most important items in exports of marine products from India. In order to boost export of prawn from India, shrimp farming has been identified as an extreme focus item. The Government of India has been implementing through the Marine

Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), a number of promotional schemes for augmenting exports of prawns through aquaculture. During the Eighth Five Year Plan a target was set to develop one lakh hectares of area for shrimp farming and currently around 1.19 lakh hectare has already been brought under shrimp farming. Besides this, the export of prawns, which stood at 76080 MT valued at Rs. 975.43 crores at the end of the year 1991-92 increased to 95697 MT valued at Rs. 2356.43 crores at the end of the year 1995-96. During the current year, which, happens to be the last year of the Eighth Five Year Plan, 108450 MT of prawns valued at Rs. 2964 crores are targeted to be exported. Against this target, 59910 MT of prawns valued at Rs. 1475.88 crores have been exported in the period (April-September) 1996-97. The estimated contribution from the State of Kerala in the year 1996-97 is 42,700 MT valued at Rs. 561.02 crores.

Bank Dues Against Sick Units

2244. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of sick units and the total financial liabilities thereof as on date;

(b) the details of the policy for recovery of dues of financial institutions and commercial banks from these units;

(c) the details of existing provisions to protect the interest of workers including their dues from these units; and

(d) the efforts being made to curb this spreading menace in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) As per the information provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total number of sick/weak units with outstanding bank credit of scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March 1995 (latest available) were as under :

(Rs. crores)

| Category | No. of Units | Outstanding Bank Credit |
|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| SSI Sick | 268815 | 3547.16 |
| Non-SSI Sick | 1915 | 8739.61 |
| Non-SSI Weak | 476 | 1452.20 |
| Total | 271206 | 1373.97 |

(b) and (d). Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI regarding formulation/implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units (including sick SSI units) considered potentially viable for their revival. Rehabilitation packages *inter-alia*, provide for funding of existing dues of banks and

financial institutions with extended period for repayment thereof in a phased manner, interest concessions, grant of fresh term loans as also fresh working capital facilities. As regards non-SSI sick industrial companies, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 takes necessary action for determination of preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures and for enforcement of such measures.

Banks/financial institutions take action to recover their dues as per their laid down rules/procedures. With a view to facilitate expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions, Government have enacted the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 to facilitate quicker recoveries of loan arrears.

(c) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that while formulating a revival package in respect of a sick industrial company, the unpaid dues of the workers and settlement thereof proposed by the management are also taken into account at the time of drawing up the cost of the rehabilitation package and means of finance.

Custom Policy

2245. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to review customs policy; and

(b) if so, the main features of the policy and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Customs Policy mainly consists of two aspects, namely, Customs Tariff Policy and the Procedures.

While Customs Tariff Policy is reviewed every year, as a part of the Budget exercise; the policy relating to Customs procedures is reviewed from time to time in consultation with other concerned Ministries.

Development of Poultry by NABARD

2246. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NABARD has undertaken a study on the development of poultry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to draw any long term plan for the growth of poultry industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Multinational Companies

2247. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether European Commission propose to isolate India on its stand on multinational companies;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Export of Cotton Yarn

2248. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released additional export quota for cotton yarn for 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target fixed for cotton yarn export during the last three years and the achievement made; and

(d) the projection of cotton yarn export to be made during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have enhanced the ceiling for export of cotton yarn of 40s and below counts for 1996 by 30 million kgs. i.e., from 80 million kgs. to 110 million kgs.

(c) The export targets and the actual exports of cotton yarn during the past three years have been as given below.

| Year | Export Target (In Million US\$) | Exports (In Million US\$) |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 411.31 | 512.97 |
| 1994-95 | 530.50 | 832.34 |
| 1995-96 | 550.00 | 1011.54 |

(d) A target of US\$ 1250 Million has been fixed for exports of cotton yarn during 1996-97.

[Translation]

Setting up Industrial Unit in Gujarat

2249. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from abroad for setting up industrial units in Gujarat State especially in tribal majority areas of the State during the last three years, till date;

(b) if so, the year-wise and country-wise details thereof alongwith the amount proposed to be invested therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). The total foreign direct investment proposals approved during the last three years i.e. from January, 1994 to September, 1996 in the State of Gujarat (including tribal area) is as under :

| Year | No. of Proposals | Amount (Rs. in crores) |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1994 | 52 | 1142.39 |
| 1995 | 59 | 426.29 |
| 1996 (Upto Sept.) | 48 | 749.76 |

The details of such proposals viz. Name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

[English]

Misuse of Stockinvest Scheme

2250. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :
SHRI RAM SAGAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the R.B.I. has carried out investigations

into the misuse of the stockinvest scheme in the private and public sector banks including Vyasa Bank Ltd;

(b) if so, the details of irregularities detected and the action taken by the Government in each of the cases; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to ensure that the stockinvest scheme is no longer misused?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The bank-wise details of the irregularities detected in the case of public and private sector and the action taken thereon is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The RBI has initiated a series of steps to curb the irregularities in the operation of Stockinvest Scheme the details of which are given below :

- (i) Banks are permitted to issue Stock Invests only to individuals and mutual funds.
- (ii) A ceiling of Rs. 10 lakhs per individual per capital issue for issue of Stock Invest has been laid as corporates were found availing Stock Invests using individuals.
- (iii) Banks have been advised that acceptance of share applications unaccompanied by Original SI/Cheque, furnishing declarations to appropriate authorities and treating such applications as valid are not in order and that the bankers lien on the investors deposit account in respect of unused SI should not be lifted before the expiry of 4 month period.

STATEMENT

| Name of the Bank | Type of irregularity | Action taken against the bank |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| (i) Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. | (i) Issue of stockinvests to individuals to subscribe to the public issue of companies in which they/their relatives were directors/promoters. (ii) Issue of stockinvest to stockbrokers of the Calcutta Stock Exchange. | A penalty of Rs. 5 lakh has been imposed on the bank. The bank has also been prohibited from issuing stockinvests from its Chowringhee (Calcutta) branch for a period of six month. |
| (ii) Indus Ind Bank Ltd. | (i) Transfer of funds from the overdraft/cash credit accounts of companies to individual accounts of the | A penalty of Rs. 5 lakh has been imposed on the bank. The Mumbai branch of |

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directors/partners of the company/firm for enabling them to avail of stockinvest.

(ii) Extensions of credit facilities to an investment company against pledge of shares of the group company in violation of instructions contained in RBI circular DBOD. No. SIC.BC. 114/-C.739 (A-1) 86 dated 24.10.86.

(iii) Extensions of credit facilities to a company against the security of Certificate of Deposit held in the name of directors in violation of the instructions contained in RBI circular DBOD. No. BP.BC. 134/65/-89 dated 6.6.1989.

(iii) Vysya Bank Ltd.

(i) Funds released for packing credit were diverted for purchase of Stockinvests (SI).

(ii) Transfer of funds from accounts of companies to individual accounts for issue of SIs.

(iii) Issue of SIs in bulk.

(iv) HDFC Bank Ltd.

Issue of SIs of Rs. 2 crore each to 150 individuals for applying to the public issue of HDFC Bank Ltd, against the lien on deposits opened on the strength of introduction given by a single person. The funds for opening of the deposit accounts were received from the current account of Reliance Projects Services, a partnership concern having current account with Syndicate Bank, Fort, Mumbai.

the bank has also been prohibited from issuing stockinvest for a period of 6 months.

It has been decided to impose a penalty of Rs. 5 lakh and to prohibit the following branches of the bank from issuing stockinvests for a period of 6 months-

- (a) Ellisbridge (Ahmedabad)
- (b) Ashram Road (-do-)
- (c) Overseas (Mumbai)
- (d) Khar West (Mumbai)
- (e) K.K. Tagore Street (Calcutta)

Show cause notice under Section 47A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 was issued to the bank asking it as to why a penalty should not be imposed on it and why the bank should not be prohibited from issuing SIs in future. In reply to the above notice as also during the personal hearing the bank's MD submitted that since the bank commenced business only in January 1995 it had rely on the

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(v) Bank of
Madura Ltd.
(Delhi branches)

- (i) Issue of SIs to Stock-broking firm.
- (ii) Issue of SIs against clearing cheques/ overdraft discounting of cheques.
- (iii) SIs were issued to partners in their individual names by debiting the firms account.
- (iv) Issue of SIs against third party deposits.
- (v) Issue of SIs against inadequate deposit cover.

(vi) Global Trust Bank Ltd.

- (i) SIs were issued to individuals against their savings account which in turn were funded from packing credit account.
- (ii) SIs were issued against working capital facilities sanctioned to to Co.
- (iii) On the basis of power of attorney lodged by the investors, several investment companies were issued SIs in bulk.

introduction of a bonafide parson known to the bank and therefore the accounts were opened with introduction furnished by one person. The bank had however complied with the formalities of opening the deposit accounts. Further, 150 depositors were physically present for opening the accounts. Also, the transactions were investment transactions of individuals who were allotted shares on the basis of allotment approved by Mumbai Stock Exchange and the bank had ensured that these were not Benami transactions. The bank also confirmed that necessary instructions have been issued to branches and that adequate internal control mechanism has been put in place. As the explanation of the bank was found satisfactory it was decided not to proceed with the imposition of penalty/prohibition.

It has been decided to issue a show cause notice asking the bank as to why a penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs and prohibition from issue of SIs from any of its branches in Delhi should not be imposed.

Show cause notice is being issued asking the bank as to why a penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs and prohibition from issue of SIs from its Chowringhee branch (Calcutta) and Opera House branch (Mumbai) should not be imposed.

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | <p>(iv) A part of temporary overdraft granted for working capital purpose was transferred to individual account of a director to enable him to avail SIs.</p> <p>(v) Issue of SIs to a share-broker.</p> | |
| (vii) State Bank of Saurashtra | <p>(i) Issue of SIs to corporates/ financial intermediaries using individuals as 'fronts'.</p> <p>(ii) Lifting of lien of deposit account against which SIs were issued on the basis of allotment declared in press rather than on actual receipt of SI or a letter from the Registrar.</p> | <p>A penalty of Rs. 5 lakh has been imposed on the bank.</p> |
| (viii) Indian Bank | <p>(i) Transfer of funds from the accounts maintained with other banks to buy SIs.</p> <p>(ii) Issue of SIs against clearing effects.</p> <p>(iii) Issue of SIs to firms/ companies belonging to Parle Group of companies.</p> <p>(iv) Issue of SIs by debit to cash credit accounts.</p> <p>(v) Issue of SIs without marking lien on deposit account.</p> | <p>Show cause notice under Section 47A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 was issued to the bank asking it as to why a penalty should not be imposed on it and why the bank should not be prohibited from issuing SIs in future. The bank's GM during the personal hearing confirmed that SIs were issued to the corporate clients viz Parle Group of companies before issue of RBI circular dated 2 September, 1994 (in terms of which banks have been prohibited from issuing SIs to corporates, share brokers and non-banking finance companies). The GM further confirmed that SIs were issued against clear credit balance and not against drawing power available in cash credit limits and that lien was noted on the Stockinvest Deposit Account. As the explanation of the bank was found satisfactory it was decided not to proceed with the imposition of penalty/ prohibition.</p> |
| (ix) Centurion Bank Ltd. | <p>(i) Improper maintenance of records of Stock-invest blank forms and those issued;</p> <p>(ii) Stock-invests were issued to third parties against insufficient deposits and payments were made by extending credit.</p> | <p>The matter is being examined.</p> |

Arbitration Cases in P.S.U.s.

2251. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of mounting backlog of Arbitration cases over the last three years in Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, PSU-wise and the claims involved;

(c) the number of cases settled through arbitration, PSU-wise during the above period;

(d) the steps taken to remedy the situation;

(e) whether services of Expert Body like Indian Council of Arbitration are being utilised in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). During the last three years i.e. 1993-95, 49 arbitration cases were under process by the Arbitrator and the Arbitrator has decided 15 cases during this period. No case referred to him was lying unattended. A list containing PSU-wise status and the claims involved is enclosed as statement.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). Since no case referred to Arbitrator of Permanent Machinery of Arbitration is lying unattended during these years the need for utilising the services of a body like Indian Council of Arbitration does not arise.

STATEMENT

List of cases under arbitration proceedings in the period 1993—95.

| S.No. | Name of Parties | Claims involved (Rs. in lacs.) | Status. |
|-------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Hindustan Steelworks Const. Ltd. Vs. Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. | 390 | Settled |
| 2. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. | 1563 | Settled. |
| 3. | National Textile Corpn. Ltd. Vs. The Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd. | 2 | settled. |
| 4. | Projects Development India Ltd. Vs. Bharat Electronics Ltd. | 8 | settled. |
| 5. | The Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd. Vs. Department of Fertilizers. | 1 | settled. |
| 6. | Steel Authority of India Ltd. Vs. Gas Authority of India Ltd. | 48 | settled. |
| 7. | State Trading Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Spices Trading Corpn. Ltd. | 14 | settled. |
| 8. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Department of Space. | 146 | settled. |
| 9. | Triveni Structural Ltd. Vs. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 351 | settled. |
| 10. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. International Airport Authority of India. | 470 | settled. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--|-------|----------------|
| 11. | Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 3896 | settled. |
| 12. | Central Warehousing Corpn. Vs. Mormugao Port Trust. | 191 | settled. |
| 13. | Triveni Structurals Ltd. Vs. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 446 | settled. |
| 14. | Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 144 | settled. |
| 15. | Triveni Structurals Ltd. Vs. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 173 | settled. |
| 16. | National Building Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Public Works Deptt. (Delhi Administration) | 1,035 | under process. |
| 17. | National Building Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Department of Space. | 146 | under process. |
| 18. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. | 70 | under process. |
| 19. | Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Northern Coalfields Ltd. | 1281 | under process. |
| 20. | Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineers Ltd. Vs. National Aluminium Company Ltd. | 358 | under process. |
| 21. | Minerals and Metals Trading Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 461 | under process. |
| 22. | Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. Vs. All India Radio. | 422 | under process. |
| 23. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Border Roads Development Board. | 191 | under process. |
| 24. | National Building Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. | 77 | under process. |
| 25. | Triveni Structurals Ltd. Vs. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 351 | under process. |
| 26. | National Building Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Mining and Allied Machinery Corpn. Ltd. | 265 | under process. |
| 27. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. International Airports Authority of India. | 470 | under process. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--|------|---------------|
| 28. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Oil and Natural Gas Commission. | 208 | under process |
| 29. | Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. Vs. New India Assurance Company. | 2 | under process |
| 30. | Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 3896 | under process |
| 31. | Central Warehousing Corpn. Vs. Mormugao Port Trust | 191 | under process |
| 32. | Ordinance Factory Board Vs. Scooter India Ltd. | 29 | under process |
| 33. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. International Airports Authority of India. | 72 | under process |
| 34. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. International Airports Authority of India | 51 | under process |
| 35. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. International Airports Authority of India. | 187 | under process |
| 36. | Triveni Structurals Ltd. Vs. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 446 | under process |
| 37. | Triveni Structurals Ltd. Vs. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 173 | under process |
| 38. | Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Northern Coalfields Ltd. | 823 | under process |
| 39. | Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 144 | under process |
| 40. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. All India Radio. | 351 | under process |
| 41. | Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. Vs. Steel Authority of India Ltd. | 8589 | under process |
| 42. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Calcutta Port Trust. | 227 | under process |
| 43. | Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. Vs. Rajasthan Housing Board. | 1379 | under process |
| 44. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd. | 3 | under process |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|---|-----|---------------|
| 45. | The Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd. Vs. Deptt. of Fertilizers (AGRINDIA) | 105 | under process |
| 46. | Director General Border Roads. Vs. Rail India Technical & Economic Service Ltd. | 33 | under process |
| 47. | Tungabhadra Steel Plant. Vs. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. | 186 | under process |
| 48. | National Buildings Const. Corpn. Ltd. Vs. India Tourism Development Corpn. Ltd. | 110 | under process |
| 49. | Mining & Allied Machinery Corpn. Ltd. Vs. Bhilai Steel Plant (SAIL) | 469 | under process |

Economic Growth

2252. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to regularise more industries;

(b) whether the Government have also decided to accelerate economic growth especially in industrial sector; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to achieve the goal of industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Review of the industries retained under compulsory licensing is an ongoing process. Over a time, justification for retaining the particular industry under compulsory licensing may be eroded. It may be recalled that five years ago, 18 industries were retained under compulsory licensing and the list has been pruned over time to (include) 14 industries only.

(b) and (c). The accelerated industrial growth is sought to be achieved by adopting appropriate trade and fiscal policies and industrial restructuring. Government has also considered removing infrastructural bottlenecks and the constraint of funds to the industry. The extensive application of market mechanism, deregulation of production and distribution in the basic infrastructure services have already been envisaged. The Union Budget, 1996-97 has also proposed establishment of Infrastructure Development Finance Company with an authorised capital of Rs. 5000 crores to act as direct lender, as a refinancing institution and as a provider of financial guarantees. Tax concessions have also been extended to

Production of Coal

2253. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual production of soft coal and its total demand in the country;

(b) whether the Government are getting foreign assistance to increase production of good quality coal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Though the question states about the production of soft coal, it is presumed that the Hon'ble M.P. is referring to raw coal. The demand of coal for the year 1995-96 as assessed by the Planning Commission was 298.80 million tonnes. Against this coal production in the country during 1995-96 was 270.13 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). To upgrade the quality of non-coking coal, two beneficiation plants one at Piparwar Opencast Project (6.5 mtv) of CCL in collaboration with White Industries Limited (WIAL), Australia and the other at Bina Project (4.5 mtv) of NCL with German assistance have been taken up.

[Translation]

Excise duty on Coking and Non-coking Coal

2254. PROF RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of bills made in regard to cess (excise duty) on coking and non-coking coal during the last three years, under Coal Mines Act, 1974, subsidiary unit-wise;

(b) the amount realised against these bills for excise duty during the last three years and the details of outstanding amount, subsidiary unit-wise;

(c) the unit-wise details of outstanding amount as cess (excise duty) since the date of imposition of cess till date;

(d) whether there is any dispute in regard to this outstanding amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Subsidiary-wise details of excise duty payable, realised and outstanding against despatches of coal (coking, non-coking) from January, 1992 to March, 1995 are given below :

(in Rupees)

| Coal Company | Excise duty payable | Excise duty paid | Outstanding |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|
| Eastern Coalfields Limited | 26,30,98,793 | 26,30,98,793 | Assessment for the year 1994-95 pending. |
| Mahanadi Coalfields Limited | 22,44,18,203 | 22,44,08,208 | 9,995 |
| Bharat Cokiong Coal Limited | 35,27,99,112 | 35,27,83,984 | 15,128 |
| North Eastern Coalfields | 93,90,931 | 93,90,931 | Nil |
| Northern Coalfields Limited | 36,50,21,704 | 36,50,21,704 | Nil |
| Singareni Collieries Company Limited | 27,10,46,648 | 27,10,46,648 | Nil |
| Damodar Valley Corporation | 12,07,139 | 12,07,139 | Nil |
| South Eastern Coalfields Limited | 52,96,96,801 | 52,95,63,399 | 1,33,402 |
| Indian Iron and Steel Company | 93,84,814 | 93,84,814 | Assessment for Ramnagar for the year 1994-95 pending. |
| Western Coalfields Limited | 31,43,53,919 | 31,43,53,919 | Nil |
| Tata Iron and Steel Company | 5,48,73,498 | 5,48,73,498 | Nil |
| Central Coalfields Limited | 39,01,43,299 | 39,00,83,792 | 59,507 (Assessment for Kuju area for the year 1994-95 pending.) |
| BSMDC | 6,93,036 | 6,93,036 | Nil |

(c) to (e). Subsidiary-wise details of outstanding amount of excise duty since the date of imposition of excise duty are given below :-

| Name of Company | Amount (in Rs.) | Period |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| CCL | 55,192 | April'75 to December'1978 |
| SCCL | 43,865 | April'75 to December' 1976 |
| J&K Minerals | 8,00,000 | Upto December'1987 |

[English]

Trade Restrictions

2255. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some industrialised countries have imposed trade restrictions on India;

(b) if so, whether the Government have requested IMF to reduce these restrictions; and

(c) if so, the reactions of IMF in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir, there are numerous import restrictions imposed by industrialised countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of Coal

2256. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of coal extracted from the Bihar State is exported to several neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantum of coal extracted from Bihar annually; and

(d) the total earnings for the export of coal annually to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Coal India Limited (CIL) exported a total of 15,823 tonnes of coal during the year 1995-96 from the collieries situated in Bihar. Out of this, exports to Nepal were 15,715 tonnes and the balance 108 tonnes was exported to Bangladesh. These exports were made through global tenders floated by CIL.

(c) The total quantity of coal extracted by CIL from Bihar during the year 1995-96 is 68.87 million tonnes (provisional).

(d) The total earning from the export of coal produced in the State of Bihar was about Rs. 16.63 crores.

Export Commitments

2257. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure followed by the Government to ensure that exports do take place as per commitment made by the companies;

(b) the details of companies who have failed in their export commitment during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The exporters undertake export obligation in the following two broad categories of licences :

- (i) Licences for the imports of Capital Goods under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCG).
- (ii) Licences for the import of raw materials, intermediate components, consumables, parts, accessories, mandatory spares under the Duty Exemption Scheme (DES).

Under the EPCG Scheme, the export obligation is required to be fulfilled within 5 to 8 years, as the case may be, as laid down in para 38 of Export and Import Policy 1992-97. In case of licences issued under the DES, the period of fulfilment of export obligation is 12 months. Extension upto one more year can be granted by the Regional Licensing Authority. In exceptional cases, extension for further period can be granted by the Advance Licensing Committee. The Export Obligation periods in both types of licences commence from the dates of issue of licences. The procedure to monitor the export obligation in respect of licences issued under EPCG Scheme and DES Scheme is provided in Paras 103 to 105, and Paras 118, 124 to

129 of Handbook of Procedure, Vol. I, 1992-97, respectively.

(b) Under the EPCG Scheme, the period of fulfilment of export obligation is 5/8 years. Since the said scheme was introduced only in 1991, it is too early to say who all the defaulters are.

Under the DES Scheme, it is reported that, in 43286 cases, the export obligations have not been fulfilled so far in respect of Advance Licences issued during the last 3 years, that is, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96. However, the aforesaid licences are still at various stages of operation, and hence, it is difficult to provide the details of companies who have actually failed in their export commitment during the last 3 years.

(c) The cases of bonafide default in fulfilment of export obligation are regularised by the licensing authorities in accordance with the regularisation procedure as laid down in para 128 of the Handbook of Procedure, Vol. I, 1992-97 which envisages payment of customs duty and interest thereon on the unutilised imported material and surrender of freely transferable Special Import Licences for a specified value.

In case the licence holder fails to complete the export obligation within the stipulated or extended period, and also fails to regularise the default in the fulfilment of the export obligation in accordance with the regularisation procedure the following actions are taken against him :-

- (i) Enforcement of Bank Guarantee/Legal Undertaking.
- (ii) Rendering the firm ineligible to receive further licences.
- (iii) Imposition of penalty under the proposition of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 and the Rules made thereunder.

Irregularity in Clearing Cheques by Bank Officials

2258. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the judgement delivered by the Supreme Court in the matter of Central Bank of India Vs. Nikunja Bihari Patnaik which has also been published in the Hindustan Times dated 26th April, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of instances that have come to light where the officers allowed overdrafts or passed cheques involving substantial amounts beyond their authority in the private and public sector banks branch-wise and the action taken against those officers during the last three years; and

(c) the measures taken to enforce the laid down norms in the banking industry including private sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India have put in place a system for conducting checks of the discretionary lending by CMDs and other senior officials of banks at half-yearly intervals. The focus of these reviews is on bringing about the much needed discipline in the management of credit portfolios in banks. Where frequent transgressions are found to be taking place and/or transgressions are not subsequently ratified by the appropriate higher authority, RBI during inspection brings this deficiency to the notice of the bank in order to rectify the position.

Money Laundering

2259. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a high power Committee to go through the cases of money laundering in the country;

(b) if so, the main functions of this Committee and what is the composition; and

(c) the time limit fixed by the Government for submitting its report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Government have appointed a high power committee to look into all aspects of Money-Laundering, with the following objectives :

- (i) To suggest a framework of a legislation to deal with money-laundering.
- (ii) To suggest changes in the existing laws to strengthen the provisions regarding money-laundering, after safe-guarding privacy.
- (iii) To find out the adequacy of the existing provisions in Indian laws to deal with money-laundering.
- (iv) To examine the provisions of law which are redundant in the wake of liberalisation and also cause avoidable harrassment to the public.
- (v) If the existing provisions are found to be inadequate to deal with the problem of money-laundering, to suggest new legislation.

The Committee consists of the representatives of the Central Board of Direct Taxes, the Enforcement Directorate the Narcotics Control Bureau, the Reserve Bank of India and the Department of Economic Affairs.

(c) The Committee has been given time upto 31.12.1996 to submit its report.

[Translation]

Coal Handling Plants

2260. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal handling plants set up in BCCL after the nationalisation of coal industry;

(b) the collieries where these plants have been set up and the details of the amount spent on the setting up of each plant;

(c) the number of plants out of it which are functioning with their full capacity;

(d) the estimated cost of setting up of these handling plants and, actual cost incurred on them; and

(e) the reason of cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b), (d) to (e). Since nationalisation of coal industry, 34 Coal Handling Plants (CHPs) have been set up in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL). Details of collieries where these plants have been set up are given in the enclosed statement. The estimated cost for setting up of these plants was Rs. 40.05 crores and the actual expenditure incurred is Rs. 44.84 crores. The escalation in the cost is due to increase in the cost of essential inputs which is within normal limits.

(c) Of the 34 CHPs installed, 28 plants are fully functional.

STATEMENT

| Location of CHPs at collieries of BCCL | Nos. |
|--|------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Nudkharkee | 2 |
| Block-II | 2 |
| Jamunia | 2 |
| Muraidih | 2 |
| Damoda | 1 |
| Govindpur | 2 |
| Block-IV | 1 |
| Katras | 1 |
| Keshalpur | 1 |
| Sendra Bansjora | 1 |
| Nichitpur | 1 |
| N.T. OCP | 1 |
| Dhansar | 1 |
| Tetulmari | 1 |
| Katri | 1 |

| 1 | 2 |
|--------------|-----------|
| Kustore | 2 |
| Goluckdih | 3 |
| Bera | 1 |
| N. Tisra | 2 |
| S. Tisra | 1 |
| Bhowra | 1 |
| N. Amalabad | 1 |
| Damgoria | 1 |
| Junkundar | 1 |
| Benidih | 1 |
| Total | 34 |

[English]

Development of Large Cardamom

2261. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Spices Board propose to build a proper infrastructure for the development of large cardamom by pooling in technical personnel permanently;

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

(c) whether Spices Board proposes to set up a separate Directorate for the development of large cardamom with its office in Sikkim region;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said Directorate is likely to be opened; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). The Spices Board under Ministry of Commerce has a well knit set up in Sikkim State as well as in the Darjeeling District of West Bengal for catering to the development needs of large cardamom. The Board is implementing both short-term and long-term programmes for the benefit of growers involved in raising large cardamom crop. The schemes being implemented include production and supply of quality planting materials through certified nurseries; replanting of senile and uneconomic gardens; irrigation and post-harvest improvement. A Regional Office headed by a Deputy Director at Gangtok is exclusively coordinating the activities of four Zonal Office and two Field Offices in Sikkim and they are responsible for the Extension Advisory Services and implementation of various developmental programmes in coordination with the State Governments concerned. Spices Board is also having a Regional Research Station of Indian Cardamom Institute at Gangtok, which takes care of the research needs of large cardamoms.

(c) to (e). In view of the already existing set up for the development of large cardamom, the Government does not consider it necessary to set up a separate Directorate for development of large cardamom.

Advocates without Chambers

2262. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Supreme Court Advocates are working without chambers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide atleast a table space to all such advocates in the precinct of the Supreme Court; and

(d) if so, the time by which the space is likely to be provided to all such Advocates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The existing chambers which were constructed in 1958 have become insufficient due to steep increase in the number of Advocates with the passage of time.

(c) and (d). The construction of 136 additional chambers for the Advocates of Supreme Court at Dr. Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi is in progress. The new building has also a provision for dormitory of 20 cubicles on each floor where 20 Advocates could be provided tables and chairs for working.

World Bank Mission

2263. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government apprised the World Bank Mission recently already various proposals for financial assistance under infrastructure sector;

(b) if so, the details of infrastructure projects proposed for World Bank assistance, State-wise and project-wise;

(c) the reaction of the World Bank Mission to these projects; and

(d) the details of follow-up action to be taken by Union/State Government and present status of the proposals and tentative time schedule for clearance/implementation particular with reference to projects in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement on projects in the infrastructure sector posed for World Bank assistance is enclosed.

(c) The Bank has agreed, in principle, to consider these projects for financial assistance and these projects are at various stages of preparation. Financial assistance is also proposed to be provided by the World Bank wherever requested by State Government by way of Project preparation Facility (PPF)/TA Loan/PHRD Grant etc. for preparing these projects.

(d) The Union/State Governments have to prepare the projects. The preparation is an on-going process and include wherever necessary conduct of feasibility study, detailed engineering, environmental impact study, Resettlement and Rehabilitation study and technical, financial and environmental clearances from concerned Ministries/Departments. The proposed State Highway Project of Maharashtra is at very preliminary stages of preparation.

STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | Name of the Project |
|--------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |

State Sector Projects

Road Sector

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | State Highway Project |
| 2. Gujarat | State Highway Project |
| 3. Haryana | Highway Upgradation Project |
| 4. Himachal Pradesh | State Road Project |
| 5. Karnataka | State Road Project |
| 6. Madhya Pradesh | State Road Project |
| 7. Maharashtra | State Highway Project |
| 8. NCR Delhi | Development of Grids |
| 9. Nagaland | State Highway Project |
| 10. Orissa | State Highway Project |
| 11. Pondicherry | Road Development Project |
| 12. Punjab | State Highway Project |
| 13. Rajasthan | State Highway Project |
| 14. Tamil Nadu | State Highway Project |
| 15. Tripura | State Highway Project |
| 16. Uttar Pradesh | States Road Project |
| 17. West Bengal | State Highway Project |

Power Sector

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18. Haryana | Reform and Restructuring of H.S.E.B. |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|

Water Supply

| | |
|------------|---|
| 19. Punjab | Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project |
|------------|---|

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 20. Punjab | Water Management Project | Resources |
| 21. Tamil Nadu | III Madras Water Supply Project | |

Central Sector Projects

1. Third National Highway Project
2. Powergrid II Project

Two Wheeler Makers

2264. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "2-Wheeler makers to ride tough on new norms" appeared in the 'Financial Express', New Delhi dated November 12, 1996;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The two wheeler manufacturers have represented to the Government that the suggestive 2000 emission norms or two wheelers are too stringent and not capable of being met by them due to lack of appropriate technology. Due consideration would be given to the views of the industry before the emission norms for two wheelers are finally notified.

Stock Invest Scheme

2265. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1023 dated March 8, 1996 and 1893 dated, July 26, 1996 regarding stock invest abused by promoters and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The information received is being examined.

Lok Adalats

2266. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any

nation-wise programme for Lok Adalats to dispose of the pending cases in various courts in the country to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the poor and weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, the status of Lok Adalats and the procedure adopted by the Government for giving top priority to popularise the Alternative Disputes Resolution methods; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of through Lok Adalats during each of the last three years alongwith the main objective of the Legal Services Authorities Act, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Lok Adalats have been provided a statutory base with the enforcement of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 with effect from 9th November, 1995. Under section 21 of the said Act, every award of the Lok Adalat is a decree of a civil court or, as the case may

be, an order of any other court, and every award made by Lok Adalat is final and binding on all the parties to the dispute and no appeal lies to any court against the award. The Lok Adalat as a method of alternative dispute resolution is popularised through the press and other means of publication and through advocates to impress upon their clients of the utility, fruitfulness and expeditious disposal of the cases pending through Lok Adalats.

(c) On the basis of the information as is available from the 26 States/Union Territories where Lok Adalats are being organised, the number of cases disposed of during each of the last three years is contained in the statement enclosed.

The Legal Service Authorities Act has been enacted to constitute legal services authorities to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities and to organise Lok Adalats to secure that operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity.

STATEMENT

The Number of Cases Disposed of Through Lok Adalats During Each of the Last Three Years viz. 1993, 1994 and 1995, State-wise

(Based on the information provided by the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards)

| S.No. | Name of the State/Board | Number of cases disposed of during | | |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|----------|
| | | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 19,525 | 7,767 | 4,753 |
| 2. | Assam | 1,614 | 1,285 | 2,131 |
| 3. | Bihar | 22 | 3,859 | 600 |
| 4. | *Goa | | 614 | |
| | | | (consolidated figure) | |
| 5. | Gujarat | 13,461 | 15,926 | 19,235 |
| 6. | *Haryana | 25,575 | 23,149 | 20,353 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 5,426 | 5,628 | 3,193 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | | 269 | |
| | | | (consolidated figure for the last 3 year) | |
| 9. | Karnataka | 54,289 | 15,019 | 20,447 |
| 10. | Kerala | | 14,922 | |
| | | | (consolidated figure for the last 3 years) | |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 59,041 | 79,899 | 1,36,389 |
| 12. | *Maharashtra | 8,799 | 12,079 | 10,719 |
| 13. | Manipur | | 712 | |
| | | | (consolidated figure) | |
| 14. | *Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Mizoram | | 70 | |
| | | | (consolidated figure for the last 3 years) | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------------------|--|----------|----------|
| 16. | Orissa | 64,849 | 81,603 | 43,022 |
| 17. | *Punjab | 14,279 | 12,447 | 2,188 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 79,685 | 70,873 | 56,772 |
| 19. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 8,330 | 11,346 | 8,251 |
| 21. | Tripura | Information not furnished by the Board | | |
| 22. | *Uttar Pradesh | 3,18,285 | 3,10,687 | 3,08,495 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 96 | 53 | 316 |
| 24. | Chandigarh Administration | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 25. | Delhi | 598 | 949 | 2,898 |
| 26. | @Pondicherry | | 863 | |

(consolidated figure)

For the Financial Years viz. 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96.

For the Financial Years viz. 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95.

Stock Market

2267. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had a meeting with stock brokers and merchant bankers for revival of the stock-market and speeding up of the economy;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and recommendations/suggestions received therein; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Such meetings with participants in the securities markets are held from time to time for discussing general issues relating to the market. Taking measures for reforms in the functioning of the stock market is a continuous process and discussions in the meetings referred to above help in this process.

Alleged Shielding of Scam-Tainted Bank Officials

2268. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Finance Ministry shields Scam-tainted Bank Official" appearing in the Pioneer dated 7th September, 1996; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the remedial action Government propose to take in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Government have seen the news item referred to in the Question. It is not correct to say that Government is shielding any official as stated in the news item.

A request was received from CBI in July, 1992 seeking concurrence of Government for registering a Regular Case against Shri M. Gopalkrishnan, the then Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), Indian Bank, in the matter of grant of credit facilities to a certain company and its associate companies in Singapore. RBI who was consulted in the matter advised that their scrutiny did not establish any criminality on the part of the CMD. RBI, therefore, suggested that it was not a fit case for CBI to proceed in this matter. The matter was considered by the Government and the views of RBI were accepted. CBI was informed accordingly in November, 1993.

CBI have reported that they have since registered a case in the matter.

[Translation]

Bank Branches in Rajasthan

2269. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued/proposed to issue licences for the setting up of private sector or State Government sponsored banks in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other States have also sent proposals for the setting up of banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the present number of branches of nationalised, private sector or regional rural banks operating in rural and urban areas in Rajasthan separately;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up some more branches of the said banks in the rural areas; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has not issued any licence for the setting up of private sector or State Government Sponsored Bank in Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has not received any proposal from any State Government for setting up a private sector bank.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Details of Rural/Urban branches in Rajasthan as on 30.6.1996

| | of | Rural | Urban/ Metropolitan |
|--|----|-------|------------------------|
| 1. Nationalised Banks | | 547 | 328/93 |
| 2. Other Scheduled Commercial banks other than RBI & their associates and foreign banks) | | 107 | 65/28 |
| 3. RRBs | | 917 | 19 |

(f) and (g). Authorisations issued to Commercial Banks for opening rural branches in the state of Rajasthan and which are pending/unutilised by the banks as on date

| S. No. | Centre | District | Name of the Bank |
|--------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Bhiwli Industrial Area | Alwar | Oriental Bank of Commerce |
| 2. | Tibi | Sriganganagar | Oriental Bank of Commerce |
| 3. | Mirajwali Gaon | Sriganganagar | Oriental Bank of Commerce |
| 4. | Itawa | Kota | State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur |
| 5. | Gota | Nagaur | State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur |
| 6. | Neemrana | Alwar | State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur |
| 7. | Tapookda | Alwar | State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur. |

[English]

Fraudulent Deals of Banks

2270. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the *Times of India*,

New Delhi dated October 29, 1996 under the caption "Rs. 129 crore siphoned off 'legally' through banks";

(b) if so, the facts and details of various fraudulent deals of banks and others referred to in the above report; and

(c) the action the Government have taken against the persons involved in the racket?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Ahmedabad office of the Enforcement Directorate has taken up investigations in a case involving suspected siphoning off of foreign exchange worth Rs. 129 crores to Hongkong through the Bank of Baroda, Surat against forged documents.

Complaint against Chairman of Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.

2271. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum containing serious allegations against the Chairman, Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd. Madras; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaints received by the Government/ RBI certain irregularities are alleged to have been committed by the Chairman of the Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd. The Reserve Bank of India have looked into the matter and feel that there was not much substance in the complaints made.

Rise in Bank Frauds

2272. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "when the Centre does not hold..." appearing in the *Indian Express* dated 19th October, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

(c) the reasons as to why Department of Supervision of Reserve Bank of India could not curb the rising menace of frauds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The article tries to depict that although irregularities are taking place in banks and are being brought out in Inspection Reports, the RBI is not taking

any action and despite setting up of separate Department of Supervision and establishment of Board for Financial Supervision, the RBI is not able to bring down irregularities in banks.

RBI has reported that whenever irregularities or frauds are noticed either through inspection or otherwise, due action is taken by the Reserve Bank of India like calling for details from banks, ordering special scrutiny, insisting on banks taking necessary action to prevent recurrence, ensuring staff accountability etc. The progress in the matter is also monitored by RBI. The findings of inspection are discussed with the Chairman of the concerned bank for corrective action and the matter is also reported to the Board for Financial Supervision. Time-bound compliance programme is also laid down. RBI has been constantly exhorting banks to strengthen internal control systems comprising internal inspection, external/internal audit, concurrent audit, revenue audit etc. The banks also have vigilance machinery which functions under Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO). Frauds/irregularities are investigated by CVOs of individual banks and exemplary punishment is levied on the concerned staff.

The public sector banks at the instance of Government and RBI have taken several steps from time to time for checking corruption and prevention of frauds. These steps include issue of comprehensive guidelines by RBI for strengthening the control mechanism in banks, review of fraud cases on a continual basis by RBI, advising the banks of modus-operandi in ingenious cases alongwith required safeguards to prevent their recurrence, proper training of operational personnel and investigations and scrutiny into reported cases of major frauds as well as snap inspections covering systems and procedures and control arrangements in fraud prone areas by the RBI, etc.

Assessment of Income Tax

2273. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :
SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the test audit conducted between 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995 of the assessment completed by Income-tax Department revealed 16, 256 cases of under assessment involving a total revenue of Rs. 855.39 crores;

(b) if so, whether the said amount has since been recovered from the assessee;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) the measure proposed to be taken to remove the deficiencies in the process of collection of tax; and

(e) the details of the action taken against those who are responsible for this lapse?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes. These findings are reported in the Annual Report No. 5 of 1996 of C&AG on Revenue Receipts-Direct Taxes for the year ended 31.3.1995.

(b) and (c). The amount of recovery made out of this amount of Rs. 855.39 crores is not ascertainable on account of the following reasons :

(i) Many audit objections are resisted by the Income-tax Department on the basis of factual verification and the existing provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and the same are finally dropped by the revenue audit.

(ii) A number of assessee file appeals against the orders rectifying the mistakes, creating additional tax demand. During the pendency of first appeal, coercive measures of recovery are generally not adopted.

(iii) The additional demand raised on account of these audit objections is sometimes stayed by the assessing officers, supervisory officers and appellate authorities.

(iv) In many cases, as a result of appellate orders, the additional demand raised is reduced or deleted.

(d) There is no apparent deficiency in the process of collection of tax. The additional tax demand which is undisputed is generally collected without delay.

(e) In most of these cases, the explanation of the erring officer is called by the Department to examine their bonafides and appropriate action is taken wherever required.

National Savings Scheme

2274. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to make the National Savings Scheme more attractive;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to make the National Savings Scheme more attractive include attractive returns, extension of tax-concessions, publicity and incentives to Agents. Apart from Central Government, wide publicity of these schemes is also undertaken by the State Governments and extension agencies like the Standardised Agency Systems (SAS), Public Provident Fund (PPF) agents and Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojna (MPKBY) agents.

(c) Does not arise.

Nominee of the Financial Institutions

2275. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to evolve a code of corporate governance and to the new guidelines for nominees of the Financial Institutions in the Boards of Corporate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any evaluation of the performance of the nominee of the Financial Institutions on the Board of Corporates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Government had suggested to some of the All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) namely IDBI, ICICI and UTI to study the practices of corporate governance by major Indian Corporates vis-a-vis recommendations of the Cadbury Committee on Corporate Governance. The study, *inter alia*, made observations on practices of corporate governance followed by Indian Corporates, the frequency of board meetings the independence of non-executive directors, the evolution of prudent norms on short term investments, and the stipulation of the constitution of audit sub-committees. AIFIs have discussed the matter with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and CII has set up a Task Force on Corporate Governance.

The existing guidelines on nominee directors are under review by AIFIs.

(c) and (d). It is not the Government but AIFIs which appoint nominee directors on the boards of assisted companies. AIFIs themselves are responsible for reviewing the performance of their nominee directors and take appropriate action wherever necessary.

Cultivation of Opium

2276. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced the new opium-policy providing for an increase in the prices of the product and the production quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of major opium growing States in the country;

(d) the production quota of opium fixed annually in each States; and

(e) the financial assistance provided to each State for this purpose during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of India have announced the opium Licensing Policy for the crop year 1996-97 in which the minimum qualifying

yield for Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan has been fixed at 48 kgs./hectare at 70° Consistency and for Uttar Pradesh has been fixed at 40 kgs./hectare at 70° Consistency. The Government have also announced an increase of Rs. 100/- per kg. in the existing purchase price of opium.

(c) The three opium growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(d) No annual production quota of opium for each State has been fixed by the Government. However, the minimum qualifying yield to be tendered by the farmers has been fixed as above.

(e) No financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to any of these three States for this purpose.

Limits on L.C.D.

2277. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the limits imposed by the R.B.I. on inter-corporate deposits and on net owned funds;

(b) the details of the system under which RBI exercise it's control over such matters;

(c) whether any violations of such limits have come to the notice of RBI recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Acceptance of deposits by non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) is being regulated under the provisions of Non Banking Financial Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 1977. The directions *inter alia*, imposed a ceiling by way of borrowing in the form of inter corporate deposits (ICDs)/ loans. In respect of registered Equipment Leasing and Hire Purchase (EL&HP) Finance Companies, the sub limit for ICD not exceeding a period of twelve months is upto two times of their Net Owned Fund (NOF). This sub limit has been brought down from two times to equal to NOF for unregistered EL&HP Finance companies. In respect of registered Loan and Investment companies, separate limit of ICD is equal to two time NOF. However in respect of unregistered Loan and Investment Companies, the limit on ICD has been reduced from two times NOF to equal to NOF.

(b) The Bank monitors the level of ICDs accepted by NBFCs through annual returns. Besides, during the course of inspection of the NBFCs this aspect is looked into.

(c) and (d). Whenever violation of such limits come to the Bank's notice, the concerned companies are being advised to bring the level of ICDs to the entitled level. Details of such violations of the limits are not readily available.

Meeting of G-24

2278. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of Finance Ministers of G-24 developing countries was held in Washington in September, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Ministers meet cautioned about application of conditionalities in the Government area;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the subjects discussed therein and the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. The Ministers of the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs stressed that the Bretton Woods Institutions should proceed with extreme caution in the application of conditionalities in the governance area.

(d) At this meeting a number of subjects related to World Economic Outlook, IMF and World Bank were discussed. The Ministers stressed the need for strengthening IMF surveillance over industrial countries and the IMF's financial reforms. The Ministers noted the progress made on issues relating to the financing of Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility of the IMF and welcomed the progress made by the Bretton Woods Institutions in the joint initiative for the heavily indebted poor countries. The Ministers expressed the concern over inadequate donor contribution to IDA-11 and stressed the need for official development assistance to developing countries.

[Translation]

Cement Corporation of India

2279. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to handover some of the units of Cement Corporation of India located in Madhya Pradesh to the private sector;

(b) if so, the names of these units; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Since Cement Corporation of India (CCI) has been continuously incurring heavy losses, various remedial measures were considered by the Government. The feasibility of selling individual units has been one such step considered by the Government. Accordingly, CCI has invited global bids for joint venture/sale of some units including Akaltara and Mandhar in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Implications on Multilateral Agreement on Investment

2280. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. Julius Nyerere, Former President of South Africa has written to our Government inviting attention to the implications of the proposed multilateral agreement on investment;

(b) if so, the details of the salient points made therein;

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate efforts for evolving a consensus among the developing countries on the MAI draft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Mr. Julius K. Nyerere, Chairman of the South Centre, Geneva written to the Prime Minister on 2nd September, 1996 regarding the proposal of the developed countries that the foreign direct investment be liberalised and made subject to a global regime. He had sent a policy note on the subject prepared by the South Centre and stated that only on the basis of detailed national, regional and global studies could developing countries analyse the implications of such a regime. He has expressed the need for developing countries to work together on this issue.

(c) and (d). The Government has opposed any discussion on the issue of investment in the WTO at present and is of the view that the issue should first be analysed and discussed in UNCTAD so that the pros and cons thereof can be understood from the stand point of developing countries. The Government has also taken various steps for evolving consensus among the developing countries on this matter. These efforts include the holding of a preparatory official level meeting for the Singapore WTO Ministerial Conference in New Delhi with the participation of 13 other developing countries in September, 1996 and the issue of a joint statement by 8 developing countries including India made on the investment issue in the WTO in Geneva in October, 1996. The issue was also discussed during the G-15 Summit meeting at Harare and the need for prior consensus building in a forum like UNCTAD was endorsed.

[Translation]

Consumer Goods

2281. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the reasons for continuous increase in the prices of consumer goods

and the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check this increase?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The current uptrend in prices is observed mainly in foodgrains, especially in case of wheat whose price has increased very sharply because of fall in its production in the preceding year. The uptrend in price of rice has now begun to show moderation on the arrival of new crop. As for other essential commodities, such as sugar, groundnut oil, mustard oil, Vanaspati, milk etc. the price rise during 1996-97 is quite modest. Some of the important steps taken to contain the inflationary rise in prices are :

- (1) continuation of open market sale by FCI of rice and wheat.
- (2) continuing OGL import policy for selected essential commodities such as sugar, edible oils, pulses and low fat milk powder at nil or reduced duty.
- (3) import of edible oils on Government account for supply through PDS.
- (4) strive to contain fiscal deficit in the budget for 1996-97 to 5 per cent of GDP.
- (5) Containing monetary growth to 15.5-16.0 per cent in 1996-97 through prudent monetary policies.
- (6) maintaining a liberal import policy, combined with reduction in import duties, for most commodities.

[English]

U.T.I.

2282. **SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of UTI in protecting the interests of small investors has been deteriorating for the last few years;

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

(c) whether several Members of Parliament and other professionals have also drawn the attention of Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the performance of UTI is reviewed by an independent high level expert committee;

(f) the steps taken for expeditious delivery of UTI certificates, to stop forthwith non-delivery of Certificate-divident-warrants due to wrong feeding of addresses in computers and to attend to the complaints of investors promptly, particularly in Delhi region; and

(g) the other measures proposed to be taken to

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Government has no specific information on UTI's failure to protect the interests of small investors. However, the performance of UTI in general has been brought to the notice of Government from time to time.

(d) and (e). From July 1, 1994 UTI has come under the regulatory purview of SEBI. All schemes of UTI floated after 1st July, 1994 require the approval of SEBI.

(f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(g) Restructuring of UTI to bring it in conformity with the regulations of SEBI is under discussion among SEBI, UTI and Government of India.

Indian Dues Towards Cuba

2283. **SHRI VIJAY PATEL :**

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of total dues owed by Cuba to India;

(b) whether efforts made both by the official machinery as well as the private trade to recover the dues have not succeeded;

(c) whether the Export Import Bank of India, the projects and equipments corporation besides host of small exporters have been adversely by effected as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for early recovery of these dues?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Total debt owed by Cuba to India is approximately Rs. 150 crores. Cuba's inability to repay this debt has affected trade between the two countries. For considering various options for removing the existing trade impediments including Cuban debt obligations, Indo-Cuban Trade Revival Committee has been set up under the aegis of Indo-Cuban Joint Commission. Among other issues, repayment of debt owed by Cuba to India came up for discussion at the recently concluded meetings of the Indo-Cuban Trade Revival Committee and the Indo-Cuban Joint Commission held in New Delhi. The Cuban side reiterated the difficulties faced by them in making the debt repayments and the difficulties in fulfilling commitments due to shortage of liquidity. At these meetings both sides agreed to resolve the problem of debt owed by Cuba to India keeping in view the various options available in this regard and to increase the trade between the two countries which would strengthen Indo-Cuban relationship.

[Translation]

Sale of Opium Factory

2284. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal regarding Sale of Opium and Opium poppy (charod) factory of Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to modernise the Gazipur opium factory also on the lines of those of Nimach, opium, opium poppy (charod) factories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

[English]

Banks Loans in U.P.

2285. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan, category-wise extended by various banks in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and in the current year till date; and

(b) the percentage of total loan extended vis-a-vis the total deposits in these banks during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that their data base does not generate the information called for.

(b) The Credit Deposit Ratio of scheduled commercial banks for the State of Uttar Pradesh for the year ending March 1994, 1995 and 1996 was 37.2, 35.0 and 34.2 respectively.

Closure of Newsprint Mills

2286. SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of newsprint mills in the country particularly NEPA Ltd., Neapanagar which are lying closed;

(b) the reasons for their closures, mill-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for their revival; and

(d) by when the said mills are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d). NEPA Ltd., Neapanagar is not in production since 22.8.1996. NEPA Ltd. could not pay the electricity dues of Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board and power to the mill was disconnected by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board. The newsprint produced by NEPA Ltd. is not lifted by the newspapers as better quality of imported newsprint is available at comparatively cheaper prices.

The problems of NEPA Ltd. have been discussed with the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh recently to explore the feasibility of restarting the operations of the mill.

Investment Fund for PSUs

2287. SHRI TARIO ANWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create an investment fund for strengthening the Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Government have decided in principle to create a fund out of a part of the disinvestment revenues in order to strengthen Public Sector Enterprises.

SEBI

2288. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2590 on August 2, 1996 regarding company registered on over the counter exchange of India and state :

(a) whether the SEBI has since taken a decision in the matter;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time-bound programme to persuade the SEBI to decide the matter early?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Board of SEBI has taken a decision on 18.11.1996 to accept a recommendation made by the Dave Committee to exempt companies seeking listing on the OTCEI from the requirement of three year dividend paying record, provided such companies fulfil the listing criteria of OTCEI, viz. sponsorship by a member of OTCEI and appointment of market makers.

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

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Five Minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now papers to be laid on the Table.

14.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Essential Commodities Act, 1959 and Review on the working of and Annual Report of Mining and Allied Mediner Corporation Limited, Durgapur for 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : On behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :

- (i) S.O. 683 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 1996 notifying the Ruby Macons Limited, Vapi, as a mill producing newsprint.
- (ii) S.O. 684(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 1996 notifying the Sri Suryanarayana Paper and Board Private Limited, Nallur, as a mill producing newsprint.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 780/96]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for the year 1995-96, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 781/96]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Leather Corporation Limited, Agra, for the year

1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 782/96]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 783/96]

- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Tyre Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tyre Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 784/96]

- (e) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 785/96]

- (f) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 786/96]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Hand Tools, Jalandhar, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Hand Tools, Jalandhar, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 787/96]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 788/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 788/96]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 789/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 789/96]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 790/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Firozabad, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 790/96]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 791/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 791/96]
- (8) (i) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 792/96]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Engineering Projects (India) Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Industry for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 793/96]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 794/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Calcutta for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 794/96]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process cum Product Development Centre, Meerut, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 795/96]
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Process Cum Product Development Centre, Meerut, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 795/96]

Notifications under-section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act 1956 and sub section (3) of section 641 of the Companies Act, 1956 etc.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Daily Allowances and Hotel Charges to Employees on Tour) (Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 422 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 1996 under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 796/96]
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 641 of the Companies Act, 1956 :
- (i) G.S.R. 418(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 1996 making certain amendments in Schedule XIII to the Companies Act, 1956.
- (ii) G.S.R. 423(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 1996 making certain alterations in Schedule VI to the Companies Act, 1956.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 797/96]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :
- (i) G.S.R. 374(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 1996

together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.

- (ii) G.S.R. 380(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (iii) G.S.R. 381(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 63/95-Cus., and 64/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (iv) G.S.R. 382(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (v) G.S.R. 390(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the Notification No. 229/88-Cus., dated the 1st August 1988.
- (vi) G.S.R. 391(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 152/94-Cus., dated the 13th July, 1994.
- (vii) G.S.R. 394(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 47/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (viii) G.S.R. 420(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12 September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (ix) G.S.R. 441(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28 September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (x) G.S.R. 442(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28 September, 1996

together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to consolidate existing exemptions from the Special Duty of Customs leviable under the Finance Act, 1996.

- (xi) G.S.R. 443(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the Notification No. 46/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
 - (xii) G.S.R. 463(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum fixing the rate of interest at twenty per cent per annum under section 28AB of the Customs Act, 1962.
 - (xiii) G.S.R. 491(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing an effective rate of customs duty of twenty per cent on components of fuel injection equipment, machinery for manufacture of fuel injection equipment and sub-components of fuel injection equipment.
 - (xiv) G.S.R. 497(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th October, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
 - (xv) G.S.R. 498(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th October, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 77/96-Cus., dated the 28th September, 1996.
 - (xvi) G.S.R. 516(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 39/96-Cus., dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 798/96]
- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 :
 - (i) G.S.R. 342(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 14/96-CE (NT), dated the 23rd July, 1996.

- (ii) The Central Excise (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 386(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) The Central Excise (Third Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 387(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 31st August, 1996, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) G.S.R. 388(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 23/95-CE, dated the 30th May, 1995.
- (v) G.S.R. 389(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe a proforma of challan to be issued for movement of inputs.
- (vi) The Central Excise (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 392(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vii) G.S.R. 393(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 11/96-CE(NT) dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (viii) G.S.R. 395(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1996 with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in certain Notifications mentioned therein.
- (ix) The Central Excise (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 404(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd September, 1996, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (x) G.S.R. 419(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt Pencil Sharpeners from Central Excise duty.
- (xi) G.S.R. 438(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/96-CE dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (xii) G.S.R. 439(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the Notification No. 16/96-CE dated the 23rd July, 1996.
- (xiii) The Central Excise (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 440(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 464(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum fixing the rate of interest at twenty per cent per annum for the purposes of the Central Excise Act, 1944.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 799/96]
- (5) A copy of the Twenty-Sixth Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on the 31st March, 1996, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 800/96]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Small Industries Development Bank of India, Lucknow, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (5) of section 30 of the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 801/96]
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Small Industries Development Bank of India, Lucknow, for the year 1995-96.
- (7) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 :
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditors Report thereon.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 802/96]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 803/96]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year 1995-96.

alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 804/96]

- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 805/96]

- (v) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 806/96]

- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 807/96]

- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 808/96]

- (viii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 809/96]

- (ix) Revised Annual Report* on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year 1995-96, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report together with an explanatory statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 810/96]

Annual Report and Review on the working of Cashew Export Promotion Council of India for 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) :
On behalf of Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 811/96]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 812/96]

- (3) A copy of the Tea Board (Write Off Losses) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 364(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1996, under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 813/96]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 814/96]

- (5) A copy of following papers (Hindi and English versions) :

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 815/96]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 816/96]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the India Trade Promotion Organisation and the Ministry of Commerce for the year, 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 817/96]

* Annual Report of the Central Bank of India was laid on the Table on the 13th September, 1996.

(Interruptions)

14.06 hrs.

At this stage, Shri E. Ahamed and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats. I will allow you all. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you, please take your seats.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Point of Order on what? There is no business before the House. Only Papers are being laid.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am telling that I will allow you all.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. I have not allowed you. Nothing is to be recorded.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is an important announcement. Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is an important announcement. Please sit down.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no business before the House. There can be no point of order when there is no business before the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you listen now?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

14.09½ hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY DEPUTY SPEAKER
RE : SITTING OF LOK SABHA

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : As the hon. Members are aware, a function to commemorate the Fiftieth

* Not Recorded.

anniversary of the first sitting of the Constituent Assembly will be held in the Central Hall on Monday, the 9th December, 1996 at 10.00 hours.

The hon. President will address the gathering as decided in the sitting of the Business Advisory Committee held on the 26th November, 1996.

The House will meet on Monday, the 9th December, 1996 at 1400 hours instead of 1100 hours.

(Interruptions)

14.10½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

First Report

[English]

SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU (Madurai) : Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

14.11 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 9th December, 1996 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Discussion and Voting on :
 - (a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1996-97.
 - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1996-97.
3. Consideration and passing of the Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill, 1996 as reported by Joint Committee.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha :
 - (a) The Maulana Azad National Urdu University Bill, 1996.
 - (b) The Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 1996.
 - (c) The Seamen's Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1996.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, today is the 6th December, the day of national shame...(Interruptions)
We should be allowed to raise this issue.

14.13 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow all of you after Submissions.

[Translation]

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following issues may be included in the next weeks list of business :

1. Need for stoppage of Kalindi Express at Jalesar Road, Burhan Junction and Ferozabad Railway Stations of Uttar Pradesh.
2. Need for starting an Express train for Etah and Jalesar cities.

14.14 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following issues may be added in the next week's list of business :

1. Need for taking immediate steps for improvement in the power supply situation, arising out of unprecedented power crisis in Madhya Pradesh where farmers are not getting even four hours of power.

2. Need to take steps to prevent atrocities on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Women in the country, especially in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandi Chowk-Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following two issues be included in the next weeks list of business :

1. Need to shift Post mortem Hospitals to sites near crematorium, situated in the densely populated cities in the country, including Delhi, where a large number of dead bodies are brought for post-mortem, resulting in pollution due to dense population.
2. Need to regularise a large number of unauthorised colonies, which have sprung up in Delhi, having lakhs of families, in view of unprecedented anger and tension among the lakhs of residents, for not regularising these colonies...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to me. I will allow all of you. But you are not prepared to cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Again I am assuring you that I will allow all of you.

(Interruptions)

14.16 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS-GENERAL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1996-97.

STATEMENT

| No. and Name of Demand | Amount of Supplementary Demands for Grants | |
|------------------------|--|-------------|
| | 1 | 2 |
| | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. |

Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

5. Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals

3,12,00,000

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--|-----------------------------------|
| | Ministry of Communications | |
| 14. | Department of Telecommunications | 18,98,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Defence | |
| 17. | Defence Services-Army | 830,50,00,000 - |
| 18. | Defence Services-Navy | 80,06,00,000 - |
| 19. | Defence Services-Air Force | 162,24,00,000 - |
| 20. | Defence Ordinance Factories | 127,24,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Environment and Forests | |
| 22. | Ministry of Environment and Forests | 2,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Finance | |
| 28. | Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments. | 885,00,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare | |
| 41. | Department of Family Welfare | 1,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Human Resource Development | |
| 48. | Department of Youth Affairs and Sports | 1,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Industry | |
| 54. | Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries | 2,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources | |
| 63. | Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources | 34,12,00,000 - |
| | Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment | |
| 82. | Urban Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation | 1,00,000 |
| | Ministry of Welfare | |
| 86. | Ministry of Welfare | 1,00,000 |
| | Department of Space | |
| 91. | Department of Space | 1,50,00,00,000 |
| | Total Revenue/Capital | 2287,97,00,000 3,13,00,000 |

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am telling you that I will allow all of you. Please cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands

adjourned till 2 P.M. on Monday, the 9th December, 1996.

14.18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock on Monday, December 9, 1996/Agrahayana 18, 1918 (Saka).

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