

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

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



*(Vol. X contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

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Tuesday, March 11, 1997/Phalgun 20, 1918(Saka)

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Col./Line	For	Read
23/32	SHRI CHATURAN MISHRA	SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA
103/41	2434	2444
281/6,13 282/23,29	SHRI ILIAS AZMI	SHRI ILIYAS AZMI
288/10	DR.RAMKRISHNA KUMRIA	DR.RAMKRISHNA KUMARIA
315/1-2	THE FOOD MINISTER AND THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION	THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

**[ORIGINAL ENGLISH PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN ENGLISH VERSION AND ORIGINAL HINDI PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN HINDI VERSION WILL BE TREATED AS AUTHORITATIVE AND NOT THE TRANSLATION THEREOF]**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 11, 1997/Phalguna 20,  
1918 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at One Minute Past  
Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Hon. Speaker is in good mood today.

MR. SPEAKER : When the House is in good mood, the Speaker has to be in good mood.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Cooperation with Foreign Countries

\*222. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :  
(a) the names of the countries cooperating/intend to cooperate with India in the agriculture sector;  
(b) whether agreements have been signed with all the countries willing to cooperate in this sector; and  
(c) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

S.No.	Name of Country	Date of signing of Agreement/ MOU	Areas of cooperation
1	2	3	4
<b>I. Countries with whom Agreements/MOUs have been signed</b>			
1.	Australia	2.2.1996	The Umbrella Arrangement between India and Australia provides for cooperation in Agricultural Research and collaborative projects in disciplines such as soil management, veterinary sciences and overcoming production constraints to Sorghum in rainfed environments in India and Australia.
2.	Bangladesh	15.6.1983	The agreement provides for cooperation in the areas of agriculture and animal husbandry, education, research and its application in practice etc.
3.	China	11.4.1992	The Memorandum of Understanding seeks to promote scientific, technical and economic cooperation in the field of agriculture through exchange of materials concerning agricultural science and technology, exchange of germplasm, seeds, seedlings and exchange of scientific and technical information etc.
4.	Cuba	16.9.1988	The Work Plan signed on 22.11.1996 under this agreement provides for cooperation in the field of science and technology and agricultural research and education.
5.	Cyprus	19.2.1992	The Programme of Cooperation covers the fields of horticulture, field crops, soil fertility, fertiliser use and irrigation technology etc.
6.	France	6.2.1994	The Agreement covers different areas including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, rural development and agro-food industries.
7.	Indonesia	19.12.1992	The Memorandum of Understanding covers various areas of cooperation in agriculture including food crops, secondary crops, rainfed farming, hybrid rice, fisheries, livestock etc.

1	2	3	4
8.	Iran	11.11.1991	The Memorandum of Understanding provides for cooperation in the field of Agricultural Research and Education, Rural Development, Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Sciences, Fisheries, Forestry, Water Management etc.
9.	Israel	24.12.1993	The Agreement covers areas of water and soil management, arid and semi-arid crop production, fruit and vegetable production, animal science, plant protection, agricultural research, agro-forestry etc.
		30.12.1996	The Memorandum of Intent relates to the establishment, in the first stage, of a demonstration farm unit on the campus of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute at PUSA in New Delhi with the aim of developing viable technological packages and technology transfer for the small farmer and private sector.
10.	Mauritius	3.6.1993	The Memorandum of Understanding covers different areas of agricultural science and technology, agricultural production and agro-processing and economic cooperation.
11.	Mongolia	16.9.1996	The Agreement seeks to promote scientific, technical and economic cooperation in the field of agriculture through exchange of technology, development of modern methods of bio-technology, formulation and implementation of joint research projects and establishing food processing small industries etc.
12.	Nepal	6.12.1991	The Memorandum of Understanding covers various aspects of agricultural science and technology, agricultural production and agro-processing including production and processing of food and cash crops, multi-cropping systems, fruit and vegetable development, dairy development etc.
13.	Oman	5.10.1996	The Memorandum of Understanding covers various aspects of agriculture and allied sectors including joint activities and exchanges in the areas of agricultural research, horticulture, dairy development, livestock, soil conservation, irrigation etc.
14.	Pakistan	4.7.1985	The Agreement provides for cooperation in the field of research and education as well as development in agriculture.
15.	Philippines	1.11.1976	The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Philippines Council of Agricultural Research and Rural Development (PCARRD) to promote collaborative agricultural research.
		28.4.1991	The Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Philippines covers Agricultural science and technology including areas of rice production and processing, multiple cropping system, dry land farming systems, water management, agricultural machinery, horticulture, dairy, livestock improvement etc.
16.	Senegal	16.2.1997	The Memorandum of Understanding provides for establishment of Agricultural Development Project in Senegal by the Government of India.
17.	Syria	19.6.1994	The Programme of Cooperation covers the areas of plant production research, horticulture, food processing industries, plant protection, animal production and health, soil and water management etc.

1	2	3	4
18.	Trinidad & Tobago	24.1.1997	The Memorandum of Understanding provides for cooperation in the field of agriculture. The areas of cooperation include livestock, water management for agricultural purposes, sugarcane cultivation and sugar industry, crop improvement etc.
19.	United States of America	27.1.1996	The Agreement provides for cooperation in agricultural sciences to further cooperation among scientists from India and the United States of America in areas of significant mutual interests and benefits relating to agriculture, viz., exchange of information, ideas, skills and techniques to enhance opportunities to collaborate in solving problems of common interests relating to agriculture.
20.	Vietnam	31.12.1992	The Memorandum of Understanding provides for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and education and covers areas such as crop sciences, scientific research, animal sciences, dairy development, exchange of scientists etc.
21.	Yemen	7.12.1996	The Memorandum of Understanding covers agricultural science and technology, agricultural production and agro-processing etc.
22.	Russia	5.10.1995	The Agreement between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (RASS) provides for cooperation in the field of agriculture and related subjects.

## II. Countries with whom Agreements/MOUs are intended to be signed

1. Algeria  
A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be developed between India and Algeria for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and education to take up joint research projects in the identified areas such as research on plant genetic resources and bio-technology; integrated pest management and control, dairy production, animal health and conservation of animal genetic resources, utilization and management of saline soils etc.
2. Burkina Faso  
A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed with the Government of Burkina Faso on cooperation for setting up of an Indian Farmers' Project in Burkina Faso. The objective of the project would be (a) to boost production of mutually agreed crops in Burkina Faso; (b) to create employment opportunities in Burkina Faso in agricultural and related sectors of agro-industry and (c) to act as a demonstrator's project and help transfer of appropriate technologies from India to Burkina Faso.
3. Greece  
A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed with the Government of Greece for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors.
4. Japan  
A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and education. The broad areas of cooperation include Horticulture, Animal Sciences, Agricultural/Engineering, Fisheries, Soil and Water Resource Conservation and Human Development.
5. Morocco  
A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the National Institute for Agricultural Research, Morocco for

1	2	3	4
			scientific and technical cooperation. The cooperation includes Exchange of Scientists and Technologists and Breeding Material, Exchange of Scientific Literature methodologies, Import and Export of Scientific Equipments.
6.	Mozambique		Both the Government of India and Mozambique have agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries through development of cooperation in the fields of Agricultural Research, Extension and Training which includes Cereals and Vegetables, Management of Experimental Stations, Livestock Production and Livestock Health, Water Management, Agricultural Engineering, Crops Production, Seed Production etc. The Agriculture Minister has authorised the Ambassador of India at Maputo, Mozambique to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Government of India.
7.	Myanmar		A Memorandum of Understanding is proposed to be signed with the Government of the Union of Myanmar for cooperation in the field of Agricultural Science and Technology with the objective of increasing agricultural production.
8.	New Zealand		The Horticulture and Food Research Institute of New Zealand has proposed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Council of Agricultural Research to promote the development of cooperation in the fields of Research and Training in Plant Science and Improvement of Production Techniques and Extension through exchange of Germplasm, exchange of scientific Literature and Scientific Equipment etc. The draft Memorandum of Understanding is being processed for various clearances before finalization.
9.	South Africa		The Department of Science and Technology has signed an Agreement on Cooperation between India and South Africa in the field of Science and Technology. The Department of Agricultural Research and Education has proposed to sign a separate Work Plan in the field of Agricultural Research and Education with the Government of South Africa. The possible areas of cooperation include Soil Mapping, Efficient Fertilizer Use, Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance, Development of Vaccines, Diagnostics, Technology Inventory, Assessment, Exchange of Germplasm, etc.
10.	Thailand		A Memorandum of Understanding has been developed for cooperation with the Government of Kingdom of Thailand for cooperation in the field of Agricultural Science and Technology through Joint Activities and Exchanges. Such joint activities will be in areas of agricultural research, crop production, horticulture, livestock production and health etc.
11.	Uganda		An agreement is proposed to be signed between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and National Agricultural Research Organisation of Cooperation in the fields of Agricultural Research and Training and the Improvement of Production and Extension Techniques.
12.	Lao People's Democratic Republic		The Memorandum of Understanding proposed to be signed seeks to encourage cooperation in the field of agricultural science and technology with the objective of increasing agricultural production. It envisages joint activities in the areas of agricultural research, crop production, horticulture etc.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is an agricultural country but even today our agriculture production is very low as compared with the other developed countries. The hon. Agriculture Minister has told here in his reply that we has signed various agreements in agriculture sector and in future agreements with some countries are likely to be signed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that various agreements have been signed but most of the old agreements are upto 1976. What benefits our country has derived as a result of those agreements? Whether the Agriculture Ministry has analysed them? If so, the advantage, our country is having due to these agreements?

MR. SPEAKER : It will be difficult to give the details of the entire country and country-wise it would be more difficult.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I give the country-wise details, it will consume the whole day today. First of all I would like to inform the hon. Member that the scientists of our country have a good reputation in foreign countries and our scientists are of world standard. Therefore, the developing countries have been asking for our scientists to educate their students to give them training and to set up research centres there. This way, much help is being extended. We should not think about the economic terms by having friendly agreements with them. When their students come here, we also earn foreign exchange dollars. The important aspect is that it leads to our good relations with those countries. In today's age economic base has been proving helpful in improving diplomatic relations. Therefore, we are using it and developing those countries. We have resources. We want that India should be a big centre of it so that India become a big centre of is not only in Asia but also in Africa and Arabian countries to help them. In agricultural sector, India is one of the biggest centre in the world and by doing so we are helping them.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the World Bank has given suggestions to India to implement economic reforms in agriculture sector. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has implemented those economic reforms and the number of projects being run with the World Bank assistance alongwith the details of the terms and conditions of implementing these projects?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : It is another thing. There is nothing to involve the World Bank in it. I have a long list of that. You have asked whether India is helping it. We have been taking assistance from them and I can send a list of whatever you want for which we would have no objection. The details of the amount spent on these projects can also be sent.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply furnished by the hon. Minister is not satisfactory

but even then I would like to know the number of such projects running statewise for which foreign assistance is being received and what stage these projects have reached. Whether the Government have evaluated them and if so the details thereof? Part 'B' of my question is that six projects have been running with foreign assistance which is given in Agriculture's annual report. Give the names of those projects? Have those projects started and the assistance received under these projects in agriculture production. It should be made clear as to how much has been spent on these projects. There is a very short question linked with it, the details of the delegations which have been on bilateral visit to India during 1996, the points of bilateral discussion in agricultural sector and whether small and marginal farmers were included in it, if so, the details thereof.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : During 1996-97 the delegations of Oman, Senegal, Yaman, Australia, Trinidad & Tobago and U.S.A. have visited and there is a long list of the countries which are likely to be visited. If you want, I can give their names.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all in the reply and the entire list is enclosed.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The entire list is given.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please get the reply of the other remaining questions...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever he has said has been accepted but the reply of other questions should be given.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : As far as the African countries are concerned 5 crore rupees have been allocated by the department through which we would help them. We have sent tractors to Barkina Faso. The work is going on there. The informations of the remaining countries will take time, but if the opposition is satisfied with the reply of the Government, it would come to this side. Do not do so, it is important for you to stay in the opposition.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister wants to take the opposition to his side while giving the reply regarding agriculture and wants to be 13 or 14 at the earliest but even then they are not united.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you that the desert of Isreal has been converted into green, we have diplomatic relations with that country and an agreement regarding agriculture has also been signed then what discussion was held to convert the Thar area of Rajasthan into green or has any plan been chalked out? I am asking so because I come from the Ganga area and due to erosion in that area the sand gathers there. We would like to know as to how farming can be done here. Has any programme been taken from Isreal through this agreement if it is so then give the details of that plan.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The hon. Members have themselves talked about the agreement signed with Isreal. We are going to set up tissue culture centres at 24 places in this country. There would be one centre at Delhi and it would have a satellite link. We would do so to develop tissue culture in 24 areas in the entire country.

As far as desert is concerned it would also be seen by our institute. But nothing has been talked about the Ganga and the sand with Isreal. That we would see ourselves.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the agreements were signed with Isreal during 1993-1996. The per hectare production there is much as compared with our country and the hon. Minister has said that the projects of tissue culture have been set up. In my district Wardha there is a worker named Daga ji. He has done a good job in this field but he does not get subsidy from the centre. In this case, one who does a tremendous job gets subsidy from the centre. He has written to the centre but till date he has not been getting subsidy. Whatever is done in Isreal to increase per hectare production, whether efforts would be made to bring that technique to our country and those who are to be given the subsidy is your responsibility and by when it would be given as per the agreement?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : As far as the subsidy is concerned, we are not ready for that since it has not been mentioned about the subsidy in it. We would inform you separately about that.

We are going to set up 24 centres with the assistance of Isreal and for the recovery of sugarcane we are going to set up these centres at three places with the assistance of a company of Isreal. One of the institutes would be set up at Coimbtore, one at Lucknow and another at some other place. An agreement would be signed for it with the company. That company has been claimed that it would produce such seeds which would lead to the recovery of sugarcane upto 17 per cent. At present we do not have the capacity beyond 11-12 per cent. We have been looking towards that aspect. If it is successful at three places we will take more steps in this regard.

[English]

#### Import of Edible Oils

+

\*223. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

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

(a) whether the Government's decision to import oil under the OGL and reduction of import duty has stabilised prices of the edible oils and oilseeds during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any concrete policy has been formulated for importing the edible oils during 1997; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) The decision of the Government to import edible oils under OGL is guided by the present gap of 9 to 10 lakh tonnes between the demand and supply of edible oils, the annual rate of increase in the demand and the slow growth in the domestic oilseeds production in the country. The OGL imports have helped in stabilising the prices of edible oils and oilseeds in the country during the last 2 years as may be seen from the following :

Edible Oils	February 1996	February 1997 (15.2.97)
Edible Oils (Sub-group)	-1.3%	+2.2%
Vanaspati	-5.9%	-0.2%
Mustard Oil	+0.8%	-5.6%
Groundnut Oil	-0.2%	-1.2%
Cottonseed Oil	-11.4%	-3.1%
Ricebran Oil	-19.4%	-2.9%
<b>EDIBLE OILSEEDS</b>		
Edible Oilseeds (Sub-group)	-5.0%	+6.2%
Mustard Seed	-1.8%	-4.0%
Copra	+22.2%	+42.3%
Groundnut Seed	-6.0%	+15.7%
Cottonseed	-7.6%	-1.9%
Soyabean	+0.1%	+7.7%

(c) and (d) The existing import under OGL is taking place under the EXIM Policy of the Government. No decision has been taken yet for importing palmolein during 1997 under PDS.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : In 1994-95, the import of edible oil was 8.32 lakh tonnes. Every year it is getting on increasing. In 1995, it was 12 lakh tonnes; in 1997, it is 15 lakh tonnes; and in 1998, it will be 17 lakh tonnes. Edible oil imports are going up like this. There will be a heavy drain in the foreign exchange

reserves, since edible oil imports is the second largest item after petroleum products. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps are being considered to reduce the import of edible oil; if not, the main reasons for not doing so, and the amount of money our country has to spend on import of edible oils yearly.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, edible oil is under O.G.L. and its demand is from some particular states for P.D.S. from August to November. In the year 1991-92, 183 lakh tonnes of edible oilseeds were produced, but for increasing its production in the year 1996-97 hon. Members are saying that its imports should be minimised. The Government is quite wakeful regarding reducing its imports and its production in the year 1996-97 has been 230 lakh metric tonnes. It was increased by about 50 lakh tonnes during these five years therefore, the Government are making efforts to maximise production of edible oils in the country and we may become self-sufficient in this field. This question is basically related to the department of Agriculture and many measures have been taken in this regard.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, self-sufficiency in vegetable oils depends on domestic production, and our consumption was 69 per cent in the year 1986-87. This led to the adoption of a policy of self-reliance in edible oil in the year 1986. An attempt was undertaken to boost oil production through Special Technology Mission. So, ultimately it has gone up by 11.5 per cent in the year 1990-91. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether we would be able to achieve self-sufficiency to the tune of 97 per cent. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister that when self-sufficiency was achieved in 1991, what circumstances led it to come down to 83 per cent. I want to know whether the Government has the capacity to increase the level of self sufficiency to 100 per cent. What steps the Government proposes to take to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oil the increase of which was 97 per cent in 1991?

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. member has talked about the Technology Mission. As far as the Technology Mission on oilseeds and pulses is concerned, under it research is being conducted for improved and high yielding varieties of seeds edible oil such seeds are trying to be developed as may be free from disease, efforts in this direction are being made through the Technology Mission. Regarding production, I have already said that we are making every possible efforts.

As far as the gap between demand and supply is concerned, there is a gap of 9 to 10 lakh tonnes in demand and supply at present there is the demand is of the order of 4 lakh tonnes now, whereas we have been importing 1½ to 2 lakh tonnes of edible oils for P.D.S. As people are being provided wheat and rice through ration cards as per their entitlement the demand of edible oils among the consumers exceeds that demand on special festivals and that too in particular states. There are about 5-6 states in the whole of the country where edible oil is supplied through P.D.S. Last year a subsidy of about 50 crores was given under this head. We have been making efforts to maximise the production of edible oils in the country and we may become self-sufficient in this regard. All possible effort measures are being taken for this purpose..(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sorry to interrupt you. When are you going to achieve the target of 97 per cent self-sufficiency in edible oil?

[Translation]

Whether any target have been fixed in this regard, that is what I am asking.

[English]

~~MR. SPEAKER~~ : Have you fixed any target for self-sufficiency? When will you achieve self-sufficiency? By which year?

[Translation]

By when are we likely to become self-sufficient, whether any targets have been fixed therefor?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have already said that this question originally pertains to the Ministry of Agriculture as the department of Agriculture is concerned with increasing the production. The job of the Ministry of Food is only to make allocations to the States which distribute it furthers.

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : The hon. Agriculture Minister is here. He can give the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I had information in this regard from the Ministry of Agriculture which I want to share with the House to appraise it of the efforts being made for increasing the production of edible oils in the country. Intensive efforts are being made for increasing the production of edible oils and

improving the varieties of seeds. Provision have been made to impart training to the farmers. Fertilizers are used after applying the pesticides. Efforts are being made for increasing the irrigation capacity and the use of sprinklers is being encouraged.

MR. SPEAKER : If any target has been fixed, then please tell the year.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Target is there that is why the Department of Agriculture is taking initiative in the direction of increasing the production.

MR. SPEAKER : Please tell us the year.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : No year exactly has been fixed so far. There is no such programme, but as I have mentioned earlier there has been an increase of 50 lakh tonnes in the production of edible oil during the last five years. If in the next two to three years, production of edible oil increases by then we must hope that we would certainly become self-sufficient in this regard.

[English]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Sir, I could not understand why the Government is not importing sunflower oil on a large scale while we are getting it for Rs. 25 less than the pamolein oil in the international market. Is the Government continuing to import oil seeds and edible oil? If so, why is the Government not importing sunflower oil instead of pamolein oil in order to save foreign exchange?

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated that there is a gap of 9 to 10 lakh between demand and supply thereof and there are two effects of it. It can have adverse effect on consumers also in future and also on oil seed growers.

MR. SPEAKER : You may tell us whether sunflower oil is being imported or not? That is the question.

[English]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : It is available at a cheaper rate.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the provision of importing sunflower oil is under O.G.L. So far there was 30 per cent custom duty on it so far which has been reduced to 22 per cent in the last year's Budget and it has been equated in the current budget also in order to facilitate its imports. Now, this custom duty would be imposed equally both in O.G.L. and P.D.S.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Mr. Speaker, what I would like to know from the hon. Minister, pamolein is

distributed in Maharashtra, but there is acute shortage of it there. When we distribute it there under the Public Distribution System, there is a great demand for it there and people don't get pamolein oil for months. Keeping this in view, whether the Government of India has any scheme for supplying it to those people who demanding for it and what is the decision it has taken in this respect regarding Maharashtra.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, this question does not arise out of this. You are talking about distribution, but the question is about import.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Why not, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : How you expect the hon. Minister to answer about distribution here? The question is about the Import Policy.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, my question is whether it will be made available.

[Translation]

### Police Complaint Authority

\*224. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Police Complaint Authority has been constituted in Delhi with the approval of Central Government to consider specially the cases of violation of Human Rights;

(b) if so, the number of members of this Authority;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue directions for constituting such an Authority in other States as well;

(d) if so, the time by which these Authorities will be constituted indicating detailed functions of this Authority; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

Government has decided to set up a "Police Complaints Authority" consisting of a Chairman and three Members (including part-time Members) for speedy redressal of complaints made by the members of the public against acts of omission and commission on the part of officials of Delhi Police (including cases of inaction, harassment or misbehaviour, extortion or

corruption, abuse of power and authority, non-registration of FIRs and custodial crimes) and to recommend such action as considered necessary for the removal of such grievances.

Police is a State subject and it is for the States to set up proper machineries for redressal of public complaints against police. Home Minister will shortly be writing to Chief Ministers/Administrators of States/UTs to review the present set up in their respective States/UTs for redressal of complaints against police. They will also be advised to devise and establish proper mechanism and machinery for redressal of complaints against Police, as they may consider suitable.

DR. A.K. PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, violation of human rights is becoming rampant day by day. The protectors of laws have become the worst offenders today in Delhi and in other parts of the country. Everyday we read in newspapers about harassment by Police Department. I want to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs what action is he going to take against the officers who are involved in such type of cases.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, this question specifically relates to the proposed Police Complaints Authority to be set up in Delhi. As you will recall, Sir, this concept of Police Complaints Authority was mooted by the hon. Prime Minister himself in the Rajya Sabha last July. Ever since then, this idea of having a Police Complaints Authority has been accepted in principle and it is being worked out how exactly it is to be constituted and set up.

The complaints which the hon. Member has referred to, that is misconduct and harassment on the part of the Police personnel including officers will, of course, be one of the major issues which will come before this Authority for inquiry and redress when this Authority is set up and which I hope would be completed, say at the maximum, within two months from now.

DR. A.K. PATEL : Sir, I would like to know the number of cases recorded in different States against the Police Departments and inquiries held in such cases?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, this question which the hon. Member has asked, of course, relates to the States. As you know, the State Governments are concerned with their own law and order and Police and their activities in their States. So I cannot immediately give you the number of cases which have been brought to notice in the various States.

If the hon. Member so wants, I can collect some more information and give that to him later on.

But now, I think, at the moment it is of the greatest importance that this Police Complaint Authority, which will be an independent public body, is set up. Once it

is set up in Delhi, we hope that on the same pattern we will be able to instruct the various State Governments to set up Authorities in their respective States.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, Delhi Police especially has become very very notorious and there are a number of complaints...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not say that. It is not fair.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : By and large the constables are notorious. I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister through you, Sir, as to how many complaints have been lodged against Police in the capital, Delhi. I had lodged one complaint about four months back. I was almost manhandled. I wrote to the hon. Minister. I got a letter from the hon. Minister that an inquiry had been constituted and some action would be taken and again because all police officers and constables are involved, they are trying to hush up...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to make a request to those Members who want to raise their issues during the Zero Hour to restrain from raising their hands now. I cannot give them both the chances.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I am not going to raise any issue in the Zero Hour...(Interruptions)

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, he had ensured that some action would be taken. An inquiry had been ordered. But I have not heard anything about it. I would like to know two things from the hon. Minister. How many complaints have been lodged against Police? Secondly, I want to know as to what had happened to the complaint personally lodged by me. I had written to the hon. Minister on this. I would like to leave it in case the hon. Minister does not want to reply...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, you have put the same question four times.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : On the specific complaint, which the hon. Member is referring to, which he himself had represented and about which he is complaining that no action had been taken, if he would be so good enough to meet me, if he likes, outside the House and give me the details, I will have it looked into immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Home Minister that when the Prime Minister had decided in July then why this authority has not yet been set up? Secondly you have yourself said that it is the duty of states to set up a proper authority and you will write to Chief Ministers of Union Territories and states in this regard. I want to know whether the Chief Minister of Delhi can set up such a complaint authority?

Will you permit him or create hurdles in its way? Will the elected Government not take care of this machinery? Then we cannot solve the complaints received against the police. People do not go to police station for this. They approach the elected Government. Has the Chief Minister of Delhi full authority to set up such a complaint centre?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has certainly the right to do so. Besides we are going to order the Chief Ministers of concerned states to form a public body of this type in their respective states where complaints can be lodged. They will have full right to enquire and give report in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER : The next question is on Tripura and I thought that you would ask your question on Tripura.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : No, Sir. I would like to put my supplementary on this question.

Sir, Delhi is very very near to U.P. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is your question about Tripura?... (Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : No, my supplementary question is on question no. 224.

Your concept of Police Complaint Authority is welcomed by all the Members. In view of your statement in U.P. that there is political anarchy, social chaos and destructive economy, which should be taken care of by all the parties, will that Committee take care of this situation in Delhi?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If such a situation is obtaining in Delhi, I would like to hear about it from the hon. Member first.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You know better than me. The number of killings, murders, dacoities, kidnappings, rapes is the highest in Delhi. You can ask all Members. Everyday it is ther in the newspapers. Your analysis of political anarchy, social chaos and destructive economy is absolutely fitting in the case of Delhi.

So let us know what he has been doing.

SHRI RAM NAIK : If you can bring it under Rule 184, probably he will reply to your Question.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What you people are thinking! Now we know where the shoe is pinching. You take that chance. Make it equal. Why are you worried? We will be open like this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the hon. Member has made more than one reference to my statement. That statement was particularly about the state of affairs prevailing in Uttar Pradesh. It was not about Delhi or any other State.

[Translation]

### Subsidies to Agriculture Sector

\*226. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for enhancing the rate of subsidies being provided to the agriculture sector in the country is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (c) There is no proposal under consideration at present to enhance the rates of subsidies being provided to agriculture sector as the Eighth Plan is coming to a close on 31.3.1997. However, farmers are being subsidies through input prices of fertilizers, electricity, irrigation and credit. Besides, several concessions, incentives and assistance are also granted in other forms like seeds mini kits, machine tools, plant protection, soil conservation, drip & sprinkler irrigation and training through various plan schemes.

The rates of concessions, including those announced recently on 20.2.97, on phosphatic and potassic fertilizers under the ongoing scheme of the 'sale of de-controlled fertilizers with concessions to the farmers' over the period, are given below :

(Rs. per tonne)

Product	upto 5.7.96	6.7.96 to 31.3.97	From 1.4.97
Indigenous DAP	1000	3000	3750
Imported DAP	-	1500	2250
Muriate of Potash (MOP)	1000	1500	2000
SSP (16% P)	340	500	600
Indigenous Complexes	435-999	1304-2633	1149-3320

The details of other subsidies being provided under various schemes are given in the enclosed *Annexure*.

**Annexure***Details of subsidies provided under various schemes for Development of Agriculture*

Items	Pattern of Subsidy
1. Tractors and other matching implements including trailer and seed-cum-fertilizer drill	Subsidy @ 30% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 30,000 is available for the purchase of tractors upto 30 power take of Horse Power for farmers, their groups, registered cooperative societies, Agriculture credit Societies and Multi-purpose farming societies.
2. Drip Irrigation	
(a) Drip Installation	A subsidy of 90% of the total cost of the system or Rs. 25,000/- per ha. to SC/ST/Small marginal/women farmers. 70% to farmers of other categories subject to the same ceiling.
(b) Demonstration	A subsidy of 75% of the cost subject or Rs. 22,500/- per ha. for installation of drip irrigation with area limit of 1 hectare.
<i>Integrated Cereal Development Programme</i>	
3. Sprinkler Irrigation	
(a) Small and Marginal farmers, SC/ST and women farmers	Rs. 25,000/- per hectare subject to 90% of the total cost.
(b) other farmers	Rs. 25,000/- per ha. subject to 70% of the total cost.
4. <i>Seeds Distribution</i> (upto 15 years of release)	
(a) rice, wheat and barley	Rs. 200 per quintal
(b) Hybrid rice	Rs. 500 per quintal
(c) Jowar, Bajra and other millets (non-hybrid)	Rs. 400 per quintal
(d) Hybrid Jowar and Bajra	Rs. 1000 per quintal
(e) Cotton	Rs. 400 per quintal acid delinted
(i) upto 10 years of release	Rs. 300 per quintal mechanically delinted
(ii) upto 10-15 years	Rs. 250 per quintal
(f) Jute	Rs. 600 per quintal
(g) Distribution of certified seeds and pulses	Rs. 300 per quintal to all certified seeds.
5. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane- implements	
(a) Bullock drawn	An amount of Rs. 1,500/- per unit subject to 50% of the total cost.
(b) Tractor drawn	Rs. 10,000/- per unit subject to 25% of the total cost.

*[Translation]*

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking my supplementary question very briefly. Every Government in India is concerned for farmers and villagers. Now a days fortunately a poor farmer is the Prime Minister. As such I want to ask him although I won't believe, because when senior Ministers change their statement then believing - this Government will be a mistake...*(Interruptions)* Had these been a bit of morality, it could have been relied upon when there is no morality as well, there can be no trust. Therefore, my first question is as to the steps being taken by the

Government to see that the subsidy being given to farmers in the country reaches their and the farmers get the benefit of it.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the existing system subsidy is given to manufactures and manufacturers pass it on to the farmers. The State Governments certify it us that so much of subsidy has reached then, and it was sold at such and such. Besides of the Hon'ble Members have any suggestion by which subsidy can reach the farmers direct then we will welcome it. At least he believes that subsidy is given. He may not believe the Government. If there is doubt, please tell us.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out that on the basis of subsidy given to them, the farmers must have made progress economically, but we find that the condition of farmers has been deteriorating day by day. I want to ask whether there is any such program through which purchasing power of farmers could be implemented?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for improving the condition of farmers the first thing we have to do is to increase the produce and productivity of the cultivable land of farmers...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : I am asking about the programme. All can make suggestions. I am asking about the programme. Is there any programme?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : If you will have produce I will tell you. I said that efforts are being made to increase the produce and productivity. For that we are trying to provide them subsidy. We are trying for provide irrigational facilities to them. We are trying to see that they get hybrid seeds...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What is cheap subsidy? You just said that cheap subsidy is being provided?

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : This is not the reply to my question. If wheat of Indian farmers is purchase @ Rs. 4.15 per kg. and wheat of foreigners is purchased @ Rs. 6.35 per kg., then it is not going to help Indian farmers. If this is done then it is the reply to my question. Either you say that I am telling a lies or say that I am not a leader of farmers or reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER : Listen, Professor Saheb, first hear the reply.

SHRI CHATURAN MISHRA : I have never said to hon'ble member that he tells a lie. He always speaks the truth. Why should I say that he tells a lie? I did never say so. We are constantly increasing the minimum support price to see that the farmers get remunerative price.

So the price of wheat was increased by Rs. 35%. But we increase so much so that the poor consumers do not face any crisis. Whatever prices are increased, the Government is very much concerned for that. Therefore, prices are increased keeping in view the interests of both the farmers and consumers.

*[English]*

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : The system of subsidy is found to be iniquitous in that the quantum of subsidy given to a big farmer as well as to a small farmer is the same. If a small farmer has got two acres, he gets one bag of urea and if a big farmer has got 200 acres, he gets 20 or 30 bags of urea. The beneficiary is going to be the rich farmer. I feel that the subsidy system itself is pro-rich farmer and iniquitous. Has the Government got any proposal to extend or to evolve some differential rate of subsidy to benefit the poor farmers?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can think of it, but the trouble in this country is that the small and marginal farmers are not well-organised. Whatever things meant for them are sent, they are being taken away by the others. If the Members can guarantee that, I am willing to have a differential rate; I am willing to do that. But the target group must be helped and in the name of small and marginal farmers, the others should not take this. That must be guaranteed.

*[Translation]*

SMT. BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : The hon. Minister told about the remunerative prices. You will find after enquiry that no farmer gets remunerative price for any of his produces. The farmers must get remunerative prices for their produces. It has been replied that 90% of the total cost of the system i.e. Rs. 25,000 is subsidy for marginal farmers, small farmers and female farmers. There is a mention of females in and female farmers, in it. What is the criticism for determining the share of females. Have you ever thought about it? Because female farmers are also involved in it, but they have no base so that they could have good agriculture. Therefore, are you going to steps for providing 100% subsidy to women?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Women are the only criterion for women-there is no other criterion for it. We have started giving 90% just now we have not thought about 100% If provision for 90% is made and the house recommend more funds, then we will provide the benefits to maximum women. At present we suggest that we are benefitting, a very few whereas we want to provide this to more.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : In order to see that farmers get remunerative price of their produce they must be provided necessary inputs like fertilizers, seeds and electricity and that too at reasonable rates. While we increase the prices these inputs prices of produces is not increased in that rate. Will the Government set up a Committee to conduct a survey to find as to what were the prices of fertilizer, electricity and seeds in 1950 and the prices of agricultural produces vis-a-vis their present prices. This will help the farmers get remunerative prices. Are the Government doing something in this regard?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said earlier that we determine prices keeping in view the poor consumers. Only one factor is not taken for this. While answering previous question I said that we want to help farmers the other way and are doing so. We are helping them in the form of subsidy. No matter whether the fertilizers are indigenous or imported. we constantly increase the subsidy and control the price. we also give subsidy and control the price. we also give subsidy on electricity and irrigation.

It the hon'ble Member wants I will give him the figures. We provided Rs. 1350 crore on imported

fertilizers. Rs. 4743 crore on domestic fertilizers Rs. 1674 crore on controlled fertilizers, Rs. 15329 crore on electricity and for irrigation I do not have the latest figure with me but in 1994-95 we have given them subsidy for Rs. 6828 crores. It is also a method so that their production expenditure can be met with.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : I wanted to know the differences of rates of various inputs and produces like wheat in 1950 vis-a-vis their rates prevailing now. There should be a parity between both the prices ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Where is the time? We have taken too much time on this question.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, the hon. Minister has very nearly answered this question. Subsidy is a very important aspect of the Budget. It is generally stated that it is the poor who get the subsidy. In fact, we know that the exporters and the industrialists get the subsidy by not paying taxes. In the economy, as a whole, various sectors and primarily the rich get subsidy in terms of export concessions and in terms of backward district concessions, etc. So, what is not known is the figure for subsidy, whether explicit or implicit, given to the poorer sections of the population and agriculture *per se*. I want a full estimate from the hon. Minister of Agriculture as to what is the total amount of subsidy provided for agriculture. Can he differentiate between the poor and the rich? I ask this question for one reason. In the earlier Budget it was proposed that if a marginal farmer buys a tractor, he will be given a huge subsidy ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, you are going beyond your promise about a pointed question.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, distribution of land is already imbalanced. Small and medium farmers have 32% of the total area and rest of the land is with others. People having more land will take more fertilizer and if you want balanced land then we will appeal to communist parties to make more efforts for that. Besides what can we do? Secondly targetted group should be given more we are thinking in this direction, I have said earlier also. But the problem is that their organisation is not that strong so that we can give them. If communist people will help them we can help more...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister is not very clear. Though he has mentioned about the percentage of subsidy given to the small and marginal farmers, he has not specified about

the percentage of subsidy farmers, he has not specified about the percentage of subsidy given to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. SPEAKER : I do not know.

[English]

### Cotton Growers

+  
\*227. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :  
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the woes of the cotton growers in different parts of Gujarat following inadequate sale and fall in the prices of cotton;

(b) whether the State Government has also not provided the assured amount of Rs. 100 crore to the cotton co-operatives for helping the cotton growing farmers; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to improve the plight of cotton growers of the State?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) and (b) The cotton prices in Gujarat in the current year are lower compared to the last year but these are ruling well above the minimum support prices. However, the State Government has asked the Gujarat State Cooperative Federation Ltd. to stop up purchase of cotton from the farmers and has undertaken to bear losses, if necessary. With State Government's assurance, the State Cooperative Bank has given the loan of Rs. 28 crore and a further Rs. 25 crore loan is awaiting NABARD's permission. Accordingly, the GUJCOT purchased 1.38 lakh bales of cotton amounting to Rs. 129.50 crore so far after arranging credit facilities to the institutions.

(c) The Government has been taking various steps to help cotton growers :

- (i) Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of various varieties were announced before the start of the season.
- (ii) Export quota of 12.20 lakh bales of cotton has been released during the current year of which one lakh bales of cotton is allotted to GUJCOT. In addition a spill-over quantity of 6.90 lakh bales (approx) from the export

quota of 1995-96 season has been permitted to exported by 28.2.97.

- (iii) The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has been making aggressive purchases to give support to cotton growers. As on 23.2.97 the CCI purchases during the current season have been 7.81 lakh bales as compared to 6.14 lakh bales as on the corresponding date in the previous year. The CCI and GUJCOT have purchased 3.55 lakh bales and exported 1.69 lakh bales of cotton from Gujarat during the current season. State Marketing Federation and NAFED have also been given export quotas and have also been buying cotton.
- (iv) The ceiling on export of cotton yarn of counts below 41s in 1996 was increased from 80 million kgs to 110 million kgs. for the year 1997, the ceiling for export of cotton yarn below counts 41s has been further enhanced to 120 million kgs.
- (v) Cotton has been removed from Selective Credit Control.
- (vi) There are no on stock-limits for cotton.
- (vii) In the Central Budget proposals for 1997-98, it has been proposed to repeal Ginning and Pressing Factories Act of 1925 and the Cotton Control Order of 1986 will be invoked only in well defined emergency situation. Domestic future trading would be resumed in respect of ginned and baled cotton.

[Translation]

SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the United Front Government talks about farmers and the hon. Minister is also a farmers. But whenever it comes to the farmers then the United Front Government backs out. Producer farmers are protected but the cotton growers are not being protected. What are the reasons for that? How much amount was given to Gujarat during the last three years through Incentive Cotton Development Programme under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme and if given the reasons for giving a lesser amount.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while fixing the price of cotton the Government issues orders for purchase of cotton when the market price comes to be lower than the Government approved rates. If so happens in the cotton sector that if in one year the global production of cotton decreased then the price of cotton increased and in the next year if production increased the rates does not increase in that proportion. Prices cannot be fixed according to glucturation, but if the prices are less than the support price then orders are issued for its purchase. The figures given consist of both the things. We are giving more quantity for export. I would like to inform the hon' ble Members that in 1994-95, 1.8 lakh bales were exported, and 1995-96 it

increased to 15.90 lakh bales and for 1996-97 the order is given of 12.20 lakh bales. Efforts are also being made to allow the states to make the sake of cotton. We try to see that the market price does not fall below the minimum support price. But the mill owners manoeuvre in such a worry that the farmers do not get remunerative price. There is a committee for this purpose. We are waiting for its report. Suitable action will be taken after report is received.

SHRI DINSHA PATEL : How much a money was given to Gujarat during the last three years under the Incentive Scheme?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Incentive, what for?

SHRI DINSHA PATEL : How much money was given to Gujarat during the last three years under Cotton Development Programme?

SHRI CHATURANNA MISHRA : I have state-wise figures, if you want I will give you separately.

MR. SPEAKER : Give separately.

SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Sir, in the reply you have stated about the steps taken help the producers. What minimum price has been announced? When the Industries Act, 1925 was repealed and what are the benefits of the new Act enforced in 1996.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The benefit will be that farmers can sell their produce and can export. The full figures are not available with us.

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Gujarat Government, through a Fax message, pleaded the cause of the farmers, but its reply has not been given till date. My question is why the reply has not been given? Secondly, every time Government talks about the farmers, I want to give you last three years figures. In 1992-93 there was a proposal to sanction Rs. 1 crore. Later this amount was reduced and only 45 lakh were given. Third year this amount was further reduced and Rs. 11 lakhs were given. It is wrong to reduce funds instead of increasing, the same. The Government must took into the plight of cotton growers in Gujarat, Maharashtra and other parts of India. The hon. Minister was that in the recent cotton seminar and he had explained quite well then. I appreciate that. I want to know from him as to what scheme has been formulated by the Government for the cotton growers and the steps he proposes to take against decreasing trend of price during last three years.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just said that in response to the question raised by Hon'ble members in Upper House, an enquiry committee has been set up to enquire into this aspect. I also said in the conference that as soon as the report of the committee comes we will take action accordingly. I told you and am still saying that let the report come we will tell you accordingly.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I Want to tell the hon'ble

Minister that the prices of cotton has been decreasing during the last two years. In 1994-95 the cotton price in the country was rupees 2500/- per quintal last year, the price was 2100-2200 and this year we are getting 1500/- per quintal. The Maharashtra Government is purchasing cotton at the rate of Rs. 2100/- per quintal this year. Will the actual Government make any programme through c.c.i. for purchasing cotton @ Rs. 2100 per quintal?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said once that we will intensive only when the market price is less than the minimum support price and regarding Maharashtra, they resort to monopoly in purchase. In Gujarat there is a corporation which deals with it. I have already given the figures in this regard ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Maharashtra cotton is purchased for Rs. 2100/- per quintal at the minimum support price.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot ask another question.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Punjab is also a cotton growing State. Last year, the farmers suffered a great loss because the cotton prices fell in the market and the Cotton Corporation of India and the NAFED did not enter the market in time. When the farmers had sold their crops, then only these agencies came in. The hon. Minister has said that minimum support price is offered to the farmers if it falls down. Minimum support price is only a national price and cotton is not sold at minimum support price anywhere. Will the hon. Minister assure that the Cotton Corporation of India and the NAFED will enter the market in time when the cotton comes in the market in Punjab?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : In Punjab and other places also, if the price in the market is below the support price, only then we enter. I can give you the figures in my reply. CCI has been making aggressive purchases to give support to the cotton growers. As on 23.2.97, the CCI purchases during the current season have been 7.81 lakh bales as compared to 6.14 lakh bales in the previous year. I have told you that we are purchasing more. But if you want something more, then you can discuss about that with me.

MR. SPEAKER : I will explain to him. The contention of the hon. Member is that the CCI is entering the market late and the prices are going down. If the CCI enters the market early, then farmers are likely to get more prices. The hon. Member wants to know whether you are prepared for that. I think this is what Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala wants to know.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : If it is a time factor, then I will examine it.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : The hon. Minister has said that the ruling prices are well above the minimum support price. Actually, the minimum support price is not the remunerative price. I would like to know what measures

the hon. Minister wants to take so that the farmers get remunerative price of cotton. The only way for that, according to the economists, is that 40 per cent of the purchases should be done by the institutions. If you organise it, then only the price will remain in favour of the farmers. May I know what steps the hon. Minister is likely to take for achieving 40 per cent buying by the institutions and not by the mills or traders?

MR. SPEAKER : I think, the Minister has already answered this question and said that he is examining it.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I again want to tell him.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you are examining it.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : We have millions of handloom weavers. If the cotton prices shoot up, then they will die of starvation. I have that consideration also in my mind.

SHRI P. UPENDER : Sir, the Government of India always takes *ad hoc* decisions in these matters, particularly in regard to cotton, tobacco and other crops. They are aware of the requirement of the spinning mills and they are also aware of the export requirements. But in spite of that, they do not plan it in advance. Why can they not plan it in advance and tell that so much quantity will be allowed for export and so much quantity will be available to the State Trading Corporation, NAFED and Cotton Corporation of India? Why can they not have an advance planning and tell the farmers in advance so that distress sales are not resorted to by the farmers?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, this cannot be done unless we know what is the production that we are having.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : You know the production. You can do it on the basis of last year's production.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, every year's production forecast is not correct. When the production figures are available, only then we can say how much will be required by the mills and what is the domestic requirement. I have already given the figures. We are increasing the exports.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, my question pertains to the formula of Minimum Support Price which is the basic requirement. Will the hon. Minister consider in consultation with the Planning Commission to take a review of the Minimum Support Price formula in comparison to industrial production formula? In the case of industrial production the formula is: cost plus 10 per cent of the profit and whatever you call it. Similarly, can we consider for agricultural production that total cost plus 10 per cent or 15 per cent of profit over that? Can that formula be applicable for the Minimum Support Price for agricultural production also as is being done for industrial production?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is already there. We are giving 10 per cent as managerial cost. That is there. The hon. Member can examine it and if there is any suggestion, I am ready to go through it.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I agree with the Minister. That is already there. I think the best suggestion has come from Shri Barnala, if you can examine his suggestion regarding the entry of the CCI.

### National Commission for Safai Karamchari

+

\*229. SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the budget allocation for the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis during 1996-97;

(b) the location of the Headquarters of the Commission;

(c) the number of employees working in the Commission;

(d) whether the Commission has examined the living conditions of the scavengers;

(e) if so, the details of the report submitted in this regard during 1995-96;

(f) whether the Commission has made any proposal for setting up its Regional Offices at Bangalore and other places of the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The budget allocation for the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis during 1996-97 is Rs. 70 lakh. However, in R.E. 1996-97 it has been increased to Rs. 7.50 lakhs.

(b) The Commission is located in 'B' Wing, 4th Floor of Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi.

(c) Apart from the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Members of the Commission 43 employees are working in the Commission. However, the total sanctioned strength of the Commission is 46, out of which 3 posts (2 of Private Secretary and one of Research Assistant) are lying vacant. In addition, 10 group 'D' staff have been engaged on daily wage basis.

(d) and (e) The Commission have submitted the first Report for the year 1994-95 during November, 1995 which, inter alia, included recommendations pertaining to the term and status of the Commission, financial autonomy, definition of scavenger, survey, stipend, training, project cost of rehabilitation, publicity to the scheme, timely release of funds, adoption of cluster approach, monitoring, facilities for Safai Karamcharis, finance corporation exclusively for Safai Karamcharis, etc.

(f) The Commission has not made any proposal for setting up of Regional office at Bangalore.

(g) Does not arise.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister the steps that are being taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis and also for the development of their economic, social and other living conditions? Is there any special programme is being evolved to enable them to cross the poverty line? Will the Government set up regional offices in the South to speed up the activities of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, the Government has launched a national scheme of liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers and their dependents. Under this scheme, we have first identified the number of persons who are in this obnoxious occupation of carrying human excreta on head and the number of persons who are scavengers.

12.00 hrs.

We have 7,50,000 scavengers all over India. We have different schemes for the elimination of this profession. We are offering them substitute or alternative employment, and we are sure that by 2002 the Government will be in a position to eliminate this bad profession.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Mobile Zoos

\*221. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of registered as well as unregistered mobile zoos operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Central Zoo Authority has banned the unregistered mobile zoos in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the assistance, if any given to such registered mobile zoos by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The total number of mobile zoos in the country which have made applications to Central Zoo Authority for recognition is 25. These are 11 in Bihar, 1 in Tamil Nadu, 9 in Uttar Pradesh and 4 in West Bengal. Besides these, 2 zoos from Madhya Pradesh and 1 zoo from Rajasthan which did not make any application to the Central Zoo Authority for recognition have approached Hon'ble High Court of Delhi to allow them to continue their operations.

(b) Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides that no zoo can be operated without getting recognition from the Central Zoo Authority. Action is being taken accordingly.

(c) The aforesaid provision was made in the Act with a view to ensure that the animals in the zoos get conditions congenial to their physical and mental health.

(d) Central Government has not given any assistance mobile zoos.

### Insurgency in Tripura

\*225. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARAYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Rebels kill 24 in Tripura" appearing in 'Statesman', dated February 17, 1997;

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

(c) whether the State Government has proved a failure in tackling the situation effectively;

(d) whether the Central Government have taken the matter seriously;

(e) if so, the steps taken to control the situation in the State; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) Both the State and Central Governments have, in close coordination, taken several steps which, inter alia, include induction of adequate number of Central Para-Military Forces and Army units, improved coordination and sharing of intelligence, declaration of the worst affected areas as disturbed areas, strengthening/modernisation of the State Police Force and sanction of Special Central Financial Assistance.

[Translation]

### Production of Groundnut

\*228. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated total production of groundnut in the country during 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been decline in the production of groundnut during 1995-96 in some States;

(c) if so, the names of such States and the extent to which it has declined as compared to 1994-95;

(d) the reasons for decline; and

(e) the special steps taken by the Government to boost the production of groundnut?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The estimated data on the production of groundnut in the country for Rabi 1996-97 season have not yet become

available. However, the State-wise production of groundnut during Kharif 1996-97 season is given in the Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The decline in production has been to the extent of 2.4 Lakh Tonnes, primarily due to less production in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan during 1995-96. A comparative statement of estimates of production of groundnut during 1994-95 and 1995-96 showing the decline in production in some States over the year 1994-95 is given in the Statement-II.

(d) This shortfall in the production of groundnut was due to the vagaries of weather. The Monsoon was delayed which affected the sowing operations in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Orissa. A long dry spell followed causing moisture stress affecting the production.

(e) In order to boost the production of groundnut including other oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 22 States. Under the programme financial assistance is being provided by way of subsidies for various critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, rhizobium culture, gypsum/pyrites, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, farmer's training, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organised on farmer's field to transfer the production technology.

### Statement-I

#### State-wise Advance Estimates of Production of Kharif 1996-97 season of Groundnut

('000 Tonnes)

State	Kharif 1996-97
Andhra Pradesh	1665.0
Bihar	4.0
Gujarat	2159.0
Haryana	3.0
Karnataka	955.0
Kerala	12.0
Madhya Pradesh	310.0
Maharashtra	506.0
Orissa	39.0
Punjab	12.0
Rajasthan	247.0
Tamil Nadu	1100.0
Uttar Pradesh	110.0
Others	5.0
All India	7127.0

**Statement-II***State-wise Comparative Statement of Estimates of Production of Groundnut during 1994-95 and 1995-96*

State	Production (Thousand tonnes)		Extent to which the production declined over 1994-95
	1994-95	1995-96	
Andhra Pradesh	1670.7	2426.2	
Bihar	4.8	4.3	-0.5
Goa	2.1	1.9	-0.2
Gujarat	2380.1	1028.3	-1351.8
Haryana	1.8	1.7	-0.1
Himachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	
Jammu and Kashmir	0.1	0.1	
Karnataka	945.5	1156.0	
Kerala	12.8	12.5	-0.3
Madhya Pradesh	214.3	290.6	
Maharashtra	629.2	576.4	-52.8
Nagaland	0.5	1.0	
Orissa	98.2	92.3	-5.9
Punjab	8.0	8.0	
Rajasthan	197.5	163.6	-33.9
Tamil Nadu	1762.4	1911.6	
Tripura	1.9	1.3	-0.6
Uttar Pradesh	101.6	107.2	
West Bengal	26.3	26.6	
Pondicherry	3.4	3.6	
All India	8061.6	7813.6	-248.0

**Bill for Mentally Retarded Persons**

\*230. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a comprehensive bill for the mentally retarded persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any memorandum in this regard;

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

(e) the time by which the bill is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Action is being taken for introduction of National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy Bill, 1995 in Parliament. The main objectives, *inter-alia*, of the Trust will be to make arrangements for the care and rehabilitation of such persons, to provide aid and assistance to the organisations engaged in their care and to receive and manage the properties bequeathed for the purpose.

**Simplified Procedure for Arms Licences**

\*231. SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of looting and dacoity in the buses by the anti-social elements along with Indo-Pak border districts have increased during the current year;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure of granting arms licences for the safety of the people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects as per the Constitution of India, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime are primarily the concern of the State Governments. Specific data relating to looting and dacoity in buses are not maintained at the Central level. Latest information about the incidence of dacoity and robbery, district-wise in the States bordering Pakistan is available for the year 1994 and the same is enclosed as Statement. It is felt that the existing procedure regarding grant of arms licence needs no change.

**Statement***Incidence of Dacoity and Robbery in Districts of Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan during 1994*

S.No.	States/Distt.	Dacoity 1994	Robbery 1994
1	2	3	4
<b>I. Gujarat</b>			
1.	Ahmedabad Commr.	118	134
2.	Ahmedabad Rural	50	54
3.	Ahwa-Dans	1	0
4.	Amreli	29	15
5.	Anand	35	37
6.	Banaskantha	96	88

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
7.	Bharuch	52	39	3.	Batala	0	1
8.	Bhavnagar	44	42	4.	Bhatinda	1	4
9.	Gandhinagar	6	7	5.	Faridkot	1	2
10.	Jamnagar	41	37	6.	Fatehgarh Sahib	2	2
11.	Junagadh	43	44	7.	Ferozepur	0	2
12.	Kheda North	30	36	8.	Guradaspur	1	2
13.	Kutch	19	24	9.	Hoshiarpur	0	2
14.	Mehsana	61	87	10.	Jagraon	1	1
15.	Panchmahal	112	111	11.	Jalandhar	14	5
16.	Patan	34	44	12.	Kapurthala	1	0
17.	Porbandar	10	11	13.	Khanna	1	1
18.	Rajkot Commr.	19	39	14.	Ludhiana	4	7
19.	Rajkot	44	36	15.	Majitha	0	2
20.	Sabarkantha	14	24	16.	iMansa	0	1
21.	Surat Commr.	60	66	17.	Patiala	5	1
22.	Surat Rural.	21	20	18.	Ropar	0	1
23.	Surendranagar	15	25	19.	Sangrur	0	0
24.	Vadodara Commr.	21	26	20.	Tarntaran	3	2
25.	Vadodara Rural.	37	35	21.	Total	44	46
26.	Valsad	17	34	<b>IV. Rajasthan</b>			
27.	W. Rly	24	38	1.	Ajmer	40	50
28.	Total	1053	1153	2.	Alwar	61	38
<b>II. Jammu and Kashmir</b>				3.	Banswara	40	59
1.	Anantnag	7	16	4.	Baran	47	45
2.	Badgam	1	1	5.	Barmer	38	33
3.	Baramulla	17	21	6.	Bharatpur	47	58
4.	Doda	19	10	7.	Bhilwara	34	31
5.	Jammu	13	10	8.	Bikaner	8	10
6.	Kargil	0	0	9.	Bundi	42	49
7.	Kathua	2	4	10.	Chittorgarh	59	70
8.	Kupwara	3	3	11.	Churu	10	10
9.	Leh	0	0	12.	Dausa	11	26
10.	Pulwama	4	15	13.	Dholpur	18	25
11.	Poonch	1	0	14.	Dungarpur	21	13
12.	Rajouri	0	0	15.	Ganganagar	33	13
13.	Srinagar	12	21	16.	Hanumangarh	*	14
14.	Udhampur	17	10	17.	Jaipur	98	93
15.	Railways	0	0	18.	Jaisalmer	13	10
16.	Total	96	111	19.	Jalore	26	24
<b>III. Punjab</b>				20.	Jhalawar	40	52
1.	Amritsar	10	7	21.	Jhunjhunu	10	11
2.	Barnala	0	3	22.	Jodhpur	62	67

1	2	3	4
23.	Kota	49	92
24.	Nagaur	26	24
25.	Pali	22	18
26.	Raisanand	12	18
27.	Sawai Madhopur	31	38
28.	Sikar	22	20
29.	Sirohi	16	15
30.	Tonk	13	10
31.	Udaipur	70	93
32.	G.R.P.	19	8
33.	Total	1038	1137

\* District was not existing at that time.

[English]

#### Animal Husbandry and Dairying Schemes

\*232. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :  
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals for the development of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for Ninth Five Year Plan have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the main areas and activities on which attention is proposed to be focussed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Even though the Ninth Plan has not yet been given a final shape, the proposed focus areas and activities during the Plan envisages setting up of an additional 60 thousand artificial insemination centres to provide door step service of the farmers, creation of additional one lakh dairy cooperative societies to enhance the productivity and procurement of milk, establishing District Composite Livestock Development and Extension Centres, cattle insurance and formation of cooperative federations for sheep, goat and rabbit development.

[Translation]

#### Funds for Agricultural Development

\*233. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the funds allocated to Uttar Pradesh for the development of agriculture during the year 1995-96;

(b) the amount actually utilised by the State Government;

(c) whether the State Government has sought additional amount for the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 110 crores was released to Government of Uttar Pradesh under various Central/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of agriculture during the year 1995-96. The amount actually utilised by the State Government during the year 1995-96 out of releases made during 1995-96 and an unspent balance of about Rs. 32 crores for earlier years, was Rs. 108 crores.

(c) and (d) Funds are released to the States based on the proposals received, total allocation in the budget of the Department and the amount remaining unutilised in a particular State out of earlier releases made. During the year 1996-97 the State Government has sought additional Central Assistance in respect of the Scheme for Soil Conservation in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers; Intensive Cotton Development Programme; Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among small farmers; Strengthening of Agricultural Engineering in SAUs; National Pulses Development Project and Oilseeds Production Programme.

(e) These are under process.

[English]

#### River Valley Projects

\*234. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a study out of 200 river valley projects cleared during the last two decades, 80% were cleared in violation of the Forests Conservation Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the action taken against those responsible for clearing such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No River Valley project has been cleared by Ministry of Environment and Forests in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

[Translation]

### Handicapped Children

\*235. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :  
SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of handicapped school-going children to the normal school-going children in the country;

(b) the details of steps taken by the Government to encourage the handicapped children for going to the schools; and

(c) the total amount allocated for the welfare of the handicapped children in the country particularly in Maharashtra during 1996?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) The following are the major schemes under which the handicapped children are encouraged to attend the schools 9 :

- (i) Assistance to Organisations for disabled persons;
- (ii) Establishment and Development of Special Schools; and
- (iii) Integrated Education for Disabled Children.

(c) State-wise allocation is not made. However, during 1995-96 an amount of Rs. 68.69 lakhs was released to the Non-Governmental Organisations working for the welfare of Handicapped Children in the State of Maharashtra.

### Statement

According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991, the educational level of handicapped children in rural and urban areas is as follows :

(Per thousand population)

	Not literates	Upto primary level	Middle level	Secondary level and above
Rural	701	203	53	35
Urban	462	298	110	123

As per the Selected Educational Statistics 1995-96, brought out by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the gross enrolment ratios for the year 1994-95 were as follows :

Primary (1 to 5)	104.3
Upper Primary (5 to 8)	67.6

Note : The gross enrolment ratio is defined as the percentage ratio of the enrolment in the respective classes to the estimated child population in the corresponding age groups.

[English]

### Earthquake Victims

\*236. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress so far been made for the resettlement and rehabilitation of the earthquake victims of Latur-Osmanabad belt;

(b) whether most of the houses built for resettlement of the victims have been lying vacant owing to threat of recurrence of earthquakes in the area where frequent tremors have since been felt; and

(c) if so, the number of details of such vacant houses in different areas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra is implementing the Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Programme (MEERP) for the social and economic rehabilitation of people affected by the Maharashtra earthquake of 1993. The MEERP comprises the components of reconstruction and repair of damaged houses, infrastructure development, economic, social and community rehabilitation and technical assistance. A statement indicating the progress made in the implementation of various components under the Programme is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Out of 16963 houses completed so far 5566 houses are lying vacant as these have not been handed over to the beneficiaries, pending completion of civil amenities and infrastructure in the villages. However, there is no report of any house remaining unoccupied on account of apprehension of recurrence of earthquakes.

## Statement

Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Programme  
Status as on January 31, 1997

S.No.	Component/ Sub-Component	Implementing Agency	Quantity	Target Compl. Date	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1</b>	<b>HOUSING</b>				
1.1	Housing and Amenities including Donor villages	PMU/Donor/ NGOs	26,954 in 52 villages	Jun-97	Completed-16963' In Progress-9785
1.2	Repair and Strengthening	Owners/PMU	2,14,502	Dec-97	Estimates prepared for 1,95,672 houses/ Completed-76,592/In Progress; - 83,901
1.3	Model Houses/Buildings	PMU	475	Mar-97	Completed-450, In Progress-25
1.4	Pilot Strengthening	PMU/ZP	4,898	Jun-97	4,647 Houses identified, estimates prepared for 4202 houses, 995 houses completed and work on 1,92 houses in progress.
<b>2</b>	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>				
2.1	Access Roads (Construction and Strengthening)		269 Kms-17 Pckgs	Mar-97	8 packages completed. All other 9 packages in progress.
2.2	Culverts and minor bridges		131 nos	Completed	All 131 works completed.
2.2a	Construction of missing culverts	PWD/ZP	10 packages (166 nos.)	Mar-97	6 packages (142 nos.) completed. Remaining 4 packages (24 nos.) in progress.
2.3	Strengthening of bridges more than 60 m span		14 pckgs. (18 no.) in Latur and O'bad + 3 pckgs. (15 no.) in Solapur	Dec-97	Strengthening of 8 bridges (5 packages) completed and work on 10 bridges (9 packages) in progress and 15 nos. in Solapur district in ending state.
2.4	Public Buildings		26 Packages (209 buildings)	Complited	Work on all 209 buildings completed. 1 building deleted from original 210 buildings
2.5	School Buildings/ZP Buildings	PMU/ZP	5403 buildings (3797 sch. + 1606 ZP)	Jun-97	Work completed on 3052 buildings (1786 sch.+1266 ZP), in progress on 1376 (1097 sch. + 279 ZP) buildings.
2.6	Water Supply	MWSSE	57 villages (52 relocated)- 4 Slices	Mar-97	Repairs to existing schemes completed; Interim water supply work completed; Permanent water supply for all villages in progress.
2.7	Irrigation				Lower Terna dam under review of Expert Committee.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.7.1	Repair to Lower Terna		1 item	Jun-98	Report expected in February.
	Repair to Taini Aqueduct		1 item	Jun-97	Repair to the aqueduct is in progress
2.7.2	Kolhapur Type Weirs	Irrigation	218 nos - 11 packages	Completed	All works completed
2.7.3	Strengthening of Percolation Tanks	Department	125 Nos	Jun-97	Work in progress on 123 percolation tanks.
2.7.4	Strengthening of embankments greater than 10M in height		94 Nos	Jun-97	Work in progress on 89 embankments. 5 works yet to start
2.7.5	Repair/Recons. of Office buildings		293 buildings	Jun 97	Work on 164 buildings is complete. 118 buildings in progress and 11 not started.
2.8	Repair/Restoration of historic monuments	Department of Culture	16 monuments	Jun-98	Tenders are being floated for 4 monuments and documents for others under preparation.
<b>3</b>	<b>ECONOMIC REHABILITATION</b>				
3.1	Replacement of implements		37002 Beneficiaries	Completed	Replacement work completed
3.2	Repair/Reconstruction of duct wells	Department of Agriculture	389	Mar-97	302 completed, 87 in progress
3.3	Replacement of Bullocks		129	Completed	Completed
3.2	Replacement of Milch Cattle	Department of	1551 cows and 1836 buffaloes	Mar-97	1520 cows and 1771 buffaloes distributed. For remaining, beneficiaries not available for distribution
3.3	Replacement of sheep and goat	Animal Husbandry	8478 goats and 1358 sheep	Mar-97	8269 goats and 1342 sheep distributed. For remaining, beneficiaries not available for distribution.
3.4	Rehabilitation of artisans/business personnel	Department of Industry	979 Beneficiaries	Completed	Completed
<b>4</b>	<b>SOCIAL REHABILITATION</b>				
4.1	Social Forestry - Block Plantation		51 Villages	Oct-97	19614 plants planted under Phase I
	- Homestead Plantation	Department of Social Forestry	51 Villages	Oct-97	19983 plants planted under Phase I and balance villages to start
	- Avenue Plantation		51 Villages	Oct-97	13672 plants planted under Phase I and balance villages to start
4.2	Construction of Social amenities		58 Nos.		Designs finalised, construction work in progress
4.2.1	District Resource Centres		2 Nos.	Jun-97	completed and 1 in progress

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.2.2	Mahila Kendra	PMU/SW/ W and CW Dept.	52 Nos.	Jun-97	3 completed, 24 in progress and balane under planning and tendering stage.
4.2.3.	Old Age Homes		1 No.	Mar-97	in Progress
4.2.4	District Trauma Centres		2 Nos	Feb-97	in Progress
4.2.5	Homes For Handicapped		1 No.	Completed	Completed
4.3	Anganwadis	PMU/W and CW	1169 Nos.	Jun-97	4 nos completed, work on 707 Anganwadis in progress.
<b>5</b>	<b>COMMUNITY REHABILITATION</b>				
5.1	Replacement of medicine stocks for human and veterinary services	GOM	-	Completed	Completed
5.2	Construction of Transit Shelters	PMU	-	Completed	Completed
5.3	Provision of services for the transit Shelters.	PMU	-		Ongoing
<b>6</b>	<b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b>				
6.1	Technical Assistance including Consultancy Services			Jun-97	Ongoing

Revised Programme Cost as on 30-6-96 = Rs. 11818.05 Million

Total Expenditure upto 31-01-97 = Rs. 7885.00 Million + Rs. 384.00 Million (CM's Funs) + 19.14 (ADB Assistance) + 6.5 Million (UNDP) + 0.33 (ODA) = Rs. 8294.97 Million

[Translation]

### Prices of Imported Wheat

\*237. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision to import wheat was taken due to the acute shortage of wheat and sharp rise in the prices thereof;

(b) if so, the estimated total price of the imported wheat after its arrival in the country; and

(c) the amount of subsidy given by the Government on the imported wheat to reduce its price in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The decision to import wheat was taken to augment the stocks in the Central Pool, and to improve the availability of wheat and wheat products in the country.

(b) The average C. and F (Cost and Freight) price of wheat on arrival at Indian ports is approximately US \$ 173 or Rs. 6227 per M.T.

(c) The imported wheat will form a part of the Central Pool. It will be distributed under the various schemes at the rates applicable for issue under those Schemes. The amount of subsidy involved can only be estimated after completion of distribution of imported wheat from the Central Pool under different schemes.

[English]

### Scheme-Oriented Proposals

\*238. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the State Governments have not sent schemes oriented proposals to the Centre and the same has hampered the execution of various schemes beneficial for the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several State Governments have also not utilized the Central assistance provided to them by the Union Government for various schemes;

(d) if so, the names of States which have failed to utilise the Central assistance along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The names of the States which have not fully utilised the amount alongwith the unutilised amount as on 1.4.1996 is enclosed as statement Procedural/ Administrative delays in sanction of Plan schemes and delay in release of funds to the Implementing Agencies were the principal reasons for non-utilisation of these amounts.

The States Governments have been advised at the level of Agricultural Ministers and Chief Secretaries to ensure full utilisation of plan funds by the concerned Departments implementing the scheme.

### Statement

*Unspent Balance as on 1.4.96 with the State Governments out of Funds Released under various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation*

S.No.	Name of State	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3945.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	510.18
3.	Assam	2483.44
4.	Bihar	4013.28
5.	Goa	328.45
6.	Gujarat	3152.53
7.	Haryana	1019.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh	812.69
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	938.84
10.	Karnataka	2547.46
11.	Kerala	1547.46
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3367.46
13.	Maharashtra	1772.28
14.	Manipur	401.46
15.	Meghalaya	324.34
16.	Mizoram	195.32
17.	Nagaland	678.22
18.	Orissa	5439.94
19.	Punjab	1082.11
20.	Rajasthan	1951.25
21.	Sikkim	376.71
22.	Tamil Nadu	2344.16
23.	Tripura	399.68
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3479.26
25.	West Bengal	2762.79
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45873.94</b>

[Translation]

### Inclusion of Jains in Minority Community

\*239. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Minority Commission has recommended the Jain community to be declared as the minority community;

(b) if so, the basis thereof; and

(c) whether the Commission is empowered to declare any community as the minority?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basis on which the National Commission for Minorities has recommended inclusion of Jains in minority community are :

(i) the tenets of Jain religion, its philosophy and ethic, its objects and manner of worship are entirely different from those of the Hindus;

(ii) the fact that Jainism differs from Hinduism in its religious practice;

(iii) The constitutional provision under Explanation (II) to Article 25(2) (b) places Jain religion alongwith Sikh and Buddhist religions for the purpose of the Article 25(2) (b);

(iv) Decisions of various High Courts holding that Jainism is a distinct religion different from Hinduism;

(v) Population of the Jains is considerable as compared to those of Buddhists or Parsis as per 1971 and 1981 census figures.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

### Use of Land by Agriculturists

\*240. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agitation is going to in the areas surrounding Taj Mahal in regard to the use of lands by agriculturists;

(b) whether the State Government authorities have failed to offer alternative lands to the existing agriculturists and rather renewed the lease of lands in some parts there;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to fix the responsibility of the defaulting officials;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Working of WTO

2440. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether experts in Indian Agriculture have pointed out certain aspects of the working of WTO treaty that would adversely affect the Indian Farmers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Divergent views on the likely impact of the new GATT agreement in so far as it relates to Indian agriculture and the farmers have been expressed by several experts on Indian agriculture. The Government would take all measures to safeguard the interest of farmers while implementing the new agreement.

[Translation]

### Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited

2441. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the I.D.P.L. factory located at Virbhadra (Rishikesh) of Uttar Pradesh has been closed as there is no production in the factory since October, 1996;

(b) the number of labourers/employees affected as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government are taking any immediate action for the rehabilitation and livelihood of these affected labourers and employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The production in the IDPL factory at Virbhadra (Rishikesh) has stopped since October, 1996, mainly on account of financial constraints. However, there is no closure of the unit as such. No worker or employee of the unit has been laid-off.

[English]

### TADA Cases

2442. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to release 2000 detainees arrested under TADA; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement delivered in Kartar Singh Vs. Government of Punjab in March, 1994, Review Committees at the level of Central Government as well as States/UTs were constituted to review the TADA cases and as a result of review undertaken by these Committees as many as 11899 cases have been reviewed and TADA provisions have been dropped against as many as 28502 and 20037 persons have been released on bail by the Courts. Further State Governments have also been requested to issue suitable instructions to their prosecution branches to ensure expeditious trial of the remaining TADA cases and not to seek adjournment on flimsy grounds. It is because of the concerted efforts made by the Central Government that as per available information only 1664 persons are under detention. There is however, no proposal to release these detainees. It is the prerogative of the Designated TADA Courts to release them on bail or otherwise.

#### Concentration of Mercury in Waste Water

2443. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated December 10, 1996 that the scientists of the Central Pollution Control Board have criticised the recent Greenpeace report on high concentration of mercury in waste water discharge from a chlor-alkali plant in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board had reviewed the Greenpeace report. There is no possibility of presence of high concentration of mercury in the Waste Water being discharged from a chlor-alkali plant located in Delhi as the plant is based on Diaphragm Cell technology which does not involve mercury anywhere in the process.

[Translation]

#### Vacant Posts in FCI

2444. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1709 dated December 3, 1996 regarding the vacant posts in Food Corporation of India and state :

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the information would be collected?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) A copy of the reply dated 3.3.1997 to Unstarred Question No. 1709 dated 3.12.1996 sent for laying on the Table of the House is enclosed as Statement-I and Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

Date of Fulfilment 03.03.1997

Ministry of Food, Department of Food Procurement and Distribution, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

S.No., Date and Name of MP (s).	Subject	Promise Made	When and How Fulfilled	Reason for Delay
1	2	3	4	5
1709. Dt. 3.12.1996, by Sh. Ashok Pradhan.	Vacant Posts in FCI	(a) to (d)- The information is being collected.		
	(a) whether a number of posts under the various categories are lying vacant in the Food Corporation of India for the last many years.		(a) Yes Sir.	
	(b) if so, the categories of posts and date from which these have been lying vacant alongwith the number of posts belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe out of these posts and the sanctioned strength of these posts in each category;		(b) The details are given in the attached statement.	

1	2	3	4	5
	(c) the time by which these posts will be filled alongwith the reasons for delay in filling them; and (d) the steps taken by the Union Government for filling up various vacant posts.		(c) and (d) The Food Corporation of India has informed that promotion quota vacancies are expected to be filled up during the current financial year. So far as SC and ST backlog vacancies and category I vacancies under direct recruitment quota are concerned, the Corporation has already initiated action to fill up these vacancies. As a measure of economy, the Government has laid down certain procedure to be followed for filling up of direct recruitment quota vacancies. In pursuance of this procedure the Corporation is seeking approval of Government from time to time to fill up the vacancies on need basis.	

**Statement-II**

Name of the Zone	Cat. of post	Sanctioned strength			No. of posts vacant		Year in which vacancies arose	
		Regu- lar	Ad- hoc	Total	DR	Pro- motion	Direct Recruit	Promo- tion
All India	I	937	13	950	197	67	Most of the vacancies arose from the year 1990 onwards. However, 3 vacancies arose between 1980 to 1989. 8 vacancies belong to the year 1976.	1988-1996*
	II	4268	166	4434	257	216	Since 1992, one vacancy belong to 1990	1989-1996*
	III	33970	6420	40390	4336	1416	These vacancies belong to different years from 1978 onwards.	1987-1996*
	IV	21806	6254	28060	5667	910	These vacancies belong to different years from 1976 onwards.	1989-1996*
Total		60981	12853	73834	10457	2609		

Reservation position										Remarks
SC		ST		OBC		U/R		Total		
DR	Promo- tion	DR	Promo- tion	DR	Promo- tion	DR	Promo- tion	DR	Promo- tion	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	17	29	11	30	-	96	39	197	67	* Most of the vacancies are current. The unfilled vacancies are generally due to non- availability of SC/ST candidates.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
56	61	32	50	78	-	91	105	257	216	
887	258	471	105	911	-	2067	1053	4336	1416	
1129	163	430	95	1280	-	2828	652	5667	910	
2114	499	962	261	2299	-	5082	1849	10457	2609	

### Fishery College in Tripura

[Translation]

2445. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :  
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to set up a Fishery College in Tripura;

(b) if so, the time by which and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A College of Fisheries is being established at Lembuchera near Agartala under the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur.

(b) The Central Agricultural University issued an Ordinance with the approval of Government of India, to establish College of Fisheries on 13.4.1996. The Government of Tripura transferred 45 acres of land in January, 1996 for this purpose. Planning and construction of the College Campus on turn-key basis has been assigned to M/s. Rastriya Pariyojana Nirman Nigam (RPNN), a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of the Government of India. An agreement to this effect was signed between the University and the RPNN on 31.1.1997.

(c) Question does not arise.

### Assistance for Schemes for ST

2446. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total assistance through several schemes for the Attappady Tribal Block, Palakkad district, Kerala from the Central Government after declaration of this Block as a Tribal Block;

(b) whether there is improvement in the income of the Tribals at Attappady; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Hybrid Seeds

2447. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether research work for developing hybrid seeds of various fruits, vegetables and foodgrains under the public and private sector is going on in the country;

(b) if so, the achievements made during 1996 in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ascertain the benefits of these hybrid seeds to the small farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1996 following hybrids in fruits vegetables and foodgrains were developed by public and private sector.

A. Public Sector :

(i) Fruits

Mango - Arka Neelkiran, H-13-1

Annona - Arka Sahan

Pineapple - H 7

Papaya - CP 81

Pomegranate - Mridula

(ii) Vegetale :

Brinjan small Round - ABH-2

Pumpkin - Pusa, Hybrid - 1

(iii) Food Grains :

Rice - CNHR - 3, DRRH-1, CORH-1,

Karnataka Rice Hybrid-1.

Maize IC 1705, KH 5991, Paras.

Rajendra Hybrid Makka-2, KH 5981.

Pearl Millet - Pusa Bajari 226

Sorghum - CSH 13-R, CSH-4, CHS15-R

(SPH-677)

(B) Private Sector

(i) Fruits : Nil

(ii) Vegetables

Tomato-BSS 20

## (iii) Foodgrains

Maize - PAC 9112 (PAC 91P-12), PAC 9735 (PAC 35003) and PAC 9703, 755 (F720)

Pearl Millit - MLBH-285 (MH 518), Nandi-30 (MH 515), Saburi (MH 483 RHRBH 8924) X-6 (MH 140)

(c) Parental lines of hybrids are supplied to State Agricultural Universities, Central Seed Producing organisations like SFCl and NSC, Seed producers like Stae Seed and Farm Corporations and NGOs including Krishi Vigyan Kendra and Private Organisations for large scale production on F1 hybrids. The hybrid seeds thus produced are supplied to farmers.

[English]

**Sugar Factories sanctioned on 7th Plan**

2448. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-availability of funds, sugar factories sanctioned in Seventh Five Year Plan in Maharashtra are in financial difficulties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to solve their financial difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) As per the reports received from the State Government of Maharashtra, some new sugar projects sanctioned in the Seventh Five Year Plan in Maharashtra are facing financial difficulties due to non-availability of funds.

(b) As regards the details of the cases facing this difficulty, the Government is not maintaining data on sources and utilisation of funds by individual factories.

(c) The implementation of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence is the responsibility of the entrepreneur. The Central Government does not provide any loans for the setting up of new sugar factories. However, such loans are provided by the financial institutions directly to the undertakings. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) also provides loan assistance to State Governments for contribution towards the share capital of the sugar factories.

**Stolen Goods from Malkhana**

2449. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sophisticated foreign revolver has been stolen from the 'Malkhana' of the Samaipur Badli police station during 1995 and replaced with a locally-made revolver;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) the number of similar cases which came to light during the last three years;

(e) the action taken against the erring persons; and

(f) the steps taken to verify the goods lying in the Malkhana regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there was one case of replacement of a country made revolver by another old and broken country made revolver in Malkhana of Police Station Samaipur Badli. The switch over was detected in 1994 and the two police officials connected with the case were arrested.

(d) and (e) No similar case has been reported during the last three years. However, 8 cases of removal/misappropriation of goods from Malkhana were registered during this period in which 5 police officials and one private person were arrested.

(f) The following measures are taken in the matter :

(i) The seizure memos prepared at the time articles are taken in possession give full particulars of the seized article and the seizure memo also bears the signature of two independent witnesses. A copy of this seizure memo is also forwarded to the Area Magistrate;

(ii) The seized items are also entered in the Malkhana register meant for the case properties and the entries so made are counter signed by the Station House Officer/ Investigating officer concerned. The Station House Officer concerned as well as senior officers conduct physical inspections of Malkhana at short intervals; and

(iii) A formal inspection is also conducted by a Gazetted officer on a half-yearly basis.

**Central Share for Agriculture**

2450. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the share of Central assistance to the States for agriculture has been fixed for the year 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details of the amount of Central share for each State;

(c) the details of such amount given to each State for the past five years;

(d) whether share of investment is being given to States in accordance with any norms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Funds are released to the States under various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes based on the proposals received from State Governments, total allocation in the budget of the Department and the amount remaining unutilised in a particular State out of earlier releases made.

The details of the amount given to States under various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 1992-93 to 1996-97 (upto Dec '96) is enclosed as statement.

#### Statement

*Funds released for the Development of Agriculture during 1992-93 to 1996-97 (upto December, 1996)*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of State	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	308.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.16
3.	Assam	41.63
4.	Bihar	55.20
5.	Goa	8.17
6.	Gujarat	176.61
7.	Haryana	106.38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	58.83
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	38.79
10.	Karnataka	271.80
11.	Kerala	172.96
12.	Madhya Pradesh	232.38
13.	Maharashtra	374.46
14.	Manipur	25.98
15.	Meghalaya	9.16
16.	Mizoram	21.70
17.	Nagaland	23.41
18.	Orissa	182.54
19.	Punjab	142.18
20.	Rajasthan	323.29
21.	Sikkim	17.64
22.	Tamil Nadu	260.72
23.	Tripura	12.71
24.	Uttar Pradesh	415.40
25.	West Bengal	73.81
Total :		3368.45

[Translation]

#### Capacity of Fertilizer Unit

2451. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to augment the capacity of IFFCO Fertilizers Factory at Aonla, Bareilly is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the capacity is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The expansion project of IFFCO at Aonla went into commercial production on 25.12.1996. This project has been set up at a cost of Rs. 955 crore to produce an additional 7.26 lakh MT of urea per annum.

[English]

#### Fish Landing Centres in Kerala

2452. DR. RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of fish landing centres sanctioned in Kerala in the last five years;

(b) the total amount spent thereon; and

(c) the new proposals being considering by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have sanctioned one minor Fishing Harbour at Kayamkulam, two Fish Landing Centres at Punnappra and Kattoor-pollathai and expansion of Stage-II major fishing harbour at Cochin in Kerala during the last five years. Besides the above, six minor fishing harbours and eleven fish landing centres have been under different stages of construction during the last five years. A sum of Rs. 2523.90 lakhs have been released to the State Government of Kerala and Rs. 100.00 lakhs to Cochin Port Trust for construction of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres sanctioned/under construction during the period. A list of such fishing harbours/fish landing centres and the funds released by the Government of India is enclosed as statement.

(c) No other proposal with detailed project report has been received from the State Government for consideration of the Government of India.

**Statement***Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres Sanctioned/Under Construction in Kerala During the Last Five Years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Fishing Harbours	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1. Munambam	65.00	125.00	192.50	-	100.00
2. Puthiappa	100.00	33.50	100.00	100.00	17.75
3. Thangassery	50.00	117.00	260.00	200.00	200.00
4. Mopla Bay	-	15.00	100.00	75.00	-
5. Chombal	-	40.00	30.00	75.00	-
6. Vizhinjem	-	-	-	100.00	150.00
7. Kayamkulam	-	-	-	-	200.00
<b>Fish Landing Centre</b>					
1. Thottappally	2.955				
2. Chottuvai	8.75				
3. Kasargod	1.32				
4. Quilandy	5.00	6.50			
5. Nellaswaram	2.865				
6. Dharmadom	1.695				
7. Palacode	1.25				
8. Munakkadavu	0.417	4.675			
9. New mahe	-	7.215			
10. Arthungal			11.11		
11. Punnapra	-	-	-	-	-
12. Chalil Gopalapettiah	-	-	9.40	-	-
13. Kattoor Pollathai	-	-	-	-	15.00
	239.252	348.89	703.01	550.00	682.75
				Total Rs. 2523.90 lakh	
<b>Major Fishing Harbour</b>					
1. Cochin Stage-II	40.00	-	60.00	-	
				Total 100.00 lakhs	

*[Translation]***Facilities to River Fishermen**

2453. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the river fishermen are facing the crisis of subsistence;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the time by which some facilities are likely to be provided to them; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Facilities for fish farming in the form of subsidy to fishermen/fish farmers for construction of new ponds, reclamation/renovation of ponds and tanks, inputs for first year fish culture, running water fish culture, etc. for the development of freshwater aquaculture, civic amenities such as housing, drinking water, community halls and insurance cover to active fishermen are being made available under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

[English]

### Assam Accord

2454. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the Assam Accord signed in 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of provisions of the Accord implemented so far alongwith the number of provisions yet to be implemented; and

(d) the time by which all the provisions of the accord are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) A Statement containing the requisite information is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Action has been taken to implement all the provisions of the Assam Accord. However, certain provisions of the Accord are of ongoing nature e.g. speedy all round economic development of Assam, measures to prevent infiltrators crossing or attempting to cross the international border etc. and therefore, it is not possible to specify time by which all the provisions can be said to be fully implemented.

### Statement

The Government of India is fully committed to the implementation of the Assam Accord, 1985. Various measures have been taken in this regard. These include, inter-alia, the following:-

#### FOREIGNERS ISSUE

1. The Citizenship Act, 1955, Citizen Rules, 1956 and Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, were amended.
2. Eleven Tribunals under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, are functioning in Assam for identifying foreigners of 1966-71 stream.
3. Special Requisitioning Officers have been appointed. Sanction was also accorded for the creation of 1280 additional posts under the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners Scheme.
4. Sixteen Tribunals under the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 are functioning in Assam.

#### SAFEGUARDS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5. Setting up of Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati is in progress. A sum of Rs. 8.65 crores has already been released.
6. Jyoty Chitaban (Film) Studio at Guwahati is being modernised and expanded.
7. Many important projects have been taken up for economic development of the State. The work on

the oil refinery at Numaligarh is in progress. A gas based power project at Kathalguri is under implementation.

8. Two Central Universities, one at Tejpur and the other at Silchar, have been set up.

9. An IIT has been set up at Guwahati.

#### OTHER ISSUES

10. The power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.

11. 2784 kms. of border roads and 896 kms. of fence along the Indo-Bangladesh border have been sanctioned. Out of these, 1729.67 kms. of border roads and 652.43 kms. of fence have been completed till 31.1.1997.

12. Ex-gratia payment was made to the next of kin of persons killed in the course of the agitation.

13. Disciplinary cases against the employees in connection with the agitation were reviewed.

14. In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates, who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985.

15. NSA detainees in connection with the agitation were released.

#### Extra-Judicial Deaths

2455. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of extra-judicial deaths caused by the police, para-military forces and the army in Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Mizoram, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura during 1996-97;

(b) the number of custodial deaths occurred in the police or army custody during this period;

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

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Godowns in Assam

2456. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the location of the Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation Offices and godowns in Assam along with the capacity of each godown;

(b) the construction of godowns made during the last three years in Assam by these organisations and additional storage capacity added to them;

(c) the locations proposed for construction of godowns in Assam and investment proposed therefor during the current year;

(d) the actual requirement of storage godowns in Assam at present and for the next five years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the same?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The location of offices and godowns of Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation in Assam along with their capacity are given in Statement-I, II and III respectively.

(b) to (e) During the last three years, FCI have not constructed any godown in Assam. CWC is, however, planning to set up warehouses at Jhalukbari, Nagaon and Karimgunj depending upon the availability of land in near future.

As on 1.1.1997, against the FCI's storage capacity of 2.85 lakh tonnes, only 49% is being utilised. Hence, the FCI consider that there is no requirement of additional capacity in Assam keeping in view the existing storage capacity and PDS allocations, etc.

As on 1.12.1996, against the storage capacity of 0.45 lakh tonnes of CWC, only 69% is being utilised.

#### Statement-I

Statement showing the Zonal Office/Regional Office/District Offices in Assam Region of Food Corporation of India

##### Zonal Office (NEF)

1. Food Corporation of India, Zonal Office (NEF), G.L. Publicaiton Building, 4th Floor, G.S. Road, Ulubari, Guwahati-7.

##### Regional Office (NEF)

2. Food Corporation of India, Regional Office (NEF), G.S. Road, Ulubari, Guwahati-7.

##### District Offices

1. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Guwahati (Assam)
2. Food Corporation of India, District Offices, Jorhat (Assam)
3. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Kokrajhar (Distt. Goalpara) (Assam)

4. Food Corporation of India, District Office, North Lakhimpur (Assam)
5. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Silchar (Assam)
6. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Nowgaon (Assam)
7. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Tejpur (Assam)
8. Food Corporation of India, District Office, New Bongaigaon (Assam)
9. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Dibrugarh (Assam)
10. Food Corporation of India, District Office, Bunderdeva (Assam)

#### Statement-II

Statement Showing Centre-Wise/Location-Wise Storage Capacity (Covered and Cap) Available with FCI in Assam State as on 1.1.1997

Name of the Revenue District	Name of the Centre.	Storage Capacity		
		Owned	Hired	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Kamrup	Guwahati	27.96	14.18	42.14
Nalbari	Nalbari	-	2.77	2.77
	Tihu	9.14	-	9.14
Golaghat	Deragaon	-	2.50	2.50
	Golaghat	-	2.50	2.50
Jorhat	Cinnamare	13.84	-	13.84
Sibsagar	Sibsagar	-	3.47	3.47
Kokrajhar	Fakiragarh	-	1.89	1.89
	Gossigaon	6.92	-	6.92
	Kokrajhar	-	5.68	5.68
Dhuri	Gauripur	-	3.90	3.90
North Lakhimpur	Dhemaji	5.64	-	5.64
	Narainpur	15.00	-	15.00
	North Lakhimpur	8.98	-	8.98
	Karbianlong	Diphu	5.00	-
	Itachalli	-	5.00	5.00
	Hojai	14.56	-	14.56
	Sanchowa	6.92	-	6.92
	Haibargaon	-	7.60	7.60
	Hailakandi	-	1.00	1.00
	Ramnagar	15.00	-	15.00

1	2	3	4	5
Karimganj	Badarpurghat	5.00	-	5.00
Notrh Cachar	Haflong	-	1.87	1.87
Gowalpara	Bongaigaon	-	5.40	5.40
	Gowalpara	-	1.50	1.50
	Jogigoppa	5.00	-	5.00
	Barpeta Road	-	5.00	5.00
Dibrugarh	Dibrugarh	11.28	-	11.28
	Beria	-	3.34	3.34
	Dikom	-	5.00	5.00
	Goshala	-	5.00	5.00
	Laipuli	-	10.00	10.00
	Manoutta	-	5.00	5.00
	Tinsukia	9.42	-	9.42
Darang	Tangla	15.00	-	15.00
Sonitpur	Bindukuri	12.50	-	12.50
Tezpur	Bhalukpong	5.00	-	5.00
Total of Assam		192.16	92.60	284.76

### Statement-III

Centre-Wise Capacity Available in the State of Assam as on 01.01.97.

(Fig. in MTs.)

S.No.	Name of Central Warehouse Cum Office	Capacity		
		Constd.	Hired	Total
1.	Guwahati-Maligaon	8600	-	8600
2.	Dhubri	10100	-	10100
3.	Jorhat-I	10500	-	10500
4.	Jorhat-II	5000	-	5000
5.	Sorbhog	10000	-	10000
6.	Sipajhar	-	627	627
Total		44200	627	44827

**N.B. :** Besides, there is one Regional Office and one Construction Cell Office located at Guwahati.

[Translation]

### Smuggling of Animals Skin From Betala National Park

2457. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tigers, leopards and deers in Betala National Park, Bihar;

(b) whether their number has been continuously decreasing in the recent years;

(c) if so, whether smuggling of skins of these animals is one of the main reasons for the constant decline in the number of these wild animals;

(d) whether valuables were stolen from the said park and smugglers were arrested during the last few years;

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government of Bihar, the number of tigers, leopards and deers in 1993 and 1996 is as under :

	1993	1996
Tigers	44	41
Leopards	60	60
Deer	15232	13014

Obviously, there is a decline in the number of tigers and deer in 1996 as compared to their numbers in 1993.

(c) Though smuggling of skins could be one reason for the decline in the population of these animals, the major reason, however, is the degradation of buffer area due to ever-increasing pressure on eco-conservation.

(d) to (f) Four elephant tusks and one leopard skin were looted by the criminals on 28th July, 1995 from the Nature Interpretation Centre, which, later were recovered later, on 14th September, 1995. Further as reported by the State Government, ninety persons had been prosecuted for poaching/trade in wildlife during the last five years.

Security has been beefed up, patrolling is conducted and valuables on display have been covered by insurance

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

### Nuclear Power Station

2458. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether installation of 1000 MW nuclear power station at Nagarjun Sagar under the central sector is pending with the Ministry for clearance for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any clarification was sought from the Andhra Pradesh Government in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the information has since been received; and

(e) if so, the time by which this project is likely to be cleared from the environmental angle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (e) The proposal for locating a 1000 MW Nuclear Power Station at Nagarjun Sagar was carefully examined from all the relevant angles in this Ministry. The proposal was not agreed to.

#### Use of Foreign Funds for Anti-National Activities

2459. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are receiving complaints that the foreign funds received by the N.G.Os have been used for the anti-national and militant activities;

(b) if so, the number of N.G.Os receiving foreign funds in the West Bengal;

(c) the details thereof; district-wise; and

(d) the amount received by them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) There has been reports from time to time, about the inflow of illegal funds to various anti-national and militant organisations through clandestine channels and in contravention of law. The Government and all the concerned security and enforcement agencies have been continuously making efforts to contain such possibilities through sustained vigilance, enquiries investigations and operations against such organisations in different parts of the country.

Associations having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme are required to obtain registration or prior permission under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 before receiving foreign contribution. The associations so registered or permitted are required to submit annual accounts in the prescribed form giving details of receipt and utilisation of foreign contribution. On the basis of information received from such associations, an annual report is prepared by the Government. This report contains the names of associations (Statewise) receiving foreign contribution and also the Statewise receipt of foreign contribution. Copies of the annual reports for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 have been placed in the Parliament Library. The annual report for 1995-96 is not yet ready.

#### Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission

2460. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had already decided to constitute Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes

Commission under Article 339 of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, the date on which the final decision was taken by the Government and reasons for delay in implementing the same; and

(c) by which date the Commission is likely to start functioning keeping in view its importance?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have taken a decision to constitute the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission under Act 339 (1) of the Constitution.

(b) and (c) The decision was taken together on 1st August, 1995. Action for operationalising the Commission is under active consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Shortfall in Production of Foodgrains

2461. DR. RAM VILAS BEDANTI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of foodgrains has been affected due to less production of the fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of demand and supply of chemicals fertilizers in the country alongwith the production thereof during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) whether the proposal for increasing the production of fertilizers in the country is under consideration of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The production of foodgrains in the country has been as follows :

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)
1993-94	184.26
1994-95	191.50
1995-96	185.04
1996-97 (Estimated)	191.10

The volume of indigenous fertilizer production in any given crop season does not *per se* affect the production of foodgrains. What is material is the overall availability of fertilizers, which is a function of the opening stocks, indigenous production and imports, besides proper arrangements for movements and timely distribution of fertilizers.

Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price and movement controls of the Government. The year-wise allocation of urea under Essential Commodities Act (ECA), its availability and sales in the last three years are given below. It can be observed that availability of

urea has been always adequate to support the sales :

Year		ECA	Availability	Sales	%age of sales to availability
1993-94	Kharif	77.89	86.16	72.96	85%
	Rabi	95.44	96.54	85.03	88%
1994-95	Kharif	83.81	84.42	77.86	92%
	Rabi	101.09	102.75	92.65	90%
1995-96	Kharif	96.61	97.27	89.22	92%
	Rabi	107.82	112.99	92.86	82%

The demand and supply of decontrolled fertilizer are determined by the market forces. The consumption

and production of the fertilizer in terms of NPK during the last three years are given below :

(Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Consumption				Production		
	N	P	K	Total	N	P	Total
1993-94	87.89	26.69	9.08	123.66	72.31	18.16	90.47
1994-95	95.07	29.32	11.25	130.64	79.46	24.93	104.39
1995-96	98.23	28.98	11.56	138.77	87.77	25.58	113.35

In order to optimise the indigenous fertilizer production, an appropriate policy frame work has been put into place. The main elements of this frame work are as follows :

- (i) The domestic urea industry is supported through the retention price-cum-subsidy scheme.
- (ii) Assistance is provided to the fertilizer industry for securing linkages of feedstock, fuel and rail movement.
- (iii) Liquid petroleum products used as feedstock and fuel in fertilizer plants are supplied at concessional price.
- (iv) As a part of Government's liberalisation policy-no industrial licence is now required for setting up a fertilizer plant.
- (v) Investment in the fertilizer sector is encouraged, inter-alia, through concessions on supplies of capital goods for the fertilizer industry in the form of import duty exemption and deemed export benefits, as well as interest rate concession on long-term loans raised by fertilizer units.
- (vi) The rate of special concession on indigenously manufactured DAP has been enhanced w.e.f. 6.7.96 from Rs. 1000/- per tonne to Rs. 3000/-. Proportionate increase in the rate of concession has been allowed in respect of other complex fertilizers. In respect of SSP, the rate of special concession

has been enhanced from Rs. 340/- per tonne to Rs. 500/- per tonne. These concessions are proposed to be raised further with effect from 1.4.97.

The central public/cooperative sector fertilizer units have adopted the following strategy to increase fertilizer production :

- (i) Expansion/retrofitting/revamping of existing fertilizer plants;
- (ii) Overcoming the constraints in the availability of natural gas by setting up naphtha-based fertilizer plants and installing dual fuel/feedstock facilities in the existing plants and projects under implementation;
- (iii) Setting up of joint venture projects in countries having abundant and cheap raw material resources.

Budgetary support has also been provided to the sick fertilizer undertakings in the central public sector to enable them to sustain their production.

A number of fertilizer projects with an estimated capital cost of about Rs. 5771.03 crore is under implementation in the country. When commissioned, they are expected to produce an additional 32.23 lakh MTPA of urea and 7.81 lakh MTPA of complex fertilizers. Besides, many investment initiatives for expanding the capacity for fertilizer production have been undertaken by the promoters in the public, cooperative and private sectors.

### Abattoirs

2462. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government provide grants for setting up abattoirs; and

(b) if so, the amount of grant provided to each State during last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement giving details of the amount of grants provided by the Ministry of agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying), for setting up of abattoirs, to various States, during the last three years, is as under :

(Rupees in lakhs)

Name of State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Andhra Pradesh	65.00	-	230.00
2. Assam	42.60	-	-
3. Himachal Pradesh	-	40.75	-
4. Kerala	45.00	79.80	40.75
5. Madhya Pradesh	-	148.00	-
6. Maharashtra	-	148.01	-
7. Punjab	-	-	19.52
8. Sikkim	22.24	-	-
9. Tamil Nadu	98.00	-	-
10. Tripura	46.00	-	-
11. Uttar Pradesh	81.01	78.75	335.48

[English]

### Dal and Wular Lake

2463. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for dredging and restoring the Dal Lake and Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir is under implementation;

(b) the objective of the scheme in terms of the area and depth of the lakes and purity of their water;

(c) if so, the total cost of the scheme and the quantum of Central assistance for the scheme; and

(d) the amount spent and the Central funds released so far for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Government of Jammu & Kashmir is implementing a scheme for restoration of Wular lake with 100% Central assistance. Dal lake has been

proposed for restoration under National Lake Conservation Plan. The area of restoration of Wular Lake is 3232.5 hectares. The area for dredging and restoration of Dal Lake is 1500 Hectares.

(c) and (d) Central assistance provided for Wular Lake is Rs. 46.28 lakhs. The estimated cost for restoration of Dal lake is Rs. 334.00 crores. The cost will be shared on 50:50 basis between the Central Government and the State Government.

[Translation]

### Illegal Guest Houses

2464. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unauthorised guest houses and hotels operating in Delhi till February, 1997;

(b) if so, the number of the pending cases; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) There were, as of February, 1997, 407 hotels/guest houses operating unauthorisedly in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, out of which the legal action is pending at various stages against 404 establishments and the remaining three have since been closed down.

[English]

### Agricultural Production in N.E. States

2465. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an improvement in the agricultural production in North-Eastern States during the last three years;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The production of various major crops grown in the North Eastern States comprising Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura during the last three years has been fluctuating depending upon rainfall and weather and other agro-climatic conditions.

A statement giving the production of foodgrain crops, jute/mesta, sugarcane, ginger and oilseeds for 1993-94; 1994-95 and 1995-96 and fruits and vegetables for 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 (latest available) in North Eastern States is enclosed.

**Statement***Production of Various Crops in North-Eastern States*

('000 Tonnes)

States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<b>1. RICE</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	144.0	105.8	140.0
Assam	3361.1	3309.1	3390.0
Manipur	348.8	478.3	338.1
Meghalaya	117.8	111.5	118.9
Mizoram	96.7	100.2	101.5
Nagaland	180.0	174.0	185.0
Tripura	493.2	413.9	465.5
<b>2. WHEAT</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	8.5	7.6	8.5
Assam	100.8	103.6	95.1
Manipur	*	*	*
Meghalaya	6.6	6.4	6.4
Mizoram	*	*	*
Nagaland	1.0	0.6	1.5
Tripura	7.8	4.9	5.2
<b>3. COARSE CEREALS</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	74.2	74.2	75.2
Assam	16.1	17.1	19.0
Manipur	7.8	10.4	7.1
Meghalaya	22.5	22.7	23.0
Mizoram	14.2	14.7	15.1
Nagaland	37.0	37.0	39.5
Tripura	1.6	1.8	1.8
<b>4. PULSES</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	5.3	5.6	6.5
Assam	57.0	59.4	57.1
Manipur	*	*	*
Meghalaya	2.5	2.4	2.4
Mizoram	9.8	9.9	6.1
Nagaland	10.0	7.9	12.3
Tripura	6.5	5.8	4.6
<b>5. FOODGRAINS</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	232.0	193.2	230.2
Assam	3535.0	3489.2	3561.2
Manipur	356.6	488.7	345.2
Meghalaya	149.4	143.0	150.7
Mizoram	120.7	124.8	122.7
Nagaland	228.0	219.5	238.3
Tripura	509.1	426.4	477.1

('000 Bales of 180 Kgs.)

States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<b>6. JUTE AND MESTA</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	*	*	*
Assam	702.3	950.9	870.8
Manipur	*	*	*
Meghalaya	55.3	56.6	50.7
Mizoram	*	*	*
Nagaland	2.4	2.5	2.5
Tripura	38.8	43.1	30.7
<b>7. SUGARCANE</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	*	*	*
Assam	1373.9	1505.0	1490.3
Manipur	58.8	41.2	41.2
Meghalaya	2.3	2.1	2.1
Mizoram	5.7	7.6	8.5
Nagaland	193.4	125.0	120.0
Tripura	72.2	74.3	75.0
<b>8. GINGER</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	16.5	16.9	18.0
Assam	*	*	*
Manipur	1.4	1.3	1.3
Meghalaya	41.8	43.3	44.7
Mizoram	7.9	8.7	14.6
Nagaland	*	4.3	4.5
Tripura	1.9	1.8	1.8
<b>9. OILSEEDS</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	25.2	23.5	26.6
Assam	144.7	163.7	157.7
Manipur	1.9	1.7	1.7
Meghalaya	5.6	5.8	5.8
Mizoram	7.6	7.6	7.0
Nagaland	19.7	14.0	15.5
Tripura	11.1	9.7	8.5
<b>10. FRUITS</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	47.3	49.3	50.3
Assam	886.4	1103.0	1166.4
Manipur	43.0	100.0	110.0
Meghalaya	218.1	232.0	236.5
Mizoram	34.8	43.7	43.7
Nagaland	9.2	9.2	36.0
Tripura	319.1	325.6	325.6
<b>11. VEGETABLES</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	79.9	79.9	80.1

States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Assam	2132.3	1754.4	1931.9
Manipur	50.3	36.5	33.0
Meghalaya	219.2	237.8	238.1
Mizoram	31.8	70.1	45.1
Nagaland	66.9	66.9	107.6
Tripura	306.9	320.9	320.9

\* Production Negligible

### Development of Coconut

2466. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices has made some recommendations for the development of coconut cultivation;

(b) if so, details of main recommendations; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has not given any specific recommendation for the development/improvement of coconut cultivation as such. However, it has made the following non-price recommendations which may help improve the cultivation of coconut :-

- (i) The public agencies like KERAFED be authorised to also undertake commercial purchases of copra at an adequate scale;
- (ii) in the case of 'Milling' Copra in Kerala, the period for the purpose of price support operations and open market purchases by the public agencies be specified as January to June when prices of copra generally remain depressed;
- (iii) (a) in area where primary cooperatives are not undertaking the marketing of coconut/ copra on an adequate scale, coconut growers cooperatives be formed;
  - (b) efforts be stepped up to equip coconut/ copra marketing cooperatives with adequate drying and storage facilities;
- (iv) the methodologies being adopted by different coconut growing States for estimation of area and production be re-examined with a view to arriving at the reliable estimates; and
- (v) expeditious steps be taken to generate the estimates of cost of production of coconut producing States and make these available to the commission.

(c) The Government has accepted all the recommendations of the CACP referred to above except the recommendation No. (ii) above regarding the period of operation of the MSP in Kerala from January to June of the year. The Government has decided that the period of operation of the minimum support prices may continue or the full year as is existing at present.

### NCCF Supply to Government Organisations

2467. SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) :

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

(a) whether the National Coperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) has been supplying various items to the Government Organisations at much higher rates than the wholesale rates and not indicating the brand names and full specifications of these items on the invoice raised to the purchaser;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have come to light during the last one year;

(c) whether the action has been taken by the Government thereupon;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

### Excesses by Police on Republic Day

2468. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that during the 48th Republic Day celebrations on 26 January, 1997, the police baton charged the viewers at Raj Path especially in the general enclosures near the India Gate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the police snatched cigarette packets and pens from the viewers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Delhi Police did not use any force against the viewers on 26th January, 1997 either at Rajpath or any other enclosure.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, match-boxes and lighters were not allowed inside the enclosures for the reasons of general security.

[Translation]

### Freedom Fighter Pension

2469. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide any pension, help and facilities to the family members of the deceased unmarried freedom fighters;

(b) whether a child belonging to the family of the freedom fighter who was dependent on him for education etc. is eligible for these facilities;

(c) whether any survey of such families has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the survey is likely to be conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. On the death of an unmarried freedom fighter, his/her mother, and if she is not alive, then father, becomes eligible for grant of dependent pension under the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme. They are also entitled for other related facilities provided by the Government to the dependents of the freedom fighters.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) At present no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

### Red Light on MP's Vehicles

2470. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Members of Parliament are entitled to affix red light on their private vehicles;

(b) if so, whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the States for affixing red lights on their private vehicles;

(c) whether a proposal to make available the said facility to the Members of Parliament in near future is under consideration of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Use of lights (including red lights) in motor vehicles is governed in accordance with Rule 108 (iii) of Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989. The use of extra lights such as red lights/blue lights on top of the vehicle is permissible to only those vehicles used by specific dignitaries as notified by the Government of India or by the State Governments. Government of India have not yet notified any such dignitaries. However, the State

Governments are notifying the lists of such dignitaries under the relevant rule.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under consideration at present of the Government (Ministry of Surface Transport) to provide this facility to the Members of Parliament in near future.

### Renaming of Railway Station

2471. SHRI KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the approval of the Ministry is required for re-naming the railway stations;

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

(c) whether 'Nauger' railway station is proposed to be named as 'Sidharth Nagar' railway station; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The existing guidelines contain various broad principles which are required to be kept in view by the State Governments while examining the question of change in the names villages, towns, cities etc. The guidelines, inter-alia, mention that unless there is some very special reason, it is not desirable to change a name which people have got used to; that a change should not be made on grounds of local patriotism or for linguistic reasons or for merely satisfying local sentiments.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

### Smuggling of RDX

2472. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "RD\ smuggled in diplomatic bags-Threat of ethnic strife looms over North-East" appearing in the 'Sunday Observer' dated January 19-25, 1997;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the threat of ethnic strife?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is alert about the clandestine induction of arms and ammunition by various North-East insurgent groups.

(c) Several steps have been taken which include, inter-alia, increased vigilance along the international borders, taking-up of our security related concerns appropriately with the neighbouring countries,

strengthening of State Police Forces, induction of Central Para Military Forces and Army units, improved co-ordination of counter insurgency operations and sharing of Intelligence and review of the situation from time to time at various levels for taking appropriate decisions.

[Translation]

#### Investigation of Crimes through Private Detectives

2473. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme of the investigation of crimes conducted through the private detectives is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State and the Central investigative machinery has the required expertise in crime investigation. It would not also be in public interest to entrust the work of investigation of crime to private detectives.

[Translation]

#### Master Plan for Development of Fishery

2474. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a Master Plan for the development of fishery;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Fisheries is a State subject and matters relating to preparation of Master Plans for development of Fisheries are within the purview of the State Governments. However, the Government of India provides assistance to the States and Union Territories under various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of Fisheries.

[English]

#### Setting-Up of Petro-Chemical Units

2475. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals for setting-up

petro-chemicals units are pending with the Government;

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

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Funds for North Eastern States

2476. SHRI ISHWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has directed the Ministries to earmark 10% of their plan funds for the development and other related matters pertaining to the North Eastern States during the current year;

(b) if so, the extent to which the directives have been complied with by the Ministries; and

(c) if so, the details of funds so earmarked and the plans and projects undertaken therewith by the respective Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

#### Schemes for Minorities

2477. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Schemes are being implemented for the upliftment of the minorities especially Muslims, living below the poverty line, in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) There is no scheme being implemented for minorities living below the poverty line in the country, as such. However, National Minorities Development Finance Corporation was established in September, 1994 with an authorised share capital Rs. 500 crores out of which Union Government's share comes to Rs. 125/- crores. The Corporation provides financial assistance to the sections amongst minorities whose annual family income is below double the poverty line, for setting up of self employment ventures at concessional rates of interest. The Corporation implements its scheme through the State Channelising Agencies all over the country.

The Corporation, since its inception, has disbursed Rs. 6564.99 lakhs to 13 State Channelising Agencies for 1496 beneficiaries.

### Loni Polic Station

2478. **DR. ARVIND SHARMA** : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 4897 replied on September 10, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the required information has since been collected and laid on the table of the House;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The required information has been collected. A statement in fulfilment of the assurance has also been sent for laying the same on the Table of the House.

(b) A statement in this regard is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Statement

During June to August, 1996, three application were received against the working of police staff of Loni Police Station from members of general public. The details of the applications and action taken are as under:

- (i) The first petition was received on 18.6.96 from Shri K.S. Premi, Executive Member, Rastriya Ambedkar Chakara Puruskar, Hasan pur Kalan, Meerut, In his petition, he alleged that staff of Loni Police Station helped anti-social elements in harassing Mohd. Islamuddin S/o Habib and illegal possession of his plot by such elements. These allegations were inquired into by Circle Officer, Loni, Ghaziabad. The enquiry revealed that Mohd. Islamuddin was living in a house built on a disputed plot. On the other hand, Smt. Nandrani W/o Late Shri Kishan Lal Chaddha R/o Guru Ka Mehal, Amritsar, Punjab has also claimed that the plot belonged to her. She produced documents in favour of her claim on the disputed plot in the police station, Loni. On her producing documents, Shri Sukhdev Singh, Inspector-in-charge, Police Station, Loni, called Mohd. Islamuddin to the Police Station, Mohd. Islamuddin could not produce documents in support of his claim on disputed plot. As the matter related to Revenue Department, both the parties were directed to take appropriate orders of the Court in this regard and they were also cautioned to maintain peace and order in future. The allegations levelled against Loni Police Station were thus baseless.

- (ii) The second petition was received in July, 1996 from Shri Rajender Jain S/o Nand Kishore Jain of Balramnagar, Loni, Ghaziabad, in which it was reported that anti-social elements were threatening him on telephone and police was not taking action on the report registered by him with the Loni Police Station. In this connection, it has been mentioned that the said Shri Jain informed Loni Police Station on 29.6.1996 that unknown persons had opened fire at his car. Shri Jain apprehended one of the miscreants and brought him to Loni Police Station. On the basis of information furnished by Shri Jain, a case was registered under Section 25 of Arms Act. The culprit was sent to jail. Subsequently, on the basis of evidence collected during investigation, the charge has been changed from Section 25 of Arms Act to Section 307 of IPC. As no evidence was available against him, a report under Section 169 of CRPC has been sent to the Court to release him. It has also been stated, for the safety of Shri Jain and his family members two armed personnel were posted and his telephone was kept under observation by the telephone exchange. The main culprits in the case namely; (1) Chand Singh Dhaiya S/o Hari Chand R/o Mohmadabad Police Station, Sonapat, Haryana; (2) Rajeev alias Raju S/o Sukhbir Singh R/o Nahri PS, Sonapat, Haryana and 15 Sawtantra. Nagar, Delhi; (3) Ishwar S/o Harsawaram R/o Balaram Nagar PS Loni, Ghaziabad; and (4) Rajender alias Banshi S/o Kehar Singh R/o Meham Road Gohana, PS Gohana Distt. Sonipat, Haryana, have been arrested by Delhi Police and sent to jail. During investigation, it has been found that culprit Ishwar was employed with Shri Jain. He was discharged from his job two months ago. For this reason, the culprit committed the crime. After investigation chargesheet No. 335 has been sent to Court on 14.9.1996 against above four accused. It has been stated that in relation to this case Loni Police Station have taken legal action and applicant was provided with security.

- (iii) The third application was submitted by Shri Ratan Singh, S/o Shri Dharam Pal R/o Loni, Ghaziabad on 20.8.1996. In his application, allegations were levelled that on 10.8.1996 his younger brother Ratanpal was taken away by Omveer and Surendra from his house as Ratanpal had to recover his money from them. On demanding his money Ratanpal was stabbed and culprits ran away with his money. It was alleged that they gave Rs. 30,000/- to Sub-Inspector and SHO.

Police Station Loni; and for this reason police of PS Loni has not taken action on the complaint and sheltering the accused. On the basis of above accusations, the Head Constable of PS Loni has been placed under suspension for not registering the case. This case was investigated by Circle Officer, Loni. After investigation departmental action has been taken against Shri Chahar, Sub-Inspector and Pratap Singh, Head Constable.

Shri Sukhdev Singh, SHO Loni PS has been given strict warning. During investigation the allegation of taking bribe of Rs. 30,000/- could not be proved. A case No. 403/96 under Section 304, 302 IPC has been sent to Court against the culprits which is under prosecution.

[Translation]

#### Earnings Due to Increase Sugar Prices

2479. SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the additional earnings, likely to accrue to the

sugar mills as a result of the hike made in the prices of the sugar recently;

(b) whether as a result of the increase in the prices of the sugar, the Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh have accepted the rate of sugarcane at Rs. 72 per quintal fixed by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The additional earnings that will accrue to a sugar mill as a result of recent increase in the ex-factory prices of sugar would depend upon the zone in which the sugar mill is situated. A statement showing the zonal increase in the ex-factory prices is annexed.

(b) The ex-factory price of levy sugar notified by the Central Government on 12.2.97 are based on the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane and has no link with the agreed price between the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and the cane farmers.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

##### Statement Showing Increase in Ex-factory Prices of Levy Sugar

Prices (Rupees per quintal) for delivery into Buyer's carts, lorries or other means of transport at the factory gate/factory godown (Rupees per quintal) for all ISS Grades (excluding Excise Duty) in respect of factories specified in Schedule III upto a distance of 5 kms from the factory.

S.No.	Zone	Sugar Season		Increase
		1995-96	1996-97	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	937.73	1071.60	133.87
2.	Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	1039.88	1420.07	380.19
3.	Bihar (North)	940.69	1140.37	199.68
4.	Bihar (South)	1034.70	-	-
5.	Gujarat (South) @	852.14	938.58	86.44
6.	Gujarat (Saurashtra) @	940.93	1055.69	114.76
7.	Haryana	861.96	985.43	123.87
8.	North-West Karnataka	851.05	970.70	119.65
9.	Rest of Karnataka	889.66	1001.84	112.18
10.	Kerala, Goa and Coastal Karnataka	931.75	1127.98	196.23
11.	Madhya Pradesh	981.36	1112.02	130.66
12.	Maharashtra (South)	847.68	976.52	128.84
13.	Maharashtra (North)	873.27	983.60	110.33
14.	Maharashtra (Central)	824.24	958.33	134.09
15.	Punjab	871.04	1084.04	213.00
16.	Rajasthan	945.39	1110.45	165.06
17.	Tamil Nadu and Pandicherry	937.38	1049.04	111.66

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Uttar Pradesh (Central)	881.03	994.05	113.02
19.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	938.50	1038.74	100.24
20.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	898.62	981.81	89.19

@ The prices for North and South Bihar Zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

### Cutting of Trees

2480. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the environment has been adversely affected in tribal areas of South Bihar due to illegal deforestation;

(b) if so, the percentage of decrease in the forest cover in the State during the last two years; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to stop deforestation and the details of the talks held with the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) State of Forest Report 1995, has reported a decrease of 26 sq. km. (0.098%) in the forest cover in the 1995 assessment as compared with that in 1993 assessment in the State of Bihar. The deforestation is likely to adversely affect the environment in such tracts.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to check deforestation:

- Forest Conservation Act, 1980 has been enacted to prevent diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes without approval of the Central Government.
- Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 are being enforced to check forest and wildlife offences.
- Special programmes, including Project Tiger, Project Elephant are being implemented for conservation of rare and threatened species and habitats of biological significance.
- The afforestation/reforestation and eco-development programmes are being implemented for regeneration of degraded forests including buffer areas of National Parks, Sanctuaries and Project Tiger Reserves.
- Wood substitution and fuel saving devices are promoted to substitute the use of wood, reduce consumption and prevent wastage.

- The afforestation and wastelands development programmes are also being implemented in non-forest areas to reduce pressure on the forest and wildlife habitats.

- Joint Forest Management techniques and institutions are being developed for involvement of village communities and voluntary agencies in protection and regeneration of degraded forests on usufruct sharing basis.

- The Union Government has advised State Government to make an indepth analysis of the factors contributing depletion of forest cover and make all out efforts to step up afforestation programmes.

### Quota of Foodgrains for Tribal Areas

2481. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has not been deliberately lifting the quota of foodgrains fixed for the State;

(b) whether the poor tribals in the tribal areas of Rajasthan are being supplied only 21/2 kg. foodgrains per unit instead of their quota of 10 kg. per unit;

(c) whether the Union Government have conducted any inquiry in such irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The Rajasthan Government has been lifting about 90% of the allocation for July 96 onwards.

(b) to (e) Public Distribution System is implemented under the joint responsibility of Central and State Governments/UT Administrations. Central Government makes bulk allocations of commodities for PDS to States/UTs. Operational aspects of the PDS such as lifting of quota of foodgrains, sub-allocations to the areas, fixing quota per unit, etc. are within the jurisdiction of the State Government/UT Administrations. State Governments have been directed to set up monitoring

system at various levels for reviewing the implementation of the Public Distribution System.

### Unidentified Bodies

2482. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Unclaimed bodies" appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated February 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of unidentified bodies recovered by the Delhi Police during 1995, 1996 and till date;

(c) the number out of them cremated at the expenses of the Government along with the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the efforts were made to inform the relatives of the deceased through wide publicity;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure the identity before their cremation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Government have been the news-item in question which appeared in the "Indian Express" in its issue of February 13, 1997.

(b) to (e) The information is as under :-

Year	Number of unidentified bodies recovered
1995	1591
1996	1564
1997	246
(upto 28.2.97)	

Despite best efforts made by the police, the relatives of the deceased could not be traced. As such all these unidentified bodies were cremated by the police at Government expense except the unidentified bodies of Muslims which were handed over to the Wakf Board for burial.

(f) The following steps were/are taken for the identification of the unidentified dead bodies before cremation/burial :

- (1) Such bodies are preserved for 72 hours in the mortuary for identification;
- (2) Local enquiries are made;
- (3) Request is made to the Public through newspapers/Doordarshan to help the police in the identification of such bodies;
- (4) the finger prints are preserved and got compared from the Finger Print Bureau;

(5) Photographs of such bodies are got published in the Gazette and also pasted at the public places;

(6) Missing Person Squad of Crime Branch is informed;

(7) Wireless Message is flashed to all Senior Superintendents of Police in India and all Station House Officers in Delhi for the identification of such bodies; and

(8) Hue and Cry Notice is circulated.

[English]

### Allotment of Forest Land

2483. SHRI K.S. RAYUDU :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to allot forest land to the occupants in lieu of waste land proposed to be surrendered; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for dereservation of 33 ha. of forest land for assignment of pattas to tribals in Polavaram Range West Godawari district. The proposal has been received in the Ministry on 19.2.97 and is being processed.

[Translation]

### Forest Conservation Act, 1980

2484. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many villages in the country are located in jungles and the Department of Forests interferes and puts hurdles in the construction of roads to these villages;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that most of the villages of Sonbhadra district in U.P. even today are located in jungles and there by still deprived of roads; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Diversion of forest land for construction of roads attracts provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for which prior approval of Central Government is required. For this purpose the State Governments have to submit proposals on a prescribed proforma to

the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) and (d) There are several villages all over the country including Uttar Pradesh which are located in forest areas. To expedite the processing of cases, the guidelines under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been relaxed for construction of link roads which directly benefit the people of the area by accepting compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land twice in extent of the forest area being diverted instead of insisting on equivalent non-forest land. Moreover, proposals upto 5 ha. are disposed of by the Chief Conservators of Forests (Central) of the Ministry. Proposals involving forest land between 5 to 20 ha. are processed by the Regional offices of the Ministry in consultation with the state level Advisory Group and sent to the Ministry to for final decision.

### Export Agreement

2485. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board has signed any export agreement during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) During 1995-96, the Fruits and Vegetable Project, a pilot project, of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has signed an agreement for exports of fruits, vegetables products and other related products manufactured at the export oriented unit in Mumbai. The production from this unit would start in 1997-98. Also in 1995-96; Indian Immunologicals, another unit of the NDDB, has signed an agreement for promotion of biologicals and animal health products in Bangladesh. No exports have so far taken place.

[Translation]

### Open Sale Prices of Wheat

2486. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the open sale price of wheat and rice recently;

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

(c) the reasons for this price hike in the open market price of wheat and rice; and

(d) its impact on the common man and farmers already hit by the high prices?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Open sale prices of wheat were increased in the month of February, 1997. The open sale prices of rice were last revised on 28.6.96 and were made effective from 1.7.96 and are still applicable.

(b) Statements indicating the open sale prices of wheat and rice as on date are at statement I and II respectively.

(c) Keeping in view the wide gap in the market prices *vis-a-vis* open sale prices notified by the Government to neutralise the freight element paid by FCI in moving wheat from procuring areas to consuming areas, to reduce the subsidy burden on open sale, and to discourage the traders from making undue profit, the Government decided to revise the open sale prices of wheat with effect from 4.2.1997. The prices of rice, however, have not been revised after July, 1996.

(d) The sales of wheat and rice in the open market have a sobering effect on the market prices. Had there not been open sales the price-rise would have been higher.

### Statement-I

Statement Indicating Prices of wheat with effect from 4.2.1997 till further Orders.

S.No.	Name of the Major Centre	Rate Rs./per MT
1	2	3
1.	Guwahati	7500
2.	Mumbai	7400
3.	Nagpur	7400
4.	Indore	7200
5.	Gualior	6000
6.	Raipur	7400
7.	Ahmedabad	7300
8.	Surat	7300
9.	Cuttack	7400
10.	Bhubaneswar	7400
11.	Patna	6500
12.	Ranchi	7000
13.	Calcutta	7400
14.	Siliguri	7400
15.	Delhi	5000
16.	Chandigarh	4900
17.	Lucknow	5400
18.	Kanpur	5400

1	2	3
19.	Varanasi	6000
20.	Bareilly	5000
21.	Madras	7800
22.	Coimbatore	7800
23.	Madurai	7800
24.	Cochin	7900
25.	Trivandrum	7900
26.	Hyderabad	7500
27.	Visakhapatnam	7500
28.	Bangalore	7700
29.	Mysore	7700
30.	Belgaum	7700
31.	Jaipur	5200
32.	Shimla	5031
33.	Jammu	5200
34.	Srinagar	5300

In case of open sale at Depots at other centres, the rate fixed for nearest major centre shall apply.

#### Statement-II

Statement Indicating prices of rice with effect from 1.7.1996 till further Orders.

S.No.	Name of the State	Rate Rs. PMT	
		Fine	Supersfine
1.	Punjab	7050	7350
2.	Haryana	7000	7300
3.	Uttar Pradesh	6900	7200
4.	Rajasthan	7500	7650
5.	Delhi	6740	7060
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	6680	7000
7.	West Bengal/Bihar Orissa/Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra/Gujarat/ Karnataka/Kerala/ Andhra Pradesh/Tamil Nadu	7130	7450

For open sale for domestic consumption within 50 kms of port towns, rates as applicable in case of sale for export these port towns minus Rs. 50 per tonnes shall be applicable.

#### Tribals of Karnataka State

2487. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Tribals yet to

get allotted Land" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December, 26, 1996.

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to redress the grievances of these tribals; and

(d) the names of the Adivasis to whom the possession of land has since been given along with the total bighas of land given to each of them?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaint appeared in Hindustan Times, dated 26th December, 1996. It is true that some tribal allottees were not getting simultaneous possession of land. The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment conducted a study in 10 districts of Karnataka which revealed that around 3% of the allottees did not get simultaneous possession of land alongwith the letter of allotment. The major reasons detected in the aforesaid studies include injunction of the Court and eventual delays in demarcation and identification of the allotted land on the part of the survey-Settlement department.

(c) The Ministry of Rural/Areas and Employment have advised all States to give simultaneous possession of land alongwith letter of allotment and to hand over possession wherever it has not yet been done, without any further lose of time. In this regard, number of resolutions were adopted in the conference of Revenue Ministers held in New Delhi on 28th January, 1997 which also emphasized the need for time-bound distribution and providing concurrent possession of the land to the allottees, and to take effective steps to distribute as well as restore possession to all allottees, including the tribals. Accordingly, the said recommendations have been communicated to all States including Karnataka.

(d) The names of Adivasis and land allotted to each of them are not maintained either at the State level or at the Central level. Such information is available only with grass-root level Revenue functionaries. However, since inception of the ceiling laws on agricultural holdings the total land allotted to the tribals in the State of Karnataka is only 3,578 acres benefitting 974 tribal families.

#### Sewage Treatment Plants

2488. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had earmarked Rs. 400 crore for setting up Sewage Treatment Plants in cities situated on the banks of the river Ganga for keeping its water clean;

(b) if so, the names of the places where the said plants are proposed to be set up and the expenditure likely to be incurred on each of them;

(c) whether the construction work for these plants has been started; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) An amount of Rs. 205.59 crore has been sanctioned for 35 Sewage Treatment Plants in 25 towns along the banks of the river Ganga under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I. In addition, an amount of Rs. 121.41 crore has been sanctioned for similar works in 47 towns along the Ganga under the second phase of the Ganga Action Plan which is to be implemented on the basis of 50% sharing of cost between the Central and the concerned State Governments.

(b) The names of the places where the plants are to be constructed and their sanctioned cost are given in the Statement.

(c) and (d) Out of the 35 Sewage Treatment Plants of the Ganga Action Plan Phase-I, 26 have been completed. Preparatory work of the Detailed Project Reports for the Sewage Treatment Plants of Ganga Action Plan Phase-II has begun.

### Statement

#### Sewage Treatment Plants under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Location	Estimated Cost
1	2	3
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>		
1.	Kankhal, Hardwar	782.24
2.	Swargashram-Rishikesh	19.45
3.	Lakkar ghat, Rishikesh	84.95
4.	Farukhabad	154.82
5.	Kanpur	1282.18
6.	Chorme Recovery Pilot Plant, Kanpur	2.87
7.	Kanpur	3243.00
8.	Kanpur	11.42
9.	Allahabad	1833.00
10.	Mirzapur	356.37
11.	Varanasi, BHU	344.92
12.	Varanasi, Dinapur	2643.20
13.	Varanasi, SPT, DLW	75.00
	Sub.Total Uttar Pradesh	10833.42

1	2	3
<b>BIHAR</b>		
14.	Chapra	306.44
15.	Patna, Eastern Zone	155.53
16.	Patna-Saidpur #	603.38
17.	Patna-Beur	382.97
18.	Patna-Southern Zone	388.83
19.	Munger	226.70
20.	Bhagalpur	211.81
	Sub Total : BIHAR	2275.66
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>		
21.	Chandannagar	308.50
22.	Behrampore	37.73
23.	Nabadwip	43.17
24.	Kalyani	141.34
25.	Bhatpara Gr. E	209.74
26.	Bhatpara Gr. B	383.28
27.	Titagarh	277.25
28.	Panhati	230.29
29.	Baranagar-Kamarhati	1420.47
30.	Garden Reach	1762.16
31.	South Suburban (E)	451.13
32.	Howrah	150.56
33.	Serampore	180.13
34.	Bally	470.12
35.	Cossipore-Chitpur	1384.36
	Sub Total : West Bengal	7450.23
	Total	20559.31

#### Sewage Treatment Plant under Ganga Action Plan Phase-II

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Town	Estimated Cost (STP)
1	2	3
<b>Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (Main Stem Towns)</b>		
<b>I. BIHAR</b>		
1.	Patna	180.70
2.	Bhagalpur	032.00
<b>New Towns :</b>		
3.	Buxar	015.00
4.	Arrah	140.00
5.	Sahebganj	006.00
	Sub Total	374.30

1	2	3
<b>II. UTTAR PRADESH</b>		
6.	Hardwar-r' kesh	080.00
7.	Kanpur	3270.00
8.	Allahabad	1390.00
9.	Varanasi	972.00
10.	Mirzapur	045.00
New Towns		
11.	Moghal Sarai	026.00
12.	Ghazipur	039.00
13.	Saidpur	002.00
	Sub Total	5825.00

**III WEST BENGAL**

14.	Barrackpore	315.21
15.	bansberia	442.68
16.	Rishra	349.86
17.	Baidyabati	160.65
18.	Budge-Budge	180.60
19.	Badreshwar-champdani	689.01
	Sub Total	2138.01
	Total	8337.31

**Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (Supreme Court Towns)****UTTAR PRADESH**

20.	Bijnor	115.50
21.	Chunar	105.00
22.	Anupshaher	31.50
23.	Ranipur	330.75
24.	Gopeshwar	34.65
25.	Karan Prayag	02.10
26.	Rudra Prayag	68.25
27.	Badrinath	21.00
28.	Srinagar	98.70
29.	Deo Prayag	10.50
30.	Uttar Kashi	84.00
	Sub Total	901.95

**BIHAR**

31.	Mokamah	61.67
32.	Khelgaon	31.45
33.	Hazipur	76.44
	Sub Total	169.55

**WEST BENGAL**

34.	Naihati	392.70
35.	Kharda (extended)	66.57
36.	Gayespur, Halilshar and Kanchrapara	713.18
37.	Konnagar	593.25

1	2	3
38.	North Barrackpore	210.84
39.	Jijganj-Azimganj	86.63
40.	Diamond Harbour	13.73
41.	Garulia	280.35
42.	Katwa	57.75
43.	Dhulian	47.70
44.	Jangipur	62.97
45.	Mahestala	102.90
46.	Chakdan	66.68
47.	Murshidabad	37.51
	Sub Total	2732.73
	Total	3804.23
Grand Total of GAP-II STP's		12141.54

**Reservation to Minority Communities**

2489. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation to the minorities as per recommendations of the Mandal Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of Supreme Court's judgement in Indra Swahney Vs. Union of India case, Central Lists of Backward Classes in respect of various States have been prepared which include number of caste/communities of people following minority religions such as Scheduled Caste Converts to Christianity in Andhra Pradesh, Dhobi (Muslim) in Bihar, Mappila in Kerala etc.

As per the recommendations of National Commission for Backward Classes, set up in August, 1993 to consider representations for inclusion/over inclusion of various castes/communities, a number of castes/communities of persons following the minority religions have also been included such as, Dhobi (other than those who are already included in the list of Scheduled Castes for U.P.) of Uttar Pradesh, Jolah (Ansari-Momin) of West Bengal, Meo of Haryana, Other Muslims excluding (i) Bohra (ii) Cutchi Memon, (iii) Navayat (iv) Turukkan (v) Dakhni Muslim of Kerala.

[English]

**Mercy Petitions**

2490. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mercy petitions for commutation of death sentences received during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) 13 mercy petitions for commutation of death sentences under Article 72 of the Constitution were received during the last three years.

(b) Details are provided in the attached *statement*.

### **Statement**

S.No. Name of the Prisoner

1. Dhananjay Chatterjee,  
Central Prison Alipore,  
Calcutta, West Bengal.
2. Laxman Nayak,  
Circle Jail Barpada,  
Orissa.
3. Bheru Singh,  
Central Prison, Jaipur,  
Rajasthan.
4. Shankar alias Gauri Shankar,  
Central Prison, Salem,  
Tamil Nadu.
5. Eldin alias Albert,  
Central Prison, Madurai,  
Tamil Nadu.
6. Suresh Chandra Bahri,  
Central Jail, Bhagalpur,  
Bihar.
7. Amrutlal Someshwar Joshi,  
Yervada Central Prison,  
Pune, Maharashtra.
8. Ravji @ Ram Chander,  
Central Prison, Indore,  
Rajasthan.
9. Uma Shankar s/o Bheru Lal  
Central Prison Indore,  
Madhya Pradesh.
10. Gantela Vijayavaradhanarao,  
Rajahmundry Central Prison,  
Andhra Pradesh.
11. Sathuluri Chalapathi Rao,  
Rajahmundry Central Prison,  
Andhra Pradesh.
12. Kamta Tewari,  
Central Prison Jabalpur,  
Madhya Pradesh.
13. Surja Ram,  
Central Prison Jaipur,  
Rajasthan.

### **Industrial Co-operatives of SC/ST Communities**

2491. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated schemes to encourage the industrial cooperative ventures of SC/ST communities for their economic emancipation;

(b) if so, the details thereof with financial allocation available to Maharashtra under these schemes during the current year, schemewise;

(c) details of projects cleared and under consideration so far; and

(d) the steps being taken to clear them?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) The Government have established National Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation under Section 25 (Not for Profit) of the Companies Act, 1956, on 8th February, 1989 with the objective to extend highly concessional financial assistance to SCs and STs having income below double the poverty line for income generating schemes. The loan is extended to individual SC/STs below double the poverty line, partnership firms, joint individuals and cooperative societies where all the members belong to SC/ST commodity and are also below double the poverty line. The Cooperative Societies include industrial cooperative ventures also. So far as the State of Maharashtra is concerned, industrial cooperative projects with a project cost of Rs. 130.80 lakhs have been sanctioned. So far as the current year is concerned, no proposal of industrial cooperative was received. Therefore, in the current year no project has been sanctioned. No proposal of any industrial cooperative from the State of Maharashtra is pending for approval.

### **Liquidity crisis of Sugar Mills**

2492. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the other measures taken by the Government to solve the liquidity crisis faced by the sugar mills apart from increase in sugar buffer stock, encouraging its export and higher allocation for the Public Distribution System; and

(b) the net effect of those measures?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The zonal ex-factory prices of levy sugar for the 1996-97 season have been revised on 12.2.1997 and are retrospectively effective from 1.10.1996. The sugar mills have been allowed to pack sugar in consumer packs of 1, 2 & 5 kgs. thereby improving their returns on the average ex-factory prices by way of direct

marketing. Stock holding limits of sugar dealers have been enhanced to 1000 quintals and turnover period to 30 days thereby allowing larger retention by trade and greater demand for the factories. The monthly treasale releases of sugar during the current sugar season have been generally kept at a higher level as compared to the corresponding month of the previous sugar season. All these measures have been taken to solve the liquidity crisis that was being faced by the sugar mills.

(b) It is not possible to quantify the individual impact of these measures.

### Subsidy on the Urea

2493. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the cost per tonne as subsidy on the indigenous and imported urea, separately;

(b) the import target of urea for the current year;

(c) the total consumption of indigenous as well as imported urea; and

(d) the total subsidy on Urea paid during the last two years and subsidy estimated for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) The subsidy on indigenously manufactured urea was Rs. 2236 per metric tonne upto 22-2-1997 and Rs. 1896 PMT thereafter, computed on the basis of weighted average retention price of urea. The per tonne subsidy on urea imports upto 7-3-1997 during the current year works out to Rs. 4980 per metric tonne.

(b) Imports of Urea during the current financial year amount to 23.28 lakh metric tonnes. No further imports are planned for the present.

(c) The total consumption of urea, during 1996-97 is expected to be about 201 lakhs metric tonnes.

(d) The total subsidy on controlled fertilizers during 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 5241.02 crore and Rs. 6234.99 crore, respectively. The subsidy outgo during 1996-97 is estimated at Rs. 6093 crore.

[Translation]

### Voluntary Organisations

2434. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of voluntary organisations working in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the extent of financial assistance provided to these Voluntary organisations by the Central Government during the last three years. State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether complaints in regard to the misuse of funds have been received from these States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty organisations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) A statement is enclosed as statement-I and II in respect of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) A statement is enclosed as Statement-III.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) On receipt of complaints/adverse inspection reports from the State Governments grants have been stopped in case of 10 NGOs in UP and 1 NGO in Himachal Pradesh.

### Statement-I

List of Voluntary Organisations getting Grant-in-aid from Government of India, Ministry of Welfare.

### UTTAR PRADESH

#### Welfare of Scheduled Castes :

S.No.	Name and address of the Organisation
1	2
1.	Iswaran Saran Ashram, Ishwar Nagar, Allahabad.
2.	Bijnor Seva Sansthan, Mandavar Road, Mendauli Sethu PO, Bijnor, Distt: Bijnor.
3.	Kisan Seva Samiti, V and P : Mundi Bakapur, Bulandshahar.
4.	Sarvajan Kalyan Samiti, 7, Race Course Colony, Bulandshahar.
5.	Garhwal Sabzi Supplier and Anusuchit Jati Unemployed Samiti, Gopeswar, Chamoli.
6.	Adarsh Kalyan Seva Samiti, 54/2, Joshiapura, Bahraich.
7.	Indira Rashtriya Chetna Evam Samajothan Sansthan, Hoshiyari Mandir, Raiwala, Dehradun.
8.	Jan Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Bathahin Khurd (Lala), Deoria.
9.	Samaj Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan, Vill : Baliawa, (Karawanhin) PO : Nakatahan, Mishra, (Via) Fazil Nagar, Padarwana.
10.	Gyan Bharti Mahila Kalyan Avam Shiksha Samiti, 10002, Holi Gate, Etah.
11.	Awadh Sansthan, Ramghat, Ayodhya, Faizabad.
12.	Rattan Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, Faizabad.
13.	JP Seva Samiti, Firozpur, Post Amolar, Farrukhabad.
14.	Swami Atmdev Gopal and Shiksha Sansthan, Ujarpur, Post Pipergaon, Farrukhabad.
15.	Shri Saraswati Shiksha Prasara Samiti, Singhnagar, PO, Jhansi, Farrukhabad.

1	2
16.	Bal Avam Mahila Kalyan Samiti, 80, Ismileganj, Fatahpur.
17.	Asha Mahila Shilp Kala Kendra, New Suhab Nagar, Vill: Himaypur, Firozabad.
18.	Madhyam Satyakam Shiksha Kendra, Viyainagar, Colony, Goraknath Road, Gorakhpur.
19.	Sarvodaya Ashram, Sikandpur, Hardoi.
20.	Dr. Radhakirshnan Public Silai Kadai Prashikshan Kendra, A-1, Deen Dayal Nagar, Sipri Bazar, Jhansi.
21.	Human Service Charitable Trust of India, C-234, Nirala Nagar, Lucknow.
22.	Pragatisheel Udyog Samiti, Vill : ara Ka Purva, Juggaur, Lucknow.
23.	Akhil Bhartiya Azad Seva Sangh, Azad Vill, Daliganj, Lucknow.
24.	Bodhi Satwa Baba Saheb Dr B.R. Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, 68/363, Chhitwapur Pajawa, Lucknow.
25.	Social & Economic Development Institution, Gaurav, C-2116, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
26.	Bhartiya Samaj Seva Sansthan, Baraf Khana, Misri Ki Bagh, Post Chowk, Lucknow.
27.	Sarvajanik Shiksha Samiti, 565/180, Pooran Nagar, Alambagh, Lucknow.
28.	Nirbal Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, 202/A/6, Jawahar Nagar, Near Hathi Park, Lucknow.
29.	New Public School Samiti, 504/63, Tagore Marg, Near Bandi Mata Mandir, Daligani, Lucknow.
30.	UP Anusuchit Vimukt Avam Janjati Sevak Sangh, 97/B, Darul Shafa, Lucknow.
31.	Rudayan Gram Vikas Ashram, Kotpurvi, Sambhol, Moradabad.
32.	Sw. Tapeswar Ram Kalyan Samiti, MO: Saidpur, PO: Mohammadpur Gohana, Mau.
33.	Pratapgarh Gramothan Samiti, Vill : Pure Bedua, PO: Afim Ki Kothi, Pratapgarh.
34.	Pratapgarh Mahila Evam Shiksha Samiti, Devakali, Sadar, Pratapgarh.
35.	Satya Ahimta Bal Vidyalaya Samiti, Gaziapur, Shakhpur Samodha, Raibarelli.
36.	Tarun Chetna, Vikas Nagar, Dubban, PO: Mohanganj, Salon, Raibarelli.
37.	Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir Mangoli, Shahabad, Rampur.
38.	Jawahar Jyothi Shiksha Avam Gram Vikas Samiti, V and P: Patwai, Rampur.

1	2
39.	Gram Swarajya Ashram, Plot No. 2, New Dharmasala, Greekganj, Sitapur.
40.	Shakti Sadana Sansthan, MO: Tarinpur, Near Idgah, Sitapur.
41.	Adarsh Sanskritik Satsang Kala Kendra, V&P : Auran, Unnao.
42.	Dr Ambedkar Mission Seva Samiti, Karchhana, Allahabad.
43.	Gram Vikas Shiksha Samiti, 192, Occha Mandi, Allahabad.
44.	Dr Ambedkar Harijana Poorv Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Vill: Chandwar, PO : Nagara, Balia.
45.	Sheel Gram Vikas Sansthan, Harunagla, PO: B. Ku Bilaspur Marg, Bareilly.
46.	Seva Kula Shiksha Sansthan Piparpati, Deoria.
47.	Shri Tagore Ashram UP, K.S. Nagar, Railway Road, Tundla, Ferozabad.
48.	Saket Mahila Mandal Kalyan Samiti, Nawabganj Gonda.
49.	Swargiya Kanchan Lal Saguna Seva Sasnthan, V&P, Para, Hamirpur.
50.	PK Lok Vikas, V&P : Kashirampur, Kalpi, Jalaun.
51.	Kanpur Harijan Seva Sansthan, 22/9, Labour Colony, Old Kanpur, Kanpur.
52.	Akai Policraft Association, PO 1255, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
53.	CNN Educational Ociation Society, 530/63, Beda Chand Gani, Near Vivek Cinema, Aliganj, Lucknow.
54.	Awadh Gramodyog Samiti, Vill: E-3229, Rajajipuram, PO Lucknow.
55.	National Instt. of Social Welfare, 5/13/43 B, Behind Gurudwara Khawaspura, Faizabad.
56.	Kumaon Seva Sansthan, Gatm Park Peoples College, Rampur Road, Haldwani, Naini.
57.	Bainsalya Gramodyog Samiti, Vill : Chandhedhi PO: Burana, Muzaffarnagar.
58.	Universal Instt. of Electronics, Badrinath Road, Kotdwara, Pauri Garhwal.
59.	Swadeshi Jan Kalyan Seva Samiti, Swadeshi House, Plot No. 656, Jawahar Vihar, Raebarelli.
60.	Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar Shiksha Parishad, V&P: Mahariya, Siddharthnagar.
61.	Shri Bansraj Singh Chauhan Poorv Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Harava, Nanker, Siddharthnagar.
62.	Jan Vikas Sansthan, Itaunia West, Purabgaon, Gaurigani, Sultanpur.

1	2
63.	Krishak Vikas Samiti, Vivekanand Colony, Muhammadabad, Ghazipur.
64.	Pooja Public School Samiti, 13/290, CC Nunihai, Yamuna Bridge, Agra.
65.	Ambedkar Shiksha Samiti, 563-KA/58, Shyamnagar, Alambagh, Lucknow.
66.	Gramothan Kalyankari Avam Shiksha Samiti, Vill: Dehra, PO: Mawai, Allahabad.
67.	Sarvajanik Shikshonayan Sansthan, Alipur, Hardoi.
68.	Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Lekha Bazar, Gabana, Distt: Aligarh.
69.	Lucknow Educational Welfare Society, 39, AB, Adarsh Nagar, Alambagh, Lucknow.
70.	Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Seva Sangh, C-4/433, Sultanpuri, Delhi.

#### Welfare of Scheduled Tribes :

1. Ashok Ashram, PO: Ashok Ashram, Dehradun.

#### Social Defence :

1. Nari Shilpa Kala Shikaha Samiti, Sitapur Road, Lucknow.
2. Mahila Udyog Prashikshan Kendra, 350/A/1, Salikganj, Road, Muthiagani, Allahabad.
3. Banjara Vikas Parishad, Vill: Nagala, PO: Bhaghraya, Distt: Aligarh.
4. Shaheed Memorial Society, Lucknow.
5. Indian Red Cross Society, 53, Bahadurgani, Allahabad.
6. Gurukul Vidyapeeth, Distt: Bahadurgarh, Ghaziabad.
7. Tilak Shiksha Samiti, 69A, Tilak Nagar, Allahabad.
8. Sarvajanik Shikshanayan Sansthan, Alipur, Hardoi.
9. Jawahar Jyothi Shiksha Avam Gramin Vikas Samiti, Distt: Rampur.
10. Jan Seva Sansthan, Kandwara, Allahabad.
11. Nirjan Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, K-2059, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
12. Gram Vikas Shiksha Samiti, Uncha Mandi, Allahabad.
13. Respect Age International, Bungalow No. 1, Jeoni Mandi, Agra.
14. Bairagi Shiksha Sansthan, H.No. 1/121/1, Narayangarh, Distt: Varanasi.
15. Lok Seva Mandal, 82, Balrampur, Allahabad.
16. New Public School Samiti, Daligani, Lucknow.

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17.	Vishwa Jat Maha Sangh, Jat Dharam, Vrindawan, Mathura.
18.	Uttarakhand Shoshit Mahila Uthan Samiti, Vikas Nagar, Dehradun.
19.	Gram Vikas Seva Sansthan, Allahpur, Allahabad.
20.	Gramothan Jan Sewa Sansthan, Arasulabad, Allahabad.
21.	Jan Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Bhatthahim Khurd, Distt: Deoria.
22.	Shri Ram Sharan Smarak Seva Sansthan, Mohammadpur, Distt: Bisauli.
23.	Samaj Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan, Baliawan, Distt: Deoria.
24.	Pratapgarh Mahila Kalyan and Shiksha Samiti, Pratapgarh.
25.	Kanchanlal Saguna Seva Sansthan, Hamirpur.
26.	Manav Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 69A, Badhanbari Road., Allahabad.
27.	Jai Gayatri Maa Bal Vidya Mandir Samiti, Distt: Jalgaon.
28.	Sarvajan Kalyan Samiti, Race Course Colony, Bulandshahar.
29.	Smt. Mahadevi Yadav Seva Sansthan, Allahabad.
30.	Panchdevra Shiksha Vikas Samiti, Allahabad.
31.	Taradevi Shiksha Samiti, Deoria.
32.	Akhil Bhartiya Azad Seva Sansthan, Azad Vill, Daligani, Lucknow.
33.	Bahujan Hitai Gramya Avam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Delhi Road, Muradabad.
34.	Adarsh Kalyan Seva Samiti, 54/2, Joshiapuri, Distt: Bahraich.
35.	Rattan Gramodyog Seve Sansthan, V&P: Bikapur, Distt: Faizabad.
36.	Shri Azhardhan Mahila Ashram Trust, Haridwar.
37.	Jan Kalyan Avam Nari Uthan Samiti, Faizabad.
38.	Akhil Bhartiya Samaj Kalyan Pratisthan Seva Sadan, Deoria.
39.	Nehru Smarak Sadan, Jagiapur, Distt: Jaunpur.
40.	Adarsh Janta Shiksha Samiti, Allahabad.
41.	Sudha Prashiksha Vikas Sansthan, Lucknow.
42.	Jan Vikas Sansthan, Sultanpur.
43.	Sudha Prashikshan Vikas Sansthan, Aishbagh, Lucknow.
44.	Kanchanlal Saguna Seva Sansthan, Para Kandaaur, Distt: Hamirpur.

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45.	Panchdevra Shiksha Vikas Samiti, Atrampur, Allahabad.
46.	Shri Ajar Dham Mahila Ashram Trust, Haridwar.
47.	Uttarakhand Shoshit Mahila Utthan Samiti, Vikas Nagar, Dehradun.
48.	Smt. Mahadevi Yadav Seva Sansthan, Kishinnagar, Atrampur, Allahabad.
49.	NIRVAN Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
50.	Mahila Udyog Prashikshan Kendra, Muthi ganj, Allahabad.
51.	Jan Kalyan Sansthan, Sultanpur.
52.	Tilak Shikshak Samiti, Tilak Nagar, Allahabad.
53.	Manav Shiksha Prasar Samiti, Tilak Nagar, Allahabad, U.P.
54.	Gramya Vikas Seva Social Development, Allahabad.
55.	Pratapgrah Mahila Kalyan and Shiksha Samiti, Devokoli, Pratapgrah, U.P.
56.	Jai Gayatri, Maa Bal Vidya Mandir Samiti, Jalon, U.P.
57.	Jan Seva Sansthan, Kaund Hara, Allahabad.
58.	Shaheed Memorial Society, Rajajipuram, Lucknow.
59.	Indian Red Cross Society, Allahabad.
60.	Gurukul Vidyapath, Ghaziabad.
61.	Jan Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Deoria.
62.	Jawahar Jyoti Shiksha Avam Gramiya Vikas Samiti, Rampur.
63.	Nehru Samarak Sadan, Jaunpur
64.	Samaj Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan, Deoria, U.P.
65.	Adarsh Janta Shiksha Samiti, Pidi, Karuhara, Allahabad.
66.	Lok Seva Mandal, Allahabad.
67.	Taradevi Shiksha Samiti, Deoria.
68.	New Public School Samiti, Daliganj, Lucknow.
69.	Adarsh Kalyan Seva Samiti, Bahraich.
70.	Gram Seva Sansthan, Deoria.
71.	Bharathiya Samojathan Seva Sansthan, Distt: Deoria.
72.	Arya Kanya Vidyalaya Samiti, Distt: Allahabad.
73.	Murli Jyot Vikas Sansthan, Mohalla: Murlijot, Distt: Basti.
74.	Women Welfare and Cultural Instt. Causarbagh, Lucknow.

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75.	SABIA, Growudiyur Bhum, Rai Baraeli.
76.	Dalit Manava Utthan Sansthan, PO: Alipur Jeeta, Allahabad.
77.	Avadh Samajik Uttam Samiti, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
78.	Jana Jagaran Parishad.
79.	Gayatri Devi Shiksha Samiti, Pidi, Allahabad.
80.	Gaurav Jan Kalyan Samiti, Saidabad, Allahabad.
81.	Kailash Gramya Vikas Sansthan, PO: Manyati.
82.	Nandini Bal Vikas Avam Gramin Gramodyog Seva Samiti.
83.	Madyamik Vidyalaya, Purabgaon, Serisar, Sultanpur.
84.	Respect Age International, Bungalow No. 1, Jeani Madai, Agra.
85.	Shri Adarsh Memorial Bal Avam Mahila Shikshan Sansthan, Elanganj.
86.	Gramothan Jan Seva Sansthan, Allahabad.
87.	Rattan Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, Faizabad.
88.	Prakash Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Allahabad.
89.	Akhil Bhartiya Azad Seva Sangh, Lucknow.
90.	Sanskrit Bhasha Vikas Parishad, Distt: Deoria.
91.	Manav Kalyan Pratishthan, Fatehpur.
92.	Gram Vikas Shiksha Samithi, Distt: Varanasi.
93.	Bairagi Shiksha Sansthan, Allahabad.
94.	Akhil Bhartiya Samaj Kalyan Pratishthan, Distt: Deoria.
95.	Jan Kalyan Avam Nari Utthan Samiti, 104, Sahibganj, Distt: Faizabad.
96.	Age Care, Ghaziabad.
97.	Samaj Seva Sansthan, Sarai Malim, Khan Chowk, Lucknow.
98.	Uttarakhand Shoshit Mahila Uthan Samiti, Dehradun.
99.	Jawahar Jyoti Shiksha Avam Gram Vikas Samiti, V&P: Patwai, Distt: Rampur.
100.	Gram Seva Sansthan, PO: Shahour, Shukla, Deoria.
101.	UP Council for Child Welfare, Ranapratap Marg, Moti Mahal, Lucknow.
102.	Sanchetana Sahitik Sansthan, Pratapgarh.
103.	Karanpur Gramya Vikas Samiti, Pratapgarh.
104.	Dharmath Seva Praband Avam Samaj Kalyan Samiti, Hardoi.

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105.	Madrsa Bakraya (MS) Junios High School Samiti, Muradabad.
107.	Shankar Jr. High School Samiti, Muradabad.
108.	Suman Children Welfare Centre, Hardoi.
109.	Shri Manhar Singh Shiksha Samiti, Shahour Post: Gatehu, Distt: Etah.
110.	Association. for Social Health in India, State Branch, Rani Hotel, Begam Bridge, Meerut.
111.	Bijnor Seva Sansthan, Bijnor, Mandawali, Sadu, Distt: Bijnor.
112.	Hasrat Mohani Charitable Trust, 88/441, Humayun Bagh, Kanpur.
113.	Indian Red Cross Society, Distt: Branch 53, Bahadurganj, Allahabad.
114.	Kashi Club, Gangas Bhavan, 8 Ravindrapuri, Varanasi.
115.	Shri Kanchilal Shastri Smarat Sansthan, C-49, Kayanpur, Kanpur.
116.	Khandwari Devi Shikshan Samiti, Chehniya, Janpath, Varanasi
117.	Maya Purbachal Gramothan Seva Sansthan, Near Dainik Jagran Press, Civil Lines, Gorakhpur.
118.	Medical Advisor Association, 211/JI, Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur.
119.	Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir, Mangoli, Shahabad, Rampur.
120.	Prerna Samiti, C-390, Rajaji Puram, Lucknow.
121.	Puttoolal Memorial Montessori & Junior, High School, Narainpur, Farrukhabad.
122.	Shri Ram Babu Verma Charitable Society 4/6, Bagh Farzana, Civil Lines, Agra-282 002.
123.	Rana Beni Madhav Jan Kalyan Samiti, Rai Bareilly-229 001.
124.	Ratna Gram Vikas Samiti Gram-Jahidpur, P.O. Shahabad, Rampur.
125.	Saket Mahila Mandal Kalyan Samiti, Muthiganj, Nawabganj (P.O.) Ghonda.
126.	Samajik Avam Arthik Vikas Sansthan, C-2116, Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
127.	Sarnai Nahar Khan Oghtogic Samiti, Badaun, P.O. Sarnai Naha Khan, Distt. Badaun-243601.
128.	Sarvajanik Shikshan Samiti Puran Nagar, 5651/180 Alam Bagh, Lucknow.
129.	Sarvodaya Gram Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan Milak P.O. Distt. Rampur.
130.	Sarvajanik Shiksoneyan Alipur, Hardoi (U.P.).

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131.	Shakti Sadhana Sansthan Taranipur, Sitapur-261001.
132.	Shaheed Memorial Society, E-1690, Rajaji Puram, Lucknow-226017.
133.	Sheel Gram Vikas Sansthan Harungla, Barelli.
134.	Shri Ganga Prasad Samark Mahila Kalyan Sansthan, Kunda, Pratapgarh.
135.	Society for the Urban and Rural Development, Vill. Kulhanamau, P.O. Kalichabad, Distt. Jaunapur.
136.	Society for the Urban & Rural Reconstruction U.P. B-27 Avas Vikas, Mal Avenue Lucknow.
137.	Swargiya Ram Deo Singh, Swantrata Sangram Senani Nirashri Dalit Pichhra Varg Mahila Sansthan, Basti.
138.	Uttarakhand Shoshit Mahila Sansthan, Dehradun.

#### **SHISHU GREH SCHEME**

139.	Bodhi Satwa Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, Lucknow.
140.	Bhartiya Samaj Seva Sansthan, Lucknow.

#### **MINORITIES AND BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE**

141.	Duty Society, Aligarh.
142.	Muslim Social Uplift Society, Aligarh.
143.	Gorakhpur Job Information Centre, Gorakhpur.
144.	Instt. of Public Admn. Lucknow.
145.	Study Point Samiti, Lucknow.
146.	Krishna Coaching Instt., Lucknow.
147.	Panohsheel Shikshan Sansthan.
148.	S/ Syed Society, Varanasi.
149.	MCA Literacy & Scientific Society.
150.	Career Coaching, Allahabad.
151.	Krishna Coaching, Allahabad.
152.	Bal Bharti Nursery School, Allahabad.
153.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Welfare Society, Allahabad.
154.	All India Women Social & Dev. Orgn. Kanpur.
155.	Hasrat Mohini Charitable Society, Kanpur.
156.	Krishna Coaching College, Kanpur.
157.	Social Science Research Instt., Kanpur.
158.	Sachdeva New PT College, Kanpur.
159.	Sachdeva New PT College, Ghaziabad.
160.	Ekta Career Coaching Instt., Jhansi.
161.	Naval Education & Research Instt., Balia.
162.	Study Point Samiti, Dehradun.

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### HANDICAPPED WELFARE

#### AID AND APPLIANCES

163. Mangalam, Lucknow.
164. National Institute for Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.
165. Samajothan Shiksha Pracharni Sansthan, Meerut.
166. Rottary Sponsored Crippled and Youth Welfare Society, Allahabad.
167. ALIMCO, Kanpur.
168. Netaji Subash Vidya Mandhir, Sahabad, Rampur.
169. Samarpan Charitable Trust, Behraich.
170. Viklang Kalyan Sewa Samiti, Muzaffarnager (U.P.).
171. Jawahar Jyoti Siksha Sansthan, Rampur.

#### NAME OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION IN U.P. WHO HAVE RECEIVED GRANT IN AID FROM MINISTRY

172. Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir, Rampur.
173. National Association for the Blind, Aligarh.
174. Allahabad Gram Swasthya Seva Samit.
175. K.L. Shastri Smarak Sansthan, Kanpur.
176. Shrikanchi Kamokti Shankara Sewa Charitable Trust, Haridwar.
177. Purohit Samiti Parishad, Ghazipur.
178. Swami Arjanand Anndh Vidyalaya Haridwar.
179. Chetna, Lucknow.
180. Viklang Kendra, Allahabad.
181. Paragnarain, Mook Badhir Samiti, Aligarh.
182. Sur Smarak Mandal, Agra.
183. Sh. Hanuman Prasad Poddar Andha Vidyalaya, Varanasi.
184. Deaf and Dumb School Azamgarh.
185. N.D. Chaturveg. School for the Deaf, Lucknow.
186. Shaheed Memorial Society, Lucknow.
187. B.O.G. School for the Deaf, Varanasi.
188. Palamgalam, Lucknow.
189. Vrindavan Andha Vidyalaya, Mathura.
190. Goonge Bahron Ka School, Kanpur.
191. Raphail Ryder Cheshic International Centre, Dehradun.
192. Deaf and Dumb School, Meerut.
193. Nanhi Duniya Badhir Vidyalaya.

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194. U.P. Deaf and Dumb Institute, Allahabad.
195. Akhil Bhartiya Viklang Kendra Samiti, Mandal, Faizabad.
196. Sarashwati Bawani Sewa Samiti, Lucknow.
197. National Fellowship Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind, Allahabad.
198. Handicapped Development Council, Agra.
199. Jahangir Memorial Charitable Hospital, Allahabad.
200. Jan Sewa Sansthan, Allahabad.
201. Paryavaran Jan Jagaran Samiti, Almora.
202. Kishan Shiksha Sansthan, Hardoi.
203. Noor Mohd. Charitable Society, Allahabad.
204. National Institute for Social Welfare, Faizabad.
205. Avadh Sansthan, Faizabad.
206. Nimhara Viklang Sansthan, Allahabad.
207. Bahujan Hitai Sansthan, Barabanki.
208. Prakash Gramdhyog Vikas Samiti, Sultanpur.
209. Society or CHRIST, Banaras.
210. Ambedkar Shiksha Samit, Lucknow.
211. Integrated Society for Spastics & Handicapped.
212. Kamla Mahila Pilkhuya, Ghaziabad.
213. NIRMAL, Lucknow.
214. Sarbhan Seva Nikatanm, Allahabad.
215. U.P. Parent Association for the Welfare of Mentally Handicapped Citizens.
216. Anjuman Madrsa Islamia, Jalaun.
217. Bal Vikas Avam Mhaila Kalyan Parishad, Gonda.
218. Dev Sarswati Shiksha Parishad, Padwana.
219. Indira Pastniya Chetna Evam Samazothan Sansthan, Dehradun.
220. Jan Kalyan Shiksha Samiti, Deoria.
221. Janata Aadarsh Shiksha Samiti.
222. K.S.J. High School, Moradabad.
223. Pratapgarh Mahila Kalyan Evam Shiksha Samiti, Pratapgarh.
224. RACHNA Sansthan, Gorakhpur.
225. Swami Atamdev Gopalanand Shiksha Sansthan, Farunkhabad.
226. U.P. Pawan Shiksha Samiti, Unnao.
227. Viklang Kalyan Sewa Sansthan, Muzaffarpur.
228. Queen of Apostlics Education Society.

**Statement-II**

Grant-in-aid released to NGOs of Himachal Pradesh during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 under the Scheme of Welfare for the Aged :-

S.No.	Name of the Organisation
1.	Indira Ladies Club, Ranzore Palace, Nahan, Distt. Sirmor, Himachal Pradesh-173001.
2.	HP State Council for Child Welfare, Shimla.

**Statement-III**

(Rupees in Crores)

S.No.	Name of the State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Uttar Pradesh	10.02	16.92	18.53
2.	Himachal Pradesh	0.38	0.27	0.24

**Animals and Birds Deaths in Zoo**

2495. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of animals and birds of rare species died in Delhi Zoo during the last three years;

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

(c) the main reasons for the deaths;

(d) the steps being taken for the protection of the rare species and for increasing the number of animals and birds of new species for making the zoo more attractive; and

(e) the amount allocated for the zoo during the said period, year-wise and the manner in which and the items on which the said amount was utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) the number of animals that are reported to have died in Delhi Zoo during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are 172, 166 and 147 respectively. The major causes of deaths reported to be are infighting, stress, Anthracosis, Senility, Pulmonary infection, Tympany, Enteritis and Hepatitis etc.

(d) The steps taken to enhance the care of animals in Delhi Zoo includes improvement of veterinary care, better housing facilities and upkeep of animals. New birds and animals have been added to the Zoo to make it more attractive.

(e) A statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

(I) The amount allocated for Delhi Zoo by the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years is as follows :-

	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Plan	Non-plan
1993-94	33.00	155.00
1994-95	47.00	218.60*
1995-96	50.00	180.00

\* (including arrears of water charges)

(II) Itemwise expenditure.

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Items	Years		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Feeding charges for zoo animals	39.18	43.79	49.96
2. Water charges for providing filter water for animals.	10.00	61.00*	18.00
3. Electricity charges for colling and heating arrangements and additional connections to animal enclosures	14.00	20.00	21.50
4. Improvement of animals enclosures and major renovations to the Veterinary facilities	17.72	34.89	34.51
5. Medicines for animals	0.84	1.69	0.80
6. Sanitary improvements and exchange of animals	8.00	12.00	5.35
7. Repairs and maintenance of animal enclosures and other buildings	36.52	31.11	39.00
8. Other misc. expenditure including salary, wages of employees, security contracts, liveries, maintenance of vehicles etc.	90.14	90.42	99.10

\* (including retrospective arrears)

[English]

### Seed Development Scheme

2496. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to introduce a seeds development scheme to take care of problems of the farmers in drought-prone areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING ) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, during 1994-95, an amount of Rs. 13.02 crores was released to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh as well as National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India and Sone Command Area Development Agency, Patna for creation of revolving fund under Central Sector Scheme for Drought Prone Areas.

### Import of Fertilizers

2497. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had imported fertilizers in the recent past;

(b) whether Government intend to import fertilizers in future as well;

(c) whether imported fertilizers are cheaper than the indigenously produced fertilizers;

(d) if not, whether any subsidy is being given to the farmers on buying the imported fertilizers; and

(e) if so, the quantum of subsidy being given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under the price, distribution and movement control. Imports of urea are made every year by the Government to bridge the gap between the assessed demand and indigenous availability. During 1996-97 (upto Feb'97), 23.28 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs) of urea has been imported on Government account. The imports of other major decontrolled fertilizers viz. DAP and MOP have been decanalised w.e.f. 17.9.1992 and 17.6.1993 respectively.

(c) to (e) The weighted average retention price of indigenously produced urea is Rs. 5434.00 per metric tonne. The weighted average C&F cost of procurement of urea during 1996-97 (upto Feb'97) is provisionally estimated as Rs. 7308.00 per metric tonne. The subsidy incurred on imported urea during 1996-97 is Rs. 4980.00 per metric tonne (Provisional).

Ad-hoc concession given by Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture) on both imported DAP and MOP w.e.f. 6.7.1996 has been Rs. 1500.00 per metric tonne.

### Women Representative in the Wakf Board

2498. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is now women representative in the Wakf Boards in various States under the Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken in the matter for women's representation in the Wakf Boards?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO WALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that there is no woman member in the Wakf Boards set up/ functioning in various States under the Wakf Act, 1995.

(b) and (c) The Wakf Act, 1995 provides for establishment of a Wakf Board in each State by the State Government. The composition of the Board, as provided in the Act, is that one and not more than two members of the Boards are to be elected from each of the following electoral college consisting of :

(i) Muslim Members of Parliament from the State.

(ii) Muslim Members of the State Legislature.

(iii) Muslim Members of the Bar Council of the State, and

(iv) Mutawallis of the Wakfs having an annual income of Rs. 1 lakh and above.

The Act further provides for nomination of one and not more than two members by the State Government from following two categories :-

(i) Representative of eminent Muslim organisations.

(ii) Recognised scholars in Islamic Theology, and also an officer of the State Government not below the rank of Deputy Secretary, is to be nominated as member of the Board.

There is no bar, as such, in the Act on election and/or nomination of a lady member in a Wakf Board.

### Protection of Bugyals (Alpine Pastures)

2499. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have studied the recent Allahabad High Court judgement on the protection of

Bugyals (Alpine pastures) in the Himalayas and the preservation of Gangotri-Gomukh-Tapovan route; and

(b) if so, the steps and follow-up action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **National Commission for SCs/STs**

2500. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for SCs/STs has suggested a series of steps including an increase in the reservation for SCs and STs in proportion to increase in their population; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The National Commission for SCs/STs set up under Article 338 of the Constitution consequent to the 65th Constitutional Amendment Act (1990), has so far submitted 2 reports. The reports have several recommendations relating to education, economic development besides service safeguards to SCs/STs. The first report has been circulated to all State Governments/UT Administrations besides Central Ministries/Departments. The second report is in the process of circulation. After obtaining comments from the Central Ministries/Departments and the State Governments/UT Administration the reports of the National Commission for SCs/STs along with the Action Taken Report (ATR) will be tabled in the Parliament.

#### **Free Sale of Wheat**

2501. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) turned down various suggestions made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding the release of free sale wheat for the month of December, 1996;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the State Government; and

(c) the reasons for turning down these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) FCI has not turned down any suggestion made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. FCI allocated

wheat for Open Sale to the Government of Uttar Pradesh depending upon the total movement of wheat planned for the month of December, 1996 for Uttar Pradesh. Wheat is sold under Open Market Sale Scheme only if the stocks are available over and above the requirements under PDS/RPDS/other welfare schemes sponsored by the Government.

*[Translation]*

#### **Devchanda Agriculture Farm.**

2502. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revive Devchanda Agriculture Farm run by Damodar Valley Corporation in Hazaribagh district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to provide alternate employment to thousands of persons rendered unemployed as a result of closure of the Farm; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. It may be mentioned that Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), one of the first multipurpose integrated river valley projects, has closed Devchanda Agriculture Farm and handed it over to Forest Department, Government of Bihar in 1994. Employees working on the above-mentioned Farm have been rehabilitated in other formations of DVC.

*[English]*

#### **Fencing of Border**

2503. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :  
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :  
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of erection of barbed wire fencing along the international border, State-wise;

(b) whether any change in the original plan of fencing the border has been made; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The details are as under :

State	Sanctioned	Completed	Amount Spent
	Kms.	Kms.	(in crores)
Punjab	452.22	452.22	79.50
Rajasthan	1032.60	719.73	131.73
Assam	158.00	125.54	13.67
Meghalaya	231.00	170.71	24.67
West Bengal	507.00	356.18	64.25
Jammu and Kashmir	180.00	—	11.71

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Ban on Begging**

2504. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose ban on the practice of begging;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any concrete programme for them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) A number of States and Union Territories have enacted legislation for beggary prevention. To supplement the State Government's efforts towards beggary prevention, the Central Government has a scheme for establishing Work Centres in beggar homes run by the State Government.

[*English*]

#### **Elephant Habitats**

2505. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether elephant habitats are endangered on account of human encroachments; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to ensure that the elephants do not leave forest owing to encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Human encroachments are potential threats to the elephant habitats as they result in degradation and fragmentation of the habitats.

(b) The elephants sometimes leave the forests because of reasons other than encroachments. However, in order to counter the impact of encroachments as the cause of elephant movements out of the forests, the Central Government provides assistance to the State Governments for implementation of the following measures :

(i) Ecological restoration and protection of elephant habitats;

(ii) Extension, wherever possible, of elephant habitats adjoining National Parks and Sanctuaries;

(iii) Erection of elephant proof barriers at the interface between human habitations and elephant habitats;

(iv) Driving dis-oriented elephant herds back into the forests.

#### **Deforestation in Assam**

2506. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that unplanned deforestation in Assam to feed paper mills would definitely cause the environmental hazard;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check such deforestation;

(c) whether the steps have also been taken so that paper mills in the region could depend on their own plantation of the bamboos; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The Government of Assam has reported that no such report of unplanned deforestation in Assam for supply of raw materials to the existing paper mills has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing paper mills have not yet launched any programme for captive plantation within the State except supply of seedlings/rhizomes to the local villagers.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Betal Farming**

2507. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that almost 18 lakhs people in 27 districts of Bihar depend on the betel cultivation;

(b) if so, whether the betel farmers are not getting the benefit of the crop insurance scheme as the cultivation of betel has not been accorded the status of agriculture;

(c) whether lakhs of people of the State are leading pitiable life as a result thereof;

(d) whether betel cultivation has also not been included in the activities of agriculture science centre situated in those district of the State where betel cultivation is undertaken on a large scale; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There is no statistics available on the number of people dependent on the betel cultivation in Bihar. However, it is cultivated in 25 districts of the State.

(b) Betelvine is a horticultural crop do not have the adequate yield data and regular system for yield assessment due to multi picking nature of its yield. Hence it could not be covered under the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Under the all India Coordinated Research Project on Betelvine of ICAR, a Research Centre on Betelvine is located at Rajendra Agriculture University, Pusa. The Centre is catering to the needs of betelvine growers of State. During VIII Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 20.92 lakh was sanctioned to the Research Centre.

[English]

#### Inadequate Stock at Ration Shops

2508. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Inadequate stock at ration shops despite assurances" appearing in the Statesman, dated January 12, 1997;

(b) whether the Government are aware that PDS throughout the country has been crippled and stocks at the fare price shops are inadequate;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to make changes in their police and also issue guidelines to the State Governments in the matter;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Public Distribution System is implemented under the joint responsibility of Central and State Governments/UT Administrations. Operational aspects of PDS such as allocations, availability at fair price shops level, etc. vest entirely with the State Governments/UT Administrations. Delhi Government have lifted their allocated quota of foodgrains under PDS as well as under open sale of wheat as indicated below :

(In 000 Tons)

	Allocation		Off-take	
	P.D.S.	Open Sale	P.D.S.	Open Sale
Oct. '96	60.00	15.00	48.80	13.92
Nov. '96	60.00	20.00	37.30	16.51
Dec. '96	60.00	36.00	72.40	15.81
Jan. '97	60.00	36.00	76.20	10.43

(d) to (f) The Hon'ble Prime Minister has made a Statement in the Lok Sabha on 24.2.1997 on introduction of Targeted Public Distribution System and copies of the detailed guidelines containing information on various aspects of TPDS in this regard have also been laid on the table of the House.

#### Transport Charges on Levy Sugar

2509. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :  
SHRI N.J. RATHWA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food and Civil Supplies Department of Gujarat has sent any proposals regarding "Regrant of transport charges as per road milage in lieu of railway freight of levy sugar in Gujarat" to the Union Government during the last three years and till date;

(b) if so, the details of approved proposals, year-wise;

(c) the number of proposals under consideration along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Till 11.4.1996 the transportation charges were reimburseable either on the basis of (a) actual railway freight or (b) actual transportation charges by road at the rate approved by the State Government limited to the rate of transportation charges approved by the FCI for transporting foodgrains in that State. Where the FCI's rates are not available, the State Governments

rates be allowed limited to the actual railway freight. Where FCI's rates and rail-head is not there, State Government rates may be allowed.

Government received a series of representations from different State Governments including from Government of Gujarat to allow reimbursement of the actual minimum cost of transport. Considering their problems, it was decided to revise the guidelines for transportation charges w.e.f. 1.4.1996.

Under the new guidelines, the transportation charges are payable on a flat rate for each State to be fixed on the basis of audited figures of expenditure for previous years.

[Translation]

### Import of Life Saving Drugs

2510. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of life saving drugs imported during 1994-96;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to produce these drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) The value of bulk drugs and formulations imported during 1994-96 is as under :

	(Rs. in crore)	
	1994-95	1995-96
Bulk Drugs	811.43	903.93
Formulations	173.02	191.09

(b) In order to encourage the production of drugs/end products in the country the Government have done away with Industrial Licensing except in a few cases, foreign investment upto 51% and foreign technology agreements are given automatic approvals. Encouragement to R & D and simplification of pricing system are other steps taken by the Government to boost production in the country.

### Indian Peoples' Famine Trust

2511. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Peoples' Famine Trust is being Administered by the Government;

(b) if so, the objectives and terms of reference of the Trust;

(c) whether any assistance has been provide to the famine affected regions of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh

and other parts of the country by the Trust during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Ministry of Agriculture is administering the Indian Peoples' Natural Calamities Trust (IPNCT) which was formerly known as the Indian Peoples' Famine Trust.

(b) The objectives of the Trust, which is Administered by a Board of Management headed by Agriculture Minister are the following :

(i) providing assistance to victims of natural calamities such as flood, cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, avalanche and hailstrom or any other like calamity, who do not receive any financial assistance from other sources;

(ii) promoting research, study and documentation activities for natural disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and reduction.

(c) and (d) During 1996-97 Rs. 6.00 lakh and Rs. 1.65 lakh were provided to Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala from the Trust for assisting some of the flood victims. No such assistance was provided to States affected by droughts.

(e) Institutional arrangements already exist for providing financial assistance to States for carrying out relief and rehabilitation meassures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. A Calamity Relief Fund with an average annual allocation of Rs. 1260.00 crores and a National Fund for Calamity Relief with an average annual allocation of Rs. 140.00 crores have been constituted for this purpose. The annual income of the IPNCT is too meagre to provide any worthwhile assistance to the victims of the natural calamities.

### Forestry Project

2512. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has reviewed the Forestry Project of Andhra Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the observations and suggestions made by them in this regard;

(c) the amount spent on the project during the first two and third year by the State;

(d) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be spent; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure completion of the project within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The observations and suggestions made by the mid-term review mission of the World Bank are :

- (i) uncertainty about adequate provisions in the state budget exists which is likely to affect smooth implementation of the project;
- (ii) frequent transfers of the project staff are in contravention of project agreement and effect the pace of project implementation;
- (iii) the procurement process is slow;
- (iv) free distribution of seedlings under farm forestry component of the project is contrary to the project agreement;
- (v) the ban imposed by the State Government on procurement of new vehicles is likely to adversely affect mobility of the Forest Department staff in remote forest areas;
- (vi) the progress on inventory and new types of working plans is lagging;

(c) The expenditure incurred by the State Government upto December, 1996 is :

(Rs. in crores)

Indian Financial Year	Budget Estimates	SAR Target	Actual Expenditure
1994-95	23.99	30.65	7.26*
1995-96	22.38	45.07	20.48
1996-97	72.93	61.40	23.26**
Total	119.31	137.12	51.01

\* includes retroactive expenditure incurred upto March 31, 1994

\*\* Figures upto December, 1996

(d) According to the Mid-term review the project is expected to be completed on time if the observations and suggestions contained in reply to para b supra of this question are addressed satisfactorily by the State Government.

(e) Periodical review meetings, monitoring and supervision by missions of the World Bank are being undertaken to ensure timely completion of the project activities.

#### Inquiry Into Conduct of Ex. C.M.

2513. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Sikkim Government for enquiry into the conduct of an earlier Chief Minister;

(b) whether CBI enquiry has been ordered for the test period between 1984-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the CBI had submitted a chargesheet against former Chief Minister, Sikkim, Shri N.B. Bhandari in the Court of Special Judge, Gangtok on 14.9.94. The matter is now sub-judice.

[Translation]

#### Agriculture Service Centres

2514. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Agriculture Service Centres functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more Centres in the country particularly in the backward areas of Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the names of the districts where these Centres are proposed to be set up, State-wise; and

(d) the date by which these Centres are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Establishment and Strengthening of Farmers Agro Service Centres", an amount of Rs. 965.74 lakhs was released to the State Governments/UTs for setting up of Farmers' Agro Service Centres. 1146 Farmers' Agro Service Centres were set up during the period from 1983 to 1991.

(b) to (d) The above mentioned Scheme was transferred to the State Sector from April 1992 for implementation.

[English]

#### Warehouses

2515. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of warehouses owned by the Central Warehousing Corporation and the locations thereof;

(b) the number of the warehouses housed in the rented buildings and the locations thereof;

(c) the amount of rent being paid every year by the Corporation;

(d) whether the Corporation is making the optimum utilisation of its capacity; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b) The Central Warehousing Corporation is operating 460 warehouses as on 1.1.97 with a total capacity of 70.05 lakh MTs (Both covered and CAP). Out of a total of 460 godowns, 149 warehouses with a capacity of 9.09 lakh tonnes are in rented buildings. Centre-wise, region-wise details of constructed (owned), hired and open capacities is in the Statement.

(c) The rent paid by Central Warehousing Corporation is as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1994-95	7.82
1995-96	9.81
1996-97	10.68 (estimated)

(d) and (e) The average capacity utilisation of the godowns during the current year is to the extent of 78%. The main reason for the shortfall in utilisation of capacity is the less stocks of foodgrains stored by the Food Corporation of India.

### Statement

Statement showing Region-wise and Centre-wise Capacity as on 1.1.1997

Name of Centre	Figures in MTs.			
	Const- ructed	Hired	Open	Total
1	2	3	4	5
<b>** Region Ahmedabad</b>				
Adalaj CFS	0	17716	13250	30966
Ahmedabad-I	29193	0	0	29193
Ahmedabad-II	0	5104	0	5104
Anand	4820	0	0	4820
Ankaleshwar	0	1160	0	1160
Baroda-I	16650	0	0	16650
Baroda-II	0	1100	0	1100
Bhavnagar	14250	0	0	14250
Ishanpur	0	8235	0	8235
Jamnagar	19700	0	0	19700
Kandla CFS	5000	0	13150	18150
Kandla-I	5000	0	0	5000
Kandla-II	27000	0	0	27000

1	2	3	4	5
Nadiad-I	8500	0	0	8500
Nadiad-II	0	10200	0	10200
Rajkot-I	12500	0	0	12500
Rajkot-II	12500	0	0	12500
Ranoli	0	8567	0	8567
Ranoli-II	0	7479	0	7479
Ranoli-III	5000	0	0	5000
Surat CFS	2500	0	2400	4900
Surat-I	14000	667	0	14667
Surat-II	3450	0	0	3450
Umbergaon	0	7584	0	7584
Vadod	12500	0	0	12500
Vapi	0	3742	0	3742
<b>** Subtotal</b>	<b>192563</b>	<b>71554</b>	<b>28800</b>	<b>292917</b>
<b>** Region Bangalore</b>				
Bailhongal	0	3094	0	3094
Bangalore-X	0	1363	0	1363
Bangalore-I	25535	0	0	25535
Bangalore-V	0	10602	0	10602
Bangalore-IV	0	225	0	225
Bangalore-VIII	0	1210	0	1210
Belagola (Mysore)	0	190	0	190
Belgaum	13000	3438	0	16438
Cochin-I	12250	0	0	12250
Cochin-II	5030	0	0	5030
Davangere	18918	2949	0	21867
Ernakulam	13375	0	0	13375
Gadag	21000	4415	0	25415
Gulberga-I	9780	1377	0	11157
Gulberga-II	10000	0	0	10000
Hoshehally	0	478	0	478
K.R. Nagar	0	1949	0	1949
Kozhikode	12254	0	0	12254
Mangalore-I	13390	0	0	13390
Mangalore-II	14000	0	0	14000
Sedam	3000	600	0	3600
Shikarpur	5500	2326	0	7826
Soundatti	0	2260	0	2260
Toranagullu	0	0	3600	3600
Trichur	25000	2301	0	27301
Tumkur	0	1325	0	1325
Whitefield	0	5900	0	5900
<b>** Subtotal</b>	<b>202032</b>	<b>46002</b>	<b>3600</b>	<b>251634</b>

1	2	3	4	5
<b>** Region Bhopal</b>				
Balaghat	5000	3158	0	8158
Bargwan	0	17847	0	17847
Bhatapara-I	23400	0	0	23400
Bhatapara-II	15000	0	0	15000
Bhind	10000	0	0	10000
Bhopal-I	40740	0	0	40740
Bhopal-II	0	3745	0	3745
Bilaspur-I	23200	3650	0	26850
Bilaspur-II	10000	0	0	10000
Bina	0	1810	0	1810
Burhanpur-I	17200	0	0	17200
Burhanpur-II	10000	0	0	10000
Chhatarpur	0	17292	0	17292
Gwalior	19750	0	0	19750
Hanumana	0	21693	0	21693
Indore-I	12500	0	0	12500
Indore-II	3750	1775	0	5525
Indore-III	18500	0	0	18500
Indore-IV	16000	0	0	16000
Indore-V	20000	0	0	20000
Katni	25100	0	0	25100
Khandwa	90000	0	0	90000
Maksi	5000	0	0	5000
Manawar	0	1700	0	1700
Morena-I	31450	0	0	31450
Morena-II	22800	0	0	22800
Narsingpur	9100	2856	0	11956
Pitampur	5000	5200	0	10200
Raigarh-I	11300	12357	0	23657
Raigarh-II	10000	12425	0	22425
Raipur-I	13000	0	0	13000
Raipur-II	8800	0	0	8800
Raipur-III	33200	0	0	33200
Raipur-IV	10000	0	0	10000
Sanwar	5000	0	0	5000
Satna	0	16929	0	16929
Sheopurkalan	11000	2899	0	13899
Sohagpur	5000	0	0	5000
Surajpur	0	6158	0	6158
Uchehra	0	8415	0	8415
<b>** Subtotal</b>	<b>540790</b>	<b>139909</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>680699</b>

1	2	3	4	5
<b>** Region Bhuba</b>				
Bargarh	10100	0	0	10100
Berhampore	5000	1021	0	6021
Berhampore-BD	40000	0	0	40000
Bhubaneshwar	0	875	0	875
Cuttack	16400	0	0	16400
Jajpur Road	7500	0	0	7500
Jeypore	10000	2006	0	12006
Paradeep Port	30000	0	0	30000
Raygada	2500	0	0	2500
Sambalpur	7000	0	0	7000
<b>** Subtotal</b>	<b>128500</b>	<b>3902</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>132402</b>
<b>** Region Calcutta</b>				
Agarpara	0	3047	0	3047
Bagdogra	0	10428	0	10428
Baranagar	0	17930	0	17930
Belda	0	2144	0	2144
Berhampur	20000	0	0	20000
Bethuadehari	0	1522	0	1522
Birati	0	5269	0	5269
Bishnupur	10000	1309	0	11309
Bolpur	0	1788	0	1788
Bonhooghly	24115	2639	0	26754
Budge Budge	0	4970	0	4970
Burdwan-I	5405	0	0	5405
Burdwan-II	0	11713	0	11713
Calcutta (I and E)	35250	0	2008	37258
CFS Calcutta	19730	0	20000	39730
Chandrakona-Road	5000	6484	0	11484
Cooch Bihar	5800	0	0	5800
Durgachak	32400	0	0	32400
Falta	2000	0	0	2000
Ghusury	0	2359	0	2359
Habra	0	4414	0	4414
Haldia	15000	0	0	15000
Kantapurkur	0	25151	0	25151
Kharagpur	29000	488	0	29488
Lake Depot	0	3675	0	3675
Maheshtala	0	4825	0	4825
Majerhat	0	2600	0	2600
Malda	5000	0	0	5000
Mallarpur	0	4317	0	4317
Mogra (Taragaon)	6500	0	0	6500
Nimak Mahal Road	0	1520	0	1520

1	2	3	4	5
Panchpara	18120	0	0	18120
Pandua	5000	4392	0	9392
Ramkrishnapur	0	6703	0	6703
Raninagar	5000	0	0	5000
Rishra	0	20000	0	20000
Sargachi	15000	0	0	15000
Sarkarpool	0	8333	0	8333
Sarul	26700	0	0	26700
Serampur	0	5523	0	5523
Sheoraphully	0	4006	0	4006
Shyamnagar	0	47520	0	47520
Strand Bank Road	0	6092	0	6092
Sukchar	0	8975	0	8975
Taratolla Road	4479	857	0	5336
Uluberia	10000	0	0	10000
** Subtotal	299499	230993	22008	552500
<b>** Region Chandigarh</b>				
Abohar-I	26000	0	0	26000
Abohar-II	0	6789	0	6789
Abohar-III	0	12261	0	12261
Air Cargo Amritsar	1400	0	0	1400
Ajitwal	0	5877	0	5877
Amritsar-BD	500000	0	0	500000
Amritsar-I	20000	1034	0	21034
Amritsar-II	0	9117	0	9117
Assandh	0	14610	0	14610
Ballabgarh	0	7500	0	7500
Bhogpur	14900	0	0	14900
Chandigarh	10550	585	1667	12802
Charkhidadri	7500	0	0	7500
Chohal (CB)	0	2227	0	2227
Dhuri	0	0	33256	33256
Faridabad	0	8004	0	8004
Fazilka-I	11700	3426	0	15126
Fazilka-II	0	10799	0	10799
Garhshankar	5000	0	0	5000
Gurdaspur	7950	7206	0	15156
Gurgaon	18000	0	0	18000
Hissar-I	28400	0	0	28400
Hissar-II	0	1988	0	1988
Hoshiarpur	15000	2227	0	17227
Indri	15180	5298	0	20478
Kalka	0	3068	0	3068
Karnal-I	12600	9984	0	22584

1	2	3	4	5
Karnal-II	0	9892	0	9892
Karnal-III	20000	0	0	20000
Ludhiana	13850	8893	0	22743
Mandi	2370	0	0	2370
Mandi-Adampur	15000	0	0	15000
Mansa	15500	0	0	15500
Moga-I	35000	22003	0	57003
Moga-II	17000	10919	0	27919
Moga-III	0	15345	0	15345
Mohali	0	2294	0	2294
Mouur-Mandi	0	10847	0	10847
Muktsar	10000	11545	0	21545
Nabha	12000	1775	0	13775
Nabha (BD)	112500	0	0	112500
Naraingarh	0	5000	0	5000
Narwana	6000	0	0	6000
Pathankot BD	50000	3941	0	53941
Ropar	7700	0	0	7700
Sirhind	14700	909	0	15609
Solan	3000	0	0	3000
Sonepat	18000	0	0	18000
** Subtotal	596800	215363	34923	847086
<b>** Region Chennai</b>				
Ambattur	6098	2720	0	8818
Chidambaram	13500	0	0	13500
Chrompet	79096	0	3411	82507
Coimbatore	7500	0	0	7500
Erode	9200	0	0	9200
Hosur	10000	0	0	10000
Kalmadapam	0	15842	0	15842
Kovaipudur	0	7435	0	7435
Kumbakonam	8500	0	0	8500
Madhavaram	10000	0	0	10000
Madurai-I	6460	0	0	6460
Madurai-II	28040	0	0	28040
Manargudi	50000	0	0	50000
Moolapalayam	12000	0	0	12000
Nagercoil	11200	0	0	11200
Pondicherry	7350	3360	0	10710
Royapuram	17500	0	0	17500
Singanallur CFS	18280	0	0	18280
Thangal	0	5187	0	5187
Thanjavur	70000	0	0	70000
Thiruvottiyur	0	3954	0	3954

1	2	3	4	5
Tolgate	0	9889	0	9889
Tondiarpet	0	12729	0	12729
Trichy-I	90000	0	0	90000
Udumalpet	0	1991	0	1991
Virdhunagar	12900	0	0	12900
Virrugambakam	59438	0	21716	81154
** Subtotal	527062	63107	25127	615296

**\*\* Region Delhi**

Alwar	0	1933	0	1933
Bikaner	5000	1570	0	6570
Hanumangarh	20700	0	0	20700
Jaipur	0	3126	0	3126
Kherliganj	0	1250	0	1250
Kirtinagar	19310	0	0	19310
Kota-I	28825	12854	0	41679
Kota-II	29670	0	0	29670
Maruti Udyog	0	5828	00	5828
Mehrauli	0	1300	0	1300
Nagaur	0	7401	0	7401
Nangloi	0	6218	0	6218
Narela	4800	829	1666	7295
Noida (MEPZ)	1800	867	0	2667
Ojhada	0	1604	0	1604
Okhla-I	5000	0	1166	6166
Okhla-II	10500	1144	0	11644
Patparganj	27293	3312	7500	38105
Prithvipura	0	3824	0	3824
R.P. Bagh	38200	0	250	38450
Safdarjang Flyover	0	3780	0	3780
Shadhara	0	1683	0	1683
Sikar	0	2229	0	2229
Sriganganagar-I	25200	0	0	25200
Sriganganagar-II	10000	0	0	10000
Srimadhpor	0	5000	0	5000
Surajpur	5000	0	0	5000
Udaipur	0	1266	0	1266
Uttamnagar	0	2822	0	2822
** Subtotal	231298	69840	10582	311720

**\*\* Region Guwahati**

Agartala	19250	0	0	19250
Agartala C.S.	4750	0	0	4750
Aizwal	1500	0	0	1500
Dhubri	10100	0	0	10100

1	2	3	4	5
Dimapur	13000	0	0	13000
Guwahati	8600	0	0	8600
Jorhat-I	10500	0	0	10500
Jorhat-II	5000	0	0	5000
Sipajhar	0	627	0	627
Sorbhog	10000	0	0	10000
** Subtotal	82700	627	0	83327

**\*\* Region Hyderabad**

Adilabad	10000	0	0	10000
Adoni	18140	0	0	18140
Ankapalli	10000	0	0	10000
Bodhan	25230	0	0	25230
CFS-Hyderabad	0	7012	0	7012
Chilkaluripet	0	17700	0	17700
Chityal	0	5332	0	5332
Cuddapah	25300	0	0	25300
Dugirala	7500	0	0	7500
Gadwal	0	1500	0	1500
Gudivada	35000	0	0	35000
Guntur-B.D	70000	0	0	70000
Guntur-I	26800	0	0	26800
Hyderabad (C.S)	600	0	0	600
IDPL Hyderabad-II	0	0	2037	2037
Jangaon	7590	3061	0	10651
Kaikalur	19000	0	0	19000
Kakinada (Toorangi)	0	11362	0	11362
Karimnagar	25150	0	0	25150
Kukatpally	0	6475	6255	12730
Masulipatnam	38700	0	0	38700
Maulali	0	4260	0	4260
Medak	11500	0	0	11500
Medarmetta	0	5330	0	5330
Mehboobnagar	30319	0	0	30319
Nampally	10000	2127	0	12127
Nandikotkur	5000	0	0	5000
Nandyal	28700	0	0	28700
Narasannapeta	0	1263	0	1263
Nellore	48000	0	0	48000
Nidamanur	37500	0	0	37500
Nirmal	0	1645	0	1645
Nizamabad	32000	0	0	32000
Ongole	5000	13534	0	18534
Rajamundry	34360	0	0	34360
Renigunta	20350	0	0	20350

1	2	3	4	5
Sanathnagar (CFS)	0	8151	2298	10449
Sarangpur	38530	0	0	38530
Sarooranagar	0	5000	0	5000
Settanapalli	5000	0	0	5000
Siddipet	14750	0	0	14750
Suryapet	50225	0	0	50225
Tadepalligudam	72000	0	0	72000
Vadisaleru	0	6504	0	6504
Vadlamudi	35500	0	0	35500
Vijayvada-B.D	70000	0	0	70000
Vijayvada-III	0	6563	0	6563
Vijaywada-I	6000	0	0	6000
Vijaywada-II	15000	0	0	15000
Vizag-I	35100	0	1526	36626
Vizag-II	25000	0	0	25000
Warangal	10502	7592	0	18094
Wyra	0	1516	0	1516
Zahirabad	0	0	3587	3587
** Subtotal	959346	115927	15703	1090976
<b>** Region J.N. Port</b>				
Dronagiri	72000	0	21250	93250
J.N. Port	0	20000	88125	108125
Kalamboli	30000	48750	0	78750
** Subtotal	102000	68750	109375	280125
<b>** Region Lucknow</b>				
Ballia	15000	0	0	15000
Banda	8500	0	0	8500
Basti	35000	0	0	35000
Bazpur	12100	0	0	12100
Behraich	11570	3452	0	15022
Bijnore	21280	0	0	21280
Bilaspur	7500	0	0	7500
Chandausi-I	20640	0	0	20640
Chandausi-II	10000	0	0	10000
Chirgaon	5000	875	0	5875
Dadri	19000	0	0	19000
Dumariyaganj	10000	0	0	10000
Etawah	20600	1020	0	21620
Faizabad	7750	5666	0	13416
Gangoh	0	1566	0	1566
Gauriganj-II	0	359	3228	3587
Ghaziabad-I	16920	0	0	16920
Ghaziabad-II	0	10288	0	10288
Golagokarnath	15800	0	0	15800

1	2	3	4	5
Gorakhpur-II	29700	0	0	29700
H.A.L. Kanpur	0	129	0	129
HAL Lucknow	0	169	0	169
Hardoi	38500	0	0	38500
Jahangirabad-I	10000	0	0	10000
Jahangirabad-II	5000	0	0	5000
Jaspur	13200	0	0	13200
Jhansi	14600	0	0	14600
Kanpur C.B.	0	9392	0	9392
Kanpur I.C.D.	10750	0	0	10750
Kashipur-I	11530	0	0	11530
Kashipur-II	5000	0	0	5000
Khatima	6700	2000	0	8700
Loni-B.D.	66000	0	0	66000
Lucknow	26400	2017	0	28417
Lucknow-II	7500	988	0	8438
Mahoba	0	5000	0	5000
Maunath Bhanjan	0	4450	0	4450
Mauranipur	0	5060	0	5060
Mohan Nagar	7500	1433	0	8933
Muzaffar Nagar	27450	3816	0	31266
Muzaffar Nagar B.D.	100000	0	0	100000
Noida	15000	0	1035	16035
Rampur	24400	4118	0	28518
Robertsganj	5000	0	0	5000
Saharanpur	26300	1072	0	27372
Saharanpur-BD	57895	0	0	57895
Sahibabad-II	20200	0	300	20500
Shahganj	10000	0	0	10000
Shahjahanpur-I	43200	0	0	43200
Shamli	5000	0	0	5000
Sri Nagar	5000	0	0	5000
Surajpur	0	0	17558	17558
** Subtotal	828485	62870	22121	913476
<b>** Region Mumbai</b>				
Ahmednagar	0	25	630	655
Air Cargo Goa	535	0	0	535
Akola	22420	2447	0	24867
Ambad	10000	0	1913	11913
Ambarnath-I	5000	1549	0	6549
Ambarnath-II	0	4000	1219	5219
Amravati	25300	1015	0	26315

1	2	3	4	5
Andheri (Seepz)	0	2599	0	2599
Anjangaon	0	2194	0	2194
Bhandup-I	0	4354	0	4354
Bhandup-II	0	1663	24821	26484
Bhandup-III	0	4180	0	4180
Bhayander	0	2738	0	2738
Borivili	0	15644	0	15644
Chikalthana	6122	0	0	6122
Daryapur	0	987	0	987
Digras	0	1085	0	1085
Dolvi	0	0	34252	34252
Dombivilli	0	0	6242	6242
Donavat	0	0	3024	3024
Elphinston Road	0	4200	0	4200
Gandhigraj	0	604	0	604
Gondia	10750	1444	0	12194
Goregaon	0	8931	3226	12157
Govindpur	0	1083	0	1083
J. Shed	0	8929	0	8929
Jalgaon	0	1441	0	1441
Kajupada	0	4750	0	4750
Kalmeshwar	0	4260	0	4260
Kanjurmarg	0	1678	11880	13558
Karanja	0	3452	0	3452
Khapoli-I	0	0	896	896
Khapoli-II	0	385	1810	2195
Khapoli-III	0	0	6142	6142
Kolhapur-I	11250	10184	0	21434
Kolhapur-II	20000	0	0	20000
Lote-Parshuram	0	1195	0	1195
M.S. Jetha	4500	0	0	4500
MIDC-Nagpur	0	2964	0	2964
Mira-I	0	2228	0	2228
Miraj	10000	0	0	10000
Miraj-B.D.	80000	0	0	80000
Mohane	0	660	0	660
Mormogoa	16465	0	0	16465
Mulund-I	0	13256	0	13256
Mulund-II	0	5282	0	5282
Nagothane	0	3246	0	3246
Nagpur	9500	0	0	9500
Nasik	2500	833	0	3333
Nasik Road	17160	4505	0	21665

1	2	3	4	5
New Parle	0	10648	0	10648
Patalganga-I	0	1048	0	1048
Patalganga-II	0	0	3440	3440
Patalganga-III	0	1790	0	1790
Pune Bajaj	0	0	6415	6415
Pune Century	0	1356	774	2130
Pune CFS	12500	427	8445	21372
Pune Thermax	0	430	1578	2008
Sanaswadi	0	229	3766	3995
Sangli	16060	0	0	16060
Sukeli	0	2500	0	2500
Taloja	0	0	12500	12500
Turbhe	0	2779	0	2779
TW-I	0	26983	0	26983
TW-II	0	11250	0	11250
Vadod Niko	0	5000	0	5000
Vashi-I	67875	0	76054	143929
Wadala	10500	0	2235	12735
Waluj-I	4947	0	0	4947
Waluj-II	0	2153	4957	7110
Wardha	0	0	10222	10222
Yavatmal	5000	4946	0	9946
** Subtotal	368384	201529	226441	796354
<b>** Region Patna</b>				
Darbhanga	7500	0	0	7500
Dehri on Sone	0	6592	0	6592
Hazaribagh	15300	0	0	15300
Hazaribagh Road	0	2756	0	2756
Jamshedpur	4000	3391	0	7391
Katihar	8000	4263	0	12263
Kishanganj	12000	0	0	12000
Mohania	3750	0	0	3750
Mokhameh	5000	0	0	5000
Monghyr	8000	0	0	8000
Musallapur	7487	0	0	7487
Nokha	4300	0	0	4300
Patahi	0	9964	0	9964
Patna	6500	12270	0	18770
Ranchi	14650	1500	0	16150
Samstipur	17650	1587	0	19237
** Subtotal	114137	42323	0	156460
Total	5173596	1332696	498680	7004972

### Inner Line Limit

2516. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 4946, dated September 10, 1996 regarding 'Inner Line Limit' and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government has reported that no representation has been received for extending the present inner line limits.

(c) Does not arise.

### Voluntary Organisations

2517. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of voluntary organisations of Maharashtra and other States working for the protection of environment with the grants of the Government;

(b) the amount of grant provided to various voluntary organisations for this purpose in each State during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the works for which the grant was provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Edible Oils

2518. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is the responsibility of the Union Government to procure and allot edible oils to the States whose responsibility is in turn to arrange for their actual distribution to the consumers;

(b) whether the Union Government have informed the Government of Maharashtra that the supply of edible oils will be made to the State only during August to November, 97 which is a period of festivals and also advised the State Government to import the edible oils;

(c) whether the Union Government will give subsidy on such imports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Distribution of Palmolein is not a regular phenomenon under P.D.S. unlike in the case of Rice, Wheat, Sugar and Kerosene. Government imports Palmolein through S.T.C. and distributes through PDS as a market intervention measure whenever necessary.

(b) Keeping in view the comfortable availability of edible oils in the country and also uniform duty for edible oil imports both for PDS and under OGL, Government had written to the Maharashtra Government to indicate their requirement of palmolein for the festival months of August to November, 1997. This is the lean supply period during which the prices of edible oil have a tendency to go up. Through the supply of limited additional palmolein under PDS during this period prices of edible oils can be kept under check. To meet their full requirement of edible oil the State Government can import palmolien as per their convenience.

(c) to (e) Supply of imported palmolein through the Public Distribution System is subsidised by Government. The Central Issue Price of imported palmolein is lower than the actual landed cost of the oil due to which the Government is incurring a deficit in its Edible Oil Account.

### Sunflower Research Centre

2519. SHRI RAJA RANGAPPA NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal for setting up of a Research Centre for the Sunflower in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has since cleared and location of the project identified; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A proposal to open National Research Centre on Sunflower was received from Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

(b) No, Sir, since the Coordinating Unit of All India Coordinated Research Project on Sunflower is already functioning at University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore and one research centre under the above project is also located at Raichur under University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, the proposal has not been approved.

(c) Does not arise.

### Milling Orders

2520. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether foodgrain mill owners are refusing to place the milling orders with the FCI;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the milling specification released by FCI is often below the standards;
- (d) if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Paddy procured by FCI is being milled by entering into milling contracts with the rice millers according to their milling capacity. During current Kharif Marketing Season, a total quantity of 18.95 lakh MTs of paddy has been procured by FCI (mainly in Punjab and Haryana). Out of 17.30 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in Punjab and 1.64 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in Haryana during 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Season, 15.05 lakh tonnes and 1.49 lakh tonnes respectively have already been contracted for milling in these States.

- (c) No, Sir. FCI is following the specifications as fixed by Government of India.
- (d) and (e) Do not arise.

### Illegal Trade of Cattle

2521. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of cattle being sent from Bihar to Bangladesh for the bovine meat;
- (b) the number of such cases of illegal trade of cattle which came to light during the last three years and the number of illegal cattle traders arrested in this regard; and
- (c) the action and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement showing the number of cattle seized by Border Security Force troops while being smuggled to Bangladesh on the Indo-Bangladesh border during the last three years is furnished in statement enclosed.

(c) A series of measures have been taken to check the smuggling of cattle on Indo-Bangladesh border and these include deployment of additional battalions, increase in the number of outpost towers, intensified patrolling and phased border fencing.

### Statement

#### *Seizure of Cattle by BSF on Indo-Bangladesh Border during the last Three Years*

	1994	1995	1996	1997 (Upto Feb)
West Bengal	29539	30608	21225	5047
Assam	1070	1060	1092	171
Meghalaya	336	259	138	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Tripura	1492	943	666	97

### Seedling of Coconut

2522. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Orissa has made tremendous progress in plantation and yield of coconut in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of action or proposed to be taken to make available adequate coconut plants seedlings and other infrastructure facilities in Orissa; and
- (c) the number of seedlings of coconut distributed during 1996-97 and proposed to be made available during 1997-98 in Orissa particularly in the Jaipur District?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The area under coconut in Orissa has increased from 38.4 thousand hectares in 1993-94 to 42.90 thousand hectares in 1995-96, whereas the yield has decreased from 5716 nuts per hectare to 5466 nuts per hectare during the same period.

(b) The Coconut Development Board is implementing a Scheme, namely, Production and Distribution of TXD seedlings through the coconut nurseries and other infrastructure facilities available with the State Horticulture Department by providing 50% financial assistance. A total of 65,000 TXD seedlings have been produced and 1,24,200 seed nuts sown for production of seedlings during 8th Plan period.

(c) Jaipur is a Sub-Division in District of Koraput in Orissa. The number of seedlings distributed during 1996-97 and proposed to be made available during

1997-98 are as under :

	Orissa	Jaipur Sub-Division
No. of seedlings distributed during 1996-97.	9,97,500	525
No. of seedlings proposed to be made available during 1997-98.	14 lakh	875

#### **Disposal of Fly Ash into Sabarmati River**

2523. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and the Central Pollution Control Board have received complaints that disposal of fly ash slurry into the river Sabarmati in Ahmedabad by a Thermal Power Plant has created serious air and water pollution thereby endangering the lives of a large number of people;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government/Central Pollution Control Board have issued directions to the concerned electricity company to immediately stop disposal of fly ash slurry into the river Sabarmati and remove dry ash already deposited in the river bed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Complaints were received regarding water pollution problems in the river Sabarmati by a Thermal Power Plant. A team from Central Pollution Control Board inspected the power plant. The power plant was found not having adequate treatment facilities for liquid effluents and solid waste.

(b) The Central Pollution Control Board has issued direction to the power plant under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Control on Agriculture Sector**

2524. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to abolish the control on the Agricultural Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Common Minimum Programme of the Government stipulates that all regulations and controls

that are in the way of increasing the incomes of the farmers will be reviewed immediately and abolished wherever found unnecessary. It also stipulates that controls on the movement of agricultural products and on the processing of agricultural products will be abolished. The concerned Central Ministries and State Governments have been requested to review the controls/regulations administered by them for abolition. It has already been decided to repeal the Rice Milling Industries Regulations Act, 1958.

#### **Disposal of Seized Arms**

2525. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of weapons seized by the police and security forces in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab during the last three years;

(b) the procedure adopted for control/disposal of these weapons;

(c) whether some weapons have been stolen or found missing after this seizure;

(d) if so, the details of such weapons;

(e) the measures taken for their recovery;

(f) whether some of the seized weapons have been sold or given to some officials or private persons for their self-defence.

(g) if so, the details of such weapons; and

(h) the names of beneficiaries along-with their selling prices of the weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (h) Information is being collected from the State Governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Use of Previous Names of Cities**

2526. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to allow the use of previous names of certain places like Bombay and Madras recently renamed as Mumbai and Chennai, for the correspondence purposes in view of the demand/for the benefit of the international community; and

(b) if so, the details of such places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Insurance of Fishermen

2527. SHRI MAHENDRA KARMA :  
SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government have insured 53,629 persons engaged in fishing against accident during 1995-96 and on this Rs. 3,01,607 have been spent on 50:50 share basis by the State;

(b) if so, the amount still to be paid by the Union Government to the State Government out of their share; and

(c) the time by which the outstanding amount would be paid?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had insured 47007 fishermen during 1995-96 against accidents under the Group Accident Insurance Component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme. A total sum of Rs. 5,28,758/- was spent on the insurance of 4007 fishermen during 1995-96 out of which the contribution of the State Government on 50:50 basis was Rs. 2,64,379/-.

(b) and (c) The State Government, during 1995-96, had requested this Ministry to release a sum of Rs. 2,81,250/- as Central share of grants-in-aid for the purpose of insuring 50,000 fishermen. The entire amount of Central share was released to the State Government in March, 1996. As the expenditure incurred by the State Government during 1995-96 was less than the Central share released for this purpose, no Central share is outstanding to be paid.

[Translation]

### Inclusion of Caste in Scheduled Tribes List

2528. SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH :  
SHRI MAHENDRA KARMA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation to include 'Tailanga Caste' in districts of Madhya Pradesh under Scheduled Tribes has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the date of sending the said proposal; and

(c) the steps being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) A reference dated 6.10.96 for inclusion of Tailanga community of Bastar Division in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Madhya Pradesh was forwarded by Shri Mahendra Karma, M.P.

The same has been forwarded to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for their comments as envisaged under Article 342 of the Constitution.

[English]

### Quality Control of Sugar

2529. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints/reports regarding some sugar factories not following the quality control and who indulged in practice of packing inferior quality of sugar in the bags than the grades marked on the bags by the factories during the year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the names of such factories, State-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government against these factories under the Sugar (Packing and Marking) Order, 1970; and

(d) the action taken against those factories found indulging into such practices more than once during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) During the sugar season 1996-97 (October, 1996 to September, 1997) upto 31st January, 1997, two sugar factories, namely, (i) M/s The Haryana Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd., Rohtak (Haryana) and (ii) M/s. Sangamner Bhag SSK Ltd., Amruthnagar, Tal. Sangamner, Distt. Ahmednagar (Maharashtra) were found to have misgraded their sugar of 1996-97 season's production in respect of certain lots of sugar. These sugar factories have already been issued show cause notices for the contravention of Clause 4(1) of Sugar (Packing and Marking) Order 1970.

No sugar factory has been found to have misgraded its sugar more than once during the last three sugar years (October to September) i.e. 1993-94 and 1995-96.

### Irregularities in Super Bazar

2530. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 3096 dated August 16, 1994 regarding supplies in Super Bazar and State :

(a) whether the situation has since not improved in the Super Bazar and the same old irregularities and arbitrariness continue to take place unabated;

(b) whether the Government do not take notice of affairs that are prejudicial to the interest of the consumers on the ground of the Super Bazar being autonomous;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the grant released to the Super Bazar during 1995-96 and 1996-97 and the purposes thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The Super Bazar has informed that no act of irregularity or arbitrariness in registration of firms has been committed and that the selection of suppliers by the Super Bazar is a continuous process and all efforts are made by them to register the genuine suppliers.

(b) and (c) The Super Bazar is an autonomous cooperative institution having its own Board of Management which looks after its management including its business and Government does not interfere in their day to day functioning. The Super Bazar has informed that efforts are made to supply quality goods to the customers on competitive rates and in case of any specific complaint, the same is looked into and necessary remedial measures are taken.

(d) During 1995-96 an amount of Rs. 8 lakhs was released to the Super Bazar, Delhi as grant-in-aid for opening up new branches, renovation and modification of branches/departments and computerisation and installation of cash register machines. During the current financial year 1996-97, a similar provision has been made.

[Translation]

#### Land for Ambedkar Memorial

2531. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to construct Dr. Ambedkar memorial' at 26, Alipur road;

(b) if so, the date on which a decision was taken; and

(c) the steps taken to acquiring the land till date?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) October, 1992.

(c) The Government of NCT, Delhi have been requested to acquire the land at 26, Alipur Road, Delhi. Necessary actions are being taken to release the funds for meeting the cost of acquisition.

#### Inland Fisheries

2532. SHRI K PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for promoting the Inland Fisheries in the State of Orissa'

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether there is a need to adopt scientific farming in order to promote Inland Fishing in the country;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in Orissa in this direction;

(e) whether the Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implements of in the state by the Fish Farmers Development Agencies; and

(f) if so, the achievement made there under in Orissa so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Orissa has 4,500 kms length of rivers and canals, 2,56,000 ha reservoirs, 1,14,000 ha ponds and tanks, 1,80,000 ha oxbow lakes and derelict waterbodies and 4,17,000 ha of brackishwater area where there is potential for inland fisheries development.

(b) Fisheries is a State subject and it is for the Government of Orissa to take suitable steps for development of inland fisheries in Orissa. However, a number of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as Freshwater and Brackishwater Aquaculture development, Training and Extension, etc. are being implemented by the Central Government for assisting Orissa State during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) While waterbodies such as rivers, canals and reservoirs are more amenable to capture fisheries, scientific fish farming is being promoted in fresh and brackishwater under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA's) and Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDA's). The agencies provide a package of technical, financial and extension support to fish farmers.

(e) and (f) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture is one of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Government of Orissa through 27 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA's). Since inception till 1995-96 FFDA's have brought 24743 ha water area under scientific fish culture and trained 39743 fish farmers/fishermen in improved practices of fish farming.

### National Commission for Minorities

2533. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has set up an inquiry commission to investigate the communal situation of the minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on the recommendations/report of the inquiry commission?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Commission for Minorities has constituted a two-member commission on 2nd January, 1997 consisting of Shri Zafar Ali Naqvi, Member, National Commission for Minorities and Shri Joginder Pal, Joint Secretary, National Commission for Minorities to inquire into matters relating to past and recent communal problems of the District of Meerut and the difficulties of the local minority educational institutions in duly enjoying their Constitutional and legal rights.

(c) No recommendation/report has been submitted by this inquiry commission so far.

[English]

### Seizure of Arms on Gujarat Coast

2534. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :  
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :  
SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :  
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge stockpile of arms and explosives/Pakistani mechanised boats with arms and ammunition seized on the Gujarat coast during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the value of the seized arms and ammunition; and

(c) the steps taken to check the smuggling of arms and illegal migration of Bangladeshis through Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) As per reports available, no arms/ammunition were

seized from Pakistani mechanised boats on the Gujarat coast during the last 3 years; However, on 17th January, 1997, a fishing boat was seized near Koteswar in creek area containing the following arms and ammunition :

(a) Pistol	19 Nos.
(b) Revolver	1 No.
(c) Pistol magazine	32 Nos.
(d) AK Magazine	7 Nos.
(e) AK 56 Rifle	5 Nos.
(f) Belt action sniper Rifle	6 Nos.
(g) Magazine of S/Rifle	2 Nos.
(h) Amn. Assorted	1320 Nos.
(i) Carry bag of AK 56	1 No.

The cost of the above items which are of foreign make is not known. The following steps have been taken to check the smuggling of arms and ammunition and infiltration through the Indo-Pak border.

- (i) Additional Bns have been sanctioned/ deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs. However, a few Bns have been withdrawn from border for IS duties.
- (ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.
- (iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.
- (iv) Mounted patrolling on horse, camels and tractors is being done.
- (v) OP towers have been erected.
- (vi) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (vii) Border fence/flood lighting has been done in Punjab and Rajasthan. Feasibility studies for a modified type of fencing in Ranon area of Gujarat is also being undertaken.
- (viii) Boats/motor boats have/are being provided for patrolling riverline area.
- (ix) Border road/track are being constructed/ developed for vehicular patrolling.

### World Bank Aided Projects

2535. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought clearance from the Ministry for the road projects to be undertaken in the State under the World Bank aided project;

(b) the number of roads to be strengthened under the programme;

(c) the amount to be spent on these projects; and

(d) the amount that World Bank has agreed to provide for the development of roads in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven roads are to be strengthened under this programme.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1100 crores.

(d) The amount to be provided by the World Bank has not been decided.

#### Cell for Minorities

2536. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the grievances cell for minorities during 1996; and

(b) action taken on them by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Minority Cell was set up in that Ministry in November, 1996. During 1996, it received 32 petitions which have been taken up with the concerned authorities for further action.

#### Construction of Road

2537. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :  
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura submitted a proposal to the North East Council for the improvement of Ambasa-Bagafa-Belonia road;

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

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Improvement of the road to other District Road standards at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 Crs. has

been included by the NEC as a new scheme for execution during the 9th five year plan subject to approval by the Planning Commission and availability of funds.

#### Exotic Breeding Bulls

2538. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the exotic breeds being propagated by the Government for improving the milk yield of the cows in India;

(b) the number of exotic breed bulls farms have been set up alongwith their locations;

(c) the number of exotic breeding bulls imported during the last three years;

(d) the countries from where such bulls were imported; and

(e) the average cost of an exotic breeding bull?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Jersey and Holstein Friesian bulls are used for cross-breeding of non-descript cows to improve milk yield.

(b) The Central Cattle Breeding Farm for production of Jersey bulls is at Semiliguda, in Koraput district of Orissa and that for production of Holstein Friesian bulls is at Hessarghatta in Karnataka.

(c) Import of 259 bulls was permitted during the last three years out of which 45 bulls were imported for Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Hessarghatta.

(d) The bulls were imported from Denmark, Australia, the United States of America and Israel.

(e) The average cost of an imported exotic breeding bull works out to approximately Rs. 0.75 lakh.

#### Voluntary Organisations

2539. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations with their locations in Assam being aided by the Union Government;

(b) the criteria fixed for providing assistance;

(c) the name of the agency conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) whether the Government are aware that some organisations misutilised funds; and

(e) if so, the action taken so far/proposed to be taken against such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Grants-in-aid are sanctioned to the NGOs as per the norms and procedures laid down in the schemes of the Ministry.

(c) Audit of the accounts of the organisations is done by the Chartered Accountants or auditors approved by the Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*Names of the Voluntary Organisations with their location in Assam*

S.No. Name of the voluntary organisations with address

1. Gharmora Model Satra Hills and Plains Cultural Institution, Ward No. 8, PO : North Lakhimpur-787 001.
2. Prantiya Samaj Kalyan Kendra, PO : Kamin-791 121, North Lakhimpur.
3. Ramakrishna Mission, Sevashram, Silchar-4, Cachar (Assam).
4. Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, RK Mission Road, Ulubari, Guwahati- 781007.
5. Indian Council for Child Welfare, Assam State Branch, GN Bordoli Road, Ambari Near Government Emorium, Guwahati, Assam.
6. Indira Red Cross Society, Guwahati, Assam.
7. Bahumukhi Krishi Aru Samaj Kalyan Samiti, Chota Rupahi, Noor Nagar, 10 Herapati, Distt : Nagaon, Assam.
8. Gram Vikas Parishad, VIII : Rangaloor, PO : Jumarpur, Distt: Nagaon, Assam-782 427.
9. M/s. Salitha Puthi, Bhawal Village, Saraighat, Duminichowki Post, Distt: Kamrup, Assam.
10. Asson. for Social Health in India, State Branch, Near Assam Press, MD Road, Silpukhuri, Guwahati, Assam.
11. Jagriti Samthla, Unayan Kendra, PO: Islamgaon, Lakhimpur-787 054.
12. Society for the Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM) Guwahati Chapter, Ashram Road (Near Water Tank), Ulubari, Guwahati- 781 007.
13. Remakrishna Mission, Silchar.
14. All India Centre for Urban and Rural Development, Silchar.
15. Assam Anusuchit Jati Parishad, Silchar.
16. Assam Administrative Staff College, Jawahar Nagar, PO: Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

#### India-Iran Fertilizer Project

2540. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Iran have given their final approval to the fertilizer project to be set up in Irani Qeshm Island, free trade zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the companies to whom this contract has been awarded; and

(d) the time by which the production is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) have jointly explored the possibility of setting up a 7.26 lakh metric tonne per annum urea project at Qeshm Island, Iran in collaboration with Qeshm Free Area Authority (QFAA) of Iran. As per the Feasibility Report, the estimated cost of the project is US \$ 470 million. The buy back responsibility of the Indian partners extends to 60% of the urea production from this fertilizer complex.

(c) and (d) In the absence of an investment decision by the project sponsors, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the Qeshm Fertilizer Project will commence production. The stage of award of the contract for setting up of this facility has not yet been reached.

[Translation]

#### Fertility in Agriculture

2541. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ambitious schemes formulated to test the fertility in the agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Soil testing is one of the most important tools in estimating the fertility of the soils in terms of availability of plant nutrients. In view of this, a scheme has been formulated for implementation during 9th plan for Modernisation of soil testing services. Proposed components of the scheme are :

(i) To modernise the existing soil testing laboratories.

- (ii) To open new soil testing laboratories in uncovered areas.
- (iii) To impart training to technical staff of soil testing laboratories.
- (iv) To organise field demonstrations based on soil analysis and farmers' training on conjunctive use of organic, bio and chemical fertilisers.
- (v) To prepare soil fertility maps.

The scheme is yet to be approved by the Government.

[English]

#### **Scavenger Rehabilitation Scheme**

2542. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :  
DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale misappropriation of funds under the Scavengers Rehabilitation Scheme;

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

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter;

(d) if so, the action taken against the guilty persons; and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government to avoid misappropriation of funds under the scheme in future?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Shrimp Farms**

2543. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of workers employed in over 2000 shrimp-farms are likely to be thrown out of employment with the closure of these farms as per Supreme Court's orders besides its adverse impact on the food-production and exports;

(b) if so, the number of shrimp farm workers likely to be affected; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide them with the alternative employment and to rehabilitate their families?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking review of the judgement of the Supreme Court. The matter is sub judice.

#### **Cutting of Timber**

2544. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale padauk timbers is being allowed to cut from the forest land near Bindraban, South Andaman Islands;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government propose to issue any directives to the State Government to inquire into the matter and initiate necessary action against the persons responsible for the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **International Pepper Exchange**

2545. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up an International Pepper Exchange at Cochin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including salient features of the Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to set up an International Pepper Futures Exchange at Kochi, Kerala with a second trading floor in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The India Pepper and Spice Trade Association (IPSTA), Kochi which is conducting domestic futures trading has been granted recognition for conducting international futures contracts in black pepper by opening a separate International Commodity Exchange Division. A Clearing House, viz. the First Commodity Clearing Corporation of India, has been incorporated to act as quarantor for the traders and other operators. Guidelines regarding eligibility for foreign participants, mode of participation etc. have been notified. Trading in the international futures contract in pepper is expected to commence shortly.

[Translation]

### For Rehabilitation of Militants

2546. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allocated funds for Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and other States to bring back the misguided youth in the main stream during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) No funds have been allocated to any of the states for this purpose. However, Central Government have sanctioned raising of one CRPF and one BSF battalion for recruitment of surrendered militants of Jammu and Kashmir.

### Investigation into Death of a Mysterious Person

2547. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Gumnamī Baba Prakaran Mein Kanni Kyo Katti Hai Sarkar" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran', dated January 1, 1997;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Subsidy Direct to Farmers

2548. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :  
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam have recommended the restoration of the earlier practice of distributing fertilizer subsidy direct to the farmers;

(b) whether Government will simplify the procedure for distributing the subsidy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No such recommendation has been received from the Government of Assam.

(b) and (c) In addition to subsidy on Urea, which is under Statutory Price Control, Government of India is giving concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic & potassic fertilizers to the farmers on the basis of certified reports of sales received from State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. It has been decided to give 80% as "on account" payment and the balance 20% after verification by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on sales effective from 1st April, 1997.

[Translation]

### Setting up of Third Border Wing in Gujarat

2549. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Home Affairs of the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal to the Government regarding "setting up of third border wing Home Guard for Frontier Area in Gujarat" during the last three years;

(b) if so, details of such proposals received during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the number of proposals accepted and rejected;

(d) the number of proposals under consideration/lying pending;

(e) the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the said proposal is to be sanctioned and the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) No proposal was received during the years 1994 and 1995. However, during December 1996, a request was received from the State Government of Gujarat to consider the proposal for raising 3rd Battalion of Border Wing Home Guards. The State Government is seeking to supplement the police presence by raising another battalion of Border Wing Home Guards to curb anti-smuggling operations and other subversive activities. The proposal is under examination in this Ministry.

[English]

### Water Scarcity

2550. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Water to be scarce in India by 2005" appearing in *Indian Express* dated January 28, 1997;

(b) if so, whether in the report, India is among the few countries suffering most from the desertification even as water erosion is extensive and severe throughout the Himalayas as reported by the United Nations Global Environment Outlook;

(c) if so, whether the Government have considered the report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per Global Environment Outlook (GEO) report (1997) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the countries suffering most from desertification in Asia and the Pacific are China, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Pakistan and India. India is also among the countries projected to fall into the water-stress category by 2025 A.D.

(c) and (d) The steps taken by the Government to conserve and augment water resources and erosion and other causative factors of desertification include the adoption of National Water Policy (1987), preparation of national perspectives for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit areas, promotion of efficient and economic use of water for various purposes, implementation of Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Areas Programme and afforestation programmes.

#### **Pre Examination Coaching to SC/ST Students**

2551. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC provided pre-examination coaching to take IAS/IPS examinations during the last two years;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the number of successful candidates out of those who appeared in the examination during the last two years; and

(d) the details of the States/UTs which have submitted proposals to the Central Government to establish the tutorial classes in their respective States for the free coaching classes for SC/ST/OBC persons?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

#### **Production of Coconut/Groundnut Oil**

2552. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of coconut during 1995-96 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of oil produced from the groundnut and coconut, separately in each State during each of the last three years and the annual consumption thereof in the country;

(c) the quantity of oils exported during the said period; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The latest available statistics on State-wise production of coconut for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given below :

	State	Production (Million nuts)	
		1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1181.4	1231.4
2.	Assam	117.6	126.2
3.	Goa	118.0	119.0
4.	Karnataka	1364.1	1406.5
5.	Kerala	5335.1	5905.7
6.	Maharashtra	178.6	169.1
7.	Orissa	234.5	234.5
8.	Tamil Nadu	4345.7	4345.7
9.	Tripura	4.7	4.7
10.	West Bengal	274.4	279.4
11.	A&N Islands	85.4	85.4
12.	Lakshadweep	26.0	26.5
13.	Pondicherry	34.1	33.8
Total		13299.6	13967.9

(b) No authentic information about the statewide production of edible oils including groundnut and the coconut oil is available. However, the estimated production of groundnut oil and coconut oil is estimated on all India basis during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 have been as under :

(Lakh M. Tonnes)

(Supply from domestic sources)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Groundnut Oil	18.34	17.96	18.40 (tentative)
Coconut Oil	4.00	4.50	4.20 (tentative)

(c) and (d) The quantity and value of coconut and groundnut oils exported for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given below :

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	641.42	795.34
1995-96	609.96	424.94

The information for 1996-97 is not available.

[English]

### Inferior Quality of Seeds

2553. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :  
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that inferior quality of seeds are being supplied to the farmers in the country particularly in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of cases noticed by the Government during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 till date. State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the failure of the Government in regard to take action against the suppliers of inferior quality of seeds;

(d) whether the Government propose to strengthen the present Seeds Act with a view to take action against the unscrupulous suppliers of seeds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Certain instances regarding the supply of sub-standard seeds to farmers in the country, (including in the State of Karnataka) have come to the notice of Government of India.

(b) During 1995-96, 73788 samples were drawn under the provisions of the Seeds Act, of which 6185 were found to be sub-standard. Action was taken against concerned seed dealers which included issue of warnings, orders to stop sale and launching of prosecutions under the provisions of the Seeds Act. Similarly, action was taken against 1109 seeds dealers in 1995-96 under the Seeds (Control) Order 1983 for contravention of the provisions of the Order. The data for 1996-97 is not yet available as the year has not yet come to a close.

(c) to (e) The Seeds Act, 1966 has stringent provisions for quality control of seeds of notified kinds

or varieties. It provides for penalties for supply of sub-standard seeds of notified kinds of varieties seeds have been declared as an essential commodity under Essential Commodities Act and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 contains provisions for licensing of dealers and for regulating the marketing and distribution of all types of seeds. Contraventions of the Order are punishable under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. The Seeds Act, 1966 and the Seeds (Control) Order 1983 provide an adequate legal framework to regulate the quality of seeds distributed to farmers. However, the enforcement of the Seeds Act and Seeds (Control) Order is the responsibility of the State Governments.

[Translation]

### Scheduled Caste Population in Bihar

2554. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :  
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of people belonging to Scheduled Castes in Bihar;

(b) whether Pan, Swansi and Chanpar Castes are considered as Scheduled Caste and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the reasons for depriving these caste of the facilities available to other Scheduled Caste people;

(d) whether the Government are expecting any report from the Government of Bihar in this regard;

(e) if so, the time by which the Government of Bihar is likely to submit a report; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Scheduled Caste population of Bihar as per 1991 Census is 1,25,71,700.

(b) and (c). Pan, Swansi communities have been specified as Scheduled Castes in relation to the State of Bihar. Chanpar caste has not been specified as Scheduled Caste in Bihar and no request for its inclusion in the Scheduled Caste list of that State has been received.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Question does not arise.

### Issue of Arms Licences

2555. SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is necessary for the District Magistrate to verify the character of the applicants by

the police at the State and local level before issuing the arms licences to the applicants under the Arms Act;

(b) if so, the reasons for this dual system;

(c) whether the dual investigation is prescribed for both the breach loading and muzzle loading arms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Under the existing provisions of Arms Act, 1959 and the rules framed thereunder, a District Magistrate is empowered to grant arms licences for possession of Non-prohibited bore fire-arms which includes Breach Loading/Muzzle Loading arms, valid for the concerned District/State. In order to verify character and antecedents of applicants before grant of arms possession licences, a provision has been prescribed under the said Act/ Rules vide which it is obligatory upon the licensing authority to call for the report of the officer in charge of the nearest police station before granting or refusing to grant arms possession licences. The existing provisions also stipulate that if the officer in charge of the nearest police station does not send his report within the prescribed time, the licensing authority may grant or refuse to grant a licence after expiry of the prescribed time without waiting for that report, on the basis of merits of each cases.

[English]

### Elephant Sanctuaries

2556. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Elephant Sanctuaries in the country;

(b) the States where these sanctuaries are located;

(c) whether the Central Government have been funding Chandaka Elephant Sanctuary near Bhubaneswar in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the assistance provided to the sanctuary during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and the current system of scientific management, wildlife sanctuaries now cover the ecosystem as a whole instead of the earlier concept of sanctuaries for individual animals. For elephant conservation, the task force of Project Elephant has identified 11 inter-state and state level elephant reserves as listed at statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The central assistance provided to the Government of Orissa for Chandaka Sanctuary under the C.S.S. Scheme of National Parks and Sanctuaries over the last 3 years is as under :

S.No.	Year	Amount of Assistance
1.	1993-94	Rs. 15.50 lakhs
2.	1994-95	Rs. 3.0 lakhs
3.	1995-96	Rs. 6.16 lakhs

### Statement

#### List of Identified Elephant Reserves

S.No.	Name of Reserve	State
1.	South West Bengal, South Bengal, Bihar-North Orissa Inter State Elephant Reserve	West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa
2.	Kameng-Sonitpur Inter-State Elephant Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam
3.	Dibru-Deomali Inter-State Elephant Reserve	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam
4.	Kaziranga-Karbelong-Intanki-Inter State Elephant Reserve	Assam, Nagaland
5.	Barail-Saifung Inter-State Elephant Reserve	Meghalaya
6.	Balphakram Elephant Reserve	Meghalaya
7.	Nilgiris-Eastern Ghats	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala
8.	Nilambur Silent Valley	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
9.	Annamalai-Parambikulam	Tamil Nadu, Kerala
10.	Periyar	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
11.	Corbett-Rajaji	Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

### Air and Water Pollution

2557. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that projects of private sector at Sonbhadra district are expanding their plants by cutting the forests;

(b) if so, whether these projects dump their polluted garbage in the Rihand Water Reservoir due to which this reservoir is becoming full of garbage and ash; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Agriculture Research

2558. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state ;

(a) the details of changes being brought in the agricultural research system to make it more accountable to the country; and

(b) the reasons for poor response of the research work in agriculture while a large sums of money are being invested therein?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Sir, some of the measures taken in this regard include :

(i) Management Committees and Research Advisory Committees of all the Institutes are in place to regularly monitor the targets and achievements.

(ii) Research projects are regularly monitored through Research Project files relating to each project and scientists at the Institute level.

(iii) Account are computerized and project based budgeting and monitoring will be done.

(iv) Social Audit of achievements are undertaken.

(v) The Government has delegated the powers alongwith duties to Dy. Director General, Directors in Institutes and Principal Investigators of Schemes so that system is made simplified and also accountable.

(b) It is not correct to say that there is poor response to research work in agriculture. The returns to

agricultural research in India have been estimated to vary from 40 to 200 per cent which is high. The present allocation of money to agricultural research forms only 0.3 per cent of agricultural Gross Domestic Product which has been recommended by Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture to be raised to a level of at least 1% with a tendency to increase the allocation gradually to reach 2% of Agricultural GDP.

### Production of Jute

2559. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of jute, kenaf and allied fibres has declined to a record low in 1995-96, in the country;

(b) if so, whether according to the report published by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in the month of June, 1996 the production of the crop was a little lower as compared to the other neighbouring countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the main reasons for the low production and the steps being taken by the Government to meet the shortage of jute during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The production of Jute, Kenaf (Mesta) and Allied Fibres in 1995-96 in India was lower than the production during 1994-95 but was higher than the production achieved in 1993-94. The details of the production of these fibres in India, Bangladesh and China as per the latest FAO Report for December, 1996 are given below :

#### *Production of Jute, Kenaf (Mesta) and Allied Fibres (Thousand Tonnes)*

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
India	1335.1	1476.0	1404.0
Bangladesh	782.3	1027.4	652.7
China	672.0	380.0	270.0

(d) The main reason for decline in production of Jute and Mesta in 1995-96 is attributed to adverse weather conditions prevailing in the major growing States. The shortage of Jute and Mesta is not anticipated. However, the Government is implementing a Special Jute Development Programme to increase its production and productivity.

[Translation]

### Livestock Policy

2560. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2597 and state :

(a) whether the draft National Livestock Policy has been discussed with the State Ministers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the States from which recommendations have been received in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Draft National Livestock Policy and approach to livestock development in the Ninth Plan were, discussed at the Conference of the State Ministers for Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The views of State Governments have been received. The policy formulation exercise needs the widest possible consultations and all initiatives are being made to evolve the Policy after such consultations.

[English]

### Post Harvest Techniques

2561. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of foodgrains are wasted due to non-utilisation of necessary post harvest techniques by the producers;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any projection of this wastage;

(c) whether the Government have made any efforts to develop a favourable technique to avoid this loss of foodgrains in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No firm estimates of wastage of foodgrains in the country due to non-utilisation of necessary post-harvest techniques by the producers are available. However, according to one of the Working Groups set up for the formulation of 9th Five Year Plan, it is estimated that about 2% of the total foodgrains production in the country is wasted in post-harvest period.

(c) and (d) Research programmes have been initiated for minimising losses during post-harvest operation through improved techniques of foodgrains

storage pest control and their extension, development of designs of improved storage structures, code of practices for grain preservation, disinfestation techniques, fabrication of proto-types, data collection, testing and standardisation of the grain quality, technology transfer through training, extension and publicity etc. The Government is also implementing a regular plan scheme "Save Grain Campaign" since 1969-70, to educate, motivate and persuade the farmers and others to adopt the scientific measures for minimising the foodgrains losses.

### Illegal Felling of Trees

2562. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SATYAJITSINGH DULIPSINH  
GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the series of special reports captioned "Plunder of our Forests" appearing in Indian Express from January 22, 1997 onwards;

(b) whether as reported illegal felling of trees had gone up fourfolds in UP over the past 10 years;

(c) if so, the reasons for the growth in illegal felling of trees in other States and Union Territories during the past decade indicating estimated cost of the trees; and

(d) the specific steps taken to curb and contain the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Minority Status to J&K Migrants

2563. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "J.K. Migrants want minority status" appearing in India Express dated January 22, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Kashmir Samiti has demanded minority status in Jammu and Kashmir State;

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

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Fishery/Horticulture Schemes

2564. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received schemes from various States for the development of fisheries and horticulture in rural areas;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to impart training to the farmers in rural areas to go in for fisheries and other schemes on agriculture to accelerate the pace of general economy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Project proposals for development of fisheries have been received from the states of Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa and Maharashtra for taking up externally aided projects covering trout, freshwater prawns, oyster, etc. These projects are at different stages of examination and processing and no final assessment has been taken on them. No separate proposals have been received from the States for development of Horticulture in rural areas in recent past.

(c) Training of farmers forms an integral part of various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes for agricultural development including the programmes for Horticulture and Fisheries, implemented in different States.

[Translation]

### Foreign Assistance

2565. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of aid received from the foreign countries for the environmental projects during 1994, 1995 and 1996;

(b) the names of projects on which the foreign aid was spent;

(c) the amount given to Uttar Pradesh and other States out of the aid during the said period and the projects for which the assistance was provided, state-wise;

(d) whether the amount provided has been utilised; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The amount of aid received from the foreign countries for environment projects, project-wise, upto 1994-95 is given in the External Assistance Brochure - 1994-95, published by Ministry of Finance. A copy of the Brochure is available in the Library of the House. The information on amount of aid received during 1995-96 (Provisional), project-wise, as furnished by the Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit (CAA&A) is given in statement.

(c) The details of the amount, State-wise, is available in the above mentioned Brochure and the Annexure. However, one UK assisted project namely Gomti River Pollution Control Project in Uttar Pradesh has been signed on 29-8-1996. No aid was disbursed for this project during 1995-96.

(d) and (e) The aid received from the external donors is on reimbursement basis. Non-utilisation of projected aid, therefore, does not arise.

### Statement

#### Statement Showing Disbursement During 1995-96 for Environment Project

(In Donor Currency million)

S.No.	Donor	Currency	Name of the Project	Centre/State	Amount Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	IDA	US Dollars	Industrial Pollution Control	Centre	11.43
2.	IDA	US Dollars	Industrial Pollution Prevention	Centre	0.00
3.	IBRD	US Dollars	Industrial Pollution Control	Centre	33.50
4.	IBRD	US Dollars	Industrial Pollution Prevention	Centre	0.00
5.	IBRD	US Dollars	Industrial Pollution Prevention	Centre	0.00
6.	Japan	Japanese Yen	Industrial Pollution Control	West Bengal	0.01

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Japan	Japanese Yen	Industrial Pollution Control	Private	33.83
8.	USA	US Dollars	Greenhouse Gas Pollution	Centre	0.00
9.	Sweden	S. Kroner	Environment Training Project	Andhra Pradesh	0.76
10.	Japan	Japanese Yen	Yamuna Action Plan Project	Centre	0.39
11.	Norway	N. Kroner	Orissa Environmental Programme	Orissa	1.66
12.	Norway	N. Kroner	Environmental Programme	Himachal Pradesh	0.81

[English]

### Free Sale Quota of Sugar

2566. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hike the quantum of sugar permitted to be sold by the mills under the free sale quota and also for hiking sugar buffer stock;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the demand of sugar industry for creation of a buffer stock of 25 lakh tonnes may not be possible to meet due to the lack of storage facilities as well as the costs involved therein; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The monthly releases of sugar are made keeping in view the availability of sugar, sugar price trend, availability of other sweeteners, demand, etc.

At present, there is no proposal to increase the quantum of buffer stock of sugar.

### Nair Committee

2567. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have given any direction to the Dr. Radhakrishnan Nair Committee appointed to examine the representation of Kerala Government regarding implementation of provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the report of the said Committee is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Expert Committee on 30.12.96, under

the Chairmanship of Prof. Balakrishnan Nair to examine the representation of Kerala Government regarding implementation of provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification.

(b) The terms of reference of the Expert Committee are :

(i) To examine the representation of Government of Kerala that the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification should not be uniformly applied to the State, as the problems of its coast line, estuaries and backwaters are very different from those of other states and to suggest/recommendations thereon.

(ii) To examine whether the restrictions against establishing and expanding fish processing units within 500m from HTL be modified and if so, the recommendations in this regard.

(iii) Any other relevant issue raised by the State Government.

(c) The Committee has been given ten weeks time to submit its report.

[Translation]

### Bhopal Gas Tragedy

2568. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the directions given by the Supreme Court the facility to file claims for compensation has been again given to the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy after a period of twelve years;

(b) if so, the number of persons who have filed claims for compensation so far since then; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) About 6 lakh compensation claims were registered during the 5 year period 1985 to 1989. Out of these 4.21 lakh claim cases have been decided till

31.01.1997 and an amount of about Rs. 910 crores has been awarded as compensation. However, to give an opportunity to those persons who may not have filed their claims during the period 1985 to 1989, a notification under Section 4 of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of Claims) Scheme, 1985 was issued in December, 1996 inviting applications for claims. Another about 4 lakh compensation claims have been received during the 60 days notified period. All the compensation claim cases are being processed in accordance with the provisions of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of Claims) Scheme, 1985.

[English]

#### Procurement of Paddy

2569. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of paddy procured in 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-97, state-wise; and

(b) the procurement and Issue prices of paddy and rice in the said period per quintal alongwith the average market Prices for the same years?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Bauxite Mining in Bihar

2570. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :  
SHRI DHIRENDRA AGRAWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that indiscriminate mining of Bauxite is causing pollution as a result of which diseases are spreading in Palamau district of South Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) A number of Bauxite mines are operating in Palamau district of South Bihar. However, there is no conclusive scientific report on spreading of diseases attributable to pollution from Bauxite mines. The mines operating in this area have taken consent from the Bihar State Pollution Control Board. These mines are also submitting reports on ambient air quality, mines reclamation and tree plantation to the Bihar State Pollution Control Board.

[English]

#### Soil and Water Conservation

2571. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any project for approval from Kerala in regard to the Soil and Water conservation measures to be taken in the catchment areas of Kabini river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position of the project?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, A proposal covering an area of 1.92 lakh ha. has been received from the State Government of Kerala for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Soil conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP). The proposal would be considered for inclusion during the IXth Plan period in the light of guidelines and parameters in this regard by duly constituted committee at appropriate time.

[Translation]

#### Supply of Urea to States

2572. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Urea supplied to the States by the Union Government alongwith the details thereof, state-wise;

(b) whether the farmers have to purchase fertilizers in black market due to non supply of the same to the States on time;

(c) if so, the number of persons found quality for the black-marketing the fertilizers in Madhya Pradesh and the number of persons punished in this regard; and

(d) whether the Government are taking measures to ensure that fertilizers are made available to the farmers on time?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Statement indicating Statewise supply of urea during Rabi 1996-97 i.e. upto 31.1.1997, is enclosed.

(b) and (c) No specific and verifiable case, regarding urea being sold in black market, has been reported.

No complaint has been received from Madhya Pradesh in this Ministry. However, some complaints regarding blackmarketing in DAP were received from Rajasthan. The said complaints were forwarded to the State Government for taking necessary action.

(d) To ensure timely availability of fertilisers, periodical review meeting are held and remedial measures taken.

### Statement

Statement Showing Statewise Supply of Urea (ECA Allocation/Availability/Sales) During Rabi 1996-97

(In 000 Mts.)

S.No.	State Name	Estimated		Estimated Sales upto 31.01.97
		Total E.C.A. for Rabi 96-97 (11+12)	Available as on 31.01.97	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1119.69	890.32	690.78
2.	Karnataka	397.43	288.62	191.57
3.	Tamil Nadu	543.95	438.79	343.79
4.	Gujarat	500.74	389.26	358.97
5.	Madhya Pradesh	716.21	541.79	500.73
6.	Maharashtra	638.77	420.05	330.15
7.	Rajasthan	715.00	516.25	469.14
8.	Haryana	737.00	552.84	496.98
9.	Punjab	1046.14	776.77	703.77
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2768.51	1922.80	1729.72
11.	Bihar	756.63	540.01	465.13
12.	Orissa	194.20	129.28	39.48
13.	West Bengal	661.36	428.48	335.63
14.	Assam+NE State	99.67	47.78	34.95
15.	Others	180.08	116.62	93.77
Total		11075.38	7999.66	6784.56

### Assistance to Farmers of Bihar

2573. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total concessions and assistance provided to the State Government of Bihar under the various centrally sponsored schemes for the development of agriculture during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the quantum of such concessions and assistance; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Funds are released to States for various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes based on the proposals received, total allocation in the budget of the Department

and the amount remaining unutilised in a particular state out of earlier releases made.

An assistance of Rs. 17.4 crore, Rs. 7.7 crore and Rs. 15.4 crores was provided to the Government of Bihar under various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of agriculture during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively.

### Preservation of Trees

2574. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tree plantation scheme is still continuing without any tree preservation scheme resulting in loss of plants/trees; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the preservation of trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Afforestation/tree plantation activities are carried out in the country through the schemes of various Central Ministries/Departments such as Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, Department of Wastelands Development, Ministry of Agriculture and of State/UT Governments. Afforestation schemes provide for the necessary maintenance of plantations. Other protective measures are also undertaken by the State/UT Governments.

### Environmental Projects

2575. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of centrally aided environmental projects launched in Uttar Pradesh for the improvement of environment during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the extent of achievement made in this regard; and

(c) the details of projects to be launched in the near future in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Details of centrally aided environmental projects launched during the last three years in Uttar Pradesh for the improvement of environment alongwith achievements made, both financial and physical, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) All the ongoing projects are likely to be continued in the near future in the State.

**Statement**

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objectives	Extent of funding	Status	Achievements during the last three years 93-94, 94-95 and 95-96			Physical
					93-94	94-95	95-96	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Ganga Action Plan Phase-I	abatement of river water pollution	100%	ongoing	2440	865	582	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases
2.	Ganga Action Plan Phase-II	abatement of river water pollution	50%	ongoing	1069	235	638	-do-
3.	Paryavaran Vahini	create environmental awareness through active participation of public	100%	ongoing	2.04	2.86	-	Paryavaran Vahinis constituted in 14 districts
4.	Biosphere Reserves	To set up Biosphere Reserves	100%	ongoing	48.26	20.90	43.15	1 Biosphere Reserve covered
5.	Conservation of Wetlands	to protect and regenerate the Wetlands	100%	ongoing	-	-	3.30	N.A.

N.A. : Not Available

*[English]***Prohibition**

2576. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are committed to introducing the prohibition all over the country;

(b) if so, concrete steps being taken to amend the Constitution of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) Implementation of Prohibition is the responsibility of the States by virtue of Entry 8 of the List II (State List) in the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India. Therefore, the role of the Government of India is confined to advocacy and awareness generation.

**Sale of Wheat Under Open Sale Scheme**

2577. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKKA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to handover the sale of wheat under the Open Sale Scheme to the States;

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

(c) whether the Government under this decision would not be able to account for shortage of wheat by March when the buffer stock of wheat in the Central Pool is feared to be depleted;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the concrete policy prepared by the Government in view of its present shortage and the extent to which the position of wheat has improved; and

(f) the total wheat imported/to be imported and the quantity to be distributed to the States therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFIARS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In December'96, a decision was taken that the entire quantity of wheat allocated for different States under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) be allocated to the respective State Government/UTs. The system of allotment through the three-member committee will, however, continue in these States/UTs which were not willing to undertake the sale of wheat under OMSS (D). The State Governments have taken over the distribution of wheat against the monthly allocation made by FCI under the scheme except in the following States :

Delhi, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) Open Sale Scheme was started with a view to increasing availability in the market and thereby containing sharp rise in prices. In order to augment the availability of wheat in the country, Government of India decided to import upto two million tonnes of wheat. This will also augment the buffer stock level.

(e) In addition to import of wheat, steps are being taken to increase procurement of wheat from March, 1997 at a higher level than 1996-97.

(f) Contracts for 16.75 lakh MT have been concluded so far, of which a quantity of 5.40 lakh tonnes has arrived in the country. The entire quantity of imported wheat will form part of the Central Pool and be distributed under PDS/RPDS and other Welfare schemes to the States/UTs.

[Translation]

### De-Addiction Centres

2578. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of de-addiction centres established during the last three years in the country;

(b) the details of de-addiction centres established in Madhya Pradesh during the said period;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether certain welfare schemes of Madhya Pradesh are lying pending with the Union Government for approval;

(e) if so, the reasons for the delay in according the same; and

(f) the date by which these schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) 32 De-addiction Centres were brought under the grant-in-aid Scheme of Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, implemented by this Ministry.

(b) Following two De-addiction Centres in Madhya Pradesh were sanctioned grant under the above Scheme during the said period :

(i) Indian Red Cross Society, Mandsaur.

(ii) Indian School of Social Work, Indore.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) The Ministry has received proposals from voluntary organisations in Madhya Pradesh for sanction of grant under the above Scheme. The sanction of grant-in-aid for setting up of new De-addiction/Counselling Centres depends upon the need, seriousness of the problem, competence of the Organisation, fulfilment of certain prescribed criteria laid down in the Scheme, availability of funds etc. Hence, it is not possible to indicate any definite time frame by which these proposals will be approved.

### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

2579. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts still without any Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Maharashtra; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to establish the Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the remaining districts of the States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND AGRICULTURE) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Out of 29 rural districts in Maharashtra State seven districts are still without Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The names of the districts are :

(1) Raigarh (2) Chandarpur (3) Latur (4) Bhandara (5) Gadchiroli (6) Osmanabad and (7) Yavatmal.

(b) A comprehensive plan has been chalked out and taken up with the Plannig Commission which covers upgradation of existing Farmers Training Centres to take up the functions of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the remaining districts of the State.

### Committee for Environment Protection

2580. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high power expert committee for protecting the environment of Maharashtra's Dahanu Taluka has been constituted;

(b) if so, the names of the members and Chairman of the Committee;

(c) the number of the meetings held by this Committee; and

(d) the time bound programme to obtain their Report and implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) As per the directive of the Supreme Court, the Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority, in the District of Thane, Maharashtra, has been constituted with the following composition :

1. Justice Chandrashekhar Shanke; Chairperson  
Dharmadhikari (Retired Judge  
of High Court, Mumbai)
2. Director, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, U.P. Member
3. Director, National Institute of Oceanography, Dona Paula, Goa. Member
4. Head of the Botany Department, Mumbai University, Mumbai Member
5. Head, Department of Environmental Engineering, IIT, Mumbai Member
6. Prof. K.B. Jain, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad Member

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 7. Director, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad  | Member       |
| 8. Collector, Thane   | Member       |
| 9. The Member Secretary, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Mumbai                      | Member       |
| 10. Shri Vilas Vichare, Representative of Non-Governmental Organisation                         | Member       |
| 11. Shri V.W. Deshpande, Deputy Urban Development Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai | Member Secy. |

(c) and (d) Member Secretary of the Authority has informed that no Meetings have taken place so far.

#### Cotton Research Centre

2581. SHRI RAJA RANGAPPA NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for dropping the sanctioned Cotton Research Centre at Raichur in the current Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government have finally decided to include the Cotton Research Centre project at Raichur in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, whether the required data and feedback already prepared during the current Five Year Plan will be made use off for setting up the said Centre?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton has 27 centres in different agro-climatic zones of the country and, therefore, the proposal for new centres have not been agreed to. However, it is proposed to include a centre under AICRP (Cotton) at Raichur in the IXth Plan depending on final approval of the Planning Commission.

(c) Yes, Sir.

#### Modernisation of Sugar Mills

2582. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the name of sugar mills which received financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund for modernisation during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the name of the sugar mills where the work of modernisation and rehabilitation was undertaken in the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the names of those mills where the modernisation work could not completed in time, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) A total of 25 sugar mills have received financial assistance from Sugar Development Fund for modernisation during the last two years. A statewide list is enclosed as statement.

(b) The Modernisation/rehabilitation work is spread over a time span and it is monitored by the Financial Institutions. The Financial assistance from SDF for modernisation is normally given in two instalments. The second instalment is released only after ascertaining that the first instalment has been properly utilised on the various approved modernisation and rehabilitation works out of the 25 sugar mills who received financial assistance during the last two years, 24 have already received full amount of assistance. The assistance so released is under various stages of utilisation.

(c) and (d) Though there is no specific time schedule prescribed in the sanction order for the modernisation schemes, yet efforts are made to see that these are completed within a reasonable period of time. As per reports available all the modernisation schemes taken up during last two years are under different stages of implementation and no inordinate delay has been reported in any of the cases.

#### Statement

*Statewise List of Sugar Mills who received Financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund during 1994-95 and 1995-96.*

#### BIHAR

1. M/s. Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd.  
P.O : West Champaran, Bihar.
2. M/s. Riga Sugar Co. Ltd., Riga  
Dist : Sitamarhi, Bihar.
3. M/s. Vishnu Sugar Mills Ltd.

#### KARNATAKA

1. M/s. Shree Doodhganga SSK Ltd.

#### MAHARASHTRA

1. M/s. Vasant SSK Ltd., Pusad,  
Dist : Yavatmal, Maharashtra.
2. M/s. Bhogawati SSK Ltd.,  
Shahunagar, Kolhapur Dist.
3. M/s. Chhatrapati Shahu SSK Ltd.,  
Kagal, Dist. Kolhapur
4. M/s Vrideshwat SSK Ltd.,  
Adinathnagar, Dist : Ahmednagar
5. M/s. Daulat SSK Ltd., Chandgad  
Dist : Kolhapur

6. M/s. Kannad SSK Ltd., Mahatmaphulenagar,  
Tal : Kannad, Dist : Aurangabad.

### GUJARAT

1. M/s. Khedut Sahakari Khand  
Udyog Mandi Ltd., Bardoli  
Dist : Surat

### TAMIL NADU

1. M/s. Kalakurichi Coop. Sugar  
Mills Ltd., Dist : South Arcot
2. M/s. N.P.K.R.R. Coop. Sugar  
Mills Ltd., Mayiladuthurai.

### UTTAR PRADESH

1. M/s. The U.P. State Sugar  
Corpn. Ltd., Unit : Saharanpur
2. M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini  
Mills Ltd., Unit : Gajaraula,  
Dist : Moradabad.
3. M/s. Kisan Sahkari Chini  
Mills Ltd., Unit : Tilhar  
Dist : Shahjahanpur.
4. M/s. Ganga Kisan Sahkari Chini  
Mills Ltd., Unit : Morna
5. M/s. Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills  
Ltd., Ghosi, Dist : Mau
6. M/s. Khalilabad Sugar Mills  
Pvt. Ltd., Khalilabad, Basti
7. M/s. Ajudhia Sugar Mills  
Raja-ka-sahaspur, Moradabad
8. M/s. Gangoshwat Ltd., Deoband,  
Dist : Saharanpur
9. M/s. Kanoria Sugar & Gen. Mfg.  
Co. Ltd., Captainganj, Deoria
10. M/s. Pratappur Sugar & Industries  
Ltd., Pratappur, Dist. Deoria
11. M/s. K.M. Sugar Mills Ltd.,  
Motinagar, Dist : Faizabad

### ORISSA

1. M/s. Aska Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd.  
Naugam, Dist : Ganjam

### Job Opportunities for Linguistic Minorities

2583. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the safeguards being extended to the linguistic minorities in regard to the job opportunities in their respective States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Sir, there are no provision under the Constitution to extended safeguard to the linguistic minorities in regard to the job opportunities in their respective States.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Additions to S.T. List

2584. SHRI MAHENDRA KARMA :  
SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a representation for inclusion of Mahra Community of Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Tribes has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Shri Mahendra Karma, M.P. in a reference has suggested inclusion of Mahra of Bastar in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Madhya Pradesh on the ground that they live along with tribals.

(c) Government of Madhya Pradesh and Registrar General of India in their reports have recommended for its inclusion in Scheduled Caste list as a synonym of Mahar, Mehra, community appearing at serial number 36 of the list of Scheduled Castes of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

### Import of Wheat

2585. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :  
PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :  
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of wheat imported from Australia and Canada so far and its F.O.B. cost per tonne;

(b) the circumstances leading to this import and position of the buffer stock at present;

(c) the manner in which the imported wheat compares with the locally procured wheat; and

(d) the manner in which it will be disposed off and the price at which it will be issued to the public?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) A quantity of 15.75 lakh tonnes of wheat has been

contracted for import from Australia and Canada as on 14.2.1997 as per details given below :

Country	Qty. (in lakh tonnes)	rate in US \$ PMT
Australia	10.00	148.00 (FOB)
	3.25	156.00 (FOB)
Canada	2.50	152.50 (FOB)

(b) Government decided to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat in order to augment domestic availability in view of the decline in production of wheat during 1995-96 by 3.1 million tonnes and the fall in procurement by 4.1 million tonnes during 1996-97. The stock of wheat as on 1.2.1997 in the Central Pool is estimated at 50.80 lakh tonnes (provisional).

(c) The quality specifications of the imported wheat as per the contract are comparable with the uniform specifications prescribed for procurement of indigenous wheat for Central Pool under Price Support Operations.

(d) The imported wheat, alongwith indigenous wheat will form part of the Central Pool and issued under all the schemes of the Government.

#### **Safai Karamcharis**

2586. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the maltreatment being meted out to the Safai Karamcharis in the country;

(b) if so the number of complaints received by the Union Government and the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and consolidated report will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Port Facilities for Imported Wheat**

2587. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether port facility is not adequate enough for the handling of imported wheat;

(b) whether the Government propose to curtail the import of wheat in view of port problems;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Increase in Prices of Sugar**

2588. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the pressure from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund the Government have been compelled to increase the price of levy sugar from February 10, 1997 and the rise in prices of wheat and rice is on the anvil; and

(b) if so, the reasons for succumbing the pressure of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

#### **Afforestation**

2589. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the monetary allocation made for afforestation during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the amount allocation was fully utilised during the period;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the allocation has been adequately increased in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **National Watershed Development Project**

2590. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of schemes under the National Watershed Development Project have been taken up in the State of Orissa;

(b) if so, the names of schemes and the amount allotted for each of the schemes; and

(c) the progress achieved after implementation of each of the schemes so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), which is a multi-component project, is under implementation in the State of Orissa since 1990-91. Under this project 258 micro-watersheds have been taken up in as many blocks covering an area of 388875 hectares with an estimated cost of Rs. 105.69 crores.

An amount of Rs. 105.69 crores has been allocated under this project to the State of Orissa for the period from 1990-91 to 1996-97.

(c) An amount of Rs. 75.07 crores has been released to the State of Orissa so far out of which an amount of Rs. 62.21 crores has been utilised upto December, 1996.

#### Agitation by Vishwa Hindu Parishad

2591. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vishwa Hindu Parishad has threatened to launch an agitation in Mach, 1997 to take over the Shahi Idgah in Mathura and Gyan Vapi Masjid in Varanasi;

(b) whether the cases of both these places of worship have been judicially settled in the past and the places are covered by the places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991;

(c) if so, the view taken by the Government about the legality of such agitation; and

(d) the preventive measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) According to the information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) has not formally announced any agitational programmes during March, 1997 for taking over forcibly the Shahi Idgah in Mathura and Gyan Vapi Masjid in Varanasi. However, the VHP has announced "Jalabhishek" programme at Kashi Vishwa Nath Temple, Varanasi on March 7, 1997 and "Sant Yatra" in Braj Prant, Uttar Pradesh during March, 10-16, 1997 on the issue of Krishna Janma Bhoomi Temple at Mathura.

(b) Kashi Vishwa Nath Temple-Gyan Vapi Masjid, Varanasi and Krishna Janma Bhoomi-Shahi Idgah Masjid, Mathura Shrines are covered by the provisions

of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. Some cases relating to these shrines are reported to be pending in courts.

(c) and (d) Public Order is a State subject as per the provisions of the Constitution of India. However, the Central Government has advised the State Government of U.P to take necessary steps to ensure safety of the shrines and to maintain peace and communal harmony.

#### Incident of Crimes in Tripura

2592. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of killing, robbery, theft, molestation and rape taken place in Tripura during the last six months; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the law and order situation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government of Tripura and will be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.

#### Demand of Fertilizers

2593. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of phosphatic and nitrogenous chemical fertilizers as intimated to the Government by the different States for the current 'Rabi' crops;

(b) whether the Government is able to meet the requirements of the States; and

(c) if so, give the details of the requirements and the proposed supply of the fertilizers to each State/ Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price control and for which allocations are made. All other fertilizers stand decontrolled and its demand and supply is decided by the market forces. A statement indicating the assessed requirement of urea for Rabi 1996-97 season and potential requirement of other decontrolled fertilizers (as reported by the State Government) is Annexed. The entire assessed requirement of urea will be met except in the case of State Governments/Union Territories who do not require during the season. The availability of urea in the country up to 31.1.1997 is reported to be satisfactory.

## Statement

Statement showing Assessed requirement of urea and potential requirements of other decontrolled fertilizers for Rabi 1996-97 season.

State/ Union Territories	('000 tonnes)											
	Urea	Ammonium Sulphate	Ammonium Chloride	Ammonium Nitrate	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	Di-Ammonium Phosphate	Single Super Phosphate	Rock Phosphate	Complex Fertilizers	Muriate of Potash	Sulphate of Potash	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Andhra Pradesh	1020.00	75.00	6.00	60.00	175.00	147.00	15.00	485.50	75.00	4.00		
Karnataka	354.80	20.00	3.00	15.00	80.46	30.00	15.00	331.00	68.15	0.50		
Kerala	63.70	11.04	0.43		2.99	1.63	44.39	73.19	71.66			
Tamil Nadu	505.00	40.00	35.00	3.00	100.00	60.00	5.50	310.40	200.00			
Pondicherry	13.80	0.80	0.80		2.00	1.10	0.50	6.10	3.25			
A&N Islands	0.20				0.20		0.10		0.10			
Lakshadweep	0.05	0.05							0.09			
South Zone Total	1967.55	146.89	45.23	78.00	360.65	239.73	65.49	1206.19	418.25	4.50	0.00	
Gujarat	500.00	80.00		25.00	170.00	55.00		143.00	50.00			
Madhya Pradesh	686.00	10.00		10.00	250.00	350.00		135.00	30.00			
Maharashtra	610.00	25.00	0.50	15.00	125.00	260.00		465.00	90.00	1.00		
Rajasthan	650.00	2.00		6.00	175.00	60.00		31.00	5.00			
Goa	1.80				0.20		0.10	3.76	0.25			
Daman & Diu	0.08	0.06			0.21			0.03	0.08			
D&N Haveli	0.23											
West Zone Total	2448.11	117.06	0.50	56.00	720.41	725.00	0.10	777.79	175.33	1.00	0.00	
Haryana	750.00			20.00	250.00	40.00		15.00	5.00			
Punjab	1050.00	4.00	30.00	25.00	400.00	150.00		45.00	10.00			
Uttar Pradesh	2550.00	11.00		40.00	600.00	300.00		170.00	90.00			
Himachal Pradesh	22.00	0.50		12.00	0.35	5.00		9.00	2.50			
Jammu& Kashmir	42.00				13.00				3.50			
Delhi	24.00	0.30		1.50	4.50	0.10		0.10	0.10			
Chandigarh	0.45			0.02		0.05		0.01				
North Zone Total	4438.45	15.80	30.00	98.52	1267.85	495.15	0.00	239.11	111.10	0.00	0.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Bihar	650.00	50.00	0.00	75.00	180.00	100.00	0.00	35.00	60.00		
Orissa	175.00	5.00	0.00	31.00	30.50	32.70	0.00	85.80	38.80		
West Bengal	610.00	10.00	0.00	20.00	175.00	200.00	0.00	140.00	150.00		
East Zone Total	1435.00	65.00	0.00	126.00	385.50	332.70	0.00	260.80	248.80	0.00	
Assam	33.00			7.00	7.00	15.00	0.50		15.00		0.50
Tripura	7.42					3.00	4.40		2.49		
Manipur	7.00			1.50	1.50	2.00	1.00		0.50		
Meghalaya	2.75			0.80	0.80	3.00			0.25		
Nagaland	0.35			0.35	0.35				0.10		
Arunachal Pradesh	0.30			0.12	0.12	0.11		0.14	0.07		
Sikkim	0.45			0.55	0.55	0.10			0.10		
Mizoram	0.40			0.40	0.40				0.20		
Tea Board (NE)	40.00					1.60	27.50		2.90		
North East Zone Total	91.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.72	24.81	33.40	0.14	21.61	0.00	0.50
All India	10380.78	344.75	75.73	358.52	2745.13	1817.39	98.99	2484.03	975.09	5.50	0.50

### Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited

2594. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to stoppage of production of drugs in IDPL since 1996 the cost of products like vitamins B1 and B2 has enormously increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these drugs are in short supply in the market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No reports of shortages in respect of bulk drug Vitamin B1 and Vitamin B2 have come to the notice of the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Recruitment of Ex-Servicemen in PMF

2595. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to recruit young ex-service-men in the Para-Military Forces;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of ex-servicemen recruited in various para-military forces during the last three years, category-wise;

(d) whether they are given benefits in seniority and pay scales; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Recruitment of ex-servicemen in the Central Para-Military Forces is made from time to time within the vacancies reserved for them as per the provisions of the Ex-Servicemen (Re-employment in Central Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1979.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Number of ex-servicemen recruited in various para-military forces during the last 3 years, category-

wise are as under :

	1994	1995	1996
Group 'A'	10	25	4
Group 'B'	-	-	-
Group 'C'	566	79	317
Group 'D'	9	19	-

(d) and (e) No benefit of Defence Service is admissible in fixation of seniority. In the matter of pay fixation, the provisions of CCs (Fixation of Pay of re-employed Pensioners) Order, 1986 as amended from time to time are followed.

[English]

### Subversive Activities

2596. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether life imprisonment was awarded to some persons arrested under TADA in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the judgement pointed out the Pakistani hand in subversive activities in India;

(c) if so, whether the Government have examined the judgement of the TADA Court; and

(d) the steps propose to be taken to highlight the involvement of Pakistan in the subversive acts in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government of India has utilised all means and channels of communication and spared no efforts to expose the subversive activities of Pakistan in India by constantly briefing foreign interlocutors, opinion makers and media personalities through its Missions and Posts abroad and Resident Diplomatic Missions and the foreign media in India by regularly informing them about the details of outside involvement in J&K and other parts of the country, whenever it was considered necessary.

[Translation]

### Research Institutes

2597. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the Agricultural Research Institutes are located in the big cities and urban areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to open such Agricultural Research Institutes in the rural areas so that they serve the farmers better;

(d) if so, the time by which the institutes are likely to be opened in these areas; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir, only 19 Institutions out of 89 Institutions are located in urban districts of the country.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government has some proposals for mostly need based strengthening of on-going Institutions and also for establishing few Institutions wherever are essentially needed during the IX Plan to achieve the targets.

(e) The question does not arise.

### Central Agriculture University

2598. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a Central Agriculture University in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the place selected for the proposed University?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

### Pilot Project for Rice Production

2599. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Pilot Project was launched in the State of Orissa by the Central Rice Research Institute and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the development of rice production in some rainfed areas;

(b) if so, the results achieved as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the project to some other rainfed areas of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A pilot project was undertaken in Dhenkanal Dist. of Orissa.

(b) Sixteen villages involving 350 farmers and covering an area of 160 acres of land were covered under the programme using the technology developed by CRRI. The performance of varieties viz. Kalinga III,

Vandana, Sneha, Hira, Pathara and Parijat was demonstrated under rainfed conditions. An average yield of 3.53 tonnes of paddy per hectare was obtained.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa is planning to extend the project to more rainfed areas of the State.

(d) The Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Agriculture), Government of Orissa in a meeting held on 7th January, 1997, has decided that the project would be extended to other areas by involving Agronomists placed at different levels by the State Department of Agriculture as also other agencies. It was decided that in addition to dryland paddy, demonstrations would also be taken up on Maize, groundnut, lowlying paddy depending upon the importance of the crop in a given region.

[English]

### Cari, Izatnagar

2600. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total budget of Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar during the last five years and strains of layer and broilers released during this period; and

(b) whether the performance of these strains is comparable to the available strains produced by private organisations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The total budget of Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar during the last five years was Rs. 1393.00 lakhs. Strains developed and released earlier are being further improved.

(b) Yes, Sir. Most of the layer and broiler stocks developed and released have been found comparable to the commercial stocks available in the country from private hatchery sources.

### Intrusion from Indo-Pak Border

2601. SHRI SHIVRAJ SHIGH :  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Pak trained terrorists who tried to intrude into the Indian territory with a motive to indulge in the sabotage during the year 1996;

(b) the number of terrorists killed or arrested during the said period;

(c) whether the Pak trained terrorists have suffered heavy losses recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) It is difficult to ascertain the precise number of terrorists who tried to intrude into the Indian territory during 1996 with a motive to indulge in sabotage. However, during 1996, 2940 terrorists/militants were apprehended and 1445 got killed while intruding through Indo-Pak border including Line of Control in J&K.

(c) and (d) Pak infiltrators have suffered heavy losses recently as indicated above.

### Contribution of Agriculture in GDP

2602. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agriculture sector contributes 30 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product;

(b) if so, the extent to which it is attributable to the archaic laws governing agriculture and lack of land reforms; and

(c) the comprehensive measures contemplated to give agriculture its due place in the economy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As per quick estimates of National Accounts, released by Central Statistical Organisation, the contribution for agriculture and allied sectors during 1995-96 was 27% in the total Gross Domestic Product.

(b) The decline in share of agriculture in the total Gross Domestic Product over years is on account of relative higher growth in other sectors of the economy as has happened in all the economies of the world in the process of their development.

(c) The Government is implementing various crop specific and sector specific schemes, providing market and price support, making available the required inputs like fertilisers, seeds, credit etc. at affordable rates, increasing the irrigation potential, etc. so as to have faster diffusion of technology and higher rate of growth in agricultural products.

### Octroi and Transit Insurance Reimbursement

2603. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to fully settle the octroi and transit insurance reimbursement claims in respect of the Levy Sugar Price Utilisation Fund as per the guidelines issued by the Union Government on October 18, 1972;

(b) whether the State Government has stopped the practice of collection of octroi and transit insurance charged by the levy sugar nominee with effect from 1.4.1993; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Government in regard to the past arrears of the claims amounting to Rs. 3.86 crore preferred by the Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited on the Food Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat have requested the Central Government to permit reimbursement of Octroi and transit risk insurance in respect of the margins for distribution of levy sugar.

(c) Levy Sugar is sold through the Public Distribution System at lower than the market price so that it may remain affordable. The issue price of the sugar sold under PDs is the same throughout the country. To avoid distortions in this price structure, levy of local taxes and duties is discouraged and for this reason the Government has not agreed to reimbursement of octroi while fixing the margins admissible to the State nominees.

### Training to Youth in Fire-Arms

2604. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instance of training of youth in fire-arms by some private dals or senas in Uttar Pradesh came to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such training is permitted under the law; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to stop such training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Pollution in Delhi

2605. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the study conducted at the Tata Energy Research Institute some of the harmful pollutants in Delhi's air, responsible for respiratory disorders, will continue to increase till the turn of the century even if the Government were to introduce cleaner technologies and reduce road traffic congestion; and

(b) if so, the outcome of this study and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Tata Energy Research Institute has carried out a study entitled "Environmental aspects of energy use in large Indian metropolises" which has suggested that introduction of cleaner technologies are not enough to reduce the energy and environment problems associated with the transport sector. The report, inter alia, states that with the growing traffic congestion and inadequate road development, demand management is critical and needs to be more vigorously used.

The Government has already taken preventive and control measures to reduce vehicular pollution, which includes the following :

- Stipulation of emission norms;
- Unleaded petrol was introduced in the four metropolitan cities on 1.4.95 for catalytic convertor fitted vehicles. The second phase would cover all capitals of States and Union Territories by December, 1998. This is likely to be progressively implemented throughout the country by 01.04.2000;
- Enforcement of standards for control of vehicular emission through State Transport Authorities;
- Government of Delhi has been impressed upon to induct more buses (preferably high capacity buses) to augment its fleet strength and to phase out the old buses;

[Translation]

#### Bhassagar Reservoir Plan

2606. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhassagar reservoir plan has not been sanctioned as some forest land is coming under the reservoir;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to accord permission for digging of the forest land; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Cases in Consumer Courts

2607. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered in the consumer courts/fora during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken or propose to be taken to dispose of these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Information regarding number of cases registered in the District Fora, year-wise, is not maintained. However, the number of cases registered in District Fora, since inception, State-wise, is enclosed as statement.

(b) For speedy disposal of cases by the consumer courts, Central Government has launched a scheme of one-time financial assistance of Rs. 61 crores to the States/U.Ts. to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. The Department of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution also monitors the progress of disposal of cases by the Consumer Courts in consultation with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) and the respective State Governments. NCDRC has issued appropriate instructions to Consumer Courts for improving their performance in disposing the cases.

#### Statement

State/UT	Filed since Inception	At the end of
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	79675	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	140	10/96
Assam	3831	4/96
Bihar	26227	10/96
Goa	2139	10/96
Gujrat	41736	9/96
Haryana	40186	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	7232	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	6882	6/96
Karnataka	41953	6/96
Kerala	71464	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	34935	12/95
Maharashtra	60603	9/96
Manipur	611	9/95
Meghalaya	137	6/96
Mizoram	159	11/96
Nagaland	13	9/94
Orissa	14535	9/96
Punjab	15085	9/96
Rajasthan	84071	9/96
Sikkim	67	10/96
Tamil Nadu	33616	9/96

Tripura	568	9/96
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	135881	8/96
West Bengal	19773	9/96
Andaman and Nicobar	119	9/96
Chandigarh	7996	6/96
D and N Haveli	20	8/96
Daman and Diu	32	9/96
NCT of Delhi	35710	10/96
Lakshadweep	26	11/96
Pondicherry	1149	11/96
Total	766571	

### Purchase of Urea at Higher Price

2608. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers are purchasing urea at higher prices as the officers of the State Government do not have the information about the supply of the fertilizers;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to improve the situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Urea is allocated to each State under Essential Commodities Act for Kharif and Rabi seasons separately in consultation with the State Governments. Supply Plan indicating the quantities of urea to be supplied by different manufacturers in each season to every State/ Union Territory is prepared and notified. State Governments have been regularly monitoring the availability and sales of Urea. Ceiling on sale price of urea which is uniform throughout the country is fixed under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.

### Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund Scheme

2609. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposals to the Union Government in regard to the issues relating to Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund Scheme in the State during the last three years till date;

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

(c) the number of proposals accepted/rejected/ pending out of them, year-wise; and

(d) the reasons for rejection/pendency of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Gujarat have requested for ad-hoc payments of subsidy from the levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund (Non-statutory) vide their letter of 9.10.1996.

The Government of Gujarat have also requested for a revision of the margins for the distribution of levy sugar vide their letter of 26.8.1996.

(c) and (d) Funds have been made available to the FCI for payment to States including Gujarat. The margins will be revised in consultation with the State Government.

### Loss of Cattle

2610. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the loss of cattle in the country during the current year till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that several cattles died due to unidentified disease; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to identify the disease alongwith the preventive measures being taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being gathered from the State and Union Territory Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

### Central Rice Research Institute

2611. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack has celebrated its Golden Jubilee from 23-25 September, 1996;

(b) whether for this occasion the international tenders were invited by Central Rice Research Institute in July, 1996 through the national and international newspapers;

(c) whether all these tenders were awarded to the local contractors and sellers in violation of the audit rules;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the action taken by the Government on the report of the B.L. Jangeera Committee which was set up to

inquire into the irregularities prevalent in the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack; and

(f) the follow up on the report of Departmental Inquiry Committee set up to inquire into the case of fatal attack on officers on 17 January, 1997 in the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. The proposed Golden Jubilee Celebrations could not be held due to the announcement of the bye-elections for the Cuttack Parliamentary Constituency. However, as part of Golden Jubilee Celebrations, an International Symposium on Rainfed Rice for Sustainable Food Security was organised from 23-25 September, 1996 at Cuttack.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) The report has been examined and has been forwarded to CRRRI for strict compliance and necessary rectifications.

(f) The personnel, who were identified by a team of senior officers, for creating and instigating trouble have been transferred from CRRRI in public interest. The Director has been advised to be careful and exercise better control in the activities of the Institute. Separate action by the local police authorities is being taken on the complaint lodged by the Officer attacked upon.

#### **Killing of Animals for Cosmetic Purposes**

2612. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the species of animals used in the manufacturing of cosmetics which have since become extinct and the number of species on the verge of extinction; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to maintain the ecological balance and to prevent killings of such animals for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) According to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), only the Albino Guinea Pigs, Albino rabbits, guinea pigs, New Zealand white rabbits and mice are used for testing of cosmetics. None of these species have either become extinct or are threatened with extinction.

(b) Since all these animals are bred in captivity, no threat to the ecological balance is perceived. The Committee for the purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiment on Animals (CPCSEA) under the Ministry of Environment and Forests proposed in its 7th meeting dated 2.8.1996, that the items of cosmetics and toiletries falling under Schedule 'S' of the Drugs and Cosmetics

Rules, for which testing is mandatory, should be rescheduled and the choice may be left to the manufacturers, to test or not to test the products on animals. The products not tested on animals, should display the statement "Not tested on animals". The Bureau of Indian Standards in its 7th meeting of the Cosmetics Sectional Committee held on 11.9.96 has unanimously accepted these recommendations. However, for novel ingredients/product formulations, it would be necessary for the manufacturers to carry out the testing as stipulated under the Rules. These decisions of the BIS shall become operative, as and when published by them.

[English]

#### **Targeted Public Distribution System**

2613. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ :  
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

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

(a) whether the decision of the Government to provide 10 kg. of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System at half the normal price per month to the families below the poverty line will not be beneficial in the long run to them;

(b) whether the poor family gets about 20 kg. per month on an average from the ration shop as against the requirement of about 50 kg.;

(c) whether under the Scheme the balance of 30 kg. has to be bought by them from the open market;

(d) whether the same poor will now have to buy 40 kg. from the market and the total price which the family has to pay per month will be much more after getting 10 kg. at half price under the Targeted Public Distribution System; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) The Hon'ble Prime Minister has made a Statement in the Lok Sabha on 24.2.1997 on introduction of Targeted Public Distribution System and detailed guidelines containing information on various aspects issued in this regard have also been laid on the Table of the House. The scale of issue has been fixed taking into account the total availability of foodgrains through procurement, the number of families below the poverty line, the average lifting by States during the last 10 years and the need to cater to the population above the poverty line who are now having access to P.D.S.

P.D.S. is not a substitute for open market but only supplement to it.

### Soil Conservation

2614. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some soil Conservation schemes are being launched in the country with the Central as well as State Governments financial support;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where these schemes have been launched in the seventh and Eighth five year plans;

(d) whether any such scheme has been launched in Orissa either with the financial support of the State Government or Central Government in those two five year plans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir, Four Centrally Sponsored Schemes having the objective of soil and moisture Conservation are under

implementation at present. These are Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP); Soil Conservation in the catchments of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR); Watershed Development Project for Control of Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA); and National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPR).

The details of the States where the Schemes in question have been under implementation during the Seventh and Eighth Plans are enclosed as Statement.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Three Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Project, Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (the latter only during VII plan period) and National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas and four major State Sector Schemes, namely, Soil Conservation in Watershed Management; Soil Conservation Training; Soil Conservation in the catchment of Chilika lake and Soil Conservation work in Tribal Areas/ITDA, have been under implementation in Orissa during Seventh and Eighth Plan periods.

### Statement

*Statement Showing States covered under Different Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Soil Conservation During VII and VIII Plan.*

Name of Scheme	Name of the States	
	VII Plan	VIII Plan
1. RVP	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.	As in VII Plan with additional State of Punjab.
2. FPR	Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi.	As in VII Plan with Additional State of Punjab.
3. WDPSCA	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa and Tripura.	As in VII Plan except States of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa
4. NWDPR	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.	All 25 States plus Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

### Milk Production

2615. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of milk production including manpower, concentrate fodder at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar and National Dairy Research Institute at Karnal; and

(b) the annual milk production, the herd strength, fodder production and consumption alongwith the details

of the concentrates given to animals during the last three years at these institutes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The herds at National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) and Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) are being maintained for the purpose of various experiments in animal genetics, breeding, Nutrition, Physiology, etc. Therefore, it is not possible to work out the cost of milk

production for all the animals/herd. However, the average cost of milk production is estimated as under :-

	IVRI, Izatnagar	NDRI, Karnal
Milk	Rs. 7.45 per litre	Rs. 7.29 per litre

(b) The annual milk production, the herd strength, fodder production and consumption alongwith the concentrates given to animals during the last three years is as under :-

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<i>(i) Milk Production (in litres)</i>			
IVRI :	7,98,538	6,67,701	5,81,520
NDRI :	16,87,371	14,95,236	14,29,038
<i>(ii) Herd Strength (All age groups-males &amp; females)</i>			
IVRI :	1,004	964	877
(Cattle, Buffalo)			
NDRI :	1,672	1,603	1,627
(Cattle, Buffalo, Goat)			
<i>(iii) Fodder Production &amp; Consumption (in quintals)</i>			
IVRI :	73,020	68,365	59,433
NDRI :	2,42,116	2,44,010	2,42,868
<i>(iv) Concentrate Consumption (in quintals)</i>			
IVRI :	10,318	9,104	9,542
NDRI :	11,859	11,487	11,370

#### Delay in Import of Wheat

2616. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge Canadian export consignment of wheat to India is held up due to the bad weather;

(b) if so, the extent to which the delay in importing the wheat from Canada is creating shortage of wheat in India;

(c) whether India had recently also signed a wheat import deal with Austria; and

(d) if so, the quantity to be imported and the price per ton thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir. There has been some delay in shipment of 2.50 lakh MTs of wheat contracted for import from Canada due to blizzards in Canada.

(b) There is no shortage of wheat in India on account of delay in shipment of contracted quantity of wheat for import from Canada. A quantity of 5.40 lakh

tonnes of imported wheat from Australia has already arrived at Indian ports as on 4.3.1997 and unloading is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Root Wilt Disease

2617. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :  
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trees/extent of land under the coconut cultivation affected by the root wilt disease in Kerala;

(b) the annual loss suffered by the State Government as a result thereof during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of research work carried out to eliminate the disease;

(d) the achievement made so far in this connection;

(e) the further steps proposed to be taken to prevent the crop from such disease; and

(f) the allocation made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Root wilt disease of coconut is prevalent in eight Southern districts of Kerala. According to survey conducted by ICAR during 1984-85, the disease is prevalent in an area of 4.10 lakh hectares affecting approximately 3.0 lakh trees.

(b) As no survey has been conducted during last 3 years, the extent of loss cannot be estimated.

(c) and (d) The reasearch works undertaken to control root wilt disease are complete eradication of affected palms and replanting with healthy ones, disease management trials including mixed farming, inter-cropping, nutrient and water management studies, and varietal screening to identify tolerant/resistant palms. As a result of these recommended for adoption.

(e) and (f) The Coconut Development Board under Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a project on Integrated Farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement in Kerala with an outlay of Rs. 25 crores for the 8th Plan. Assistance is provided to the farmers for cutting and removal of disease affected/unproductive senile palms @ Rs. 200/- per palm : replanting with quality seedlings @ Rs. 5/- per seedling : fertiliser application and plant protection @ Rs. 8/- per palm; and multi-species cropping @ Rs. 200/- per ha.

[Translation]

### Welfare Programmes for Minorities in Bihar

2618. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of programmes being implemented in Bihar for the welfare of minorities and the achievements made thereunder; and

(b) the amount spent during the current financial year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Following programmes are being implemented in Bihar for the welfare of minorities :

(i) *Pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections based on economic criteria* is being implemented all over the country, including State of Bihar since 1992-93 for the target group consisting of minorities and OBCs with an income ceiling of Rs. 24,000/- per annum. In the State of Bihar, since the inception of this scheme, 6 voluntary organisations have been given grant-in-aid amounting to Rs. 30.12 lakhs benefiting 440 candidates.

(ii) *Scheme of financial assistance for modernisation of Madrasas Education*. The objective of the scheme is to encourage traditional institutions like Madrasas and Makhtabs for giving financial assistance to introduce science, mathematics, social studies, Hindi and English in their curriculum. Assistance is given to Madrasas and Makhtabs for activities which contribute to this objective. The scheme aims at providing opportunities to students of these institutions to acquire education comparable to that in the national education system. During the VIII Plan period, an amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated under the scheme, but an amount of Rs. 1.72 crores has been spent under the scheme. Under this scheme, for the State of Bihar 31 Madrasas have been given grant, so far.

(iii) *Scheme of coaching classes for competitive examinations for weaker sections amongst the educationally backward minorities is being conducted by the UGC*. The scheme was formulated in 1984 revised in 1988 and revamped in 1994. Under this scheme 6 colleges in the State of Bihar have been granted to the tune of Rs. 4.30 lakhs.

(b) : (Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Scheme	Amount spent
1. Pre-examination coaching scheme	Nil
2. Modernisation of Madrasas Education	9.42
3. Scheme of coaching classes for competitive examinations for weaker sections amongst the educationally backward minorities	4.30

### Supply of Fertilizers

2619. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have estimated the demand of fertilizers for the rabi crops in the country, State/ UT-wise; and

(b) the quantity of urea being supplied to them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price control and for which allocations are made. All other fertilizers stand decontrolled and its demand and supply is decided by the market forces. A statement indicating the assessed requirement of urea for Rabi 1996-97 season and potential requirement of other decontrolled fertilizers (as reported by the State Governments) is enclosed as Statement. The entire assessed requirement of urea will be met except in the case of State Government/ Union Territories who do not require during the season.

Statement showing assessed requirement of urea and potential requirements of other decontrolled fertilizers for Rabi 1996-97 season.

State/ Union Territories	Urea	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	('000 tonnes)	
												Ammonium Sulphate	Ammonium Chloride
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
Andhra Pradesh	1020.00	75.00	6.00	60.00	175.00	147.00		485.50	75.00	4.00			
Karnataka	354.80	20.00	3.00	15.00	80.46	30.00	15.00	331.00	68.15	0.50			
Kerala	63.70	11.04	0.43		2.99	1.63	44.39	73.19	71.66				
Tamil Nadu	505.00	40.00	35.00	3.00	100.00	60.00	5.50	310.40	200.00				
Pondicherry	13.80	0.80	0.80		2.00	1.10	0.50	6.10	3.25				
A&N Islands	0.20				0.20		0.10		0.10				
Lakshadweep	0.05	0.05							0.09				
South Zone Total	1967.55	146.89	45.23	78.00	360.65	239.73	65.49	1206.19	418.25	4.50			0.00
Gujarat	500.00	80.00		25.00	170.00	55.00		143.00	50.00				
Madhya Pradesh	686.00	10.00		10.00	250.00	350.00		135.00	30.00				
Maharashtra	610.00	25.00	0.50	15.00	125.00	260.00		465.00	90.00	1.00			
Rajasthan	650.00	2.00		6.00	175.00	60.00		31.00	5.00				
Goa	1.80				0.20		0.10	3.76	0.25				
Daman & Diu	0.08	0.06			0.21			0.03	0.08				
D&N Haveli	0.23												
West Zone Total	2448.11	117.06	0.50	56.00	720.41	725.00	0.10	777.79	175.33	1.00			0.00
Haryana	750.00			20.00	250.00	40.00		15.00	5.00				
Punjab	1050.00	4.00	30.00	25.00	400.00	150.00		45.00	10.00				
Uttar Pradesh	2550.00	11.00		40.00	600.00	300.00		170.00	90.00				
Himachal Pradesh	22.00	0.50		12.00	0.35	5.00		9.00	2.50				
Jammu & Kashmir	42.00				13.00				3.50				
Delhi	24.00	0.30		1.50	4.50	0.10		0.10	0.10				
Chandigarh	0.45			0.02		0.05		0.01					
North Zone Total	4438.45	15.80	30.00	98.52	1267.85	495.15	0.00	239.11	111.10	0.00			0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Bihar	650.00	50.00		75.00	180.00	100.00		35.00	60.00		
Orissa	175.00	5.00		31.00	30.50	32.70		85.80	38.80		
West Bengal	610.00	10.00		20.00	175.00	200.00		140.00	150.00		
East Zone Total	1435.00	65.00	0.00	126.00	385.50	332.70	0.00	260.80	248.80	0.00	
Assam	33.00				7.00	15.00	0.50		15.00		0.50
Tripura	7.42					3.00	4.40		2.49		
Manipur	7.00				1.50	2.00	1.00		0.50		
Meghalaya	2.75				0.80	3.00			0.25		
Nagaland	0.35				0.35				0.10		
Arunachal Pradesh	0.30				0.12	0.11		0.14	0.07		
Sikkim	0.45				0.55	0.10			0.10		
Mizoram	0.40				0.40				0.20		
Tea Board (NE)	40.00					1.60	27.50		2.90		
North East Zone Total	91.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.72	24.81	33.40	0.14	21.61	0.00	0.50
All India	10380.78	344.75	75.73	358.52	2745.13	1817.39	98.99	2484.03	975.09	5.50	0.50

[English]

### Export of Foodgrains

#### Violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980

2620. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments have violated the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in the leasing of land to the entrepreneurs for industrial plantation;

(b) if so, the names of States who have violated the norms of the said act;

(c) whether the violation has affected the tribals and rural poor in a large number; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Orissa

2621. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of agriculture being implemented and proposed to be implemented in Orissa particularly in Kalahandi and Nuapara districts during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the details of achievements made thereunder during the said period, scheme-wise; and

(c) the amount allocated and utilized for those schemes so far, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Details of new schemes taken up for implementation in Orissa during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Amount released so far	Amount utilised
1. Sustainable Development of sugarcane based cropping systems	32.25	10.00
2. Integrated seed development schemes	6.85	-
3. Streamlining of certified seeds production of vegetable crops.	1.05	-

Funds are not released district-wise.

As the funds have been released recently, the quantification of achievements will be possible only after some time.

2622. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the circumstances under which foodgrains especially wheat and rice were exported indicating the details of the exports;

(b) the extent to which these exports were responsible for the creation of artificial scarcity of wheat and rice and escalation of their prices in the market; and

(c) the steps taken to curb the prices of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) As per the current Export and Import (EXIM) Policy, export of basmati and non-basmati rice is allowed freely without any quantitative or Minimum Export Price (MEP) restrictions. Export of wheat is allowed subject to quantitative ceilings fixed from time to time. Initially, the likely production of wheat during 1995-96 was projected at 66.21 Million tonnes. This was subsequently revised to 62.62 Million tonnes, representing a fall in production by about 3.15 Million tonnes compared to that of the previous year. On receipt of this information, about the revised production estimate of wheat during 1995-96, the export ceiling of non-durum wheat was brought down to 10.00 lakh tonnes from the original 25.00 lakh tonnes.

A quantity of 21.71 lakh tonnes of rice was exported during 1996-97 till January, 1997. The total quantity of durum and non-durum wheat exported during this period is 10.92 lakh tonnes, against the export ceiling of 15.00 lakh tonnes (5 lakh tonnes of durum wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of non-durum wheat).

(b) The quantity of about 21.00 lakh tonnes of rice and about 11.00 lakh tonnes of wheat exported so far represents only 2.64% and 1.75% of the total production of rice and wheat respectively. Therefore, the extent to which exports have adversely affected the domestic foodgrains situation is negligible.

(c) Government is closely monitoring the price situation. The steps taken to control the rise in prices of foodgrains include the following :

(i) Increased allocation of rice for supply under PDS to States/UTs

(ii) FCI is taking steps to issue 5 lakh tonnes more of rice under Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) over and above the PDS Allocation.

(iii) A restructured PDS for supply of foodgrains at specially subsidised prices to the people living below poverty line is proposed to be implemented.

(iv) All the State Government/UT Administrations have been advised to take stringent action

against hoarders and black marketeers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, etc.

- (v) Government have decided to import upto 2.00 million tonnes of wheat during 1996-97 to augment domestic availability of foodgrains.

### World Environment Congress

2623. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the deliberations of the Fifth World Environment Congress held in New Delhi in December, 1996;

(b) whether it has been observed in the Congress that in most of the cities the banks of Ganga are without the sewage treatment plants;

(c) if so, the steps contemplated to make sewage treatment arrangements for such cities;

(d) the other main observations and suggestions made therein for containing and curbing the pollution in the Indian cities and rivers; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No information is available with Government on the Fifth World Environment Congress held in New Delhi in December, 1996.

(b) to (e) Does not arise. However, under the Ganga Action Plan and the National River Conservation Plan Pollution abatement works which include sewage treatment arrangements in most of the places have been sanctioned for 156 towns.

[Translation]

### Effect of Insecticides

2624. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether spraying of insecticides have been adversely affecting health of the farmers and labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss of human life and the disease caused due to use of the pesticides during one year in the world as per the report of the World Health Organisation; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The use of registered insecticides as per prescribed

practices do not affect the health of the farmers and labourers. However, insecticides being toxic in nature, may pose health hazards if used indiscriminately or injudiciously.

(c) Models and informal estimates based on hospitalisation data and population surveys (WHO:1986) suggest that annual incidence of cases of unintentional acute poisoning with severe manifestations probably exceed one million, with case fatality rate of 0.4-1.9%.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government :-

(i) The Registration Committee set up under the insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides only after evaluating their safety and efficacy;

(ii) The labels and leaflets which invariably accompany the pesticides containers give directions on the usage, safety measures to be observed, first-aid measures and antidotes to be used in case of accidental poisoning.

(iii) Extension functionaries impart training to farmers and other users on various aspects of pesticides handling and usage including precautions required to be observed;

(iv) The Government is popularising Integrated Pest Management (IPM) technology which envisages cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest control and only need-based judicious use of pesticides.

[English]

### Promotion of Marine Fishing

2625. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for promoting the marine fishing in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in the Eighth Five Year Plan to assist the State Government of Orissa in increasing the marine fishing;

(c) whether Government have drawn up schemes for the promotion of marine fishing in the Ninth Five Year Plan for the coastal States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The harvestable potential of marine fisheries resources of Orissa has been estimated at 1.44 lakh tonnes. The State during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 harvested 1.04, 1.22 and 1.23 lakh tonnes respectively from the marine sector. Thus, there is some scope for promoting marine fishing in the State.

Besides the Schemes under the State Plan, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing

the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the Eighth Plan to promote marine fishing:-

- (i) Development of coastal marine fisheries comprising the components viz. (a) Motorisation of Traditional Craft Introduction of Plywood Craft and (c) Introduction of intermediate type of craft for offshore pelagic fishing.
- (ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length.
- (iii) Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming Project.
- (iv) Scheme for development of Fishery Harbours (major and minor ports) and Fish Landing Centres.
- (v) Development of model fishermen villages, group accident insurance and savings-cum-relief under the scheme on 'National Welfare of Fishermen'.

(c) and (d) Ninth Plan Schemes have not yet been finalised.

#### Open Market Quota of Sugar

2626. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to issue orders allowing the sugar factories to raise their open market sales in view of the bad fiscal position of the sugar industry in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) In February, 1997 a request was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of additional free sale sugar to six cooperative sugar mills of the State identified by the High Level Restructuring Committee appointed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to improve the financial position of these sugar mills. Besides, it was also requested that free sale sugar release may be increased in case of five units of Public Sector Company Nizam Sugars Ltd. so as to liquidate the cane price arrears to the cane growers as the Company was facing severe liquidity crunch.

(c) The Government have set up a Committee in the Ministry of Food, to consider such requests with specific guidelines and based on its recommendations, the release orders for additional quantities were issued to three units of cooperative sector and all the five units of Public sector in the month of February, 1997. Since the remaining three units of Cooperative sector had

already been allowed additional quantities within a period of three months they did not qualify for further release in the month of February, 1997 in view of the above guidelines.

#### Wheat Stock in States

2627. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the failure of FCI to send the wheat from the Northern States to the wheat deficient areas is a major factor in its current scarcity;

(b) whether the nation has been forced to take recourse to the imports to combat the soaring prices of wheat whereas a little less than half of the nation's wheat stocks are lying in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether 30% of the country's total wheat stocks are still held up in Punjab, where the same has to be stored in the open for the lack of storage space;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry on the failure of the Food Corporation of India to send wheat to the deficient States;

(e) if so; the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) In the current year, wheat despatches ex-North during April '96 to February '97 have been 40% higher as compared to April, '95 to February, '96. The decision to import wheat was taken not on account of hold up of wheat stocks in Punjab, Haryana and U.P., but to augment the overall stocks, which had become inadequate due to less production and consequent lesser procurement in the Rabi season of 1996. Presently, approximately 23% of country's total present wheat/stocks are available in Punjab and their storage in open is not for lack of storage space but for transit movement and use of covered space for rice.

(d) to (f) Since there was no failure in sending wheat to the deficit States, these questions do not arise.

#### Indian Evidence Act, 1972

2628. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1972;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to enact a new legislation regarding the custodial torture and provision of financial relief to the victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Such a proposal is receiving the attention of the Government.

#### Privatisation of Sick Units

2629. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to privatise/revive/modernise chronically sick PSUs in the drug sector;

(b) if so, the details regarding action plan finalised for the chronically sick units;

(c) the details of offers received for privatisation of these units and decision taken in this regard; and

(d) the present status of the proposal especially regarding the fate of IDPL units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to privatise any sick PSU at this stage. Four Central PSUs, namely, Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL), Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) and Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited (SSPL) have been formally declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in terms of the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Three joint sector undertakings, namely, Uttar Pradesh Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (UPDPL), Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd. (ODCL) and Maharashtra Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Limited (MAPL) have also been formally declared sick by the BIFR.

Revival packages sanctioned by the BIFR are at different stages of implementation in BCPL, BIL, SSPL and ODCL. The revival package for UPDPL, sanctioned by the BIFR on 22/8/1995, was set-aside by the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) in October, 1996. In the case of IDPL, UPDPL and MAPL, decision with regard to the rehabilitation or otherwise is yet to be taken by the BIFR.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In the case of IDPL, the report of the Operating Agency namely, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Bombay, appointed by the BIFR, has been received and a final decision about the future of IDPL is yet to be taken.

#### Reorganisation of MCD

2630. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether reorganisation of Delhi Municipal Corporation has been in progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many services like fire service under the Delhi Municipal Corporation has been transferred to the Delhi Government and some other services are likely to be transferred; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The decentralisation of the functions of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) was approved in December, 1996. This decision was taken primarily with a view to taking civil administration to the door steps of the residents of Delhi by strengthening the zonal set up and by delegation of greater powers to the Zones. One of the salient features of reorganisation is that it is primarily based on the redeployment of existing resources.

(c) and (d) The functions relating to fire services were transferred from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in November, 1994. More recently, the Delhi Vidyut Board was constituted in February, 1997 under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to replace Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking. The Delhi Municipal Corporation Act as amended in 1993 also provides for delinking the functions relating to water supply from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

[Translation]

#### Operation Sikh Forum

2631. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of an operation Sikh Forum (S.F.) launched by the Pakistani Intelligence Agency wherein the activists are being trained in carrying out various subversive activities in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Government is not aware of any 'Operation S.F.' (Sikh Forum) launched by Pakistani Intelligence Agency. Government is, however, aware that some hard core Sikh militants are being sheltered in Pakistan. Reports have also been received of some Sikh youths being trained in various camps organised by Pak ISI in Pakistan in the use of arms and explosives.

(b) Red Corner Notices have been issued through Interpol for the arrest of top hard core militants being sheltered in Pakistan. Vigilance and surveillance along border with Pakistan including the coastal areas has

been strengthened to check infiltration of militants and smuggling of arms and explosives from across the border.

[English]

### Purchase of Pistols

2632. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Har sal ek arab ki pistol kharidi gaye" appearing in the Hindustan, dated November 26, 1996;

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

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to curtail such misappropriations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (e) As per existing provisions of Arms Act, 1959 and Arm Rules, 1962, the dealership licences to deal with sale/purchase of firearms and ammunition are granted by State Licensing Authorities under delegated powers. The existing provisions make it mandatory on the part of every dealer to maintain prescribed registers to show receipts, disposals, balance to stock in hand, daily sales of various categories of arms and ammunition. Prescribed Field/Police Authorities are empowered to examine the stocks and accounts of receipts and disposals of arms and ammunition or any other register/document maintained by dealers. Sale/transfer of any firearm not bearing maker's name, manufacturer's number or other identification mark stamped/shown thereon in approved manner is prohibited. Sufficient powers have been delegated under the said Act/Rules to State Authorities to check/prevent any infringement of the prescribed provisions/procedures and to ensure that no irregularity in the trade of arms and ammunition takes place.

### Decanalisation of Sugar Export

2633. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the views of the Ministry have been opposed by the Ministry of Law in regard to the decanalisation of the sugar export;

(b) if so, the main objections raised by the Law Ministry; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

### Custodial Deaths

2634. LT. GEN. PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of custodial deaths reported during 1995-96 till date, state-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such deaths;

(c) the number of representations received regarding the custodial deaths by the National Human Rights Commission during 1995-96 till date;

(d) whether any recommendations on the custodial deaths in jails have been made by the NHRC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) A statement on the deaths in police custody is enclosed.

(b) Although 'Police' is a State subject, the Government of India have issued guidelines to the State Governments, from time to time, to ensure that police behave in a humane manner and that cases of alleged custodial deaths and police excesses are enquired into and deal with firmly, wherever they occur, Special emphasis is being laid on human rights in the training curricula of police personnel at all levels. 'Induction' and 'in-service' training programmes also include special inputs to sensitise police personnel about the use of scientific methods for investigation.

(c) to (e) According to information available, the National Human Rights Commission does not maintain separate figures of representations received regarding custodial deaths. In order to address the issue of custodial deaths, including those in jails, the Commission has, inter-alia, recommended that the Government should accede to the 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Crime, In human and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and that certain suggestions of the Law Commission/Supreme Court with regard to custodial deaths be acted upon. In some cases, the Commission has also held the view that payment of compensation to the victims of custodial deaths be the liability of not just the State Government, but of the offending police officials themselves.

**Statement****Death in Police Custody During 1995 and 1996**

(State &amp; UT wise)

S.No.	State/UT	1995	1996	Remarks (Figs. for 1996 are upto the month of)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	3	November*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	September
3.	Assam	0	0	September
4.	Bihar	0	NA	-
5.	Goa	0	0	-
6.	Gujarat	0	0	-
7.	Haryana	0	0	September
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	0	August
10.	Karnataka	1	1	December**
11.	Kerala	0	0	November
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	-
13.	Maharashtra	1	5	-
14.	Manipur	0	0	-
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	February
16.	Mizoram	0	0	-
17.	Nagaland	2	0	-
18.	Orissa	0	0	July
19.	Punjab	0	1	July
20.	Rajasthan	1	3	October
21.	Sikkim	0	0	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	1	1	November
23.	Tripura	0	0	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12	3	November
25.	West Bengal	1	1	September
Total (State)		23	18	
26.	A & N Islands	0	0	-
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	-
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	-
29.	Daman & Diu	0	NA	-
30.	Delhi	0	1	-
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	October
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	-
Total (UTs)		0	1	
Total (All-India)		23	19	

**Source :** Monthly Crime Statistics.

- Note :**
1. Figures are provisional.
  2. NA Stands for not available
  3. 1995 Figures of Daman & Diu are upto November.
  4. \*Excluding October, 1996.
  5. \*\*Excluding November, 1996.

**[Translation]****ISI Camps**

2635. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned ISI ke camp ab Gurdaspur sima ke pass Mazaffar Nagar, appearing in Dainik Jagran, dated January 5 and 10, 1997;

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

(c) the details of subversive activities carried out in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government fully endorses the fact that Pak ISI is largely responsible for subversive activities in J & K, Punjab, North East Gujarat, Maharashtra, U.P., A.P., Rajasthan, Delhi and several other parts of the country.

(c) Pak-ISI has established several camps to train Kashmiri, Sikh and other militant group sin various parts of Pakistan and Pak occupied Kashmir. State-wise details in respect of incidents of subversion in last three years is under collection.

(d) Government is fully alive to the designs of Pak ISI and agencies connected with it to destabilise internal security situation in India as also to generate social tensions and the frequent arrests of several Pak-trained subversive elements including Pak citizens is indicative of alertness and priority which the Government attaches to counter this threat and challenge.

**[English]****Prisoners in Delhi Jails**

2636. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the under-trials and convicted prisoners along with the number of women and girls amongst the inmates during the last one year;

(b) the per-capita expenditure being incurred on the dietary and other needs of the prisoners; and

(c) the item of food served to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The requisite information pertaining to the year 1996, month-wise, in respect of the inmates lodged in the Central Jail, Tihar is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The per Capita expenditure on meeting dietary and other needs of prisoner is of the order of Rs. 42.60 per day.

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

**Statement-I**

Period	Undertrials			Convicts			Detenues		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
31.1.96	7080	271	7351	1067	27	1094	30	5	35
29.2.96	7046	292	7338	1001	28	1029	31	4	35
31.3.96	7168	315	7483	1130	27	1157	33	4	37
30.4.96	7207	319	7526	784	24	808	38	4	42
31.5.96	7489	311	7800	958	28	986	36	3	39
30.6.96	7666	335	8001	1012	29	1041	38	1	39
31.7.96	7731	341	8072	1035	26	1061	41	1	42
31.8.96	7658	373	8031	1188	27	1215	52	2	54
30.9.96	7841	383	8224	1261	31	1292	56	3	59
31.10.96	7673	358	8031	1411	30	1441	62	4	66
30.11.96	7557	353	7910	1173	33	1206	62	8	70
31.12.96	7777	352	8129	1115	34	1149	65	5	70

**Statement-II**

1. Atta
2. Rice
3. Dal
4. Black Gram
5. Condiments
6. Salt
7. Mustard Oil
8. Sugar
9. Vegetable Ghee
10. Kheer
11. Tea
12. Egg
13. Potato and onions
14. Gur
15. Bread
16. Milk

**Sick Fertilizer Units**

2637. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "KRIBHCO, IFFCO, likely to take over sick fertilizer units" appearing in the Business Standard dated January 21, 1997.

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

(c) the present status of the proposal for revival/rehabilitation/modernisation/privatisation/merger of chronically sick units; and

(d) the time by which the Government are likely to decide the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The alternative of take over of the sick fertilizer units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) by Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) was explored by the Government. Because of the prior commitments of IFFCO towards its ongoing expansion projects and joint venture for augmenting the fertilizer production capacity, such a proposal could not materialise. However, KRIBHCO has evinced an interest in setting up a new ammonia/urea plant at Gorakhpur, using the existing infrastructure of FCI.

(c) and (d) The revival packages for FCI and HFC approved in principle by the Government in April, 1995 could not be implemented for want of tie up of funding arrangement for the fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 crore at 1994 price levels. The expert Group constituted to reformulate the revival packages from the stand point of funding by the Financial Institutions (FIs) has submitted its report. The final decision on implementation of the reformulated revival packages would depend upon the tie up of funding arrangements and outcome of the proceedings pending before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), which is a quasi-judicial authority.

**Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958**

2638. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to issue an ordinance to repeal the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move will allow more players in the export field and is bound to adversely affect the efforts by the Indian Sugar General Industry Import and Export Corporation to export the further quantities of Sugar; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard along with the justification of such move?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 4 of 1997) was promulgated on 15.1.1997 thereby repealing the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958.

(c) and (d) The export of sugar has been decanalised. This will allow sugar factories, companies, individuals and firms alike to export sugar along with the Indian Sugar and General Industry Import Export Corporation (ISGIEIC) leading to a healthy competition resulting in a better overall export performance for the country.

**Fertilizer Factories**

2639. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from various private parties to set up three more fertilizer factories at different places in the country;

(b) if so, whether these proposals have been examined and accepted;

(c) if so, the details of these proposals, state-wise; and

(d) whether the Government have given their approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) As per Industrial Policy Statement of July 1991, the fertilizer industry is not subject to industrial licensing and no approval of the administrative Ministry is required for setting up a fertilizer plant.

**Cases of Bribery**

2640. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials arrested for demanding/ accepting bribe by CBI, Crime Branch of Delhi Police and Anti-Corruption Branch of Delhi Government during 1994, 1995 and 1996: office-wise; and

(b) the preventive steps proposed to be taken to check corruption in the Government offices in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The requisite information is as under :

Year	Number of persons arrested by	
	Central Bureau of Investigation	Anti-Corruption branch of Government of National Capital Territory Delhi
1994	375	54
1995	431	56
1996	259	82

The Crime Branch of Delhi Police did not make any such arrest during the period in question, as it primarily investigates into the offences relating to Indian Penal Code and Special and Other Laws.

(b) Under the Programme of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption work, the corruptoin Prone Departments are selected every year by the CBI and a list of such selected departments is prepared and circulated to all field branches with instructions to pay concentrated attention towards these departments. The points and places prone to corruption are identified and Joint Surprise Checks are conducted to detect corrupt practices. The public servants of doubtful reputation for integrity are identified with the co-operation of Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings etc. and their names are kept in the Agreed Lists. A list of officers of Doubtful Integrity is also prepared by the Departments and a watch kept on their activities. There are vigilance set ups in Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings which also keep a watch on their employees.

**Global Chemical Weapons Treaty**

2641. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring in an ordinance to make legislative provisions to implement the Global Chemical Weapons Treaty; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Involvement of Delhi Police Officials in Crimes

2642. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Delhi Police officials found involved in various crime indicating the nature of crimes during the last three years, year-wise and crime-wise;

(b) the action taken against each of the officials; and

(c) the preventive steps proposed to be taken by the Government to uproot crime from such an establishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The requisite information is given as under :

S. No.	Nature of crime	Number of police officials found involved		
		1994	1995	1996
1.	Murder/Attempt to murder	6	9	12
2.	Extortion/Robbery	11	11	13
3.	Rape/Molestation	6	13	6
4.	Cheating/Theft	13	13	14
5.	Kidnapping	9	3	2
6.	Hurt	33	37	35
7.	Prevention of Corruption Act	31	38	30
8.	Miscellaneous (other crimes)	70	75	57
Total		179	199	169

(b) 133 criminal cases in 1994, 158 in 1995 and 140 in 1996 were registered under appropriate sections of Indian Penal Code against the police officials concerned.

(c) The steps taken include timely and deterrent action against the erring police officials, conducting sensitization courses aimed at bringing about the desired behavioural changes amongst police-men, easy accessibility of senior officers to the public and conducting surprise inspections of the police stations/posts.

### Drought Hit Areas

2643. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas and districts declared as 'drought hit' this year in the country particularly in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the Central Aid and assistance given for the drought relief measures, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) According to the information received from the State Governments, 1733 villages of 4 districts in Gujarat and 1650 villages of 7 districts in Maharashtra have been declared drought affected during 1996-97. In addition drought conditions in varying degrees prevail in 25 Tehsils of 7 districts in Madhya Pradesh and 15818 villages of 18 districts in Orissa.

(b) Government of India have released the following funds to the above States as central share of the Calamity Relief Fund for relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought during 1996-97:

(Rs. in crores)

State	Central share of Calamity Relief Fund released
Gujarat	104.70
Madhya Pradesh	38.31
Maharashtra	51.15
Orissa	36.76

In addition, Rs. 13.00 crores has been released to Orissa from the National Fund for Calamity Relief. A decision has also been taken to provide another Rs. 37.00 crores to Orissa from this Fund.

### Research Projects by Cari, Izatnagar

2644. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of research projects at Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar, being funded by the ICAR-Adhoc Cess fund scheme and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last five years; and

(b) the details of research outcome of these Adhoc schemes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) An Ad-hoc scheme entitled, "Genetic Characterisation of Indigenous Poultry Germplasm" has been funded at Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar w.e.f 1.4.95. The expenditure incurred in the above scheme till date is Rs. 9,12,899/-.

(b) Research results indicated existence of significant individual variations for immuno competence traits in three Guinea fowl varieties. Genetic and non-genetic factors affecting the above traits revealed significant between sire differences while those due to sex and varieties were non-significant. Protocol for DNA extraction and purification has been standardised and adopted.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, etc.**

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, 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 National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1509/97]

**Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Central Agricultural University Act, 1955.**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 131(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th February, 1997 seeking to revise the prices of Urea, Zincated Urea and Anhydrous Ammonia, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1510/97]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. VC/CAU/14 (Establish)/93 (No. 3 of 1996) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 1996 approving and notifying the First Ordinance regarding reservation of seats for admission in Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate courses in the Central Agricultural University, Imphal made by the Vice-Chancellor of the said University, under sub-section (2) of section 43 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1511/97]

**Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Co-operative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi for the year 1994-95 and statement showing reasons for the delay.**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. EP-32(12)/94 in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 1997 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1512/97]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Co-operative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Co-operative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1513/97]

**National Human Rights Commission (Group 'A' and Group 'B' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 1996 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the National Human Rights Commission (Group 'A' and Group 'B' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 524 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd November, 1996 under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 96 (E) dated the 28th February, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1514/97]

**Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996.**

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness, and Response) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.

347 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 1996 under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1515/97]

**Annual Report and Review by the Government  
of the working of the Bengal Immunity  
Limited, Calcutta.**

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): Sir I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
  - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English version) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1516/97]

**Notification under Sub-section (3) of section 30 of  
the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act,  
1976 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 592(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th December, 1996, under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1517/97]

- (2) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Subedar Major (Accounts Officer) and Inspector (Accountant) Recruitment Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 26(E) in Gazette of the India dated the 21st January, 1997, under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1518/97]

[*English*]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, item No. 8 listed in the Agenda is very important. One of the copies listed at item No. 8, which were laid by the Minister, Shri Maqbool Dar, relates to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 1996. The Finance Minister said in his Budget speech that he is going to amend the FERA Act in a new order. I would only want the Minister to ensure that the said amendment does not oppose or is in conformity with what Shri Chidambaram has proposed in his Budget in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dasmunsi, this pertains to Rules framed in 1996.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : This is a very serious issue. The private organisations in the country are getting money from outside.

MR. SPEAKER : It has nothing to do with this.

12.2 ½ hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS**

*First and Second Reports*

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the first and second reports (Hindi and English version) of Committee on Petitions.

12.03 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

*Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Reports*

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHNA LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh reports of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

[*English*]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : One by one, I will give you a chance. I have called the name of Dr. Joshi now.

(Interruptions)

KUMAR! MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I have given a notice within the stipulated time...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Joshi, please be short so that everybody gets a chance.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue in the House. Several factories in Uttar Pradesh are being closed down unnecessarily. The issue pertaining to 'Uptron' was raised earlier. Now the Government is angling for the 'Hindustan Cables'. This company was manufacturing very sophisticated equipments including optical fibre cables and today an order has been issued to close it down and handover it to the private sector. About 350 highly qualified engineers and staff are working in this company. This company was set up in 1987 and commenced production in 1990. This company alone supplies its production to Tele-communication's Department. However, its management is in the hands of Heavy Industries. I would like to suggest that this company should be transferred from the Heavy Industries to the Communication Ministry. The Telecommunication Ministry should issue orders as this company was set up only for this Ministry by investing crores of rupees in it. This is very good company. Similarly, it is being said to remove C.O.D. Chioki from the scene and it is also being contemplated to close down ITI. I would earnestly request that this injustice being meted out to the employees and the factories should be stopped and by formulating a definite scheme, it should be allowed to function properly.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, with regard to the Hindustan Cables, I want to say something.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you agree to whatever he has said?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I support it. There is a proposal from the union saying that the Department of Telecommunications should place orders with the Hindustan Cables...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not shout like this, please. This is not the way the Members should behave.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : With 50 per cent advance, order was given.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, how can you go on debating it?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Advance for three months was given. This is important.

MR. SPEAKER : I know it is important. Every matter is important.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : The point is that this is a major unit which has to be defended at all costs. I think he has done a service by raising it.

MR. SPEAKER : You just say that you all support it.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I want to raise a very important issue. Whenever I try to raise an important matter, they are not allowing me...(Interruptions) Sir, you have allowed me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, But what can I do? Every Member wants to get a turn. What can I do? You talk louder.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am raising an important issue. Every year, because of the administrative lacuna, the question papers in respect of Secondary and Higher Secondary class, are leaked and the students are facing hardship. Sometimes, it happens in the case of CBSE. Sometimes, it happens in West Bengal, Yesterday, in West Bengal, more than four lakh students were in hardship because the mathematics question paper was leaked and the examination was cancelled. I want that the HRD Minister should inform the House as to what is actually going on about the question paper leakage. Why does the Government not punish those people who are responsible for this?

Therefore, through you, Sir, I appeal to the Government, particularly the HRD Minister, to intervene in this matter. I am not saying about West Bengal only but throughout the country it is happening. In West Bengal, the question paper was leaked and four lakh students were in trouble. Late night at 11 of the clock, they came to know that the question paper was leaked and the examination was cancelled. I think the Parliamentary Affairs Minister should inform the HRD Minister who should, in turn, make a statement. Let him inform the House as to what has actually happened.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the hon. Foreign Minister has to make a short statement.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after this. Do not worry. You keep quiet. Be patient. You will get a chance.

12.09 hrs.

## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

### *Launching of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure in informing the hon. Members of this august House of the successful launching of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC). This was pursuant to the First Ministerial Meeting of the Rim

countries held in Mauritius from 5-7 March, 1997. Apart from myself, and the Indian delegation present at the IOR-ARC's birth, were the Ministers and delegations of 13 other countries - Australia, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Yemen.

The IOR-ARC has been two years in the making. The Government of India, in close consultation with other friendly countries, has been actively involved in supporting this initiative and bringing it from conception to fruition. The Government of Mauritius convened an Inter-Governmental Meeting of seven Indian Ocean Rim countries - Australia, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Oman, Singapore and South Africa - in March 1995. Subsequently, the membership of the Initiative was doubled. With this, it was assessed that a critical mass had been achieved and the IOR-ARC could be formally launched.

The IOR-ARC Ministerial Meeting adopted the Charter of the IOR-ARC setting out the objectives, fundamental principles, scope of activities as well as institutional and financial arrangements. The Indian delegation had coordinated the preparation of this landmark document which establishes the basis of this organisation. It was, therefore, a matter of particular satisfaction to us that this foundational document was adopted by acclamation by all delegations.

I would like now to draw the attention of the House to some important aspects of the Indian Ocean Rim Charter :

- (i) It represents the rediscovery of the traditional bonds and relations amongst Indian Ocean Rim countries and peoples and puts them in a contemporary, forward-looking context.
- (ii) It focuses the IOR-ARC on facilitation and promotion of economic cooperation leaving out security related and political polemics. Bilateral and other issues likely to generate controversy and be an impediment to regional cooperation efforts are to be excluded from its purview.
- (iii) The approach to be followed is consensus based, evolutionary and non-intrusive and the five principles of Panchsheel are affirmed.
- (iv) The principle of non-discriminatory treatment to each other by member States is emphasised, including in terms of the grant of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment by WTO members of IOR-ARC.
- (v) The scope of activities and Work Programme focus on "those areas of economic cooperation which provide maximum opportunities to develop shared interests and reap mutual benefits". These include, in particular, trade facilitation, promotion and liberalisation, investment promotion, scientific

and technological exchanges, tourism, development of infrastructure and human resources and movement of natural persons and service providers on a non-discriminatory basis.

- (vi) It does not, at present, constitute a Preferential Trade Arrangement but leaves it open for IOR-ARC members States to pursue trading arrangements amongst themselves.
- (vii) The Charter provides for a Council of Ministers and Committee of Senior Officials to be assisted by the Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum and the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group to steer and coordinate the activities of IOR-ARC. This tripartite consultative structure is a unique feature of IOR-ARC. A Secretariat of IOR-ARC is to coordinate, service and monitor the implementation of policy decisions and Work Programmes.

The ministerial Meeting endorsed the Work Programme developed in the IOR-ARC. Among the 10 projects, the four offered by India and already being implemented are : Indian Ocean Rim Business Centre and IOR-NET, IOR Trade Fair in India, establishment of an IOR Chair in Indian Ocean Studies and Associate Fellows Programme and undertaking of investment facilitation and promotion as well as work on trade-creating joint ventures. Our projects evoked great deal of interest and participation from other member States and we have also offered technical and project assistance where required to member countries under our ITEC programme. We are participating in the projects on Maritime Transport, Human Resource Development and Cooperation in Standards and Accreditation, offered by other IOR-ARC members.

The Ministerial Meeting also agreed to establish a nucleus Secretariat of this organisation in Mauritius, in recognition of the valuable and pioneering role Mauritius has performed. All IOR-ARC members are to contribute equally in operational costs of this "pilot mechanism" and also depute officials to man it.

Applications for membership of IOR-ARC have been received from seven countries - Bangladesh, Iran, Pakistan, Seychelles, Thailand, Egypt and France. Additionally, some other countries and sub-regional groupings have expressed their interest in observership. We are gratified that so many countries have expressed an interest in the IOR-ARC which is a recognition of the tremendous importance of this Association. We have established a Working Group which will look at all membership issues in their totality and make recommendations to the Committee of Senior Officials and through them to the Council of Ministers.

Overall, it is a matter of great satisfaction that this initiative which had been nurtured by us in cooperation

[Shri I.K. Gujral]

with other participating countries has had such a smooth and positive start. Every member country expressed its commitment and determination to contribute to IOR-ARC's success. A spirit of understanding and consensus prevailed - a happy augury for the future.

The Indian Ocean Rim is linked to India's destiny by name, by the Indian diaspora and by the opportunities these Rim countries hold for an expanding and globalising the Indian economy. IOR-ARC includes countries that are important regionally and globally and are among the more dynamic and emerging economies. With all IOR-ARC countries, we have growing trade and investment links and they too recognise India's role and potential contribution to regional economic cooperation. Already the IOR-ARC accounts for over US \$ 700 billion in global trade and US \$ 100 billion in intra-trade, which will multiply greatly with the evolution of a common regional identity.

Indian participation in IOR-ARC takes further our wider neighbourhood strategy, South Asia, South East Asia, Asia-Pacific, the Gulf, Eastern and Southern Africa are now a part and parcel of our close neighbourhood approach and nodal points of intensified interaction. It is yet another dimension of South-South Cooperation.

The successful establishment and institutionalisation of the IOR-ARC in the Mauritius meeting provided a sense of great achievement to all of us, who participated in this historical event. To us, in India, it should be a matter of particular relevance and satisfaction. The construction of a community of Afro-Asian nations among the littoral States of the Indian Ocean Rim, including Australia was a cherished Nehruvian ideal. It is particularly rewarding and apt that we were able to realise this vision in a significant manner this year, when India is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its Independence.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA (Bilhour) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the kind attention of all the Hon. Members and especially the Union Home Minister present here in this House that the situation in Uttar Pradesh is anarchical. The Governor of Uttar Pradesh is repeatedly asserting that the situation in the State is normal. However, the biggest and burning example in this regard is the village Samastipur under police station, Kakwan-Patwan of Kanpur (Rural), my Constituency. There, Shri Gialal Kuril of the Kuril family was clubbed to death at the midnight of 5th and 6th March and his young son Ram Babu Kureel aged 22 years was shot dead.

12.19 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that there is no inspector in the police post in this area. Six Constables are posted in this police post out of whom two are on leave. The person killed was alive for two and half hours before dying and the information was given to the Constables present in the police post but no Constable reached the village which is just two kilometres away from the police post...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will call all those - one by one - whose names there in the list. Please have patience.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : In this village 60 families belonging to scheduled caste and two families belonging to the oilmen community, reside. On their both sides reside people belonging to a single class. Anil Yadav had threatened them. Even then the police did not provide them any security cover. The village is still terror stricken and PAC has not been deployed in this village. Even the arrangements for the cremation of the dead father and son were not made.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : Sir, I would like to say one thing more. On 6th of the month he cremated and on 8th...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why are you making noise. Hon. speaker has allowed him to speak. Please maintain piece.

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : Sir, on 8th, the Governor Shri Romesh Bhandariji goes to Kanpur alongwith Defence Minister of India and comes back after making an ariel survey. They did not even offer sympathies to the bereaved family. The law and order situation has worsened to much that the Hon'ble Governor can not dare to walk on road and instead and come after an ariel survey. There is too much awarding that in the two programmes which were at a distance of one and half kilometers from one another the Hon'ble Governor went by helicopter. I want to say one more thing that this family has been terrorised six times by their neighbours. There is no enmity between them there is no political murder. Even after terrorising them six times the police, local administration did not go these to investigate till today. I demand that both the sufferers of this family be given Rs. five lakh each as compensation and P.A.C be deployed there. The fear in the minds of poor people of the village should be governed, and they should be provided security. They must be banned from the false allegations...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Umaji, I will give you a chance.

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA : Similarly, Suresh Kureel, a Bank Manager was murdered in this very area. No one has been arrested so far in this connection. Not even a single person has been arrested so far. I request you that Home Minister must take necessary steps in this regard. Security arrangements should be made there in Uttar Pradesh and terror must be checked there.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no administration there ...*(Interruptions)* No one is there to listen the complaints, I will request the Home Minister..*(Interruptions)* I will finish in one minute because it is a matter related to my area. Such murders are taking place there ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed him.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji is sitting here...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed him, please.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : At there are being committed on dalits in Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Through you, I would like to ask to Home Minister to reply on this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Through you, I...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him speak I will give chance to all.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everybody will get a chance.

SHRI E. AHAMED : My name is there. I may be called to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I know your name is there. I will allow all one by one, not all at a time. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, Indian Engineering Service Examination had been conducted by Union Public Service Commission in 1995,

the result should have been declared by November, 1996 and procedure of appointment should have been completed. The result was declared in March, 1996 but the procedure of appointment has not been started till today. The Ministry of Railways helps U.P.S.C. in the matter of Indian Engineering Services that is why I want to raise this question.

Through you, I want to draw the attention of Minister of Railways towards this. The reasons for delay which he come to know from outside is that the appointment procedure will be held as per the provision of 27% reservation in Central Government is complained with recommendations of Mandal Commission. The guidelines issued by Government of India, as per the guidelines issued on 8 September, 1993 persons of other backward sections will be selected on the basis of merits, separate selection will be done for the persons of general category. The way in which the people of general category are selected but the selection of reserved people must be done 27% after that. This is in the guidelines of Union Government. But things are being manipulated. Whether he comes on merit or the other way. There is manipulation of taking only 27% people from other sections. In Union Public Service Commission and Ministry of Railways, which is under Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji, has struggle for the implementation of the recommendations of Mandal Commission, he was involved in that but now he sees manipulation on it when he has the power in his hand.

Through you be want to draw the attention of Railway Minister towards the matter of Indian Engineering Service for which Railway Ministry coordinates. The guidelines of Union Government should be complied with and the persons on merit should be appointed on merit. Apart from there should be 27% reservation for them.

Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I also want to draw your attention towards the incident raised in the last session about which you had given a direction to the Government. During 1992 examination, the question paper was leaked. As a result the examinees were deprived of this opportunity. We raised this matter in the house last time, Ram Kripal has also raised this and you directed the Government. Notification of examination has been issued today but those candidates have not been given second opportunity. We will request you that you interest the Government to comply with the guidelines seriously this is our request...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of this House the total *bandh* observed yesterday in the Malabar area of the State of Kerala in protest against the neglect of Kerala in general and the Malabar area in particular by the Railways.

[Shri E. Ahamed]

Over the last several years, the people of Malabar, that is almost half the population of the State of Kerala - and the area is also half the State consisting of six revenue districts out of fourteen - have been demanding for justice in the matter of railways. The Mangalore-Shoranur railway line is the lifeline of the entire Malabar region. It has not been given the doubling scheme for which Rs. 300 crore has been estimated. The Budget has provided only Rs. 17 crore.

In the last year's Budget, the hon. Minister of Railways has assured the House that a push-pull train between Nilambur and Shoranur would be introduced. It has not been introduced so far. There were two surveys to be undertaken : one is the survey from Edappally to Tirur and the other survey which has been ordered is from Feroke to Nilambur. But both the surveys have not been provided for now. It is a total neglect of an entire region.

People, irrespective of political parties, belonging to various social, cultural, educational and other organisations have observed a total *bandh*. More than half of the population of the State of Kerala, including Members of the Legislative Assembly of Kerala, Mayor of Calicut have participated in this *bandh*.

This is not a small issue. This has affected the sentiments of the people of the Malabar region. It has to be heard by the Government. The hon. Minister of Railways is here and the hon. Minister from Kerala is also here. I demand them to assure this House that justice will be done to the people of the Malabar area of the State of Kerala.....(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, the Malabar area has been affected. The doubling work is the most important work to be undertaken there. The hon. Minister of Railways should give an answer.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister can answer only if he wants.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, there has been a total *bandh* in protest against this neglect...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, the doubling work from Mangalapuram should be given top priority.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please sit down.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, already the hon. Minister has given an assurance. We would like to have an assurance in the House regarding doubling of this line. This is an important line. We would like to have an assurance on the floor of the House today.

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

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Is there any limit to it or not?

[Translation]

I would not stop the hon'ble Minister if he wants to say something. What else do you want? Railway discussion is going on, hon'ble Railway Minister would reply to it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot force him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please listen. He is going to say. After that you may speak.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, hon'ble members, particularly the Members from Kerala, had complained that justice has not seen method out to them. I had conferred a meeting of all the Members of Parliament of Kerala. Whatever best was possible within the limited resources available I had given them. I will dwell in detail when I would reply to the discussion on Railway Budget. But at this moment I want to say that demands are more in case of each State. Whereas it is not possible to accommodate within limited resources. In spite of the limited resources we would not give chance to any State that any discrimination or injustice has been done against any State.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me time. In Madhya Pradesh, particularly in Bundelkhand area, atrocities are being committed on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people and they are being murdered. Many a times I have brought it to the notice of the Minister of Home Affairs. Dalit, Harijan and Adivasi women sat on dharna in Prithivipur Town in Tikamgarh district on the night of January 20. Some criminal elements came there, who had the protection of Congress leaders. They were thrown away and abused. These women used to collect wood from the jungle. Those Congress goondas, who have the protection of Congress leaders, threatened those women with dire consequences and said that they would be raped and killed when they would go to jungle for collecting wood because they have sat on dharna against them. Next day on 21st January I went there and got their Complaint lodged in the Police Station. I want to bring it in the notice of the Minister of Home Affairs...(Interruptions) You please listen attentively and sleep less. If you are not able to hear me, what can I do. No action has been taken in that regard so far.

Similarly in Mohargarh Police Station in Tikamgarh district, a dalit youngman Pappu Ahirwal, who is a cobbler, was beaten to death in the Police Station on charges of a small theft. At last he was hanged in the Police Station and it was stated that he committed suicide. Similarly, in our district and the adjoining area of Bundelkhand in Madhya Pradesh the number of incidents of murder, decoity, abduction, crime and rape are on the increase. In Madhya Pradesh, 11000 innocent persons have been murdered and 10450 women have been raped. If these incidents are not checked, there would be law and order problem to such extent in Madhya Pradesh that it would become the place of violence and terror which was once known as the Island of peace.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, similarly Ashok Argal who is a dalit Member of Parliament from Morena...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now please listen your speech.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I concluding my speech...(Interruptions) The Collector himself cannot disburse the Member of Parliament Development Fund. Ashokji has also given notice in this regard. I urge upon you to listen to him.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ashok Argal.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He may be allowed to speak.

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Murena) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Collector of Morena, Shri Radheshyam Juwania, has never replied to the letter of the Member of Parliament. When I went to him to get information about my fund, he did not give me information. He spent Rs. 12,60,000 from the MP Local Area Development Fund without my permission and I have not been given any account of it. The Madhya Pradesh Government as a rule provides transport to Members of Parliament when they are on tour.

But I was never provided vehicle of good condition and Diesel was never provided for it. I have to make payment for the Diesel. The word "Chamar" was used for me and I was ordered to get out of his Chamber. Therefore, when a Member of Parliament suffers so much for his sight, the condition of common masses can be imagined in Madhya Pradesh. Therefore, I request the Government to pay attention toward it...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I would allow you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, after the formation of new guidelines it is considered breach of Privilege, if any Collector behave

in this manner. It seems to me that this is the first case which has come in the House after formation of new guidelines. Therefore, you give directions and it should be referred to the Privileges Committee so that such cases may not occur in future...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please give the full details in writing.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Government should pay need to it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : Sir, it pertains to the same subject. When the hon. Member has been insulted by the Collector, he should be arrested, kept in jail and criminal proceedings should be initiated against him...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you allow him to speak?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called him to speak. Please allow him to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, we are distressed...(Interruptions)

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : Sir, we associate with what he is going to say...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, we are distressed to learn that the Publication Division which is coming under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has decided to discontinue the publication of Oriya Edition of *Yojana* prematurely. As you know, the Oriya Edition is hardly three years and four months old...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do you not allow him to speak? Please do not interrupt him in-between.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : During Pandit Nehru's regime, in 1957, for the first time, *Yojana* was launched in order to disseminate effective information on developmental activities in the country. Thirty six years thereafter, in 1993, this Oriya Edition was launched. But only after three years - we are distressed to learn - this is being discontinued. What is the reason attributed to this? The reason stated was, 'poor circulation.' Right from the beginning, the circulation of this was picking up and because of lack of interest on the part of the Ministry, it could not pick up, as it should have. There was low circulation of this

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

Edition in different other languages. But they were not being discontinued whereas the Oriya Edition is being discontinued. It is an insult to the Oriya language and to the people of Orissa...*(Interruptions)* We strongly condemn this and we protect against this ...*(Interruptions)* People of Orissa are feeling insulted and neglected...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here...*(Interruptions)* I would request you to direct the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to ensure that this Edition is continued ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here and you may direct him...*(Interruptions)* Sir, we want a directive from you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : Sir, this is a very serious matter. Orissa is also a part of this country...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay, it is all right. It has come on record. Please conclude now...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : I would like to give the figures also. There are Editions of this in some other languages with a circulation of 500 copies or even 250 copies. But they are not being discontinued, whereas this Oriya Edition with a much larger circulation is being discontinued. Why should there be this sort of an attitude shown to the people of Orissa and to the Oriya language?...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you may kindly give a directive...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is all. You may please sit down now.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, kindly give a directive to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you. I have already called out the name of the next hon. Member.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Bhardwaj.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, I fully agree with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members. I will convey this to the Minister for Information and Broadcasting and I am sure he will certainly consider this matter...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ (Jamsedpur) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Ministry of Water Resources to this problem. Water Supply to whole of the Jamsedpur was made from Suwarnrekha river and whenever the supply fell short, it was method out from the water of Pimana lake, but after the construction of

Chandil dam an Suwarnrekha river under the Central Government project, this supply is being done from Chandil dam and there is no direct supply of river water in Jamsedpur area. Whenever, the supply of water falls short, Tisco supplies water to Maango area through its filtration plant. But for the last some time the jatu of Chandil dam have been closed down and due to that the whole of Jamsedpur area have been facing acute shortage of water. If is an artificial crisis. The day before yesterday, Tisco has announced that it would supply the water of Pimana lake once a day through Maango Plant. Today the situation is that water is being supplied only Jamsedpur once a day and it is also a fact that Maango Filter Plant has not been working properly. As a result of polluted water is being supplied to the whole of Jamsedpur and particularly to the people of Maango.

Through you I request the Ministry of Water Resources that the State Government may be issued direction that the gates of Chandil dam should be opened immediately. So that the water may be supplied to Jamsedpur area. Besides this, the Deputy Commissioner of Jamsedpur area may be directed that he should utilise the funds available with him for repairing the Maango filtration Plant or for sitting up new Plant so that the people there can get safe drinking water. Thank you.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Banatwalla

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already called him.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am calling the names of five Members in accordance with the list. It contains the names of all. I would call one by one. Only one person can speak at one time. I am sorry.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the Government of Maharashtra has unilaterally and unconstitutionally changed the name of Osmanabad town to Dharashiv. The State Government has no jurisdiction to change its name. It has transgressed into the powers and functions of the Central Government. Moreover, this change of name is against the feelings and sentiments of the people. It is on communal grounds.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This question was raised earlier too.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Therefore, it is necessary that the Central Government must make a statement in this House on this matter. I urge upon the

Central Government to take up the matter with the State Government of Maharashtra and to reject this change of name which is totally unconstitutional and communal...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : It is under the residuary powers of the Central Government ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chaman Lal Gupta. Now, all others, please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, hon'ble Member belongs to Kerala...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter. There has been continuous firing in our boarder area near Kathua Jammu district from Pakistan for the last one year. Our second Defence live, the people residing at borders, have been defending themselves without taking any money from the Government. But, today the situation is that all the farmers living near the border have abandoned their lands and they have left their villages.

Atleast 50 persons have got injured. The bullets are piercing through the houses. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, who is present here, that either the army deployed there, may be allowed to make retaliation in response to the firing from Pakistan or atleast the people at border should be encouraged. They are at the border and there has been firing there constantly. The Government had plans of fencing the border but that has also been stopped. In Kathua and Jammu district, particularly in Ramgarh, there are Abduliya villages, the villages are getting deserted there. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to it and I hope that he would make statement in this regard. You please ask the hon. Minister to make a statement.

*[English]*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, the continuous smuggling out of India antiques of great cultural value has been a matter of grave concern to all of us. According to a TV report in London as also according to a book titled "Sotheby's Inside Story", written by a famous arts journalist, Shri Peter Watson, it has been said that Indian antiques of great cultural value are being smuggled out continuously.

We are worried to learn that accusations have been made that such continuous smuggling out of Indian antiques of great cultural value could be made possible only through some Diplomatic Bags. Although an inquiry

is going on, the TV reports, such books and articles continuously reveal that there is a pattern, a conspiracy and also a nexus in smuggling out the very valuable things belonging to India. The problem is that we do not have any treaty with the UK.

According to the Government of India, an explanation has been given very recently by our High Commissioner and the problem is that till we have any such treaty with the UK about the originality of such valuable antiques, we will be facing such difficulties and it will be very difficult to punish the offenders.

I draw the attention of the Government to this very very serious matter. I also demand that the Government make a statement on the floor of this House so that the Members can have a fullfledged discussion on this very very serious matter.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAKALI SINGH (Saharanpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a serious mishappening has occurred in village Daudpura, Police Station Behat in my constituency Saharanpur. Three persons, Kuldeep Singh, Sompal and Suraj Bhan belonging to Daudpur village were going on a moter cycle on 28.2.97. An Ambassador Car, on which there was blue light, was following them. The eyewitness have stated that there were high Police officials in that car. The people of the village say that S.S.P. was in that car. All the three persons were shot down by the said officer who was in that car at 11.00 in the night. There is atmosphere of terror and fear in whole of the area as a result of this incident. People are agitated. All the people, M.L.As and Journalists are demanding that there should be CBI inquiry in the matter. I urge the hon. Home Minister that he may request. The hon'ble Governor to order CBI inquiry in this case.

*[English]*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there was a very important meeting with leaders from the hilly regions of the country which included leaders of the hilly regions of Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Darjeeling and Jharkhand. This is a matter on which we cannot afford any more confrontation with any ethnic community or group for the sake of the unity of this country. For this, we must behave responsibly and we must interest with everyone at appropriate times so that things are not allowed to go beyond our borders.

Sir, the matter for which I have risen to speak and would like to bring it to your notice is that our Prime Minister made a public declaration both before and after the elections about granting Statehood to Uttarakhand, the process of which, I understand, is going on and is now in the desk of the Prime Minister. I do not know in what form this Statehood would be given to them. But this has given rise to hope to several other groups in the hilly regions including Mr. Subhas

[Shri P.R. Dasmunsi]

Gheising. As has been stated by him, he was very satisfied with the personal interaction that he had with the Home Ministry. The new point that he has raised now is a very serious point.

Sir, we have good relations with Nepal and Bhutan which we would certainly like to consolidate further. The *Gorkha* soldiers who have been drawn in our Front to defend our borders from the ancient times is the pride of our nation. I understand that the point raised by Shri Subhas Gheising is the basic question of whether in the eyes of the ethnic community of Darjeeling-the *Gorkha* population - Darjeeling itself is within India or not. That question is creating confusion in the minds of the people. It is because, according to him - he made it publicly clear and also has made an application to the Supreme Court - in lieu of Darjeeling they are paying some fees on lease to Bhutan as per the Treaty. That is causing concern for the people there. He also has made a patriotic appeal. Let the Government take everybody into confidence and make it clear that these all are integral parts of India and therefore, the question of Statehood would not be that paramount but the very oneness would be very important insofar as the people of Darjeeling are concerned.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India, through you, Sir, that without allowing things to go beyond control, the Home Ministry and the Government should take the leaders of the hilly regions into confidence and explain to them the position and address the situation. Even if something has happened historically in the past, let them explain it to them in the present context and it should not allow any more confrontation with any ethnic community in the interest of India and should respond to their urges.

If granting of autonomy to Uttarakhand in terms of giving Statehood has already been decided then let the Government think of clearly as to in what manner they could respond to the urges of the leaders of the hilly regions so that such problems do not arise in future.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : This is what I would like to appeal to the Government. It is because the leaders of the hilly regions have said that they have already formed a group and if the Government do not respond to them they have some other plans. I feel that they are still under the control of the Government and they are also in a mood to have a dialogue. The Government should not waste more time and should take them into confidence.

Thank you...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I am on the same issue...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am calling only those persons whose notice I have got.

[English]

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice and to the notice of this House the serious situation arising out of the Report of the Fifth Pay Commission. Almost all services excepting the Indian Administrative Service are unhappy and dissatisfied with this Report. Now, a Committee of Secretaries has been set up to see this Report and recommend its implementation. Earlier also, one of the Members of the Fifth Pay Commission who was the Member Secretary, is from the Indian Administrative Service. It is well known that excepting the Indian Administrative Service all other Services are unhappy and dissatisfied with the recommendations of the Report. Now, eight Secretaries from the same Indian Administrative Service are sitting down to recommend its implementation. There is, therefore, no confidence that justice will be done in this matter.

I feel, of all the Services, the Defence Services have really been neglected. You are well aware that already our young men are not joining the Defence Services and there is tremendous shortage of officers in the Services. This may lead to lack of our Defence capability. It is a very serious matter. This Report is now driving the Defence Services into a state where, I hope it does not happen, they have to resort to such tactics as are followed in the Civil Services. I, therefore, want to urge the House and the Government of India that this Report must not be implemented unless the House is satisfied and unless the others, particularly the Services representatives, have a say in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to the J.R.Y. and S.R.Y. Schemes for which the funds are provided by the Union Government and are spent by the Deputy Commissioner of the districts. Several Members have made complaints that these funds are not spent for schemes suggested by them. These funds as provided by the Union Government therefore, the opinion of the public representative must be ascertained but when we approach the Deputy Commissioner or the Additional Deputy Commissioner then, we are told that we have nothing to do with these funds. I would like to draw the attention of Government through you that bureaucratee spend these funds in the manner they like-which needs to be checked. These funds should be spent after consultations with the local public representative. A grant of Rs. five crores was sanctioned for my area however I am not being consulted at any stage to spend these funds instead the Deputy Commissioner and his favourite officers are spending these funds in an arbitrary manner and nobody is paying

any head was. These funds allocated for JRY, SRY and Indira Housing Scheme are being misused. I would like to urge upon the Government to ensure that these funds are spent after consulting the local public representative.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please let him speak now.

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : The Government of India in the Ministry of Surface Transport, has sanctioned construction of a road leading to Kittur Channamma Samadhi at Bailhingal in Belgaum District of Karnataka, under CRF Fund. Though the Government of India in the Ministry of Surface Transport, has sanctioned it, the Government of Karnataka has not yet started the construction of the road. This is one of the important roads leading to Kittur Channamma Samadhi, who fought against the British. The road requires immediate repair as it is damaged. Hence, through you, I request that the Ministry of Surface Transport be directed to take up the construction of the road immediately... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are reading something.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the value House to a very important issue of National importance. Some days back, a programme called "Ram Ke nam par" was telecast... (Interruptions). The whole country viewed this programme... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : This serial has exposed them.... (Interruptions) It is this exposure that they are talking of.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through this programme an attempt has been made to cause animosity between various castes and this has also possessed a grave threat to our national unity and integrity.

13.00 hrs.

Lord Rama is severed at national and international level.... (Interruptions) I would like to say that when a writ petition was filed against Koran in the Calcutta High Court, an Advocate General was sent from here and it was stated that if the spirit of any religion is heard then the High Court should hear the case following which the case was closed. 'The Satanic Verus' a book by Rushdie was confiscated. This documentary called "Ram Ke Nam par" which is causing betterness in the country should be confiscated by the Government of India. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of

Home Affairs that if the Mumbai High Court has given any verdict then would you attempt to bring peace in the country by filing a writ petition against the verdict.... (Interruptions) This documentary called 'Ram Ke Nam par' should be banned and confiscated .... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : This documentary has totally exposed this political party.... (Interruptions) It is necessary that they should be exposed.... (Interruptions) On the one hand they forget about the demolition of Babri masjid and on the other hand they want others not to expose them.... (Interruptions) The documentary was shown after proper court order.... (Interruptions) Therefore, Doordarshan was totally right in telecasting this documentary.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter regarding the State of Kerala.... (Interruptions) The State of Kerala is facing a severe power crisis.... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 2 p.m.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

[English]

14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at six minutes past fourteen of the Clock.*

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Evolve a Mechanism to Avoid Default in Payment of dues by Participating States in Sardar Sarovar Project**

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (Surat) : As decided by Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal, participating States have to pay their shares on the Sardar Sarovar Project in the ratio of benefits accruing to them. However, at the end of March, 1996, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have to pay the outstanding dues of Rs. 421.03 crore, Rs. 47.91 crore and Rs. 130.89 crore respectively. Participating States have raised disputes regarding share of Rockill dykes and link channels and expenditure on rehabilitation and resettlement of oustees. Total disputed amount is Rs. 92.68 crore. As such, the total undisputed share due at the end of March, 1996 is Rs. 507.15 crore, of which shares due

from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan come to Rs. 364.86 crore, Rs. 21.30 crore and Rs. 120.99 crore respectively.

The Government of Gujarat and Members of Parliament of Gujarat State have requested the Government to evolve a mechanism so as to avoid default in payment of dues by the participating States and ensure smooth funding of the project. Alternatively, I urge upon the Government to recover such dues from the additional assistance due to them and release the same directly to Gujarat.

[Translation]

**(ii) Need to set up an LPG outlet at Gonda in U.P.**

SMT. KETAKI DEVI SINGH (Gonda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, several Government and non Government Offices are located in Nawabganj under my constituency Gonda in Uttar Pradesh. Thousands of people work in these offices and the population of this town is around 35.00 thousand. Due to non-availability of fuel here, people are faced with hardships. The local residents have been demanding for quite some time to open an L.P.G. agency. However, the Government has not taken any action in this regard.

Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Union Government to open a L.P.G. agency in Nawabganj to meet the fuel requirement of the local residents.

SHRI SATYA DEV SINGH (Bahrapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I earnestly request you to give direction to the Union Government to open an L.P.G. agency in the work backward District Gonda in U.P. where there is huge demand for L.P.G. and large scale black marketing of gas Cylinder is going on. I associate myself with the views expressed by my colleague for setting up of L.P.G. and I also request. The Union Government to set up a L.P.G. outlet here.

[Translation]

**(iii) Need to overcome shortage of L.P.G. in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra**

DR. G.R. SARODE (Jalgaon) : Due to the shortage of LPG gas, the people of Balam district of Maharashtra are facing a lot of difficulties. All L.P.G. dealers in the district have long waiting list for the years. All these applicants should be provided L.P.G. connections immediately. There is a need to start new retail dealerships in each tehsil of the district and extension counters of existing retail outlets should be set up in villages so that the consumers in the villages could get cooking gas cylinders easily. In the absence of a refilling centre of Hindustan Petroleum in the area. The Consumers of Hindustan Petroleum are facing a lot of inconvenience. Therefore, there is the need set up a refilling centre of Hindustan Petroleum.

The number of benami gas consumers in Jalgaon district is threasing day by day. There are about 10 thousand such gas consumers in the district which are not registered with any gas dealer. But they manage to get the gas cylinder every month on the payment of double the normal fiered. I would request the Union Government that all such unauthorised gas Consumers should be recognised as authorised gas Consumers by Collecting an amount equivalent to the double of the normal deposit from them. The Government would get more rename thereby and the looting of these unauthorised gas consumers by the gas-dealers would also be stopped.

[English]

**(iv) Need to implement the recommendations of Mahajan Commission for resolving boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka**

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Sir, Sholapur district and its adjacent areas are dominated by Kannada speaking people. Now these areas are in Maharashtra. Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute is more than forty years old. Many leaders of Maharashtra have raised this issue recently. We have also represented to the Centre on several occasions to resolve this issue. But so far it has not yielded any results.

The Government of India in its wisdom set up the Mahajan Commission to go into this problem. The Commission gave its report two decades ago. Unfortunately, the recommendations of the Commission have not yet been implemented. The people of the area are much agitated over the issue and expect an early solution.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to implement the recommendations of Mahajan Commission in toto without any further delay.

[Translation]

**(v) Need to set up a high Power T.V. transmitter at Saharsa in Bihar**

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa) : Saharsa, area of Bihar is situated on the Nepal border. It is a sub-divisional headquarters. This area is extremely backward. There is a low power transmitter centre of Doordarshan at Saharsa due to which the programmes of Nepal can be clearly seen in Saharsa, Madhopura and Supaul area, whereas viewing of national programmes is difficult. This has its ill effects on the children also. The Government is urged to set up all Pwcer Transmission Centre of Doordarshan at Saharsa.

[English]

**(vi) Need to set up a Doordarshan Kendra at Madurai, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Sir, Doordarshan plays a vital part in communicating information, knowledge to all parts of the national particularly in rural areas. It has become a powerful entertainment media for the common man. Hence, the number of viewers is increasing day by day. There should be the creation of additional Doordarshan Kendras to meet the demand and to prepare quality programmes in regional languages.

Unfortunately, in Tamil Nadu where the viewership is very high, there is only one Kendra in Chennai which is not able to meet the growing demand of quality programmes.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to set up an additional Kendra at Madurai, which is the second largest city in Tamil Nadu with high cultural, historical and religious background, and also one at Coimbatore to cater to the needs of the Western parts of Tamil Nadu.

At present, there is only one Tamil News Bulletin which is telecast. I request that this should be increased to three per day.

**(vii) Need to desilt rivers of eastern U.P.**

SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI (Salempur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the river of Ganga flows through Allahabad, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Gazipur and Balia - district of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, the Gomti river flows through Sultanpur and Jaunpur, the Ghagara river through Faizabad, Gonda, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur and Devaria and Rapti, Badi Gandak and Choti Gandak flows through Gorakhpur-Dewaria. In the summer season, the flow of all the river goes down substantially and the water left in the rivers is not safe for drinking. The pollution experts have held that the Ganga water at Kashi is not safe for drinking. Due to slowing down of the flow in these rivers, the very existence of these rivers is in the danger. The silt is piling up at the river bed and the sand area is expanding causing danger of floods, as the water flowing capacity of these rivers is decreasing. The decreasing water level in the rivers is leading to irrigation crisis. More than 400 crore rupees have been spent to clean the pollution of the Ganga river alone. Still there is no improvement. I would like to invite the attention of the Union Government to these serious issue and demand that the desilting operation should be carried out in Ganga, Gomati, Ghagra, Rapti, Badi Gandak, Choti Gandak rivers was to save them from extinction and the local unemployed people should be provided employment in this work.

[English]

**(viii) Need to take over ancient temples in Dhankanal Parliamentary Constituency in Orissa for their proper protection and conservation.**

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : A large number of ancient monuments and temples are lying in the State of Orissa in a dilapidated condition. Out of them the following temples are located in Dhenkanal constituency :

1. Kapileswar Mahadev Temple, Hatuari, Kamakhyanagar Sub-Division.
2. Chandrasekhar Jew, Kapilash, Sadar Sub-Division.
3. Annakoteswara, Latodeipur, Sadar Sub-Division.
4. Astha Sambhu Temples, Kualo, Kamakhyanagar Sub-Division.
5. Rock Cut Ananthasayan-Vishnu on river Brahmani Bed, Kamakhyanagar Sub-Division.

These temples are neither being protected by the Archaeological Survey of India nor the State Archaeological Department. I have been following the matter with the State as well as the Central Government since 1993. In the meantime, a 'No Objection Certificate' has been issued by the State Government to the ASI for the transfer of these five temples. But the ASI has been making inordinate delay in taking over these temples. As the protection of these temples is very necessary, these temples should be taken over by the ASI at an early date. I urge upon the Central Government to take action in the matter without any further delay and immediate steps should be taken to allocate funds in 1997-98 financial year for the proper conservation of these five temples of Dhenkanal.

14.19 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET — GENERAL  
DISCUSSION, 1997-98  
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT  
(RAILWAYS), 1997-98  
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS —  
RAILWAYS, 1994-95  
SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS —  
RAILWAYS 1996-97 — *Contd.*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have to make a request that as many as 50 Members have given their names

to speak and until now the Members have been normally taking more than one hour to express their views on this issue. Therefore, you should fix the maximum ceiling of 10 minutes for all the Members so that all Members who have given their names gets the opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the leaders of all the party speak first then, even 10 minutes would not be required. You give just seven minutes. Let me conclude my views.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Would it not be party-wise?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, it is so.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Let me finish first. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all Members who have given their names should get a chance to speak. If to cover all, minutes are given to each member than it will be good.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him finish first, then you can go ahead.

SHRI RAM NAIK : But all the Members who have given their names, should get a chance to speak, keeping it in view time adjournment should be done. We will go accordingly tonight or tomorrow as decided by the Chair. In my case, all Members should get the chance.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Sir, almost all important leaders have spoken. If You fix the time limit of seven minutes then the Member will get a chance to raise the issues of his or her constituency. This way, they will be able to raise the matters relating to their constituency and the Railway Member would also come to know about the problems of various areas. There is no need for comprehensive speeches.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar) : All members should be called one by one.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall call all.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : If time is available then you can call other people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That means all have agreed on seven minutes time limit.

SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also to make a humble suggestion. In the past, if the Railway Minister was unable to cover all the points raised by the Members during the discussion on the Railway budget then, the Railway Ministry to finish the information in writing to the concerned Member scating as to what action has been taken on there points. I request you to resume the old practice.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. old practice should be resumed.

We are holding discussion on Rail Budget. There has been mixed creation on Rail Budget both inside

and outside the Parliament. When Rail Budget was introduced, some persons said that Rail Budget was a good one and the interest of everyone was kept in mind while some said that the Budget was not a balanced one and attention was paid to certain areas only and the other areas were neglected. Some said that the Budget was a populist one and was prepared keeping in view the elections. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is the Minister of Railways and he is fortunate enough to present the Rail Budget twice and God knows, how many times he presents the Rail Budget in future. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is a senior MP and is popular as a dynamic and wise leader of the country. Therefore, while preparing the Rail Budget, he has shown his wisdom and cleverness. He gave an impression that something has been done for everyone and there everyone was happy with a word of praise for him. The Members from Kerala who were up in arms, have been calmed down. The hon. Members of Himachal Pradesh have also been cooled down. Thus, he has tried to pacify one and all. But how would he deal with the burden which he has imposed on the people and towards fulfilling the announcements made by him as a result of which discussions take place almost everyday during zero hour, during Budget speech in the House and in public gatherings outside the House? How will he fulfil the assurances made by him? Does this Budget give any indication of fulfilling those assurances? So far as delivering speech is concerned, nobody can outsmart Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. His voice is loud and when he sat this side, he was expert in out voicing others. He utilised zero hour almost everyday and the Chair could not avoid him. Now, he is the Minister of Railways and the leader of the House. So far as speech is concerned, he will prove himself the best Minister of Railways. But if he wants to clear the test, he will have to fulfil all the promises made by him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as he said and everyone was optimistic that new rail lines will be laid down, gauge conversion will be taken up and the rail lines will be doubled and they would be repaired too. He aroused the aspirations of the people and it seemed to them that it will really take place. Passenger will be provided better facilities than before. Annual Plan prepared through this Budget is to the tune of Rs. 8300 crore for the current year. The quantum of goods transportation as well as the number of rail passengers is increasing day by day but the condition of Railways is constantly deteriorating. The percentage of its goods transportation and passenger transportation in the country is declining and today, it is likely to decline more. I want to present some facts in this regard. As per the Rail Budget 1950-51, the percentage of goods transportation was 88 in the country which declined to 46 percent in 1991-92 while the percentage of passenger transportation was 74 in 1950-51 which declined to 20.8 in 1991-92. It has further declined to 35 per cent this year and a

further decline of 13 percent is expected because no attention has been paid towards this in the Budget.

Sir, a provision of Rs. 1208.29 crore has been made in 1997-98 in annual plan for rolling stock while a provision of more than Rs. 1670 crore was made in annual plan of 1996-97 for it presented by him, the revised estimate of which is going to touch the figure of Rs. 2021 crore. It was done by the previous Government and it is not due to his kindness. The provision of Rs. 2020 crore was made for rolling stock for the previous year which was diminished to Rs. 1208 crore for the current year. The rolling stock means the stock which we have at present. The load will go on increasing on the existing coaches and engines. The same situation exists in regard to track renewal. The provision for the stock renewal is constantly decreasing. So far as gauge conversion is concerned, Rs. 996 crore have been provided for this purpose in the annual plan of the current year while the revised estimates of the previous year is Rs. 1021 crore. This year Rs. 80 crore have been provided for passenger amenities while the revised estimates of the last year is Rs. 103 crore, it means passenger amenities are likely to decrease. The tracks are not likely to be repaired. The Ministry of Railways is not going to have new coaches, wagons and engines. The crowd is likely to increase which will put its pressure on the existing resources. If the track is not properly maintained and repaired, the accidents are likely to increase. The passenger amenities will go on decreasing. The same condition exists in regard to doubling of the track.

Sir, I do not want to waste the time of the House. Everything has been given in the Budget. If one goes through the explanatory memoranda, all these things will be obvious. See, how it has been revised in 1996-97. If you go through the Budget of 1997-98, you will know that no progress has been made in any sphere and he claims that he is satisfying one and all. I fail to understand as to how he wants to run the railways. The responsibility of the Ministry of Railways is to expand and develop it on the one hand and on the other hand to properly maintain it so that it can be used properly. The hon. Minister is not present in the House. The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways is present in his place. I do not know whether he has any say or not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILLIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : If Shri Satpal Maharaj will not have his say, how will the Government run?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : If the Government survives, Maharaj will also survive. He has become an experienced fellow. Almost daily we see the photo of the hon. Prime Minister Shri Haradhanhalli Dodde Gowda Deve Gowda on one side, the photo of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on the other side and a small photo of Shri Satpal Maharaj peeping from the middle. If some

one else's photo comes in the middle, sometimes his photo is photo is published in lower portion ...*(Interruptions)* Why will my photo be published? I do not want my photo to be published. What is used of it?

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa) : It ensures popularity.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : There is a story behind the name. Now you please keep quiet. I will tell all the stories one by one. I would tell as to how much discrimination is there is it. Mr. Dinesh Yadav, you belong to the ruling party. You are with Paswanji and sometimes you say to him that you would be with him after Laloo Yadav ji is ousted. Due to that thing some of your work are done. It is a different matter, but we would tell as to how we are suffering. I am not talking about it now. What is the position of maintenance...*(Interruptions)* You do not know, you please sit down. Ask him while he is done.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : After Lalooji is ousted, you come here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You please sit down. You tell it later on as to what you would do after filing charge sheet. It will be debated later on. It would be better if a discussion is held on the politics being done in the name Railway first.

What is the condition of maintenance? Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you must have got the opportunity to travel in Railway but I would request you that you should travel once in eastern railway. When we travel in other railway, we have one experience and when travel in eastern railway. We have different experience. In eastern region covers Bihar, Bengal, Assam and North-East. There is a need to pay attention towards this region. You can see the condition of eastern railway. I am not talking about general compartments but I am talking about AC two tier. I am talking about the Rajdhani Express to Mumbai and Radhani Express to Calcutta, Gauhati and Bhubaneshwar. A Rajdhani Express was introduced to Patna. What is the use of introducing Rajdhani Express for Patna when this train reaches Patna via Lucknow in 16 hours. No passenger of Lucknow travels in it. Paswanji has introduced that train...*(Interruptions)* you please hear patiently.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Do you not want it?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : We want that it should go directly to Patna via Kanpur. There is no need to divert it via Lucknow.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Then, the people of Lucknow would ask for it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : There are many trains for Lucknow such as Shatabadi etc. ....*(Interruptions)*

You can ask the people of Lucknow whether they go to Lucknow by this train or not. It reach Patna at 2.30

[Shri Nitish Kumar]

or 3.00 A.M. There are Lucknow Mail and Satabadi Express for Lucknow. You want to please the people of U.P. alongwith the people of Bihar. I would come to it later on. It is a separate matter.

At present I am talking about maintenance. You travel in Eastern Railway. Recently I was returning from Calcutta by Howrah-Danapur Express. You would not get a chance now because you would travel in Saloon.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Hon'ble Members do not travel below first class. Day before yesterday I have suspended a chargeman and foreman at Patna in DMU Train. There was no light in DMU train when it started from Patna. We admit our mistake. I suspended him then and there. I agree with you that the services of Rajdhani Express is not being used to that extent to which it should be but I had announced to introduce train from Rajdhani to Rajdhani Patna is the capital of Bihar, Lucknow is the capital of U.P. and Delhi is the capital of India. Therefore, I had announced it. I admit that a lot of time is taken by this train and it is not as beneficial as it should be. But if you once give a benefit and then withdraw that later on it would cause dissatisfaction among the people.

If my friends from U.P. agree it, I do not have any objection. We would not run that Rajdhani Express via Lucknow.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Minister has raised a question in the House instead of replying the question...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You speak when you would be called to speak.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur) : Reduce the time for Lucknow. It is not proper to discontinue the services of Rajdhani Express.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : We are not asking for discontinuing the services of Rajdhani Express for Lucknow. It is a separate matter. It is not a question of Bihar but operation of Rajdhani Express should be of certain standard. We would not say anything more.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You were talking about maintenance.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I was talking about the Eastern Railway as to what happens in Hawarah-Danapur Express. The Hon. Minister do not know about it. The Minister of Railways was on his legs. I was season ticket holder earlier. I become MLA in the year 1985. Before that I used to travel on MST and I have not even seen AC Two Tier. My friends MLAs used to ask me to travel with them but I was not entitled for that class and it was not my habit to become parasite. The Minister was just now talking about DMU. I was a daily passenger from Bakhtiyarpur to Patna and now when I am MP, I have got all these facilities. I do not want to pretend that I am entitled for first class and have a ticket

of AC two tier and still travelling in three tier compartment. I cannot do that. If you have done anything as the Minister of Railways, you do that. When Shri Guljari Lal Nanda was the Minister of Railways, he took action against coolies in connection with the prevailing corruption at Mugal Sarai Yard whereas action should have been taken against Mafia. Therefore, the miscreants should be identified. I was travelling in Hawarah-Danapur train last month. The bed-rolls being provided in that train were not fit for use. When I asked the Staff in this regard, they told me that these were being supplied by Private Parties. Similarly, it is being supplied in superfast, Rajdhani Express trains in Eastern region. Earlier MPs used to travel in these trains and the condition was improved. But now dirty bed-rolls are being provided. I would give you one more example. Shri U.N. Biswas, Joint Director, CBI who was conducting inquiry in Fodder Scam was travelling in the train. The people were very happy with him and the Railway officials told him that there were so many irregularities there. For Biswas a new bed roll was supplied but the MPs were provided with the same dirty bed rolls like general public and that bed rolls were not fit for use.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, so far as amenities are concerned, neither the coaches nor the toilets are cleaned. You are here in Delhi. If you go there, you would know that there is regional imbalance. You can not see the situation while sitting in Headquarters. Many trains run upto U.P., Bihar border. Their condition is somewhat better, but they are not satisfied with that. Their condition has worsened a bit. They are old land lords and they have been providing Prime Minister to the country from Uttar Pradesh and that is why U.P. was held in high esteem but today they are not in a position to provide a Prime Minister.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur) : Hon'ble Railway Minister has a problem that all Bihar bound trains pass through Uttar Pradesh otherwise he would have ignored Uttar Pradesh also.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : My second point was that it would take time to deteriorate the condition. Earlier you gave Prime Ministers to the country but now you are not able to make even Chief Minister. This is the main cause of pitiable condition of Uttar Pradesh. You see the conditions of trains going towards Bihar, Assam and North-East. You see their revenue heads also. You are increasing the funds for maintenance.

*[English]*

repair and maintenance of carriage and wagon

*[Translation]*

It has been increasing in the entire railways. Despite the increase of funds in eastern railway maintenance is not proper.

Now, we come to eastern railway. There was a provision for Rs. 183 crores for carriage and wagon maintenance in 1991-92. In 1997-98 Rs. 378 crores earmarked for this purpose. Last year Rs. 285 crores was allocated and revised amount was Rs. 293 crores. The funds is being doubled but what is the position of maintenance. Fifteen days ago I got an opportunity to go to Palamu. All the people say to Paswanji about Bihar. Many people speak to you in the name of Bihar and that is why some time it our feeling also and we say something. You travel by Palamu express. We were to travel by it. There were many members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly with us. There was Programme of our Party and fortunately former Railways Minister George Fernandes was also to accompany us but he could not go there. There was no light in first class compartments. We wrote for reservation and talked to Railway Officers in this regard. Officers assured us that everything would be in order on the day of our journey. When we boarded the train, there was no light. Thereafter, they worked hard for half an hour. When this is the position of first class, it is useless to talk about other compartments. Officers did their best to promote electricity so that we people could go. We said that we would use torch light in the toilet, so do not delay the train, let it move. We people performed our journey without electricity by Palamu express. When you were in opposition and we people were with you at that time also we had mentioned about these trains many times. You see the condition while travelling to Bhagalpur. All north-east trains pass through Katihar. You can not travel by these trains. If you travel by these trains, you would find that expenditure on passenger's amenities is increasing but there is no facility in commensurate to this expenditure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now we come to miscellaneous working expenses. In 1991-92 Rs. 451 crores and 64 lakhs were sanctioned for this purpose. The revised figure for 1996-97 was Rs. 773 crores and 75 lakhs and this time provision for Rs. 1021 crores and 83 lakhs has been made. This is miscellaneous working expenses. What is this? Miscellaneous expense is increasing. You leave fuel issue because you are increasing fare as per the increase in the fuel rate. Remaining expenses are being increased indiscriminately big advertisements are published. Where is this money going? Whenever a railway line is announced, big advertisements are published for that. Whenever you visit a State, advertisement is published on full page for that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : There is a technique of railways in regard to the Miscellaneous expenses. You are hon'ble Member of Parliament. Now our colleagues of Kerala have also come. We have funds under sub head. We can not transfer the funds of a head to other. We can not present deficit budget like general budget. If there is need to provide more facilities in any area that is also done. I would like to tell you that

there will be no Minister more particular than me in the matter of miscellaneous working expenses who has seen each item.

As regard to the advertisement, I would like to submit that it is in the practice since the railway has come into existence. But when a son of Dalit becomes a Minister. Everybody looks towards his advertisement. You cite even a single case wherein railway project has been executed without advertisement. Advertisements have always been published. But today we are proud of it that we are doing utmost work. Everybody wants that Railways Minister should visit his area but the Railways Minister has nothing to do with it whether advertisement is published or not. There is separate department for it. Railways has its own style of functioning from the very beginning. But what our problem is that we can not give classification for each and everything. I would like to state that it would be better if you go through earlier data to ascertain whether the expenditure is being incurred on the advertisements for first time or it is in vogue for a long. It is not so that if a inauguration is performed in Delhi, it should be published in the newspapers and if a work is undertaken in village or tribal area its advertisements should be criticised. you enact a legislation in Parliament that no Ministry should publish any advertisement. If advertisement of inauguration in any tribal area is appeared, does it not boast the morale of the people of that area because the name of that particular area is covered by the newspapers. I do not understand why do you take it otherwise. I have been in this house for 20 years, earlier I was in opposition but I have never heard the speech of anyone including Nitish ji on the advertisement. I fail to understand why am I quoted again and again...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Though, Hon'ble Railways Minister is competent to put his views.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No running commentary please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I admit that expenditure has been incurring on the advertisements for a long time but it was wrong and still it is wrong. Ram Vilasji is a Massiaha of Dalits. I would like to state whether we do not want to take austerity measures? It is not a matter of imitation and we do not want to imitate anything. This is the way of those people who remained in the power but whether we should for go our duties towards social justice by adopting the same way. A new way can be evolved by giving up these things...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : We are adopting a new way. Day after yesterday I went to Bhopal but no advertisement was given. Before that I went to Nepal border for inauguration at Khagaria but no advertisement was published. Therefore, as far as possible we are adopting new way but it does not mean that whatever we are doing should not be known to the people.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with him that if work is done in any dalit or tribal area, it should be publicised but how many villagers go through newspapers; hardly one or two newspapers are read.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : No advertisement will be made at the time of inauguration at Islampur. Then I hope, you will not make a hue and cry.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : All right, you may not advertise but you provided the facility in my absence. I just want to know as to how many persons read newspapers in those area. My area is adjacent to Patna. I do agree that you know more about Bihar than me and there are persons who know much more than you know but you will also accept that I too have some knowledge about Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, come to the Rail Budget.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What I want to say is that very few people read newspaper in dalit areas. Therefore, it is misuse of money on advertisements. I want that advertisements should be made through posters or through personal contacts but there is no need of full page advertisement. The work of Railways is an official one; even small advertisements can serve the purpose.

When the hon. Minister of Railways was in opposition, he was very alert about advertisements. From that very day, he has his hold on Information and Broadcasting. Cite me a single instance when any issue raised by him in the House did not appear in the newspapers. When the Hon. Minister of Railways is doing a good job, it should be given publicity but my question is whether the work he is claiming to have been executed, has really been done? My good wishes are with him if he wants to do some work. If he works, I also will be happy. When he announces any new scheme, I congratulate him but on going through the Budget, it does not seem so. Still, publicity should be given. Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways is in the Government at present. Therefore, I would like to request you to kindly issue instructions to Doordarshan to reserve a channel for the inaugurations and foundation laying ceremonies of Railways and cover all the information in that regard. Why these foundation laying and inauguration ceremonies are taking place? It is so because he wants to do justice to one and all. After citing an example, I shall raise another point. The Government had planned of doubling Patna-Gaya railway line. A circular of the department of the Railway states that all the Members of Parliament whose parliamentary constituencies fall under that area, will be invited. He must be knowing since he belongs to Bihar, I want to inform others also...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa) : A function was organised in Darbhanga and hon. Member's name was there in the list.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Please stop. That development must have taken place later. He has planned of doubling Patna-Gaya rail line. Foundation laying ceremony took place since the ceremony was taking place in Patna, the hon. M.P. from Patna presided over the function. It is a matter of happiness. I do not know what else he was doing besides presiding over the function. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, the hon. M.P. of Jahanabad who was also there but the M.P. of Barh was nowhere.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Who is the hon. Member of Parliament from Barh?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Member of Parliament from Barh is speaking before you. Where did he disappear? You claim that you do justice and everything is advertised. Please, ask the Ministry of Railways as to what happened? I do not know whether there was any instructions from you or not? After that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I did not want to speak but I cannot resist myself anymore. Please ask him whether justice was not done to him? I told him thrice to accompany me for the inauguration of a bridge at Fatuha. His name was also printed and he was present there. Inspite of that why did he not attend the ceremony when it was in this constituency?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He knows it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Now, he knows it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He was doing politics there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Both of you know it, only the House is not aware of it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, just listen please.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : He will say that since Chief Minister had gone there therefore, he did not go there. Was it a party affair?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The condition of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is that of blow hot and blow cold. Sometimes, he signals that they are all logger heads and sometimes he favours him by doing his work. When the inauguration ceremony was in my constituency, what was the need of Chief Minister's presence? He was invited to that place and to no other place. Once I attended the Oath taking ceremony at the Legislative Assembly, I was compelled to eat sweet. That photo was published through out Bihar and it was publicised that something wrong was taking place. Efforts of unity were being speculated. Had I gone there, the same situation might have arisen and that could have lead to same hue and cry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it not on the Rail Budget?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I am coming to that point. The discussion is going on Rail Budget. He wants to create such an atmosphere intentionally which pains me. I wanted to go there but I could not do so because

of political reasons since he politicised that programme. That is another issue but these things do occur. There should be no discrimination.

Now, I take up the doubling of Patna-Gaya rail line issue. He has made several announcements in this Budget. I am going to confine myself to some points only because one bell has already been rung by the Chair. By citing an example, I will relate to you about the likely impact of the announcements made in the Rail Budget. The length of doubling of Patna-Gaya rail line project is only 60 k.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Just bear in mind that you have to come and sit here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not in the habit of uttering anything from there, if I sit on the Chair after you. So, please let me say from here whatever I want to say.

Out of a total of 60 k.m. Patna-Gaya doubling project only 7.4 k.m. line was doubled in the first phase. Last year, when I mentioned this fact, he omitted my name. The said rail line will pass through my constituency. After my constituency comes Jahanabad. The hon. Members of Parliament from Jahanabad and Patna were called but I was not. The total anticipated cost of this project is Rs. 10/- crore. He laid the foundation stone in 1996-97. Perhaps a decision to this effect was taken all of a sudden. So they have made a provision of Rs. 10/- lakh. The purpose was to lay the foundation stone and publish a full page advertisement omitting my name. Some money must have been provided in the 1997-98 budget because a sum of Rs. 10 crore will be spent on it. A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs was given last year. This year also the hon. Minister has given Rs. 10 lakh. Then how a Rs. 10 crore project will be completed by Rs. 10 lakh. Wherefrom the remaining amount will come. Therefore, the other hon. Members should also understand that all these announcements will be there only on papers. There is no budgetary provisions for their completion. If Ram Vilas ji was not able to oblige then, it is not his fault. It is the tradition of the Railways. When nothing is to be done then issue orders for survey. He is also doing the same thing, no matter whether it involves a lot of expenditure. First in 1995-96, it was Rs. 2.18 crore. This time it is Rs. 10 crore. Miscellaneous expenditure goes on increasing. That had been discussed but he lost patience on one point.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I did not lose patience. I can reply all points. Ramashrayaji is there you are also there. So far as the question of doubling is concerned, there is no need for you to bother about Rs. 10 lakh. We will provide Rs. 10 crore tomorrow itself, you arrange land...*(Interruptions)* I am not taking of Bihar alone. If at any particular stage the question of new rail line or doubling comes then the question of acquiring land arises. Perhaps the hon. Members are not aware of this. If all the Members can process hard

on which the work relating to new rail line or doubling is to be done, then there will be no scarcity of resources. Some problem comes up at the time of issuing tender etc. but you need not bother about money. When the august House passes even one rupee the Ministry has the power to spend Rs. 1.25 crore in its place.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar) : Please give compensation to the victims of accident that took place at Guna.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I said yesterday that I am getting it enquired by the Railway safety commissioner. The cause of this accident was that the railway crossing is located at a very lonely place. There is no signal arrangement there...*(Interruptions)*. First listen please. Yesterday you raised this matter. There is a problem that gateman closes the door after seeing the train and open it after the train passes away. The door was closed, the gateman was standing at the gate...*(Interruptions)*.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : The door was closed? It is not true. If it was closed how the accident took place.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The enquiry is going on. Everything will come to light.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Did the gateman die or not? How did he die?

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : He died for some other reasons. You tell us as to how the bus passed when the gate was closed? The door was open.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Please provide for compensation for those who have died.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : You do not admit your mistake.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Please conduct the enquiry.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Hon. Members, you level allegations like this. It also becomes your responsibility. There is a speed break. The train must have stopped there but the train is running and the gateman is killed. Then you are delivering speeches here.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Have patience to listen to us. You have no courage to listen.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : What the hon. Minister said that gate was closed is not correct.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You sit down, how many times I have to say. This is not Zero hour. Hon. Members are speaking I will request the hon. Minister to reply at the end.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Derailment takes place everywhere. The same thing happened here also.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : There was a long discussion on advertisements here. Then what is wrong if something is said about the persons who died.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards certain points. Everyone is talking of train robberies. We also were agitated in the House hours together for one or two days. But the number of train robberies has not come down. In spite of some observations from the Chair, the cases of train-robberies are increasing. Where should the train passengers go for their rescue? The hon. Minister states that it is the State Government's accountability to provide security for the running train. The Railways will safeguard its goods and yard with the help of Railway Protection Force (RPF). He believes that the Ministry of Railways also contributes towards GRP expenditure. The passengers feel themselves insecure in the present situation. They do not know whom should they approach for the redressal of their grievances? Will any action be taken in the current situation? I have come across Mahatma Gandhi's words written at place. "If someone travels without ticket and I am a railway officer, I may stop running the trains at that place." Is it possible? The passengers are already afraid of travelling. If such incidents go on increasing and for which you hold the State Government responsible, you may say that the trains will not pass through the State. Will there be such a thing or not?

Today, the hon. Home Minister's statement appeared in the newspaper stating that he would hold talks with people. You can make efforts in this regard. But such cases are not taken seriously. Today, passengers are left on the mercy of God or to be looted by dacoits. These days dacoits not only loot the passengers' belongings but they molest ladies also. One hon. Member Shri Brahma-nand Mandal had raised this issue. We also had expressed our views in this regard. Four persons were killed because they were protesting the act of molestation. Announcement of compensation for a police officer was made on that day. The Government was reiterating that three or four persons were killed in a bid to save ladies from being molested. The Government is thinking of providing compensation for the loss of lives and property. But the Government should also think about the persons who dared to oppose the act of molestation with courage otherwise, this may happen after some time that no voice of protest will be raised when ladies are being molested. This situation should be seriously pondered over. The states, where condition are deteriorating should get a clear signal and suitable action should be taken against them in this regard. This matter should not be left in this manner.

My second point is about RPF. RPF has been declared a paramilitary force. The enactment made in 1985 for the formation of RPF as paramilitary force, should be repealed and it should be made a security force and it should be provided railway facilities. This

view point was supported by the Members of all parties. Since you are taking many decisions you can also take this decision. The hon. Minister should not hesitate in taking decision. Both, you as well as the hon. Home Minister are capable of taking any decision. Both of you should take a decision in this regard and for the protection of railways, RPF should be accorded a status of security force and provided all the facilities which are being given to railway employees. All the more the RPF does not fulfil the criteria laid down for the formation of a paramilitary force and it is also not being provided facilities and arms in accordance with the norms laid down for a paramilitary force.

Finally, I would like to say that the Railways protect goods and yards but it fails in protecting passengers. Therefore, this point should also be considered. A separate police force should be formed for the running of trains. It should have its complete structure and it should be accountable for the security of the railways. If any incident occurs in an area of one k.m. falling in the jurisdiction of GRP, the officers of that particular area should be held responsible. You cannot save your skin by simply saying that it is a federal structure. The Federal structure does not mean that an infected part of the federation should be left to develop into a cancer. But if it happens, what will happen after some time. The incidents of robberies are taking place in Bihar, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. The people from the West will say that the infected part should be severed. Such incidents have occurred in other countries also. The people of other parts will flourish on our iron and coal. Later on, they will say that train robberies take place in your state and it is very difficult to move there; therefore this part should be cut off and separated from the country. Many such things may arise. In this regard you can make a statement that it is the responsibility of the State then the Chief Minister of the State will make a statement in the Legislative Assembly that the police is involved in dacoities. When it is clear that police is involved in such cases, why do you not apprehend them and take action against them. Sue them in court and take this matter seriously. Mere statement will not do. I have a suggestion in this regard which should be considered in the meeting called by the hon. Home Minister. A unified police force should be formed under the control of the Union Government for the safety and security of running train and Railway yard. This matters should be considered.

Finally, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways, through he has neglected... (*Interruptions*) You all were caused to deliver speeches from here. But he has been neglected. I used to speak about North Bihar and you used to speak about central and south Bihar. But what is the situation today? I have no grudge that you have done something for any particular area. I would like to request that the construction of a bridge over river Ganga should be started at the earliest and this area should be connected with North Bihar so that

traffic problem could be solved. But will the Government neglect Rajgir and Bodhgaya - the places of international importance? Japan was ready to provide funds for Buddhist circuit in 1989-90. We have also been raising this issue that a rail line should be laid upto Hiswa to link Rajgir with Gaya. If there is no option to opt out for Railways and any work is to be avoided, the order is issued to conduct survey. I would like to bring it to your knowledge that the survey has already been conducted in this regard but the Government has again ordered to conduct survey. Please change your standard one take the old survey as valid and just calculate the ratio of profit and loss. I do agree with you that due to the ratio of profit and loss, neither backward areas can develop nor the department of Railways. Regional imbalance cannot be removed. Railways has its national importance and therefore it is imperative that it should reach these area also. A question was raised in the House that since Bakhtiarpur-Rajgir branch line was incurring loss and stood second in Eastern Railway, could it not be made profitable by connecting this line to Hiswa? The survey conducted by the Ministry of Railways in 1981-82, is gathering dust in the Ministry. If the said survey is revived and some changes are made in it, it will pave the way for laying the line. This line is important not only for Bihar or India but it has international important. Therefore, I would like to request you to pay your attention towards this line.

Likewise, the Government have provided funds for the survey of Fatuha-Islampur rail line. I would like to thank you that something has been done in the name of constituency. Fatuha-Islampur rail line was already there. The department of railways took over the said line, its assets and absorbed it employees but stopped the running of trains on this line. After that, due to floods, the rail lines were washed away and the bridge was damaged and it was auctioned by the Railways afterwards. It is not a new rail line. The Government has only to revive and restore the rail line which already existed between Fatuha and Islampur. You can take decision of restoring that line. Much is being said here about Bihar. If Government provides something for the areas which have been neglected and which should get such facility, we shall stand with you face the valley of opposition. Do not limit your activities only upto maintaining relation, look ahead of that also. There is a Hathidah junction which connects North Bihar to South Bihar. You will be surprised to note despite this station being a junction, there is no signal at this junction. It is strange but true. People cross the line through over bridge. I would like to request you to provide signal facility at this junction...(*Interruptions*) In absence of signal, people fail to guess about the approaching train. They are killed while crossing the line. Therefore, attention should be paid to it.

Sir, I would like to demand that Danapur-Howrah passenger should be stopped at Rampur Dumra junction. Danapur-Howrah express, Vikramshila express

and Kamla Intercity train should be stopped at Hathidah junction. There is Aura halt but no train stops there. Danapur-Howrah Fast passenger should be stopped there. Sialdah-Mughal Sarai-Pataliputra express should be stopped at Punarakh. Barh can be come a district any time after Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav demits the office but it can never become a district when Laloogi is in office. Tata-Patna is the oldest sub-division to be made district. Tata-Patna super fast express as well as Kamala Intercity express should be stopped there. Attention should also be paid to Bakhtiarpur - my native place which is often cared - and Tata-Patna super fast express should be stopped there...(*Interruptions*) Why do you object if it stops there. If it stops at Barh, we shall also board the train...(*Interruptions*) Why was I invited to that function when it does not stop in my constituency? If I was invited, then stop it either at Barh or Fatuha sub-division or at constituency headquarter. I would like to thank you for providing stoppage of two trains at Fajahan - one being Vikramshila for which I was demanding for a long time.

Sir, the people of Fatuha would be benefited if Lal Quila express stops at Fatuha. Arrangements of reservation in A.C. II tier should be made at Bakhtiarpur. Hardas Bigha which is a flag station should be accorded the status of a permanent station. There has been a long pending demand for a halt station. I would like to request you to make a halt station in between Achuara, Barh and Athmal Gola and between Athmal Gola, Mauli and Bakhtiarpur.

Sir, finally, I would like to request the hon. Minister to be determined to fulfil all the promises which he has made. As per the present situation, it is not visible in the plan expenditure, and so far as plan-expenditure is concerned, the expenditure is increasing while services are worsening. I, through you, would like to request the hon. Minister that the services should be improved and new rail lines should be laid, the existing lines should be doubled and more funds should be provided under plan head. In the end, I on behalf of my friends would like to make one more request. Every member of Parliament is potential ex-M.P. The Government must take care of them. A request in this regard has been sent. I conclude my speech with these words and thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me opportunity to express my views on this Budget. Personally Hon'ble Paswanji has been my companion from long time. There is no doubt that he has been working hard. When he was presenting the Railway Budget and enumerating the works going on in the Railways, I realised that he has lost sight of Uttar Pradesh and he has not taken into consideration the largest state of the country. I was prepared whether he presenting the Budget of the Indian Railways or the Budget of the Bihar Railways. I don't have any objection to it. He has fully compensated Bihar for the neglect it

[Shri Iliyas Azmi]

had suffered earlier, but it is not proper to ignore Uttar Pradesh. In this Budget to be undertaken hardly two or three works has been in Uttar Pradesh stated to be undertaken in Uttar Pradesh. States much smaller than Uttar Pradesh have been mentioned 10-15 times in this Budget. When I met him after a great deal of efforts, he ordered for conducting survey for laying rail line from Golagokarannath to Farukhabad via Mohammadi and Shajahanpur which was a old demand from my area. This survey was conducted twenty years earlier also. He said that the survey work is in progress, but no survey is actually being conducted there. May be it is being done somewhere on paper in Rail Bhawan of which I am quite unaware. First of all I would like to say that in order to ensure that the survey may not remain just a survey as was the case of survey 20 years ago, work should be started forthwith as soon as the report is received this time. I went through the entire details thereof. After hearing the Budget speech, I came to the conclusion that there is no provision for reducing extravagancy in railways. We find no determination to that effect, what talk of making any provisions therefor. Although mention has been made of making provision in the budget for reducing extravagancy can certainly be reduced. If he pays heed to reducing extravagancy in right earnest, hundreds crores of rupees can be saved and the funds thus saved can be utilised in developmental works.

The second thing is in regard to the large scale pilferage taking place in Railways about which Paswanji has not stated as to what he would do in regard to the booking of the goods worth 100 crores of rupees and the payment to be made for the goods this is pilfered. The scrap which is pilfered and for which no payment is made is worth billions of rupees. What they are going to do in this matter. I have no hesitation to say that if you see the member of pilferages and the amount Railway had to pay as compensation before the formation of R.P.F. then you will reach to the conclusion that the incidence of pilferages has increased in the Railway. One who knows the profession of scrap must be aware that if 50 tonnes scrap is auctioned, at least 500 tonnes scrap is lifted in connivance with the railway officials and R.P.F. Half of that money goes in their pockets which should have gone to the Railways. If we are able to check the theft of scrap which occur in connivance with the railway officials, perhaps the railway fares need not be increased time and again. In this way the loss suffered by Railways can be reduced to a considerable extent. But he has not even pointed out that in the Railway Budget. It shows that they are not concerned over it. In my view, these thefts are taking place due to the lack of proper security in Railways because most of the funds are spent on the salaries and uniforms of employees. These thefts can be checked if the Minister of Railway pays heed to it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards one more important aspect. Yesterday, the Minister of Railways was saying that everything was on the increase, the number of areas, the number of textile and districts was increasing making the increase in Railways also unavoidable. I am sorry to say that I was born in Azamgarh district where there is railway line in existence since 1902 and there has been gauge conversion of the Khorasan route but there is no train. It appears to me that the Minister of Railways could not find time for its inauguration. When new stations are being established, halts are being provided and halts are being upgraded as to Stations. Then why such injustice is being done with the Khorasum station. Just now Shri Nitish Kumar was also saying it. This is my village and the Tehsil is in Phulpur area town. Why this station was abolished. When he himself is saying that everything is on the increase, how far it is proper to abolish this station and convert it into a half. Therefore, I request him to issue direction that this station which was established in 1902 should be restored. This is an important place. Lakhs of foreigners visit that place and people from Mumbai, Calcutta and Delhi also keep visiting it. Therefore this station should be allowed to remain as it is.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have requested many times orally as well as in writing while meeting with the Minister of Railways that Shahjanpur-Delhi passenger train should be started from Balamau because the trains coming from Bihar or Bengal are over crowded in which passengers do not get berth at all from Hardoi. If this train is started from Balamau, the commuters would be benefitted. For this train neither more coaches are needed nor extra expenditure is required to be incurred on the Engine. For it only the train is to be extended upto a distance of only 100 kilometres. If provision for this purpose is made in this Budget, Commuters can travel easily. Because Balamau already has facility shunting as well as of shed and no arrangement is required to be made. Only this train is to be extended. I request the Minister of Railways that it should be sanctioned here and now to take care of the people of that area.

15.24 hrs.

[Shri Nitish Kumar *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Saharanpur-Lucknow Express train passes from Hardoi in my area. Hardoi is at a distance of 110 kilometre from Lucknow. If this train is given a half for two minutes at Hardoi, daily passengers would be benefitted. Daily commuters travelling mornings and evenings can also take benefit from it. It would also not cost anything to the Railway. Railway do not have to provide Budget, neither it how to provide any coach and nor it have to make arrangement of any engine. What is required is only to provide just a two-minute halt there. Thirdly I would like to say something about the problem of my area...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want to say anything, please stand up and say.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Whether you are also going to ask for a train while sitting in the Chair...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : It was a similar issue as yours. Therefore Paswanji goes on giving assurance in between.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I would look into the matter regarding Balamau.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have got the assurance just sitting over there.

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : I would like to say one thing. In my constituency there is a Tarai region by the name Kheeri. many of people from Punjab, particularly our sikh brethern in large number live there. These people have to face a lot of difficulties while going to Punjab. They have to Bareilly for getting reservation before hand and then they have to go there the day when they have to catch the train. He has introduced a train which goes from Barauni to Amritsar via Gonda, Sitapur and Shahajahanpur. It stoppage of that train is provided at Mangalgañj, not only going to Punjab people but the whole of the tarai area would be benefitted. Many a time people met me and asked me to request in this regard to Shri Paswan ji as he has been a colleague of mine since long. Earlier, I had written that a quota to give from Bareilly for which reservation may be had from Gola, but Mangalgañj is a point from where it would be easier for the people of Punjab to go. People would be benefitted if this tain is given halt there and the quota of reservation is also provided. For it he would not have to spend even Rs. 5 or make any budgetary provisions.

I have put the main problems of my area before him, I want that the Minister of Railways should say something about it although he has just now given assurance in this regard. It would make me happy and it would also send a good message to the people of my area. I would like to tell Paswanji that after hearing his budget speech in which he said that survey would be conducted for train to Gola via Mammadi, people of my area celebrated the occasion like Id. Our Presiding Officer had said that if you want to satisfy get the survey conducted. In different thing whether the work is done or not. But the common people don't understand it. People celebrated the occasion after hearing the announcement of the survey. I want that the hon-Minister should give an assurance here also in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Presiding officer is not referred directly. Presiding Officer is afterall the Presiding Officer.

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : All right. I want to draw the attention of the House to a particular matter that the present United Front Government have abolished discretionary quota for Ministers. I have come to the House for the first time, but I have been listening from

the Members of tenth and Ninth Lok Sabha that there was a no corruption in the discretionary quota of Ministers. Hon'ble Members used to go with the problems of their respective areas or they wanted to get employment for some of their men or they wanted some other benefit for their constituency and the Minister used to issue orders directly. Abolishing discretionary quota would only lead to increase in corruption. The Minister of Railways used to make direct recruitment of fourth class employees 'in the Railway Ministry'. I am sure that no M.P. takes bribes from any person of his area and no Minister provides employment by asking for bribes from the M.P. nor anything of this sort is being done these days. When the quota is abolished, who would make recruitment in class IV category? The bureaucrats will take fixed amount Rs. 20-25 thousands bribe to appoint them. Who is being benefitted by abolishing the discretionary quota? I would like that not only the Minister of Railways but all the Members should support me in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whether there is any discretionary quota in Railways.

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : It was there in Railways also for making recruitment of class IV employees and for providing free passes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not been successful in putting it clearly. You are talking about general discretionary quota.

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : Earlier, the Minister of Railways had powers. Now when we go to him with the request that our one peson may be employed, he shows the letter of Cabinet Secretary to us and asks us to go through that. Previously when he had discretionary powers, some persons used to get employment. People got employment today also, but earlier they did not have to pay bribery. But today, the situation is this that if you have money in your pocket, you will be recruited. It is known to all that bureaurats do not provide employment anywhere without taking money.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please don't give stoppage at one place for such a long time, go further.

SHRI ILIAS AZAMI : Through you, I would like to request the Prime Minister to restore the abolished discretionary quota because its abolition would benefit only the bureaucrats who will indulge in bribery. It would be disadvantageous to MPs like me who used to get some work of the people of their area done. When the Ministers used to have discretionary quota, we used to get many of our works done, but today all such works are at a stand still. I would also request the Minister of Railways that he may appraise the Prime Minister of our submissions as he is not present in the House right now. I hope that the Minister would convey to the Prime Minister our feelings. Abolishing discretionary quota was not an act of wisdom.

[Shri Ilyas Azmi]

With these words, I finish my speech as I have never taken much time whenever I have had the opportunity to speak and once again I would request the Minister of Railways that it would be good if he says something here and now in regard to the three-four demands I have put forth here.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I will say at the time of reply.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : I thank you for the opportunity given to me at last to express my views on the different aspects of the Railway Budget. On behalf of my Party, RSP, I rise to extend my support to the Railway Budget. I welcome the intention of the Railway Minister and the proposals made by him in the Railway Budget speech. I would, however, like to put before the House some of the points which need special attention of the hon. Railway Minister.

Sir, it is a historical fact that Railway is a vehicle of progress and civilization. It indicates the mobility of the country's economy. It has a vital role to play in the production and growth of country's economy. The railway network has a social relevance and economic importance.

The hon. Railway Minister has presented a very nice Budget. The Railway has a historical role to play. We can say that it is the only vehicle of progress and civilization. Before Independence, in the British *Raj*, the British Government felt the need of the Railway network as a vehicle of trade and commerce, as an instrument of political unification of the country and as a weapon for modern science and technology, progress and civilization. It is unfortunate to mention here that the Congress Government during the last 50 years did not realise the importance of Railways as a means of modern science, technology, progress and civilization.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN (Shri Nitish Kumar) : Loud noises are coming from left side. Please do maintain silence.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : We see that about 85 per cent of the total railway network existing in the railway system of India was executed during the British *Raj*. In the fifty years after our Independence, we see a very slow rate of growth of railway network. In the early '50s, when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was the Prime Minister, the growth of railway network was only 0.5 per cent. In the mid '50s, when Lal Bahadur Shastri took over the charge of the Railway Ministry, we see that the growth of railway network in India was only 0.6 per cent. In the '60s, during the regime of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, we see that the

growth of rail network came down to 0.2 per cent. And during the days of the Government led by Shri Narasimha Rao, in the last five years, we see that the growth rate of Indian railway network was zero per cent, that is, absolutely nil. The failure of the previous Governments over the last fifty years is now a burden on the head of our Railway Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. The failure of the previous Governments to extend the rail network in India, the failure of the previous Governments to cater to the needs of the Railways is the only reason for the economic frustration of the people today.

The Railways and the railway network had brought the political unification of the whole country. Today railway network has its social relevance in respect of bringing forth the integration of the country. It was necessary for political unification of the country, and it is necessary even today. Expansion of railway system is necessary for the integration of our country. So, I would urge upon the Railway Minister and the Government to expand the railway system to integrate the backward areas of the country with the main centres of economic activity whether at Calcutta, Patna, Chennai, Mumbai, or Delhi. All backward regions, disintegrated regions and alienated regions should be brought into close contact with the centres of economic activity. Expansion of railway network is necessary for that. So, I would urge upon the Government to make necessary funding provisions for expansion of railway network.

Sir, I welcome the proposal made by the hon. Railway Minister in his Budget speech for the expansion of railway network in the North-Eastern region. We welcome this proposal because of the fact that the people of the North-Eastern States of India are totally neglected. And the bright and beautiful children of these neglected areas are misguided today. They are choosing the path of subversive activities; they are choosing the path of secessionism. Economic frustration, starvation, unemployment are the only reasons for the frustration of economic life in all these North-Eastern States. Railway is the backbone for the revival of economic situation of this neglected North-Eastern region. That is why I welcome the proposal made by the hon. Minister of Railway for the extension of railway network in the North-Eastern States.

I also welcome another good proposal for the regularisation of 56000 casual workers by the Railway Department. Their cry is a justified cry; their demand is a justified demand. Casual workers are determined only by the good wishes of the bureaucracy; and the administrative bureaucrats in the Railway Department cannot determine the casual workers, cannot determine the nature of the casual workers. Why am I saying so? I am saying so because of the fact that there is a 'mini' casual workers. Why I use the word 'mini' is that they were employed by the Railway Department voluntarily and they serve the Department voluntarily for 35 days

and they were paid. After an interval of one month or two months, they were again called to serve the Railway Department. In this way, these workers serve the Indian Railways for 85 days, or 125 days or 165 days. This in my opinion is called 'mini' casual workers because they are not included into the list prepared by the administrative bureaucrats of the Indian Railways as casual workers. I would urge upon the Railway Minister to include this type of 'mini' casual workers into the casual workers for their regularisation, for their security and for their inclusion into the Railway Department. This is my humble submission.

Let me draw the attention to the very unpleasant proposal for the hike in the freight charges and for the hike in the passenger fares. Twelve per cent hike in the freight charges and 10 per cent hike in the passenger fares will definitely cast a very deep shadow upon the general prices of the essential commodities. We are living in an age of capitalism. It is an era of international sophisticated capitalism and the motive of the businessmen, the motive of the investment is nothing but to earn the profit. So, the profit making is the motive of the investment. Investors invest only to earn more and more profit and the profit earning businessmen only take the opportunity and advantage of the 12 per cent hike in freight charges and the general price of the essential commodities will naturally go high-up and will go beyond the reach of the common man.

In a capitalist system, the inter-carriage system is related with the national capitalist phenomenon. So, a 12 per cent hike in freight charges and a 10 per cent hike in the passenger fares will definitely increase the price level, the price index of the essential commodities. We find from the Press statement of the Ministry of Railways and from the management of the Railway Board that only 0.13 per cent hike may be possible on the part of the general prices of essential commodities. But it is not a fact. It is a jugglery of statistics. If the hike in the freight charges and the hike in the passenger fares be admitted in such a way, every economist will say that it will cast upon the general rise of price index and the general rise of the essential commodities only to the extent of 2.5 per cent. This will badly influence upon the lives of the common man. So, I would urge upon the Ministry and the Government to revise, if possible, by any means, the hike of 12 per cent in the freight charges and ten per cent hike in the passenger fares.

I am glad to draw the attention of the Minister to the variety of the problems. I will be happy to do so but the time is short. I am the victim of the time constraint. So, I will confine myself to the demands of my constituency.

I have seen that a special impetus has been given to Bangalore, a special impetus has been given to Patna or to many parts of the country. This is good. Every impetus given to any part of the country will be

accepted. We accepted it. At the same time, we should put our proposals before the Railway Ministry. We should say that adequate attention should be paid to other parts of the country also.

I come from district Murshidabad in West Bengal. It is a highly neglected district. As you know, Murshidabad, Malda, Nadia and Dinajpur are territorial districts. There is a border problem. Even after Independence, we are facing a variety of problems. So, special attention should be paid to the district of Murshidabad. It has its own heritage. Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah, Mir Qasim and East India Company are related with the history of Murshidabad. Lalgola-Sealdah section has been totally neglected by the previous Governments and also by this Government. My district has been the victim of step motherly treatment of the Congress Governments during the last fifty years. No attention has been paid to the growing demands of this section. I would urge upon the hon. Railway Minister, who is present here, to do the needful. Three Members of Parliament from Left Parties had submitted a Memorandum to him. Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, the Leader of Left-cordination in Parliament had also intervened in the matter. Then, he referred this matter to the hon. Prime Minister. They also sympathised with us. They gave tacit sanction. We had placed our three demands before the hon. Railway Minister. What did he do? As I said earlier, our demands were adequate attention should be paid to the Lalgola-Sealdah Section and electrification of Krishna Nagar-Berhampore Section. Today, we are dependent on the Lalgola passengers. The hon. Railway Minister also gave tacit sanction to this proposal. I would urge upon the Minister to please give an assurance on the floor of the House that the electrification work on this Section would be taken up immediately. He had also told us that a survey will be started this year. I would request him to start the survey immediately.

In my constituency, there is a level-crossing at Berhampore-Panchnanthala which is a very disturbing area. Every time, we get news of accidents there. It is a vital level-crossing. In this regard, I have placed my demands before the Railway Ministry on many occasions. Shri C.L. Kaw, Chairman, Railway Board, happened to visit that area. The bureaucrats of the Eastern Railway had also visited that area. We have brought to their notice that an over-bridge should be constructed over Berhampore-Panchnanthala level-crossing. This was already accepted in 1984. We also knew that this scheme was going to be started. But, all of a sudden, we saw this jugglery of economics that the money meant for this purpose has been diverted to other fields.

Sir, Lalgola-Sealdah Section is a strategic point which is also a place of historical importance. Lalbagh and Nasipur are places of tourism. It can be accepted as a place for tourism. The Government can also earn revenue. I would request the hon. Railway Minister to improve the Lalgola-Sealdah Section. For this purpose,

[Shri Pramothes Mukherjee]

we demanded that a bridge over Bhagirathi at Nasipur near Lalbagh should be constructed immediately.

So that Lalgola-Sealdah section can be connected with Azamganj-Farraka, North Bengal and Assam. Thereby we say that there were three points in our demands. Shri Somnath Chatterjee had intervened and the Prime Minister also sympathised with our cause. The hon. Railway Minister also gave us the tacit sanction. Today, I demand that these three points, that is, electrification from Berahampore to Krishnanagar, construction of a fly-over at Berahampore-Panchantola level crossing and construction of a bridge over Bhagirathi at Narsipur be taken up immediately. Sir, you would be kind enough to instruct the Government and the Minister of Railways that assurance be given on the floor of this House so that our demands can be met immediately.

My last point is about the safety, security, punctuality and the passengers' comforts. We are victims of neglect by the Government. Sir, you did not go to Lalgola-Sealdah section, but if you happen to go there, you will find that there is no safety and security of passengers. Everyday, there are cases of dacoity. There is no safety and security at Lalgola-Sealdah Section. Passengers do not go beyond Ranaghat or beyond Krishnanagar. So the passengers going towards Berahampore or towards Lalgola or towards the Bangladesh border are absolutely neglected. They have got no safety and security in the trains.

There is no punctuality of trains. Except one or two trains all other trains do not have any punctuality. They do not have any regard for punctuality.

No comforts are being given to the passengers in that area. There is only one train, that is, Bhagirathi Express which is having a First Class. But all other trains like Fast Passenger Train, 370 DN, etc. do not have any First Class. No modern amenities are given to the passengers in those trains. There is no A/c compartment in those trains. I would like to ask the hon. Minister, are the people there not fit to be given these modern amenities. Are these people not fit to get First Class compartments?

There is no First Class to travel, there is no A/c compartment to travel, there is no security and there is no safety of the passengers. If this is the state of affairs of the trains there, how can we claim that these people are take care of.

I beg to remind this House that my district, Murshidabad is having more than 62 per cent of its population belonging to minority community. If a wrong signal goes to the people of my district, if a wrong message goes to the people there that this Government is not aware of their demands then what would be the situation? So a positive, modern and scientific attitude

should be taken and a right signal should go to the people of my district that this Government is paying proper, modified and considerate attention to their demands.

With these words, I thank you, Sir, and at the same time I also support the Railway Budget and thank the hon. Railway Minister for giving special consideration to our demands.

[Translation]

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUMRIA (Damoh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, 1997-98 Railway Budget has been presented and several members have used many adjectives that this is a balanced budget, Growth Oriented budget, progressive budget, budget of poor people but nevertheless several members have made certain comments too. The Chairman of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry commented that due to 12% increase in the railway freight, the freight charges have increased by 23.20% during the last seven months itself. This year, in 1996, 10% increase has been made. The transportation cost will increase as a result of the above and one of the reasons for slow pace of Industrial growth is increase in the transportation cost. Hence, inflation will increase. Similarly, the Chairman of Associate Chamber of Commerce of India said that this railway budget will increase inflation. So it is inflationary budget. If we review the budget on the basis of these adjectives then we will come to know that there are more assurances, announcements, and this budget will not accelerate the pace of development.

Mr. Chairman, the Railway Minister has given a lot of assurances regarding conversion of gauge, extension/expansion of tracks and surveys but it is also a fact that there has been sharp decline in the overall investment scheme. This point has been proved by the fact that the Minister has made heavy increase in fare and freight, which would badly affect the people. In this way, inflation has been increased and the common people have been burdened more. Now, the Minister has formulated an annual scheme/plan amounting to Rs. 8300 crores, which is already been burdened. He has taken a loan of Rs. 2100 crores from the railway corporation even for this purpose. Now, he will operate the trains with this loan. There is one saying in Sanskrit 'Yavat Jivet, Sukham Jivet, renam Kritva, Gritam Pivet', which means to take debt for fulfilling ones whims.

Mr. Chairman, If are compares the provision made in the current budget in with that of last year. One will come to know how much progressive, this budget is. The Minister had made a provision of Rs. 1680 crores during last year for renewal of the tracks whereas it has been cut down to Rs. 1516 crores in the current year budget. Similarly, a provision of Rs. 206 crore had been made during last year for doubling of railway lines and during current year it has come down to Rs. 178 crores.

16.00 hrs.

Similarly Rs. 1021 crores had been provided during last year for gauge conversion work where as it is Rs. 996 crores during the current year. I don't know how this Budget could still be I called progressive, growth-oriented? Hon'ble Minister is an expert in these things and he is trying to win laurels from all corners. This is a balanced budget and the members have expressed their happiness by clapping, thumping the desks and praising the Minister. If we look at the budget, we will find that several states have been neglected in the budget and the states which were obliged are those to which are coalition partners of the UF Government. The Minister has made provision Rs. 210 crores to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 294 crore to Assam, Rs. 273 crores to Bihar, Rs. 104 crores to Jammu Kashmir and Rs. 240 crores to Karnataka, to which the Prime Minister belongs to. Similarly Tamilnadu has also been rewarded. It proves that he has played tricks. He has rewarded specially his friendly states. Uttar Pradesh, to which Shri Satpal Maharaj belongs has also been ignored while making allocations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : It is not like that provision has been made properly throughout the country.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Uttar Pradesh is a very big State. A Provision for Rs. 47 crores and seven lakh has been made for Uttar Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please tell him what provision do you want to have?

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Only Rs. 63 crores has been provided for Madhya Pradesh. Similarly Himachal Pradesh has been given Rs. 5 crores, Haryana has been given Rs. 11 crores, and Rs. 35 crores has been given to Gujarat. I don't have any objection over it. I congratulate him that he has done something for the backward and distant areas. That was very essential to do but neglecting other States is what I could not understand. I would like to thank the Minister that he had conducted the survey of long awaited Simgrauli-Lalitpur railway line, and also included it in the budget but when I saw the budget, I was surprised very little money has been provided for this railway line. In this way you have raised the hopes and aspirations of the people but now the work would be completed now? Is it possible to construct Lalitpur-Singrauli line with Rs. One lakh? I thank the Minister for this and as he has just now told that he is having misscellaneous amount, so, I think if this amount is used for the said railway line and the work is completed at the earliest them it will benefit the backward area of the region. He has not mentioned about Chindwara line. Madhya Pradesh has been completely neglected. The resolution regarding Delhi-Rajhara line has been passed but nothing has been done in this regard. Similarly provision of very less amount has been made for Indore. Dahod-

Maksi line he had given assurance for conducting a fresh survey. Former Railway Minister Shri Madhavrao Sindhia had also said and you had given assurance last year for conducting survey of Indore-Khategaon-Nassullah Ganj-Budni and Salamatpur-Raisen-Begum Gunj-Sagar line but it has not been included in the budget. You have indeed taken Jabalpur-Gondia railway line has been taken up but it will not do at this pace. It seems as if we are quenching our thirst by dew drops. This is regional imbalance. When you say that it is in balance, then do try to wipe-out this regional imbalance.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister had given an assurance to create a zone in Jabalpur but if work in this regard commenced then only the area will develop. Since you have talked about proper development, hence, it is also very important to create a zone in Bilaspur. It would be better if the Minister will include this in his list.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It has been included.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I had recently visited my area. The people of the area are very angry. Since, the Minister did not pay any attention towards Chindwara-Nagpur railway line. This is evident from the results of the Chindwara constituency also repeated promises in this regard were made to the people of the area but nothing was done in this regard. I request the hon. Minister to include this said line this time.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Why Madhya Pradesh is lagging behind time and again? Madhya Pradesh is logging behind in all matters. We have taken a historic step of constructing Singrauli Lalitpur railway line. Survey has been conducted in record time of 4 months and budget has also been allocated.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Mr. Chairman yesterday Hon'ble Member of Parliament Kumari Uma Bharati has congratulated the Minister in this regard. We would also like to congratulate him.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : We will try our level best to work for the development of the backward area of Madhya Pradesh. If we come across any fruitful proposal and as soon as the technicality in regard to survey will be over, we will take it up in our own way as has been done in Vishrampur-Bighapur Matter.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : We are congratulating you for this. A resolution had been passed for Lalitpur-Singrauli railway line when Shri Patwa was the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. Later, when Shri V.P. Singh become the Prime Minister request was made for conducting survey but nothing happened. Then we met Shri Jaffar Shariff, we talked to planning commission, we asked Shri Pranab Mukherjee to conduct survey on this time. Later, Shri Agnihotri, Umaji and myself met Hon'ble Vajpayeeji in this connection but no progress was made in this regard. Last year when Umaji, Agnihotriji and we all sat in front of Rail Bhavan on a hunger strike, then Hon'ble Shri Satpal Maharaj gave

[Shri Ramkrishna Kusmaria]

us an assurance. Now, I would like to thank you for completing this work. The survey work has been conducted in the right time by 15th August and it has been given a place in the budget after getting approval of Planning Commission. I thank you for this. Now, I hope that you will also make a good provision in the budget in this regard.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ : After passing of budget, whatever remain will be given and expansion of railways will be undertaken.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : I invite you to start it.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ : We will come.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Mr. Chairman, last year Rs. 35 crores was given for Guna, Itawa new railway line.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want a super fast train, then speak quickly otherwise you will get a slow train.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, all trains passes though Madhya Pradesh but they want stop here. So, I request to provide a stoppage of South bound tains at Bina, Which is a major junction. Sonagiri, Datiya and Basai are religious and historical places. If Chambal express and Punjab Mail are given a stoppage at Bina, then the railways revenue will increase and railway can be benefitted. Similarly, survey of Jabalpur-Mandla-Mungeli-Bilaspur railway line had been undertaken but later it was not considered. This is a backward tribal area.

Now, I would like to discuss some problem relating to my region and I would also like to give some suggestions in this regard. Indore-Hawrah-Kshipra Express starts from here four days a week. Since many pilgrimages comes under Ujjain and this region and many people come and go there so it is a profitable time. Hence, this train must be operated daily. Similarly Riwanchal Express operates three days in a week from there. I request that this should be run daily. Several train starts from Jabalpur and there is a heavy traffic these as a result this train has to be stopped at outer for severa hours. If train is operated from there, it can be more useful. The people of Rewa also want this because if they go via Damoh-Sagar then they reach their destination two hours before. If the train passes through Jabalpur them they will have to wait for a long time.

The Minister is extending railway faicilities every where but in Madhya Pradesh he is doing quite opposite. Earlier Sambalpur Express used to run four days a week from our area. The Minister has extended it from three days to four days in the last budget. Now, again it runs four three days in a week. Similarly, Earlier one coach used to be attached in Punjab Mail for

Mumbai at Katni. There is no route from Katni, Damoh, Sagar and Bina to reach Mumbai. Hence, it is requested to restore the facility enabling us to go to Mumbai. The coach must be attached as used to be done earlier and if there is no provision for attachment of a special coach. One train may be introduced from Varanasi to Mumbai for the Convenience of the people of the region.

I would like to specially mention about Bundelkhand. There are several tourist places such as Khajuraha, Orcha, Kalinjar in Bundelkhand, Sarang Temple in Panna, Shiv Temple in Sakor. There are several ancient historical places in this area. If all these tourist places are connected with railways, and train services are extended upto these places then it will be more convict for the passengers and extraction of minerals ore would be possbile. These regions will develop from the point of view of tourism, people would get transportation facility and the revenue of the railways will also increase.

I once again draw the attention of the Minister towards these demands and also request him to introduce the services of Rivanchal Express via Damoh-Sagar for the benefit of with these words.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after a long wait you gave an opportunity to speak on the Railway Budget, since I represent a backward area. I also thank you on the behalf of the people of my constituency.

I rise to speak on the Railway Budget but I do not understand whether I should support or oppose it because on the one hand we are happy that for the first time any Dalit has become Minister of Railways who is a scholar and his colleague Satpal ji Maharaj is also a scholar. I have been raising hon. Minister of Railways before the people of my area for the last year but seeing the provisions made for this railway budget should I raise him or not. Of course I agree that this time more amount has been allocated to Orissa as compared to the last year but I represent a backward area. The people of SCs/STs come forward after doing lot of struggle. They do not have any god-father in Delhi or in any other State who could bring them at par. I wish that justice should be done to all the backward areas otherwise we become face lot of difficulties.

I have been participating in almost all the Railway Budgets since 1986 but not a single demand of mine has been met till date. Therefore, I am unable to decide myself whether I should support or oppose this budget. If the Minister of Railways says that I was praising him for one year today why do I abuse him - I would say that I am not abusing him even today but with a heavy heart I have to say like that when Paswanji became the Minister of Railways gave lot of statement before the Press that he would give more importance to South East Railways and backward areas of north-eastern region. At that very moment, we thought that he had

some sympathy towards backwards areas and the people belonging to the SCs/STs. But today the position is this -

"Kisse kahun main apani bat, yahan kisike pas dil nahin hai,  
yahan patthar to bahut hain, par yahan dil nahin hai."

I do not know to whom I should address my own people or others. Whosoever occupies this seat he starts behaving like his predecessors. It is a matter of happiness for me that a Dalit is our Minister of Railways but when no developmental work is undertaken in the backward areas I feel sad. I would like to place before you problem of entire Orissa and I will not take much of your time. You gave much time to our colleagues. You please also give me 10-15 minutes. Only record would tell whether there was any railway line or not in Orissa prior to 1904 but as far as my knowledge goes there were very few railway lines in 1904.

But in 1904 Rupsa-Bangari-Posi railway line was the first railway line in our district. At that time when Centre proposed to merge the States, our Maharaja Puran Chand Bhanjdev Saheb said that if merger of our State was required, it would be merged with Central Government. With heavy heart I would like to submit that in 1948 when the merger agreement was made, our Raja Sahab had clearly stated that our State would not be merged with the Government of Orissa. If at all there is any merger it would be with the Central Government. This fact has been mentioned in the agreement of 1948. The then Raja Saheb of our Garjat State had accepted the merger of Mayurbhanj State with the Central Government. He had categorically ruled out the merger of the State with the Government of Orissa. He had merged his State with the Central Government after making certain specific provisions in the agreements. It was mentioned in the agreement that Rupsa Baongari-Posi railway line would be converted into a broad gauge line and it was to be extended upto Tata via Talband-Badampahar-Garmahisani and survey in this regard has been conducted and it would involve less expenditure about the contribution made by the Raja of Mayurbhanj towards Orissa State and Central Government was also mentioned in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are not demanding anything from the Central Government. We do not want any mercy. We are simply demanding that the agreement made at that time be implemented. It won't serve any purpose, if we go on demanding and you go on repeating the same thing again and again. From the very beginning I and the other Members of Parliament elected from that constituency have been demanding and whosoever became Minister of Railways and Governments gave assurances but none of them fulfilled the assurance. The position is that surveys are going on for the last 10 years and whenever asked by us in the House

assurances are given and that the survey work is still going on. Funds are being allotted for this purpose since 1986, sometime three crores, sometimes five crores and sometime seven crores. Last year, only Rs. 50 lakhs were provided. When I met him, he told us that yes, it required approval. After approval the work would be commenced. One year has elapsed but this work has not yet been started.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : About which railway line you are talking.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : I am talking about the conversion of Rupsa-Bangari-Posi railway line into broad gauge line. I had given you this letter on 6th August, 1996 to start the work. Thereafter I met you in your office. I met you in Parliament also. I had also taken part in the budget discussion during the budget discussion last year and spoken on the subject. At that time hon. Minister had told me that this work would be started in the month of December and I was in the receipt of your letter. But this work has not been commenced so far.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I demand to hon. Minister that the work for converting Rupsa-Bangari-Posi railway line into broad gauge line should be commenced immediately. You will have to do this work. If this work is not done the people of Mayurbhanj in Orissa would go to Court as per the provisions of the agreement of 1940 between Maharaj and the Central Government. They would like to acquire their right by all means, may be through legal or democratic means through Parliament. They can go to Supreme Court for their right. You can go through this agreement. This very fact has been mentioned in the agreement made in 1940 at the time of merger of Mayurbhanj State with Central Government. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to submit in the House that it is being said repeatedly that Rupsa-Bangari-Posi railway line is unimportant and uneconomical. Today I would like to ask in the House that whatever amount hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Railways have provided till date for giving importance and priority to the backward areas, whether it has been utilised and

[English]

Railways is not only a commercial organisation, but it is also a public welfare organisation.

[Traslation]

I demand that hon. Minister should undertake the work of our backward area on priority basis as the budgetary support for the backward area is 400 crores more as compared to the previous year. I would like to ask the hon. Minister that by when this work would be completed. You fix date for it that by when the work on Rupsa-Bangari-Posi railway line would be commenced. I would like to submit that survey for this has been

[Kumari Sushila Tiriya]

already been completed. Since olden days there it is there. It can pass via Talband. It can not become important and economical until it is extended upto Tata, you would say repeatedly that it is not important. It is uneconomical. I ask which railway line of Hindustan has become important like this. In the beginning all lines were unimportant and uneconomical but later on they have been made economical. Earlier all Railway lines were unimportant and uneconomical but they were developed later on. In the same way with heavy heart I would like to state that in tribal and backward areas the children are in the same condition but despite the funds are being released to the Welfare department in the name of SCs, STs. Whenever general budget is presented funds are allocated for them but they have not been developed even after 50 years. Even today we demand for reservation. Even after 50 years we are living at mercy. The reason for unhappiness is that there is something wrong. I demand that whatever you do for the development of SCs, STs backward area, backward region and to bring them in the main stream, do by heart. If you do by heart, they would be developed certainly, that area would develop - this is the first point which I want to note you. That work be commenced immediately and the permission should be granted to extend that survey last time D.R.M. and G.R.M. were directed by your Ministry through telephone for starting that work and taking that single tender could be floated at that time your officials said whether work is done merely by saying of Minister? I do not understand when D.R.M. and G.R.M. give this type of reply, to whom we will have to approach? Who will order for this work?

SHRI RAM VILAS FASWAN : You need not to approach anybody. Clearance for Ruksa-Bangari-Kosi railway line has been obtained. I have sanctioned Rs. three crores for this purpose immediately. The work on this railway line would be started immediately and if required more funds would be provided. You need not to approach anybody. If any D.R.M. and G.R.M. says anything in this regard. you tell me.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : On that day you had told the delegation, last year, we had gone on strike and this time when I met you with a delegation, you had assured in your office to provide Rs. 10 crores instead of Rs. 3 crores. You announced in the House that Rs. 10 crores would be provided for this purpose instead of Rs. 3 crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has been announced in the House. That is why were crores have been provided now.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have said that when final reply would be given, everything would be mentioned in it but she must have told that at present Rs. three crores have been provided and clearance has been obtained. Why is she not telling all these things?

MR. CHAIRMAN : At the moment Minister is intervening.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Sir, through you, I think the hon. Minister of Railways for sanctioning Rs. 10 crores. While replying in the House he should announce in the House when will the work be commenced.

At the same time remaining survey work should also be completed. As my previous Speaker was saying that if the work is not being done, at least issue the order for survey. If orders for going the survey work are issued, it would give us a feeling of relief and would hope that this work would be done without fail. With this we can hope that this work would be started. Thereafter it is necessary to make it economical. Today you are considering it as uneconomical tomorrow it would become very important and economical. All the trains running on broad gauge from Tata and Baleshwar lines can be diverted from Gurumaisani via Ruksa, Bangari, Kosi as a result of which they will have to cover a distance of 40-50 kilometres.

Secondly, so far we have been able to manage the affairs with the revenue we pay in our district. I would like to say that the Union Government have certainly done justice to us because the pay revenue from jungles and mines and whatever revenue was collected by the Central Government for our district, it that could be diverted for the development of the people of our district then I would have felt that the justice has been done to the tribal area.

I am happy that you have provided 300 crores of rupees for the tribals and backwards of the North-East region and 100 crores for Jammu and Kashmir. At the same time, I would like to say that the rest of the States and areas should be accorded the status of tribal, scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and backward areas. Backward areas are located in other region also but they are not compact backward areas and are scattered here and there. Therefore, I would like to demand from the Hon'ble Minister, through you, that tribal and backward areas are located in Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa as well as Maharashtra and they should be given the same status as that of North-Eastern Region and Jammu and Kashmir because these are also backward areas. Otherwise, in one corner of our country, the poor would be come poorer and in other areas the rich would be come richer and would leave the national main stream for behind.

I would not take much time of the House. I had raised a demand last time about the railway stations and level crossings located in my Constituency, but I shall not raise the same this time, As Mamata ji was saying that if you make only one demand, then that is fulfilled. Therefore, I would make only one demand for my Constituency so that it is easy for you to meet the demand. You have made no mention about the Rupsa-Bangriposi line in your budget speech. At item No. 36

and 38, you had allocated only two crores of rupees last year for the doubling of Teetlagarh-Lalcheeganj line and one crore has been allocated this year. This amount is very small and it should be increased.

In your Railway Budget speech, you have mentioned some good points, I welcome the same and congratulate you on this account. I welcome your decision to cover 1700 scheduled castes and scheduled tribes under Special Recruitment Drive by 1 January, 1997. Still, there are some scheduled castes and scheduled tribes areas where the people are unemployed. In other undertakings, there is a provision of reservation in some of them and in some of the undertakings, there is no such provision. There these people face difficulty in getting employment. In tribal areas, children cannot get education in good, convent Institutions. They have to study in the village and have to go the city on bicycle. A number of children come to Delhi for test and Interview. Some of them qualify the Viva and a number of them fail to qualify the Viva because they have to come from far off places. Therefore, special recruitment centres should be set up at the Divisional and Sub-divisional Headquarters where the candidates from villages could appear for interview. The scheme to provide jobs to the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes by clearing the backlog has been a step in the right direction. There are 56,000 casual labourers in your department. We, too, receive a number of letters in this regard. In the villages, persons working at small station and railway crossings for the last eight to ten years have not been regularised. Most of them belong to backward areas and have been doing the same type of job, but their services have not been regularised. I would like to say that the casual labour is not so important in urban areas as compared to backward areas and rural areas. Therefore, the casual labour posted at stations, offices in such areas should be regularised. You have stated that retired employees would also be given the facilities at par with the serving employees, which is a right thing and I congratulate you for this decision. I would like to extend my felicitation that you have made a provision to issue second class railway pass to travel with single parent to the children who show excellence in the field of sports. But I would like to make one request that you have given them sleeper class. But, these children are the future citizens of this country. With a view to encourage them, they should be given the facility to travel by Air-Conditioned Class.

Now, I would like to say something about the frequency of train service. We all Members of Parliament from Orissa in a State delegation had stated that Bhubaneswar Rajdhani has been operating nicely and only sometimes it is late as is the case with other Rajdhani trains. We are not making any demand in regard to that. From the last budget Session we have been demanding that its frequency should be increased to thrice a week. But no provision has been made for this purpose in the budget. We have also been

demanding the increase in the frequency of Puri-Dwarka and Puri-Patna train services. But no mention has been made in this regard in the budget speech. Frequency of Bhubaneswar-Rajdhani, Puri-Dwarka, Puri-Patna and Sambhalpur-Nizamuddin should also be increased. We had made this request last time also. You had stated that 1214 special winter and summer season trains would be run.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have been given more than 25 minutes. You had stated that you would take 10-15 minutes.

KM. SUSHILA TIRIYA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude within five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In this way you will take another fifteen minutes.

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Trains should be introduced on meter gauge also to attract tourists as has been done in Rajasthan. Just now you have stated that 1214 special trains would be run to clear the rush of tourists during summer vacation and we can also get our share in this regard. You have mentioned about introducing 82 new train services. You have introduced Howrah-Bhubaneswar Inter-city morning train and Bhubaneswar-Vishakhapatnam morning train service. Throughout the country you are going to introduce 82 new trains. There is demand from the public for Bhubaneswar-Kanyakumari train service. At the sametime, I would like to make a request for Sambalpur-Mumbai train via Titlagarh. You look into the matter and provide one or two train services to the people of Orissa but out of these 82 new proposed trains. About Detribainspari, our Chief Minister himself along with the Members of Parliament had met the Minister of Railways and told him that if they did not have that much funds then they would arrange from the foreign countries. In this connection talks have been held with EXIM bank and they have asked for the guarantee form the Centres. You are neither giving guarantee nor money whereas the State Government has already discussed the issue with the foreign agency. They are prepared to invest on these lines but no progress has been made in this regard so far. Similarly, the Minister of Railways had given commitment last times for the two railway lines of Khurda-Bolangir and Rupsa-Bangriposi. While giving reply in the House he had stated that priority would be given to both the lines. But these lines pass through backward areas. As against the agreed amount of five crores, only two crores were provided and fifty lakhs were given for Rupsa-Bangriposi line. If you consider the railways a medium of public welfare, then you must get these line completed. Both these line belong to Orissa and therefore the work on these line should be started by allocating funds for this purpose on priority basis. While giving reply to the debate you must specify the time limit by which this work would be completed. We the members from Orissa may or may not be here but you would have to complete this work. We have been raising demand for this line for years together. It

[Kumari Sushila Tiriya,]

was sanctioned 93 years back. Therefore, I would like to know the time limit by which this time would be completed and commissioned. By when the work on this line would be started and completed.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate you for onething. We have felt relieved and you have done a commendable job and have given a healing touch. You have given assurance to complete the Sambalpur-Talcher rail line by 1998. You have stated giving priority to this line for which I congratulate you. You are going to set up Zonal office at Bhubaneshwar. Only one G.M. is posted there and he should be given full powers to enable him to handle full connecting. In this connection, I would like to know the time by which you would be able to provide complete building. I am saying so because during the last budget you had announced about this zonal office...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Minister should also consider the extension of Nizamuddin-Sambalpur line upto Titlagarh.

In the end, while felicitating the Minister, I would like to make one more request. Minister of Railways of Dalits is not present here. I would like to say one thing. Whenever I go to meet the Minister of Railway, he says that Girija Vyas had sat in the well of the House, and her job was done, but how can your job be done. I would also like to seek your permission to set in the well of the House so that my work is also done. Whenever I go to meet him, he says the something.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the secrets should not be disclosed in the House.

KM. SUSHILA TIRIYA : Sir, I have not taken much time. I extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI D.P. YADAV (Sambal) : Hon'ble Chairman, I want to thank you for allowing me to speak on Railway Budget. At the outset, I would like to mention problems of my constituency, I have being elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time from Sambhal Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Regarding Sambhal's present condition I want to say that during the last 50 years since independence several Governments came and tried to take us into 21st century. Today Sambhal town in Sambhal constituency has population of two and a half lakhs. It has several suburban and each of them has one lakh population. There are 12 municipal areas in this constituency which have not been provided any rail link and these have not been connected with any major railway station. As far as industrial development is concerned, this district can be termed as a no industry district.

Sir, this area is only one hundred kilometres away from Delhi and we had hoped that the present Government may make some provision and it any work for laying railway lines in Sambhal Lok Sabha

constituency and its neighbouring areas. But it seems that the Government has fulfilled its duty by giving an assurance only. Hon'ble Minister has stated that three lakhs rupees have been provided for survey. The same thing was done by the previous Governments for the last 20-25 years.

Sir, I do not know whether this survey will be completed or not but I request the Minister that he must assure us in his reply that the survey work from Sambhal to Gajrola will be completed. Sambhal Lok Sabha Constituency from where I have been elected is also connected with Ganga river which is linked with the history of India. Ganga river's banks upto 50 kilometres lie in this Lok Sabha Constituency and as far as transport facilities are concerned what to talk of linkage with Lucknow and Delhi, this area has no rail link with any other town or metropolitan city of the country. Previous Governments replied to a written question in Lok Sabha that funds have been provided in the budget for undertaking survey to link Sambhal town with Gajrola. So this assurance has been given by previous Governments also and I am not convinced with this assurance also. I request the Minister that while replying he must mention that he will consider my request and Sambhal town will be linked with Gajrola through broad gauge line.

Sir, I want to make one or two points more on this issue and if other issues not taken than Minister should give special attention to two issues i.e. safety and maintenance of order. As far as maintenance of order is concerned when a common man reaches railway station and asks the computer operator at railway station for reservation then the reservation chart and feeding in the computer indicate that no ticket of any class available. But when one goes inside the station and train compartment, he finds that several seats are vacant, this is happening at every railway station every day. I also want to say that big railway stations do not have any such telecommunication facility like PCO which may be utilised by passengers intending to talk to their relatives or any officer. Time and again, our Governments have been claiming that regarding telecommunication they have brought revolutionary schemes for plateforms and railway stations and almost every station has been provided PCO but I want to say that step motherly treatment has been given to Uttar Pradesh in this budget also. Some special places were accorded special status. The present Government is also behaving like previous Governments. These stations have not been linked with any metropolitan city and other stations through telecom facilities. I request that PCOs should be set up at railway plateforms to provide telecom facilities.

Another issue is this that recently I read about railways' security in newspapers and the august House is also aware that recently an Inspector of Delhi was killed during a train dacoity. Speeches were given and

assurances were also given but the actual position can be seen in day-to-day life, incidents of misconduct theft, dacoity and looting are occurring in Railways and a common man is afraid of travelling in trains and particularly women face several difficulties. They have to commute daily and incidents of rape appear in newspapers everyday and regarding security lapse every agency blames another and say that this matter comes under the purview of State Governments. We have set up protection force but as far as security is concerned there are no such arrangements at railway stations and in trains. Further, I want to say that my area is only one hundred kilometre away from here. Influenced by the progress of Delhi when a common man of village town or city from our area comes to Delhi, he thinks that although we are only hundred kilometres away from Delhi the capital of India, yet we have no transportation facilities. Sir, it is regretted that today 50 years have passed since independence and various Governments gave assurances but the poor of this area are still deprived of the facility of platform and they long for sitting in trains. Something must be done to see that preference is not given to VIP districts and VIP areas only and rail facilities are provided to such villages where backward down-trodden people reside facing great inconvenience.

There is a railway station at Sambhalpur just for name sake and that too set up during the British rule. But no train originates from this station for any other town. Sambhal-Gajrola should be linked through broad gauge and train services should be provided.

[English]

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM (Sriperumbudur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very glad that I have been given an opportunity to take part in the debate, on the Railway Budget 1997-98, on behalf of the DMK.

Most of the hon. Members covered material points regarding the Demands for Grants of this Budget and they also pointed out grievances concerning their own constituencies. So, as far as my speech is concerned, I would confine to the material points pertaining to the Demands in the Railway Budget and particularly the demands of my constituency as regards the Railway Budget.

The Railway Budget has been appreciated in all quarters. The Railway Budget presented by the Railway Minister last year had not affected the poor and the middle class people. The present Budget has also enhanced the credibility of the hon. Railway Minister. Therefore, on behalf of myself, also on behalf of the DMK Party, my beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, I rise to support this Budget and I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister.

Sir, the people will know and also the House knows very well that the railway network is a symbol of national

integration. Of course, our party is an ally to the United Front Government and we must have belief in national integration. At the same time, the regional parties should work without any imbalance for the development of their respective States.

I would like to mention about the allocation of the Budget and its distribution to each and every State. I welcome the Railway Minister who has given the first priority to the North-Eastern States and to improve the railway facilities which are given to them. Ever since Lord Dalhousie introduced the railway lines in India, it has not reached many parts of the North-Eastern region. Thanks to the dynamism of the Minister of Railways, Shri Paswan millions and millions of people residing in the North-Eastern States who had not seen the rail even after 50 years of Independence are able to see it now. It shows the freshness of his thoughts and boldness of his imagination to revolutionise the Railways and his attempt should not be looked at from a very narrow, parochial and regional angle. But at the same time, I would urge one point on the floor of the House. I was representing Sriperumbudur of Tamil Nadu in the Seventh Lok Sabha and now also, I am representing the same constituency. But I regret to inform the House that since many years, Tamil Nadu is not only neglected but its due share has also not been given.

I would like to mention about the major problems of Tamil Nadu. No proper allocations are made not only for new railway lines but also for new sufficient trains. My important submission is that there is MRTS project in Chennai. It was started more than 16 years ago from Madras Beach to Luz. It is 8.97 km. But the hon. Minister of Railways mentioned in his Budget speech about the MRTS project from Beach to Chepauk. The work for 5.4 km has been completed in March, 1995. But the work on the remaining distance of 3.93 km is going on at a tortoise speed. The work on the 8.97 km route is going on for the last 16 years. Chennai is a very important city. But the progress of work relating to the MRTS project is very slow.

When the hon. Minister presented the Budget for Railways last year, he had announced that the work relating to MRTS from Luz to Vellachery was to be started. The distance between Luz to Vellachery is 10-½ km. When would this work be completed? The work on the 10 km long project has been in progress for the last 15 to 16 years. Now, he has announced about extension from Luz to Vellachery. The distance is 10-½ km.

17.02 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]

The Minister for Railways had graciously allotted Rs. 10 crore to the MRTS project. The total project amount is Rs. 430.21 crore. The work for a distance of 10-½ km is yet to be done. He has allotted only Rs. 10

[Shri T. Nagaratnam]

crore for it. I request the hon. Minister of Railways that this amount is not sufficient to complete the work. I would like to mention on the floor of the House that he announced about the opening of new lines, particularly to Tamil Nadu. The work from Karur to Salem has not yet been taken up. This allotment has been diverted to some other States. I do not want to blame the Minister of Railways because I have already given encomiums to him. So, I do not want to blame the Minister of Railways. I urge upon him on the floor of the House that our due share should be given. I have already stated that we are having a belief in integration. The new railway line from Karur to Salem had been announced on the floor of the House. But the allotment has been diverted to some other State.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the railway lines which were meant for the Karur and Salem section were taken and used by some other States. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to consider this matter and expedite laying of new lines from Karur to Salem.

Sir, I would also like to submit that I am representing the Sriperumbudur Lok Sabha Constituency which is known not only to everybody present here in this House but also to every Indian and each and everybody throughout the world because late Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated there. It is known to everybody. I represent a constituency where the memorial of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi is located. I already have written a letter to the Railway Minister where I have mentioned that Sriperumbudur town is totally isolated from the Chennai city. The people are very much interested to visit the memorial of late Rajiv Gandhi at Sriperumbudur. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister to lay new lines from Chengalpattu to Sriperumbudur passing through Tiruvallur, Oothukkottai, Periyapalayam, Arani, Ponneri to the last destination of Pulicat. I would like to urge upto the hon. Railway Minister on the floor of the House that Pulicat is situated in the coastal area which is inhabited mostly by the people belonging to the fishermen community. They have no facility to transport fish. Therefore, I would like to request that new railway lines should be laid from Chengalpattu to Pulicat via Sriperumbudur. The Minister has given a reply saying that he is asking his officials to make a survey. Laying of new lines in this sector may be considered and also a proper survey should be conducted immediately.

Sir, I spoke on the same issue in the Railway Budget during the Seventh Lok Sabha. One station which comes between Chennai and Arakkanam, namely, Thiruvalangadu, the location of this station is five kilometers away from the main village. During the Seventh Lok Sabha when Shri A.B.A. Gani Khan

Chowdhury was the Railway Minister, I requested for extension of the railway line from the Thiruvalangadu station to the actual Thiruvalangadu village. It is because Thiruvalangadu is the original village in which there is one cooperative sugar mill. Absence of proper transport facilities is an impediment for them. They face a lot of hardship in the absence of proper transportation facilities. Therefore, again during this Eleventh Lok Sabha I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to consider laying of new lines for this five kilometer stretch from the Thiruvalangadu station to the original Thiruvalangadu village.

I am an inhabitant of Thiruvallur town. As soon as our beloved Leader Dr. Kalam assumed the office of Chief Minister, he made a cordial announcement. Chenglepat is a big district. For the benefit of the people, it is divided into two. The original district is called as Anna District and Thiruvallur District is called by the name of MGR District. Thiruvallur is the headquarters of the District. Thiruvallur is the main station also and all the trains pass through it. The main junction is in Arakkonam. In Thiruvallur there is one railway level-crossing. Almost all the trains, buses, lorries and cars have to cross this gate. The visitors to worship Tirupathi, Lord Venkateswara, at Tirupathi also reach Madras after crossing Thiruvallur. If the railway gate is closed, people have to suffer. They have to wait at least for one-and-a-half hours. So, whether the people are going for worship or some patient has to be taken to Madras, they have to cross Thiruvallur to reach Madras and they have to wait for about one-and-a-half hours for the railway gate to be opened. I request the hon. Minister to consider it sympathetically. A fly over may be constructed there, as it is the main station and a district headquarters too.

In my constituency, from Chennai Station to Thiruvallur there is one very congested area called by the name Pattabhiram. Most of the people there are employed in a Defence factory. They also face the same problem. There is also one railway gate because of which people suffer a lot. I request the Minister to consider constructing a fly over there also.

Similarly, Sir, all the trains that start from Chennai have to cross Gummidipoondi. I request the hon. Railway Minister to sanction construction of a fly over at Gummidipoondi Railway Station also. I have already mentioned about Pattabhiram. Very near to the railway station is called by the name, Hindu College New Station. At this station, there is a co-educational Hindu College and the station, there is no waiting hall and the students of both the sex are suffering because of lack of adequate facilities.

Puthulur, which comes in my constituency, is very near to Thiruvallur. I request the Railway Minister to have a station at Puthulur also. About seven years back the work was started on it. It was started seven years

back but it has not yet been completed. The work is moving at the pace of a tortoise. I request the hon. Minister of Railways to consider this case and issue directions to the authorities concerned to expedite the matter.

Tiruvallur railway station is a very important station. A lot of students, business people, workers, office-goers and other passengers go to Chennai from Tiruvallur. Local trains are also run from there. I request the hon. Railway Minister to provide more passenger trains from Chennai to Tiruvallur and Arakkonam in the peak hours, that is, from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Similarly, to and fro travel facility may be provided there. I also request the hon. Minister to make arrangements for stopping the Brindavan Express at Tiruvallur. Though it is a vested interest, it is in the public interest. I have been requested by my people for a stoppage of Brindavan Express at Tiruvallur. Because Tiruvallur is declared district headquarters, Brindavan Express may be stopped at this station. The West Coast Express may be stopped at Tiruvallur. There are passenger trains from Chennai to Gummidipoondi where SIPCOT company is located. The lower station is Elavur. I request the hon. Railway Minister to extend the passenger train service from Chennai to Elavur. Similarly...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, none of the Railway Ministers is sitting in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will take note of it.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Nobody is listening to the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I agree with that. Please allow the hon. Member to continue.

[*Translation*]

Driver is not present, but Guard is present.

[*English*]

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I request the hon. Minister that the 16000 casual labourers be made permanent. I request that the jobs of almost all the casual labourers be made permanent.

At Integral Coach Factory in Chennai, interviews for Group C and D posts were conducted. I submit on the floor of the House that while they require only 1,000 labourers, 60,000 people were called for the interview. It has started in the last May and still it is going on. Sixty thousand candidates were called for the interview and only one thousand candidates are required. Non-official people were nominated by the Railways to recruit candidates. I do not hesitate to submit here that the irregularities were committed in the recruitment by the non-official people. I wish to bring this to the knowledge of the hon. Railway Minister and request him to stop the process of interview.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I thought you have concluded your speech.

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM (Sriperumbudur) : As far as SC and ST is concerned, I wish to inform you that Group I posts are not yet filled; Group B posts are not yet filled; and Group C posts are not yet filled. This has been going on ever since Independence. But the backlog is not taken care of. I wish to draw the attention of the august House that Group D posts of Scavengers and Sweepers were filled to the extent of 150 per cent. What does it mean when the posts in the categories of Group A, B and C were not filled and posts in Group D are filled to 150 per cent? I request the hon. Minister to take this into consideration.

I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister for the new scheme proposed in the Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now. I will be calling the next hon. Member.

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM : My next point is that the complimentary passes for the winners of President's Gallantry Police Award should be extended to the winners of the Chief Minister's Gallantry Award. This may please be considered.

Lastly, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the introduction of free bus passes to all students in the State by our beloved Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. *Kalaignar*. I request the hon. Railway Minister to introduce free train passes to students. If this new scheme is introduced, it would get the praise of everyone and the United Front Government would earn the goodwill of the entire country. The beneficiaries will show their gratitude to the United Front Government. I reiterate my request for introduction of this new scheme to the hon. Minister as well as the Prime Minister. I extend my support to the Railway Budget.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion on Railway Budget is going on for the last so many days. While presenting the Railway Budget before the Parliament, the hon. Minister had tried to win applause by pleading that he is not going to hike the fare of second class. But he increased the fares of first class, A.C. first and second class and freight charges by 5, 10 and 2 per cent respectively. There is a general reaction everywhere that the Railway Budget will cause increase in prices. If the freight charges are increased by 12 per cent, it will cause 25 per cent increase in the prices. But it is distressing to note that the Railway Minister and the Union Government are just busy in getting false praises. We are against it. The Minister of Railways stated many things about the Budget. But it shows that the whole amount of Budget

[Shri Jai Prakash]

was spent either in Bihar or in Karnataka, in the Prime Minister's areas in Bangalore or in the areas of those parties which are supporting the Government.

Haryana State is situated on three sides of Delhi. The Minister of Railways has stated in the meetings with the Members of Parliament from Haryana State during the last three years that he will fulfil the justified demands of the State. But I am sorry to say that no provision has been made therefor. It was very necessary to connect Hissar with Rohtak. The reason is that Rohtak is a very big industrial area in Haryana State where many big iron factories are functioning. If anybody desires to come to Delhi from Hissar, he will have to come either via Rewari or via Bhiwari. The Railway Minister stated that it was uneconomical. But Hissar city is number two after Faridabad in Haryana State in the matter of central excise collection. It is Hissar which provides so much central excise and income tax. But when we talk of railways lines reply is that it is not economical. Therefore, through you, I would urge upon the Minister of Railways that Hissar is a big city and only thirty or forty kilometer railway line is required to be laid there. It will directly connect Hissar with Delhi.

Regarding Rohtak-F. wari Railway line, it has been stated time and again that survey is being undertaken in this regard. I would like to know from the Railway Minister as to how many times survey will be conducted. It means that the Members of Parliament rightly say that survey is done every year.

If Minister of Railways wants to device the public of concerned states then to zone his skin he says that survey is being conducted. Haryana Express originates from Hissar. A Member of teachers came from Hissar to Delhi and vice versa because Hissar is a very big industrial city. We had also requested earlier that one A.C. first class coach should be provided this train so that passengers can avail this facility. But till today we have not received any reply in this regard. There is a crossing in Hissar crown as double railway crossing. I had discussed this with the Minister of Railways. There is no over bridge there. Every year five twelve persons die there due to this because it is spened only for for twenty minutes twenty four hours and padestrians or cyclists pass under the crossing and in the meantime trains comes and kills the passerby. In this regard also we have not received any reply so far. Therefore overbridge should be constructed there so that people can be saved. An extra distance of 10 K.M. has to be covered to in order to reach there. This will also save oil. Similarly the Minister of Railways was saying that he has named the crossing. There is a Rajni village in Hissar I had written several letters saying that railway crossing has to be constructed over rail lines. If farmer has to go there by his bullock cort and he has goods,

foodgrains, sugarcane and it then he has to face a lot of difficulties. Even factor can not run there properly. Our people here to bear all this sort of diffculted there. Railway Minister says that we have spend Rs. 11 crores on Haryana. We are also not ready to accept that by not increasing the second class fare he has taken care of medium class people. If any trader trades by first class then he will impose that burden on goods and not on himself.

I want to make a request to Minister of Railways Government always talks about oppressed class and the exported ones. I am sorry to say that the daily wages in railway department faced from Haryana to Maharashtra or to Rajasthan. They are scavengers or class IV employees. In the last session you have said that if these employees was to be transferred to their nation state then they will be sent back on their request. But no such action has been taken by the railway department in this direction. Doubling work on a railway line is in progress in my area. We are constantly raining this matter since last year that there is a small position from Khaso to Barsola, where work has been stopped, if doubling of this track is done then our people will have a high of sale if by the rapid doubling work from Delhi to Amritsar. My request to the Minister of Railways in that be must get this work started.

Sir, UKL railway line goes from Kurukshetra to Narwana, which terminates at Narwana. If this is connected from Narwana to Jind then people will be facilitated to visit religious places at Pindra and Ramgarh from Kurukshetra. Last year, you have introduced a DMU train from Delhi to Jind. My request to Railway Minister is to extend it upto Narwana because the area from Narwana to Kurukshetra, Narwana to Jakhal and Narwana to Khuwana will be completed and people of our area will get railway facility.

In the end I want to make a request to you. Railway Budget will give way to inflation. Last time we had said that depot of Railways cannot be next with increase in fare and freight charges. It can only by done when you stop pilferage in the trains and misappropriation of funds and corruption is checked. We see in Jind that people indulged in theft inconvinance with the RPF personnel. There is maximum carriage of buffallows in Jind. Whether Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra or Andhra Pradesh, buffalow are sent everywhere and it is the field where there are chances of corruption. Coal and iron are sold in transit. Such activities are going on inconvinance with RPF personnel and pilferage of railway goods is going on unabated. If you control it then there is no need of increasing fire. Railway administration or Minister of Railways cannot only say that in case of dacoition in Railways, only concern State is responsible. No doubt it is the responsibility of the State Government. But Railway Department or Minister of Railways cannot save their skim by saying that half of the expenditure being

incurred on GRP is being incurred by State Government and half by the Central Government. I want that the Union Government should own the responsibility of GRP. One should take the responsibility. When we talk to the Minister of Railways about it, he says that it is not his responsibility and when we ask the Railway Department, their response is also the same. For the last few days. We are seeing the same things during zero hour. When we talk to the Railway Minister about the dacoities being committed in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, his reply is that it is not his responsibility and the Chief Minister of the State also deny his responsibility. It means that there is none in this Government to take the responsibility. If the Government is unable to take the responsibility, it should resign. It has been published in today's newspapers that the incidents of robbery are on increase.

**SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ :** Sir, the expenditure on GRP is shared by the Union Government and the the State Government fifty-fifty.

**SHRI KALPANATH ROY (Ghosi) :** My friend has raised the right question. At least the General Managers should be authorised to write the character rolls of RPF personnel.

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH :** It has been stated that the RPF personnel have been declared as para-military force. My contention is that mere declaration of RPF as para-military force will not be beneficial. Till local persons are recruited in RPF. Thefts will continue till the persons of this place are not posted there and the persons of that place are not posted here. I would like to suggest that on the border of any State the RPF personnel recruited from that state should be posted there.

Sir, finally, I would like to make only one request through you that there is a railway line from Jind to Gohana which passes through the town. There is a big grain market there. The grain market is on the both sides of the line on the railway level crossing remains closed continuously for 10-12 hours. When there is the season of wheat or grains come in the market, the railway crossing is not open. An overbridge should be constructed for the benefit of the people and passers by. Not even a single penny has been provided in this budget for the State of Haryana. So, the budget is against this State. It was not done either last or this year. Hence, the budget is extremely anti-farmer because when the freight charges of fertiliser and other commodities will increase, then there will be increase in prices resulting in inflation. Therefore, I strongly oppose the budget.

Sir, I am thankful for the opportunity given to me. I also express my thanks to the State Minister of Railways. He was a saint but has become the State Minister of Railways. I would urge upon him too that he should also keep Haryana in his mind. Some funds should be provided in the budget for this State. Many many thanks.

**SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI (Salempur) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway budget. The Railway Ministry has grossly ignored Gorakhpur-Allahabad section. I would like to remind you that a rail coach factory was sanctioned for Gorakhpur in the decade of 1970. However it was later on shifted to Kapurthala. A wheel and factory was also sanctioned in Varanasi which was also shifted to Bangalore. A spare parts factory was also sanctioned in Varanasi which was also transferred to Patiala. Therefore, this Gorakhpur-Allahabad section having a population of 5 crore has constantly been neglected casing wide spread recruitment among the local population. Therefore, it is my earnest request to the Railway Minister to set up electric and deisal engine factories in Gorakhpur Bhutani, mau and Varanasi in the Poorvanchal region in lieu of sleain engine functions other big function and other big factories which have been closed down.

Sir, I would like to raise some problems of my constituency. Kushinagar is the salvation place of Lord Budha. This rail line should be made operative after getting its survey done from Gorakhpur or Bhutani. In Bhutani, 100 acres of land was left for the proposed rail factory. However it has been shelved. Therefore, a spare parts rail factory should be set up here. Bhutani was a function and terminal station where trains from all directions used to come but now its station has been down graded. Here, a terminal station should be made operative. I have been demanding for last 25 years and before me several hon'ble Members have also raised this demand that a railway level crossing should be made at Arunapur - a town having a population of 2 lakhs on Bhutani and Salempur line where on both sides 30 kms long concrete road has been constructed. The Muzaffarpur Express passes through Bhatparani station to old Delhi railway station. A stoppage of this train should be provided there.

An overbridge should be constructed on the Southern railway crossing of Salempur Railway Station. The Tata Express used to ply between Tata and Gorakhpur which should be extended to Chapra. Thousands of people bring in Gorakhpur go for work to Tata city and they are facing a lot of difficulties in making up and down journey. This trains has got a protected halt of 12 hours at Chhapra which should be extended to Gorakhpur.

I have to submit that a new bridge has been constructed over the Choti Gandak river, a little a head of Gorakhpur between Bhatani and Bhatpur rani. It is fast 50 metres away. The local people are demanding that this bridge should be handed area to P.W.D. Uttar Pradesh. It is by earnest request to transfer this bridge to Uttar pradesh Government which will fecilitate smooth transportation. The Uttar Pradesh Government would construct a contract bridge over there. Lakhs of people of Poorvanchal go to Shaktinagar for work. They have

[Shri Harivansh Sahai]

to travel by buses. A large number of workers go to Shaktinagar. I sincerely request you to introduce a train between Varanasi and Shaktinagar.

When we travel in the trains, the T.T.E. staff often make complaints that while the guard and train driver are considered running staff, they are not. We have to face a lot of difficulties whenever we soory. It is my earnest request to consider them also as running staff.

I have to make one more request that the survey of broad gauge line should conducted from man to Faifara and the reservation facility for the Samata Express, the Shahid Express, the Awadh Express and Salempur Krashak Express should be made available at Bhatparani Railway station.

My second request is that an over bridge should be constructed on the Southern level crossing of Salempur railway station. The Uttar Pradesh Government is ready to share 50 percent cost of this overbridge. I also request you to sanction an over bridge between first and third platform of Bhatpurani Bilthara road. With these words, I support this budget. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAFIQUE RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : Where is my name?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am calling only there whose names have been sent by the parties. You get your name seat to me.

[English]

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am extremely thankful to you for having permitted me to participate in the discussion on the Railway Budget. Since most of the important points have already been covered by the earlier speakers, I would like to confine myself only to some other important points.

Sir, as we all know, the Indian Railway is a symbol of the national integration. It is linking most parts of this huge sub-continent with each other. But even after 50 years of our Independence, the development of the railway network in our country is not satisfactory.

The total allocation of the Railway Budget of 1997-98 is equal to the last year.

Sir, it is because the Central budgetary support to the Railways has been cut short. This unfortunate truth will seriously affect the development and maintenance of the railway network all over the country. Sir, in the present circumstances of the country, the development of the railway network is very essential and inevitable. So, the Central budgetary support to the Railways has to be increased. I appreciate the proposals for the development of the railway network in the North-Eastern

region and Jammu and Kashmir. I welcome the suggestion for making the services of 56,000 casual labourers permanent.

I wish to point out certain general issues which need immediate attention. They are maintenance of bogies and extension of passenger amenities. Most of the trains do not have proper electric fittings, toilet and drinking water facilities. The quality, taste and condition of the food served in the trains are very disgraceful and, at the same time, high charges are collected from the passengers. There is acute shortage of workers in the Railways. Thousands of vacancies are still there in the Railways. But the Railways authorities are not filling up those vacancies. In the absence of assurance given by the Railway Minister is still unfulfilled.

The new Budget provided a new line from Angamali to Shabarimala. Shabarimala is a very famous pilgrim centre. The total estimate for this is calculated to be Rs. 540 crore, but the Budget has provided only just one lakh rupees...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ : After the Budget, we will increase it.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat) : I am participating in the Budget discussion. I do not know what will happen after the Budget. We have the experience of the last Budget. In the last Budget, you had given so many assurances, but still these are remaining a dream. That is why, I am asking this.

As you know, lakhs of Keralites are working all over the country, especially in North India. Therefore, there is a very serious need for introduction of new train services to Kerala. In this year's Budget, many trains have been introduced to many States, but not even a single train is introduced for Kerala.

So, on behalf of the Keralites, I demand in this august House that the Bangalore-Coimbatore Inter-City Express provided by this Budget, may be extended up to Calicut which is one of the major cities of South India...*(Interruptions)*

Then, Palghat is one of the important division headquarters of Southern Railway. In this connection, I would like to say that Coimbatore is very near to Kerala and that is a very important city of South India. Many trains are starting from Coimbatore to Chennai and other places. So, on behalf of the Keralites, I demand that Cheran Express or Kovai Express may be extended up to Palghat itself.

Then, I would talk about one more train. The Railway Minister, while presenting the Budget, has provided that after completion of doubling from Ernakulam upto Trivandrum, the Hyderabad-Cochin Express may be extended up to Trivandrum. Now, the doubling process is completed up to Kollam. So, I request that the Hyderabad-Cochin Express may be extended up to Kollam.

Then, from one end to other end, Kerala-Trivandrum-Bangalore...

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I want to ascertain the opinion of the hon'Members. Today B.A.C. has decided that discussion on the Railway budget has to be concluded tomorrow and day after tomorrow, the Railway Minister has to give his reply you could sit up to 9'O Clock if you so desire so that more members could get a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : We can sit upto 9.00 p.m. and complete it.

[Translation]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Today, we shall sit upto 6'O clock...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat) : Sir, there is a train which is running from Trivandrum to Cannanore...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already stated that in any case the discussion has to be concluded by tomorrow even if we have to set late. If today some Members get chance to speak, it is O.K...(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we should sit upto 6 O'clock tomorrow, we could sit late...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : O.K. Today, House is upto 6 O'Clock. You please conclude...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What can ideas out it, the objection has been raised with House.

[English]

I am helpless.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, if there is objection to extension today, I suggest that instead of sitting till early hours tomorrow, it is better to have some extension so that that kind of pain can be avoided. Let us agree for some extension today...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When there is objection, I am helpless. We will have to sit tomorrow night.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, we can extend one or two hours today...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the decision was to sit up to 8 O'clock.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is why, I have received the message that if the House wants to sit, they can sit up to 8 O'clock or even up to late hours. But the House does not agree.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, please adjourn the House today at 6 O'clock. If we have to sit late then we shall sit late tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, the BJP leaders accepted this. Shri Naik and Shri Sharma were there...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : O.K. today the House is upto 6 O'clock only. It need be, we shall sit late tomorrow.

[English]

Now, let him conclude.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, the train No. 6348, Trivandrum-Cannanore Express may be extended up to Mangalore.

Sir, I am sorry to state that there is not even a single Railway based industry in Kerala State. When late Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of this country, he went to Kerala and promised to provide one Railway coach factory at Palghat in Kerala. Till today the Government of India has not fulfilled the promise made by the then Prime Minister. Now, we understand that the promised coach factory was shifted to Punjab. We are not against Punjab. But to generate employment, it is absolutely essential that a coach factory, as promised, should be set up as soon as possible in Kerala.

So, the above mentioned details and statistics show how the Railway authorities are deliberately discriminating against the State of Kerala. The doubling of lines from Mangalore to Shoranur and Quilon to Trivandrum is a burning issue. Actually, it is the lifeline of Kerala. This is a burning issue of Kerala which has to be solved immediately.

As regards the proposed new line from Kuttippuram to Guruvayur, the last Budget provided Rs. 29 crore for this new line. This new line should be completed as fast as possible. Therefore, the Budget allocation for the doubling of the line and for the new line should be adequately enhanced in this Budget itself.

The new train to Kerala should be introduced very soon keeping in view the general goods of the people of Kerala. With these words, I conclude.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request has also been made that should be extend the House for 10 minutes as such decision has been taken by the Business Advisory Committee.

THE FOOD MINISTER AND THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my request is that the House should be extended for one hour, otherwise we will have to sit late tomorrow for a long time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : O.K. Now every thing will be done tomorrow.

The House now stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 12, 1997/Phalguna 21, 1918 (Saka).*

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