

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**First Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. IV contains Nos. 31 to 40)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 30, 1991 /Bhadra 8, 1913
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri Samar Brahma Choudhury.

Shri Choudhury represented Kokrajhar constituency of Assam in the Eighth Lok Sabha from December, 1985 to November, 1989. Earlier, he had served with distinction as a member of the Assam Legislative Assembly and a Minister in the State Council of Ministers.

Shri Choudhury was an active political and social worker. He served as President of Kachugaon Anchalik Panchayat during 1964-67. He was associated with various social and students' institutions in different capacities.

Shri Choudhury actively worked for improving the lot of the weaker sections of the society, particularly the tribals of the State. He organised the Plains Tribals Coun-

cil of Assam of which he was the President. Shri Choudhury worked for the reconstruction of social, economic and political fabric of the Bodos.

Shri Choudhury edited a Bodo weekly "RADAB" and authored a number of pamphlets in Assamese.

Shri Choudhury Lost his life in tragic circumstances when he fell to an assassin's bullet on 27 August, 1991 at Guwahati at the age of 59.

While condemning the militants' activities in various parts of the country, we deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

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

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Income Tax Arrears

[*English*]

*630 SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount in arrears on account of income tax as on March 31, 1990;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be

taken by the Government to recover these arrears; and

(c) the reasons leading to accumulation of these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Income Tax arrears as on March 31, 1990 amounted to Rs. 6958 crores (provisional).

(b) Appropriate measures are continuously taken to reduce the arrears. Some of the important measures are:-

(i) Targets have been laid down for collection/reduction of arrears and current demands in the Central Action Plan of the Income-tax Department. Performance of each Chief Commissioner's region is regularly monitored by the Central Board of Direct Taxes.

(ii) Dossiers of bigger demands are reviewed every quarter by the Commissioner of Income tax and by the higher authorities.

(iii) Chief Commissioners of Income tax have been directed to monitor the disposal of top 100 first appeals pending with the Commissioners (Appeals) in their region.

(iv) Chief Commissioners have also been advised to ensure that assessments involving big demands are finalised by the end of December, 1991.

(v) They have also been advised that President/Vice President of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal should be requested to take appeals involving large demands for expeditious disposal.

(vi) In cases where large demands have been stayed by courts, the Chief Commissioners have been advised to get the stay vacated, wherever possible. As a result of these measures, the arrear demand as on 31-3-1990 was reduced by Rs. 3596 crores upto 31-3-1991. After including arrears of the current demand raised between 1.4.1990 to 31.3.1991 on completion of income tax assessments, the total outstanding demand as on 31.3.1991 was Rs. 6560 crores (provisional) as against Rs. 6958 crores as on 31.3.1990.

(c) The main reasons leading to the accumulation of these arrears are:-

(i) A sizeable portion of the current demand does not become due for payment by 31st March, although it is included in the figure of outstanding arrears at the end of the year.

(ii) There has been an increase in the current demand over the years as indicated below:-

<i>Sl. No. Financial Year</i>		<i>Current demand raised (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3
1	1985-86	6171
2	1986-87	6913

1	2	3
3	1987-88	7266
4	1988-89	9449
5	1989-90	12482
6	1990-91	12462

A substantial portion of the current demand raised is disputed in appeals.

- (iii) Disputed demand remains uncollected till the disputes are finalised. Litigation pending in the Courts, Tribunals or before the Income-tax Appellate authorities and Settlement Commission takes a long time to be finalised and till such finalization, similar demands are created in subsequent years also.

- (iv) The audit objections raised by Audit which are not accepted by the Department also result in creation of demand since remedial action on the audit objections is invariably taken as an abundant precaution.

- (v) At times, demand is stayed/kept in abeyance till finalization of disputes. Instalments for payment of taxes are also granted to the tax payers who have genuine financial difficulties.

- (iv) In a number of cases, the recovery of demand becomes difficult or doubtful and ultimately the demand has to be written off. Such cases include companies in liquidation, cases in which insolvency proceed-

ings are taking place, assesses who have left India and who have no known assets, cases of smugglers where assets have been confiscated, companies which had become sick, cases of name-lenders, cases where demands cannot be realized for various reasons of genuine hardship etc.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The income-tax arrears as on 31st March, 1990 amounted to Rs. 6,958 crores. It has been given in the reply that appropriate measures are continuously taken and one of the measures is the Chief Commissioners have also been advised to ensure that assessments involving big demands are finalised by the end of December, 1991. I would like to know as to the part of the assessment involving big demands? How much is the exact amount of the assessments involving big demands?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The total figure of Rs. 6958 crores comprises of various types of demands. The question is that this demand and other demands are actually in 4-5 categories and I would like the hon. Member to appreciate what is the position in regard to the various categories. Out of Rs. 6958 crores as on March 31, 1990, about Rs. 3,747 crores being about 54 per cent were not realizable as on that date. The break-up is:

- (i) Demand not fallen due

Rs. 1,927 crores.

- (ii) Demand stayed by various authorities including courts

Rs. 1,627 crores.

(iii) Demand covered by instalments (i.e., the Department gives instalments)	Rs. 92 crores.
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(iv) Amount claimed to have been paid but verification awaited	Rs. 101 crores.
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Total	3747 crores.
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The balance demand is only about Rs. 3211 crores in which there are certain cases where appeals are in dispute at various stages. Some of them are covered by appeals at various levels, departmental appeals and though formal stay has not been granted like the CIT (appeals)/DC (appeals), the cases are pending. And there are other cases where rectification applications are awaited. We have got challans of the arrears, the departmental challans in some cases have not been received. So, Rs. 105 crores comprise of that. What the hon. Member wanted to know is about the remaining. Out of the remaining what we have done is, all demands above Rs. one lakh are considered to be arrears for which a dossier should be maintained by the Commissioner of Income-Tax (Individual) and they are very regularly being monitored. What we have said is that among the appeals pending, about 101 appeals should be taken up by the Chief Commissioners in each zone of their area and they should expedite their assessment and completion by 31st December 1991, i.e., the assessments involving big demands in each zone. The details under each zone would not be available here. If the Member wants the details, I would like to have a notice on the basis of which I can give details of various Chief Commissioners throughout the country.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I had asked a specific question because they have a different category altogether, and they have mentioned in the reply that the Chief Commissioners have also been advised to ensure that assessments involving big demands are finalised by the end of December 1991. I never asked, 'Chief Commissioner, Why?' I never asked that. I asked about the total amount involved in big assessments which make different part altogether. Please give me that information here

and now because I do not want it in writing because that is a specific question and that is a different category.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Sir, the question is about big assessments. These assessments are of different-categories individuals, firms, HUF and corporate sector, i.e., companies, and they are spread in different areas. It is not that we have one figure at one place of the big assessments.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: But the nation is one. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: We have given here all this. If you like, I can give you about 20 big cases we have, where the assessments are pending and are being expedited at various stages, but it will take the time of the House. If you so permit me, I can say, for instance, we have got complete details of about 20 biggest cases available. GTC Industries, Bombay-this is a Central one in Bombay, assessment of various years up to the year 1990-91-we have got the figure of total demand which is Rs. 132 lakhs... But not admissible demand that is, where they are stayed by the courts, is Rs. 107.68 lakhs and the net demand is about Rs. 74 lakhs. This year we have got a further break-up, i.e., the break up of those where the appeals from the year 1984-85 up to 1987-88 are pending. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, he wants to know whether it is possible for you to give the amount which is in arrears, which relates to the big people.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: There is no... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You don't have them.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: He could have given them. But he is going into details of the 20 cases. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He does not want to give the names of all the 20 cases on the floor of the House, but the amount should be given.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: His question was not specific. If he asks a specific question, then I can collect it and give it to the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: My question was specific. He is not having the information. That is alright. But my question was specific and my supplementary was also specific. I had asked the amount in arrears on account of income tax as on March 31, 1990. If he is not having the information, you can condone it.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The question was not about figures. You have been good enough to ask arrears.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: When the category is mentioned about the big assessment, then the Minister should have the amount. That is my contention. But the Speaker will decide about it.

Now, I would put my second supplementary. Appropriate measures are continuously taken to reduce the arrears. That has been going on for years together. After the experience of all these years, what new measures are you going to take in the new era which you are bringing up? The other thing is, recovery of demand becomes difficult or doubtful and is written off. What is the number in this category for the last three years?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Sir, so far as the first part of the question is concerned, it is not that we have a static figure at one stage over these demands. Every year, we have got different figures as the arrears

of demand. We are trying to realize certain portions which are not deputed out of the arrears of demand. Then, there are others which are in the process of appeals. We are trying to see that the appeals are being expedited. We have requested the Chief Commissioners of each zone to ensure and see that priority is given to these cases and hearing is completed and once the hearing is completed, we will know as to what are the effects of the decision, where relief is granted and where relief is not granted. If the hon. Member would like to know, I would say, in this connection, that the actual figure of Rs. 6,958 crores, seems to be very big and alarming. But in actual practice, for the year ending on 31st March, 1990, out of the Rs. 6,958 crores, Rs. 3,596 crores, that is about 52 per cent, were disposed of during the current financial year. That comprises two parts. One is cash collection to the extent of Rs. 702 crores which we have collected and the other is, out of the effect of the appeals, we have given relief of Rs. 2,894 crores. If we take this undisputed demand and the relief given in appeals, the undisputed demand is not much and we have realised about Rs. 702 crores. Similarly, efforts are being made at various levels, first at the level of Commissioners themselves, then at the level of chief Commissioners to monitor the performance. Then, on receipt of quarterly reports, if the amount is more than Rs. One crore, then the Board exercises its powers. Now, we have said that these reports should be given every month and we are examining it.

MR. SPEAKER: So, you are monitoring it.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Yes, Sir, We are very effectively monitoring it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, what are the figures, if the current arrears are excluded?

MR. SPEAKER: I think he gave a pretty long reply and probably you have not paid attention.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

What are the arrear figures for the current year?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister gave a pretty long reply.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: No.

MR. SPEAKER: Then you are not paying attention to it.

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There are mal-functions.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There are arrears which are considered to be not recoverable. What is the amount of those arrears?

Is it not true that the old arrears are also increasing every year? If so, the earlier measures which you have listed out appear to be not adequate to handle this problem. One of the ideas that I am suggesting is why don't you talk to the big people for whom your liberalisation scheme is going on directly from the Government itself.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: There are two parts to this question. As regards the first part, in fact, in the year, 31st March, 1991 as compared to 31st March, 1990 the arrears have decreased by nearly Rs. 400 crores. So, it is not increasing.

Secondly, as regards the write-off, I would like to mention that the write-off in the year, 1989-90 was Rs. 15.50 crores. During 1990-91, we have Rs. 4,64,00,000 only.

If we take the age of the arrears, it gives such an impression that they are lying from a long time but it is not so. The arrears over one year are about Rs. 59.54 crores which is considered to be normal.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, the hon. Member wants to know whether you are going to say something about the assesseees.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: We have liberalised the economic and other

policies. We are keen that all the amounts due to us should be paid to us in time.

SHRISHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Since every relief by way of raising the income-tax limit results in larger tax collection and lowering the tax arrears.....

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is talking about arrears.

SHRISHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: I have nothing to ask about arrears. This is about exemption limit.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, are you interested in replying? Mr. Patel, you complete your question.

SHRISHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: May I know the justification for not raising the income-tax exemption limit in proportion to the decline in the purchasing power of the rupee, since the exemption limit was last fixed, so as to help the honest tax-payer?

May I also know the extent of decline in the purchasing power of rupee during the period?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think it is relevant?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: We have already reduced the tax rate consistent with our policy?

So far as the Budget for the current year is concerned, there is no increase in the rates of income-tax or wealth tax or gift tax.

So far as the minimum limit is concerned, that has been maintained because if we do not do so, a large number of people would not be there in the tax net and that will create many problems in putting leakages of revenue for which the Government is not prepared at the moment.

[Translation]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: How many persons have been arrested in con-

nection with the recovery of income-tax dues and what is the amount of assets and property that has been attached? In rural areas such arrests and attachment of property are undertaken even when income-tax dues amount only of Rs. 100 or Rs. 200. Will the Government take the same step when the income-tax dues are in crores of rupees?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The Government is taking action on such cases. As regards the recovery of dues, we are not able to take action promptly because of legal complications that come about through High Courts. Where there are no such hurdles, the Government activity pursues the case and recovers the dues. No concession is given in such cases.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: I want to know the number of people arrested in connection with the recovery of income-tax dues, and the extent to which property and assets have been attached?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Sir, the relevant information is not available at the moment. If the hon. Member writes to me, the information will be supplied to him.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please give it to him in writing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the Government is trying to recover the tax arrears. That should be done. I have no quarrel about that. All taxes should be recovered as early as possible. The small tax-payers are filing their returns. In recovering the big amount, the finalisation of cases of the small tax-payers are being kept for years together. In respect of small amounts, there are cases which are pending for eight years, 10 years and like that. In respect of the small tax-payers, will the Government ensure that all such cases are finalised quickly? Of course, there is the question a stay granted by the High Court etc. I understand that. Except the cases where the Court has not given the stay, will

the Government ensure that all such cases are cleared by 31st December 1991? These cases are more than three years old.

SHRIRAMEHSWARTHAKUR: According to the current policy of the Government and provisions of the Income-Tax Act all income-tax payees are supposed to submit their income-tax returns in time. The Government takes the amount of dues as 100% correct as shown in the returns. Small tax-payers do not have any problems. But the Government picks out 5% to 10% of the cases at random and scrutinizes them deeply. After scrutiny if it is found that additional amount is due, the tax payer is given the opportunity to either appeal or to pay the arrears. In this way, various cases are taken up. Appeals are considered by commissioners, tribunals or High Courts but minor cases are not referred to these bodies.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, his question is a small one. He wants to know that will be done to expedite cases of small assesseees.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Sir, those cases are also taken up.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: I wanted an assurance from the Government that such cases will be cleared by 31st December, 1991. But the Minister has not answered to that question.

MR. SPEAKER: They are doing it. That is all.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That will depend upon the assessee.

Bill Discounting Facility To Small Scale Sector

+

*631. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide bill discounting facility to the small scale sector through refinancing by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and other Banks:

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) other facilities proposed to be provided to the small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a), (b) and (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The small scale sector currently has access to bill discounting facilities from banks which, in turn, can avail of rediscounting facility provided by SIDBI. SIDBI also currently offers certain direct discounting facilities. Whereas Government would be keen to see the wider acceptance and adoption of the bills culture by the small scale sector, it does not propose to introduce any new types of bills discounting facilities.

(b) Under the Bills rediscounting schemes of SIDBI, bills covering deferred payment sales or purchases of capital equipment to or by small scale units are discounted by banks. These, in turn, are eligible for being rediscounted by SIDBI. Under the direct discounting scheme of SIDBI such bills are discounted by SIDBI directly. Under a recently introduced scheme for the direct discounting of short term bills, SIDBI discounts short-term bills drawn by units in the small scale sector on specified buyers in respect of components, parts, sub-assemblies, accessories and intermediates supplied by the small scale units to the buyers on short term credit for periods upto 90 days. Similarly, scheduled commercial banks also provide discounting facilities to the small scale sector against short term bills drawn by them covering credit sales.

(c) Government has recently announced

separate policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises with the objective of imparting greater vitality and competitiveness to the sector, particularly in order to support the growth of output, employment and exports.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the amount of discount given by the Banks to small scale sector and also to the big industries during the last three years under the bill discounting facility?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the figures of the last three years are concerned it is submitted that the total amount discounted to the small scale industries comes to about Rs. 1 lakh 86 thousand 441, which is 10 per cent. In the other case the discounted amount is about Rs. 1 lakh 6 thousand 42 which is 8.2 per cent. The Government provided discounted facilities of about Rs. 586.27 in total.

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has just stated that the Government have announced separate policy measures to strengthen the small, tiny and village enterprises. Will he be pleased to provide the information in brief in that regard.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already placed the declaration on the table of the House.

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that some policy measures have been announced to strengthen the small scale and village enterprises. Through you, I would like to know the details in that regard.

MR. SPEAKER: A declaration has already been placed on the table of the House.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point is really related to the difficulties felt by the small scale industries in

recovering their dues. Now they neither have the clout nor have the organisation facility, nor the infrastructure to really pursue the recovery of these dues especially from big concerns and also Government agencies. Having been associated with this organisation, I know that the greatest difficulty is being faced. Marketing is a great problem; then comes supply and then the problem of recovering dues starts again. One procedure is the Bill Discounting Facility. I cannot say that it is very satisfactory. I had discussions with SIDBI representative at least in Calcutta and presently the representative is Mr. Kapoor. They are saying that they are trying to help. I do not think, it has percolated to that extent. It is really a part of marketing assistance. Now the new policy, I have got a copy of that with me, says:

"Beginning has been made towards solving this problem of delayed payment to small industries by setting up a factoring services through small Industries Development Board in the SIDBI. Network of such services will be set up throughout the country and operated through commercial banks. A suitable legislation will be introduced to ensure prompt payment to Small Industries Bill."

This is their policy. Now in the reply, it is stated that the Government does not propose to introduce any new types of Bill Discounting Facilities. Maybe, you may not have a new Bill Discounting Facility. I would like to know what is the Government's proposal to bring in this legislation which is a part of their policy, solemnly announced, which will go according to you, towards helping the small scale industries in recovering its dues for supplies made by them. This is a vital sector. I will request the Government to spell out when do they wish to bring this bill and what are the parameters of that Bill?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, the duties which were being performed by I.D.B.I are now being performed by SIDBI. It was stipulated afterwards to provide more incentive

and more benefits to the small scale industries; and for this purpose we have set up financial institutions like SIDBI etc. IDBI have invested about Rs.4200 crores in it. As the hon. Member has already submitted that only big industrialists and not the people of lower sections are benefited by it; and for the same reason, recently, the hon. Minister of Industries has announced a new industrial policy so that poor people may be able to get the benefits. Moreover, the short term loan which is supposed to be provided within the period of 90 days is delayed by 5-7 years. We have also provided the system of single window facility so that the people may not have to run from one place to another and they may have the facility of purchase, sale and refinancing at one place. That is why a new industrial policy was announced on Aug. 6, 1991 and a decision was taken in view of it. The people who are unemployed —

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They have spoken of a new legislation. This was a policy statement.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether a new law would be enacted or not. If it is to be enacted what will be the form of this enactment and when it will be enforced?

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The policy says that a suitable legislation will be introduced to ensure prompt payment to small industries bill.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: So far as the policy is concerned, it is under discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: In your policy, you have mentioned that a law would be passed. When you want to pass it and what will be the contents of that law?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: That is under consideration.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The policy had solemnly been introduced and was announced in the House.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: It is under consideration. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What do you mean by consideration? You have considered and mentioned that it will be brought. Are you reconsidering your policy again? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is very important. Are you reconsidering your policy?

MR. SPEAKER: Probably, the contents of the Bill are under consideration.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I also want to help him. He is a good friend of mine and I do not want to embarrass him. But, let the Government say that they are trying to think about the structure of the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready with the Bill or do you want to say something?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: I have already told the hon. Member that the same is under consideration (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAUHAN: The delayed payments for small scale units is a very serious problem. In reply to the question the Minister says that under a recently introduced scheme and I think he is referring to the factoring services which are mentioned in the policy, which says that "for direct discounting of short term bills -SIDBI-short term bills drawn by units in the small scale sector by specified buyers". Is there any list with the Government of the specified buyers and or any preferential treatment is being given? Will the Government publish such list of specified buyers?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have a list of preferential buyers or would you like to prepare it?

[*Translation*]

SHRIDALBIR SINGH: Sir, at present, I do not have that information. Whenever it is received, it would be made available to the hon. Member. However, I have already submitted that this has been kept in view while presenting the new policy on Aug. 8. All the aspects have been kept in view and the concerned Ministry has been thinking over the matter.

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that as per the existing arrangements the rate of interest charged on the loans given to the small scale industries by the banks is 19.5 percent to 30 per cent. I would like to know whether it is a fact and the Government propose to reduce it. The hon. Minister of Finance quote the examples of the countries like Italy, Korea etc, however in Italy itself...

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked a good question.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The rate of interest varies in accordance to the amount of loans. Those who get loans upto Rs. 7,500 have to pay 10 per cent interest, those who get Rs. 7,500 to 15,000 have to pay 11 percent, those who get Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000 have to pay 12 per cent interest; similarly those who get Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000 have to pay 13 per cent and those who get above Rs. 50,000 have to pay 14 per cent interest.

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the small scale industries in Maharashtra are on the verge of closure.

MR. SPEAKER: You are ignorant of the factual situation. You should collect information in that respect.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The crux of the main question is regarding delayed payments. Unless a Bill is introduced and enacted here, this problem cannot be solved. I

know that the Small Industries Department have already finalised the Bill and the Bill is pending in the Ministry of Industry, for taking the approval of the Finance Ministry. The Bill is supposed to be introduced in the House... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have the information with you?

SHRISRIKANTA JENA: Yes, I have the information with me.

MR. SPEAKER: Then you can show it to the Minister.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I would like to know whether the Minister. In-charge and the Finance Ministry will take care and give the clearance immediately, so that the Ministry of Industry can bring the Bill in this House, in this session.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: They can sent it to the Ministry of Industry.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi districts of Uttar Pradesh

*632. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steady increase in the smuggling of narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi Districts of Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the smuggling of narcotics in this area;

(c) the number of smugglers arrested during the last one year and the quantity of narcotics seized from them; and

(d) the steps being taken to contain the increasing consumption of narcotics in this area?

[English]

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

STATEMENTS

Statistics of seizures of Narcotics in the Ghazipur and Varanasi Districts, as given in the table below, do not indicate any increase in illicit drug trafficking.

	Year	Opium	Heroin	Ganja (Cannabis)	Charas (Hashish)
(Quantity in Kilograms)					
Varanasi District	1988	1.380	3.385	-	-
	1989	0.620	1.326+ 328 purias	20.100	-
	1990	0.090	1.970+ 836 purias	100.470+ 91 purias	0.500
	1991	0.010	0.811+	69.879+	
	(upto July)		896 purias	72 purias	0.450
Ghazipur District	1988	-	0.835	-	-
	1989	0.600	2.942	5.325	-
	1990	0.400	1.189	69.385	-
	1991	0.310	0.268	179.310	-
	(up to July)				

The Govt. have however continued to take stringent legislative, administrative and enforcement measures to prevent any increase in illicit trafficking activities.

During the calendar year 1990, 318 persons in Varanasi and 144 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested for offences under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act. In 1991, upto July, the Number arrested have been 275 in Varanasi and 73 in Ghazipur. The quantities of drugs seized have been given in the table above.

The Govt. Have adopted a two-pronged strategy of reduction of illicit supply through law enforcement, and reduction of illicit demand by generating public awareness against addiction and counselling and de-addiction through voluntary organisations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the basis of the figures provided by the hon. Minister he has tried to show that there has been no increase in the smuggling of narcotics in Ghazipur and Varanasi districts in Uttar Pradesh but the reality is different. The fact is that the smuggling of narcotics in both these districts has further extended even to the rural areas. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to set up a special team to check the smuggling of narcotics particularly heroin.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the sake of the information of the hon. Member I would like to tell that as per the figures provided by the concerned officials, the smuggling of narcotics like opium, heroin, and charas has gone down to a considerable extent during the last four years i.e. 1988 to 1991 though the smuggling of ganja has increased to some extent. 318 persons in Varanasi district and 144 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested during the year 1990 while 275 persons in Varanasi and 73 persons in Ghazipur have been arrested during the year 1991. In this manner, as I have already submitted that

smuggling of no other narcotic than ganja has increased.

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked whether the Government propose to form a special squad in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may kindly tell whether the Government propose to form special squad or not.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The hon. Member may be aware that Ghazipur and Varanasi do not fall under the area where inter-national and inter state smugglers are active. Both these districts are in Uttar Pradesh therefore the State Government, the excise department and the police hold the responsibility in this regard. Besides, the special organisation set up by the Central Government called revenue intelligence and the Border Security Force...

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Members want to know whether the Government propose to form some special squad or not.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: There is no need of it.

[*English*]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The hon. Minister has not mentioned the most popular narcotic prevalent today-the brown sugar. I would like to ask two questions. Firstly, how much brown sugar was confiscated or found in these two districts? Secondly, in the question about how to contain the increasing consumption, he has answered that "the Government have adopted a two-pronged strategy of reduction of illicit supply through law enforcement, and reduction of illicit demand..." The point is that, the genesis of the illicit supply of this narcotic is in the districts of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Mainly in Mandsaur which happens to be the district of the Chief Minister and the Home Minister of Madhya Pradesh the genesis of all the opium production and the production

of all the narcotics in this country is there. I am only stating the fact.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: How can he make a reference to the Chief Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: If there is anything defamatory, I will look into it.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: No, no. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We can also do that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I am stating a fact that the district of Mandsaur is the genesis of supply. Will he consider reduction of opium farming? (*Interruptions*) I am asking whether the Minister will consider complete stoppage or reduction in farming of opium in this country. (*Interruptions*) This is highly objectionable. I have only mentioned a statement of fact.

Mandsaur district happens to be the home district of Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and the Home Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: While the Question pertains to smuggling only in Gazipur and Varanasi, why do you drag the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in the discussion time and again.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: The highest smuggling goes on in Maharashtra. Can we say that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra is involved in that? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given a ruling on the issue.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHAN-DURI: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in question hour.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask a supplementary.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No clarification please.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The Hon. member wanted to know about brown sugar. Brown sugar is heroin in another name.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the quantity of brown sugar from these two districts?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: That is there. As regards production, there was a little uproar. I would like to say that the production of opium for the last two years, about which the Hon. Member mentioned, in Uttar Pradesh in 1989-90...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I was asking whether he would consider stoppage of opium farming or reduction in the area of opium.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That will be done by the Agriculture Minister.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: No, no. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, please; no cross-talk.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I wanted to give that figure. The production has already come down in the case of Uttar Pradesh. (*Interruptions*) There are three central opium production centres in the

country. I am giving the break-up and showing how it has been reduced and is being gradually reduced.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, please. Another question is very important. He is saying, "Are you interested in reducing the farming of opium and production?"

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Actually, we have done.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already done it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think this is not a state matter. Is the Ministry of Finance aware of the fact that the opium is smuggled in U.P. through Kathmandu border and the border is unguarded? This is not the question of opium in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

MR. SPEAKER: This question pertains to Gazipur and Varanasi only.

SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA: Is the Ministry of Finance taking some steps to put a check on all types of smuggling activities in the country in consultation with the Ministry of Home and the Ministry of Defence?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you doing anything in a coordinated manner? I think, the answer is 'yes'.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: So far as production part is concerned, three production centres are there. It is minimum in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan and maximum in Madhya Pradesh. In all the three States, production has come down.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Is

the hon. Minister aware of the fact that a provision has been made for 10 years imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2 lakh under this Act in this regard? Even then the convicts are easily acquitted. In the circumstances are you going to take up some stern steps to safeguard the interests of poor farmers, who are generally the victims of the affairs? All the influential persons involved in smuggling easily escape from the dragged to law. Will you make certain arrangements to bring the actual smugglers to book? At present, there are number of shortcomings in the law. Are you going to make certain amendments in the law to rectify these shortcomings.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to make the punishment stringent?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The punishment is already stringent. The question is where should it be applicable. Wherever it is applicable, we see to it that we do not spare the guilty persons.

New rules for balance sheets for public sector Banks

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*633. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new rules and formats for balance sheets for public sector banks have come into effect from the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the public sector banks have been asked to disclose the amount of bad and doubtful debts in their balance sheets; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). A notification has been issued by Government on 18th January, 1991 giving notice of its intention to modify the formats of Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account of commercial banks after expiry of three months from the date of publication. The proposed formats would have, inter-alia, the following features:

- i) They will give a more comprehensive picture of both income and expenditure;
- ii) They will ensure uniformity in the classification of various items of assets and liabilities as well as income and expenditure, and
- iii) They will include statements on accounting policies to facilitate easy understanding.

In response to the notification certain suggestions have been received from interested quarters including the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. The new formats are proposed to be made effective from the current accounting year ending 31st March, 1992.

(c) and (d). In accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers, the banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the provisions made for bad and doubtful debts as well as loan losses. However the new formats will show the provisions for bad debts, depreciation and taxes in a consolidated form on the expenditure side of the Profit & Loss Account.

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister the reasons for not asking the banks

to show their actual amounts of bad debts in their balance sheets.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, in this connection, A Ghose Committee was set up to evolve new format and it was to be made effective within three months latest by 17-4-91. 56 suggestions from interested quarters including the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India have been received and RBI is examining all the suggestions. But it is definite that by the year end new formats will be made effective.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI: Sir, I would not like to put the second supplementary.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, balance sheets of Nationalised banks are being audited by Chartered Accountants. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why the balance sheets are not being audited by C.A.G. and now the formats of balance sheets are going to be modified. So, Will the Government in near future get the balance sheets audited by CAG.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government does not have any reservations about getting the balance sheets audited by someone else; the Government has got its own limitations. In view of these limitations it has been proposed... (*Interruptions*)... a committee has been set up for this purpose. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: For the present question 40-45 minutes were given in the question. Which was asked earlier.

[*English*]

So, we will go to the next question.

Mobilisation of Small Savings in Rural Areas

*634 SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to mobilise small savings in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Various steps taken to mobilise small savings in rural areas include:

- i) Utilisation of around 1.25,00 post offices in rural areas;
- ii) intensive publicity in rural areas;
- iii) Utilisation of infrastructure and extension services of the State Governments and the agency schemes in the rural areas;
- iv) introduction of new savings instruments like Indira Vikas Patra, and Kisan Vikas Patra, specially designed to cater to the requirements of rural population who, by and large, are not income tax payers.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Sir, the Budget Performance Report of India shows that the average gross domestic savings have shown an improvement during the Seventh Plan, that is, 18.2 percent in 1984-85 to 21.1 percent in 1988-89 and further to 21.7 percent. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the percentage of contribution from the rural areas to this improvement in gross domestic savings and

whether or not any target was set to achieve this rural savings and if so, whether or not that target was achieved.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to the question of the hon. Member, I would like to tell that out of a total of 1.45 lakh post offices in the country nearly 1.25 lakh post offices are in rural areas. I do not have the complete details with me, because there are no computers in all the post offices, and all the work is being done manually. That is why the Government has not been able to classify the rural-urban areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the target been fulfilled or not?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main objective of the scheme is that 75 percent of the savings mobilised by the State Governments and specially by the District Authorities is passed over to the States. Under the Scheme, loans are sanctioned for 20-25 years, and this is the main object of this scheme.

[English]

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: The Minister has just now stated that as per the guidelines, 75 per cent of the small savings mobilised has to be invested in the same state or in the same area. I would like to know whether this has been strictly adhered to. If not, is the Government taking any action to do so in future?

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 75 percent of the savings mobilised is passed over to the states and it is the responsibility of the State Governments to invest. The amount as per their requirements. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: Sir, is it a fact that a large part of the savings mobilised in the rural areas is diverted to urban areas by the Government for investment in industry and business? In view of the fact that enough capital is not being invested in rural areas, will the Government take the necessary steps to see that the amount mobilised in the rural areas is definitely utilised in those very same rural areas to provide loans and other assistance to farmers, weaker sections, agricultural labour and small entrepreneurs?

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: We will talk to the State Governments about the suggestions made by the hon. Member. The State Government will be requested to invest more and more funds which are mobilised through Indira Vikas Patra and Kisan Vikas Patra, in the rural areas.

Freight for Goods Transported by Ships

*635 SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT to pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a fixed freight for all goods transported by ships along the Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on the coastal shipping industry;

(c) whether the Government propose to relax the freight fixation formula presently being followed to revive the coastal shipping; and

(d) if so, the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Central Government presently exercise powers conferred by

Merchant Shipping Act to fix or revise coastal tariffs, on the advice of the Shipping Rates Advisory Board, only in respect of industrial coal and salt along the Mainland Coast at all freight and passenger tariffs between Mainland and Andamans and Lakshadweep Islands. The tariffs of other goods traffic along the coast are fixed through direct negotiations between the shipowners and shippers on a bilateral commercial basis. Director General of Shipping has been delegated powers to fix bunker surcharge for carriage of coal and salt and also to fix freight rates where no subsidy is payable by the Government. The freight rates in respect of traffic to the Andamans and Lakshadweep Islands, which involves payment of subsidy to Shipping Corporation of India, are fixed by the Government of India. There has been a sharp increase in the movement of thermal coal, crude oil and petroleum products along the coast over the years.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, I am not really satisfied with the answer, specially the answer given to part (b) of my question, wherein I asked about the effect on the coastal shipping industry. I asked the question, through I know the answer and the answer is that the coastal shipping industry has totally collapsed. There are only 14 passenger-cum-cargo ships operating in the country, mainly for Andamans and Lakshadweep. Even in the Annual Report, there is no policy statement as far as shipping is concerned....

MR. SPEAKER: You please put the question. You are not expected to give information. You can make use of that information to frame that question.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, on the Goa-Bombay belt itself, there are many ports. The Coastal Shipping was operation well, when it was nationalised in 1983. And then, it was closed in 1985. We are not interested

whether it is privatised or in the public sector. Our main concern is that it should be rejuvenated. There is no difficulty for the SCI to take over the coastal shipping...

MR SPEAKER: A Member is expected to make to use of the information available to him to frame the question. Please ask the question.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: My question relates to this aspect. Why is the Coastal Shipping not taken over by the SCI and why is it not commenced again?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member..

MR. SPEAKER: You can exclude the information that he has already given.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Already, about 166 ships are plying in the coastal region.

As far as the traffic handled in the coastal shipping is concerned, it has gone up. In the year 1952 it was 26 lakh tonnes which has gone up to 244 lakh tonnes. Now, because of the better infrastructure of roads and railways, the traffic has been diverted. The Shipping Corporation only handles the passengers traffic from the main land to the Lakshadweep and Andaman Islands.

We not only have a policy, rather we are encouraging people to come and put more number of ships, more small boats and so on. As far as the Ministry of Shipping is concerned, we have no objection to the people who want to ply on the Indian Flags.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: The private licences were given some three years ago and they are going to expire in October, 1991. Though licences were given no private company has acquired any ship and no passenger service or cargo service has started operation as on date. Under-development of the Konkan belt and the Western coastal regions has resulted in the lack of the communication facility. Coastal shipping which

was being operated for the last three years, has now been stopped.

Hon. Minister just now said that due to the increase in the rate of transportation the capacity was diverted. I would like to say that there is no increase in the road transportation in the Western coastal belt. When the rate of transportation is hindrance in the increase in the private shipping, a package has to be developed so that transportation permission licence be granted for passengers traffic in urban areas like Bombay.

MR. SPEAKER: Your time is getting lost. You can say, are you intending to reduce the freight.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: My question is, Sir, Whether the Government proposes to develop a package for the private shipping liners to operate passengers cum cargo services in urban centres like Bombay and the other coastal regions of Maharashtra.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, the Government encourages private people to come up and operate these routes.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, there was a proposal to start shipping services from Bombay right down to Cochin touching Goa, Mangalore and Cochin. I would like to know from the hon. Minister at what stage this proposal is and when the private sector is not coming forward to take up this service, whether the Government or the shipping company will take it up or not.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We do not have any proposal of this kind.

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Sir, through you I would like to know from the Minister, how many passengers ships are plying from main land to Andaman Islands because the passengers are facing a lot of inconvenience because of their unscheduled and un-announced dates.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We are doing everything possible to increase the frequency

of the shipping services from the mainland to the Andaman Islands. We have recently got one brand new ship and we are expecting very soon, two more such ships. I hope after getting these two ships, the inconvenience which is caused to the people of Andaman will be reduced.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Agricultural Exports

* 636 SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRIM.R. KADAMBURJAN-
ARTHANAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the new EXIM policy on exports;

(b) whether agricultural exports have been boosted in the recent past;

(c) if so, the amount of foreign exchange earned from agricultural exports from Kerala during the year 1990-91 and whether the foreign exchange earning is expected to increase this year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to further increase the agricultural production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (e). Government announced an initial package of trade policy on 4th July, 1991 followed by a few other changes in the policy on 13th August, 1991 which aimed at strengthening export incentives.

Some of the salient features of new Trade Policy are given below:

i) REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument named Eximscrips. The basic rate at which Eximscrips will be issued against exports will be 30% of FOB value. For certain value added agricultural products which inter-alia included cashew kernels roasted/salted in consumer packs of 1kg. or less, fresh fruits, vegetables, cut-flowers, plants and plant materials and spices going by air, all types of canned, bottled and aseptically packed fruits, vegetable products and spices etc. entitlement of an additional Eximscrips of 10 percentage points has been allowed, taking the total Eximscrips rate to 40% of FOB value.

ii) Procedures for considering Advance Licence applications have been simplified;

iii) A number of items of exports including Molasses, Khandsari Molasses and Sugar have been decanalised and placed under Open General Licence (OGL) 3.

iv) State Governments have been requested to exempt exports from all fiscal levies.

Separate state-wise export figures are not maintained. As such it would not be possible to indicate the amount of foreign exchange earned from agricultural exports from Kerala during the year 1990-91.

A statement showing exports of agricultural Commodities in 1990-91 as compared to 1989-90 is enclosed. As the Trade Policy has been revised very recently, it would be premature to estimate its impact on foreign exchange earnings.

To increase agricultural production in

order to generate surpluses for exports, the following three-fold strategy is followed; (i) increase in area/yield, (ii) productivity efficiencies through adoption of best produc-

tion and post harvest technologies and high quality management, and (iii) back-up support through relevant R & D and extension. It is a continuous process.

STATEMENT

Exports of Agricultural Commodities 1990-91 as Compared to 1989-90

Quantity: '000' Ton
Value: Rs. Crores
U. Value: Rs./Kg.

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90		
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Cotton	283.03	752.76	26.00	61.850	80.27	12.98
2.	Spices						
a)	Pepper	31.371	111.06	34.35	34.482	152.97	44.36
b)	Cardamom (Small)	0.379	10.06	269.72	0.180	3.07	170.38
c)	Cardamom (Large)	0.961	4.32	44.91	0.787	2.95	37.46
d)	Chillies	23.178	27.98	122.07	11.983	25.85	21.57
e)	Ginger	5.487	10.93	19.93	9.037	12.67	14.04

Quantity: '000' Ton
Value: Rs. Crores
U. Value: Rs./Kg.

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90			U. Val.
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
f)	Turmeric	12.764	14.34	11.223	16.860	16.15	9.58	
g)	Curry Powder	2.787	6.01	21.57	3.320	6.75	20.34	
h)	Misc. Spices	18.985	22.54	11.87	25.344	32.49	12.82	
i)	Spice Oils/Oleoresin	0.879	31.27	355.70	0.717	22.86	318.80	
	Sub-Total (2)	97.291	238.67	—	102.710	275.76	—	
3.	Cashew							
a)	Kernels	49.641	431.51	86.92	44.857	360.34	80.33	
b)	Cashewnuts							
	Shell Liqd (CNLSL)	3.603	2.52	6.99	3.014	2.53	8.39	

Quantity: '000' Ton
Value: Rs. Crores
U. Value: Rs./Kg.

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90		
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c)	In consumer packs of less than 1 Kg.	0.05	0.78	156.00	0.07	1.05	150.00
	Sub-Total (3)	53.294	434.81	—	47.941	363.92	—
4.	Tobacco:						
a)	Unmanufactured	70.375	209.16	29.97	58.183	152.24	26.16
b)	Products	13.299	54.53	—	15.512	19.97	—
	Sub-Total (4)	83.674	263.69	—	73.695	172.03	28.34
5.	Cereals						
a)	Wheat	201.025	38.51	—	—	—	—
b)	Basmati Rice	241.83	288.56	11.91	396.90	412.06	10.40

Quantity:
Value:
U. Value:

'000' Ton
Rs. Crores
Rs./Kg.

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90		
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c)	Non-Basmati Rice	313.83	187.83	5.99	26.71	16.36	6.12
d)	Coarse grains	—	—	—	—	4.93	—
	Sub Total: (5)	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Oilcakes/Extraction						
a)	Soyabean Extraction	1295.303	457.67	3.54	937.987	363.61	3.88
b)	Groundnut Extraction	127.643	31.73	2.46	419.771	83.71	1.99
c)	Cottonseed Extraction	17.008	3.60	2.12	36.637	7.12	1.94

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90			Quantity: '000' Ton	
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Value: Rs. Crores	U. Value: Rs./Kg.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
d)	Rice Bran Extraction	448.847	52.78	1.18	634.543	65.34	1.08		
e)	Rapeseed Extraction	525.928	70.88	1.57	710.597	90.60	1.28		
f)	Sunflower Seed Extraction	92.370	14.19	1.35	65.267	9.40	1.44		
g)	Salseed Extraction	42.351	4.78	11.02	74.547	6.06	0.81		
h)	Other, Extraction	19.972	3.66	—	24.253	4.79	—		
	Sub-Total (6)	2570.422	639.29	—	2903.552	630.71	—		

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91			1989-90			Quantity: '000' Ton	
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Value: Rs. Crores	U. Value: Rs./Kg.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
7.	Niger Seed	10.386	13.52	—	13.840	11.93	—		
8.	Seasame Seed	47.187	72.00	15.273	138.530	178.15	12.86		
9.	IIP's								
	Groundnuts	35.473	62.43	17.60	24.791	26.88	10.82		
10.	Minor Oils	3.849	10.79	—	5.180	11.88	—		
11.	APEDA Items								
a)	Fresh Fruits & Vegetables	—	172.00	—	—	155.57	—		
b)	Processed Fruits & Vegetables	—	60.00	—	—	66.37	—		

Sl. No.	Item	1190-91				1989-90				Quantity: Value: U. Value:		
		Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Qty.	Val.	U. Val.	Rs. Crores	Rs./Kg.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
c)	Meat & Meat Products	—	147.50	—	—	127.57	—					
d)	Other Processed Foods	—	133.00	—	—	132.98	—					
	Sub-Total (11)		512.50			482.43						
12.	Sugar	65.00	52.06	8.00	32.800	22.37	6.812					
13.	Molasses	214.00	19.54	0.91	258.00	16.85	0.65					
14.	Shellac	6.692	17.17	25.65	6.200	17.76	28.64					
15.	Gum Karaya	0.46	3.83	—	1.590	122.80	—					
	Total (1.15)		3612.66			2737.40						

[Translation]

Supply of Cloth to Consumers at Reasonable Rates

*637 SHRITEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAM SAHA CH-
OUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide cloth to the consumers at reasonable rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to monitor proper implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). 1. Government have been implementing the Janata Cloth Scheme in the handloom sector and controlled cloth Scheme in the organised mill sector (NTC). The objectives of these schemes are to provide sustained employment to the under employed and unemployed weavers and to make cloth available at affordable prices to the poorer sections especially in the rural areas. The Janata Cloth Scheme is implemented by the State Directors of handlooms and carries a subsidy of Rs. 3.40 per sq. metre. The controlled cloth scheme being implemented by National Textile Corporation carries a subsidy of Rs. 2 per metre in respect of dhoti and saree, Rs. 1.50 per metre in respect of long cloth and Rs. 2.50 per metre in respect of polyester cotton controlled cloth.

2. For proper monitoring of implementation of Janata Cloth Scheme, guidelines have been issued that the Nodal Agencies should carry out physical inspection at least once in a quarter and that each State would set up a State level Standing Monitoring

Committee which will review all aspects of implementation of the Janata Cloth Scheme every quarter.

3. The controlled Cloth produced by NTC is distributed through National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF), State Cooperatives, NTC retail dealers and authorised dealers of NTC. Any complaints of diversion of Controlled Cloth are looked into and corrective measures taken.

[English]

Electronic Meters on Taxis and Autorickshaws in Delhi

*638. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electronic meters proposed to be installed in taxis and autorickshaws in Delhi have failed to come up to the required standard for being water proof;

(b) if so, the reasons for insisting on the installation of these meters on the taxis and autorickshaws in Delhi; and

(c) the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration have stated that the Electronic Meters proposed to be installed in taxis and autorickshaws have not been tested for being waterproof. No decision has been taken regarding installation of the Meters and, therefore, the question of insisting on the installation of these Meters on the taxis and autorickshaws in Delhi does not arise.

Indian Road Construction Corporation

*640. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Road Construction Corporation has been running in loss for the last several years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the Corporation viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make the Corporation viable are yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Income Tax on Dearness Allowance

*641. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government compensate the employees for rise in the prices during a fixed period by paying dearness allowance; and

(b) if so, the justification for including the amount of dearness allowance in the

income of the employees while calculating income tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Under the existing formula based on the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission, Government of India compensates its employees for rise in the prices by grant of Dearness Allowance twice in a year from 1st January and 1st July payable with the salary of March and September respectively.

(b) The justification for including the amount of dearness allowance in the income of the employees while calculating income tax is that dearness allowance is calculated on the pre-tax salary of an employee.

[English]

Price of Tea and Coffee Seeds

*642. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the steps taken to reduce the price of tea and coffee seeds sold to the consumers and to check their hoarding and profiteering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): In the case of tea, the retail prices of some of the brands have come down between January, 1991 and July, 1991.

(Rs./Kg.)

	Brooke Bond Red Label	Liptons Yellow Label
January, 1991	64.00	66.70
July, 1991	62.00	62.00

With regard to coffee, prices had gone up during January, 1991 to March, 1991 on account of a lean crop during the previous year. However, adequate quantities have

been available after March, 1991 and the retail prices have come down, as indicated below for raw coffee.

	(Rs./Kg.)		
	Plantation-A	Arabica-AB	Robusta AB
January, 1991	49.70	41.20	44.30
July, 1991	42.45	37.80	30.25

[Translation]

Maintenance of IAF Aircraft

*643. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fleet of Indian Air Force aircraft has become obsolete and heavy expenditure is incurred on its maintenance;

(b) if so, the amount spent thereon during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce the expenditure on the maintenance of these aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Transfer of Cantonment Land to Ahmednagar Municipal Council

*644. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding problems faced by the Cantonment Board, Bhingar, Ahmednagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to transfer some cantonment land to the Ahmednagar Municipal Council; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). Government have received representations from Shri Yashwantrao G. Patil highlighting certain problems faced by the Cantonment Board Bhingar, Ahmednagar. The issues highlighted by him are as below:-

- (1) There is acute housing problem in this Cantonment, to solve which Government should increase the floor space index from the present factor 1 to a factor of 2.
- (2) In order to make available X-Ray facilities to the poor patients, a large X-Ray machine should be sanctioned for the Cantonment Hospital.
- (3) To improve the sanitation of the Cantonment area, Government should sanction underground sewerage and convert the dry latrines into flush out latrines.
- (4) Since there is scarcity of drinking water in the civilian areas of the Cantonment, a separate piped water supply scheme should be sanctioned for the civilian areas.
- (5) The roads in the civil areas of

Cantonment require major repairs and improvement.

- (6) 21 bore wells should be sanctioned for the civil areas of the Cantonment, to improve the availability of water whenever the piped water supply scheme breaks down.
- (7) The present charges levied by Government for conversion of Old Grant Sites in the civilian areas of the Cantonment to Free Hold Sites are very high. These may be brought down and the power of conversion of old Grant Sites into Free Hold Sites may be delegated to Southern Command authorities at Pune.
- (8) The open areas in the Cantonment area may be released for allotment to Housing Societies for construction of houses for low-income groups and for educational purposes.
- (9) Government should undertake slum area development programme for the slums presently in parts of the Cantonment area.
- (10) The Cantonment Act may be amended for giving more powers to the elected members, so that all decisions on development matters can be taken at the local level.

In July 1988, Government had made an offer to the Ahmednagar Municipal Council proposing the transfer of 40-91 acres of Defence lands in the excised area of Ahmednagar Cantonment to the Municipal Council on payment of the market value of the land of Rs. 2,25,90,787/- The Municipal Council did not accept transfer at market value and requested for allotment of the land at a nominal value, which was not agreed to.

Ban on use of Semi-Transparent Glasses in Vehicles in Delhi

*645. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has imposed ban on the use of semi-transparent glasses in all vehicles plying in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some vehicles have been exempted from this ban;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the punitive action proposed to be taken against the vehicle owners found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Delhi Administration have advised the motorists to remove solar films/tinted glasses having visibility less than 70% from their motor vehicles so that the vehicles comply with the provisions stipulated in Rule 100 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(c) and (d). The Delhi Administration have decided to grant exemption in exceptional cases on security/health grounds. The motorists desirous of seeking exemption have been advised to obtain necessary recommendation from the Police Commissioner/ Directorate of Health Services.

(e) Punishment for violation of the Rules will be in accordance with provisions of Section 190 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Ordinance Factory At Badmali, Orissa

*646. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PAT-TANAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the ordnance factory at Badmall in Bolangir district of Orissa is likely to be completed;

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of this project; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure jobs to the local people in the aforesaid ordnance factory?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Phase I of the Project is scheduled/ anticipated to be completed by June 1993.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Direct recruitment at the level of Group C and Group D is made only through local Employment Exchange. All such vacancies are notified to the local District Employment Exchange. In some cases where candidates fulfilling job requirement are not available, the local Employment Exchange notifies the vacancies to the neighbouring district Employment Exchanges.

Utilisation of Installed Capacity of Ordnance Factories

*647. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA
WASNIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is under utilisation of installed capacity of the ordnance factories in the country;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for full utilisation of their installed capacity;

(c) whether the Government have en-

listed private entrepreneurs to use surplus production capacity available with many ordnance factories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The overall utilisation of capacity in the Ordnance Factories, over the year, in terms of available standard man-hours, was 99.70 per cent in 1990-91.

(b) to (d). The following steps have, already, been taken to ensure full utilisation of capacity:-

(i) Diversification into areas of manufacture of items required by Non-Defence Users, such as Railways, Central and State Police forces, Para-Military and Security Forces and even civil Trade (including private sector).

(ii) Exports.

The total value of works executed for such Non-Defence indenters in the year 1990-91 is Rs. 114/- crores (provisional).

[Translation]

Import Licences to Firms not Fulfilling Export Obligations

*648. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import licences have been issued to some big firms which have not fulfilled their export obligations;

(b) if so, the names of such firms; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Cases have come to the notice of the Government in which the export obligation has not been fulfilled.

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

[English]

Environmental Audit For Industries

*650. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make environmental audit compulsory for industries;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring forward legislation to amend the Company Law in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests have proposed that every company shall, in the Report of its Board of Directors, disclose briefly the particulars of compliance with environmental laws, steps taken or proposed to be taken towards adoption of clean technologies for prevention of pollution, waste minimisation, waste recycling and utilisation; pollution control measures; investment on environmental protection and impact of these measures on waste reduction, water and other resource conservation.

(b) and (c). The matter is being examined.

Suspension of Operations by Banks In Priority Sector

5152. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the leading banks have suspended their operations in the priority sector since June, 1991;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that some complaints/representation have been received by them regarding suspension of lending by banks to priority sectors. These complaints/representations were taken up by them with the concerned banks who have denied suspension/stoppage of lending to priority sectors. However, they have once again drawn the attention of the concerned banks to their circular dated 23.2.1991 wherein the banks have been impressed upon to ensure that credit flow to priority sector in general and for rural areas and Government sponsored programmes in particular is not disrupted, and also that the priority sector category of borrowers may not face difficulty in obtaining credit from bank branches.

Translated versions of Constitution of India

5153. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while translating Article 1 (i) of the Constitution, the words "India that is Bharat" have been retained in most of the languages, except in

Urdu version which uses the words "Hind Yani Bharat";

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bring uniformity in the translated versions of the Constitution of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Urdu version of the Constitution of India was prepared by the Official Language (Legislative) Commission with the help of experts in law and Urdu language and in consultation with the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, whose Official language is Urdu.

(c) There is no proposal at present before the Government for amending the Urdu version of the Constitution of India.

Economy in Defence Expenditure

5154. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the means available and adopted by the Government to effect economy in defence expenditure;

(b) the steps taken to reduce cost overruns in development and modernisation projects;

(c) the amount of store losses registered during the preceding three years; and

(d) the average losses of the total yearly allocation during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) A number of measures have been initiated/proposed to effect economy in defence expenditure and optimise the available resources. These include, inter-alia, effective inventory management, optimum utilisation of transport, effective personnel management, reduction in consumption of FOL (Fuel, Oil & Lubricants), review of scale and duration of all exercises/practice camps, repair and overhaul of certain vehicles through trade, introduction of fuel efficient vehicles, introduction of simulators for training, strict check on expenditure on stores, initiating measures for enhancement of the life of weapons and equipment etc.

(b) Defence Projects are regularly monitored at various levels for appropriate managerial interventions, depending on the circumstances of each case. For large projects, involving time and cost overruns, a Special inter-Ministerial Review Committee has been constituted by the Government.

(c) and (d). Against the annual allocation, the losses of stores have been nominal.

Plans to Improve Traffic and Transportation System In Delhi

5155. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI MOHAN RAWLE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Roads will now take no more buses' appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated July 29, 1991;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to formulate comprehensive plans to improve traffic and transportation system in Delhi to ensure smooth traffic on the roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Delhi Administration had engaged M/s. RITES to take up a techno-economic feasibility study for the introduction of Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi. The Report of M/s. RITES was submitted to the Delhi Administration. The Govt. of India, in consultation with the Delhi Administration, have constituted a Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi Administration to go into various aspects of the Mass Rapid Transit System. Further, a High-powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Lt. Governor of Delhi has been constituted and charged with the responsibility of going into the various aspects of Mass Rapid Transit System and also for the setting up of a single transport authority to cover all aspects of transportation, including operation, maintenance and regulation.

The Delhi Traffic Police have also taken a number of steps like introduction of new traffic circulation patterns to ease traffic congestion, one-way roads, introduction of computerised area traffic control system, etc. to improve traffic and transportation system in Delhi.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Rajasthan by NABARD

5156. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided to Rajasthan by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during the last three years; year-wise; and

(b) the rate of interest charged thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) (i) The details refinance provided by the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) for agriculture and allied activities under schematic lending in Rajasthan during the last three years, purpose-wise is indicated in the attached Statement-I.

(ii) The amount of short-term (ST), medium-term (MT) and long-term (LT) credit limits sanctioned (non-schematic lending) by NABARD to cooperative banks, regional rural banks (RRBs) and the State Government in Rajasthan during the years 1988-89 to 1990-91 is furnished in the attached Statement -II.

(b) The rates of interest applicable on refinance to banks and bank loans to beneficiaries are furnished in the attached Statement-III.

STATEMENT - I

Details of refinance provided by NABARD for agriculture and allied activities under schematic lending in Rajasthan during last three years - purpose-wise

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Purpose	Year				
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
		(July-Mar.)	(Apr.-Mar.)	(Apr.-March)		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Minor Irrigation	1778	2473	2256		
2.	Land Development	257	78	16		
3.	Farm Mechanisation	1182	1833	2266		
4.	Plantation/Horticulture	23	53	33		
5.	Poultry/Sheep/Piggery	34	141	101		
6.	Fisheries	1	2	1		

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Purpose	Year				
		1988-89 (July-Mar.)	1989-90 (Apr.-Mar.)	1990-91 (Apr.-March)		
1	2	3	4	5		
7.	Dairy Development	18	81	101		
8.	Storage & Market Yards	188	262	204		
9.	Forestry	1	3	1		
10.	Gobargas Plants	2	1	1		
11.	Others	237	26	33		
12.	IRDP	1640	3191	2651		
13.	Tiny (NFS)	—	642	380		
Total		5361	8786	8044		

STATEMENT - II

Short-term, Medium-term and Long-term Credit Limits (non-schematic) by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to State Co-operative Banks/State Government and Regional Rural Banks in the State of Rajasthan and maximum outstanding thereunder during the year 1988-89 to 1990-91

(Rs. in Crores)

Sr. No.	Purpose (including rate of interest and operative period)	1988-89 Limits sanctioned	1989-90 Outstanding	1989-90 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding	1990-91 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A.	Co-Operative Banks						
I.	SHROT-TERM						
1.	Seasonal Agricultural Operations (at 3% to 5%) (July — June)	133.50	100.67 (30.6.89) (Max.)	142.95	114.68 (30.6.90) (Max.)	131.65	108.08 (31.7.90) (Max.)
2.	Production and Marketing of Handloom Products (at 2 1/2% below Bank Rate) (April — March)	0.07	Nil	0.05	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Purchase and distribution of fertilisers (at 1% above Bank Rate) January — December	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4.39	Nil

(Rs. in Crores)

Sr. No.	Purpose (including rate of interest and operative period)	1988-89 Limits sanctioned	1989-90 Outstanding	1989-90 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding	1990-91 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Marketing of crops including and cotton and Kapas (at Bank Rate) (July — June)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3.75	Nil
II.	MEDIUM - TERM						
1.	Approved Agricultural Purposes (at 3% below Bank Rate) (January — December)	1.55	3.87 (Dec. 88)	0.59	2.25 (Dec. 89)	0.33	1.02
2.	Conversion of short-term loans into medium-term loans for scarcity affected areas including rephasing (at 3%) (July — June)	1.38	63.75*	42.20	66.54*	23.09	62.16*
III.	LONG-TERM						
1.	Loans to State Governments for contribution to share capital of co-operative credit institutions (at 6%) (April-March)	2.72	16.84* (31.3.89)	1.37	16.64* (31.3.90)	3.40	18.06* (31.3.91)

		(Rs. in Crores)					
Sr. No.	Purpose (including rate of interest and operative period)	1988-89 Limits sanctioned	1989-90 Outstanding	1989-90 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding	1990-91 Limits sanctioned	Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B. Regional Rural Banks							
1.	ST-Seasonal Agricultural Operations (Interest @ 5%)	2.35	2.23	1.69	2.26*	2.42	2.13
2.	ST-Oilseeds Production Programme (Interest @ 5%)	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.04
3.	ST-Other than Seasonal Agricultural Operations	0.26	0.11	—	0.11*	0.03	0.03*
4.	MT-Non-Schematic (Interest @ 3% below Bank Rate)	4.20	15.67	2.52	12.59*	1.69	9.62*
5.	MT (conversion) (Interest@ 5%)	0.12	0.43*	0.12	0.38*	—	0.36*

* Includes previous year's outstandings.

STATEMENT - III

The rates of interest applicable on refinance to banks and bank loans to beneficiaries

(A) Prior to 22 September 1990

Sr. No.	Purpose	Rate of interest to	
		Ultimate borrower	On National Bank refinance
1	2	3	4
1.	Minor Irrigation and Land Development	10%	6.5%
2.	Diversified Purpose		
	a) IRDP		
	b) Small Farmers (as per National Bank's Definition)	10%	6.5%
	c) Gobargas		
	d) Others	12.5%	8%

(B) From 22 September 1990

1	2	Rate of interest on		4
		Ultimate beneficiaries	On National Bank refinance	
1	2	3		
1.	Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500	10.0		
2.	Over Rs. 7500 and upto Rs. 15000	11.5		
3.	Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 25000	12.0		6.5
4.	Over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 50000	13.0		
5.	Over Rs. 50000	14.0		9.5

(c) In the case of commercial banks all outstandings under 8% interest on refinance category as on 22 September, 1990, banks are to be charged interest at the rate of 9.5% unless the banks decide to charge the original rate of interest loans and advise National Bank accordingly.

NON-SCHEMATIC LENDING

(a) The rate of interest charged by the

National Bank for various purposes with effect from 1.3.1988 has also been indicated in the *Annexure-II*. Regarding short-term (Seasonal Agricultural Operations) limits, the final rate of interest charged to the Central Cooperative Banks is decided to the following basis:

% of average borrowings from National Bank to average out-standing at Central Co-operative Bank level during the year	Final rate of interest averaged on the refinance
80% and above	5.00
60% and above but below 80%	4.00
Below 60%	3.00

(b) During the year 1990-91 the final rate of interest charged to Central Coopera-

tive Banks on the limits sanctioned to them was as under:

No. of Central Cooperative Banks	Final rate of interest charged
19	3%
4	4%
2	5%

(c) Regarding medium term (conversion), the rate of interest is same as charged to the Short-term (SAO) loans converted.

[English]

Rupee Trade Agreement With USSR

5157. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Soviet dislike for rouble trade delaying power, steel projects" appearing in

the 'Economic Times' dated August 5, 1991;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government regarding continuance of the non-convertible rupee trade agreement with USSR under the present Long Term Agreement which expires in 1995;

(c) whether the Government propose to put the exporters to USSR on caution or advice to divert or diversify to other markets; and

(d) the details of various items under broad heads, alongwith the quantities thereof exported to USSR during the year 1990 and 1991, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The rupee trade arrangement has been found to be beneficial. Given the bilateral clearing arrangement in place between India and USSR, the level of Indian

exports to USSR is determined by the amount of Soviet exports to India and repayments due on USSR credits. Prospects for trade are reviewed periodically in bilateral meetings.

(d) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Group of Commodities	1990 (Provisional) Jan. - May	1991 (Provisional)
(Rs./ Crores)			
1.	Agricultural Products	2084	430
2.	Minerals and Ores	67	2
3.	Chemicals & Allied Products	1039	459
4.	Leather & Leather Goods	301	156
5.	Textiles	752	307
6.	Engineering Goods	1049	352
7.	Others	113	28
Total		5405	1729

(Source: DGCTDS, Calcutta)

[Translation]

Widening of National Highway No. 29

5158. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any provision to widen the National Highway No. 29 passing through Varanasi to Gorakhpur via Gazipur;

(b) if so, when the work to widen the said highway was started;

(c) the reasons for delay in completion of the work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. National Highway No. 29 has been already

widened from single lane to two lane pavement.

(b) to (d). The work of widening on a national Highway is taken up in sections depending upon the priority as per traffic intensity and the overall availability of resources. The first work of widening to two lanes on National Highway 29 was taken up in section near Varanasi in 1972. The last work was sanctioned in 1987 and all the widening works have since been completed.

[English]

Production of Textiles in Andhra Pradesh

5159. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the productivity of textile industry in Andhra Pradesh is very low as compared to other southern States; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Andhra Pradesh stands third in respect of productivity of yarn and fourth in respect of cloth amongst the four Southern States.

(b) The comparatively low productivity of Andhra Pradesh, vis-a-vis some Southern States is due to several factors such as odd type of machineries, low labour productivity, closure of mills, under-utilisation of capacity and other infrastructural difficulties. For improving the production of textiles, several measures have been taken which include assistance under Textile Modernisation Fund

Scheme, revival of sick mills by the nodal agencies etc., So far Rs. 34.38 crores (including Rs. 0.51 crores special loan) has been disbursed in 28 cases in Andhra Pradesh under the modernisation Fund Scheme upto 31-3-91. Also nodal agency has so far examined 11 mills in Andhra Pradesh, out of which 3 have been found viable, 3 nonviable, and the remaining cases are yet to be decided. Also, 9 mills have been registered with BIFR.

Export of Iron-Ore From Goa

5160. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron ore exported from Goa during 1990-91, grade-wise and the value thereof in rupees;

(b) the incentives being given at present to the exporters of iron-ore;

(c) whether the Government propose to give more incentives to exporters with a view to further encourage the exports of iron ore from Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Exports of iron ore are eligible for Exim Scrips@ 30% of the fob value of exports and tax concession under Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act in the case of exports of processed iron ore conforming to the conditions prescribed by the Government in this behalf.

(c) and (d). The existing export incentive are considered adequate.

STATEMENT

Grade-wise exports of Iron Ore during 1990-91 from Goa by Goan Shippers.

Qty : Lakh tonnes
Val: Rs. crores

Sr. No.	FINES (Grade)	Quantity		Value	
		3	4	3	4
1.	63/63%	34.23		91.44	
2.	62/62%	54.26		140.40	
3.	62/60%	1.19		2.89	
4.	61.61%	5.60		13.86	
5.	60/60%	8.29		18.89	
5.	59/59%	1.32		3.06	
6.	58/58%	0.95		2.05	
7.	53/48%	1.67		3.24	

Qty : Lakh tonnes
Val: Rs. crores

Sr. No.	FINES (Grade)	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4
8.	57/57%	0.84	1.44
		108.35	277.27
Sr. No.	LUMPS (Grade)	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4
1.	63/63%	3.80	11.81
2.	61/61%	1.58	4.43
3.	60/59%	3.91	9.89
4.	61/60%	1.19	3.19
5.	58/57%	1.21	2.11
		11.69	31.43
	G. Total	120.04	308.70

Sr. No.	FINES (Grade)	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4
1.	58/58%	0.35	1.07
2.	62/60%	0.83	1.76
3.	HDA	0.21	0.72
4.	65/63%	8.53	22.25
		9.92	25.80
Sr. No.	LUMPS (Grade)	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4
1.	62/60%	0.83	2.74
2.	65/63%	0.55	1.84
		1.38	4.58
	G. Total	11.30	30.38

National Defence Academy Cadets

5161. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cadets admitted to the National Defence Academy during the last three years; year-wise; and

(b) the break-up of the selected cadets by qualifying school system namely, Sainik School System, Kendriya Vidyalaya system, Navodaya Vidyalayas, CBSE, ICSC and the State Boards?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The number of cadets admitted to the National Defence Academy during the last three years is as under:-

1988	-	625
1989	-	587
1990	-	615

(b) The number of candidates selected, qualifying school system wise is as below:-

	1988	1989	1990
Sainik Schools	140	85	68
Kendriya Vidyalaya	159	177	188
Military Schools	26	20	18
Rashtriya Indian			
Military College	24	18	38
Others	263	278	288
Total:	612	578	600
No. of cadets who resigned after reporting to the Academy	13	9	15
Grand Total:	625	587	615

New Spinning Mills in Tamil Nadu

5162. DR. K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new spinning mills with their spindle capacity set up in Tamil Nadu during 1990-91; and

(b) the amount of loan given by the

nationalised banks to these unit -wise and bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK

GEHLOT): (a) and (b). During 1990-91 five new spinning mills have started commercial production in Tamil Nadu. The details of capacity and loans given by nationalised banks to the units are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT*licensed Capacity*

Sr. No.	Name	Spindles	Rotors	Loan Rs. Lakhs	Name of Bank
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Shri Sarvesh Cotton Mills (P) Ltd.	25000	—	90.00	State Bank of India, Thenni
2.	Kumaran Mills Ltd. Unit No. II	25000	—	35.00	Indian Bank, Coimbatore
3.	S.V.P.B. Spinners (P) Ltd.	24664	336	The unit have not availed any term loan from Nationalised Banks.	
4.	Sulochana Cotton Mills (P) Ltd.	6240	—	— do —	
5.	Sri Ramakrishna Mills (CBE) Ltd. Unit No. 2	11616	384	— do —	
		92520	720		

Excise Duty on Cigarettes

5163. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central excise duty on cigarettes is based on the length of the cigarette alone and is not co-related with the price;

(b) whether any cigarette manufacturer has reduced the length of the cigarettes during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the loss of the Central excise duty per thousand cigarettes as a result thereof in each case; and

(e) how the Government propose to

protect the loss of revenue on account of such manipulated practices of cigarette manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Central excise duty on both filter and non-filter cigarettes is based on the length of cigarette alone.

(b) Yes, Sir;

(c) The details, as available, are given in the attached Statement I.

(d) and (e). The manufacturer is free to alter the length of a cigarette. Details, as available, of the difference between duty levied on shortened cigarettes and duty that would have been levied but for such reduction are given in the attached Statement-II.

STATEMENT — I

Sl. No.	Name of Cigarette Company	Name of the Cigarettee brand	Length reduced		Date on which such reduction was made
			From	To	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	M/s. New Tobacco Com. Ltd., Calcutta	Cambridge Luxury (Filter Tipped) (CML)	75 mm	70 mm	08.01.90
2.	M/s. ITC Ltd., Bangalore	Gold Flake Honey Dew Filter Tipped	72 mm	68 mm	26.07.91
3.	M/s. ITC Ltd. Munger	Gold Flake Honey Dew Filter Tipped	72 mm	68 mm	26.07.91
4.	Ms. Hyderabad Deccan Cigarette Factory (P) Ltd. Hyderabad	Gold Flake Honey Dew Filter Tipped	72 mm	68 mm	25.07.91

STATEMENT — II

Sl. No.	Brand Name of Cigarette	Length reduced		Differential between duty levied on the cigarettes with reduced length and the duty that would have been levied out for such reduction, per thousand of cigarettes(year-wise)			
		From	To	89-90	90-91	91-92	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Cambridge Luxury (Filter Tipped)	75 mm	70 mm	Rs. 170.40*	Rs. 180.70	Nil*	
2.	Gold Flake Honey Dew Filter Tipped	72 mm	68 mm	Nil*	Nil*	Rs. 255.60@	

* Reduction was made from 8.1.90.

* No production of the cigarette with reduced length reported

@ Production of cigarette with reduced Length reported from 25th and 26th July, 1991.

Victimisation of Syndicate Bank Employees

5164. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some employees of the Syndicate Bank are being victimised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Syndicate Bank has reported that it has not victimised any of its employees;

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

[Translation]

Setting up of Jute Industry in Bihar

5165. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Jute Mill in Sitamarhi (Bihar); and

(b) if so, the time by which it will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Printing of figures in Sindhi Language on Currency Notes

5166. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the figures in Sindhi language are not printed on the currency notes although Sindhi language is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which figures in Sindhi language are likely to be printed on the currency notes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Sindhi rendering of the denomination is not being printed on the currency notes.

(b) Sindhi language could not be included for value rendering on currency notes since no agreement could be reached between the two main schools of Sindhi language propagating different scripts.

(c) The inclusion of Sindhi version of the denomination in the language panel would be considered after a final decision is arrived at regarding the Sindhi script to be used.

[English]

Supply of Fuel to Deep Sea Fishing Vessels

5167. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of shrimps has declined during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has recommended supply of fuel to deep sea fishing vessels at international prices; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Government propose to implement this recommendation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) From 1988-89 to 1990-91, export of shrimps has increased both in terms of quantity and value as per Table given below:-

Q; Qty. in Tonnes	V: Value in Rs. Crores.
1988-89	Q: 56835
	V: 470.33
1989-90	Q: 57819
	463.30
1990-91	Q: 62377
	662.93

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Government has announced a scheme of making available High Speed Diesel Oil at international price to fishing vessels which are registered under MPEDA Act and whose owners are registered exporters under MPEDA Act and rules thereunder subject to the condition to export 25% of fob value of the catch from each vessel.

(d) The scheme is being implemented by Marine Products Export Development Authority with effect from 1st April, 1991 on High Speed Diesel oil consumed by fishing vessels from 1st January, 1991.

Common Recruitment Centre in Kerala

5168. SHRIMATISUSEELAGOPALAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a common recruitment centre in Kerala for selection in Defence Services to avoid

hardship to the candidates coming from that State;

(b) if so, the places selected for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following Recruiting Centres are presently operating in Kerala:-

i) Branch Recruiting Office, Calicut.

ii) Branch Recruiting Office, Trivandrum.

iii) Airmen Selection Centre, Cochin.

iv) Naval Recruiting Establishment, INS Venduruthy, Cochin.

Keeping in view the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) and the geographical area

of the State these four Recruiting Centres are considered adequate.

[Translation]

Repair of Bridges on National Highways in Orissa

5169. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges on National Highways in Orissa destroyed by floods, cyclones etc;

(b) whether the Government propose to repair all such bridges;

(c) if so, the details and the estimated

cost thereof; and

(d) the details of new bridges proposed to be constructed on the National Highways during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No bridge on National Highways in Orissa was destroyed by floods, cyclones etc. in the recent past.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) 19 new bridges on National Highways in Orissa are proposed for consideration for sanction during 1991-92 subject to availability of funds, as per Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

List of Bridge Works on National Highways in Orissa Proposed for Consideration for Sanction During 1991-92

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name and location of bridge</i>	<i>Estimated cost (in Rs. lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Bridge in Km. 175/840 — 175/10, NH 42	80.00
2.	Bridge at Sindhi Nallah, NH 5.	30.00
3.	Bridge at Km. 537/200 Haidibahal, NH 6.	30.00
4.	Bridge at Ch. 532 on missing link from Km. 15.750 to 54.560, NH 23.	20.00
5.	Bridge at Indrapur Nallah at Km. 302.980, NH 23.	24.00
6.	Bridge at Baligore Nallah at Km. 325.260, NH 23.	40.00
7.	Bridge at Tantsura Nallah at Km. 217.6-8 with approaches, NH 42.	24.00
8.	Bridge in Km. 234, NH 42	24.00
9.	R.O.B. on Rambha Byepass, NH 5.	60.00
10.	Bridge at Besei in Km. 244.411 on Besoi Bypass, NH 6.	30.00

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name and location of bridge</i>	<i>Estimated cost (in Rs. lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
11.	Bridge at Neta Nallah in Km. 7071, NH 23.	20.00
12.	Bridge at Badjira Nallah in Km. 309/690, NH 23.	40.00
13.	Bridge at Km. 367/4-6, NH 23.	30.00
14.	Palasuni Bridge, NH 5.	380.00
15.	Kuakhai Bridge, NH 5.	517.00
16.	Taldanda Bridge, NH 5.	96.00
17.	Kathjori Bridge, NH 5.	860.00
18.	Mahanadi Bridge, NH 5.	2320.00
19.	Bridge across River Samakoi, NH 23.	250.00

*[English]***Telicherry-Mysore National Highway**

5170. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telicherry-Mysore road
has been declared as a National Highway;

(b) if so, the date from which it was
declared as National Highway and whether
the development work on the road has been
started; and

(c) if not, the time by which the work on
the road is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

**Effect of Modernisation on Perform-
ance of Textile Mills**

5171. SHRI A. CHARLES Will the Min-
ister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the
modernisation of textile mills during the
Seventh Plan period and amount spent on
each mill;

(b) whether any study has been made
by the Government to ascertain the effect of
modernisation on the overall performance of
those mills;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK
GEHLOT): (a) The amount of loan sanc-
tioned and disbursed to textile mills under
Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme till 31st
March, 1990 i.e., at the end of the Seventh
Plan period are as under :

	(Provisional)	(Rs. Crores)
	Sanctioned	Disbursed
	(Amount)	(Amount)
Modernisation Loan (including Special Loan)	971.85	524.84
Foreign Currency Loan	24.41	6.55

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) IDBI made a study of the units
assisted under TMFS which has implemented
their modernisation scheme. Most of them
were spinning units. Even in case of com-

posite units, emphasis was mainly on
strengthening spinning department. Mod-
ernisation led to significant improvement in
overall Machine and Labour Productivity,
Reduction in Waste, Better price Realisation
and Profitability. Modernisation has also
enabled these units, both spinning and

composite ones to increase their export capability.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sick Industrial Units in Bihar

5172. SHRI RAM NARESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of the sick industrial units in Bihar whose cases have been taken up by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) from January to June, 1991; and

(b) the details of the decisions taken or directions given by the Board in each of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) BIFR has reported that during the period January to June, 1991, no fresh references under Section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 in respect of sick industrial companies in Bihar were registered by it.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of National Highways and Bridges in Gujarat During Eighth Five Year Plan

5173. SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways and bridges in Gujarat for which National Traffic Development Council has made recommendations for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year plan;

(b) the areas in which their construction

is proposed; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to start the construction of National Highways and bridges in the first phase of Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The Government is not aware of any organisation known as the "National Traffic Development Council" or the recommendations made by it. Even otherwise, the 8th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised and as such, it is too early to indicate the works on various National Highways or bridges to be taken up during the 8th Plan in the country as a whole including Gujarat.

[English]

Declaration of Road from Dindigul to Kumuli as a National Highway

5174. SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the date since when the proposal for declaring the road from Dindigul to Kumuli as a National Highway is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in declaring the aforesaid road as a National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No specific request has been made by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the declaration of road from Dindigul to Kumuli as a new National Highway. However, in January, 1991, the State Government sponsored certain proposals of State Roads for being declared as new National Highways which

included INTER-ALIA the Thondi-Madurai-Theni-Kumbam-Kottaya,-Cochin Road covering incidentally a small segment of the road in question from Theni to Kumuli via Kumbam. Nevertheless, the declaration of new National Highways can be considered only after the 8th Five Year Plan is finalised subject to the overall availability of resources, criteria for declaring new National Highways, *inter-se* priority of proposals etc. Incidentally, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has assigned a lower priority to this road in the list of proposals furnished by them.

[Translation]

Construction of Bypass on National Highway at Shahjahanpur

5175. SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a bypass at Shahjahanpur on Delhi-Lucknow National Highway via Shahjahanpur (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the construction work of the bypass when the land has already been acquired; and

(c) the time by which the work on this bypass is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Subject to availability of funds, construction of the bypass would be taken up after complete land required for the bypass is in possessions. As reported by the State Govt., part of land is yet to be acquired.

(c) It is too early to indicate the date of start.

[English]

Test Range for Rockets at Chandipur

5176. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched some modern rockets from Chandipur in Balasore district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the rockets tested recently;

(c) whether Chandipur is likely to be treated as a test range of such rockets; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of indigenously developed systems like surface-to-surface rocket (PINAKA), anti-tank missile (NAG), short range surface-to-air missile (TRISHUL), medium range surface-to-air missile (AKASH) and the technology demonstrator system (AGNI) have been launched from Chandipur.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Facilities established at Chandipur will be mainly used for flight testing of short and medium range rockets, missiles and similar systems.

[Translation]

Long Term Loans to Uttar Pradesh

5177. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government

have sanctioned two long term loans to Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when the said amount is likely to be released; and

(d) the percentage of its allocation for various projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (d). Central Government provides long term loan assistance to State Governments (i) for State Plan schemes (ii) for Central and Centrally sponsored schemes (iii) against small savings collections and (iv) for other specific non plan schemes. These loans are released in instalments according to the prescribed formula. Apart from these, no special long term loans have been sanctioned to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the current year.

[English]

Investment By Nationalised Banks In Industrial Sector in Orissa

5178. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATI

THY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made by the nationalised banks in the Industrial Sector in Orissa during the seventh Five Year Plan period and its percentage to the national average;

(b) whether the Union Government had fixed any target for investment by the nationalised banks in Orissa during the above plan period; and

(c) if so, the extent to which the banks achieved the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the financial assistance provided by Nationalised Banks to the industrial sector in Orissa during the 7th Five Year Plan period. The yearwise total amount outstanding of advances made by the all scheduled commercial banks to the industrial sector in Orissa during the Plan Period, upto June, 1989 (latest available), and its percentage to the All India level is given below:

(Rs. in crores)			
Year	All India	Orissa	%age of Orissa to All India
December '86	23305	324	1.4
June '87	24347	439	1.8
June '88	32617	561	1.7
June '89	38906	513	1.3

No statewide target has been fixed for providing financial assistance by banks to the industrial sector. However, banks have

been advised to provide 40% of their net bank credit to priority sector which includes small scale industries as well.

IPRS and REP Licences to Hundred Percent Export Oriented Units

5179. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hundred percent Export Oriented Units are not entitled to International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) and REP licences at present;

(b) whether in the absence of IPRS and REP benefits, these units are forced to resort to imports and they have to suffer as foreign suppliers show lack of interest in them; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to grant IPRS and REP licences to such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Hundred Percent Export Oriented Units are entitled to Eximscrip benefits @ 30% of the net foreign exchange earned on physical exports. The International Price Reimbursement Scheme will also be extended to them.

Financial Assistance to Small Scale Industries by SIDBI

5180. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has set up a wholly owned subsidiary Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to meet the demand of tiny and small scale industries;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines have been prepared by them in this regard to help small scale industries;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme prepared by the SIDBI; and

(d) the number of small scale industries which will be provided loan and help during the year 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) was set up in April, 1990 as the principal financial institution for the promotion, financing and development of industry in the small scale sector and to coordinate the functions of the institutions engaged in similar activities. SIDBI provides assistance under its Refinance Scheme to eligible banks and state level institutions in respect of their term loans to artisans and to village and cottage industries in the tiny sector and to other units in the SSI sector. Assistance is available for setting up new units, or for the expansion, diversification, modernisation and rehabilitation of existing small industries. Projects costing upto Rs. 300 lakhs are eligible for refinance assistance from SIDBI.

SIDBI also extends Bills Rediscounting/ Direct Discounting facilities covering deferred payment sale/purchase of capital equipment to or by small scale units.

In March, 1991 SIDBI has introduced Direct Discounting of Short Term Bills under which bills (for a period upto 90 days) drawn by units in the small scale sector on specified buyers in respect of components, parts etc., are discounted.

SIDBI also provides direct assistance for setting up of sales outlets, showroom facilities, office equipment, sales vans and margin money for working capital. Direct assistance is also available to State Industrial Development Corporations, State Infra-

structure Development Corporations and Small Scale Industrial Development Corporations for all industrial area development projects (costing upto Rs. 300 lakhs) covering the cost of land, laying of roads, the provision of water, power and sewage connections and for common facilities like tel-exes and telephones.

(d) SIDBI expects that during the year 1991-92 it will be disbursing assistance of about Rs. 2350 crores (excluding finance for the purchase of short-term bills) to about 1,19,400 beneficiaries under its schemes.

[Translation]

**Payment of Amount Deposited with
Pure Drinks, New Delhi**

5181. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by the Government to arrange payment to those persons who had made deposits on interest with Pure Drinks, New Delhi;

(b) the total amount of claims received by the Government so far; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). Sub-section (9) of Section 58A of the Companies Act, 1956 brought into force from 1st September, 1989, enables depositors to file applications before the Company Law Board for ordering companies to repay overdue deposits within such time and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the order. During the period from 1st September,

1989 to 31st March, 1991, about 4450 applications were received from the depositors of M/s. Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Ltd. by the Northern Region Bench of the Company Law Board, involving repayment of principal amount aggregating to Rs. 5.50 crores, besides interest thereon. The Company Law Board has so far passed orders covering 1082 applications, involving principal amount aggregating to about Rs. 1.19 crores. Further, in pursuance of the Board's directions, the company has drawn up a scheme for repayment of all overdue deposits. The company has been directed on 20th August, 1991 to publish a notice in newspapers setting out the salient features of the scheme. The Board will examine the scheme on merits after receiving objections, if any.

The progress of the case, from the point of speedy disposal is being monitored by Government.

**Re-Opening of Road in Cantonment
Area Varanasi**

5182. SHRIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the main road of Vauliya-Lahartara-Cantonment-Varuna bridge leading to Varanasi court has been closed to public;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reopen the road in public interest; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, for security reasons, a proposal to close a one km. stretch of an internal MES road passing through Varanasi Cantonment,

which is part of the main road of Baulia Lahartara-Cantonment-Varuna bridge leading to Varanasi court, is under consideration in consultation with local administration.

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

[English]

Pending cases in Supreme Court

5183. PROF. K. VENKATAGIRI GOWDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Supreme Court during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of judges serving in the

Supreme Court during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the disposal of cases during the period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) As on 31st December, 1988, 1989, and 1990, 199138, 203158 and 185108 cases were pending in the Supreme Court, respectively.

(b) As on 1st January, 1988, 1989 and 1990, the number of Judges serving in the Supreme Court was 16, 20 and 24 respectively.

(c) The disposal of cases during the last three years was as follows:

Year	No. of cases disposed of
1988	44252
1989	48118
1990	56343

[Translation]

Loans Advanced by National Housing Bank

5184. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: SHRI MAHASAMUNDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of deposits with the National Housing Bank at Present;

(b) the names of the institutions to

whom the bank has granted loans for construction of houses and the amount thereof so far, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the number of houses constructed by these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National Housing Bank (NHB) mobilises deposits through a loan linked savings scheme known as Home Loan Account (HLA) Scheme and per the report received from NHB, more than 5 lakh accounts were opened under its HLA Scheme.

with total deposits of about Rs. 92 crores as at the end of June, 1991.

(b) and (c). NHB provides refinance as per its guidelines in respect of eligible loans,

disbursed by primary lenders. The names of the institutions to whom refinance was provided by NHB are set out in the attached Statement. The disbursement of refinance during the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 (upto July, 1991) is indicated in the table below:

	Year (July-June)		(Rs. in crores)	
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92 (Upto July)	Cumulative (Upto July, 1991)
(i) Scheduled Commercial Banks	8.0	20.9	2.2	31.1
(ii) Cooperative sector institutions	8.2	55.4	—	63.6
(iii) Housing finance companies (including ad-hoc financial assistance)	115.5	359.5	21.4	496.4
	131.7	435.8	23.6	591.1

NHB has reported that the present data reporting system does not yield State-wise break-up of the above data.

NHB has reported that the refinance assistance was provided in respect of about 2 lakh dwelling units, including units, for upgradation and projects for land development and shelter construction.

STATEMENT

Refinance Assistance Provided by
National Housing Bank List of Institutions.

I. Scheduled Commercial Banks

1. Syndicate Bank
2. Vijaya Bank
3. Bank of India

4. Bank of Maharashtra
5. Indian Overseas Bank
6. Andhra Bank
7. Indian Bank
8. United Bank of India
9. Punjab & Sind bank
10. UCO Bank
11. Punjab National Bank
12. Ratnakar Bank Ltd.
13. Sangli Bank Ltd.
14. Karnataka Bank Ltd.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 15. Vysya Bank Ltd. | 6. HUDCO |
| 16. Lord Krishna Bank Ltd. | 7. HDFC |
| 17. Bank of Karad Ltd. | 8. PNB Housing Finance for LDSP & Hsg. loans. |
| 18. Karur Vysya Bank Ltd. | 9. Fairgrowth Hsg. Finance Ltd. |
| 19. Bank of Madura Ltd. | 10. LIC Housing Finance Ltd. |
| 20. Laxmi Vilas Bank Ltd. | 11. Saya Hsg. Finance Company Ltd. |
| 21. United Western Bank Ltd. | |

II. Co-operative Sector Institutions

1. Kerala State- Co-op. Agricultural Development Bank Ltd.
2. UP Rajy Sahakari Krishi Evam Grameeya Vikas Bank
3. Maharashtra State Co-op. Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.
4. Tamil Nadu Co-op. Hsg. Federation.
5. M.P. Rajya Sahakari Bank Ltd.
6. Development Co-op. Bank Ltd.
7. Rupee Co-operative bank Ltd.

III. Housing Finance Companies

1. Gujarat Rural Housing Finance Copn.
2. Can Fin Homes Ltd.
3. SBI Homes Finance Ltd.
4. India Housing Finance & Dev. Ltd.
5. Dewan Housing & Dev. Finance Ltd.

IV. Adhoc Finance Assistance

1. HDFC
2. Can Fin Homes Ltd.
3. SBI Home Finance Ltd.

*[English]***Production in Defence Factories In And Around Jabalpur**

5185. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production in the various Defence factories in and around Jabalpur, especially the Gun Carriage Factory, the Grey Iron Foundry, the Vehicle Factory and the Ordnance Factory (Khameria) during the last three years;

(b) the order book position of each of these factories;

(c) whether there is any idle manufacturing capacity in the Jabalpur Vehicle Factory;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to use it to carry out orders from the private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). The product range of these Ordnance Factories includes weapons, Carriages for the Artillery guns, Vehicles for Military use and their Castings, Ammunition and their hardware.

It is not in public interest to disclose further details.

(c) There is no idle capacity in the Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur for the present.

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

[Translation]

Construction of Double Lane Bridge on Gandak River

5186. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted a proposal for the construction of a double lane bridge at Samastipur-Magardahi Ghat of Gandak river on Samastipur-Darbhanga road in Bihar;

(b) the present position of the above project; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of the bridge is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal received from the State Government against the augmented Central Road Fund has not been processed

for approval as actual augmentation of Central Road Fund has not taken place so far. Therefore, it is too early to indicate the time by which the work on the bridge is likely to start.

[English]

Management Structure of S.C.I.C.I.

5187. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present management structure of the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India (SCICI);

(b) what is the final supervisory body of this organisation;

(c) whether there is any proposal to split up this organisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) SCICI is a Board managed Company incorporated under the Companies Act. While the Board formulates and administers policies and also approves loans and other assistance, the Executive Management is in the hands of the Vice Chairman and Managing Director. He is, in turn, assisted by an Executive Director, Senior Management and a team of professionals and support staff.

(b) The final supervisory body of SCICI is its Board of Directors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Branches of Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

5188. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Madhya Pradesh where district branches of the Regional Rural Bank have been opened and the number thereof in each district; and

(b) the role played by them in the rural development of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There are 1600 branches of 24 Regional Rural Banks covering 44 districts

in Madhya Pradesh as in March, 1990. The district-wise break-up of the branches is given in the attached Statement.

(b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has reported that during the year ended March, 1990, 24 RRBs operating in Madhya Pradesh disbursed a sum of Rs. 77.07 crores in 2.26 lakh accounts which included short term loans for agriculture, term loans for agriculture and allied activities and term loan for non-agricultural activities. The outstanding advances as of March, 1990 stood at Rs. 268.88 crores in 9.47 lakh accounts. These Regional Rural Banks also mobilised deposits amounting to Rs. 295.57 crores in nearly 25 lakh accounts. They have also assisted 9.47 lakh borrower of weaker sections up-to March, 1990.

STATEMENT

District-wise break-up of branches of Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

1. Balaghat	26
2. Bastar	63
3. Bhind	
4. Bhopal	4
5. Bilaspur	76
6. Chattarpur	
7. Chindwara	35
8. Damoh	24
9. Datia	10
10. Dewas	35
11. Dhar	52
12. Durg	59

13.	East Nimar	30
14.	Guna	34
15.	Gwalior	22
16.	Hoshangabad	51
17.	Indore	12
18.	Jabalpur	21
19.	Jhabua	34
20.	Mandla	31
21.	Mandsaur	32
22.	Morena	27
23.	Narsinghpur	20
24.	Panna	19
25.	Raigarh	67
26.	Raipur	74
27.	Raisen	41
28.	Rajgarh	38
29.	Rajnandgaon	48
30.	Ratlam	12
31.	Rewa	47
32.	Sagar	33
33.	Satna	83
34.	Sehore	8
35.	Seoni	36
36.	Shahdol	46

37. Shajpur	24
38. Shivpuri	34
39. Sidhi	36
40. Surguja	83
41. Tikamgarh	83
42. Ujjain	27
43. Vidihsa	18
44. West Nimar	45

Total:	1600
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[English]

Winding up of Export Inspection Agencies

5189. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to wind up some of the offices of Export Inspection Agencies;

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

(c) whether the Government have retrenched or propose to retrench some of the officials of these Export Inspection Agencies;

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

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken the Government to accommodate such officials in some other organisations etc.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Pursuant

to the Government policy of making the exporters responsible for meeting the foreign buyers' quality requirements, the work load of the offices of the Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) may get reduced, resulting in surplus manpower.

(c) to (e). 205 surplus posts in various cadres in Export Inspection Agency, Calcutta, have been abolished and, consequently, 205 officials became surplus to the requirements. Efforts to redeploy these employees in other organisations were not successful. Hence, it was decided to retrench the surplus manpower. However, 159 Export Inspection Agency, Calcutta, employees expressed their willingness for their redeployment in the Export Inspection Agencies at Bombay, Cochin, Delhi and Madras. Accordingly, posting orders of these officials were issued by Director, Export Inspection Council, on 6th August, 1991.

Share of Capital Cost of Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana Jodhpur Lift Canal

5190. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan had requested for sharing the capital cost of Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana (IGNP) Jodhpur Lift Canal on Jamnagar pattern; and

(b) if so, the action taken by this Ministry thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). Keeping in view the requirements of water supply of the Armed Forces personnel stationed at Jodhpur, the Ministry of Defence has agreed to provide a loan of Rs. 18.71 crores to the government of Rajasthan as assistance towards the capital cost of the scheme. A sum of Rs. 8.836 crores has already been sanctioned on the basis of proportionate expenditure incurred on the execution of the Scheme.

Working of Nhava Sheva Port

5191. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships being handled daily at Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Nhava Sheva Port) and the number of ships handled during the last six months;

(b) the losses incurred during the last two years;

(c) the steps taken to remove the bottlenecks to improve the revenue collection;

(d) whether the Government propose to constitute an expert committee to go into the working of the port and suggest remedial measures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) During the last 6 months, on an average about 3 ships have been handled daily. Total number of ships handled during this period was 129.

(b) During 1989-90, the Port had incurred an operating deficit of Rs. 345.29 lakhs. However, during 1990-91, the provisional figures indicate an operating surplus.

(c) A number of steps including aggressive marketing strategy and augmentation of infrastructural facilities have been taken to step up the cargo handling and consequent increase in revenue.

(d) and (e). Presently there is no such proposal.

Development of Sericulture in Andhra Pradesh

5192. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether sericulture is making good progress in Krishna and West Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the extent of land under sericulture in these districts during the last three years;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage the farmers towards sericulture with particular reference to cultivation and marketing of cocoons;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up silk reeling units in these districts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The areas brought under mulberry plantation during the last three years are as under:-

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Krishna</i>	<i>Districts West Godavari (in Acres)</i>
1	2	3	5
1	1988-89	1486	1496
2	1989-90	2231	1916
3	1990-91	2785	2389

(c) The following programmes are being implemented to promote sericulture:-

1. Training to farmers through Farmers Training Centres.
2. Farmers meets and study tours.
3. Supply of disease free silkworm eggs.
4. Technical guidance through Technical Service Centres.
5. Marketing facilities through regular Cocoons Markets in the State and Departmental Silk Reeling Units which are notified as markets.

(d) and (e). Silk Reeling Units have already been established at the following places in these Districts:-

- (i) Vijayawada—Krishna District
- (ii) Talaprole—Krishna District
- (iii) Hanuman Junction—Krishna District
- (iv) Vijayarai—West Godavari District
- (v) K. R. Puram—West Godavari District

Development of Paradip Port

5193. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan for the development and deepening of the Paradip Port to accommodate 1,70,000 DWT bulk carriers for increased export of iron ore;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked therefor;

(c) whether the entire work would be completed by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). A proposal for development of port facilities for handling 6 million tonnes of iron ore export through Paradip Port at an estimated cost of about Rs. 420 crores is under consideration of the Government. The project is expected to be completed within 36 months from the date of sanction.

Water way Passenger Service between Sagar Island in West Bengal and Varanasi

5194. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start waterway passenger service between Sagar Island (Kapil Muni Ashram) in West Bengal and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There is no such proposal with the Central Government. (b) Does not arise.

Madras High Court Bench at Tanjore

5195. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a bench of Madras High Court at Tanjore for speedy clearance of pending cases; and

(b) if so, the time by which this bench is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to set up a bench of Madras High Court at Tanjore. It is therefore not possible to indicate whether and when the Bench would be set up.

Awards to Banks for Better Recovery

5196. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give awards to those branches of public sector banks where recovery of loans is above ninety percent, as an incentive to improve the recovery of loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to give award to those branches of public sector banks where recovery of loans is above 90%, as an incentive to improve the recovery of loans. Timely sanction and disbursement of credit, effective supervision and prompt efforts for recovery of dues are normal and essential pre-requisites of the system of supervised credit management of banks. In their normal role, expected of banks functionaries, they are to make all out efforts in making the recovery management a success.

Export-Import and Trade Deficit

5197. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of exports, imports and

trade deficit during the years 1987-88 to 1990-91, year-wise;

(b) the names of countries with which India had an unfavourable balance of trade during the year 1990-91 and the amount in each case.

(c) the steps being taken to reduce trade

deficit during the current financial year; and

(d) the estimated time schedule by which the deficit would be eliminated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) the value of exports, imports and trade deficit during the years 1987-88 to 1990-91 year-wise, are as under.

STATEMENT

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	Year	Export	Imports	Trade deficit
1	2	3	4	5
1.	1987-88	15674	22244	6570
2.	1988-89	20232	28235	8003
3.	1989-90 (P)	27681	35412	7731
4.	1990-91 (P)	32527	43171	10644

P: Provisional

Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Several changes in the trade policy were introduced aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. Essential imports of sensitive items such as POL and fertilizers were fully protected but other imports of raw materials and components were linked to export performance. REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument called Eximscips. Eximscips will be the means of obtaining access to certain categories of imports of raw materials, components and

spares. The category of unlisted OGL has been abolished and these items are now importable only against Eximscips. The system of Advance Licences as an instrument of export promotions has been strengthened.

(d) As a result of various initiatives taken by the Government, for import compression, the trade deficit has already registered a decline from Rs. 1876 crores in April-June, 1990 to Rs. 1502 crores in April-June, 1991. It is difficult to define the time by which trade deficit could be eliminated, as it depends on a number of global and domestic factors.

STATEMENT

(Value: Rs. Crores)

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Country</i>	<i>Trade deficit during 1990—91</i>
1	2	3
1.	Argentina	110
2.	Australia	1146
3.	Austria	23
4.	Baharain Islands	395
5.	Bahamas	1
6.	Belgium	1463
7.	Brazil	411
8.	Bulgaria	50
9.	Burundi	6
10.	Canada	278
11.	Chile	125

1	2	3
12.	Chinese Taipei	512
13.	Chinese People Rep.	23
14.	Colombia	38
15.	Cuba	8
16.	Czechoslovakia	123
17.	Dominican Republic	2
18.	France	540
19.	Germany Fed. Rep.	943
20.	Guinea	4
21.	Guinea Bissau	15
22.	Hungary	60
23.	Iran	977
24.	Iraq	452
25.	Israel	47
26.	Italy	93
27.	Ivory Coast	5
28.	Japan	220
29.	Jordan	287
30.	Korea Republic	321
31.	Kuwait	289
32.	Lesotho	5
33.	Liberia	5
34.	Libya	48

1	2	3
35.	Luxembourg	13
36.	Malaysia	731
37.	Mayanmar	150
38.	Mexico	165
39.	Mangolia	2
40.	Morocco	252
41.	Netherland	145
42.	Newzealand	79
43.	New Caledonia	8
44.	Norway	6
45.	Pakistan	11
46.	Papua New Guinea	3
47.	Peru	28
48.	Qatar	17
49.	Saudi Arabia	2479
50.	Senegal	112
51.	Singapore	751
52.	Sweden	191
53.	Switzerland	81
54.	Tanzania	8
55.	Togo	33
56.	Trinidad & Tobago	1
57.	Tunisia	61

1	2	3
58.	Turkey	82
59.	U.A.E.	1119
60.	U.K.	797
61.	U.S.A.	441
62.	Venezuela	51
63.	Vietnam Soc. Rep.	73
64.	Yemen Rep	36
65.	Yugoslavia	97
66.	Zaire Rep	102
67.	Zambia	114
68.	Zimbabwe	6

Violation of Handloom Control Order

5198. SHRI RABIRAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been violations of the handloom control order;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any penal action has been taken by the Govt. against delinquents who have violated the order during the last three years, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, there have

been 131 instances of violation of the Handloom Reservation Orders by the Powerloom/ Mill Operators. These cases were booked by the Enforcement Wing (Handloom) & F.I.R. was lodged in the concerned Police Station of the area.

No. of cases were booked by the Chief Enforcement office, Delhi. -28.

Regional Enforcement Office, Pune-50.

Regional Enforcement Office, Coimbatore - 53.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, The Handloom Reservation Act 1985 & the Orders issued thereunder are inoperative due to ex-parte stay granted by Hon'ble Supreme Court on 30.11.87.

[Translation]

Setting up of Spinning Mills in Bihar

5199. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up some spinning mills in the backward districts of Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

[English]

Opening of More Branches of Nationalised Banks in Karnataka

5200. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening branches of nationalised banks in the States;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open more branches of nationalised banks in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details along with the names of places thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Under the extant Branch Licensing Policy, the phase of consolidation will continue with emphasis on all out efforts to improve operational efficiency, quality of

assets and financial strength of banks. The growth of bank branches will depend on well established need, business potential and financial viability of the proposed branches. Moreover, the opening of branches in terms of the extant policy will be a continuous process, which will be governed by licences issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in this regard. Hence, at this stage it is not possible to project the number of branches of banks that will be opened in Karnataka.

Financial Assistance By IDBI To Small Scale Industries In Tamil Nadu

5201. SHRI CHINNASAMY SRINIVASAN: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small scale industries specially in Tamil Nadu which have been given financial assistance by the Industrial Development Bank of India during the last one year;

(b) whether the small scale industries like match industry, brick industry etc. are also getting financial assistance from Industrial Development Bank of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to expand the activities of the IDBI in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that with the establishment of the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in April, 1990 the responsibility for providing assistance to the small scale sector has been taken over by SIDBI. During 1990-91, SIDBI has sanctioned assistance under its various schemes to 12,732 SSI units in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c). SIDBI has been extending

assistance to SSI units in all types of industries including the match industry and the brick industry under several schemes, including the Composite Loan Scheme and the National Equity Fund Scheme, both of which are specifically designed for financing artisans and tiny industries in the rural and semi urban areas.

(d) IDBI has reported that as part of its promotional activities it continues to extend financial assistance for the promotion of rural industries in different States, including Tamil Nadu. IDBI has been assisting and encouraging the promotion of entrepreneurship development in rural areas by supporting rural entrepreneurship development programmes which are specially focussed on helping rural persons to set up small & tiny units. IDBI is also selectively assisting voluntary agencies in their activities to provide self and wage employment in the industrial sector, particularly to rural areas.

IL-76 Aircraft

5202. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IL-76 aircraft have been found to be suitable for operation in Indian conditions;

(b) if not, whether any modifications are being carried out in the aircraft.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of such aircraft grounded so far due to engine trouble?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(d) Three aircraft have been grounded

due to engine trouble.

Soil Testing Laboratories of Rubber Board in Kerala

5203. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start new soil testing laboratories attached to the Regional Offices of Rubber Board in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such soil testing laboratories in existence at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c). At present, there are nine soil testing laboratories in existence all over the country. A tenth soil testing laboratory is under the process of establishment at Mangalore in Karnataka. There is no proposal to start any more soil testing laboratories at present.

Passenger Shipping services from Nagapattinam to Singapore

5204. DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restore the passenger shipping services from Nagapattinam to Singapore;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). A decision has been taken by the Government

that Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., need not operate the passenger shipping service between Nagapattinam and Singapore, as it is not an economically viable proposition. However, if any private party wants to operate the service, the Government would consider the same favourably.

Retrenchment of Employees in STC

5205. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation propose to retrench its surplus employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the procedure proposed to be adopted in this regard;

(d) how the interests of the SC/ST employees will be protected;

(e) whether all the employees proposed to be retrenched by the STC, will be accommodated in some other Public Sector Organisations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is, at present, no proposal in State Trading Corporation (STC) for retrenchment of employees.

(b) to (f). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Price of Polyester Cloth

5206. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the prices of polyester cloth was increased during the last two years and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to check the prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). At present there is no statutory control on prices of polyester cloth. These are governed by forces of demand-supply and consumers preference. The prices of polyester are reviewed by the government and remedial measures are taken whenever situation warrants. In the past government had held discussions with spinners and weavers of Polyester Filament Yarn and as a result thereof it was possible to facilitate supply of yarn to the weavers at reasonable prices for production of polyester blended fabrics. Frequent fluctuations in the cost of inputs and other elements of cost during the last two years had led to the increase in the retail prices of selected sorts of fabrics with polyester content on number of occasions though it accounted for about 13% between June, 1989 and June, 1991. Further Government feels that prices of such cloth be allowed to be determined by market forces whereby prices are kept under check to some extent on account of interse competition between Mill sector as well as units in powerloom sector.

[*English*]

Demands of RRB Workers Association

5207. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have received any charter of demands from the Regional Rural Banks, Workers Association in the last week of July 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on their demands;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have been receiving demands from several unions and associations of employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).

(b) The demands of Regional Rural Bank unions/associations, inter alia, include;

i) formation of Rural Bank of India.

ii) implementation of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal.

iii) rectification of alleged anomalies in the matter of equation of posts of Regional Rural Banks with those in the sponsor banks and in the fitment formula.

iv) Payment of arrears of pay etc. arising as a result of fixation of pay in sponsor bank pay scales.

v) regularisation of temporary and part-time messengers.

vi) Grant of rural compensatory allowance for performing duties in rural areas.

(c) to (e). Government has no proposal

under consideration for formation of a Rural Bank of India. The National Industrial Tribunal gave its award on 30.4.90. Government subsequently constituted an Equation Committee to equate the posts of Regional Rural Banks with those in the sponsor banks for the purpose of grant of sponsor bank pay scales to the employees of RRBs on the basis of the award of the Tribunal. The award of the Tribunal and the recommendations of the Equation Committee have been accepted. Government issued orders on 22nd February, 1991 granting sponsor bank pay scales with effect from 1.9.1987. The employees have been paid arrears of pay consequent to the refixation of pay in the new pay scales w.e.f. 1.2.1991. The mechanism for the payment of arrears for the period 1.9.87 to 31.12.90 will be considered by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development in consultation with Reserve Bank of India. The Equation Committee recommended that the Chairman of each Regional Rural Bank should ascertain the position of part-time messengers regarding their working hours and equate them with part of full-time messengers of the concerned sponsor banks engaged for the same hours of work. A Working Group has recently been created in NABARD to frame promotion policy and service rules of RRB employees and also attend to any other relevant matters.

Setting up of Coast Guard District Headquarters in Orissa

5208. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Coast Guard District Headquarters in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). A Coast Guard District Headquarters has already been set up at Paradeep in Orissa and is operational since 7th February, 1991.

**Interest Rates on World Bank IMF
Loans and NRI Deposits**

5209. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the interest rates charged by International Monetary Fund and the World Bank for short, medium and long term loans; and

(b) the interest rates for Non-resident

Indian's deposits for similar periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a). The interest rates of IMF are determined from time to time depending on the prevailing SDR interest rates, with certain adjustments. Currently the rate is 8.62% per annum.

The World Bank new Variable lending rate linked to cost of borrowings for projects for the semester ending June, 1991 was 7.73% per annum.

(b) The current rates are as under:-

STATEMENT

(% p. a.)

Sl. No.	Currency	6 months	1 year	2 years	3 years
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. FCNR Account					
1.	Pound Sterling	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25
2.	U.S. Dollar	7.50	8.00	8.50	9.00
3.	Deutsche Mark	10.00	10.25	10.50	10.50
4.	Japanese Yen	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
B. NRE — Rates					
		8.50	10.50	11.00	13.00

[Translation]

[English]

Outstanding Loans of Regional Rural Banks

5210. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outstanding loans against low income group people which were waived by various Regional Rural Banks from January 1991 to July 31, 1991;

(b) the amount of such outstanding loans of all Regional Rural Banks which have not yet been realised; and

(c) the action taken by the government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development have reported that under the Agricultural & Rural Debt Relief Scheme (ARDS) 1990, the total amount of loans waived upto 27th July, 1991 by Regional Rural Banks have aggregated to Rs. 811.14 crores in 37.26 lakhs accounts which mainly include persons belonging to weaker sections of society. As at the end of the March, 1991 (latest available) the total outstanding advances of Regional Rural Banks were reported to be Rs. 3548.01 crores as against Rs. 3554.04 crores as at the end of March, 1990. The over dues then stood at Rs. 937 crores. The percentage of recovery to demand of all Regional Rural Banks taken together has not been satisfactory during the last few years. The clientele of RRBs being the weaker sections of society are economically more vulnerable to adverse climatic conditions or any other negative factor in the production process. NABARD in consultation with Reserve Bank of India takes steps to bring about qualitative changes in the functioning of Regional Rural Banks.

Credit Camps by Public Sector Banks

5212. DR. G.L. KANAUIJA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether credit camps are organised by the public sector banks to accelerate flow of credit to the weaker sections.

(b) if so, the details of the credit camps organised by the various banks and the amount sanctioned to the weaker sections during 1990-91 and the current year till date, camp-wise and State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Government and Reserve Bank of India have not formulated any scheme for distribution of loans by public sector banks in credit camps. Under the scheme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the camps are organised to achieve effective coordination between banks and Government agencies where beneficiaries can represent and their applications processed expeditiously. The public sector banks may organise credit camps on their own as a part of their overall measures taken to bring about accelerated credit assistance to weaker sections. The data reporting system of banks does not yield information in respect of the number of such camps held in various parts of the country. However, the total outstanding advances of all public sector banks to weaker sections as at the end of March, 91 (latest available) were Rs. 10260.08 crores in 247 lakh borrowal accounts.

Exodus of Merchant Officers to Foreign Ships

5213. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been continuous exodus of Merchant Officers to foreign ships resulting in large scale shortage of manpower for the national fleet;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of officers who left the national fleet during the last three years and expenditure incurred on their training; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to stop this exodus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There has been substantial movement of officers from Indian to foreign flag ships mainly due to higher remuneration on foreign flag ships.

(c) As Officers on foreign flag ships are not recruited through the Government agencies but directly by the foreign ship companies, the figures of Indian Officers joining foreign ships are not available. The expenditure incurred by the Government is about Rs. 1.47 lakhs per Cadet of Training Ship Rajendra and Rs. 99,000/- per Cadet of directorate of Marine Engineering Training.

(d) The following measures are being taken in this regard:-

(i) Issue of new Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC) has been restricted to officers who want to join Indian ships. CDC will be refused to those who initially desire to join foreign flag vessels.

(ii) To improve the remuneration re-

ceived by officers and crew on the Indian Flag Ships, Government have extended certain concessions under sections (6) (i) (c) & 80 RRA of the Income-Tax Act in calculating their income-tax.

NRIs Deposits

5214. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total Non-resident Indians deposits held in foreign exchange as on March 31, 1991;

(b) whether there has been a fall in these deposits consequent upon withdrawal of the same by the depositors during recent months; and

(c) if so, the details thereof as on August, 16, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total foreign exchange deposits held by Non-resident Indians as on March 31, 1991 in Non-resident (External) accounts and Foreign Currency Non-Resident Accounts stood at Rs. 20727 Crores. These deposits are composed of (a) FCNR accounts which are denominated in US\$, £ Sterling, DM or Japanese Yen and (b) NR(E) accounts which are denominated in Rupees but are convertible into hard currency.

(b) and (c). Yes. Till end July 1991, there has been a marginal decline in the FCNR balances in US\$ (-84.4 Crores) DM (-24.8 Crores) and Japanese Yen (-2682.9 Crores) but there was an increase in Pound Sterling balances (+10.5 Crores).

Indo-Japanese Collaboration

5215. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Japanese team visited India during the first week of August, 1991 to hold discussions on future areas of Indo-Japanese collaboration;

(b) if so, the outcome of talks held with the Japanese team;

(c) whether the areas of Japanese collaboration have been identified and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount which the Japanese representatives have agreed to invest in the country on short term and long term basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). A Japanese delegation led by Mr. Eme Yamashita visited India in July, 1991. The delegation made a courtesy call on Minister of State for Industries on 23rd July, 1991.

(c) No areas have been identified for Japanese Collaboration.

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

[Translation]

Loan Given to Whole Sale Traders by Banks in Rajasthan

5216. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans sanctioned by the banks to the whole-sale traders in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise and bank-wise; and

(b) the details of such whole-sale traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the number of borrowal accounts and amount outstanding extended by all scheduled commercial banks to wholesale traders in Rajasthan for the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 (latest available) as on the last Friday of June each year, are set out in the table below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of borrowal accounts</i>	<i>Amount outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1987	10,461	138,83
1988	11,417	103,33
1989	14,324	120,41

So far as the details of such wholesale traders are concerned, in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers and the statutes governing the public

sector banks, information relating to, or to the affairs of their constituents is not divulged.

[English]

Export of Ferro-manganese and Manganese ORE from Goa

5217. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHUZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of ferro-manganese and manganese ore exported from Goa during 1990-91, grade-wise details and the value thereof in rupees;

(b) the incentives being given to these exporters by the Government at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to give more incentives to the exporters to further encourage the export of ferro-manganese and manganese ore from Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) While separate figures for export of ferro manganese from Goa during 1990-91 are not available, grade-wise exports of manganese ore, both in terms of quantity and value, from Goa during 1990-91 were as under:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Qty. in lakh tonnes</i>	<i>Value in Rs. crores</i>
30/28	1.02	9.80
40/38	0.16	2.96

(b) Exporters of ferro manganese and manganese ore are eligible for Exim Scrips @ 30% of the fob value of exports. Tax concession under Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act has also been extended to exports of processed minerals including ferro manganese.

(c) whether the Government propose to give more incentives to the exporters to further encourage export of bauxite ore from Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(c) and (d). The existing export incentives are considered adequate.

Export of Bauxite ore from Goa

5218. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHUZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of bauxite ore exported from Goa during 1990-91 and the value thereof in rupees;

(b) the incentives being given at present by the Government to these exporters;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There was no export of Bauxite from Goa during 1990-91.

(b) Bauxite exports are eligible for Exim Scrips @ 30% of the fob value of exports. Export of low grade bauxite from West Coast has also been de-canalised in the new trade policy to encourage marketing by private exporters.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Licences for Manufacture of Rubber Goods

5219. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the licences for the manufacture of rubber goods and dealership are issued only by the head office of the Rubber Board;

(b) the number of the regional offices of the Rubber Board at present;

(c) whether these regional offices have the powers to issue the licences;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to give powers to the regional offices to issue licences and also to renew them;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the rubber based industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Manufacturers' licences are issued from the Board's head Office at Kottayam and Dealer's licences are issued from the Licencing Section of the Rubber Board at Kochi.

(b) There are at present 34 Regional Offices of the Rubber Board.

(c) Regional Offices have no powers to issue licences to Dealers and manufacturers as their work is mainly to assist plantation development and render technical services.

(d) and (e). There is no proposal to give the powers to the Regional Offices as the present system is working well.

(f) In order to serve the industry better and to avoid delay, licences are issued straightaway on receipt of application necessary fee and documents in the prescribed form.

Widening of National Highway No. 49 in Kerala

5220. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of widening the National Highway No. 49 (Cochin-Madurai Road) has been completed;

(b) if not, the present position of the development work on this Highway;

(c) the amount allocated for this Highway during the current year;

(d) the progress of work on this Highway in Kanayannur, Kunntaunai, Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam taluks in Kerala; and

(e) the details of the new bridges proposed to be constructed on this National Highway in the above taluks and the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e). Development works on this newly declared National Highway will be taken up in a phased manner after the completion of necessary field surveys by the State PWD. The bridges proposed to be developed would also be identified as a part of these surveys. Annual Plan 1991-92 contains a provision of Rs. 12.35 crores for sanction of different development works on NH 49 in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

Development of Waterways in Ganga and Cauvery

5221. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE
 TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to
 develop water transport in Ganga and
 Cauvery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other waterways are
 also proposed to be developed during the
 current year; and

(d) if so, the details and estimated cost
 thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
 MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
 (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (A) AND (B).
 The Allahabad-Haldia stretch of the Ganga-
 Bhagirathi-Hooghly river is a National Wa-
 terway and the Inland Waterways Authority
 of India is taking measures to develop nec-
 essary infrastructural facilities for inland water
 transport. In the Annual Plan 1991-92, a
 provision of Rs. 6.75 crores has been ap-
 proved for the development works on this
 National Waterway.

There is no proposal with the Central
 Government to develop water transport in
 Cauvery.

(c) and (d). Details of such schemes
 included in the Annual Plan 1991-92 for
 development of other waterways, besides
 Ganga, are as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Scheme	Provision in Annual Plan 1991-92.
<i>Central/IWAL Schemes:</i>	
i) Development of Brahmaputra (National Waterway)	2.80
ii) Development of West Coast Canal	0.50
iii) Development of Sunderbans.	0.10
<i>Centrally Sponsored Schemes:</i>	
i) Hydrographic surveys of river Gandak and Kosi in Bihar	0.04
ii) Capital dredging of Mandovi, Zuari and Mapusa in Goa.	0.08
iii) Hydrographic survey and feasibility study in Ghaghra river in Uttar Pradesh.	0.15
iv) Improvement of Buckingham Canal in Tamil Nadu	0.03
v) Development of waterway and provision of handling facilities in river Narmada	1.66

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Name of the Scheme</i>		<i>Provision in Annual Plan 1991-92.</i>
vi)	Terminal facilities for ferry services in Hooghly	0.25
vii)	Modernisation of jetties in Kerala.	0.11
viii)	Improvement of Buckingham Canal in Tamil Nadu/Andhra Pradesh.	0.20

[English]

New Interest Rates Structure of Financial Institutions

5222. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the lending rates of financial institutions; and

(b) if so, the new interest rates structure of financial institutions vis-a-vis the new bank rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The structure of lending rates is determined by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) taking into account a number of factors

like the growth rate of the economy and its sub-sectors, the rate of inflation, the pace of monetary expansion, the cost of raising resources by banks, the profitability of banks etc. Keeping in view the above factors, RBI reviews the lending rate structure from time to time. The position was reviewed in September, 1990 and as a result of this, the lending rate structure of commercial banks was rationalised and revised with effect from 22nd September, 1990. However, the lending rates for bank borrowers with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been raised further in two stages; from 16.0% (minimum) to 17.0% (minimum) effective 13th April 1991 and further to 18.5% (minimum). From 9th May, 1991, interest rate surcharge of 25% has also been imposed on import financing. The existing lending rates structure for advances of scheduled commercial banks is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

I. General Structure applicable to all loans to all bank borrowers

(Short term and Long term)

<i>Size of limit</i>	<i>Rate of interest (percent per annum)</i>
1) Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500/-	10.0
2) Over Rs. 7500/- and upto Rs. 15000/-	11.5
3) over Rs. 15,000/- and upto Rs. 25000/-	12.0

Size of limit	Rate of interest (percent per annum)
4) Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 50000/-	15.0
5) Over Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	18.5
6) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	(Minimum)
II. Special Prescription	
1. DRI advances	4.0
2. Term loans to agriculture, SSI, and transport operators owning upto two vehicles.	
Size of limit	
(i) Over Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 50,000	13.0
(ii) Over Rs. 50,000	14.0
3. (i) Loans for purchase of consumer durables	} Bank free to determine the rate
(ii) Loans to individuals against shares and debentures/bonds	
(iii) Other non-priority sector personal loans.	
III. Lending rate for commodities coming within the purview of Selective Credit Control (SCC).	
Loans/Advances/Cash Credit/Overdrafts	18.5
against commodities subject to SCC	(Minimum)
IV. Bills Discounting	
Over Rs. 2 lakhs	17.5
	(Minimum)
	(With the stipulation to the effective interest rate should be 1 percentage point lower than the rate chargeable on CC/Od)
V. Housing Finance Granted to intermediary agencies over Rs. 2 lakhs@	17.0

Note: The lending rate structure was set out with effect from September 22, 1990. Changes were effected in item No. as given below: This rate was prescribed at 16.0 per (minimum) with effect from September 22, 1990. It was raised to 17.0 per cent (minimum) with effect from April 13, 1991 and to 18.5 per cent (minimum) with effect from July, 4, 1991.

@ This category was introduced with effect July 4, 1991.

Revision of Trade Policy for Light Commercial Vehicles

5223. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manufacturers of light commercial vehicles with Japanese Technology are passing through grave crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to revise the trade policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The performance of Indian manufacturers light commercial vehicles with Japanese collaborations as been adversely affected by various factors, important amongst them being steep appreciation in the value of Japanese Yen since 1986, low volumes of output of these units and the rise in prices of raw materials such as steel, increase in cost of imported inputs on account of readjustment of the Rupee exchange rate and import compression measures adopted in view of the adverse balance of payment position.

(c) and (d). Review of Import Export Policy is a continuous process and necessary corrective measures are taken as and when the situation so warrants.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in STC

5224. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officials of the State Trading Corporation who have quit their job

under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme so far;

(b) the number of such official who want to quit the organisation under this scheme; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) 170 employees of State Trading Corporation have so far retired under STC Voluntary Retirement Scheme, 1989.

(b) Another 415 employees who have applied for retirement under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme would retire on 31.8.91 as their requests for retirement have already been accepted by the Management.

(c) The scheme is voluntary and the employees opted for voluntary retirement.

Repair to Goa-Bombay National Highway

5225. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Goa-Bombay National Highway passing through Mahad is damaged by rains every year; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the repair work is initiated well in time and the road remains traffic worthy for a long time after the repairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. There is no recurrence of any serious damage on the portion of Bombay-Goa National Highway No. 17 passing through

Mahad Town every year. However, damages of minor nature due to rains are not uncommon. These are attended to as and when noticed to keep the road in traffic worthy condition.

[Translation]

Production of Films by Armed Forces Films and Photo Division

5226. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of films produced by the Armed Forces Film and Photo Division last year;

(b) whether films on the celebrations of 26th January and 15th August are also produced by the said division;

(c) whether the work of producing classified films is also assigned to the above Division of the Ministry;

(d) whether C.B.I. had conducted any enquiry into the affairs of the said Division some time back; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (c). As against an annual target of 15 reels of defence training films, in the year 1990-91, the AFFPD had produced 28 reels of training films including 12 reels, dubbed in Hindi. Classified Training films are produced only by the AFFPD.

(c) Films on these functions are not produced by the Division. However, video coverage has been provided in the last few years, for internal record purposes.

(d) C.B.I. had conducted as surprise check of the office premises of the division in January, 1990.

(e) It has been decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against certain officials of this Division, for certain procedural irregularities brought out by the CBI and against one official for undertaking private work and accepting payment for it.

Expenditure By Ministers

5227. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the government to curtail expenditures;

(b) whether these measures are also applicable to the Union Ministers and Prime Minister; and

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred by each Minister since December, 1989 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Various measures have been taken by the Government to curtail expenditure on items like gasoline, telephone, electricity, travel, holding of seminars/conferences, entertainment, purchase of new vehicles, etc. Separate instructions also exist for Ministers for restricting expenditure on furniture, furnishing of office and office portion of the residence, official/residential telephone with STD facility, etc.

(c) Information is not centrally maintained and will have to be collected from all Ministries/Departments. The time and labour involved in collecting the information may not commensurate with the results to be achieved.

Ticketless Travelling by Delhi Police Personnel in D.T.C. Buses

5228. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police personnel are allowed to travel in D.T.C. buses without ticket even when they are not on duty or are in plain clothes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the government in this regard;

(d) whether there is any proposal to allow the Delhi Home Guard personnel also to travel free in D.T.C. buses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Two lower subordinates (constable and head constable in uniform) of Delhi police are allowed to travel, free of charge, at a time in any DTC bus except Palam Coach, Tourist and Inter-state services. This is done with a view to check incidence of pick-pocketing and teasing and other misbehaviour among the commuters.

(d) and (e). There is no proposal before the government to allow Delhi Home guards personnel to travel free in DTC buses. Volunteers of Delhi Home Guards are entitled to conveyance allowance @ Rs. 3/- per day for travelling over a distance of 8 kilometres and above for performing official duty.

Illegal ready-made Garments Factories in Delhi

5230. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of factories manufacturing readymade garments for export purposes have been set up in residential houses in the trans-Yamuna areas of Delhi without obtaining any licences; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to curb this tendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Government are not aware of a large number of readymade garments factories having been set up without necessary approval in trans-Yamuna areas. Readymade garments are items reserved for the Small Scale Industry and hence are exempted from licensing requirements under the IDR Act.

[English]

Indians Having Accounts in Swiss Banks

5231. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Times of India dated May, 5, 1991 wherein it has been stated that the Swiss banks are abolishing the tradition of anonymous accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the government thereto; and

(d) the particulars of the Indians having accounts in the Swiss banks with the permission of the Reserve Bank of India.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Rate of Interest of Term Deposits

5232. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rates of interest on term deposits for three years or more by nationalised banks and the primary urban co-operative banks;

(b) whether the co-operative banks were permitted in the past to pay higher rate of interest i.e. one per cent more than the nationalised banks;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to allow the co-operative banks to continue to pay higher rate of interest on term deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The rate of interest on term deposits with nationalised banks for 3 years and over has been raised from 12% to 13% with effect from 4th July, 1991. In the case of primary urban co-operative banks, the rate of interest on term deposits for a similar period was revised up-ward to 13% from 24th July, 1991. In addition, the primary cooperative banks other than those which are scheduled, are allowed to give one per cent additional discretionary interest for all term deposits other than those for 3 years and above.

Primary Cooperative Banks were given in the past the discretion to pay one per cent additional interest on term deposits so that these banks would be in a position to compete with commercial banks and mobilise deposits which could be fruitfully utilised for lending. Over the years many of the Urban

Cooperative Banks have grown to sizeable proportions. RBI has, therefore, asked the Urban Cooperative Banks to restrict the discretionary additional interest rate for term deposits for three years and above to half per cent only. However, they are still allowed by RBI to pay 1 per cent additional discretionary interest on term deposits for less than 3 years.

Micro Light Aircraft Project

5233. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the comptroller and Auditor General of India, in his report on Union Government (Commercial), No. 7 of 1990 in respect of Audit Observations on individual topics, has commented on the failure of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to develop a Micro Light Aircraft despite considerable time and cost overrun and ultimately abandoning the project;

(b) if so, whether responsibility has been fixed for the failure of the company to develop the Micro Light Aircraft; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and further action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question of fixing the responsibility does not arise as it was only a Research and Development project using the available man power of HAL in the Design Division, which in spite of having to be abandoned, had provided valuable hands on experience to the designers.

[Translation]

Repair of National Highways Passing Through Varanasi District

5234. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways passing through Varanasi district are in bad shape;

(b) if so, the places where these roads require immediate repairs and the steps being taken in this regard;

(c) the total amount spent on the repairs of the National Highways passing through this district during 1990-91; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. All the National Highways are generally in traffic-worthy condition. Maintenance of the National Highways is a continuous operation and repairs are carried out as and when noticed subject to the availability of funds.

(c) Funds for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways are allotted state-wise and not district-wise. During 1990-91 and amount of Rs. 11.085 crores was allotted for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh. An expenditure of Rs. 11.42 crores has been reported by the State Government against the allocation for maintaining the National Highways network.

(d) Tentatively an amount of Rs. 13.58 crores has been earmarked for Maintenance

and Repair of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh for 1991-92.

[English]

Loan Schemes for Weaker Sections

5235. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes under which loans are advanced by banks to the weaker sections;

(b) the amount of loans sanctioned under these schemes during each of the last three years, till date, scheme-wise; and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to squeeze the credit under these schemes;

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

(e) the alternative arrangements proposed to be made for providing adequate credit facilities to the weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment. In addition to the above, the banks also frame the schemes on their own to assist weaker sections of the society by way of providing loans to them for productive ventures. It has been enjoined upon them that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections of the society. Amongst the Government programmes, the Integrated Rural Development Programme

(IRDP) is the major one to assist selected families of target groups in rural areas to cross the poverty line by taking up self employment ventures. The programme, inter alia provides that not less than 50% of the families assisted should belong to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes communities and not less than 50% of assistance provided by Government should also go to these categories. The state wise amount provided by the banks under IRDP during the year 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 (upto Feb. 91) is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to squeeze the credit to be provided by the banks to priority sectors. Reserve Bank of India in their latest circular dated 23.2.91 have impressed upon banks to ensure that credit flow to priority sectors in general and for rural areas and Government sponsored programmes in particular is not disrupted and also that the priority sector category go borrowers may not face difficulty in obtaining credit from bank branches.

STATEMENT

State-wise/U.T.-wise Bank credit provided under integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 (upto February 1991)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Amount of Bank Credit			
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Upto Feb.)	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10034.65	7623.76	8018.21	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	144.30	33.67	62.35	
3.	Assam	2491.43	865.24	980.80	
4.	Bihar	15204.43	11346.56	12925.23	
5.	Goa	215.57	210.82	134.35	
6.	Gujarat	3118.80	3148.52	2736.81	
7.	Haryana	1889.79	1216.50	890.90	

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Amount of Bank Credit				
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Upto Feb.)		
1	2	3	4	5		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	612.72	610.33	446.63		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	903.31	340.89	318.70		
10.	Karnataka	5572.47	3879.16	3874.00		
11.	Kerala	3234.51	2578.77	2212.56		
12.	Madhya Pradesh	23538.33	8112.12	8191.78		
13.	Maharashtra	9302.56	7635.73	6538.17		
14.	Manipur	47.20	24.26	37.48		
15.	Meghalaya	70.06	122.31	34.28		
16.	Mizoram	13.99	0.30	10.18		
17.	Nagaland	118.67	43.70	114.45		

(Rs. in crores)					
Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Amount of Bank Credit			
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Upto Feb.)	
1	2	3	4	5	
18.	Orissa	3689.19	2049.74	1888.68	
19.	Punjab	2058.87	2180.29	1102.04	
20.	Rajasthan	4607.13	3536.52	3391.56	
21.	Sikkim	80.06	50.49	45.00	
22.	Tamil Nadu	8487.48	7357.18	5095.65	
23.	Tripura	1021.83	226.14	290.47	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25414.04	23111.45	26776.13	
25.	West Bengal	11014.35	9419.33	8044.39	
26.	A & N Islands	83.86	64.25	60.18	

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	States/U.T.	Amount of Bank Credit			
		1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Upto Feb.)	
1	2	3	4	5	
27.	Chandigarh	—	INR*	—	
28.	D & N Haveli	14.19	12.42	12.90	
29.	Delhi	54.21	44.49	50.69	
30.	Daman & Diu	33.05	31.64	27.07	
31.	Lakshadweep	17.84	7.61	6.42	
32.	Pondicherry	73.92	32.65	44.16	
33.	All India	123162.00	95916.84	94302.22	

* Information not received.

Simplification of Import Procedure

5236. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have simplified the import procedure recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas specified under the liberalised procedure; and

(d) the effect of such simplification on foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As a follow up of the new Trade Policy announced by the Commerce Minister on 4.7.91, the import procedures have been simplified to a great extent. New units and units undergoing substantial expansion, which are fully covered by foreign equity, will now be granted import licences for import of capital goods other than those appearing in the Restricted List, without advertisement procedure, certification of essentiality, clearance from indigenous angle as well as approval of the concerned Capital Goods Committee. The number of documents for obtaining Exim Scrip has been reduced to merely one whereas the number of documents for obtaining an advance licences has been reduced from 9 to 6. Import of cars can now be effected by the eligible applicants directly through the Customs, without obtaining a Customs Clearance Permit from CCI&E as before.

(d) The simplification of import procedures does not have a direct bearing on the foreign exchange reserves.

Application of Annewari System on Farmers

5237. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for stipulating the conditions of 'Annewari System' being applied for determination of non-wilful defaulter farmer;

(b) whether this system differs from area to area;

(c) if so, whether the system has adversely affected the people of any particular area;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (e). According to the provisions of the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, non-wilful defaulters are those borrowers who did not repay their loans or loan instalments due and experienced two or more bad crop years, whether consecutive or not, one of which was the year in which the default occurred. Both a view to adopting an objective criteria for assessing due damages, the ARDR Scheme sought to link crop damages to Annewari declarations of the State Governments. A methodology for declaring Annewari as a pre-condition for providing relief to borrowers is prevalent in most of the States/ Union Territories. The instructions issued by Reserve Bank of India/National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development about the procedure for declaration of Annewari is the same throughout the country. Wherever annewari system is not in vogue, certificates issued in the past for the year of calamity by the State Government or delegated authorities were accepted as proof of bad crop year.

**Regional Office of S.B.I. in Sindhu
Durg/Ratnagiri District**

5238. SHRISUDHIRSAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no regional office of any public-sector bank in Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the regional office of the State Bank of India for these districts is situated in Panaji;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to move the regional office of SBI from Panaji to Sindhudurg or Ratnagiri;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the industrialists in these districts are facing difficulties in finalising the credit by banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra have their regional offices in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra. There is no regional office, however, in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra.

(b) Regional offices are established having regard to the number of branches, their level of business, geographical contiguity, availability of infrastructural facilities, cost benefit analysis as also the need for supervision and administrative convenience.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) State Bank of India have reported that it will not be economical to shift the regional office from Panaji to Sindhudurg or Ratnagiri.

(f) and (g). No such difficulty has been reported by the State Bank of India.

[Translation]

Import of Soda-Ash

5239. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Soda-ash registered with the Director General Technical Development for import during 1989-90;

(b) whether complaints regarding misuse of Open General Licences have come to the notice of the Government during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the imports made under Open General Licences are not misused by importers;

(d) whether the price of Soda-ash which was increased due to shortage has not so far been reduced by the manufacturers despite huge imports; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No import Contract for the import of Soda-ash was registered with DGTD during 1989-90.

(b) and (c). No complaint regarding misuse of OGL was brought to the notice of the Government during 1989-90.

(d) and (e) Any increase in the price of Soda-ash due to shortage of the material has not been brought to the notice of the Government.

(a) the number of complaints received against the various branches of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur in Delhi during the last one year, till date, branch-wise; and

(b) the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

[English]

Complaints Against Branches of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur in Delhi

5240. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur has reported that during the period from 1.8.90 to 31.7.91, it had received 36 complaints against its branches in Delhi as per the details given below:

<i>Name of the Branches</i>	<i>No. of complaints</i>
1	2
Connaught Circus	7
Bara Khamba Road	2
Chandni Chowk	7
Krishna Nagar	3
Bara Hindu Rao	3
Nangal Raya	3
Lawrence Road	1
Safdarjang Enclave	1
Service Branch	1
Khari Baoli	2
Saket	1
New Rohtak Road	2
Amar Colony	1
Janak Puri	2
Total	36

These complaints related to non-payment of demand drafts, non-collection of instruments at per, delay in collection of bills, non-renewal of FDRs in time, collection of certain service charges, delay in submission

of statement of accounts, etc.

The details relating to the action taken by the bank in respect of the 36 complaints are given below:-

a)	No. of complaints redressed	17
b)	No. of complaints in respect of which the request could not be acceded to as per the rules and the complaints advised suitably.	6
c)	No. of complaints found baseless/without merit.	5
d)	No. of complaints where bank has admitted its bonafide mistakes and expressed regrets to aggrieved complainants.	2
e)	No. of complaints which requires negotiation with landlo:d/ revalidation of instruments/issue of duplicate instruments/ following up with collection banker.	4
f)	No. of complaints in which the complainants have been advised to complete necessary formalities.	2

Illegal Aid and Advisory Boards

5241. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the Legal Aid and Advisory Boards in States which have retired High Court Judges as Chairmen and/or Vice-Chairmen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): State Legal Aid & Advice Boards in Bihar, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have retired High Court Judges as Chairmen and/ or Vice-Chairmen.

Loans for Vehicles by Delhi Financial Corporation

5242. SHRI PRATAP RAO B. BHONSLE: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Financial Corporation advances loans for purchase of vehicles;

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

(c) the eligibility conditions for this loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Financial Corporation (DFC) has reported that it advances loans for the

purpose of purchasing various types of new vehicles which have to be registered as public carriers or contract carriers. The rate of interest charged on such advances is 15% p.a. The promoters' contribution is 15% upto 2 vehicles and 20% for more than 2 vehicles.

(c) DFC has stated that to be eligible for such a loan the promoter should be a bonafide resident of the Union Territory of Delhi or Chandigarh and should possess necessary managerial and practical experience to be able to run the transport business. The total number of vehicles owned by the promoter, including the vehicle(s) proposed to be acquired should not exceed 6.

New Rifle for Army

5243. SHRI PRATAP RAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide 'Ishapur-91' the new light weight assault rifle as standard personal weapon to Jawans of Indian Army;

(b) whether these rifles are to be imported or to be manufactured indigenously;

(c) the amount involved in the purchase of the new rifles; and

(d) what will be the disposal of existing rifles?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rifles are to be manufactured indigenously.

(c) As the rifle is still under development it is not possible to assess the cost likely to be involved in its purchase.

(d) After the introduction of the new rifle,

the existing 7.62 mm SLRs will be gradually phased out and disposed of in a manner beneficial to the State.

Exports of Arms

5244. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI GANGADHARA
SANIPALLI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of arms exported during 1990-91;

(b) the target fixed for export of arms during 1991-92;

(c) whether the Government have appointed any committee of experts to study the feasibility of privatisation of defence production and to formulate a policy for exports of defence items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The exports (including deemed exports) by defence production units during 1990-91 were of the value of Rs. 78.94 crores.

(b) The target for exports (including deemed exports) by our defence production units during 1991-92 has been fixed at Rs. 104 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Capacity Utilisation of Public Sector Defence Production Units

5245. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector defence production units are fully utilising their production capacity; .

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to allow the private sector to use the spare capacity of defence units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The non-dedicated spare production capacity at the public sector defence production units may be utilised by the concerned units for execution of job orders for other public sector undertakings as well as the private sector.

Dredging of Tuticorin Port

5246. SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JAN-ARTHANAN: WILL THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT BE pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the Court case pending before the Madras High court due to which the dredging work to further deepen the Tuticorin Port is held up; and

(b) the efforts made to expedite disposal of the case and commence dredging work without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Three Writ petitions filed by M/s ACC Company Limited in High Court of Madras were dis-

missed during February, 1991.

(b) Hydrographic Survey of approach channel has been taken up and completed through DCI in June, 1991 for assessment of balance dredge quantity. Based on this survey, the dredge quantities are under computation so that the balance dredging to attain the planned draft of 9.14 M (30 FT) could be taken up.

[*Translation*]

Simplified Income Tax Return Forms

5247. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made amendments in income tax return forms several times during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce a simplified income tax return form; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). Different income tax return forms have been prescribed for various categories of tax payers. The number of times such forms have been amended during the past three years (1st August, 1988 onwards) is as under:

<i>Type of Income tax Return Form</i>	<i>Broad categories of assesseees covered</i>	<i>Number of times amended during the last three Years (1st August, 1988 to 31st July, 1991).</i>
Form No. 1	Companies	2
Form No. 2	Non-corporate assesseees having income from business or profession	3

<i>Type of Income tax Return Form</i>	<i>Broad categories of assessee covered</i>	<i>Number of times amended during the last three Years (1st August, 1988 to 31st July, 1991).</i>
Form No. 3	Non-corporate assessee not having income from business or profession	3
Form No. 3A	Charitable and religious trusts.	1

Changes in return forms are made mainly as a part of the on-going process of simplification. Some changes are also necessitated by amendments to the Income-tax Act, from time to time. The question of laying down any time limit for simplification does not, therefore, arise.

[English]

Hike in Lending Deposit Rates in Banks

5248. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have recently hiked the lending deposit rates in the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its impact on curbing imports, reducing demand and rectifying the Balance of Payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The interest rate on term deposits of three years and above with scheduled commercial banks was raised from 11.0% to 12.0% on 13th April '91. The term deposits rates were further raised by 1 percentage point with effect from 4th July 91.

(b) The details of the revised rates of interest on deposits from public in Scheduled Commercial banks in force at present are given below:-

	<i>Period of Deposits</i>	<i>Rate of interest per annum(%)</i>
(1)	46 days to less than one year	9.00
(2)	1 year to less than 2 years	10.00
(3)	2 years to less than 3 years	11.00
(4)	3 years and above	13.00

Similarly, the lending rates for borrowers with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakh have been raised in two stages; from 16.0 per cent

(minimum) to 17.0 per cent (minimum) effective from April 13, 1991 and further to 18.5 per cent (minimum) effective from July 4,

1991. From May 9, 1991 an interest rate surcharge of 25 per cent has been imposed on import financing.

The revised lending rate structure for advances of Scheduled Commercial banks in force at present is given in the attached statement.

(c) the raising of the deposit and lending rates of scheduled commercial banks in the recent past are measures taken together with other measures to curtail aggregate demand, compress imports, bring about greater financial discipline, improve productivity and control inventory build-up.

STATEMENT

Lending rate structure for advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks prescribed by RBI.

I. General Structure applicable to all loans to all bank borrowers

(Short term and Long term)

<i>Size of limit</i>	<i>Rate of interest (percent per annum)</i>
1) Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500/-	10.0
2) Over Rs. 7500/- and upto Rs. 15000/-	11.5
3) Over Rs. 15,000/- and upto Rs. 25000/-	12.0
4) Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 50000/-	14.0
5) Over Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0
6) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	18.5 (Minimum)

II. Special Prescription

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. DRI advances | 4.0 |
| 2. Term loans to agriculture, SSI, and transport operators owning upto two vehicles. | |

Size of limit

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| (i) Over Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 50,000 | 13.0 |
| (ii) Over Rs. 50,000 | 14.0 |
| 3. (i) Loans for purchase of consumer durables | Banks free to |

<i>Size of limit</i>	<i>Rate of interest (percent per annum)</i>
(ii) Loans to individuals against shares and debentures/ bonds	determine the rate
(iii) Other non-priority sector personal loans.	
III. Lending rate for commodities coming within the purview of Selective Credit Control (SSC).	
Loans/Advances/Cash Credit/Overdrafts against commodities subject to SCC	18.5 (Minimum)
IV. Bills Discounting	
Over Rs. 2 lakhs	17.5 (Minimum) (With the stipulation to the effective interest rate should be 1 percentage point lower than the rate chargeable on CC/Od)
V. Housing Finance Granted to intermediary agencies over Rs. 2 lakhs@	17.0

Note: The lending rate structure was set out with effect from September 22, 1990. Changes were effected in item No. as given below: This rate was prescribed at 16.0 per cent (minimum) with effect from September 22, 1990. It was raised to 17.0 per cent (minimum) with effect from April 13, 1991 and to 18.5 per cent (minimum) with effect from July, 4, 1991.

@ This category was introduced with effect July 4, 1991.

**Road Improvement and Development
Programme for Delhi**

(b) if so, the cost and salient features
thereof; and

5249. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(c) the steps taken in pursuance thereof?

(a) whether a road improvement and
development programme for Delhi for the
current year has been chalked out;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Annual outlays proposed for carryo-

ver and new works for improvement and development of roads subject to approval of 1991-92 Budget are:-

(i)	National Highways	- Rs. 5.00crores
(ii)	New Delhi Municipal Committee.	- Rs. 8.00crores
(iii)	Municipal Corporation of Delhi.	- Rs. 59.00crores
(iv)	Delhi Administration	- Rs. 46.00crores

Over and above the widening/strengthening and general improvement of various roads, the major new works proposed to be covered under the above outlays are indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) While carryover works are in progress at different stages, the implementation of new works would depend upon the availability of funds.

STATEMENT

Major New Works proposed in Annual Programme 1991-92.

(1) National Highways

- (i) Elevated road section on NH-2 near Badarpur.
- (ii) Grade Separator on NH-8 near the Airport.
- (iii) Rehabilitation of Yamuna Bridge at Nizamudin.

(2) Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

- (i) Grade Separated Intersections - 3 Nos.
- (ii) Road Under Bridges. - 3 Nos.
- (iii) Underground Parking Lot. - 1 No.
- (iv) Pedestrian Subways. - 6 Nos.

(3) Delhi Administration

- (i) Road No. 51 from Mall Road to Outer Ring Road.
 - (ii) Roads No. 38 and 48 along Najafgarh Drain from Mall Road to Road No. 57.
 - (iii) Grade Separator Intersection at Punjabi Bagh Crossing.
 - (iv) Additional Bridge Across Yamuna at I.T.O.
 - (v) Additional Bridge Across Yamuna at Wazirabad.
-

**Trade Apprentices in Defence Factorles
At Jabalpur**

5250. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trade apprentices trained at the different defence factories at Jabalpur during the last three years;

(b) the number of those who have been employed out of them and the number of vacancies still lying to be filled up; and

(c) the reasons for not filling up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). Under the Apprentices Act, 1961, three hundred and thirty seven Apprentices were trained at Ordnance Factories and the Army Base Workshop at Jabalpur, during the last three years. Even though the Ordnance Factories are required to provide training to the Trade Apprentices, no obligation rests on the Factories for the employment of such Apprentices, who are also not obliged to accept employment under them. Employment of such Apprentices in the Ordnance Factories depends upon the available workload and vacancies for fresh recruitment. The present work-load position in the Jabalpur factories does not warrant any fresh induction of Industrial Employees.

Demand to Make Rupee Fully Convertible

5251. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: WILL THE MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has demanded that the rupee be made fully convertible; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has suggested that the process of liberalisation initiated through the recent trade policy reforms would eventually lead to a convertible rupee. The Government also hopes that within period of 3 to 5 years the rupee will become fully convertible on the trade account.

Import of Cashew Kernels

5252. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have declined permission to the cashew industry in Kerala to import cashew kernels;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to allow the import of cashew kernels in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Under Import & Export Policy 1990-93, Cashew Kernels is a restricted item for import since cashew Industry exports cashew kernels rather than importing them. In the year 1990-91, India exported cashew kernels worth more than Rs. 430 crores.

[Translation]

Funds Allocated To States for State Highways

5253. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to various States for the construction/improvement of State Highways during the years 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 from the Central Road Fund, State-Wise;

(b) the amount spent/surrendered by the various States during the above period; and

(c) the reasons for not utilising the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). A

statement showing the funds released to various State Govts. from Central Road Fund is attached. The expenditure on schemes approved under CRF is initially incurred by the State Govts. from their own plan resources and such expenditure is adjusted against the allocations made at the end of financial year, keeping in view the total cost of schemes approved, total funds released, inter-se priority on all India basis, requirements projected by States and availability of budget provision. The unadjusted amount if any is met from the allotments of subsequent years. As Central Road Fund is a non-lapsing fund, there is no question of any surrenders.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Funds released during					Total
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	46.26	7.39	4.49	5.00	63.14	
2.	Assam	26.00	25.00	31.50	—	82.50	
3.	Bihar	30.00	12.00	—	—	42.00	
4.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	
5.	Gujarat	120.00	229.23	100.00	150.00	599.23	
6.	Haryana	9.00	15.10	15.00	50.00	89.10	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	28.31	6.00	6.00	9.81	50.12	
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	1.77	10.00	—	11.77	
9.	Karnataka	70.00	78.00	6.024	7.00	161.024	
10.	Kerala	57.43	10.06	135.016	150.00	352.506	

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Funds released during					
							Total
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
1	2	3	4	5	6		7
11.	Madhya Pradesh	—	45.40	30.00	50.00		125.40
12.	Maharashtra	—	64.05	19.01	4.50		45.00
13.	Manipur	19.50	10.00	5.00	10.50		45.00
14.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—		—
15.	Nagaland	1.00	6.00	1.96	1.19		10.15
16.	Orissa	25.00	—	—	—		25.00
17.	Punjab	1.50	—	—	—		1.50
18.	Rajasthan	23.00	15.00	161.00	207.00		406.00

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Funds released during					Total
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
19.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	
20.	Tamil Nadu	20.00	15.00	10.00	—	45.00	
21.	Tripura	3.00	—	—	—	3.00	
22.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	160.00	315.00	250.00	745.00	
23.	West Bengal	—	—	50.00	5.00	55.00	
Total:		500.00	730.00	900.00	900.00	3000.00	

[English]

Functioning of SCICI

5254. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have received any complaints regarding the functioning of the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India (SCICI) recently; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to improve the functioning of the organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH). (a) Government received in recent months, letters and petitions suggesting that the functioning of Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Ltd., (SCICI) be modified or improved.

(b) Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Ltd., (SCICI) is a board managed company incorporated under the companies Act and is not a Government company. The Government from time to time received letters and petitions suggesting improvements and modifications in the functioning of the company. Since this is a board managed company these letters were sent to it for examination and initiating action as may be considered necessary. Where Government's interests are directly involved suitable suggestions have been given to the company and where necessary, specific information has also been sought from them.

Construction of Tunnel to connect National Highways Nos. 9 and 5

5255. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme to connect National Highway No. 9 with National Highway No. 5 through a tunnel in Indrakuladi Hill in Vijayawada is yet to be implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in completing the construction of the link road; and

(c) the date by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The implementation of the scheme for connecting NH 9 with NH 5 through Indrakuladi tunnel has been started but part of the work is yet to be completed.

(b) The construction of the link road is delayed because of the High Court stay order obtained by the local people in February, 1987, preventing the work being carried out in one reach of the road.

(c) As the High Court stay is yet to be vacated, it is too early to give the date by which the work is likely to be completed.

Loans to Sugarcane Growers of Khammam District of Andhra Pradesh

5256. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercial banks are not advancing loans to the farmers who are raising sugarcane crop for supply to Kailas Sugars in Khammam district in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to issue instructions to the commercial banks in the factory zone to advance crop loans to the sugarcane growers in that area; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has no such information. As per the policy in vogue, Commercial Banks finance schemes which are viable and bankable irrespective of whether the sugarcane is for supply to any sugar factory or not.

Fund to Jute Mills for Modernisation Programme

5257. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided to different jute

mills to implement modernisation programme, mill-wise;

(b) whether these mills have utilised the fund obtained by them for modernisation;

(c) if so, the amount spent by each mill on implementation of the programme during the last three years and achievements made by each mill in production by implementing such programme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The position of disbursement of funds under the Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme as on 31st July 1991 is

(Rs. in crores)

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of Mill</i>	<i>Amount Disbursed</i>
1.	Anglo India Jute Mills Company Ltd.	1.00
2.	Hasting Mill	1.56
3.	Aekta Limited	4.26
4.	India Jute & Industries Limited	6.68
5.	Birla Jute & Industries Ltd.	3.68
6.	Naihati Jute Mills Co. Ltd.	1.36
7.	Gange Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	2.35
8.	Chitavalsah Jute Mill	1.75
9.	Cheviot Co. Ltd.	1.92
10.	Kevin Jute Co.	1.14
11.	New Central Jute Mills Ltd.	1.85

(b) The aforesaid amount has been earmarked for implementation of the schemes sanctioned for modernisation and has been almost fully utilised.

(c) There has been a general improvement in production, productivity and efficiency in jute mills which have under taken programme of modernisation but it is too early to quantify the exact extent of such improvement due to modernisation.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Marine Products Export Development Authority

5258. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Marine Products Export Development Authority;

(b) if so, the basic objectives thereof;

(c) when the authority came into being; and

(d) the various works and programmes undertaken by the authority so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-
MAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basic objectives are:

- i) Conservation and management of fishery resources and development of off-

shore and deep-sea fish-
ing;

ii) Registration of exporters and processing plants;

iii) Regulation of marine products export;

iv) Laying down standards and specifications;

v) Rendering financial or other assistance and acting as an agency for extension of relief and subsidy as per directions from Government;

vi) Helping the industry in relation to market intelligence, export promotion and import of essential items;

vii) Imparting training in different aspects of the marine products industry, with special reference to quality control, processing and marketing;

viii) Promotion of commercial shrimp farming; and

ix) Promotion of joint ventures in deep-sea fishing, aquaculture, production, processing and marketing of value-added seafood.

(c) The Authority came into being on 30th April, 1972 by an Act of Parliament.

(d) In order to boost country's marine exports, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has undertaken various developmental activities which include:

- i) Providing guidance and necessary assistance in increasing production through capture fisheries;
- ii) Development of culture fisheries for augmenting export production through aquaculture farms;
- iii) Encouraging the seafood entrepreneurs in setting up processing plants for exports of value-added products;
- iv) Dissemination of market intelligence pertaining to the seafood industry; and
- v) Administering various subsidy schemes of Government for modernising the sea-food export industry.

Foreign Exchange Earnings from Export of Diamonds

5259. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange earned by the Government by exporting diamonds during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is large scope to increase the export of diamonds;

(c) if so, the target set for 1991-92; and

(d) the steps taken to increase diamond export? *

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The year-wise value of exports for the last three years of cut and polished diamonds, according to the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in Crores</i>
1988-89	4238
1989-90	4972
1990-91	4739

(b) and (c). Diamond exports depend on the economic conditions in the countries that are our major buyers. Keeping in view the recessionary conditions in some of these countries and the depreciation in the Indian rupee, a tentative export target for 1991-92 of Rs. 5700 crores has been fixed.

(d) The Government has taken measures to facilitate supplies of imported raw material for export of diamonds. The adjustment in the exchange rate of the Indian rupee would also make our exports more competitive.

Shortage of Fund in financial Institutions

5260. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India are facing the funds crunch;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The three All-India term lending financial institutions viz. Industrial Development Bank of India (IDB), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) have reported that they are facing a resource constraint.

(b) The resource mobilisation difficulties of the financial institutions have arisen from a combination of circumstances which include their lending at administered, below market rates of interest (a stipulation which has recently been relaxed by Government), their consequent inability to borrow from the market at interest rates which cover their costs, the diminishing proportion of concessional interest rate borrowings which Government and the Reserve Bank of India are able to allocate to them, and the high growth rate in the demand for long term finance from industry. There are also certain reasons specific to each institution, like the discontinuance of the Investment Deposits Account Scheme from the current year, the lock-in period of Capital Bonds being over

and the resource needs of the Small Industries Development Bank of India, all of which affect the resources position of IDBI.

(c) Government has recently deregulated the interest rate structure for term lending by the financial institutions and this has provided a very large measure of flexibility to institutions to compete for funds on market related terms, thereby considerably easing their resources position.

Christian Personal Laws

5261. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representations for a change in the Christian Personal Laws pertaining to Marriage, Divorce, Succession and Adoption; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will be possible for the Government to take a decision on the issue involved only after ascertaining the views of the Christian community as the policy of the Government is to introduce amendment in the personal law relating to any minority community only when the community concerned agrees to the same or a demand is made by that community for the same.

**Modernisation of Vijaya Mohini Mill in
Trivandrum**

5262. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any project to the Union Government for the modernisation of the Vijaya Mohini Mills in Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) A reference was received from the Minister of Industries & Social Welfare, Government of Kerala, inter alia, regarding modernisation of Vijaya Mohini Mills, Trivandrum, a textile unit under National Textile Corporation.

(b) The modernisation scheme of Vijaya Mohini Mills, at an outlay of Rs. 590.75 lakhs, has been approved by the Financial Institutions in December, 1990 and is under implementation.

**Loans Disbursed by Banks to Big
Business Houses**

5263. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRIPRABHU DAYAL KATH-
ERIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans disbursed by banks to big business houses during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of loans disbursed by banks under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) scheme during the above years, year-wise;

(c) the amount of bank loans outstanding separately against big business houses and persons advanced loans under DRI scheme as on June 30, 1991;

(d) the reasons for substantial amount of bad debts in both the categories; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check these bad debts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the amount of outstanding credit of public sector banks for industries, size-wise, and the amount of overdues for the same as at the end of June, 1988, March, 1989 and March, 1990 (latest available) is given below:

Year	Outstanding amount (Rs. in crores)	Overdues
June, 1988	22521	3020
Large & Medium SSI	11492	2312
Total	34013	5332
March, 1989	25926	3667

Year	Outstanding amount (Rs. in crores)	Overdues
Large & Medium SSI	13317	2661
Total	39243	6328
March, 1990	28367	3731
Large & Medium SSI	13467	2761
Total	41834	6492

The number of borrowal accounts and the amount of outstanding advances of public sector banks under the Differential Rate of

Interest (DRI) Scheme for the corresponding period was as under:-

Year ended	No. of Accounts (in lakhs)	Amount Outstanding (Rs. in crores)
June, 1988	47.01	624.47
March, 1989	47.67	679.59
March, 1990	42.29	703.59

(d) and (e). Public Sector Banks grant advances to businessmen/industrialists in the normal banking business after assessing their need-based credit requirements. However, there is likelihood that some account/units may become sticky/sick due to factors often beyond the control of the banks. With a view to minimising the incidence of such advances, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducts financial inspection of banks regularly. After every inspection the main findings are discussed by RBI with the banks with a view to taking corrective action. The banks also take steps to gear up the internal control machinery and to reduce the sticky/sick advances. The poor recovery of DRI

advances is due to various reasons such as purchase of sub-standard assets, increase in household consumption expenditure, inadequate identification of projects, sanction of inadequate finance, lack of supervision and follow up by bank staff, etc. Steps have been taken by RBI and Banks to improve the recovery performance in respect of their advances to different sectors, including DRI. Banks have been advised by RBI to observe one day in a week as non-banking working day for their rural branches. Besides, recovery performance is one of the items which is discussed in the District level and State level meeting of the bankers and Government officials.

**Round Table Conference Organised By
Foreign Investment Advisory Council**

5264. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a round table conference was recently organised by the Foreign Investment Advisory Council to assess the flow of foreign direct investment (FDI) around the world;

(b) if so, the observations made there about India; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) A Round Table Conference on Foreign Direct Investment and Technology transfer in India was organised in New Delhi on 15-16 March, 1990 by United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC).

(b) The need for Direct Foreign Investment in India was highlighted in the Conference.

(c) With a view to facilitate direct foreign investment, Government have liberalised the foreign investment policy through a Statement on Industrial Policy which was laid in

both Houses of the Parliament on 24th July, 1991.

**Performance of Indian Investment
Centres**

5265. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the offices of the Indian Investment Centre in different countries; and

(b) the performance of these offices in attracting foreign investment and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, office-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) There were six offices of Indian Investment Centre located at Abu Dhabi (UAE), Frankfurt (Germany), London (UK), New York (USA), Singapore and Tokyo (Japan). Due to economy measures these offices were closed in 1990-91. However, some personnel of the offices at Frankfurt, London and Singapore have been allowed to continue till 30.9.91 on personal grounds.

(b) The performance of the offices of the Indian Investment Centre in attracting foreign investment has generally been satisfactory. So far as the expenditure incurred for the last three years is concerned a Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Office-wise and year-wise expenditure on the foreign offices of Indian Investment Centre for the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91.

(Amount in Rs. Millions.)

Sl. No.	Office	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Abu Dhabi	2.850	3.268	3.265	8.733
2.	Frankfurt	3.276	4.126	5.305	12.707
3.	London	4.056	4.037	5.428	13.521
4.	New York	4.509	5.923	6.104	16.536
5.	Singapore	2.396	2.995	3.926	9.317
6.	Tokyo	4.057	4.768	4.232	13.057
Grand Total:					72.871

Guidelines for Joint Ventures in Fisheries

5266. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate new guidelines for joint ventures in fisheries to attract a larger number of established international companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proposals received by the Government to set up joint ventures in fisheries ; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Government has recently announced new guidelines for joint ventures in deep sea fishing.

(b) Salient features of revised joint venture policy in deep sea fishing are as under:-

- i) Constitution of Empowered Committee of Secretaries to accord single window clearance to all proposals on deep sea fishing;
- ii) Test fishing has been permitted to facilitate pre-investment study for assessing commercial viability of specific fishing operations in Indian EEZ;
- iii) Vessels on long lease have been permitted to operate in the Indian EEZ. Vessels with foreign registration and foreign flag can now operate in Indian EEZ;

iv) Debt equity norms for acquisition of vessels enhanced to that not exceeding 6:1;

v) Producer exporters are entitled to diesel oil at international price;

vi) Relaxation of 40% foreign equity norms on case by case basis;

vii) Treating cost of vessels as part of equity of foreign collaborator;

viii) Transportation of the catch to ports abroad is permitted.

(c) Government has received about a dozen proposals for setting up joint venture in deep sea fishing.

(d) A view will be taken on these proposals by the Empowered Committee of Secretaries.

Expenditure Incurred By Banks on Court Cases

5267. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by public sector banks on court cases for recovery of loans during 1990 and 1991 so far, bank-wise;

(b) whether the expenditure on the above court cases has been increasing for the last ten years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce such expenditure by banks?

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

Defence Security Personnel As Ex-Servicemen on Retirement After 15 Years' Service

5268. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to consider Defence Security Personnel as ex-Servicemen on retirement after completion of 15 years of service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). A proposal was received by the Directorate General Resettlement for the grant of ex-Servicemen status to all the personnel who have served in the Defence Security Courts, provided they satisfied any of the other conditions laid down in sub-para 2(c) (i) to (iv) of the Government of India, Department of Personnel was based on the argument that such personnel are deployed with the regular Armed Forces, serve along with them and are exposed to the same risks as the Service personnel. This matter was considered by the High Level Committee on Problems of Ex-Servicemen (on those recommendations the definition of Ex-Servicemen had been modified in November 1986) which did not recommend that the retired personnel of the Defence Security Corps should be treated as Ex-Servicemen.

[Translation]

Development of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

5269. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for the development of National Highways submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to the Union Government during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the details of proposals approved by the Union Government and the amount sanctioned from 1990 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The details of proposals relating to development of National Highways received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91 and 1991-92 are given in the Statement I and II. However, expenditure is incurred only after the proposals have been examined and sanctioned. During 1990-91, an expenditure of Rs. 65.16 crores is reported to have been incurred by the State Government on various sanctioned schemes for development of National Highways. For 1991-92, there is a tentative provision for allocation of Rs. 60 crores for schemes relating to development of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) List of works amounting to Rs. 111.91 crores sanctioned from 1.4.1990 onwards for development of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh is given in Statement III.

STATEMENT - I

List of Works Submitted by the State Govt. to Most (90-91) More than 25 lacs. Roads

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Hard shoulder in Km. 421-432 NH 2DK Road	77.00
2.	Raising of Km. 41 of NH 56	26.33
3.	Raising of High tension electric line of Faizabad Bypass	29.33
4.	Widening of existing double lane to four lane and 1st state Strng. Km. 3 to 5 of NH 28	49.85
5.	Hard shoulder in Km. 216.90-219. 200	27.44
6.	Str. of Km. (i) 275-278, 287.290 of NH2 (ii) 291-315, 320-324 DK Sec	249.00
7.	Const. of Etawah bypass phase I on NH 2	670.90
8.	Str. of Km. 8.315-15.00 of NH 7	99.95
9.	Str. of Km. 281-308 of NH 24	442.72
10.	Str. of Km. 28 to 57 of NH 25	544.00

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Work</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
11.	Str. of Km. 19-30 of NH 27	202.00
12.	STr. of Km. 35-72 of NH 28	863.00
13.	Str. of Km. 225-260 of NH 56	596.36
14.	Const. of Oria Bypass (LA & Const) NH 25	19.76
15.	const. of Sitapur Bypass NH 24	371.00
16.	Str. of Km. 251, 262, 268 & 269 NH 24	73.35
17.	Str. of Km. 215-240 of NH 25	400.57
18.	Str. of Km. 325-561 of NH 28	834.55
19.	Str. of Km. 320-329, 250 of NH 2 KV Sec.	148.90
Total Rs. :		5726.41 lacs

List of works Submitted by State Govt. to most since 1.4.90 (90-91) Less than 25.00 lacs

Sl.No.	Name of Work	Amount	Roads
1	2	3	
1.	Estimate for maintenance of NH Mobile mechanised maintenance unit	30.07	
2.	Fencing plant protection guard along alignment of Sahajahanpur bypass	2.60	
3.	Raising of hard shoulders in Km. 388 to 390 and brick edging in Km. 361 to 383 of NH 24	18.93	
4.	Hard shoulder in Km. 103, 104 (Gopiganj)	13.75	
5.	Re-Const. of weak and narrow culverts in Km. 94 to 153.64 of NH 24	10.60	
6.	Hard shoulder in Km. 118, 127 & 128 of NH 24	10.50	
7.	Strengthening of pavement in Km. 252 to 254 of NH 24	22.00	
8.	Protection of high embankment in Km. 9 & 10 of Ghaziabad bypass	25.00	
9.	Re-const. of weak and narrow culverts in Km. 160.40 to 180.66 of NH 24	25.00	
10.	Protection Providing hard shoulder in Km. 364 to 365 of NH 2	6.30	

Sl.No.	Name of Work	Amount
1	2	3
11.	L. A. estimate for approaches to bridge over river Parvati in Km. 31 to NH 3	1.96
12.	Const. of hard shoulder in Km. 221.600 to 223.200 of NH 2	8.93
13.	Const. of hard soulder in Km. 199.60 to 204.50 of NH 2 D. K. Sec	24.40
14.	Providing hard shoulder in Km. 235 to 238 of NH 2 D. K. Sec	16.86
15.	Hard shoulder in Km. 216.90 to 219.200 of NH 2 D.K. Sec	22.92
16.	Laying of Netlon in Km. 18, 19 of Kanpur bypass	25.00
17.	Link road between Fatehpur bypass in Km. 76 of Nh 2 KV. Sec	15.63
18.	Hard shoulder in Km. 471-471-473 of NH 2 D.K Sec	17.20
19.	Hard shoulder in Km. 30 to 31.500, 58 to 59. 500, and 75 to 76.30 of Lucknow Kanpur road NH 25	24.76
20.	Hard shoulder in Km. 421 to 432 of NH 2 DK road	77.00
21.	Providing hard shoulder in Km. 322 and 323 (500) of NH 22	24.71

Sl.No.	Name Work	Amount
1	2	3
22.	Improvement of Riding quality of Km. 75,140, 147 of NH 28.	21.57
23.	Hard shoulder in Km. 20,21,22 of NH 56	21.96
24.	Profile correction from Km. 301 to 303 on NH 28	24.81
25.	Hard shoulder in Km. 260,261,268,269,316 & 317 of NH 28	24.00
26.	Hard should in Km. 185 to 186.400 of NH 28	5.87
27.	Const. of lay bye in Km. 297 of NH 28	22.81
28.	Raising of road with L-Section correction for improvement of drainage of Km. 302 and 303 of NH 28	21.39
29.	Re-const. of damaged and narrow culverts in Km. 175 to 196 of NH 56	23.15
30.	Hard-should in Km. 22 to 25 of NH 25 (LK Sec)	24.56
31.	Hard should in Km. 28,29 of NH 25	24.97 •
32.	Hard shoulder in Km. 86.400 to 87.00 of NH 28	9.26

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name Work</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1	2	3
33.	Re-const. of weak narrow culverts in Km. 157-174 of NH 56	23.41
34.	Providing hard shoulder in Km. 80.81 & 85 of NH 56	14.45
35.	Improvement of Km. 160 & 161 of NH 29	20.53
36.	Re-const. of weak and narrow culverts in Km. 198 to 210 of NH 56	24.87
37.	Re-const. of weak and narrow culverts in Km. 134 to 156	23.91
38.	Re-const. of weak and narrow culverts in Km. 117 to 133	22.34
39.	Profile correction in Km. 301 of NH 28	15.71
40.	S.R. to Km. 180, 196 & 197 of NH 29	11.00
41.	Providing hard shoulder in Km. 25 to 27 of NH 25	18.38
42.	Protection of High embankment in Km. 16 of NH 28	24.70
43.	Re-const. of culvert No. 232/1, 242/1, 252/1 of (K.V. Sec)	5.56
44.	Brick edging in Km. 255-256 of NH 2 (K.V. Sec)	.36

Sl.No.	Name Work	Amount
1	2	3
45.	Streng. of Km. 249-250 of NH 2 (K.V. Sect)	25.00
46.	Providing and laying polymor grid in Km. 231 and 233 of NH 2 (K.V. Sec)	23.93
47.	Hard shoulder in Km. 270-275 of NH 2 (K.V. Sec.)	15.56
48.	Providing hard shoulder in Km. 213-220 of NH 2 (K.V. Sec)	10.00
49.	Hard shouder in Km. 8.213 to 10.313 of NH 7	7.21
50.	Re-const. of culvert No. 271/2 of NH 56	2.08
51.	L.A. for widening of NH 7 in Km. 82.08 to 85.00, 98.700 to 100.00 and 110.64 to 111.068	2.69
52.	Protection of High embankment in Km. 146 of NH 2 (K.V. Sec)	4.40
53.	S.R. to Tons Bridge approach in Km. 120,121 NH 29	23.00
54.	Sr. to Chagra bridge approach at Dohrighat in Km. 157 and 158	25.00
		20479.137

*List of Work which Submitted in 1990-91***Bridges**

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	P.P.R./Cost estimate of R.O.B. in Km. 21 on NH 28	549.10
2.	Reconstruction of minor bridge in km 256/2 on NH 56	22.75
3.	P.P.R./Cost estimate of Yamuna bridge at Naini Allahabad.	8000.00
Total:		9571.85

Grand Total = 35877.399 lacs
= Rs. 359.77 crores

STATEMENT - II*List of Work Submitted in 1991-92*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	P.P.R. of Garra bridge on Shajahanpur bypass on NH 24	233.00
2.	P.P.R. of Khannous bridge on Shahjahanpur bypass on NH 24	173.00
3.	Revised D.P.R. (Well foundation) of Khajuri bridge in Km. 70 on NH 24	120.80
4.	Revised D.P.R./cost estimate of Moghai bridge in Km. 88 on NH 29	178.20
5.	Revised D.P.R./Cost estimate of Ami bridge in Km. 188 on NH 29	187.50
6.	Revised D.P.R./Cost estimate of Taraina bridge in Km 165 on NH 29	201.00
7.	Revised D.P.R./Cost estimate of besse bridg' in Km. 84 on NH 29	227.00
8.	Revised D.P.R./Cost estimate of Bijara Nala bridge in Km. 191 on NH 29	190.00
Total:		1510.40

*List of Work Submitted to M.O.S.T. (91-92)
Since 1.4.91*

Sl. No.	Name of work	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
<i>Work costing more than 25 Lacs</i>		
1.	Raising of Km. 41 of NH 56	26.33
2.	Strengthening of Km. 393 to 485 of NH-24 (R.E.)	245.12
3.	Construction of Shahjahanpur Bypass	382.50
Total:		64.95

*List of work submitted to M.O.S.T. (91-92)
Since 1.4.1991*

Sl. No.	Name of work	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3
<i>Work costing less than Rs. 25 lacs</i>		
1.	Construction of drain in Km. 127 to 128.600 of NH-25	24.56
2.	Providing lay Bye along Km. 97 of NH-26	13.86
3.	Raising of road surface in built up area of Km. 256 of NH-56	25.00
4.	Raising of road surface in built up area of Km. 245 of NH-56	22.66
5.	Providing Hard Shoulder in Km. 34.35 of NH 56	8.70
6.	Hard Shoulder in Km. 165,166, 168,179 of NH-2 (K.V. Section)	44.99
7.	Raising of NH 56 in Km. 241 & 252	25.00
8.	Raising of Km. 226 and 245 of NH 56	25.00
9.	Providing Hard Shoulder in Km. 39.40 of NH 28	17.24

Sl. No.	Name of work	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3
10.	Providing Hard Shoulder in Km. 36,38 of NH 28	24.94
11.	Estimate of L.A. for wayside amenities for Khaga	1.45
12.	Providing Hard Shoulders in Km. 208,209,216,217,231,232 of NH 24	22.65
13.	Providing Hard Shoulder in Km. 270,271, 288 & 289 of NH 24	15.96
14.	S.R. to Km. 99, 100,107,118 of NH 2	20.70
15.	Protection for approach of embankment of Madhya Ganga canal bridge of NH 24	2.00
Total:		274.65

Grand Total = Rs. 2440 lacs

Proposal sent by State PWD i.e. 24.40 crores (91-92)

STATEMENT - III

List of works sanctioned since 1.4.1990

A. Works costing more than Rs. 25 Lacs.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No.	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Str. the existing weak 2 lane pavement Km. 387 to 400, 421-432 & 452 to 456 of DK Sec	002 UP 90169	461.19
2.	Str. the existing weak 4 lane carriageway of GBD Bypass from Km. 9 to 28 of NH. 24	024 UP 90 172	481.00
3.	Str. the reach from Km. 101 (500 M) to 125 Shivpuri-Bhognipur Sec. of NH. 25	025 UP 90 171	391.06
4.	Str. the reach from 99 to 123 of Lko-Gkp Sec. NH. 28	028 UP 90 174	416.00
5.	Str. the existing weak 2 lane pavement in Km. 324-340 & Km. 340-361 D.K. Sec. NH. 2	002 UP 90 173	497.15
6.	Const. of Lalipur Bypass from Km. 87.139 to 94.129 including Bridge & culverts NH. 26	026 UP 90 175	328.49

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No.	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4
7.	Str. the existing weak 2 lane from Km. 8.264 to 37.00 K.V. Sec. of NH. 2	002 UP 90 176	340.59
8.	Str. weak 2 lane pavement from Km. 320 to 329.250 K.V. Sec	002 UP 90 177	176.00
9.	Str. the existing weak 2 lane pavement Km. 215 to 240 Shivpuri-Bhogpur Sec. NH. 25	025 UP 90 178	443.85
10.	Str. the existing weak D.B.L. Road Km. 252,262M, 268,269 NH 24	024 UP 91 180	83.80
11.	Str. the existing weak D.B.L. Road Km. 280-288. 400& 288.400-308 NH. 24	024 UP 91 181	371.00
12.	Imp. of portion in Km. 76-77 by way of raising Abadi portion of Simbhaoli and Buxer (Chainage 75.100 to 77.250) NH 24	024 UP 91 179	48.94
13.	Str-the existing weak 2 lane pavement Km. 8.213-11.388 & 14.540-18.200 VNS-Mirzapur Sec. NH. 7	007 UP 91 183	100.50
14.	Str. weak 2 lane Sec. of Km. 225.260 except Km. 226 (500), 235 (400) 241 (450) 245 (800) 251 (600) Km. 256 Sultanpur-VNs Sec. NH. 56	056 UP 91 182	496.25

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Job. No.</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lacs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
15.	Imp. of Km. 3.60-5-500 Lko-Bara-Banki Road Provision of 4 lane facility NH. 28	028 UP 91 184	49.85
16.	const. of Pavement ROB on Sitapur Bypass D.B.L. Road NH. 24	024 UP 91 186	451.61
17.	Str. of weak 2 lane pavement in reach Km. 29.00 to 57.00 po-Lko-Kanpur Sec. NH. 25	025 UP 91 185	493.40
18.	Four-laning of Delhi-Mathura Road Section from Haryana UP Border to Mathura Km. 93.83 to 148.330 NH. 2	002 UP 90 170	4532.00
(A)			10262.68

*List of works Sanctioned Since 1.4.90**A-Works Costing less than Rs. 25 lacs.*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lacs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1.	Reconst. of Culvert No. 154/2 Km. 154 NH 2 (K.V.Sec.)	AA 024 UP 90 238	5.82
2.	Const. of laybye in Km. 312 of GKP-Kasia-Bihar Border	AA 028 UP 90 240	19.26
3.	Reconst. of Culvert Nos. 143/1, 145/3, 149/1, 149/2, 152/3 and 161/2 in Lko-Sultanpur Sec. of NH. 56	AA 056 UP 90 239	7.90
4.	Survey and Investigation for preparation of project on NH 24 Km. 93-158	AA 024 UP 90 242	11.22
5.	Prov. Hard shoulder in Builtup Area Km. 251.210 to 256.200 near Bareilly NH 24	QQ 024 UP 90 244	24.85
6.	Str. the pavement Km. 252-254 NH 24	AA 024 UP 90 243	22.22
7.	Imp. of Riding quality of permanent Urban link at GKP Km. 268 & 269 NH 28	AA 028 UP 90 245	21.92
8.	Const. of laybye in Km. 297 NH 28	AA 028 UP 90 246	20.12

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)	Amount (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4
9.	Imp. of Km. 272. 00 to 272.900 Gopiganj Bazar portion NH 2	AA 02 UP 90 247	24.29
10.	Raising of Road with L Sec. correction for improvement of Drainage Km. 302 & 303 of NH 28 140 & 144 of Lko-GKP	AA 028 UP 90 250	21.39
11.	Profile and Camber correction of Road surface in Km. 73,	AA 028 UP 90 249	23.83
12.	Imp. of riding Qty of permanent Urban links at GKP Km. 263-265, 700	AA 028 UP 90 248	24.80
13.	Providing hard shoulder in congested portion of GT Road in Km. 269.600-272 & 272 to 274.500 of K.V. Sec. of NH 2	AA 02 UP 91 256	18.00
14.	Providing Hard shoulders in Km. 15 of LKO-GKP Sec. NH. 28	AA 028 UP 91 254	6.76
15.	Providing Hard shoulders in Km. 22-25 (Lko-Knp) Sec. NH 25	AA 025 UP 91 255	22.81
16.	Providing Hard shoulders in Built up Area in Km. 237.850-243.300 Under the jurisdiction of Bareilly NH 24	AA 024 UP 91 253	24.36

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1	2	3	4
17.	Profile correction for proper drainage Km. 45 V-B Border Sec. NH 2	AA 02 UP 91 251	15.23
18.	Providing Hard Shoulders in Km. 86.400 to 87.600 of Lko-Gkp Sec. NH 28	AA 002 UP 91 266	9.26
19.	Slope protection with netlon Geogrid to R.O.B's in Km. 157 and 167 of D.C. Road NH 2	AA 002 UP 91 266	24.75
20.	Protection of High embankment approaches to River Bridge in Km. 69.00 of NH 28 Lko-Gkp Sec.	AA 028 UP 91 259	21.73
21.	Const. of protection works to the left approach embankment along Ayodhya Bridge in Km. 138 of Nh 28	AA 028 UP 91 258	12.64
22.	Protection of High embankment in Km. 9 & 10 of GBD Bypass on NH 24	AA 024 UP 91 267	25.00
23.	Protection of Takkar Bandh in Km. 188, 189 & 190 of VNs-Gkp road Nh. 29	AA 029 UP 91 272	23.84
24.	Pr. Hard Shoulder on NH 56 Km. 23,24,25	AA 056 UP 91 265	22.00

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)	Amount
1	2	3	4
25.	Protection of high embankment on slope of left side in Km. 46 of NH2 (V.B.B. Section) (By providing Netlon)	AA 002 UP 91 261	4.40
26.	Profile correction for improvement of Drainage in Km. 301 of NH 28 GKP-Kashinagar Section)	AA 028 UP 91279	15.17
27.	Const of laybye in Km. 87 of Shivpuri-Bhognipur road NH No. 25	AA 025 UP 91 260s	17.51
28.	Reconst of 1 X 6 M Span RCC Slab Culvert in K. 429 of Nh 24 on Delhi-Lko Road	AA 024 UP 01 269	4.06
29.	Pr. Hard shoulders on both sides of Km. 471 to 473.2 (3.2 Km.) of NH2 DK Road)	AA 002 UP 91 270	17.20
30.	Protect. of High embankment of approaches of Sharda Sahayak Canal Bridge in Km. 16 of NH 28	AA 028 UP 91 282	24.70
31.	Imp. of Alopi Bagh Junction Km. 203 of NH 2	AA 002 UP 91 257	4.64
32.	Supply & Fixing of Road Signs on Delhi-Lko road NH 24 from Km. 421 to 491	AA 024 UP 91 268	6.30

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)	Amount
1	2	3	4
33.	Pro. Hard Shoulders in Abadi Portion in Km. 199.600 to 204.500 of Nh 2 DK Sec.	AA 002 UP 91 277	24.40
34.	Pro. Hard Shoulders in abadi portion in Km. 103, 104, 105, 118, 127 & 128 of DBL Sec. NH 24	AA 024 UP 91 262	23.46
35.	Str. & Imp. of riding surface Km. 28 & 29 NH. 25	AA 025 UP 91 273	24.33
36.	Str. from Chainage 68.800-72.800 NH 7	AA 007 UP 91 284	24.75
37.	Land acquisition and Survey Investigation of Orai Bypass from K. 205.650-213.265 NH 25	AA 025 UP 91 276	24.97
38.	Const of link between Fatehpur Bypass and Km. 76 of existing NH 2	AA 002 UP 91 271	15.63
39.	Reconst. of Minor Bridge No. 253/2 Nh 56	AA 056 UP 91 263	22.75
40.	Const of 'A' type 4 lane collection of Plaza on Piari Bridge in K. 406 of NH 24	AA 024 UP 91 275	17.86
41.	Prov. Hard shoulders on either side of pointed edge in	AA 007 UP 91 274	11.82

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1	2	3	4
42.	Reconst. RCC Hume pipe culvert with approach in Km. 35 on NH 56	AA 056 UP 91 285	14.23
43.	Pro. hard shoulder on Delhi-Lko Nh 24 Km. 489,490,491	AA 024 UP 91 290	25.00
44.	—do— Km. 260 (400), 261 (400) 268, 269 (600) 316 (200) & 317 (300) of NH 28	AA 028 UP 91 278	24.00
45.	Hard Shoulders works on Lko-Kanpur Road NH 25 Km. 30.00 to 31.500.58.00 to 59.500 & 75-76.300	AA 025 UP 91 283	23.50
46.	Pro. hard shoulders in Km. 25-27 Nh 25 LKJ Road	AA 025 UP 91 289	78.38
47.	const. of pucca drain in Km. 356 of DBL Road at Jangbahadur Ganj Town NH 24	AA 024 UP 91 287	8.18
48.	Detailed Estimate for Imp. of Km. 160 & 161 NH 29	AA 029 UP 91 286	20.53
49.	Const. of bridge at Km. 82/2 in Shivpuri-Jhansi Sec. NH 25	AA 025 UP 91 281	15.89
50.	Pr. Hard shoulders in Maholi town of Sitapur Distt. in Km. 388 to 390 of Nh 24 and Brick on edge pavement in Km. 361 to 393 of NH 24.	Aa 024 Up 91 288	18.98

Sl. No.	Name of work	Job. No. (Rs. in lacs)	Amount
1	2	3	4
51.	Augmentation of distance informatory/destination signs on National Highways.	NHS UP 91 252	21.665
Grand Total of sanctioned works		(B)	928.305
(90-91) > 25 lacs —		Rs.	190.985 lacs
< 25 lacs —		102.63	
		9.28	
Rs. 111.91 Crore Say Rs. 111.91 crores			

Setting up of Purchase Centres for Handloom Banarsi Sarees In Uttar Pradesh

5270. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up purchase centres under the Market Development Assistance Scheme for handloom Banarsi Sarees in Azamgarh and Mao districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A purchase Centre is already functioning in Azamgarh district which serves the interests of the handloom weavers located in Mao district also.

Cotton Spinning Mills Under Cooperative Sector in Uttar Pradesh

5271. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton spinning mills in the cooperative sector in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether these mills are capable of meeting the demand of handloom and powerloom industries;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up some new cotton spinning mill in the cooperative sector in Azamgarh and Mao districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the number of such mills likely

to be set up during the eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There are ten cotton/man-made fibre textile spinning mills in Cooperative sector in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Demand for yarn by Handloom and powerloom sectors is met by all the spinning mills in the country. There are 30 spinning mills and 15 composite textile mills, engaged in spinning activity in U.P. There are also 1010 textile mills in the country and there is no restriction in the inter-state movement of yarn.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (c) above question does not arise.

Export of Carpets

5272. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which carpets were exported during 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned from these exports;

(c) the effective measures proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the carpet industry;

(d) whether any target has been fixed for the export of carpets for the year 1991-92; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The hand-knotted woollen/silken/synthetic carpets/rugs, druggets/dur-

ries etc. were mainly exported to Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, USA, U.K., USSR and West Germany during the years 1989-90 and 1990-91.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand-knotted carpets etc. during the years 1989-90 and 1990-91 were of the value of Rs. 420.08 crores (Provisional) and Rs. 507.00 crores (Provisional) respectively.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The target fixed for the export of hand-knotted carpets etc. during the year 1991-92 is about Rs. 720.00 crores.

STATEMENT

(c) The measures proposed to be taken to boost the exports of hand-knotted carpet industry during the year 1991-92 are as under:-

(a) To sponsor sales-cum-study Team (s) for exploring export potentials of handknotted carpets etc.

(b) To participate in DONOTER International Fair in Germany.

(c) Toorganise a Buyer-Sellers Most at New Delhi and/or Spain.

(d) To launch an effective publicity campaign abroad so as to popularise Indian hand-Knotted carpets etc.

(e) Sponsoring All India Carpet Trade Fair.

[English]

Funds for Armament Research And Development Establishment

5273. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds allotted for Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) during the last seven years were fully utilized;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether delay in development of projects in a number of cases has led to the projects becoming redundant in terms of technological requirement; and

(d) if so, the details of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). In last two years, Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) has fully utilised the funds allotted. However, there was marginal under utilisation of funds in earlier years, as the actual expenditure is subject to placement of orders after negotiated price, terms of delivery, actual receipt of stores, inspection of items, release of final payment and also due to book adjustments with central purchase agencies like Ordnance Depots, DGS & D etc.

(c) and (d). Projects under development at ARDE are periodically reviewed. In the past, some projects with time over-run have been short-closed due to changed threat perception as felt by Services and due to changes in their operational requirements. These projects mostly relate to development of fuzes and projectiles. In some cases, development of upgraded version of the stores was undertaken.

Restrictions on Imports

5274. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed certain restrictions on imports during the current year affecting the imports by exporters;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The imports are regulated by the Import and Export Policy (1990-93). No additional restrictions have been imposed on imports by the Government. However, in view of the present Balance of Payment problem, RBI has introduced certain curbs which will be reviewed when the situation improves.

Impact of Devaluation of Rupee on Textile Exports

5275. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the impact of the devaluation of rupee on the entire textile exports in quota, non-quota, rupee trade and the general currency area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): While it is expected that exports which are contracted in hard currencies will be benefitted by devaluation, it is too early to accurately assess the impact of the exchange rate adjustments of Rupee on textile exports.

Sale of REP Licences by Exporters

5276. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that REP licences available with the exporters are sold at a premium to importers;

(b) whether REP licences purchased by importers help them to import any item of their choice and to sell them in Indian markets at a huge profits; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to effectively prevent this practice by exporters and importers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). In terms of Imports & Exports Policy all REP licences, excepting those issued against the export of Gem & Jewellery product group, are valid for the import of limited permissible items (App.3), non-sensitive canalised items (App.5-A) and OGL items of raw materials, components and consumables etc. as are covered by lists 8 Part-I and 10 of Appendix 6 of Policy. These licences as well as the goods imported against them are freely transferable. As such, premium on transfer of such licences, if any, shall be governed by the demand and supply mechanism.

Quality Inspection of Big Export Houses

5277. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the big business houses, trading houses and export houses are proposed to be exempted from quality inspection certificates from the Export Inspection Agencies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how the quality inspection of the above export houses will be done?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-

MAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Pursuant to the policy of the government to make the exporters themselves responsible for meeting the overseas buyers' quality requirements, Star Trading Houses, Trading Houses and Export Houses have been exempted from the purview of compulsory pre-shipment inspection.

Seizure of Smuggled Gold

5278. PROF K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the contraband gold seized by customs and central excise officials during the last one year in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the incentives given to the officials for seizing the smuggled gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and value of contraband gold seized by Customs authorities throughout the country during the period from 1st July, 1990 to 30th June, 1991 is given in the table below:

Quantity (in kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)
*6143	*210.57

*6143

*210.57

*Figures are provisional.

State-wise statistics of the contraband gold seized are not maintained separately.

(b) The present reward scheme provides for grant of rewards to Government servants upto the limit of Rs. 500 per 10 grams (purity of gold 999.5 milli or more) of contraband gold seized. The normal ceiling is Rs. 250 per 10 grams of gold seized. However, in exceptional cases where officers display rare initiative or effect seizures putting their lives to risk, higher reward upto

the ceiling of Rs. 500 per 10 grams may be sanctioned.

Curbing Black Money

5279. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seven member expert committee on black money appointed by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has recommended a number of measures to curb generation of black money;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the committee; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The report, *inter-alia* recommends that stamp duty on land transactions be reduced to 2-3 per cent, provisions of Urban Land Ceiling Act be modified, removal of controls on newsprint production and change in allocation of newsprint, delicensing of activity pertaining to raw materials, production and distribution for textiles abolition of octroi and import of gold against payment of import duty etc.

2. The recommendations/suggestions made by the Committee set up by the ASSOCHAM as also other Associations and individuals are kept in view while formulating economic policies of the Government.

[Translation]

Export of Ayurvedic and Unani Medicines

5280. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ayurvedic and Unani medicines are being exported;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which these medicines were exported along with the names of medicines and the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise, during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to promote the export of these medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Ayurvedic and Unani medicines are being exported from India to USSR, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, USA, Switzerland, UK, etc. The estimated value of exports of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines during the last three years is given below:

Year	Value of exports (Rs. Crores)
1988-89	2.67
1989-90	2.92
1990-91	7.29

(Source: Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay)

Export statistics of individual items of medicines countrywise are not being maintained.

(c) to (e). To popularise the Indian systems of medicines in overseas countries, a book captioned "Monograph on Selected

Medicinal Plants" is being brought out which will be circulated through Indian Missions abroad. The Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay have planned to sponsor a delegation of exporters of ayurvedic and Unani medicines to European Countries to study the market potential.

Export of Foreign Exchange Earning Goods

5281. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have exported finished goods, on production of which no foreign exchange was spent, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the States from where these goods have been exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to promote such industries; and

(d) if so, the plan of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). It is extremely difficult to identify exports of finished goods with zero import intensity since import content could be direct or indirect. It is also difficult to identify the States from where such finished goods are exported.

(c) and (d). The Government is according priority to higher value addition of exports and low import intensity. The exchange rate policy is also designed to discourage imports and encourage exports. The Trade Policy reforms announced by the Government are also aimed at strengthening export

incentives and optimising the import compression.

Export of Alcoholic Beverages

5282. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether indigenously manufactured alcoholic beverages are exported;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of exports made during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various indigenously manufactured alcoholic beverages like Wine, Beer, Whisky, Gin are exported.

(c) The alcoholic beverages exported to various countries during the last three years is indicated below:-

STATEMENT

Exports of Alcoholic Beverages

(Value: Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Country	1988-89 Value	1989-90 Value	1990-91 Value
1	2	3	4	5
1.	U.A.E.	127.00	271.00	510.00
2.	U.S.A.	37.00	47.00	71.00
3.	OMAN	13.00	52.00	57.00
4.	BAHRAIN	10.00	55.00	8.00
5.	U.K.	19.00	18.00	10.00
6.	OTHERS	34.00	43.00	34.00
TOTAL		240.00	486.00	690.00

Withdrawal by Companies From Hundred Per Cent Export Oriented Scheme

5284. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several companies included in the hundred per cent export oriented scheme have urged the Government to permit them to withdraw from the scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Only a few units have sought withdrawal from the hundred per cent EOU Scheme.

(b) The reasons for seeking debonding vary in each case.

(c) A package of incentives relating to both policy and procedures has recently been announced.

Export of Sub-Standard Ginger From Cochin

5285. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some big exporters of ginger in Cochin are mixing sub-standard quality ginger of other areas with Cochin ginger while exporting it to USA, USSR, Britain etc.;

(b) whether it has resulted in heavy fall in the prices of ginger in the export market of Cochin;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to hold an enquiry into these unfair practices;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps the Government propose to take to check such unfair practices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No such complaint has come to Government's notice.

(b) to (e). These questions do not arise.

(f) Export of ginger is subject to compulsory quality control and preshipment inspection by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (AGMARK).

Assistance to Phulwari Cotton Mills in Bihar

5286. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Bihar for assistance to run the Phulwari Cotton Mills; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Declaration of National Highways in Karnataka

5287. SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESHWARI:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

(d) the time by which they are likely to be implemented?

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for declaring new National Highways in the State;

(b) A statement is attached.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) and (d). Declaration of new National Highways will be considered only after the VIII Plan is finalised, subject to availability of resources, criteria for declaring new National Highways, inter-se priorities etc.

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing these proposals; and

STATEMENT

The details of the State Roads furnished by the State Government of Karnataka from time to time for declaring as new National Highways. Kms.

(i) Mysore-Srirangapatna-Nagamangala-Chikkanaikanahalli-Huliur-Hririur-Bellary-Siruguppa-Shahpur-Gulbarga-Humnabad (to join NH-9)	678
(ii) Belgaum-Bijapur-Gulbarga-Humnabad (to join NH-9)	364
(iii) Bangalore-Mysore-Mercara-Mangalore (to join NH-17)	385
(iv) Belgaum-Baglkot-Raichur-Mehaboobnagar (Andhra Pradesh)	336
(v) Tumkur-Arsikere-Shimoga-Sagar Honnavar (to join NH-17)	332
(vi) Gooty on NH-7 in Andhra Pradesh-Guntakal-Bellary-Hospet-Koppal- Gadg-Hubli-Yellapur-Baleguli-Karwar (to Join NH-17)	422
(vii) Bangalore-Mysore-Nanjangud-Gundlupet-Ooty-Coimbatore (to join NH-47 in Tamil Nadu)	220
(viii) Chitradurga-Holalkere-Hosadurga-Chikmagalur-Mudigere-Belthangadi-Mangalore (to join NH-17)	283
(ix) Dharwar-Londa-Ahmod-Panaji (to join NH-17)	95
(x) Padubidri-Karkala-Sringeri-Tririthahalli-Shikaripur-Shiralkoppa-Hubli-Bagalkot-Hungund.	550

(xi) Sira (on NH-4 Bangalore-Pune Road) Madhurigi-Gouribidnur-Chikballapur-Chintamani-Srinivasapur-Mulbagai (NH-4 Bangalore-Madras road)	160
(xii) Bangalore-Kanakpura-Malavalli-Mysore-Nanjangud-Sultanbatery-Calicut	240
(xiii) Chitradurga-Arsikere-Holenarasipur-Madikeri-Tellicherry	360
Total	4425

Irregularities in Transactions by Banks Operating in Karnataka

5288. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases of irregularities have been detected in the transactions in the State Bank of Karnataka and other nationalised banks operating in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). There is no bank called State Bank of Karnataka. Presumably, the Honourable Member has referred to State Bank of Mysore. During the period from

1.1.91 to 30.6.91, 14 cases of irregularities/frauds were reported in State Bank of Mysore involving an amount of Rs. 4.21 lakhs. The information regarding irregularities/frauds is collected by the Reserve Bank of India for each bank as a whole. The present reporting system does not yield State-wise information about number of cases of Irregularities/frauds and the time and labour involved in collection of such State-wise data is not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. However, details about number of cases of frauds and amount involved therein in the public sector banks during the year 1991 (upto 30.6.91) are given in the attached Statement.

(c) Cases of irregularities/frauds in nationalised banks are monitored on quarterly basis by RBI and appropriate action is taken by the banks concerned for recovery of amount, investigation of the cases, etc. as per the guidelines of RBI/Government.

STATEMENT

Number of frauds and amount involved therein reported to RBI by Public Sector Banks during 1.1.1991 to 30.6.1991

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India	242	140.51
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	8	47.32
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	8	6.26
4.	State Bank of Indore	4	76.15
5.	State Bank of Mysore	14	4.21
6.	State Bank of Patiala	5	5.15
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	2	0.04
8.	State Bank of Travancore	5	3.13
9.	Allahabad Bank	17	21.44
10.	Andhra Bank	19	190.53

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
11.	Bank of Baroda	30	188.03
12.	Bank of India	56	490.22
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	5	73.34
14.	Canara Bank	71	352.29
15.	Central Bank of India	32	37.21
16.	Corporation Bank	14	5.78
17.	Dena Bank	3	0.48
18.	Indian Bank	31	143.11
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	31.	8.83
20.	New Bank of India	4	80.40

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	4	4.51
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	7	187.58
23.	Punjab National Bank	8	4.82
24.	Syndicate Bank	44	267.24
25.	UCO Bank	26	339.23
26.	Union Bank of India	27	23.42
27.	United Bank of India	13	• 5.84
28.	Vijaya Bank	17	37.92
Total		747	2744.99

Development Aid From Germany

5289. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Germany has decided to reduce its development aid to India during 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total aid provided by Germany during 1990-91; and

(d) the extent to which it will be reduced in 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No such decision has been conveyed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). It is understood that there may be an overall reduction in FRG Budget for bilateral assistance. However, the extent of its effect in assistance to individual countries is not known.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Germany had committed DM 425 million in Financial Cooperation Funds in April 1990. German commitments are made for their financial year which is January to December.

(d) Does not arise.

LIC's Scheme to Earn Foreign Exchange

5290. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched an offshore fund

scheme to earn foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). LIC of India has decided to launch an offshore fund in collaboration with Touche Remnant, U.K. providing for incorporation in the Netherlands of a close ended investment company. The broad features are that the international investors will be invited to subscribe for the shares in this Fund. Bulk of the net proceeds of the issue of shares will be invested in units of a Mutual Fund to be set up by LIC in India exclusively for this purpose.

Financial Assistance to Kerala by Financial Institutions/Banks

5291. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of financial assistance given by public sector financial institutions like Life Insurance Corporation of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development to Kerala during 1991-92;

(b) whether the above amount is proportionately very low as compared to other States; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The total amount of financial assistance to be provided by the Public Sector Financial Institutions like Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), In-

dustrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during the financial year 1991-92 to Kerala would be available only after the close of the financial year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance for Construction of Sitamarhi-Mithamore Road in Bihar

5292. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sitamarhi-Mithamore road in Bihar was damaged at Kumman, Pipradhi, Nauahi, Sursand Harri and Mithamore and the bridges thereon were collapsed due to devastating floods in 1987;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance from the Central Road Fund for construction of the aforesaid road; and

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As Ministry is constitutionally responsible for maintenance of National Highways only, it is not aware whether this State Road Sitamarhi-Mithamore was damaged at Kumman, Pipradhi, Nauahi, Sursand Harri and Mithamore, and the bridges thereon had collapsed due to floods in 1987.

(b) and (c). A proposal from Government of Bihar for widening and strengthening of Sitamarhi-Sursand-Mithamore Road

(30Km) costing Rs. 300.00 lakhs has been received as a Central Road Fund Scheme. As actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund has not yet taken place, it has not been possible to process the proposal for approval.

[*English*]

Offer from an Industrial Group to Ease Balance of Payments Position

5293. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any industrial group has offered to help to ease the tight balance of payments position;

(b) if so, the amount of credit offered and the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Projects from Kerala Pending Clearance

5294. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects and schemes proposed by the Government of Kerala pending for clearance; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b).

References about various road and bridge schemes from Kerala pending with the Government are mentioned below along with their position:

- (i) 5 schemes for conversion of State Roads into National Highways and 7 schemes to be taken up under the Economic and Inter-State Importance Programme. These proposals can be considered only after the finalisation of the 8th Plan.
- (ii) 81 schemes proposed to be financed against the augmented Central Road Fund. These can be processed only after actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund, which has not yet taken place.
- (iii) 11 estimates for works on National Highways. These can be taken up only after Demand for Grants has been passed by the Parliament.

2. In addition to above, Kerala has forwarded a project report for modernisation of 250 jetties at an estimated cost of Rs. 730.00 lakhs. Since the 8th Plan is not yet finalised, the State Government has been advised to frame proposal for priority jetties within an amount of Rs. 100.00 lakhs to be taken up as Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Import of Drugs

5295. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have announced some changes in EXIM policy recently;

(b) if so, what is the status of Pharmaceutical industry;

(c) the names of drugs that can be imported with free foreign exchange and those which are required to be imported through REP licences; and

(d) the total import bill of drugs during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Government have announced some changes in the EXIM policy *vide* the new Trade Policy announced by the Commerce Minister on the 4th July, 1991. Under the new policy, the units other than those in small scale sector and the units engaged in the manufacture of life saving drugs and equipments are required to follow the REP route for meeting their requirements of raw material, components and consumables. The units in the SSI sector as well as those engaged in the manufacture of life saving drugs and equipment, to be defined by the Administrative Ministry, continue to be eligible for the Special Licences, earlier called the Supplementary Licences.

(d) As per the latest data available from DGCI&S, the import bill of drugs was to the tune of Rs. 14963.29 lakhs, Rs. 208.69 lakhs and Rs. 315.83 lakhs during the years 1986-87, 87-88 and 88-89 respectively.

[*Translation*]

Realisation of Income Tax From Salaried Class

5296. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount realised as income tax from the salaried class of income tax payers during 1989-90; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on realisa-

tion of income tax from them during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total amount realised by way of deduction of income tax at source from the salaried class during the financial year 1989-90 was Rs. 1201 crores.

(b) Separate records for the expenditure incurred by the Income tax Department on realisation of income tax from salaried class are not maintained. However, the total expenditure incurred by the Income tax Department during the financial year 1989-90 was Rs. 207 crores.

[English]

Take-Over of Sick Textile Mills By N.T.C.

5297. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) The particulars of sick textile mills taken over or managed by the National Textile Corporation with date of takeover/management;

(b) the cumulative losses suffered by N.T.C. upto March 31, 1991;

(c) the cumulative reimbursement grant to the textile mills by the N.T.C. upto March 31, 1991, mill-wise and estimated reimbursement for 1991-92; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to stop continuous flow of resources for the maintenance of the sick textile units under the N.T.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) At present, NTC is managing

109 nationalised and 15 managed units. A Statement showing the dates on which these mills were takenover, is enclosed.

(b) The cumulative cash losses suffered by NTC mills, upto 31.3.1991 was Rs. 1656.85 crores.

(c) The cumulative cash loss reimbursement by the Government to NTC mills, till 31.3.1991, was Rs. 1536.76 crores. The reimbursement of cash losses is made for the subsidiary corporations as a whole and not to individual mills.

An amount of Rs. 73 crores has been provided in the Budget by Government as working capital loan towards reimbursement of cash losses of NTC during the year 1991-92.

(d) The measures taken/being taken by the Government and NTC for improving the performance of the textile mills under NTC include.

(i) modernisation of potentially viable mills;

(ii) pruning of uneconomic capacities;

(iii) optimising utilisation of production capacities;

(iv) achieving higher productivity;

(v) labour rationalisation;

(vi) competitive purchase of raw materials;

(vii) higher yarn production;

(viii) price optimisation;

(ix) product upgradation etc.

STATEMENT*List of National Textile Corporation Mills with Date of Take-Over*

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Mills</i>	<i>Date of takeover</i>
1.	2	3
1.	Dayal Bagh Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Amritsar, Punjab.	31.10.72
2.	Suraj Textile Mills, Malout, Punjab.	31.10.72
3.	Shri Bijay Cotton Mills, Bijaynagar, Rajasthan.	31.10.72
4.	Kharar Textil Mills, Kharar, Punjab.	31.10.72
5.	Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur, Rajasthan.	13.4.78
6.	Ajudhia Textile Mills, Delhi.	7.6.71
7.	Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar Rajasthan	9.1.67
8.	Edward Mills, Beawar Rajasthan.	31.10.72
9.	Panipat Woollen Mills, Kharar, Punjab.	31.10.72
10.	Hira Mills, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.	4.3.66
11.	Swadeshi Cotton & Floor Mills, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.	13.4.66
12.	New Bhopal Textile Mills, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.	11.2.66
13.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills, Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh.	18.3.71
14.	Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills, Rajnandgaon, Madhya Pradesh.	17.12.63
15.	Indore Malwa United Mills, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.	31.10.72
16.	Kalyanmal Mills, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.	31.10.72
17.	Sri Vikram Cotton Mills, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.	31.10.72
18.	Bijli Cotton Mills, Hathras, Uttar Pradesh.	31.10.72
19.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Maunath Bhanjan, Uttar Pradesh.	13.4.78
20.	Raebareli Textile Mills, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh.	13.4.78
21.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini, Uttar Pradesh.	13.4.78

1.	2	3
22.	Muir Mills, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	22.12.65
23.	New Victoria Mills, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	1.09.69
24.	Lord Krishna Textile Mills, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	31.10.72
25.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	13.04.78
26.	Barshi Textile Mills, Barshi,	31.10.72
27.	Apollo Textile Mills, Bombay,	31.10.72
28.	Bharat Textile Mills, Bombay,	31.10.72
29.	Digvijay Textile Mills, Bombay,	9.07.69
30.	Jupiter Textile Mills, Bombay,	8.10.71
31.	New Hind Textile Mills, Bombay	31.10.72
32.	Mumbai Textile Mills, Bombay	31.10.72
33.	Aurangabad Textile Mills, Aurangabad, Maharashtra.	11.3.66
34.	Chalisgaon Textile Mills, Chalisgaon, Maharashtra.	20.10.70
35.	Dhule Textile Mills, Dhule, Maharashtra,	31.10.72
36.	Nanded Textile Mills, Nanded, Maharashtra.	31.10.72
37.	India United Mills No. 1, Bombay.	29.11.65
38.	India United Mill No. 2, Bombay	29.11.65
39.	India United Mill No. 3, Bombay	29.11.65
40.	India United Mill No. 4. Bombay,	29.11.65
41.	India United Mill No.5, Bombay,	29.11.65
42.	India United Dye Works, Bombay	29.11.65
43.	Model Mill, Nagpur, Maharashtra.	18.07.59
44.	R.S.R.G.Spg. & Wvg, Mills, Akola, Maharashtra.	15.09.61

1.	2	3
45.	R.B.B.A. Spg. & Wvg, Mills, Ringhanghat, Maharashtra,	31.10.72
46.	Savatram Ramprasad Mills, Akola, Maharashtra,	31.10.72
47.	Vidarbha Mills (Berar), Achalpur, Maharashtra.	31.10.72
48.	Rajkot Textile Mills, Rajkot, Gujarat.	20.6.70
49.	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills, Bhavanagar, Gujarat.	06.08.70
50.	Petlad Textile Mills, Petlad, Gujarat.	24.11.70
51.	Ahmedabad New Textile Mills, Ahmedabad,	06.09.69
52.	Ahmedabad Jupiter Textile Mills, Ahmedabad,	8.10.71
53.	Jehangir Textile Mills, Ahmedabad,	20.08.71
54.	Rajnagar Textile Mills, No. 1, Ahmedabad.	07.01.72
55.	Rajnagar Textile Mills, No. 2. Ahmedabad,	07.01.72
56.	Viramgam Textile Mills, Viramgam, Gujarat,	31.10.72
57.	New Maneckchock Textile Mills, Ahmedabad.	14.02.69
58.	Himadri Textile Mills, Ahmedabad,	09.10.69
59.	Fine Knitting Mills, Ahmedabad,	31.10.72
60.	Natraj Spg. Mills, Adilabad, Andhra Pradesh.	03.08.72
61.	Netha Spg. Mills, Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh.	25.01.72
62.	Anantpur Cotton Mills, Tradapatri, Andhra Pradesh,	31.10.72
63.	Tirupathi Cotton Mills, Renigunta, Andhra Pradesh.	31.10.72
64.	Sree Yellamma Cotton Mills, Tolahunse, Andhra Pradesh,	31.10.72
65.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Cannanore, Kerla.	31.10.72
66.	Kerala Lakshmi Mills, Trichur, Kerala,	31.10.72
67	Vijaymohini Mills, Trivandrum, Kerala,	31.10.72

1.	2	3
68.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Mahe,	24.02.72
69.	Adoni Cotton Mills, Adoni, Andhra Pradesh.	31.10.72
70.	Alagappa Textile Cotton Mills, Alagappa Nagar, Kerala.	19.05.72
71.	Mysore Mills, Bangalore, Karnataka,	19.10.71
72.	Minerva Mills, Bangalore, Karnataka.	19.10.71
73.	Mehboob Shahi Kulbarga Mills, Gulbarga, Karnataka.	31.10.72
74.	Parvathi Mills, Quilon Kerala,	10.07.72
75.	Azam Jahi Mills, Warrangal, Andhra Pradesh,	30.04.71
76.	Om Parasakthi Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	25.06.69
77.	Cambodia Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	22.10.69
78.	Krishnaveni Textile Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	22.10.69
79.	Sri Rangavilas Mills, Padamedu, Tamil Nadu,	07.01.70
80.	Pankaja Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72
81.	Pioneer Spinners, Kanudakudi, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72
82.	Balaram Verma Textile Mills, Shencottach, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72
83.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit, Kalayarkoil, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72
84.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	19.12.70
85.	Somasundaram Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.	08.03.72
86.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' unit, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72
87.	Sri Bharathi Mills, Pondicherry.	05.05.66
88.	Coimbatore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,	08.03.72
89.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry,	13.04.78
90.	Sri Sarda Mills, Podanur, Tamil Nadu,	31.10.72

1.	2	3
91.	Sri Kethandrum Spg. Mills, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.	31.10.72
92.	Bengal Textile Mills, Murshidabad, West Bengal.	21.01.72
93.	Luxmi Narayan Cotton Mills, Rishra, West Bengal.	09.10.72
94.	Arati Cotton Mills, Dassnagar, Howrah, West Bengal,	31.10.72
95.	Bengal Fine Spg. & Wvg. No. II Kotagunj, West Bengal,	31.10.72
96.	Kanoria Industries, Kennangar, West Bengal,	31.10.72
97.	Sodepore Cotton Mills, Sodepur, West Bengal,	31.10.72
98.	Associated Industries, Kamrup, Assam.	16.06.72
99.	Bihar Cooperative Spg. Mills, Mokamah, Bihar	24.08.72
100.	Orissa Cotton Mills, Bhagatpur, Orissa.	31.10.72
101.	Central Cotton Mills, Howrah, West Bengal,	28.01.72
102.	Bengal Fine & Wvg. Mills, No. 1, West Bengal.	16.03.72
103.	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills, Serampore, West Bengal,	07.06.72
104.	Sh. Mahalaxmi Cotton Mills, Palta, West Bengal,	12.06.72
105.	Rampooria Cotton Mills, Serampore, West Bengal,	05.10.72
106.	Bengasri Cotton Mills, Sukchar, West Bengal.	31.10.72
107.	Jyoti Wvg. Factory, Calcutta, West Bengal,	31.10.72
108.	Gaya Cotton & Jute Mills, Gaya, Bihar,	31.10.72
109.	Manindra Mills, Cassim Bazar, West Bengal,	21.01.72

MANAGED MILLS

110.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	19.07.76
111.	Atherton West Mills, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh,	19.07.76
112.	Elphistone Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra.	18.10.83

1.	2	3
113. Finlay Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
114. Gold Mohur, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
115. Jam Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
116. Kohinoor Mills, No. 1, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
117. Kohinoor Mills, No. 2, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.11.83
118. Kohinoor Mills, No. 3, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
119. Madhusudan Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
120. New City Mills Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
121. Podar Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
122. Podar (Process) Bombay Maharashtra,		18.10.83
123. Sitaram Mills, Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83
124. Tata Mills (Incl. Non. Woven), Bombay, Maharashtra,		18.10.83

Deposits in Nationalised Banks in Goa

5298. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of deposits in the nationalised banks in Goa as on March 31, 1991; and

(b) the total amount of loans advanced by these banks to the various parties as on the above date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The amount of deposits and advances outstanding of public sector banks in the State of Goa as at the end of

March, 1991 was Rs. 1428.52 crores and Rs. 473.81 crores respectively.

Construction of By Pass at Kazhakkuttan to Kovalam on National Highway No. 47

5299. SHRI KODIKKUNNI SURESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of bypass from Kazhakkuttam to Kovalam on National Highway No. 47 in Trivandrum districts of Kerala;

(b) the amount spent so far on the construction of the bypass; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The construction of Kazhakkuttam to Kovalam (length 22.5 kms) portion of Trivandrum Neyyattinkara bypass is in different stages of progress. A length of 2.82 kms has already been completed and opened to traffic. In a length of 7.43 kms, road works are in progress. Construction of another 10.25 kms is included in Annual Plan 1991-92. In the remaining 2 kms length, land is still to be acquired.

(b) A sum of Rs. 797.70 lakhs has been spent so far on construction of the bypass.

(c) As land acquisition proceedings in some portion are still in progress, it is too early to indicate the likely date of completion of the bypass.

Re-Employment of Army Deserters

5300. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether army deserters who had left their barracks in 1984 are proposed to be re-employed;

(b) if so, the number of such deserters; and

(c) the number of those who have been already re-employed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). Out of 2709 personnel of the Army, who were punished for various acts of indiscipline, including desertion, in the wake of Operation Bluestar (1984), 2297 personnel were retained in the Army. Of the remaining 412,50 have been

re-employed by the Government of Punjab and 240 have been offered employment by the Central Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings. One person is undergoing life imprisonment on charge of murder.

The names of the remaining 121 personnel have already been circulated to Central Government Departments, Central Public Sector Undertakings etc for providing suitable employment on preferential basis in relaxation of age limit, educational qualifications and Employment Exchange procedures.

[Translation]

Road Accidents in Delhi

5301. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of road accidents in Delhi has increased due to fast driving of D.T.C. buses and private buses running under D.T.C. operation or S.T.A. permits; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to fix any speed limit to check the increase in number of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Issue of Partly Convertible Debentures by Companies

5302. SHRI RAMNARESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those companies, alongwith the size of their public issues, which have been permitted to issue partly convertible debentures with the provision that the conversion will take place after a pre-determined period on terms to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues during 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto 31 July);

(b) whether the Government have received any representations against this practice; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Names of companies,

alongwith the size of their public issues, which have been permitted during April 1990 July 1991 to issue Partly Convertible Debentures with the provision that the conversion will take place after a pre-determined period on terms to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c). Conversion terms of Convertible Debentures Issues by Public Limited Companies are fixed by CCI keeping in view the overall interest of the investors. Representations/suggestions with regard to conversion terms of Convertible Debentures by a particular company as and when received by the office of the Controller of Capital Issues are given due consideration while deciding the matter.

S.No.	Name of the Company	Date of Consent	Amount of
1.	M/s. Tata Chemicals Ltd.	14.6.90	8050.00
2.	M/s. Spartek Granites Ltd.	19.6.90	250.00
3.	M/s. Steel Tubes of India Ltd.	31.12.90	660.00
4.	M/s. Escort Tractors Ltd.	31.12.90	2311.87

Handloom Production in Bihar

5303. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of handloom industries in Bihar;

(b) the estimated handloom production in Bihar during 1990-91;

(c) the accumulated stock as on March 31, 1991 under the Janata Cloth production

programme purchased from handloom weavers in Bihar;

(d) the subsidy paid for the Janata Cloth production in Bihar during the last three years; year-wise; and

(e) the allocation under the scheme of market development assistance for Bihar for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) 1. No. of units	:	1352
2. No. of looms	:	82657
(b) 902.8 lakh metres		
(c) 37.42 lakh square metres		
(d) 1988-89	:	Rs. 179.87 lakhs
1989-90	:	Rs. 865.27 lakhs
1990-91	:	Rs. 409.54 lakhs
(e) Rs. 11.00 lakhs.		

[Translation]

**Construction of National Highway From
Gola to Ichagarh**

5304. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE
 TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in completing
 the construction of the National Highway
 from Gola to Ichagarh via Silli Barendia in
 Bihar; and

(b) the time by which the construction
 work of the said road will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
 MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
 (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The
 entire road in question from Gola to Ichagarh
 traversing through Silli-Barendia in Bihar is a
 State Highway and not forming a part of the
 National Highway network. As such, the
 question of construction/development etc.
 of this road essentially vests with the State
 Government of Bihar.

DTC Terminal at Palam Vihar

5305. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-

OULDHARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE
 TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to
 set up a D.T.C. Terminal at Palam Vihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said terminal will be
 linked with the Kendriya Terminal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
 MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
 (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

**Repair of National Highway From
Mohaniya to Arrah in Bihar**

5306. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
 Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
 be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been
 sanctioned for repair of National Highway in

Bihar from Mohaniya (District Rohtas) to Arrah (District Bhojpur);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely time by which the work will begin and how long it will take to complete?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). During the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91), a sum of Rs. 120 lakhs was allotted in respect of ordinary maintenance and renewals on Mohaniya-Arrah section of National Highway No. 30 in Bihar. In addition, 9 estimates for flood damage/special repair works amounting to Rs. 64 lakhs were approved during this period for this section of the National Highway.

(c) Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous operation and repairs are carried out as needed subject to availability of funds. As regards ongoing flood damage/special repair works, the State Government has intimated that these are likely to be completed by the end of the current financial year.

[*Translation*]

Trade Agreements

5307. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign delegations which visited India and India delegations which went abroad in connection with the export-import trade during the period from January 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991; and

(b) the details of the trade agreements signed by the Government during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). 29 Foreign official delegation had visited India and 27 Indian official delegations had gone abroad in connection with bilateral trade during the period from 1.1.1990 to 30.6.1991. A statement showing the details of trade agreements signed is annexed.

Details of Trade Agreement signed:

1. Agreement for realisation of dues of Indian Companies was signed on 14th March, 1990 with Iraq.
2. Agreement extending Indo-German Export Promotion Project upto 1993 was signed on 28.2.1991.
3. Indo-Czech Trade Protocol for 1990 signed.
4. Agreement on Indo-Polish Trade Agreement signed.
5. Indo-Soviet Trade Plan Protocol for 1991 signed.
6. Indo-Romanian Trade Plan for 1991 signed.
7. Indo-Bhutan Trade Agreement was signed on 2.3.1990.
8. Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol for 1990 signed.
9. Indo-Romanian Trade Protocol for 1990 signed.
10. New Trade & Payment Agreement with Czech was signed.
11. A Trade Agreement with Government of Rwanda was signed on 13th June, 1990.

*[English]***Income Tax Arrears**

5308. SHRIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage rise in the income tax arrears at the end of 1990-91 as compared to the arrears at the end of 1989-90 and 1988-89;

(b) the amount of income tax arrears written off during 1990-91 and the reasons for non-recovery of such arrears;

(c) the measures taken by the Government for maximum collection of income tax arrears during the current year; and

(d) the assessment year upto which the income tax assessment is complete and the reasons for not updating the assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As per the provisional figures compiled up, the income tax arrears at the end of 1990-91 have actually decreased as compared to the arrears at the end of 1989-90 by 5.72 percent. However, as compared to the arrears at the end of 1988-89, the arrears at the end of 1990-91 have increased by 21 percent.

(b) During 1990-91 income tax arrears of Rs. 4.64 crores (provisional figures) have been written off. The arrears become irrecoverable because of non-availability of assets with the assessee generally on account of the following reasons:-

- i) death of the assessee;
- ii) insolvency of the assessee;
- iii) assessee becoming untraceable;

iv) assessee migrating out of the country;

v) company going into liquidation;

vi) dissolution of the firm and discontinuance of business;

(c) Appropriate measures are continuously taken to reduce the arrears. Some of the important measures taken during the current year are:-

i) Targets have been laid down for collection/reduction of arrears and current demand in the Central Action Plan of the Income tax Department. Performance of each Chief Commissioner's region is regularly monitored by the Central Board of Direct Taxes.

ii) Dossiers of bigger demands are reviewed every quarter by the Commissioner of Income tax and by the higher authorities.

iii) Chief Commissioners of Income tax have been directed to monitor the disposal of top 100 first appeals pending with the Commissioners (Appeals) in their region.

iv) Chief Commissioners have also been advised to ensure that assessments involving big demands are finalised by the end of December, 1991.

v) They have also been advised that President/Vice President of Income tax Appellate Tribunal should be requested to take appeals involving large demands for expeditious disposal.

vi) In cases where large demands

have been stayed by courts, the Chief Commissioners have been advised to get the stays vacated, wherever possible.

(d) The assessments pertaining to the assessment years required to be completed within the time prescribed under the Income tax Act have been completed.

[Translation]

Unauthorised Occupation of Land and Bungalows in Varanasi Cantonment Area

5309. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some land of the Varanasi Cantonment area and bungalows constructed by British nationals there, are in unauthorised occupation of the members of the Cantonment Board and relatives of military officers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government against those persons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There are some encroachments on the Defence lands and the lands vested in the Cantonment Board, Varanasi. There is no information whether the encroachers are related to members of the Cantonment Board or military officers.

(b) In some cases eviction proceedings under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act are in progress, while in certain other cases the matter is pending before the Civil Courts.

[English]

Import of Tea

5310. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to import tea when India is the world's largest tea producing country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of import planned to be resorted to and at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Import of tea for domestic consumption is not allowed. However as per present Government policy import of tea for purposes of export after value-addition is allowed under the Advance Licensing Scheme.

Export of Cloves

5311. SHRIC.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quality of cloves exported particularly from Karnataka and Kerala during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a great demand for cloves in the international market; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to boost export of cloves?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c). Our total production of cloves is estimated to be about 1500 MT, which is not sufficient to meet even the domestic demand. As a result we have to

import cloves. To promote production of cloves, Government arranges supply of planting material, provides irrigation facilities, etc.

Export of Coffee

5312. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coffee exported particularly from Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a great demand for Indian Coffee in the international market; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to boost export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The quantity of coffee exported through Mangalore Port of Karnataka and the total exports of coffee from India during the last three fiscal years are as under:

Year	Total Export (Tonnes)	From Mangalore Port (Tonnes)
1988-89	98266	45680
1989-90	134052	44728
1990-91	100110	42691

(b) The steady increase in the exports of coffee from 33189 tonnes in 1970-71 to 100110 tonnes in 1990-91 reveals the increase in demand for Indian Coffee in the International market.

(c) Besides readjustment of exchange rate, the Government has recently introduced the EXIM Scrip in place of REP licence, which is expected to help in boosting export of coffee.

Talks with Traders on Price Rise

5313. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had invited traders to discuss the issue of price rise;

(b) if so, when and the outcome of the discussion held;

(c) whether any directives have been issued to the traders in this regard; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it will help in checking the rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The Finance Minister, in paragraph 129 of the Budget Speech has *inter alia* announced that he would invite the representatives of industry and trade to work out the modalities for realisation of the objectives in regard to prices of essential commodities. Follow-up action on the announcement made in the Budget, 1991-92, is under way.

Short-Term Credit From Commercial Banks

5314. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the Government have used recent loans taken from the international Monetary Fund to liquidate a part of this short-term credit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities utilised for commodity imports by the canalising agencies on the basis of government authorisation as at the end of July 1991 was US \$ 569.106 million.

(b) The loans taken from the International Monetary Fund are inflows in the Capital account of balance of payments and repayments of outstanding amounts of short-term credit is a continuous process and thus not linked to specific items of inflow on Capital account.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Silver

5315. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of silver seized while being smuggled out of the country during the last one year; and

(b) the number of persons arrested and the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Instances of smuggling of silver out of the country have not been reported during the last one year.

(b) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Export of Leather Goods

5316. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope of exporting leather and leather goods;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of leather goods, and

(c) the prospects of exporting leather goods during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Market promotion measures abroad and product development efforts in India for Indian leather goods to be competitive in world markets in terms of price and quality have helped in increasing exports and these measures are proposed to be continued and intensified, wherever required.

(c) It is expected that the exports of leather goods will continue to increase during the current financial year.

Violation of Pollution Control Rules in Delhi

5317. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pollution Control Rules are being openly and grossly violated in the capital even by almost all DTC buses; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to stop the increasing pollution and make the rules more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Transport Department of the Delhi Administration have formulated a detailed scheme for the certification of pollution standards of the vehicles registered in Delhi. In this context, 110 private workshops and petrol pumps have been authorised to provide pollution checking and tuning facility. A total number of 10.35 lakh vehicle owners have availed of the pollution checking facility between March 1990 and May, 1991. Owners of 2900 vehicles have been prosecuted till June, 1991 in accordance with the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and CMV Rules, 1989. In addition, Certificate of Fitness of 3250 transport vehicles have been cancelled and the vehicle owners instructed to bring the vehicle within the prescribed pollution standards before obtaining fresh Certificate of Fitness.

Selling of Stored Items at Post-Budget Rates

5318. **PROF. K.V THOMAS:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many items like fertilizers, sugar, petrol, motor vehicles which were in stock before the presentation of the General Budget are being sold at the post-budget rates; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). In the General

Budget administered prices of fertilizers, levy sugar and petrol were revised upwards with effect from the evening/midnight of 24th July, 1991. The prices of motor cars were raised on account of increase in basic excise duty and special excise duty on motor cars with effect from 25th July, 1991. As regards sale of old stocks of these items at post-budget rates, commodity-wise details are given below:

As per Government instructions, fertilizers stocks lying with the retailers at midnight of 24th July, 1991 were required to be sold at pre-revised rates while those lying with the whole-salers/manufacturers were to be sold at the revised rates; the gains by way of difference between the post-budget and pre-budget rates are to be adjusted against Government's subsidy on fertilisers.

As regards levy sugar, distributed through the public distribution system, its retail price, including old stocks, was raised with effect from 24th July, 1991 evening. The gains on account of sale of old stocks of sugar at post-budget rates are to be credited to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

In the case of petrol, the stocks at the time of price revision are to be sold at the revised rates only and the adventitious gains/losses on account of changes in prices of petroleum products have always accrued to the dealers distributors of these products.

In the case of motor vehicles, increase in the basic excise duty and special excise duty on motor cars was made effective from 25th July, 1991. As the goods once cleared from the factory of production are no more under excise control, it is not possible to distinguish whether the stocks of vehicles in the market after the presentation of the budget have paid the pre-budget or post-budget rates of duty.

Diversion of Welfare Funds to Other Use by Orissa Government

5319. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of overdraft by the Government of Orissa as on July 31, 1991;

(b) whether the Union Government have come across incidents of diversion of funds meant for welfare of backward and tribal population to other uses by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps the Union Government propose to take so that such diversion of funds do not take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The Government of Orissa was not in overdraft with the Reserve Bank of India as on 31st July, 1991.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Payment of HRA and CCA to Central Government Employees in Ghaziabad

5320. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which the Government started paying house rent allowance and city compensatory allowance at Delhi rates to Central Government employees working within the limits of Ghazi-

bad Municipality;

(b) whether these allowances are being paid at Delhi rates to the Central Government employees working in the C.G.O. Complex at Faridabad and also to the employees of the Income Tax and Excise departments working in the C.G.O. Complex, Ghaziabad;

(c) whether in other offices located in the C.G.O. Complex, Ghaziabad these allowances are being paid at the rates applicable to a C-class city and the allowance paid to the employees at Delhi rate since 1979 are being recovered from them;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Based on the general policy of the Government relating to grant of House Rent Allowance/Compensatory (City) Allowance on the basis of contiguity of one Municipality/Corporation to another, the Central Government employees working within the limits of Ghaziabad Municipality were granted House Rent Allowance/Compensatory (City) Allowance at Delhi rates as Ghaziabad Municipality was found contiguous to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(b) to (e). The information is being collected.

[English]

Payment Problems to Garment Exporters

5321. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the garment exporters have been facing difficulties due to serious payment problems;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Government have not received any representations from garment exporters regarding any difficulty in realising payments from foreign buyers.

Indo-Pak Bilateral Trade

5322. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Indo-Pak bilateral trade have been established;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to improve the trade relations with Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). India's exports to Pakistan broadly cover oil meals, spices, iron ore, paints and varnishes and engineering goods, while the principal imports from Pakistan are fruits and nuts excluding cashew nuts, textile yarn and made-up apparels. It has always been the endeavour of the Government to improve trade relations with Pakistan through bilateral discussions.

Lapses In Internal Audit of Companies

5323. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 5 (Commercial) of 1990 on the Company Auditors, reports on the accounts of the Government companies, has made some comments on omissions, commissions etc. noticed during supplementary audit of accounts; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per the provisions of Section 619 (5) of the companies Act, 1956, these comments are placed before the Annual General Meeting of the concerned Company and the corrective measures on the report are taken by the concerned Government Companies and their administrative Departments Ministries.

Revised rate of Interest on Bank Deposits

5324. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of interest on deposits from public in the banks have been revised twice in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the details of the revised rates of interest at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The rates of interests on deposits from public in Scheduled Commercial Banks were revised on 13.4.91 and again on 4.7.1991.

(b) The details of the revised rates of

interest on deposits from public in Scheduled Commercial banks in force at present

are given below:—

Period of Deposits		Rate of interest per annum (%)
(1)	46 days to less than one year	9.00
(2)	1 year to less than 2 years	10.00
(3)	2 years to less than 3 years	11.00
(4)	3 years and above	13.00

Strike by Autorickshaw and Taxi Drivers in Delhi

5325. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether autorickshaw and taxi drivers recently went on strike in Delhi in protest against the introduction of electronic digital fare meters;

(b) if so, what are their grievances; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) No decision has been taken by Delhi Administration regarding the installation of electronic digital fare meters.

STATEMENT

b) Their main grievances against the installation of electronic digital fare meters are as under:—

— Electronic fare meter is a failure in Bombay.

— There is no factory to supply sufficient quantity.

— The Weights and Measures Deptt. has not approved it.

— It will increase the financial burden on the drivers of Auto-rickshaws and Taxis.

— These meters have not been so far tested on road.

— These meters have not been so far tested on road.

— These are more expensive.

— These are unreliable.

— It is necessary to buy a 12 Volt Battery.

— These can be tampered.

— There is no machinery and equipment device to test it.

— Dash Board is necessary.

- These work only under ideal conditions like Airconditioning etc.
- Auto-rickshaw owners are poor persons and can not afford it.
- Its components are not easily available.
- Insurance companies will charge more because electronic meter is a luxury item.
- Replacement of electronic meters will be heavy if stolen or damaged.

ter of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fares of autorickshaws and taxis have been revised recently;

(b) if so, the details of the revised fare structure;

(c) whether the Government propose to get the revised fares calibrated in the fare meters of these vehicles; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fares of autorickshaw and taxis have been revised with effect from 26.7.91. The details are as under:—

Revised Rates of Autorickshaw and Taxi Fares

5326. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minis-

(i) *Autorickshaws*

Initial fare for 1st Kilometre Rs. 3.50

Subsequent fare per kilometre Rs. 1.80

(ii) *Taxis*

Initial fare for 1st kilometre Rs. 5.80

Subsequent fare per kilometre Rs. 3.60

(c) and (d). The calibration of fare table is a time consuming process as it is to be done by changes in the meters. In the meantime drivers of the autorickshaws and taxis have been provided with conversion tables from old fares to new fares.

(a) the list of the departments in which the flexible complementing scheme has been introduced for promotions;

(b) the categories of employees covered under the scheme; and

(c) the manner in which the scheme helps in quick promotions?

Promotions under Flexible complementing Scheme

5327. SHRIMADANLAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer state to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 710 on July 26, 1991 and:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a). No such information is centrally maintained.

(b) The scheme is basically applicable to Scientists and Technologists of Scientific Departments/Organisations engaged in Scientific research-both basic and applied.

(c) On completion of the prescribed residency period in a grade, the Scientists/Technologists are assessed for promotion by a duly constituted Selection Board on the basis of proven merit, research work done and other allied factors. The scheme helps in quicker promotions because promotions are not vacancy based.

Import of Quality Products As Scrap

5328. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the item captioned 'Bid for IT recovery from fictitious scrap dealers' appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated August 1, 1991 wherein it has been stated that steel worth crores of rupees has been imported into the country in the form of scrap etc;

(b) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice during the last one year where big firms imported quality products in the form of scraps and deprived the Government of legitimate revenues;

(c) whether any instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein concerned officials were found involved in such rackets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to completely plug the loopholes which help in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Unresolved Points In Uruguay Round of Trade and Tariff Negotiations

5329. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main points of difference between the developed and the developing countries that have remained unresolved during the Uruguay Round of trade and tariff negotiations;

(b) the stand of the two sides on each point; and

(c) the efforts made by the Group of 77 to bridge the differences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As the Uruguay Round has not yet been concluded, most of the important issues under negotiation still remain open and unresolved. In multilateral trade negotiations, each country pursues its own economic interests and differences of views on the issues being negotiated do not always follow the North-South divide. Some coalitions do develop among countries seeking enhancement of market access in the same group of products, viz. agricultural products, tropical products, natural resource-based products, and textiles and clothing. The Group of 77, which operates in the UN fora, does not have any status in the Gatt. Although there is an informal group of developing countries in GATT which sometimes makes joint statements, smaller groups of developing countries have divergent negotiating objectives and attach varying degrees of importance to negotiations in different areas. In agriculture, while the major participants are divided on the extent of reforms,

there are groups of developing countries with very divergent points of view. Their attitudes also vary on whether and to what extent changes in policies on investment and intellectual property rights can be bargained for improvement in market access for goods.

The main points on which there have been differences between substantial numbers of developed and developing countries are as follows:

(i) **TEXTILES:** The developing countries demand that the discriminatory and restrictive regime for trade in textiles contained in the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) must be phased out if necessary after a transitional period providing inter-alia for rapid growth of quotas. The developed countries would like the phase-out of the MFA to be very slow and to be accompanied by trade liberalisation measures by developing countries as well and by strengthening of GATT rules.

(ii) **TRIPs:** The developed countries are seeking uniform standards for the protection of intellectual property rights at a very high level in respect of countries. The developing countries maintain that norms and standards should reflect the stage of development and the same level of obligation should not be made applicable to all countries.

(iii) **GATT Rules:** The developed countries want to curtail the flexibility presently available to developing countries to take recourse to quantitative restrictions to safeguard their balance of payments position and to grant subsidies to promote exports of manufactures. The developing countries want to retain the present flexibility in the rules.

(iv) **TRIMs:** The developed countries wish to prohibit the use of such governmental investment measures as local content

requirements, export performance requirements, trade balancing requirements, etc. The developing countries wish to retain the right to use such investment measures as appropriate.

Export of Hand-knitted Woollen Carpets

5330. DR. G. L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand knitted woollen carpets during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a great potential for the export of these carpets; and

(c) if so, the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The export figures for hand knitted woollen carpets are not available separately, however the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand knitted woollen carpets, woollen druggets, Durries, Rugs, Namdhas and other floor coverings during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Value of export (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	273.27 (Provisional)
1989-90	360.55 (Provisional)
1990-91	425.79 (Provisional)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The target fixed for the export of hand-knotted woollen/silken/staple carpets and other floor covering during 1991-92 is of the value of Rs. 720.00 crores. Out of this woollen floor covering of the value of Rs. 620.00 crores are expected to be exported.

**Land lord/Tenant Dispute Cases
pending in Delhi Courts**

5331. DR. G.L. KANAUIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of land lord/tenant dispute cases pending in the lower courts at Tis Hazari, Delhi as on date;

(b) the number of such cases pending for more than two, five, eight and ten years;

(c) the reasons for which such cases continue to remain pending for long; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for early disposal of these cases in the interest of speedy justice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) As on 1.8.1991, 20642 land lord/tenant dispute cases were pending in the Lower Courts of Delhi.

(b) The number of such cases pending for more than 2, 5, 8 and 10 years is as follows:

More than

2 years old	- 5686
5 years old	- 2208
8 years old	- 1310

10 years old

986

(c) Pendency of cases is due to several complex factors including increase in the institution of such cases.

(d) The various recommendations contained in the report of Arrears' Committee (Malimath Committee) which went into the problem of arrears in Courts, have been forwarded to all concerned such as State Governments, Central ministries and all the High Courts including Delhi High Court. Delhi High Court is taking steps for filling up fifty vacancies in Delhi Judicial Service and on recruitment of more Judicial Officers, the strength of courts dealing with rent cases would also be increased.

Export of Engineering Goods

5332. DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for export of engineering goods during the last three years;

(b) whether the target for each year has been achieved;

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

(d) the target fixed therefor by the Export Promotion Credit Council for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The targets for export of engineering goods and export performance during the last three years were as under:

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Target	Exports (Provisional)
1988-89	1650	1802
1989-90	2200	2863
1990-91	3400	3549

(Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics)

It would be observed from the above that the achievement exceeded the targets.

(d) The Engineering Export Promotion Council has set itself a target of Rs. 5000 crores for exports during 1991-92.

Child Marriages

5333. DR. G.L. KANAUIJA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of child marriages registered during 1989-90, 1990-91 and this year upto July, 1991 State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there has been an increase in child marriages in some of the States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what stringent measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). The infor-

mation is not readily available. The same will be collected from the State Governments/ Union territory administrations and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, was amended in 1978 with a view to provide that offences under the Act shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation and for all matters other than matters referred to in section 42 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (arrest on refusal to give name and residence) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of the magistrate. No further stringent measures are contemplated at present in this regard.

Diversion of Borrowings By States for Financing Consumption Expenditure

5334. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have allegedly diverted their borrowings for financing the consumption expenditure during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to contain the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected from

the State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Supply of Gold to Exporters of Gold Jewellery

5335. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has stopped the supply of gold to exporters of gold Jewellery; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to resume the supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). There was temporary suspension of supply of gold by India Government Mint, Bombay to the State Bank of India for about 4 weeks during July-August, 1991 for some administrative reasons. Supply of gold has since been resumed with effect from 19th August, 1991.

Export of Steel Products

5336. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of steel products increased during April-June, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which export and production of steel increased in comparison to the last two years; and

(d) the target fixed for the remaining months of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Authentic data on steel exports has not yet been published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. Available data on exports of steel by main producers (i.e. SAIL and TISCO) during the period April-June, 1991 compared to the corresponding periods over the last two years is as follows:

Exports by Main Producers (SAIL & TISCO) (April-June)	
Financial year (April-June)	Quantity (in tonnes)
1989-90	22,670
1990-91	59,400
1991-92	85,250

(c) Exports by SAIL and TISCO during April-June, 1991 increased by 43.5% and 276% over the corresponding periods of 1990-91 and 1989-90 respectively. Total production of finished steel in April-June, 1991 increased by about 11.5% and 13.9%

over the corresponding periods of 1990-91 and 1989-90 respectively.

(d) The Working Group on Iron & Steel for the 8th Plan had projected a possible

export target of 8.75 lakh tonnes for the year 1991-92.

[Translation]

Increase in Prices of Cement

5337. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted to check the increasing prices of cement; and

(b) if so, the recommendations contained in the report submitted to the Government by the said Committee and the details with regard to their implementation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) A working Group has been constituted to consider measures and work out a scheme for holding the price of cement.

(b) The report of the Working Group is awaited.

[English]

Negotiations with USSR for Newsprint

5338. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation visited USSR for negotiations in regard to supply of newsprint;

(b) if so, whether the delegation met the Soviet authorities and had a number of discussions with them;

(c) if so, whether any agreement was reached with them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Soviet Union has agreed to supply newsprint to reduce the shortage in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Against the Trade Plan Provision of supply of 70,000 MT of newsprint from USSR for the year 1991, STC concluded a contract in April, 1991 for import of 22, 830 MT Standard Newsprint when a delegation from Russia had visited New Delhi. A delegation from STC visited Moscow during July, 1991 to settle the price for the quantities to be supplied during July-September 1991 and to discuss other issues. For balance 47,000 MTs no firm commitment has been indicated by USSR.

Official Delegations Sent Abroad

5339. SHRI RAMNARESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of official delegations sent abroad during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Government on those delegations during the last three years separately in rupees and in foreign exchange, year-wise; and

(c) whether the Government are taking any measures to cut down such expenditure during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The information is not centrally maintained and will have to be collected from all Ministries/Departments/Offices of the Government of India. The time and labour involved in collecting the information may not be commensurate with objective to be achieved.

(c) Government have already imposed a ban on foreign tours of Government officers with certain exceptions which, inter-alia, include tours for commercial, aid or foreign policy negotiations.

12.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Acharya Vinoba Bhave had started Bhoodan Movement in the country by seeking land donations from big landlords and distributing the land thus donated among the landless. Lakhs of acres of land was distributed among the landless under the Bhoodan Act. I am very much distressed to point out that the Government of Bihar has taken upon itself the right of distribution of land in the State by amending the Bhoodan Act through an Ordinance thereby disassociating the name of Acharya Vinoba Bhave from the movement. It is a very serious matter. Kumari Nirmala Deshpande is sitting on dharna on this issue in Patna today where lakhs of farmers are joining her. Through you, I want to raise this matter of urgent public importance before the House and before the entire country.

[*English*]

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of Andhra Pradesh, particularly, the people of Khammam, Nalgonda, Warangal and Telengana were shocked to hear from the Minister of Water Resources that there is no water available in Godavari river. It overflows every year and sweeps the villages which are there on both sides of the river.

As a matter of fact, the then Minister Shri B. Shankaranand, in the Eighth Lok Sabha and the other authorities, proposed that this project should be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan to the then State Government, led by Shri N.T. Rama Rao.

The authorities of the Ministry of Water Resources clearly established the economic viability and also clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Even the planning and financial aspects were also cleared by the same authorities. Moreover, according to the State Government's Report which was submitted at a Meeting of the Members of Parliament on June 6 said that the Expert Committee had finalised its Report and established dependable water availability.

So, my only request to the Government of India is that they should sanction the Second Stage of Sriramsagar Project, which includes extension of Kakathiya Canal from 284 km. to 347 km. which would irrigate nearly five lakh acres.

SHRI E. AHAMAD (Manjeri): Mr. Speaker, Sir the Air India flights from Bombay's Sahar Airport to Gulf countries are totally inadequate with the result that the passengers who are to go to Gulf countries are put to great hardship and difficulty.

I am given to understand that the seats are already booked for the Air India Flights upto 20th of September. It is causing great inconvenience to the passengers. They have to reach these countries for taking up jobs.

Due to inadequacy of flights, they are losing their jobs and also, their visas are expiring.

Therefore, I request the Government, through you to arrange additional flights immediately from Bombay's Sahar Airport to Gulf countries, like Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Muscat, Doha, Baharain, Jeddah, Riyadh and Kuwait. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition of roads in Bihar is very bad. For the work that was taken up from Hazaribagh (*Interruptions*) to Bokaro, not a single paisa has been sanctioned by the Central Government and, as a result, the situation has

turned worse from bad. You know that the longest road in the country known as Grand Trunk Road starts from Calcutta and passes through Delhi. Due to non-availability of funds, condition of this road has also worsened. Thousands of vehicles run on this road daily. The Central Government is giving discriminatory treatment to the Government of Bihar. Not even one kilometre of road has been declared as highway in the State since 1974 nor the Centre is allocating any funds for the maintenance and doubling of roads. Therefore, I urge the Central Government not to give discriminatory treatment to the State Government of Bihar and consider sanctioning funds for construction of new roads.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the trains that were cancelled during the Gulf War in Bihar, as elsewhere in the country, have not been restored so far. Train No.463/464 Hatia-Khadagpur passenger train which connects Arrah to Ranchi and the bi-weekly train No.8631/ 8632 Hatia-Varanasi Express which runs via Bokaro-Ramgarh have not been restored as yet whereas the trains cancelled elsewhere in the country have been restored.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to restore the aforesaid two trains at the earliest so as to provide communication facilities to the people of these areas.

[English]

SHRI T. J. ANJALOSE (Alleppy): Hundreds of fishermen in Kerala received R.R. notices against the pending loans taken from the Cooperative Societies and the Nationalised Banks.

Due to heavy monsoon, fishing work has almost come to a standstill and their families are on the verge of starvation. It is very difficult for them to repay the existing dues immediately. I urge upon the Government to give instructions to the concerned authorities to stop all R.R. proceedings connected with the loans of fishermen in

Kerala and to take steps to waive the loans of the fishermen.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTH (Silchar): I draw the attention of the Government of India towards a very serious matter threatening the integrity and security of the country. Since long lakhs and lakhs of infiltrators have been illegally entering the territory of India crossing Bangladesh border. So far, in spite of repeated warning from different quarters, the Government have not paid any heed to it. But, at present, the problem has come to the forefront particularly in West Bengal. The illegal infiltrators fashioned themselves as Mohanjines maintaining a regular office, holding press conferences, staging demonstrations on the streets of Calcutta. They are further taking agitational programmes including postering, distribution of leaflets publicly admitting their illegal infiltration and demanding citizenship of India and other privileges. The West Bengal Government failed to discharge its responsibility of upholding the Constitution by arresting those infiltrators who violated the law of the land.

The Government of India should take up the matter with all seriousness to maintain safety, integrity and security of the country. It is not a fact that this problem of infiltration has got the shape of national problem?

If the Central Government fails to take stern action in this regard, the future of our Motherland will be further gloomy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to its short-sighted policy towards Bihar. The present policy of supplying Bitumen to the State of Bihar is impracticable from every angle and is harmful to the State from financial point of view also. This is so because the supply of Bitumen to other States is being made either from the processing plant in the same state or from the

neighbouring State, but Bihar is the only state to which the supply of bitumen is made from Haldia. As a result of this wrong policy on the part of the Central Government, the Government of Bihar has to waste an amount of Rs. five crore every year. Barauni Oil refinery Processing Plant is located in Bihar. Therefore, I would urge the Central Government to make the Barauni Processing Plant as the supply centre for the supply of Bitumen to Bihar State or supply should be made direct from Haldia in order to save Bihar from the loss of Rs. five crore which it incurs every 9 year. Orders to this effect may please be issued soon.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 300 students get admission to engineering course in B.I.T. Mesra in Ranchi. Previously, this institution was under the control of Ranchi University, but later on its control was transferred to Darbhanga University. 250 students from all over the country get admission to this institution of Ranchi of them, only 50 students are taken from Bihar. Out of these 50 students, only 5-10 students are covered under the Tribal Sub-Plan. Due to this, there is resentment among the people as the local students do not get priority in admission to engineering course whereas as many as 250 students from all over the country manage to get admission.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Article 242 of the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the Central Government to provide protection to the people covered under the Tribal Sub Plan. I demand that they should be given their rightful dues. Therefore, the Central Government should issue directives to the effect that 50 per cent seats in engineering course in B.I.T., Mesra are reserved for the students of tribal belt consisting of 14 districts. I would request the leader of the House, hon. Shri Arjun Singh who is also the Minister of Education to give sympathetic consideration to this demand and stop the injustice that is being done to the local students in B.I.T., Mesra in order to contain the resentment among the people.

[English]

SHRI MRUTYUNJYA NAYAK (Phulbani): In the State of Orissa the districts of Ganjam, Kalahandi, Koraput, Phulbani and Bolangir have been severely affected by cholera epidemic as also Kala Azar, gastro-enteritis and meningitis. As the State Government has not adequately provided medicines and medical facilities the death toll has increased and it has reached more than one thousand. I would request the Government of India to immediately send a team of doctors with adequate medical facilities and medicines.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Ghazipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been a vast expansion of the nationalised bank in the rural areas following the Bank Nationalisation. At the time of bank nationalisation, the Government of India had set forth an objective that deposits in the rural branches of these banks would be spent on the development of backward areas of that region, but that was not to be. Most of the deposits in these banks are being spent in providing assistance to big cities and heavy industries. Thus, the deposits of the farmers in rural areas are being utilised by the industrialists or the industrial belts to expand their industrial empires. In this way, the set objective of development of backward areas is being totally neglected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Eastern U.P. is one such instance. Through you, I would request the hon. Minister of Finance to make a provision under which 70 per cent of the deposits of the farmers in the nationalised banks in rural areas of Eastern U.P. are spent on the developmental activities of the concerned areas. Here too, priority should be given to agriculture and small industry.

[English]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country, since independence, in other parts either the rail-

way facilities have increased or they have not increased; they are where they were. There is only one part in the whole country where the railway services have steadily gone down. They have not increased nor remained static. That is a major part of North Bihar, the Maithili speaking region. People from the west of Kosi from Nirmali, Marauna and other block Saharsa and Supaul have to travel up to 300 kilometres to reach. Their district headquarters at a distance of only 6 to 7 kms. at a crowfly distance.

Similarly the railway line from Bagaha to Chhitauna, which was breached by the river Gandak, has not yet been bridged even though it was inaugurated in 1976 by the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Last year a budget provision of Rs.4 crore and 9 lakhs had been made for extending the broadgauge line from Samastipur to Darbhanga. This year, it has not been made. To add insult to injury, six pairs of trains - two pairs from Darbhanga to Jaynagar; two pairs from Darbhanga to Narkatiagang and two pairs from Samastipur to Nirmali and Lauka Bazar - were suspended last year on the pretext of anti-reservation stir and they now stand cancelled.

The people are feeling that because the Congress(I) had not been voted in the Lok Sabha elections in any of the constituencies, a revenge had been taken upon the people by the Central Government (*Interruptions*) Even the formally inaugurated Sakri-Hasanpur line has not yet been constructed. (*Interruptions*) Sir, last year in the Budget, a sum of Rs. 4 crore and 9 lakhs was provided for extending the broadgauge line from Samastipur to Darbhanga. But this year only Rs. 1000 is provided in the Budget (*Interruptions*)

I wish the Railway Minister corrects this discriminatory approach. (*Interruptions*) On the pretext of anti-reservation stir, they had cancelled six pairs of trains in a small area, which is most densely populated. Sir, this is a major issue. I, through you, Sir, urge upon the Railway Minister, The Government of

India and the Leader of the House - the people are feeling extremely discriminated - to do something in this regard, before it is too late.

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN (Madras South): Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister for Railways a very important representation that I had received from the people of my area near Chrompet Railway Station on the Madras Beach-Tambaram Electric section.

The Railways have constructed steel girders between the railway track and the road occupied by vegetable and flower venders and also near the houses along the road. The road belongs to the Alandur Municipality and hence people are now finding it difficult to purchase their daily needs. The college students are finding it difficult to go from their houses to the college, since the very road is blocked by heavy steel girders. It is also alleged that the Railway Police in Chrompet station are collecting money from the vegetable venders every day and cases are booked against them in a very illegal manner.

I would like the Minister of Railways to kindly remove the steel girders with immediate effect which can bring peace to the local population who are very much agitated.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RITA VARMA(Dhanbad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the difficulties being faced by the Hindi speaking people of West Bengal.

Sir, a large number of Bihari labourers are working in Calcutta and hill areas of West Bengal, especially, tea plantations. In some areas, they outnumber Bangla speaking people. Most of them belong to backward classes, Harijans and Adivasis. They cannot speak any language other than Hindi. Hindi is not only their mother-tongue but is also one national language. I am very distressed to point out that such a large population is being deprived of their right to get education

through the medium of their mother tongue.

Education is not only a State subject, it is a subject in the Concurrent List also. I hope that our colleagues, especially those who are ever ready to start a crusade against social injustice would also lend their voice to us, as we are particularly committed to removing the grievances of Harijans, Adivasis and the people belonging to the backward classes. They have a right to get education through the medium of their mother-tongue.

The Government of West Bengal take no interest in imparting education through the medium of Hindi. The number of middle schools imparting education through Hindi medium are very few in number and so far as Higher education is concerned, there is no arrangement at all. Higher education can be received only in Bangla or English or at certain places in Urdu also, that means that higher education can be received even in Urdu, but not in Hindi. Proper encouragement should be given to Hindi in West Bengal.

I would request that steps should be taken to open such schools and colleges where education could be imparted through Hindi medium. Hindi should be taught in schools and colleges compulsorily. Arrangements should be made to impart training through Hindi medium in Technical Training Centres also.

I would like to repeat that it is not the problem of the rich and upper class people. They prefer to educate their children through English Medium only. I would like to draw your attention to those poor labourers who want their children to be imparted education in their mother-tongue and it is their right also.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Kindly allow me for a minute. I think, it was her maiden speech and so I did not interrupt her. Her information is that there

are no Hindi schools where, according to her, Hindi speaking people are more than the Bengali speaking people. West Bengal is the only State in the country where Bengali is not the compulsory subject. We have got even our literary missions. We are teaching not only Bengal but also Hindi, Urdu, Oriya. This is the position. I think, she has been misinformed. Even then I request her to kindly give us a list of the places-villages, areas-where she thinks that opportunity to learn Hindi is not being given, and also what is the percentage of the people there.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am pleased that the hon. Member from Bengal has given an assurance in response to the information furnished by the member and he will be given a list of the places where education is not being imparted in Hindi medium.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are proud that every facility is being given there (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mother tongue is the medium of instruction in our State.

[English]

SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI (Hindupur): I come from Anantpur District of Andhra Pradesh which is a drought prone area. In this entire season we got just 175 mm of rains which is just sufficient for sowing seeds and that too only in some areas. In majority of areas farmers did not even sow seeds. The major rainfed commercial crop, that is groundnut, is going to be an utter failure. About a sum of Rs. 300 crores will be lost by the farmers in this district only from this crop. The ground water level in general is decreasing at a very alarming rate. Practically all the tanks and wells are dried up.

People are facing acute shortage of drinking water. Sorry plight of cattle is still more heart-moving.

Cattle is having neither sufficient water nor fodder. Large scale migration of labour has already started from villages. Our State Government, inspite of repeated requests and representations from us, is reluctant to take strong measures and see that the situation there improves. If the Central Government does not realise the gravity of the situation and come up with suitable measures, the possibility of starvation deaths cannot be ruled out. I hereby request the hon. Prime Minister to visit our place and see the sorry plight of farmers personally and take immediate temporary and permanent measures in this district in order to save the people from this severe drought.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar): Despite the assurance given by the Prime Minister recently that India would not succumb to the international pressure on Intellectual Property Rights, it is reported in the press that Government of India under U.S. pressure has agreed to review all existing legislations concerning IPR and is moving in that direction very fast. The United States has already invoked Super 301 because India does not provide adequate patent protection. They are pressing for a solution to the entire gamut of IPR which will include patents, trade marks and trade secrets. Now, it is a shame that Government of India has decided to bow down before the US imperialism to reverse the earlier stand of the country on IPR at the cost of our nation interest and prestige of our country.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you are using very strong words without knowing what they have done.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: This is a very serious and dangerous thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Not this way.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: I

would, therefore, demand that Government must come out with a statement immediately stating all the facts of their secret deal.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dattatraya Bandaru wants to raise a very interesting matter!

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to the news item in the Indian Express dated 22.8.1991 captioned " Defence Services open to fairer sex ". The Government decision is a welcome step, but I have apprehensions about the whole recruitment. Since the reservation orders will not apply to service posts, the women candidates belonging to the weaker sections, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, will be denied of fairer chances. Further, when the UPSC is out of the scene, the convent educated girls of the Air Marshals and Admirals will have better chances.

I appeal to the Union Government to convert these service posts into civil posts and bring under the purview of the UPSC so that the reservation policy will also be applied to the weaker sections of the society.

MR. SPEAKER: You want to convert service posts into civil posts.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN (Amroha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring the following to the notice of the Minister of Human Resource Development, that an amount of \$ 1,27,800 (Rs. 57.51 lakhs) was raised by the Cricket Control Board of India through sale and advertisements in the Brochure Printed in England during the Indian Cricket Tour to England in June, 1990. It seems from the report published in Indian Express today.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chauhan, you will pay attention to what I am saying. If you are saying anything against any Member, first let me have that information. You give that information to the Member and then raise it. I am not allowing that thing to be raised.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Sir,

this is not against any Member. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please give that information first to me, then I will allow.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I know where it is leading to. You have to inform me and the Member only then you can raise it. I will explain to you in my Chamber as to what can be done in such matters.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserā): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today I would like to draw your attention once again to the incident of killing of a person belonging to the Scheduled Caste and the attitude of the Government and its media towards it. You might have read in today's newspaper that in Rusdan village of Gujarat, which comes in Vijaypur Taluka in Mehsana district, people poured Kerosene over a 45 years old Dalit and threw him into the fire. There can't be more shameful act than this. Yesterday this House was informed that the Police Officer ascended the stairs of the temple just to save himself from rains, but he was done to death then and there. Yesterday, I had said in this House that seven persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes were killed in Tamil Nadu as they were going to put up a portrait of Baba Saheb on the occasion of his birth anniversary. Our colleagues from Andhra Pradesh know that in spite of mass killing of Harijans, no action was taken by the Government in Tsundur. Above all, on the one hand we are angry over the Government all the same we have doubts about the intentions of the Government also. It is mentioned in all newspapers of today. I express my thanks to all the newspapers, which have condemned yesterday's incident. The leader of the House has also condemned the incident. Door-darshan and Radio are the media of the Government. This act has been condemned unanimously by all groups and you also shared the sentiments of the House. The leader of the House said that he would

discuss it with the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister would invite the Chief Ministers of all the States and issue directions in this regard, so that such incidents are not repeated. Not a single word was said by government media about such a big incident and such a big assurance. Since I had raised the matter and you took it lightly and said that this matter should not have been raised. Since then I have been watching that the Government media are not taking up the issues of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Weaker Sections deliberately. The attitude of Door-darshan and Radio is anti-dalit and anti-weaker sections. This issue was discussed for three days in this House, but this was given no coverage at all by the Government media. Such a big issue was raised, a large number of members raised it, but not even a single line was given about that. Not only that, I would like to tell Shri Arjun Singhji that yesterday morning, a group of 60 M.Ps belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from Congress and the Opposition both-including Sarva-Shri Buta Singh, Mukul Wasnik and Kumari Shailaji and members from B.J.P., C.P.I., C.P.M. and Janata Dal had held a meeting. We decided that we would take up such issues jointly through Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes Parliamentary Forum. It was decided that such issues should be raised by rising above party politics. We had discussion for two hours through this forum. A statement was issued about this meeting, but not even a single sentence was mentioned about this meeting. I had told yesterday also that we have doubts about the intentions of the Government. Therefore, I would urge upon Shri Arjun Singh through you, that this issue may be taken seriously, because he is not a Minister, but a responsible leader of the House. This malady is growing like cancer. This matter may be taken up seriously lest the poor and the suppressed people may lose faith in non-violent means and they may be compelled to take recourse to violence. Since you are the leader of the House, we would urge upon you to condemn it in clear terms and the Chair should also share our feelings. Now-a-days no state is left where the life of the poor

and that of a person belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes might be secure. The Government media is meant for raising the issues of the upper class, but it does not bother about the issues of the poor. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): After making such a good point, the mixing up of other points seems to be irrelevant (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am saying only that thing which is good. The Government should not only condemn it comprehensively, but the people should also come to know that the Government is condemning it.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter which has been raised is a very serious matter. It has been felt in the current session that such incidents are continuously taking place every day in every nook and corner of India. This issue is raised in the House almost daily and the Government is continuously saying that it is giving serious attention to the problem, but, it could be seen from the newspapers of today, that there is a news from Gujarat. Similarly in Varanasi some Harijans are fleeing away from some villages. Such news have appeared in today's newspapers. In the incident which took place in Maharashtra, a Police Officer while he was ascending the stairs of the temple to save himself from the rains and while he was doing so, he was stoned to death. I would like to submit to the Government that, a week or ten days back, the hon. Home Minister had said that a meeting of the National Integration Council would be held here. I would like to know whether any date has been fixed for the meeting of the National Integration Council or not? If a date has not been fixed, the Government should fix a date for it immediately and a meeting of National Integration Council may be held. As Shri Ram Vilas Paswan said that a meeting of 60 M.Ps belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was held yesterday in which SC

and ST M.Ps from all parties were present there and it was decided in that meeting that another meeting of SC and ST members from all parties would be held on 5th of the next month in which a memorandum would be drafted and presented to the President and the Prime Minister. But it is not the responsibility of SC and ST M.Ps alone, nor of this House alone. There is a need to summon all the Chief Ministers to Delhi and hold a meeting. Such incidents of atrocities on Harijans are being committed day in and day out and the assurances to check such incidents are also given almost daily that such incidents would not be allowed to recur, but even then such incidents are taking place continuously. I would urge upon the Government that the Government should fix a date for the meeting of the National Integration Council today itself and its meeting should be held before the end of the current session.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, this is a very very important matter. Only yesterday, the Leader of the House expressed the Government's concern. We took it to be a genuine expression of concern on behalf of the Government. But most inhuman, barbaric and uncivilized incidents are taking place where people are losing their lives because they belong to a particular caste or a particular community. My reaction yesterday was - where are we going? which country are we living in? Obviously, we feel totally ashamed that such incidents are taking place. But, as we see that at least on these issues, there is no partisan consideration. Everybody, from all sections of the House, expressed his concern. Demands are being made legitimately that strongest possible action will have to be taken against those who are guilty so far as these inhuman crimes against humanity are concerned.

I do not want to mention now as to how this is taking place, repeating at so many places, particularly in vulnerable areas, to avoid controversy. But, what is the step that

is being taken by the Government excepting some ministerial announcements? How the people are being mobilised for this? Where is the effort? We have to go to every area, every village where such types of crimes are taking place. There is a concern expressed that so far as the incidents that have taken place in Andhra Pradesh are concerned that nobody from Centre has visited the place. The House discussed the serious incidents for hours together. But where is the concern shown? What is the administrative action that is being taken?

Therefore, merely saying that we shall take action will not do. As Shri Mukul Wasnik has correctly said, every day Government is giving assurances but every day such incidents are taking place. The Government's assurance is losing its meaning and it does not help the people. Another important matter has also been raised. A very important instrument of media like the Television and Radio is not even projecting the concern that is expressed by the House, by a Cabinet Minister who is the Leader of the House. Where is the utilisation of this media? Therefore, we would like to know what the Government is doing. There has to be an all-pronged attack and a very important media instrumentality should be properly utilised. Therefore, we join with Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Shri Mukul Wasnik to reiterate that the National Integration Council has to be called out and the Government should take actual steps. Mere verbal assurance will not do.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when a discussion was going on in the House about the incidents of the atrocities on the oppressed class, I had drawn the attention of the House to this problem that it has almost become a convention that a discussion about the incidents of atrocities on Harijans is held in the House and by doing so we think that we have fulfilled our duty. When the discussion about the incidents of atrocities was going on in the House and even the discussion had not concluded, the reports of atrocities on Sched-

uled Castes in Andhra Pradesh had appeared in the newspapers.

Very recently people belonging to Scheduled Castes were massacred in Gujarat, Kerosene was sprinkled on them and they were thrown into the fire. The recent incidents are more serious than those incidents, because during the discussion about such incidents of atrocities, the hon. Home Minister had made a statement that he would tackle such incidents properly and such incidents would not be allowed to recur in future. Only yesterday, the leader of the House assured that keeping in view the feelings of the House some way out would be found. But it appears to me that some conspiracy is going on and people want to show that even if a number of times the matter is discussed in the House and despite so many assurances of the Government, incidents of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would continue to grow, because stern action is not taken against those responsible for such incidents.

I urge upon the Government that a meeting of the National Integration Council should be convened immediately and this issue should be discussed in its meeting. I also support the views expressed by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan who says that there is no relation whatsoever between the words and deeds of the Government. It appears that the Government is saying one thing and doing something else. In spite of giving repeated assurances in the House and the Government being committed to tackle the situation and taking steps so that such incidents do not recur, such incidents are happening almost every day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like you to use your good offices and instruct the Government to see where the shortcomings are and how could these be removed. Otherwise a day will come when the youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would take to violence when they would see that their rights are not being protected through non-violent means and it is all because of the wrong policies of the Govern-

ment. The Country is facing threat on this account and it could be detrimental to the interests of the country. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like you to intervene in the matter, otherwise there could be serious consequences. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): You should at least make some sort of comments.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Please sit down, he is doing it.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: I know. *(Interruptions)* But, Sir, let the Honourable chair give some sort of Direction.

(Interruptions)

There should be some sort of comment or direction from the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: At least you don't give me the direction, allow me to do my work.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the House with regard to the points to which Shri Paswan, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Kalka Das and other hon. Members of the House drew the attention of the House yesterday that I had apprised the Hon. Prime Minister of these points yesterday evening. Today he has written to all the Chief Ministers and probably he would invite them for a meeting soon after this session is over to discuss this matter and find the steps through which it could be effectively dealt with. All of you would agree that the prime responsibility lies with the State Government and the Centre can do little in the matter. We cannot take direct action and can only help by sending your suggestions to the concerned quarters. I

would like to repeat once again that action has to be taken by the State Government and the Hon. Prime Minister has already decided to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers in this connection.

I would like to submit that neither there is any lack of will nor any ill intention and we would try our best to deal with the situation effectively and bear in mind the suggestions of the hon. Members.

They might have heard with keen interest what Shri Paswanji has referred to about means of communications. I fully trust him and would therefore request the Minister of Communications and Minister of Information and Broadcasting to think seriously over the matter and take action to improve the situation effectively.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Sir, neither the Prime Minister nor the Home Minister have found time to go to Andhra Pradesh where nine persons were butchered. *(Interruptions)* Mere lip sympathy will not do. You must show your real concern.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

Well, we all know that this matter is serious and it is very good that we are giving enough attention to this matter. The Central Government has clearly come forward saying what they propose to do. I think the State Governments and the Central Government have to put their heads together and find a method of controlling these atrocities and injustice which is being done to our brothers and sisters in different parts of our country. I think proper coverage and publicity through all media in a correct perspective also will help us in highlighting what is happening in the country and controlling the forces which are responsible for perpetuating and perpetrating it.

I think, in a proper manner steps would be taken in all areas.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a rising apprehension that the Government of Uttar Pradesh proposes to bypass the judicial process and take over the disputed premises in Ayodhya. The Government have been maintaining a very ominous silence about it and that is adding to the apprehensions of the people. We know their apprehensions and can understand what the Government of Uttar Pradesh is up to, because they have made their plans very clear in their manifesto as well as in various declarations after they came to power. But, we would like to know from the Government, which has maintained a very discreet silence, as to how they propose to tackle the situation.

Sir, I would like to take one more minute to say that the judicial process was activated in 1987 by a joint decision of the Central Government and the State Government, because no point of agreement could be found to serve as the basis for an agreed settlement and therefore, it was decided to expedite the judicial process. That process has been going on and it should be expedited further. But, supposing there is this bypassing of the judicial process, this cutting short, something done from the back-door, we would like to understand from the hon. Minister and the Government as to what they propose to do and how they propose to tackle the situation. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, I think this matter was raised yesterday also. We should know the stand of the Government on this matter. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Government probably wants to respond to this matter. Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: On behalf of the Government, Shri Arjun Singh is responding to this matter.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, maintaining discreet silence itself is not a sin and speaking out of turn is not, by itself, a virtue.

MR. SPEAKER: I endorse it fully.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sometimes, we need to stand and be conted.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: When that time comes, I can assure you we will not be wanting.

Sir, I want to say one more thing. This is an issue which, definitely, is exercising the minds not only of the hon. Members of this House, but of the large sections of people in this country and all of us inside the House and outside are concerned that this issue, which somehow had be deviled the relations between the people of this country, should be tackled in a manner so that it is done peacefully. If it is not possible mutually, then it would be done according to the legal process and this is the position of this Government. It had been the position and will remain the position. I do not want to anticipate a situation and spell out a line of action. That is not the correct way to go about it. I can only say that we all believe that whoever is responsible for running the Government in Uttar Pradesh cannot be blind and totally oblivious to the larger interests of the country and they would keep in mind that whatever they do, does not, in any way, disturb the peace and tranquility of this country and does not set this country on the road to self-destruction. I am sure they will keep that in mind and not allow desperate situations to arise, because when desperate situations arise, desperate remedies have to be thought of. That should not happen.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table. Shri Chidambaram. (*Interruptions*)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.44 hrs.

Annual Report of and Review on the Working of the Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi for the year 1989-90

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.

- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-489/91]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Textiles for 1991-92 etc.

Report and Review on the working of the National Institute of Fashion Technology for the year 1989-90

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for 1991-92. [Placed in Library. See No LT-490/91]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Fashion Technology for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Fashion Technology for the year 1989-90.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-491/91]

Notifications Under Major Port Trusts Act, 1963

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English Versions) under Sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:-

- (1) G.S.R. 15 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 1991 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Family Security Fund) First Amendment Regulations, 1991.
- (2) G.S.R. 215 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1991 approving the new Mangalore Port Trust (Recruitment of Heads of Department) Regulations, 1991.

- (3) G.S.R. 272 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 1991 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1991. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 492/91]

Notifications Under Banking Companies Act, 1979 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English Versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1979:-

(i) The United Bank of India Officers Employees (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1976 published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1989 together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. RD/61/90 in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1990 [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 493/91]

(ii) Corrigendum to the Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Regulations, 1989 published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1991 [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 494/91]

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the results of market loans floated by the Central Government in August, 1991. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-495/91]

- (3) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under Sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:-

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 496/91]

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 497/91]

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 498/91]

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 499/91]

(v) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 500/91*]

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 501/91*]

(vii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 502/91*]

(viii) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 503/91*]

(ix) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 504/91*]

(x) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 505/91*]

(xi) Report on the working

and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 506/91*]

(4) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980:-

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 507/91*]

(ii) Report on the working and Activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 508/91*]

(iii) Report on the Working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year 1990-91 along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 509/91*]

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year 1990-91 along with Account and Auditors' Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See No. LT - 510/91*]

(Interruptions)

Indian Air Travel Tax Rules, 1991 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-
WAR THAKUR): Sir, I beg to lay on the
Table—

- (1) A copy of the Indian Air Travel Tax (Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 496 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum under section 49 of the Finance Act, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 511/91]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979:-

(i) G.S.R. 345 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to the Rt. Honourable Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Q.C., P.C., K.C., M.G., Prime Minister of Mauritius and seven members of the delegation who visited India from the 23rd to the 26th July, 1991 from the payment of foreign travel tax.

(ii) G.S.R. 511 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His. Excellency Mr. James Edward Harold, Herat, the

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and five members of the delegation who visited India from the 27th to the 31st July, 1991 from the payment of foreign travel tax.

- (3) A copy of the Income-tax (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 467 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1991 under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 512/91]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

(i) G.S.R. 497 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 340-Cus/86, dated the 13th June, 1986.

(ii) G.S.R. 498 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notifications No. 339-Cus/85 dated the 21st November, 1985.

(iii) G.S.R. 499 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum

dum making certain amendments to Notification No.263-Cus/85, dated the 16th August, 1985.

(iv) G.S.R 500 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No.262-Cus/85, dated the 16th August, 1985.

(v) G.S.R. 501 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 227-Cus/79 dated the 30th November, 1979.

(vi) G.S.R. 502 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 77-Cus/80, dated the 17th April, 1980.

(vii) G.S.R. 508 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification, No. 109/91-Cus., dated the 25th July, 1980.

(viii) G.S.R. 509 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the

Notification No. 99/90-Cus., dated the 20th March, 1990.

(ix) G.S.R. 517 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notifications No. 27/91-Cus., dated the 14th March, 1991 and 109/91-Cus., dated the 25th July, 1991.

(x) G.S.R 518 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 172/89-Cus., dated the 29th May, 1989.

(xi) G.S.R. 319 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No.514/86/Cus., dated the 30th December, 1986.

(xii) G.S.R. 515 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 287/87-Cus., dated the 7th August, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 513/91]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of

the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:-

(i) G.S.R. 102 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing effective rate of special excise duty on all excisable goods under the Finance Bill, 1991.

(ii) G.S.R. 103 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to all the goods mentioned in the schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 from the whole of the special duty of excise leviable thereon for the period from the 5th to the 31st March, 1991.

(iii) G.S.R. 104 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption of special excise duty paid on inputs used in finished products under certain circumstances.

(iv) G.S.R. 105 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods produced or manufactured in a free trade zone or in a hundred per cent export oriented undertakings from

the whole of the special duty of excise leviable thereon.

(v) G.S.R. 106 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding certain notifications mentioned in the Notification.

(vi) G.S.R. 107 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 177/86-CE, dated the 1st March, 1986.

(vii) G.S.R. 108 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing rebate of special excise duty on export of excisable goods under 12 or Rule 12A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

(viii) G.S.R. 109 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum allowing movement of excisable goods without payment of special excise duty under Rule 191B of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

(ix) G.S.R. 142 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing effective rate of special

excise duty on all excisable goods.

(x) G.S.R. 143 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption of special excise duty paid on inputs used in the finished products under certain circumstances.

(xi) G.S.R. 144 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods produced in a free trade zone or hundred per cent export oriented undertaking from the levy of special excise duty.

(xii) G.S.R. 145 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 177/86-CE, dated the 1st March, 1986.

(xiii) G.S.R. 146 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing rebate of special excise duty on export of excisable goods under Rule 12 or Rule 12 A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

(xiv) G.S.R. 147 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 together with an explanatory

tory memorandum allowing movement of excisable goods without payment of special excise duty under Rule 191 B of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

(xv) G.S.R. 174 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to certain notifications mentioned in the Notification.

(xvi) G.S.R. 258 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd May, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 82/84-CE, dated the 31st March, 1984.

(xvii) G.S.R. 355 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum directing that the whole of the duty of excise and the special duty of excise payable on such computer software in the form of a recorded media, but for the said practice shall not be requested to be paid during the period from 28th February, 1986 to the 27th April, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See no. LT - 514/91]

Export of Frozen Fish and Fishery products (Quality Control and Inspection) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1990

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-
MAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I beg to lay on the

Table a copy of the Export of Frozen Fish and Fishery Products (Quality Control and Inspection) Second Amendment) Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 3331 in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 515/91]

12.51 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the following two Bills passed by the House of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on 23rd August, 1991:-

(1) The Delhi Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991

(2) The Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Law Amendment (Second Amending) Bill, 1991.

12.52 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) **Need to set up Doordarshan Kendra at Hissar**

[English]

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI (Hissar): The long standing demand for providing a regional Doordarshan Kendra at Hissar has not been given due consideration so far. The foundation stone of the Doordarshan/AIR Building at Hissar was laid on

12-2-1991. But thereafter no progress has been made towards its establishment. The Haryana Government have provided 12 acres of land for setting up the Doordarshan Kendra at Hissar.

The need for Doordarshan Kendra is strongly felt to highlight the cultural heritage of Haryana and to give a fillip to the creativity of the people of Haryana. The steps for its speedy commissioning are required to be taken by the Central Government Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

(II) **Need to take immediate steps for all-round development of Thannithodu region in Pathanamthitta District, Kerala**

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the House about the pitiable condition of People of Thannithodu panchayat in Pathanamthitta District, Kerala which has a population of more than 20,000 which include Adivasis and Tribals. One has to travel about 20 KM through the forest to reach there. The People of this Panchayat face problems due to non-availability of basic amenities like drinking water, electricity, education, proper roads, and medical facilities etc.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps for the development of this panchayat under Rural Development Scheme of the Government of India.

(III) **Need to lay railway line between Arrah and Sasaram**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bikramganj in Bihar joins two historical cities-Arrah and Sasaram. Arrah is district

headquarters of Bhojpur district. It is a major business and industrial city. Not only this, it is the birth place of the great freedom fighter and brave fighter Babu Kunwar Singh as well as the centre of his activities. On the other hand, Sasaram is the birth place of the historical figure Shershah Suri and the centre of his activities. It is the district headquarters of Rohtas district and also a major business and industrial centre. The grave of world famous Sher Shah Suri is also there in Sasaram. It is a tourist place also. During the pre-independence days Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway used to serve as a link between these two cities. After Independence the railway line was dismantled on the pretext of converting it into broad gauge line. But unfortunately it has not been done so far. Consequently, lakhs of passengers who commute between Arrah and Sasaram have to face lot of hardships. The bus owners fleece the passengers and the people have to face lot of inconvenience. I, therefore, demand through you, that construction of a broad gauge line from Arrah-Sasaram to Bhavnathpur in Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh via Dihri and Rohtaspur be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

- (iv) **Need to set up cold storage and air conditioning rooms at important market places and also to establish Food Processing unit in Dindigul, Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI CHINNASAMY SRINIVASAN (Dindigul): Sir, in my Constituency, that is, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, many varieties of grapes and bananas are produced in abundance. Unlike other fruits like oranges, mangoes etc. Grapes and bananas are produced in Dindigul throughout the year in all seasons. The farmers engaged in the production of these fruits do not get proper

price for their products because those fruits cannot be preserved and kept for more than three days without providing proper facilities like Cold-Storage and Air-Conditioned rooms at important market places in the area. The Cold-Storage facilities and Air-Conditioned rooms will also be quite useful for preserving the betel leaves which are grown in large quantities in Dindigul.

Since grapes and Banana fruits are available in surplus quantity, these fruits can be processed, tinned and exported to foreign countries to earn foreign exchange.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Food Processing Industries kindly to arrange for provision of Cold-Storage facilities and Air-Conditioned rooms in important market places in Dindigul as also establish a Food Processing Unit in Dindigul so that the surplus fruits can be processed and exported for earning foreign exchange.

- (v) **Need to provide remote area allowance to the employees of Central Government posted in Himachal Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): The Central Government employees posted in remote areas of Himachal Pradesh do not either get Remote Area Allowance or accommodation at these places. As they are not able to keep their families with them and they have to hire accommodation and have to pay exorbitant rent. I would like to submit here that Central Government employees working in Himachal Pradesh have to work very hard. The employees of Telegraph and Telephone departments do not even get good quality uniform. The Railway employees posted at the Railway Stations between Kalka and Shimla do not get the Remote Area Allowance which is admissible to be employees of

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

those areas which have been declared remote area.

I demand that every employee in Himachal Pradesh, whether is a Central Government employee, be given Remote Area Allowance and accommodation facility at the place of posting.

- (vi) **Need to construct a railway over-bridge at railway crossing in Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): The railway crossing in Pilibhit is surrounded by four sugar mills, rice mill, oil mill and the Mandi Samiti. There is 24 hour traffic on this railway crossing and all modes of transport like bus, truck, tractor, cycle or rickshaw use it. When the trains come, the crossing is closed for a long time and as a result there is heavy traffic jam. There is every possibility of an accident there. Keeping in view the traffic congestion on this crossing, there is need for constructing an over-bridge here.

Therefore, I urge the Central Government to immediately construct an over-bridge on this railway crossing keeping in view the hardships being faced by people of the area.

12.58 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1991 - 92

Ministry of Agriculture,
Ministry of Food
and
Ministry of Rural Development -
CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Item Nos. 11 to 13 together. Shri Sobha-

nadreeswara Rao Vadde to continue his speech.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy - Speaker, Sir, because of the inadequate funding made for the development of rural areas and the gross negligence on the part of the successive Governments, today, it is very pathetic to find that nearly one lakh villages are yet to be electrified; more than a quarter of the villages are yet to be provided with road facilities; nearly 75,000 villages do not have an elementary school to cater to the educational needs of the children of such villages. More than 65 per cent of the villages are not yet covered under the veterinary care. Even after a decade of giving such priority to provide drinking water to the rural people, still there are several thousands of villages which are yet to be provided with safe drinking water. The other day, this Government has named the scheme of providing drinking water to the villages after our late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. His name was associated with that.

13.00 hrs

This shows to what extent the successive Governments have neglected the villages and the rural people. Unfortunately, from the Second Five Year Plan the Government was giving much importance to industries. They thought even without the agricultural development, the country can go ahead in the industrial sphere to provide employment to millions of people and improve the standard of living of this vast millions of our people in this country. But it proved wrong. While in the First Five Year Plan, allocation for agriculture was nearly 15 per cent, it came down to mere six per cent in the Seventh Plan. Similarly, for irrigation, which is a must for the agricultural development, in the First Five Year Plan, 22 per cent of the outlays were allocated for irrigation development. But it came down to 9.4 per cent in the

Seventh Plan and there is not much change in this year's plan also.

Surprisingly, industry which was given only 2.8 per cent of outlay in the First Five Year Plan, its allocation was increased to 11 per cent in the successive plans. As a result of this, what happened was, after the Seventh Five Year Plan, the country's Gross Net Product is not more than the average of African countries. The incidence of poverty is double to that of the rest of the world. Our five yearly average rate of growth of food production has been declining from one quinquennium to another starting from 1970-71 to 1974-75. And the growth rate in the foodgrains production now is less than what it was in the pre-Green Revolution period. And the employment growth in agriculture has declined sharply from 2.32 per cent per annum during 1972-73 to only 0.65 per cent during 1982-83 to 1987-88. And the share of agriculture and the allied products in the total export basket of our country has declined from 31 per cent to 16 per cent during the period 1981-89.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): That is not because the volumes have declined. That is because the manufactured products have increased and their share has increased.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: At the same time the agricultural share also should have increased.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is no way by which agriculture's share will increase. When you start your export drive, what you first export is commodities or agricultural products. As industry diversifies and more and more manufactured goods are exported, the share will come down. But that does not mean the volumes have come

down or values have come down or the unit value realisation has come down. The total prosperity of the agriculture sector is as a result of the fact that exports have increased and it will increase further as a result of new policy also.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Definitely not, because you have not taken and now also you are not taking any step for boosting the agricultural exports. Because of all these things, the country now is facing a very grave situation where the balance of payments position has become so critical that in a very short period, our rupee had to be devalued twice. And our gold was pledged outside our country three times in a very short period. This is all in spite of the fact that the domestic savings rate is at one of the very high levels in the entire world. If India is to be saved from this present condition, a national agricultural policy must definitely be adopted. I am very happy at least during Shri V.P. Singh's Government tenure a beginning was made and a draft National Agricultural Policy was prepared by the Standing Advisory Committee.

It was sent to the Government and very recently, the hon. Minister of Agriculture, Shri Balram Jakhar was telling that it was sent to the States for comments. My suggestion is that the Government should take a lot of interest over that and see that National Agricultural Policy Resolution is adopted. I do not know whether Shri Chidambaram will agree with it or not?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I like it very much.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Before the National Agricultural Policy Resolution is adopted, some important strategies have to be incorporated. You are aware, till now, lot of differential treatment was shown towards the farmers. In

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respect of industrialists and manufacturers, even the manufacturer who makes pencil has the right to determine its price, whereas, in respect of the agriculturalist, you are determining the prices - the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, recommends to the Government, where upon the Government will take a decision on that. The hon. Minister has said that the farmer is free to sell but in practice it is not so. You are well aware that because of the restrictions - between inter-district movement, inter-state movement - the farmer can sell his rice only if he can deliver the levy to the Food Corporation of India or the State Government and after which only, he can sell his rice in the rice form. In respect of incomes also, the terms of trade were adverse towards the agriculturalists. The average income from the agricultural sector to that of the non-agricultural sector is widening. Even the other day, the hon. Minister gave me the reply saying that the ratio of the income, NDP at current prices of agricultural to non-agricultural sectors was 0.43 per cent in the year 1970-71 and 0.786 in 1989-90. This has almost doubled. In regard to the facilities, the situation is very bad in the rural areas and the plight of the agriculturalists is very much worse. I have just now quoted some examples. I do not want to repeat them for lack of time. Our policy should be such that we should not be content with self-sufficiency. By the turn of the century, our population will be around one billion, when we require nearly 225 to 245 million tonnes of food-grains. This year we could produce nearly 176 million tonnes of foodgrains, which is a marginal improvement over the last year. The future is alarming because the expansion in irrigation sector till now is to some extent only, because of the steep increase in the cost of irrigation. The cost incurred on very big dams is increasing enormously and the cost of per acre irrigation facility works out to nearly Rs. 35,000/- per acre. In future, the irrigation

potential is going to be created for a very less area. So, the food production is not going to be increased at the rate, at which it was increased all these years. It is going to be much less. So, in these conditions, we must take some positive measures, to improve our agricultural production. When we cross the self-sufficiency figure and have surplus, then only, our main problems like poverty, unemployment and deficit trade balance will be resolved.

One more point is in respect of fertilizers. The Minister said that 12 per cent of post-tax profit margin was allowed for industrialists. Even after all this *hallagulla*, the Government has not said that they are going to reduce the profit of margin or that the Government is going to reduce the subsidy to the manufactures. You have thrown the burden on the farmers to bear the additional 30% cost. The farmer is facing all troubles, all natural calamities, all risks from pest to cyclone which are beyond his control. Whereas the manufacturing of industrial product is within the parameters of the management, within their control. But in respect of agriculture it is beyond our control. Yet we are toiling day in and day out. Under these circumstances not only the cost of production, but the margin of profit should be definitely there.

When we enquired through the Bhanu Pratap Singh Committee's recommendation on the CACP, they said that there is no fixed percentage of margin of profit allowed to the farmer. We request the Government to take into consideration all these aspects and take steps accordingly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Member will continue after the lunch break.

The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till ten minutes past Fourteen of the clock*

14.15 hrs

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock*

(SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GEN-
ERAL), 1991-92

Ministry of Agriculture,
Ministry of Food
and
Ministry of Rural Development -
CONTD.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: As Shri V. S. Rao was
on his legs, he may continue now.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO
VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Chairman Sir, I
was very happy when Balram Jakharji, the
Agriculture Minister said that the Govern-
ment is examining the model farmer scheme
suggested by Bhanu Pratap Singh Commit-
tee. The extension work is going on satisfac-
torily only in a few States like Punjab. In other
States like Andhra Pradesh, the training and
visit programme and the extension system is
not working satisfactorily. It is only in paper
and unless the results of the research work
reach the farmers, we cannot expect to at-
tain our full potential. When we compare the
average production with the average results
that have been obtained on the national
demonstration plots, there is nearly two and
a half times gap between what is being
achieved till today and what can be achieved
in future. Sir, this model farmer scheme
should be taken up definitely. If a small
farmer is trained and given all facilities, he
will be an ideal person to see that the fruits of

the research go to the farmers and our
agricultural production makes rapid strides.

I was very happy to know when the hon.
Minister was telling that the Government
wishes to have farmers training centres. I
express my sincere thanks for it. Similarly,
he said that Krishi Vigyan Kendras are also
to be started in a good number. By 1985,
actually every district was to be given a
Krishi Vigyan Kendra as per the National
Commission for Agriculture. But lot of delay
has taken place. So, I request the Govern-
ment to sanction one Krishi Vigyan Kendra in
my constituency, Krishna district, that is, in
the area of Garikapadu. The Andhra Pradesh
Agricultural University has sponsored a
programme to the ICAR so that the ICAR or
the Government of India need not take that
burden entirely on them. The AP Agricultural
University has also come forward to bear a
part of that burden and see that Krishi Vigyan
Kendras are started in every district.

The credit requirements of the farmers
are not fully met. You are aware of it and the
Finance Minister who is here might also be
aware of it. There is some limit to the credit
that is made available to a farmer. In some
cases, it may be Rs. 10,000 and in some
cases, it may be Rs. 20,000. But that is not
done as per their need and requirement. It is
not proportionate to the extent of land he is
holding and the crop he is growing and the
amount of loan that is required for each crop.
So, my suggestion is that unless the credit
requirement of a farmer is fully met, you
cannot expect full results from the farmer.

In respect of industrialists, you are giv-
ing nearly 75 per cent of the money he
requires if he interests about 20 to 25 per
cent as his contribution. But in respect of
farmer even though his land is worth Rs.
50,000, you are not even giving Rs. 3000
sometimes. The commercial banks are
hesitating to give money. There should be a
definite and drastic change in the attitude

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and the functioning of the commercial banks towards the credit requirements of the farmers. Till today, the production loan is given from sowing to harvesting. But Sir, the job of the farmer is not getting complete with harvesting. He has to take his crop to the market and sell it. Only after that, he gets some money in his pocket to pay back to the commercial banks or the financial institutions. So, this production loan must be extended till such time when the produce is sold and the farmer gets the money. I fervently appeal to the Agriculture Minister as also the Finance Minister not to stand on false prestige. I am aware that several members from your side also have been pleading in your party forums to restore the full subsidy in respect of fertilizers. Please do not burden farmers who are already treated in a step-motherly fashion all these years.

Though this Government has stated that the small farmers will not be burdened with the 30 per cent increase in the prices of fertilizers, I want to bring to your notice as to what is actually happening today. Even the small farmer has to buy the fertilizer at the increased price of 30 per cent. Then, he has to obtain a certificate from the Revenue Department and the Agriculture Department. And when he submits the certificate, then only he will be reimbursed. You all know how they function at the taluka level, mandal level and the district level. That is why several members from your side also have pleaded that a differential rate is not going to work. It will only lead to corruption and those farmers who are really poor, will not be benefited. Therefore, I appeal to you to kindly reconsider your decision and restore the subsidy in full to the farmers. After all, farmers are very poor, even when they own 10 acres or so. Here I would like to bring one point to the notice of the Government. Though small and marginal farmers comprise 75 per cent of the total farmers, they own only 20 per cent of

the total land. The lower and middle level farmers possess about 50 per cent of land. The other category of farmers own 20 per cent of the land. Sir, you cannot compare the life of even a middle level farmer with that of a chaprasi in Central Government. Therefore, I again request you to kindly reconsider your decision on fertilizer subsidy.

Now I come to food production. I will not repeat what my friend, Dr. Ummareddy has stated regarding the per capita availability of foodgrains. I would only mention that per capita availability of pulses and grams which are the only protein food available to poor persons, has gone down by half. The Indian Council for Medical Research says that a person should consume nearly 70 grams of pulses per day. But the per capita availability is only 33 grams per day. In respect of grams also it is the same case. The per capita availability which was 22 grams in 1951, has come down to 14 grams in 1989. The target of 14 million tonnes which was fixed in the year 1974 could not be achieved till today. It still remains a distant hope. I request the Government to be pragmatic. Kindly extend all your cooperation to the farmers. My friend Shri Chidambaram was telling that our manufacturers have exported a large number of products and because of that the percentage of exports in agricultural and allied sectors has come down. At what cost? How much subsidy you have given to the manufacturing sector! You have given hundreds of crores of rupees as cash compensatory support. How much benefit you have given to them by way of allowing complete freedom to import hundreds of crores worth machinery and in some cases import of a complete plant itself! Compared to this, what help have you given to the farmers? If you give them some help, even if it is not to that extent as is given in the manufacturing sector, our farmers also can improve their exports.

Our neighbour China has exported 5

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million tonnes of coarse grain and earned Rs. 100 crore worth of foreign exchange only two years back. Here, coarse grains are produced by the dryland farmers most of them are small and middle level farmers. But, are you procuring coarse grains? How many million tonnes of coarse grains have you procured? How much is produced and how much is procured? The prices in international market are favourable. Even if we have to lose a few crores of rupees in procurement, should we not do it? I say this because by exporting coarse grains, we can earn precious foreign exchange. Nowadays, 60 per cent of the world market in coarse grains belongs to the United States of America. The developed countries are feeding these coarse grains to the animals and then they are consuming them as they think that their mutton will be more tasty and will have more protein. I would say that our country should also take advantage of it.

Though India produces 20 times more paddy than that is produced in Pakistan, we are not exporting that much quantity of basmati rice as our neighbour country, Pakistan is exporting. India can definitely export thousands of crores of basmati rice and also coarse grains.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that on 29th February, 1988, the then Finance Minister in his Budget speech promised that his Government will come forward with a National Agricultural Credit Relief Fund. But we do not find it anywhere. Though a Committee headed by an eminent person like Mr. Tripathi had gone in depth into the matter and made recommendations till now no concrete action has been taken in respect of setting up of NACREF.

As a person coming from the Krishna district, which is by the side of the sea shore,

which have to experience the fury of the nature. Every alternate year or once in three years we have to undergo this experience. You are well aware of it and I will not repeat it. The other day I was asking a supplementary question regarding the Crop Insurance Scheme. I would say it is better to have something than not to have it. This scheme is covered the farmers who take loan from the financial institutions. My suggestion is that it should be extended to other farmers also who pay premium. At the moment you are not prepared to extend it to other crops, I would request you to at least extend it to the standing crops because the present provision says that the crop cutting experiments are conducted before the harvest. The Prime Minister, the Agriculture Minister and the top officers have themselves gone and seen how 15,000 acres of paddy was literally washed away by sea water because of the tidal waves. Though they are covered under the Crop Insurance Scheme, nothing was given to these farmers. I am telling you our bitter experience. I would request you to kindly think how best we can help such farmers who are subjected to such losses very frequently. How can our farmers stand on their own legs if such losses occur frequently? You yourself are a farmer. More than anybody else you know very well the plight of the farmers. So, my appeal to you is to kindly think of it.

Till now turmeric and chillies are not covered under the Support Price scheme. You please also think of it.

In the big cities people are made to pay very heavy prices for the fruits and vegetables but a farmer who is just 5 Km away from there does not get even 10 or 20 per cent of the price which the consumers are paying here in the cities. In Bangalore we have a very good scheme. The Bangalore Horticultural Growers Cooperative Society is making available the fruits and vegetables to the consumers of Bangalore, Mysore and

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some other parts of the State of Karnataka with 20 per cent margin and the rest of the 80 per cent goes to the farmers. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly consider it favourably and try to implement this scheme in all the Metropolitan cities. I know that in Delhi we have NDDB Scheme but it is at a very heavy cost. More than Rs. 70 crores are spent on this scheme. In contrast the other scheme which is in practice in Bangalore is very very cheap. With the scarcity of funds available with the Government, I think the Bangalore scheme is more useful to the consumers and also to the producers.

After many decades the Government has thought to set right the injustice which is being done to the farmers. To give solace to the farmers of this country, the Government had announced to observe 1990-2000 as *Kissan* decade. Their needs will be better taken care of. Their aspirations will be better taken care of. The National Front Government had taken this decade - 1990-2000-as *Kisan* decade. I am very sorry to hear from our good friend, our Kisan Leader, the other day that this Government do not think of treating this decade as *Kisan* decade.

So, I appeal to this Government, not to go back from that. Why was such a decision taken by the National Front Government? Because, there was a lot of injustice done to the farmers of this country, the rural people of this country. You kindly continue to treat this decade as *Kisan* decade and really help the farmers of this country.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

*SHRI BALIN KULI (Lakhimpur): Mr.

Chairman Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants in respect of Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development which is under discussion. Agriculture is the backbone of India. Seventy per cent of our population depend on agriculture for their livelihood. India has made tremendous progress in production of foodgrains. There was a time when India used to import foodgrains from foreign countries. Now we are self-sufficient in the production of foodgrains. Even we are in a position to export some of our agricultural produce. Here, I would like to mention that although there was a green revolution in some of the states of India, the performance of some other states are far from satisfactory. The progress in the field of agriculture is uneven. Even after 44 years of our independence there is regional imbalance. We will have to do away with the regional imbalance in order to gain the confidence of all the states.

India became independent in the year 1947. At that time Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid more stress on agriculture and as a result in the first five year plan a sizeable amount was spent for the development of agriculture. At that time also the opposition leaders used to criticise the agriculture policy; because we were not self sufficient in food grain production. Gradually, the situation improved as a result of the effective policy of the successive Congress Governments. Now, India is exporting superior quality rice, wheat, sugar, tea, cotton, jute spices and many other agricultural produce. Unfortunately our opposition leaders fail to appreciate these achievements of the Congress Government. They take keen interest in criticising our government. I wish that there should be a constructive criticism by the opposition leaders. That will help our government to function effectively.

I come from a very backward state i.e. Assam. The people of Assam are very peace loving. Assam is the abode of so many linguistic and religious groups living in peace and amity. There is never any communal tension in Assam. Paddy is the main crop of Assam and rice is the staple food of Assamese people. The farmers of Assam are very hard-working; but they are not equipped with latest types of implements and technical know-how. That is why their per hectare yield is poor and they cannot contribute much to the central pool. The peasants are subjected to distress sale and they should be free from exploitation.

In the districts of Nowgong, Goalpara, Darrang and Kamrup jute cultivation is done on a large scale. The farmers of our state are very diligent. They produce jute, paddy and many such other agricultural produce. The people of Assam are demanding to set up a jute mill at Mangaldoi since long; but it has not materialised so far. This proposal was put forth by our leader, Late Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, ex. President of India and the foundation stone was laid there. Therefore it is fervently requested that the proposed jute mill should be setup at Mangaldoi without any further delay. The Central Government should take necessary steps so that the aspirations of the people are fulfilled.

The next point that I would like to make is that Majuli is the biggest river-island in the world; where mustard is produced in large quantity. But for want of high yielding variety seeds, the production is not to the desired extent. Another thing is that our farmers lack in modern technology of agriculture and they do not have modern implements and as a result of that the production is less. Even they are not in a position to use fertilizer since the cost of fertilizer has gone up and sometimes those are not supplied in time. The government should ensure that the supply of fertilizer is regular and it is readily available to the farmers. I suggest that fertil-

izer should be made available to the farmers at their door-step through farmers Cooperative Societies.

Another point is that flood and soil erosion are perennial to Assam. They cause great harm to the farming community. Flood brings manifold miseries; such as, it washes out the standing crop and washes away fertile top-soil, thereby causing great loss to the farmers. In order to restrict soil erosion the government should take both short term and long term measures. This point was raised in this House time and again; but as ill luck would have it, no concrete steps have been taken by the Government so far. It is a matter of great regret. Therefore, once again I urge the government to take immediate steps in this regard; so that the people of Assam may have a sigh of relief.

The next point I would like to refer is that there is flood in one hand and drought on the other. The drought condition is very peculiar in Assam. The planners sitting in Delhi may not understand the real problem of drought in Assam; because it is something different from the rest of the country. They think that there is no drought prone area in Assam. But that is not a fact. It should be ensured that during drought season adequate irrigation facilities may be provided for better agricultural produce. It is my humble request to the Government of India and specially to the Minister of Water Resources to chalk out suitable schemes for Assam and implement them in the right earnest.

Although sugar-cane is not the main crop of Assam; but even then it is a cash-crop and in some areas of Assam sugar-cane is grown. There is only one sugar mill in Assam. That is why Assam is not self-sufficient in sugar production. We are to purchase sugar from other States for which a huge amount is spent on transportation of sugar, which can be avoided by setting up one or two more sugar mills in Assam. If that

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is done people will pay more attention to growing sugarcane. Therefore I urge the Government to give serious thought on the matter.

The next point I would like to refer is that the farming community of Assam are facing hardship in getting the right type of seeds at the right moment at a reasonable rate. The Seed Corporation of India should ensure that adequate quantity of certified seeds are made available on time. Sometimes it so happens that on account of sub-standard seeds, the farmers are to suffer. They get a very low yield per hectare. Alongwith the seeds the fertilizer also should be made available on time. Here I would like to mention one point, i.e. the farmers of Assam are very backward in a sense that they do not have the upto-date technology, agricultural implements and even they are ignorant of the types of fertilizers to be used for different crops. They are to be educated in this regard.

Another point is that if sowing is not done at the appropriate time, the produce becomes low. So, care should be taken to ensure supply of seeds for various crops, such as paddy, mustard, potato at appropriate time; otherwise farmers are to suffer loss.

The next point is that today Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are very much advance in the field of agriculture. There should be training programme for the farmers of other States to visit these states and see for themselves how best they can use these techniques in their respective states. In this process the farmers of different states can exchange their views on different aspects of cultivation and related things, thereby widening their knowledge through the experience of others. For this purpose a certain number of youths may be invited to visit

different states for training in agriculture. After training they will go back to their respective states and those trained youths themselves can impart training to other interested youths of their states. Such exchanges of ideas in the field of agriculture among the youths of different states will strengthen the thread of unity, and integrity of our mother land.

Mr. Chairman Sir, you are ringing the bell. So I will obey your order. At the end I must say that not only Assam, but the whole of North Eastern region (Seven-sister-states) are lagging behind in the field of agriculture. Therefore, my humble submission is that Assam should get its due share from the centre and the few suggestions put forth by me and many other Hon. Members will be taken care of. Once again I whole-heartedly support the demands for grants in respect of Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development under discussion. I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to participate in this debate and for a patient hearing. With these few words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA (Nowgong): I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands relating to the Ministry of Agriculture.

In India agriculture is a primary occupation. 75 per cent of our population depend on agriculture. But this primary occupation depends upon monsoon. If monsoon comes regularly and timely, there will be a good harvest. And if it does not come, then there will be drought. 30 per cent of the cultivable land is covered by irrigation system, and 70 per cent of the cultivable land depends upon monsoon. Therefore, I request the Government for expansion of intensive irrigation systems to cover larger areas of cultivable land because in our country what we find is

that there are some areas which are having heavy rainfall causing devastating floods and some other areas, there is no rain and drought is there because monsoon is not evenly distributed. Therefore, the irrigation system should be expanded more and more to supply water to the agricultural fields.

Today, cultivators are facing the problem of high cost of production because the prices of agricultural inputs are rising day by day. The price of fertiliser has risen by 40 to 50 per cent. At the same time, Government has withdrawn subsidy on fertilizer. Therefore, the poor agriculturists, those who are small and marginal agriculturists, find it very difficult to have those inputs because of higher cost. The Government has given the support price. Even then there is a wide gap between the support price and actual cost of production. At the same time, support price may help the big landlords and not the marginal farmers or small farmers because they produce crops only for their livelihood and they cannot sell it in the market. Therefore, there should be parity between the support price and the actual cost of production.

Again, what we find in our country is the problem of land re-distribution. Though there are land reforms Acts, those are not properly and sincerely implemented. With the result that there is no re-distribution of land among the cultivators. What we find is that the feudal landlords hide their properties by means of benami transactions. They keep their landed property in the name of their servants, husbands, wives, relatives, sons, daughters and even in the name of their cats and dogs. Therefore, I request the Government to bring some practical amendments so that actual re-distribution of land among cultivators take place, which is not the case so far. Not only that. The Government must be sincere in their hearts and purpose for the implementation of Land Reforms Act.

Again, what we find is that there is a vast

difference between the prices of agricultural produce and industrial products. There is no parity between the two. The agriculturists supply raw materials to the manufacturers, but the prices of industrial products are much higher than the agricultural produce. Therefore, the gap of parity should be removed and some sort of a parity should be maintained.

Again the farmers are suffering from lack of facilities for marketing their products. I may give an example in the case of Assam. One of my hon. friends has already mentioned that Assam is famous for jute cultivation. There is a Jute Corporation. But, Jute Corporation never go to market; they engage some *Dalal*. The actual farmers never get the reasonable price of their products. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to ask the Jute Corporation of India to go directly to the market and purchase the products from the market.

In Assam, there is an island which is famous for production of oilseeds. We find that we are suffering from the foreign exchange resources because we have to purchase large quantity of oilseeds from abroad. But, we can improve the position by increasing the production of oilseeds. If we take firm steps such as extension of financial aid to the poor cultivators, to equip themselves with the modern techniques of production, they will be able to increase the volume of production of oilseeds.

Then, I appeal to the Government to engage the cultivators in order to go to the deficit crop areas and deficit crop areas should be covered by the irrigation system so that they can contribute a lot.

Again, we have been boasting that we have got surplus foodgrains. But for the last two years we have been maintaining that by taking foodgrains from our existing stocks and we want to have self-sufficiency in the

[Sh. Muhi Ram Saikia]

case of foodgrains. But, at the same, time, what the Government of India did? They increased the price of the fertilisers. Is it not a blow to the cultivators? Is it not a serious blow to the production of foodgrains. Therefore, on the one hand we feel proud of having surplus foodgrains, but on the other, we want to increase the value of foodgrains. In other words, we want to restrict the cultivators from increasing the foodgrains production in our country by increasing the price of fertilisers.

The poor cultivators in rural areas are suffering from power. Power is one of the most important factor for the cultivators. All the farmers are suffering for lack of power. Power is most important thing for helping the agriculturists. Therefore, in that direction, the Government should take some steps so that there will be a regular supply of power to the poor cultivators.

In our rural areas there are some development works such as IRDP, Nehru Rozgar Yojna etc. All these schemes are for uplifting the poor people. In India, we find that 52 per cent of our population are living below the poverty line. We want to bring them up and for that purpose we have been interested in many schemes. The purpose of all these schemes is to generate more employment. But, in practice what happened? The people are not engaged there. Those things are done through contacts. The very purpose of the scheme is defeated because the local people are not employed. Where these schemes are implemented, the local people should be employed, so that there will be scope for generation of more employment and for generation of more social assets. But, in fact, we generally find that there is no such programme for more employment. There is need for more social research. But all these things are considered in the case of a few individuals. Therefore, my earnest

appeal to the Government is that it should not fail in its duty. Government say that they have been spending Rs. 600 crores on rural development. Government may spend on rural development. But that is the financial target that they are giving and not the physical target.

The Government should give more attention for the fulfilment of physical targets than the financial targets. For example, for the last forty years, we have been seeing the Government showing statistics only on financial targets and not physical targets. Therefore, the attitude of the Government should change from achieving financial targets to physical targets.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, It is very unfortunate that even after forty four years of independence, we have not been able to solve any of the problems that are faced by the farmers. We have neither been able to provide dams and sufficient irrigation facilities, not to speak of the drought-prone areas but even in other parts of the country, nor we have been able to take the adequate flood protection measures.

There are many other serious problems faced by the farmers today, some of the problems faced by them are the land acquisition, fertilisers, quality seeds, support prices, marketing facilities etc. These problems demand the immediate and most sincere attention of the Government. In spite of so many problems, we are now self-sufficient. The Hon. Minister for Food has intervened in the debate yesterday and said that we are in a position to export the foodgrains. If so, I think the farmers of the country deserve congratulations from all of us.

Approximately 70 per cent of the total population are in the rural areas and about

65 per cent are directly engaged in the agriculture. That is why I would like to request the hon. Minister and the Government that they should give top most priority to agriculture.

I welcome the decision of the Government to open an agricultural University in the North East, in Manipur, which they have announced yesterday.

There is another aspect which needs the attention of the Government and is connected with the agricultural farming and that is family planning. Unfortunately due to shortage of time, I think, the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Health will not be discussed and is going to be guillotined.

15.00 hrs

But I would request the Government to give due importance to family planning. Because every problem which we face today in the country originates from the fast growth of population.

Sir, I would like to confine myself to the problems of Arunachal Pradesh as I am the only speaker from the State. We have about 84,000 sq. kilometres of geographical area in Arunachal Pradesh. But only 5 per cent of the total area is in the foothills and 3.35 per cent of the total area is cultivable. Our state Government which is very strong and stable has been doing their best to provide irrigation facilities for terrace cultivation and also to educate the people to avoid jhooming cultivation. Efforts are on to promote horticulture and other types of farming. But as you know, due to paucity of funds, our Arunachal Pradesh Government has not been able to do much. There are many other areas where tremendous scope for development. These are apple, pineapple, orange, potato, gardens etc. Many hundreds of medicinal herbs are also understood to be found in Arunachal Pradesh. Prominent among them

is mishmiteeta which was once exported and was one of the foreign exchange corner of this country. Our State Government has taken up many steps to encourage the cultivation of mishmiteeta which are found in the areas more than 7000 ft. from the sea level. A number of schemes have been taken up under IRDP, but now it is understood that there is no market for mishmiteeta. So, the beneficiaries of IRDP are facing serious problems today. I hope the hon. Minister for Agriculture will seriously take note of it.

Arunachal Pradesh Government has also taken measures for development of dairy farming, goatery farming and fishery farming. Fishery farming is found to be doing very well in Arunachal Pradesh. So, it is my sincere request to the Central Government that they should provide more funds to Arunachal Pradesh for all round development. They should not provide meagre amount as is done every year to make the small and poor States depending entirely on the Centre.

Sir, very recently, a few tea gardens also have come up in Arunachal Pradesh. But the NABARD is found to be not interested to advance loans to Arunachal Pradesh. I hope the hon. Minister for Agriculture will kindly take up the matter.

With regard to the Ministry of Food, I do not have much to say, but I will definitely say, Sir, that we entirely depends on foodgrains from other parts of the country. But the quality of foodgrains which we get is too bad. As you know, there is communication problem in our State. Even the district headquarter from which I have come is not linked with the road communication.

So, in many administrative circles including my district HQ, foodgrains are being dropped by air. Due to defects in packing, the packages get burst and force us to take these bad quality foodgrains. So, I would like

[Sh. Laeta Umbrey]

to request the hon. Minister for Food to look into this problem.

Then, I would like to speak a few words on rural development. Our Congress Government had taken up various poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes such as IRDP, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, etc. The IRDP schemes and Jawahar Yojana and other poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes, are implemented successfully in my State. I think, it is mainly because of the proper functioning of the Panchayati Raj system and the village councils. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister to give more money, especially for IRDP and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana programmes because Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is the scheme where the interference of political leaders like MLAs, MPs, and Ministers are not there; money goes directly to the Zilla Parishads and the people elected from the grassroot level decides the areas of implementation and it is being implemented successfully. Then, there are modalities fixed for the implementation of IRDP schemes which are uniform throughout the country. I request the hon. Minister and the Government to look into it and review the matter because the problems are different from place to place and the modalities which are being recommended are not suitable in places like our State. So, it should be based on the problems of the areas concerned.

Sir, the 64th Constitution (Amendment) Bill was brought and it was passed in this House, but unfortunately it was defeated in the other House. The Bill was brought to give power to the people and for strengthening the democracy at the grassroot level. I demand the govt to bring the Historic Bill of Panchayati Raj and Nagar Palika within this session. It should be brought not because our party had promised it during the election, but it is felt very necessary to strengthen

democracy at the grassroot level. So, I would like to tell the Government, through you. That we have already delayed on the Bills and from the way the Government is delaying, it seems to me that the Government will not be able to present this Bill in this Session. If we are not able to bring this Bill in this Session, we will be doing great injustice to our people and they will not excuse us.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I begin with the 'Arthdevan-Suktam' of the "Rigveda" Krishim idat Krishasva witte ramasva bahumanya manavah". It reads that one must opt for agriculture only and lead an honourable life with the wealth gained from it. The farmers too, as I think, started agriculture following the above 'Suktam' but I am sorry to state that even after 44 years of independence, the farmers did not get their right of leading an honourable life in states during the rule of any Government.

Even today, villages do not have a school, roads, a post office, or a dispensary. If there is any dispensary at all, it is without any building, if there is any doctor at all, there are no medicines, if there is any doctor at all, there are no medicines, if there are medicines at all, there is no nurse in the dispensary. During these 40 years, the benefit of Government's efforts did not reach the deserving persons. Therefore, we may notice today that the condition in villages is not satisfactory, there is exodus from villages. Today the educated youth blacksmiths, carpenters, weavers and the poor are fleeing to towns. Today, there are 32 crore such persons who pull trollies in towns and are spending their lives on footpaths. What happens today is that for every purpose, may it be a problem of electricity, or of water or of school, the farmer has to rush to the Government with a bowl in his hands. Today

the farmer has boosted the prestige of the country by increasing the production of foodgrains from 5.5 crore tonnes, in 1950 to 18 crore tonnes. The farmer has saved the country from turning a beggar. There was a time when the ministers used to rush to America with a begging bowl. Today we can say with pride that the foodgrain production has reached a record level. But the farmer did not get any benefit of that record production. His condition is still unchanged. Even today he lives in a hut the roof of which leaks during the rains as hitherto and he has to shift his bad and so, he from one place to the other to avoid being soaked. Even today his house is what it was before - having nothing worth to be called asset. The only reason behind this, as I think, is that cotton is cheap but the cloth made from it is dear, similarly sugar-cane, and ground-nuts, are cheap but sugar and oil are dear and this is why the farmer has in a miserable position today. Today the rate of cotton is Rs. 10 per kilogram, but the rate of yarn is Rs. 50 per kilogram and the rate of cloth is Rs. 100 per kilogram.

Due to this very injustice and tyranny the condition of the farmers continued to be miserable. In past due to wrong policies of the Government and their wrong implementation thereafter, the farmer became poorer. Today we may see that the farmer grows sugarcane with hard labour shedding his blood and sweat. Brother-in-laws and sister-in-law irrigate their fields, irrigate the sugarcane, the sister-in-laws taken here 6 month old baby with her to the field, and somehow she manages to put to sleep the child on a make shift swing tied between the two trees and thereafter she starts irrigating the fields. In course of irrigating the fields her finger is cut by the sharp leaf of the sugarcane plant and her finger starts bleeding, she is not able to even bandage her bleeding finger and she dips it in the water. Blood is flowing with water there, thus the farmer feeds the sugarcane his own blood, then grows the sugar-

cane. Thus, the farmer grows the sugarcane by investing his blood, sweat, water and money but he does not get the full price of the sugarcane. Even today shortcomings in agriculture policy exist. Sugar Mill is set up but no industry is set up there for the by products of sugarcane. Paper can be prepared from bagasse.

Wine and petrol may be prepared from molasses. If above industries are set up in places where there are sugar mills, the farmer may get a price of Rs. 150 per quintal for his sugarcane instead of Rs. 40 per quintal and the condition of farmer may thus improve. But I am constrained to say that the Government has not paid any attention to all these schemes. If no attention is paid to the farmers, their anger may burst any time like a volcano. The farmer will not tolerate injustice and tyranny for a long time.

Today the farmer has understood that he has the power with which he can make or change a Government. So, today due attention needs to be paid to the farmers. Mr. Chairman, Sir, soldiers and jawans come from villages to face the enemies; labourers come from villages to run the wheels of factories; labourers come from villages even to pull trollies in towns. Today, 60 per cent industries in towns and factories run with the help of agricultural products; the contribution of villages to the national income is 30 per cent, even then he is not given his due share. So discontent is spreading among farmers. Migration is taking place from villages these days. The water of rural rivers is flowing in to the seas, and there is flight of youth to foreign countries. Doctors, scientists, engineers and labourers are taking up employment abroad. What is the reason that we can not give them incentives in our own country?

So, far as the agriculture policy is concerned, it has disheartened and disappointed the farmer. I would like to cite an example. The Government fixed the support price of

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wheat at Rs. 130 in 1981. The then Agriculture Minister made a statement that adequate foodgrains had been produced in our country. Despite it, wheat was purchased from America and the price paid was Rs. 174 per quintal and its freight was Rs. 80 per quintal and thus it cost Rs. 274 per quintal in India. But we did not pay to our farmers more than Rs. 130 per quintal. At that time the rate of cotton was Rs. 500 per quintal, yet cotton was purchased from abroad. It was purchased at the rate of Rs. one thousand per quintal from Pakistan whereas the Indian farmers were paid at the rate of Rs 500 per quintal for the cotton purchased from them. Hence, why should the India farmers increase the production of foodgrains and cotton? If they are not given a fair price for their produce, why will they increase the production? Keeping all this in view, I am giving you an example of 1980-81, because at that time also we were deficient in sugar and even then sugar was exported. We purchased sugar from London at a higher price while it was available at cheaper rate from Thailand. Although there was shortage of groundnut and edible oils in the country, yet groundnut was exported to America and then we imported groundnut oil and rape seed oil.

I fail to understand the logic behind this game of the Congress Governments. The articles which are in shortage in our country are exported abroad, and then we go in for purchase of those very articles from abroad. It makes it clear that payment of commission is involved in the transactions for sale and purchase, of that is the reason being first exporting an item and then importing the same into the country. If this policy continues, it will create frustration and despair among the farmers.

I recall the days of 1951-52 when our leader Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and

Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel had asked to give priority to agriculture. Had we given that priority to agriculture since 1951-52, the plight of farmers and poor of the country would not have reached the present stage and they would have got maximum benefit.

15.19 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

If we look at the agriculture policy of the country, we will find that average percentages of Irrigation is different in different States. We can't supply water to farmers of every State, equally. I would like to submit that during 1986-87, the percentage of irrigation vis-a-vis production of foodgrains was 92.1 per cent in Punjab, 16.5 in Madhya Pradesh, 48 per cent in Tamil Nadu, 17.5 per cent in Karnataka, 19.9 per cent in Gujarat, 21.8 per cent in Rajasthan, 67.9 per cent in Haryana and 45 per cent in Andhra Pradesh. The different percentage of irrigation in different States causes discontentment among States. The irrigation percentage is the maximum in Punjab and Haryana but still there is a river water dispute between the two states. You are also aware of the Cauvery water dispute between Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. It is also the cause of discontentment there. Since irrigation percentage is only 16 per cent in Madhya Pradesh so there should be more discontentment there. We try to solve river water disputes through Inter-State Tribunals but these disputes become more complicated. All the awards given by tribunals relating to Godavari, Krishna and Narmada took 8-10 years but they became more complicated. The dispute has begun on Interim-order of Cauveri Tribunal. It is before us. The Central Government will not take keen interest to solve these matters until we pay attention towards it.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this regard, I would like to suggest that all the rivers should

be nationalised. Rivers should be considered as a national asset and much water should be allocated to the States where irrigation percentage is less. The principle of lower riparian should be abolished and water should be distributed to all States equally so that irrigation percentage is equal in all the States.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today the irrigation percentage of whole of the country is 32.7 and 70 percent foodgrains are produced with only 30 percent irrigation. The alarming rate of population growth will touch the mark of 100 crores at the end of this century and the mark of 160-170 crores till 2024. We will have to initiate efforts now to ensure that foodgrains are available to the people at that time. What are you planning in this regard? Today, the population is increasing continuously and you have failed to check it. Keeping in view the situation, if we don't increase the production of foodgrains, we would be faced with a great difficulty in future.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards one thing particularly to dry farming. Today we are spending crores of rupees on dry land farming. But it is not going to benefit us much. How long we would depend on dry farming. Until and unless you make arrangement for providing water, agricultural sector would not be benefited. In this connection, I would like to quote an example of Madhya Pradesh. Narmada river is the most pious river of Madhya Pradesh. According to the award of Narmada Tribunal, Narmada Sagar Dam was to be cleared. But the matter has been pending in Central Water Commission, Delhi for 3-4 years. Bureaucrats are sleeping over it. Time and again one or two questions are asked and it takes years to get the reply. Four years ago, the cost of the Dam was estimated Rs. 900 crores which has now been escalated to Rs 1500 crores and it would become Rs 2000 crores after some-

time. In this way, Madhya Pradesh has suffered double loss. On the one hand, the cost of the Dam has been increasing and on the other hand, Madhya Pradesh have been deprived of the benefits of this dam. Would we hold officers or Ministers responsible for it? Because of whom the matter was delayed? Would we hold Tribunal responsible which could not dispose of the matter in time. No agreement has so far been signed till now regarding financial assistance to be provided by the World Bank for the construction of Narmada Sagar Dam. The Government of Madhya Pradesh is approaching Prime Minister time and again, we are also making requests to the Central Government again and again to make available the financial assistance from the World Bank, for the purpose. 157 crores of rupees should be allocated to the Government of Madhya Pradesh from the Eighth Five Year Plan until the assistance is received. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has made a demand in this regard. Only then the construction of Narmada Sagar Dam would be possible. After constructing the Narmada Sagar Dam would be possible. After constructing the Narmada Sagar Dam, 450 lakh acres of land would be brought under irrigation in my Constituency alone and 2 lakh acres of land would be irrigated in its adjoining Dhar District. It is such a comprehensive plan that the Central Government should take interest in it and allocate more funds.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, similarly, Maheshwar Project falls under Khargon District. It is a plan of Rs. 467 crores and 400 MG electricity would be generated from it. C.W.C., C.E.A. have already given their approvals to it. But the Department of Environment has not yet cleared it. That is why the matter is pending and this project could not be started. All the queries have been replied to by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The cost of Onkeshwar Project is of Rs. 788 crores and 520 M.G. electricity would be generated from it. The clearance

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from the Ministry of Environment and Forests is also awaited and the matter is lying pending. I would like to urge that the Department of Agriculture should take keen interest. I would like to request the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture to make coordination among the Environment and Forests, Finance and other Ministries which keep the matter pending. The coordination work should be done by the Agricultural Department because agriculture department is responsible for the welfare of the farmers which is only possible if there is adequate irrigation facility available for which dams are required to be built. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent 51 projects to the Central Government. These projects are lying pending because of not getting the clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Ten, fifty and even one hundred acre of land at different places has submerged—(Interruptions).... It should be cleared by the Central Government. In 1980, an amendment was made with drawing all the powers of State Government. If ten acres of land submerge, we have to obtain the clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The clearance is not given that is why 51 projects of Madhya Pradesh are lying pending. There is one project in my district under which a dam was to be constructed. It was started prior to 1980. Sixty lakh rupees have already been spent. An act was enacted during 1980. Now it requires permission. No permission has yet been given. There are several projects of Madhya Pradesh which aim at supplying electricity to rural areas. Poles were to be erected on the land of Department of Forests. But the Central Government does not give permission. It has been mentioned in the record that it is the forest land. But there are no forest on this land. Permission is not granted on the pretext that land will come under submission. Permission should be granted to this effect at the earliest by the Department of Forests.

There has been indiscriminate felling of trees through out the country and the percentage of rainfall is decreasing. Wells and tubewells have been dug in many areas but there the water level has gone down. We have no way to raise the water level. We depend on nature. Even today, the rain water goes waste to the sea but we are unable to check it. There is a well-recharging system for it. Special Application Centre, Ahmedabad and Technical Institute-Indore have prepared ambitious projects. A technique has been develop under which rain water goes back to wells with the method of recharging wells and tubewells. Rain water can be sent down to the ground and the water level can be raised.

[English]

Exploration on Recharge to the ground water aquifer by percolation bores and wells. ➤

[Translation]

Our scientists of Indore Agriculture College have implemented this scheme properly. I am also a farmer. I myself have experienced the recharging of water in my well. The said well used to dry up during summer. If recharging is done during rainy season, there would be water in the wells for a period of four hours. If recharging method is adopted the country would be benefited a lot. The project which the Government of Madhya Pradesh intends to implement, should be implemented through out the country. Only then, we would be able to raise the water level which is going down constantly. I demand that powers should be given to the States under the Forests Conservation Act so that small projects could be cleared at the level of State Government, otherwise these projects will remain pending with the Central Government for years together. We should avoid pendency.

Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme was intro-

duced for farmers during the regime of Janata Party in 1978. It is incomplete because it was introduced only in some selected blocks. This Crop Insurance Scheme was introduced only in the areas where adequate irrigation facilities were available.

How will the farmers be benefited by that? I would like to submit that in areas where there is scanty rainfall farmers should be covered under Crop Insurance Scheme. Unless the farmers are covered individually the purpose would not be served. Once wheat was ready in the fields and the area suddenly experienced hailstorm. The insurance amount was calculated on the basis of the land holdings and the total crop production. If a farmer had 5-10 acres of land and his entire crop was ruined he got a meagre amount of Rs. 1000 only. Unless the system is changed and crop insurance is done on individual basis and the areas where there is scanty rainfall is also covered, it will not serve any purpose. Similarly, unless insurance cover is provided for pulses and oil seeds, the production of these crops cannot increase.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to suggest that the premium of the Insurance cover for crops of the farmers should be paid by the Government as is done in Japan.....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Member may continue his speech on the next occasion.

The house shall now take up the Private Member's Business. Introduction of Bills.

15.31 hrs.

HIGH COURT OF ORISSA (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT SAMBALPUR) BILL*

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a

Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Orissa at Sambalpur.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Orissa at Sambalpur."

The motion was adopted

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I introduce the Bill.

15.31 1/2 hrs.

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Insertion of New Articles 23A, 23B and 23C)

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

15.32 hrs.

MARRIED WOMEN (PROTECTION OF RIGHTS) BILL*

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to protect the rights of married women and for matters connected therewith.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, section 2, dated 30.8.1991.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to protect the rights of married women and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

15.32 1/2 hrs.

BANNING OF SEX DETERMINATION TESTS BILL *

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the ban on pre-birth sex determination tests and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a bill to provide for ban on pre-birth sex determination tests and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE (AMENDMENT) Bill*

(Substitution of new long title for long Title, etc.)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a bill further to amend the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957."

The motion was adopted

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I introduce the bill.

15.33 1/2 hrs.

ABOLITION OF BEGGING BILL *

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT RAJKOT BILL*

[English]

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI (AMRELI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Gujarat at Rajkot.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Gujarat at Rajkot."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 1/2 hrs.

HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT RAJKOT) BILL*

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA (JUNAGARH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Gujarat at Rajkot.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Gujarat at Rajkot."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA: I introduce the Bill.

15.35 hrs.

PUBLIC PREMISES (EVICTION OF UNAUTHORISED OCCUPANTS) AMENDMENT BILL*
(Amendment of Section 2)

[English]

SHRISHARAD DIGHE (Bombay-North Central): Sir, I beg to move for leave to

introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: I introduce the Bill.

15.35 1/2 hrs.

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT GUNTUR) BILL*

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vjayawada): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Guntur.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Guntur."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of Article 58, etc.)

[English]

SHRI V.N.SHARMA (Hamirpur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, I beg to oppose its introduction. You would see that this Bill runs counter to the provisions of the Constitution in as much as it seeks to create two classes of citizens within the country itself. In this regard, before I refer to the Preamble and to the fact that it intends to alter the basic structure of the Constitution of India, I would very Briefly refer to the provisions of article 15 of the Constitution about prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of Birth. It says:

"15(1) The State Shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them."

By this Bill the Hon. Member seeks to make sweeping changes in various Articles of the Constitution to say that a person, who is citizen of India only by birth shall be entitled to complete for those or to hold those positions.

In this respect, I have to submit, as I said after referring to article 15, if these amendments are brought about, it would alter the basic structure of the Constitution of India. We talk only of a citizen of India and a citizen of India, Who gets citizenship under article 5 of the Constitution, is as good as any citizen of the country. Now here, the Hon. Member does not wish to amend article 5. He does not wish to amend Preamble. He does not wish to amend Article 15 of the Constitution.

And in the absence of seeking to make an amendment in the Articles that I have referred to, we cannot proceed with the Amendment which is sought to be introduced now. This is the basic point Sir. I will come to the legislative competence subsequently because the subtle law of the coun-

try is that the Parliament also has no right to alter the basic structure of the Constitution. And in this case, it alters the basic structure as we should not distinguish between a citizen and a citizen. The qualifications for getting the citizenship of the country are mentioned in Article 5 which I just now referred to. They are:

- (a) Who was born in the territory of India; or
- (b) either of whose parents was born in the territory of India; or
- (c) who has been ordinarily resident in the territory of India for not less than five years immediately preceding such commencement.

Only such a person shall be a citizen of India. And thereafter, certain rights flow to a citizen of India under the Constitution. Now, by seeking to introduce this Amendment, the Hon. Member from the other side seeks to curtail the basic fundamental rights of the citizens of India to compete for the various offices that the country offers to the citizen. Sir, I would like to submit that in the absence of the other provisions of the Constitution remaining as such, which the hon. Member does not refer to, we cannot proceed with this Amendment. This is my submission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Vishwanath Sharma, have you got anything to say?

SHRI. V.N.SHARMA (Hamirpur): Sir, should I speak in English or Hindi?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: If you have not followed in English, I will repeat it in Hindi.

[English]

SHRI. V.N.SHARMA: The language of

the Bill should be as per the convenience of the framer of the Bill. I very humbly seek your pardon, Sir, That since this is the first time I am introducing a Bill, there could have been lacunae here and there. But I hope the spirit behind the move will be understood and will be appreciated.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I object the basic spirit behind the amendment.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): And also the very spirit of the Hon. Member for introducing the Bill. (Interruptions)

SHRI V.N.SHARMA: Sir, I have clearly stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, which I have started with certain examples, that

"In U.S.A. a person is appointed as the head of the Government only if he is a citizen of that country by birth."

I would like to mention that a very eminent citizen of that country who was a Secretary to that State for a very long time could not become the head of the Government because he was not an American by birth. I am referring to one gentlemen. Likewise, in England, the King or the Queen should be a Christian. A person who has lived almost all his life abroad and having allegiance to another country may become a citizen of the country under certain circumstances but should not be allowed to occupy important and sensitive position in the country. I have further clarified it in the Statement.

"The Bill aims to avoid a situation wherein a person who is not a citizen of the country by birth and who has lived abroad for quite a long time or for most of his life holds an important position like President, Prime Minister, etc. in the country. The Bill accordingly seeks to amend the Constitution."

Sir, I would like to further elaborate on this point. Every country has what we call an *atma* which is understood mainly by the

people who are born there and who are raised there in the culture. Only those are the people who, under all circumstances, owe their allegiance to the country and to the welfare of its people.

I have elaborated it in my aims. A person who has lived 70 years abroad, and who might have born somewhere under peculiar conditions, becomes a citizen of this country. But he is not likely to have the same feelings for the welfare of this country and its nationals than one who has been born and living all his life here.

As far as the objection to the alterations to the basic structure of the Constitution is concerned, may I add that the Directive Principles also say that the State will endeavour to have a common law. This Government which is presently in power is the same Government which is in power for most of the time since Independence. So, this Government itself has failed to bring about a common law. Not only that Violating the Directive Principles, in the Shah Bano Case, they amended the Constitution to make some provision for maintenance allowance for Muslim women. Therefore, I would like to say that this argument does not hold much water. That is all I wish to submit.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Sir, we are at the stage of introduction of the Bill. The objection raised by the Hon. Member relates to the constitutional validity of the Bill. It has been argued that by this amendment, the Bill would become *ultra vires* because it violates the basic structure of the Constitution.

May I submit that the Bill seeks to amend Article 58 which says:

" No person shall be eligible for election as president unless he:-

(a) is a citizen of India,

(b) has completed the age of thirty-five years, and

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

- (c) is qualified for election as a member of the House of the People."

Now, these qualifications of the President are not basic features of the Constitution. These qualifications can always be altered by the people's representatives who are elected by the people. This can be done by bringing a Constitutional Amendment. Of course, a constitutional amendment would require the requisite majority. But that is a question which would come up at the stage of passing of the bill. So far as the basic structure of the Constitution is concerned, in Keshavananda Bharati case, the Hon. Supreme Court has not spelt out as to who should be a citizen and who should be the President of this country. This has not been put in the category of various criteria which constitute the basic structure of the Constitution. For example, ours is a federal structure. Suppose we want a dictatorial regime and we want to bring an amendment on those lines, then that would tantamount to the violation of the basic structure of the Constitution. I would like the learned member who is objecting to this Bill, to cite even one single sentence from Keshavananda Bharati case, to the effect that the qualifications to become the President are the basic structure of the Constitution. Nowhere is it mentioned. To illustrate this point a little further I would mention one point. Suppose we decide that we want to reduce the age to 25 to 35 or increase it to 40, that would not change the basic structure of the Constitution.

It is within the right and purview of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha to amend the Constitution on this matter. Therefore, I would submit that invoking the basic structure of the Constitution by mere word of mouth is not enough. It must be proved from the judgement of Keshavananda Bharati's case which is the basic judgement and the only judgement on this point. Therefore, I would submit that on the point of admissibility at

introduction stage, this objection is not tenable.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Generally, the introduction of Private Member's Bill is not opposed. Generally, the Members accept the Statement of Objects incorporated in the Private Members' Bill. Whenever it is discussed, the Members are entitled to put their views. But, here certain changes are sought to be made which infringes upon the fundamental right chapter of the Constitution of the Country. In this case I would like to refer to Article 13 of the Constitution. Article 13 of the Constitution says:

"All laws in force in the territory of India, immediately before the commencement of the Constitution in so far as are inconsistent with the provision of this part shall be to the extent of such inconsistency being void."

With it please read Article 14 of the Constitution, which is about the equality before the law.

There may be differences in the matter of acquisition of the right of the citizenship. There may be citizenship by birth or from some other consideration, as has been defined in Article 5 but citizens are citizens. They have got equal rights. They should enjoy equality before law. Therefore, Sir, this provision of the Bill seeks to create distinction between one segment of citizens from another segment of citizens. There is no doubt that citizenship right has been obtained in different ways. Somebody has obtained the citizenship right by birth or by residing within the country for a specific period of time. Whenever he or she acquires citizenship, she or he is entitled to enjoy the equality before law. Therefore, I think this violates part III of the Constitution of the country, that is the Fundamental Rights.

A mention has been by the Hon. Member about the practice in U.S.A. and U.K. I think that has been the part of their Constitutions. Just because certain things are there in the United Kingdom or United States of America

they cannot be applicable to our country when they are not consistent with the Constitution of our country. Therefore, Sir, I feel that you should give your ruling and it should not be introduced.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, I would like to submit since he has referred to Keshavan and Bharti's case...

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I am on a point of order. How can a particular Member speak every now and then?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Because, the Hon. Member from the other side called upon me to respond. For that simple reason I am rising otherwise, I would not have.

(Interruptions)

Kindly bear with me. This is in response to what the Hon. Member has said from the other side and he wanted a clarification from my side. He asked me to point out anything in regard to Keshavanand Bharati's case...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, you will have a chance. kindly, let us hear other hon. Members. You have raised a Constitutional point.

SHRI SUDHIR RAWAT (Rajapur): Sir, we clearly understand with what aim, this bill has been attempted to be introduced. Now, the question is about the legislative competency of this House. The Supreme Court, after the Keshavanand Bharti's case and successive judgements thereafter had clearly ruled that any provision that strikes at the fundamental structure of the Constitution cannot be allowed and the Parliament cannot be legislative on such matters. Now, the question here is not what has been done in U.S.A. or U.K. Our founding fathers have clearly laid down the provisions of this Constitution and the provisions of the Constitution are as per the requirements of the people of India. The very first statement, the Preamble itself says: WE, THE PEOPLE OF

INDIA" having solemnly resolved to constitute India..." That is why, we cannot go by the precedents that have been set in U.S.A or U.K. Because the conditions there are completely different.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: There also, Indians are working as judges and members of Parliament.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Even otherwise, we have to follow the tenets of our Constitution and not depend upon the precedents set by other Constitutions. This is my first point.

My second point is regarding the question of legislative competency. Article 5 is very clear, as to who will be the citizen of this country. In chapter III, it guarantees Fundamental Rights to the citizens of India. Article 14 states:

"The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India."

Even Article 15 states:

"The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them."

So, it further amplifies the issue. So, we cannot discriminate any citizen purely on grounds of place of birth. The Constitution is very clear. Any Enactment or a Bill meant to be introduced and which affects the Fundamental Rights of any citizen of this country or strikes at the very basic structure of the and which is away from the issue is ultra vires of the Constitution. That is why, the introduction of this Bill cannot be allowed. It is because the Parliament is not empowered to legislate on this particular matter.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the first and important reason is that this is a Private Members Business day. It has been the convention that Private Members Bills are not op-

[Sh. Sudhir Sawant]

posed at the level of Introduction. Once, the Bill comes, then, one can discuss its positive and negative views. It has been the convention of this House that the Private Members Bills are not opposed at the introduction stage.

Secondly, only last week, the Government introduced the Bill which I called as the black Bill and you people thought that it was a golden Bill and that is regarding places of religious worship.

When the issues were raised here, they were debated. The Speaker had ruled that the constitutional validity of the Bill will not be decided by the Speaker, it will be for the Supreme Court or the High Court to decide. So, that decision has to be taken not by the Speaker - that is what the Speaker has ruled - but the constitutional validity will be decided by the High Court or by the Supreme Court.

So, only last week, the Speaker had given this decision. Now, this is a decision of the last week; and there has been a convention by which the Private Members' Bills are not opposed. So, taking into consideration all these factors, I request you to over rule the objections raised by the Hon. Members.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there be no debate. You have explained your views.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: With utmost respect, I would like to say that Keshavananda Bharati case refers to only certain facets, certain aspects of the basic structure of the Constitution; it does not review the entire Constitution to say that these are basic structures and these are not. When I made a submission that this runs counter to the basic structure of the Constitution, I was referring to the citizenship and to Article 15 of the Constitution that the State shall not discriminate between citizens on

the ground of place of birth; and in this case, the Hon. Member Shri Ram Naik, when he referred to the ruling of the Hon. Speaker last week he forgot that here is a case which on the face of it violates the Constitution. There are certain provisions which are not touched by introducing this Bill. Had he sought to make an amendment in those provisions also - perhaps Mr. Ram Naik was right - perhaps at this stage would not have opposed it. But, there are certain provisions - I am on a technical ground - which are left untouched; and in the absence of seeking to amend those provisions, you cannot amend certain other provisions of the Constitution. And I am not going into the merit of the matter that there are various other countries where there are Indians who are Indians by birth but they hold very important positions there. I am not going into the aspect as to what impact it would have on the international community; that India is becoming a close society. I am not referring to those points. I have reserved those points for a subsequent occasion. I am referring only to the technical aspects; and on those aspects alone my submission is that this Bill has to be objected to and ruled out.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am glad that after the Keshavananda Bharati case no individual has a right to disturb the basic structure of the Constitution. A Private Member Bill against this move was introduced by Shri Nath Pai. The Hon. Members who supported him at that time do not want a change in the basic structure of the Constitution now. When he was arguing for the Bill many supported him. Those who were against it, had to spend nineteen months in jail later. I would like to submit that an effort is being made to deprive the Private Members from moving a Bill on technical grounds.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sir, I feel that this would create hurdles in our independent working. Therefore, I think that though they can stop the introduction of this Bill through a majority vote they cannot deprive the Pri-

vate Members of their right to introduce Private Member Bills. I would like that permission may be granted for introduction of this Bill. I had also brought forward a similar Bill which has been enlisted for the 13th of next month and therefore I wonder whether objections would be raised to that Bill also. The Parliament has a right to regional discrimination as the foreign powers are now interfering in all our internal matters. Therefore, we must ensure that the pivotal and key positions of the President, Vice-President and the Prime Minister are held by the Indian citizens alone.

[English]

SHRISHARAD DIGHE (Bombay-North Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am purely on the procedural point. As far as this point is concerned, at the stage of introduction, a Bill can be opposed on the ground of legislative competence. Of course, it has been decided that legislative competence cannot be decided ultimately either by the Presiding Officer or by this House.

But if the Members from this side feel that there is no legislative competence for this House to pass that Bill they can very well oppose the introduction of the Bill. There is full right for the Members to oppose the introduction of the Bill. Some people are talking about a convention. But there is a rule where it is clearly laid down that a Bill can be opposed at the stage of introduction. So, the convention, even if there is any, cannot override the written rule that is framed by this house. So, this House has every right to oppose a Bill at the introduction stage.

So, the procedure will be, you as the Deputy Speaker may not decide whether there is legislative competence or not. The House also may not decide. But those who feel that this House has no legislative competence at all they have a right to oppose the introduction.

There is a motion by the Member that leave be granted to him to introduce this Bill and that Motion will be put to vote. Those

who feel that there is no legislative competence are entitled to oppose it. There is no convention. If there is a convention, it does not overrule the rule. I have already referred to Kaul and Shakdhar's book on Practice and Procedure in Parliament.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. If that is so, the majority party would never allow us to introduce any bill and whatever bill we bring shall be killed at the introduction stage itself.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: At page 487 of Kaul and Shakdhar it is mentioned:

"It is an accepted practice in Lok Sabha that the Speaker does not give any ruling on a point of order raised whether a bill is constitutionally within the legislative competence of the House or not. The House also does not take a decision on the specific question of the vires of the Bill. It is up to the Members to express their views in the matter and to address arguments for and against and for the consideration of the House. The Members take this aspect into account in voting on the Motion. Those Members who feel that it is outside the legislative competence of the house, they are entitled to vote against the Motion or Introduction and nobody else has to take any other decision."

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not a debate. We have to see what the constitutional position is. Mr. Ahmed, One minute.

SHRI E. AHMED (Manjeri): At the outset, I just endorse the views expressed by my colleague Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal. Here, the legislative competence has to be taken into consideration. According to him, this house cannot take up this Bill since it is

[Sh. E. Ahmed]

beyond the competence of this House as it is pointed out by my honourable friend. I just wanted to say one more point. In Article 16 of Part III of the Constitution of India, on Fundamental Rights, it is mentioned:

16. (1) There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State.
- (2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State."

Here, in the proposed Bill my learned friend has sought an amendment to some Articles. Besides Article 58, he has also mentioned Articles 75, 76, 89, 93, 124 and such other provisions. Here, the appointment of a person as the Prime Minister or as a Minister by the President and also the appointment of the Attorney-General by the Government and under Article 33 in fact about a person chosen as the Speaker or the Deputy-Speaker in the case of this House can be considered.

So, the Bill through which my learned friend has sought to amend the constitutional provision even ties up the very hands of this Honourable House.

So it not only discriminates a citizen from other citizens in taking up an office or the appointment to any office under the State, but also it takes away the very right of the Members of this House. So it is really seeking to amend the very basic structure of the Constitution. Which according to me, is not admissible under the law. Any legal matter will have to be decided by the court of law. But whether a Bill can be moved and discussed in this House is, according to me, to be decided by you. So this Bill should be ruled out on the ground that it discriminates

one set of citizens from the other set of citizens and it takes away the rights of this House. Therefore, the Bill ab initio is void and it should not be allowed to be introduced....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is almost taking the shape of a debate.

SHRISRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Since some serious constitutional points are being raised, let it be debated. What is wrong in having a debate?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Relevant points have already come to the limelight.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a few days ago, a bill on Places of worship was being introduced. At that time also, some objections were raised whether that bill could be introduced in the house or not. The Hon. Speaker had given a ruling that we were not to decide the question of legislation. It is for others to do so. And when that bill was brought forward, the leave to introduce the bill was granted. Therefore, my submission is that leave to introduce the bill should be granted.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I think, I should agree with Shri Pande as well as Shri Dighe that it is a fact that the Chair cannot make a ruling on the legislative competency of this House or in any event of the constitutional validity of the Bill. But definitely, it has already been pointed out and the Speaker has mentioned from the Chair and ruled that

when the introduction takes place, these matters of legislative competence and constitutional validity would be kept in mind by the Members when they exercise their consent or dissent in terms of vote or otherwise in the matter of introduction. However, here the real problem is not of introduction or not introduction. Here some important legal points have been brought into fore...

(Interruptions)

If this is the manner of behaviour I will not speak in the House. Either the Hon. Member must stand up and ask me to yield, I am willing to yield. On the top of the voice and screaming something that is not honour of the House. There is a certain manner of behaviour. I am extremely sorry. There is certain decorum which this House seems to be losing day by day. I do not know why we are losing.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is on his legs. It is the established practice that if at all anybody wants to say anything, he shall have to stand up. If the Hon. Minister yields, then only one can have a chance to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall request Shri Kumaramangalam to continue.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Normally by convention we usually do not suppose the introduction of Private Members Bill. But, it has been pointed out in this particular Bill even the Object and Reasons of the Bill would not be met, if one looks at Article 5 of the Constitution of India itself. It is very clear that citizens who are not citizens by birth and who have become citizens within the meaning of Article 5. You have to be ordinarily resident in India to be, first of all, considered as citizen. Now, if one looks at the Preamble....

(Interruptions)

Either you ask the Hon. Member to behave properly or we should stop the discussion. The Hon. Member has been misbehaving in the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, let the Hon. Minister make his fellow Ministers sit in their allotted seats. Then we shall have no objection, because he is saying**

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Do not speak like that. She is not the Member of this house.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall expunge it. Please, let him complete.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, the issue that is there before the House is not on the question of whether or not it is constitutionally valid, but definitely the issue is relevant for people to make up their mind on the matter whether they should permit the introduction or not. The Object of the Bill that has been brought forward is not met by the amendment that has been put. There are definitely serious contradictions between various provisions...

(Interruptions)

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the Hon.Minister is going into the merits and demerits of the Bill, though he is not expected to do this at this stage. Now, whether his object meets according to the amendment or not, that can come at the stage of discussion. I do not know whether this can be admitted or not, but he is going into the merits of the Bill, which is not allowed as per the rules.

SHRI E.AHMED : Sir, the Hon.Minster was asked by the Deputy Speaker to explain the position of the Government with regard to the Bill and the opinion expressed here. So, while explaining the Government position, he may have to deal with the provisions of the Bill. Therefore, nothing wrong in dealing with that.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, with due respect, I agree with him. I am not going into the merits of the Bill. As I said, that it is not whether a Bill is particularly constitutionally valid or whether it has legislative competence or not, is not relevant over here. But, definitely that is a guiding principle. But, at the moment, serious questions have been raised. It is my request to the Chair that we do not break the convention unnecessarily.

If we can have this matter discussed outside, in the Chamber, and then sort it out, instead of forcing a voting on this issue it would be better. It is a matter of changing the convention of introduction not being opposed. It would be advisable if this is not opposed. This is a request I would like to make to them. If not, if the mover of the Bill insists on introducing the Bill today, then it is fine and we shall take a decision accordingly.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr.Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that a similar bill on Places of Worship was introduced in the House four days ago. When the Bill was about to be introduced, similar procedural objections were raised. At that time, the objections were over ruled by saying that

this was only the introduction stage and that objections, if any, could be raised at the consideration stage. Hence the leave to introduce the bill was granted. I do not understand why such objections are being raised at this stage because when the copies of the Bill were distributed, everything was in the knowledge of the Government. Then should we take that the Government wants to curtail our rights? Will the bills brought forward by the Opposition not be allowed to be introduced in the House?

(*Interruptions*)

If they want to oppose it, let them oppose, but it should not be opposed at the consideration stage.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now proceed. The Chair does not decide about the vires of the Bill. It is for the Members to take into account the views expressed by the Hon.Members while casting their votes on the Motion. I shall now put it for voting.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, just a moment please. I would like to know from the hon.Member whether he is pressing for the introduction now. I made a request to him not to press it now. If he is still pressing for it, after I made the request, then I would like to know. Because I was given to understand that if I make a request he will not press for it.

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you like to press it now?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Or, you can press it next week.

SHRI VISHWANATH SHARMA: I am amazed to find the reaction here. I do not know why the names are being bandied. I never had anybody in mind. It must be their guilty-consciousness.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): I am specific. It is somebody in your side.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V.N.SHARMA: Sir, besides this, my objection is.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Vishwanathji, the question before you is are you going to press for voting? You have made your point very clearly.

SHRI V.N.SHARMA: My clarification is, I am against acquiring the citizenship. You might be borne in America, of an Indian parent, even then you would be an Indian. I am not objecting to that. Or in Australia for that matter. The danger is in acquiring the citizenship. They should not have any kind of fear in their mind.

(Interruptions)

Sir, I am pressing for it. I may be allowed to present the Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, since the Hon. Member is insisting on pressing and since there has been a convention not to oppose the introduction of Private Member's Bill, though we have a very strong reservation on the legislative competence as well as constitutional authority, I would request that the whole House may unanimously allow the introduction.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I also support the view of the Minister.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We were also telling the same thing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI V.N.SHARMA: I introduce the Bill.

16.24 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Section 36)

[English]

SHRI SOBHANDREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951".

The motion was adopted

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I introduce the Bill.

16.24 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Eighth Schedule)

[English]

SHRI GUMANMAL LODHA (Pali): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI GUMANMAL LODHA: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Article 48, etc.)

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

16.25 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL *

(Amendment of Article 311)

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a

Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

16.26 hrs.

WORKING WOMEN WELFARE BILL *

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of women employed in various industries and establishments.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of women employed in various industries and establishments."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: I introduce the Bill.

16.26 1/2 hrs.

MOTHER'S LINEAGE BILL *

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the right to trace one's lineage from the side of one's mother.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the right to trace one's lineage from the side one's mother."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: I introduce the Bill.

16.27 hrs.

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL*

(Amendment of Article 371)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): I beg to move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : I introduce the Bill.

16.27 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of the Schedule)

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir,

I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (scheduled Tribes) order, 19540."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I introduce the bill.

16.28 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Insertion of new Article 31)

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

16.28 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 29, etc.)

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

495 *Const. (Amend.) Bill*
(Amend. of Art. 81, etc.) by
Shri Ram Naik

AUGUST 30, 1991

Infant Foods & Feeding 496
Bottles (Regulation of Production,
Supply & Distribution) Bill
by Shri Ram Naik

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a
Bill to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, I introduce the
Bill.

16.29 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of article 356)

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I beg
to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to
amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER: The ques-
tion is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a
Bill to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, I introduce the
Bill.

16.30 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL
(Amendment of Article 81, etc)
by Shri Ram Naik

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North): Sir,
I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill
further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the
Bill further to amend the Constitution of
India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

16.31 hrs.

INFANT FOODS AND FEEDING
BOTTLES (REGULATION OF PRODUC-
TION, SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION)
BILL

By Shri Ram Naik

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the
House will take up further consideration of
the following motion moved by Shri Ram
Naik on the 2nd August, 1991, namely:-

"That the Bill to provide for the regula-
tion of production, supply and distribu-
tion of infant foods and feeding bottles
with a view to the protection and promo-
tion of breast feeding and for matters
connected therewith or incidental
thereto, be taken in to consideration."

Shri Ram Naik.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North): Hon.
Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to continue
the discussion on these Infant Foods and
feeding Bottles (Regulation of Production,
Supply and Distribution) Bill moved by the on
the 2nd August 1991 and on which a brief
discussion was already held on the same
day. At the time of discussion on that day, I
had made a submission about it. I would like
to mention it in brief for the information of the
hon. Members and the hon Minister. The re-
lationship between the mother and the child

is such a relation as has been created through blood relation. Therefore, in order to maintain the relationship of mother and child and from other points of view also it is an important bill.

I consider myself fortunate for getting an opportunity to move this bill in the House today.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the main object of this bill is that women should feed their children with a milk from their own breasts and it is good for the child and the mother both. Now-a-days the various items available in the market in the name of baby food are very much injurious to health and body of the mother as well as of the children. I would like to make an attempt to prevent it through this bill. It is not a new thing invented by me, but a Motion was passed in the Conference of the World Health Organisation in 1981 in this regard. That Conference was attended by our former Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi also. Delivering the key-note address, she said that there was a need to enact the laws in the whole world in this connection. Subsequently W.H.O made such a proposal also. Later on the Government of India accepted that code in December 1983. We were of the opinion when the Government of India have already accepted the code in December 1983, it would definitely make efforts to convert it into a law. But unfortunately it was not done with the desired speed, rather it should be said that the speed of work in this direction was very slow. Finally, the Government of India brought such a law in the Rajya Sabha and got it passed. I had also said earlier that time it was matter of coincidence that Shri Rao was the Human Resource Minister at that time and fortunately or merely by coincidence he happens to be the Prime Minister of this country now. The Bill which was passed by Rajya Sabha unfortunately could neither be consider nor be passed in Lok Sabha and with the dissolution of the Eighth Lok Sabha, this bill was lapsed.

Later on, I moved the Bill in the 9th Lok Sabha, also and it had already come in Ballot

but could not be discussed. Later on when the Chandra Shekhar Government came into power, it moved such a bill in Lok Sabha in January 1991. But we know that with the end of the Chandra Shekhar Government the bill introduced by it in the Lok Sabha also lapsed. This is the main reason that I am bringing this Bill once again before the House so that the proposal of the World Health Organisation passed by it in 1981 that such laws should be enacted throughout the globe could be implemented. Since 10 years have passed from 1981 when the Hon. Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had moved a resolution in her key-note address in the meeting of the World Health Organisation, it took this country 10 years to translate this resolution into an enactment.

I feel that it does not speak well of the country. If the Government passes this bill today, it would mean that an ambition, a dream of Indiraji will be fulfilled and the Government as well as the Congress party can have the benefit of this step; and I wish that they should get the benefit.

The most important point in this Bill is that the rate of infantile mortality in our country is very high. Before, I say anything about the mortality rate, I would like to mention one important point here. The proposal made by the World Health Organisation has been reiterated time and again by various organisations of the world such as UNICEF, International Prediatric Association, Indian Academy of Paediatrics (in India), International Federation of Gynaecology, Indian Medical Association, Voluntary Health Organisation of India, and Association of Consumers Action for Safety of Health and many other such institutions, and I am of the opinion that the proposal should be given a shape of an Act and this proposal should definitely be considered.

Mother's milk has got a unique importance of its own. It is more important than Nectar because one who drinks nectar is blessed with life but mother's milk is more important from the hygienic point of view

[Sh. Ram Naik]

also. A baby is born out of his mother's body so when a child gets his mother's milk....

[English]

Mother and child are one biological product and therefore it is the safest thing. After the birth of a child, the only safest food item is mother's milk. There is no possibility of any infection. If the health of the mother is good, the baby's health will also be good and it is very safe and important from the point of view of the child's health.

I believe that children who are deprived of their mother's milk are the most unfortunate and a mother who can't feed or does not feed her child with her own milk is an unfortunate mother. The feeding of her children with her own milk is the responsibility of her motherhood. There is certainly one thing that because of the physical constitution there are certain women who do not lactate. In that case such women may not feed their children from their own breast and other alternative edibles may be given to the children. But a mother who can lactate must feed her child with her own milk. The articles available in the market now-a-days in the name of baby foods are so costly that the common people can't afford them. The feeding bottles of milk for children available in the market don't have good quality nipples. Keeping in view all these things, I feel that we must have some law in this regard.

I had discussed infant mortality, and no figures were made available to me. But I tried to collect information and I got the figures of 1986. In these figures it is mentioned that 63 thousand children are born every day in India, but out of these children, seven thousand children die before attaining the age of one year. (Interruptions) it comes to 11 per cent. In other countries of the world, the rate of infant mortality is 2.25 or at the most 3 per cent. It is a matter of concern for all of us. With the death of a child, the parents and the family face terrible agony. Keeping in view all these things, we should try to make efforts to

reduce the rate of the infant mortality as much as we can.

Diarrhoea is the main cause of infant mortality because children are not able to get milk of their mothers. They don't get good quality of milk. If any mother is ill, the milk also gets infected and this way cause infection in the mother's milk. But if diarrhoea is to be eradicated, it is necessary that the mother should be in perfect health. And if such mothers feed their children by their breasts, we can bring diarrhoea and infant mortality under control. I believe that there is a need to function in this direction.

Why does all this happen? It happens chiefly because women have developed a misconception that if at all they have to maintain their figure then they should not breast feed their infants. It is merely due to this notion that such happenings are taking place all over the world.

A survey was conducted by the World Health Organisation, the figure of which were published in India. According to that survey more the women are educated the more injustice they do to their children. Though it appears that the more we educate people the more knowledgeable they become but exactly the opposite has been taking place, particularly in this regard. Educated women think that infant food is better because if they give this food to their infants they would be able to maintain their physical beauty.

It does not mean that the mothers do not love their children but they have developed a wrong impression. A survey conducted by World Health Organisation reveals that in cities 80 per cent women of the upper class and 64 per cent women of the middle class do not breast feed their children. Similarly 30 per cent poor women in cities and 10 per cent women even in rural areas do not breast feed their children. Only the poor women in rural areas and also in cities breast feed their children because they cannot afford to purchase the infant food available in the market. They do think that they could also take better care of their children only if they had ade-

quate resources to purchase the infant food from the market. Therefore, a law will have to be passed in order to remove this wrong nation because this is the only way through which people are compelled to act properly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Acharya P.K. Atre was a great literature in Marathi. He made a considerable contribution to poetry, drama, journalism etc. We owe a lot of old literature to him and even in those old days he went to England to pass graduation. He defined the role of women in a single sentence in Marathi:

" Isti Kshnachi Patni Aani, ananta Kalchi mata ahi"

It means that a woman is a wife for a short period but is a mother for an indefinite period. Unfortunately, it has become essential to make the mothers understand their role and this duty lies on our shoulders. I do not believe that everything is possible only by law. But law gives only sanction to stop a wrong thing being done. Women should be persuaded that if they do not breast feed their infant children the stagnant milk may create the risk of developing breast cancer. Therefore, women would definitely be benefited if efforts are made to make them aware in this regard, and we must make efforts to this effect.

The other side of all, that is happening is that all the infant food is prepared by big companies, they launch aggressive publicity campaign for their products as a result of which advertisements appeal the consumer to the extent that he is convinced to use the product. For example, the cigarette advertisements are presented in a very attractive manner and in a small corner of the advertisements at the bottom is written "Smoking is injurious to health". Who cares to read this rather people are attracted to taste at least once for the sake of fun. I feel that similar aggressive advertisement campaign is carried out by infant food producers which include big Indian companies as well as multinational companies and these companies have their vested economic interests.

I remember that in the last Lok Sabha Shrimati Subhashini Ali had asked a question, whether the Government propose to ban the advertisements of infant food on radio and T.V. At that time Congress Party was in opposition and either Shri Kumaramangalam or some other Member had said that the lobby of baby food manufacturers was so powerful that no Government can dare to do it. This lobby in actual is very powerful and I feel that the Government will have to pass the law to defeat this lobby and for the welfare of the mothers and the babies.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, You will be astonished to know that as soon as the bill was introduced in the House on 2nd August, representatives of multinational companies started reaching me and started pleading that the working women in cities cannot afford to breast-feed their infant children. They argued that in the metropolitan cities like Bombay, it takes at least two to two and a half hours to reach the place of work and vice versa. Women leave their homes in the morning and come back at night at about 7/7-30. How it would be possible for them to feed their infants if baby food is not available in the market? This logic appears to be convincing. However, I made it clear to the lobby that they should not put pressure on us because we, the people of BJP, do what we are convinced to do. Therefore, whatever they said was not at all in the interest of children and mothers. I also told the representatives of multinational and national companies that I would perform my duty for which the people of Bombay have elected me. In the light of these facts it becomes my duty to remind the Government that they have failed to implement so far what the WHO recommended in 1981 i.e. ten years ago and I may submit that it is very essential for the Government to implement that. They may have an impression that

[English]

Every person has a price.

[Sh. Ram Naik]

[*Translation*]

But exceptions are always there. I told them they will certainly realise it.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that similarly neither he nor the Government have any price. The Government should take decisions in the interest of mothers and children. It would certainly prove beneficial for the country. Public campaign should be started by directing the radio, T.V. and newspapers not to give such advertisements. Newspapers may have to suffer a little financial loss due to this, however the enlightened newspapers which consider it to be their foremost duty to provide knowledge and create awareness among readers would agree to it. However, the initiative will have to be taken by the Government, only then this work can be accomplished.

I have given thought to all these things before presenting this Bill. This is not a matter of any political party. Neither BJP, nor CPM nor Janata Dal nor Congress has any political motive behind it. It is not even a matter related to any individual. It is one of those very significant questions which must be kept above party politics. I am confident that all the sections in the House will pass it. We will be able to give a new direction to the children and mothers in the country. With these words I conclude and thank you.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, I strongly support Infant Food and Feedings Bottles Bill, 1991 presented by Shri Ram Naik just now. In fact the tenderness, sweetness, compassion etc. required in the relationship of the mother and the child can only be established through breast-feeding. Mahadevi Verma in her poem on childhood has written:

"Meine hasana seekha hai, mein nahin janati
 rona Barsa Karta pal-pal mein mere
 jeevan mein sona."

But when the child passes his child-

hood, adolescence and youth and experiences the ups and downs of life, he would enjoy every minute of life only if we was breast-fed by his mother. There is a phrase in Hindi:

"Honhar birwan ke hot chikne paat."

[*English*]

Coming events cast their shadows before.

[*Translation*]

The child will develop his personality only if he was breast-fed by his mother, as one of the hon. Members has already submitted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring only 2 or 3 points to the attention of the House. There goes a saying in our culture:

"Varme ko guni putro, na cha moorkha shalaanyapi,
 Ekshachand ratmohanti, na cha tara guna api"

It means that a meritorious son is far more better than hundreds of worthless sons. As a single moon destroys all darkness, the thousands of stars can do nothing.

In the same way, there is constant increase in population but the children are not healthy, they do not possess good culture and they have not been brought up properly. Such children would merely add to the population. Fortunes would not favour them. Therefore, through this Bill, it should be made necessary that the children are breast-fed by their mothers. Different brands of canned baby foods and infant milk are available in the market. What would the children do in future when they are fed with such milk. I would like to quote Shri Akbar Allahabad:

"Hum un kulkitabon ko kabile jabati
 samajhate hain,
 Jinko padhake bete baap ko khabati
 samajhate hain."

It is a problem before the parents today that their children do not obey them. When the child has been fed with canned milk in his childhood and has not been breast-fed by his mother, how would the child inherit his mother's cultures and how would he become a well-cultured child. It has been held in our country:

"Matrimaan pitrimaan acharyavan purushodah."

It means that a child, who embodies all the virtues of his parents and has received education from his teacher, is virtuous indeed. We should say:

"Janani Janambhoomishcha swargadapi gariyasi."

that one's own mother and the motherland is greater than heaven. That is why motherland has been called as:

"Mata bhoomi putroaham prithvyah."

that the land is my mother and I am her son.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit before the House that the Bill introduced by Shri Ram Naik, is in consonance with a similar resolution adopted by the World Health Organisation of the United Nations Organisation and also the Indian National Breast-feeding Protection and Promotion Code was formulated in our country in 1983. The mothers influenced by western education and western culture think that breast-feeding will adversely affect their health and feed their children with milk available in market. Such children suffer from malnutrition and become physically handicapped and mentally-retarded. They develop different types of diseases which later give birth to mental diseases. Therefore to save the children from such diseases. They should be breast-fed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is said that Jijibai, the mother of Chhatrapati Shivaji had brought him up by breast-feeding and singing lulla-

bies to him. Maharana Pratap was also breast-fed by his mother, even though they were living in forests with his father Udaisingh. While rocking him, she gave him such cultures which made him so great in the later years.

"Janani jane to shoor jan, Kaidata Kais-hoor,

Nahin to rije baanjhari, vrithaghamaave noor."

Therefore the mother should breast-feed her children, so that they become healthy and can keep contagious diseases away. Ban should be imposed on such showy advertisements which appear on T.V., in newspapers and in different magazines like Chandamama, Champak, Parag, Dharmyug or Illustrated Weekly through which the parents are asked to buy feeding bottles, nipples, biscuits and canned milk. Those mothers, who are unable to produce milk, can, however, buy these things, but who can breast-feed, should do so, as mother's milk is as valuable as nectar and therefore it is essential for children.

Sir, I support this Bill. It should be the duty of the health officers to protect and promote breast-feeding and they should try to check the promotion and marketing of Infant food, feeding bottles and nipples. A provision of imprisonment has also been made. Law already exists there to conduct raids at the establishment of those who knowingly manufacture such things as are responsible for causing malnutrition among the children.

17.00 hrs.

[RAO RAM SINGH *in the Chair*]

Such provision should be there under that law as well as under this law. Sir, lastly, I would like to submit that poverty has rendered the mothers in the country too weak to breast-feed their children:-

"Shwano ko milata doodh, bhukhe balak akulaate hain,

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

Maa ki haddi se chipak-chipak, sisak-sisak
 rah jaate hain."

Therefore, a special type of medicated milk should be made available for the children. But even today, breast-feeding is most necessary for the children. In earlier times, the mothers used to say to their sons, "You are going in the battle to fulfil your duty of defending the country, so don't disgrace my milk." Today, the mothers have forgotten to give such a teaching to their children, therefore neither they have any feeling of patriotism, nor they know how to behave with the elders. They have no duty towards the country, towards their parents, towards their family, towards the God, towards humanity and towards the world. Human values are on decay, people are becoming more insensitive and sympathy is getting lost day by day. Why are sweet words, politeness and social feeling coming to an end? All this is happening due to the feeding children with canned milk. Several mothers avoid taking their children in their lap and take them out in a perambulator. If a child would play in his mother's lap, the mother would have a feeling of attachment as the mother brings up the child. Sir, I support this Bill and would like to request the House to pass it unanimously.

Only then our culture of "Matridevo bhava, Pitridevo bhava, acharyadevo bhava" would become meaningful. I will conclude by quoting only a Rajasthani couplet, which was sung by mothers while breast-feeding their children-

"Ura na deni aapni, halrian hulrai,
 Poot sikhaavai paalne, maran baraaai
 maay."

While rocking the child in a rocker and breast-feeding him, the mother used to give the teaching of not giving even an inch of his land to the enemy and of laying down his life instead while doing his duty. Such a teaching can only be given in a mother's lap and then only the child will become well-cultured and will have a bright future.

"Morning shows the day, child shows the man."

As it becomes clear from the morning how the day will pass, the bringing up of child shows what type of man he will become in future. What type of personality he will have, what capabilities he will have and what kind of his physical and mental development would be. Sir, I fully support the Bill brought here by Shri Naik and would like to request the Government to pass it and bring such a law as can impose full or partial ban on the westernised and showy advertisements showing such adulterated baby foods. The advertisements should also contain an instruction that "Mother's milk is best and beneficial for the child. Breast-feed them." Such instructions should be written on products so that the mothers should also think that if the child has to be developed properly and disintegration of family has to be stopped and the tension among children has to be alleviated, they would have to be fondled and breast-fed and kept away from such baby-foods.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill that has been brought forward by Shri Ram Naik. This Bill is very significant, especially for a country like India, where very little attention is paid to children. Although, India is a developing country, it has the highest infant mortality rate. Wherever, malnutrition, especially of children is under discussion, India is cited as an example. As my learned friend, Shri Ram Naik correctly observed the remedy for malnutrition lies in breast-feeding and proper care by the mother. Due to western impact and emulation of Western culture, our women folk too, instead of breast-feeding their children, are providing baby food available in the market, as a supplement to mother's milk. This is one of the major reasons behind the high infant mortality rate in the country. Mother's milk is essential for the child, especially during the first six months and in its absence, the children become victim to a large number of ailments. It has been proved that mother's milk contains elements to

prevent such diseases. On the contrary, milk-foods available in the market contain viruses and bacteria, which are responsible for various diseases including darrhoea and Polio. Under the circumstances, there can no be two opinions on the fact that mother's milk which contains many preventive elements is beneficial, and desirable.

It is my belief that if the child is deprived of mother's milk during the first six to eight months, and is fed only on artificial milk, there is every possibility of the child getting infested with diseases. Milk foods are very inferior to mother's milk and are better used as a supplement to mother's milk. I fail to understand why in this scientific age, when all facilities are available, all kinds of information are available, the mothers are bent upon feeding their children with tinned milk. If banana is crushed and its juice is given to infants, it would be more beneficial. Similarly, if cooked rice is crushed and its juice given to the child, it would prove more beneficial to the child, compared to canned milk.

It is a fact that major industrial houses and multinational companies producing milk foods have made a large presence in the country and are indulging in misleading publicity that canned milk is a substitute for mother's milk, that it is as nutritious as mother's milk. Their massive advertising campaigns have made an impact on the affluent and so-called 'elite' class and their womenfolk have started looking upon breast-feeding as an inferior activity, an act to be ashamed of. That is why a large number of children belonging to such families become victims of fatal diseases. Agreed, the mothers in poor families do not have much facilities or hygienic environment, but compared to their affluent counterparts, their children need less medical attention. Mothers belonging to rich families have to regularly visit doctors. I, myself am a doctor and I am saying this from my experience.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to submit only this much that much scientific research has been done in this field and it has been proved time and again that

mother's milk is beneficial to child's growth. Not only in other States, but in Delhi itself, it has been tested at the Loknayak Institute. Much research has been done in this regard in foreign countries also. Both the World Health Organisation and UNICEF have conducted experiments in this direction. The U.N. Children's Fund has come to the condition that Mother's milk is definitely more nutritious than any other food. Earlier also, a legislation in this regard was introduced, but as Shri Naik himself explained, his earlier Bill could not be taken up for discussion as the Ninth Lok Sabha was dissolved. This is a very important Bill and the Government should enact a law in this regard and it should strictly enforce the existing prohibitions on the publicity of such products and such products should not be allowed to be advertised on Doordarshan and Radio. The Government should also take more effective steps to check the impact of misleading advertisements. Breast-feeding is very much necessary, if our future generation is to be healthy and moreover breast-feeding brings the mother emotionally closer to the child.

There can be no two opinions on the importance of this legislation as it involves the future of this country and its future generation.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Infant Foods and Feeding Bottles (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 1991. brought forward by my friend, Shri Ram Naik. We have a lot of orphan children around us, but unfortunately they are left at the mercy of voluntary organisations which exploit them. A few days ago, I had gone to Bombay and was staying at the Railway Rest House. In the morning, when I went for a walk, I saw many women carrying orphan children and begging alms. This is happening because in this country, we have never paid any attention to our children. If we have healthy children, they would take the country forward in future. When we go aboard, we find the children there quite healthy. It is because the basic necessities of life are available to them. If our children are brought

[Sh. Krishan Sultanpuri]

up in a healthy environment, they can play a pivotal role in nation-building. In our country, children suffer from polio and die due to absence proper medical care.

Some persons create an impression through advertisements that this food is good for babies. It has been observed in villages and cities that advertisement for Rasana etc. is given for children. The people generally do not have any idea of such item, so these traders run their industry and make crores of rupees. The same is done in the manufacture of apple juice or any other juice. A label containing slogans that this is good for children is pasted. But when a child falls ill or develops diarrhoea, there are no big hospitals in villages for treatment. Unfortunately the district hospital in the hilly areas normally lies at the distance of 60-100 kilometres that too lacks the X-ray facility and as a result of all these the sick children do not get proper treatment there.

Just now it has been said here that the mothers do not breast-feed their babies. I think this is not so particularly in villages. To some extent it may be right in cities. But generally there is no such mother as does not care for the health of her baby. If the mother does not breast-feed her baby, how can that baby grow strong to build the nation. Only the mother should not be blamed for this but the father should also be blamed because why should his wife alone take all the pains to take every care of the baby. The hon. Members have said all these things against the mother which I think is not proper. There are many men and many women in the country who are still not married. We should think about their future also. The Government should take sufficient care to provide good food to babies. Today a number of advertisements claim that their products are the best baby foods. While in reality that is not so. It should be looked into.

The Government conducts surveys from time to time regarding the birth rate the death rate among children. It is a welcome step.

They should take certain solid steps to control that. Government should have a check on the companies that give advertisements of baby foods.

The department of social-welfare does not check regularly the funds given by it to different voluntary organisations. Generally, the children hostel is not founded at the desired place by such organisation. I happened to see one such hostel in Jhabua area of Madhya Pradesh where the tribal children stay and study. They are not getting proper diets there because all the funds allocated for this purpose are misappropriated by the management. So the concerned State Government should take all care to look into the affairs of such organisations in order to avoid misappropriation of the funds. These organisations submit their annual report showing the number of children given education and the quantity of food supplied to them. But in reality this is not so. The children have to lead a very miserable life there.

In my constituency there are many such organisations in the name of children and social welfare, which are indulged in the practice of diverting the allocated funds to the organisation's personal use instead of doing any thing for social welfare. Those organisations have built grand buildings with the help of funds allocated for the work of social welfare. Those organisations have become more or less the places of corruption. The Government as well as the Parliamentarians, local M.L.As. should take all possible care to see that the funds allocated to the State Governments for social welfare programme are not misused in any way. The submissions we make here should not be confined to the proceedings of the House only but should also reach practically to villages. Apart from this, those who supply sub-standard food and the companies that supply adulterated items in the sealed bottles should also awarded severe punishment.

Secondly, I would like to say that it is often observed that the unmarried fellows do not have much affection towards children. Such fellows have a feeling that if they take

any baby in their lap the baby might spoil their garments. Some people should educate such unmarried people because there are some leaders to who do not marry. They as well as others should be encouraged to marry in the interest of society and should be educated properly about how to look after the children because it is not unless to marry and to bring up children as they think so. I do not think whether they have any soft corner for the children. If they bring up others' children, it is good. There are number of such persons in our society.

Apart from this, there are persons who have more children and their difficulty is that how to bring up their children. Those who have no children should come forward to bring up others' children. The person like Laloo Prasad Ji cannot do this job as he has 9 children. What he has said about diet is good. I support the move because by bringing this Bill he has guided the nation. He has made both father and mother cautious regarding the breast-fed babies, Naik Ji has brought forward this very good Bill.

I support this bill and request the House to pass it. Even if this is not passed, the Government should introduce and consider such Bill, for. The children should not be made to suffer prison-like pains. Working of the voluntary originations active in the field of children's welfare must be thoroughly checked as many of them often defalcate the entire funds they collect in the name of providing food to children. The children do not get what we want to give them. So all these things are to be taken into account. There should also be some check on advertisements ensuring that the advertised product be of good quality.

The villagers are very innocent and they are ignorant of any injection and baby food. If the contents of a medicine packed in a bottle, whose date has already expires, is given to a child, he is sure to fall ill and thereby the nation would become weak. The authorities concerning the Family Planning and Medical Department should provide adequate number of workers in the existing

Medical Centres. The money given to the State Governments by the Government of India for this purpose should be properly used. The performance of the health workers deputed in different centres should be regularly checked.

In this Bill it has been suggested that the health worker should educate the people about health. But they are not there for this purpose, rather they are there to draw their salaries alone. If we try to understand it properly, it would be very good. A card to the effect that such and such things may be useful for babies should be distributed through Primary Health Centres, Sub-Centres or First-Aid Post in villages. There should be proper publicity of medicines and baby foods. The practice of defalcating money in the name of in children in cities must be banned. Severe punishment as mentioned in this Bill should be awarded to those who play with the children's future and weaken the nation.

This is what I want to say.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill moved by Hon. Shri Ram Naik.

This is a very simple and significant Bill—simple but at the same time significant Bill. In fact, the importance of such measures and their necessity have already been considered. The Government had brought forward a Bill in Rajya Sabha in 1986. That has been lapsed now. Since that has been lapsed, there is a need for bringing forward such a Bill. I understand that the present Government is also thinking in terms of bringing forward a Bill, rather a comprehensive Bill.

There are no two opinions about its purpose. It is quite noble and laudable. While supporting the Bill, I have reservations, I have doubts about the real implementation part, the applicability and the efficacy part of it. To start with, in this august House itself, there are a number of lady Members and I

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

thought that this Bill would evoke a lot of interest in them. I initially thought that this deliberation would be dominated by the lady Members. Sir, please see the response. Only two lady Members are present. Shri Ram Naik could not enthuse the lady Members of his side also. There are only two lady Members present now. One lady Member is a Minister. Kumari Mamata Banerjee is the concerned/Minister. There is another lady Member sitting at the back. When I enquired from her as to whether she will participate, she said 'No' (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: No, she will be speaking.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Then, I welcome it. Let her speak. About the implementation part of this Bill, I have some doubts. About the purpose, undisputedly no. We have also gone for a code in the light of the international code. There is already a code on this subject. We have adopted it here in India. It is good of us and it is our pride that our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had also initiated this at the international forum. I wholeheartedly support this measure.

In fact, children are our national property. Every child has a right to be adequately nourished as a means of attaining and maintaining health. However, whatever we cherish or whatever we like, the fact remains the because of mal-nutrition and poverty, about 7,000 babies do not remain alive even to see the first birthday. That means, they do not complete one year even. Sixty-three thousand babies are born everyday and 7,000 babies die, they do not remain alive to see their first birthday. So, the infant mortality is about 11 per cent. As I said, it can be attributed to poverty, and mal-nutrition. More disturbing than this is that more than 10, million babies suffer from malnutrition every year. Since, the mothers do not provide breast feeding, as revealed by a reporter. About the utility and good aspects of mother's milk, I need not further elaborate it because

that has been clearly done by the Mover of the Bill, Shri Ram Naikji.

Mother's milk gives active protection to the infant against infectious diseases. It has nutritional advantage for the health and normal growth of the baby. But the question is, who are the mothers who are not providing their own milk to their babies. All babies are very dear to their mothers. It is the educated, affluent, elite, quite conscious mothers who are not providing breast feeding. Are the poor, Tribal, Harijan Mothers in the rural areas not breast-feeding their children? They are doing it. If not all, quite many of the educated mothers are conscious of the utility and advantages of breast feeding over the artificial or manufactured baby foods. Still they do not do it. This has become a fashion. It requires a revolutionary attitudinal change. But how to bring about it?

Smoking is injurious to health. Who does not know that? Still smoking as a menace, health hazard, is very much on the increase. Even on the cigarette packets it is written "Smoking is injurious to health". I have come across a very beautiful, very intelligent advertisement carried out by Capstan "Don't smoke, even Capstan". That means, if you feel like smoking, you smoke more of Capstan. If you write that the baby food or artificial food is injurious to health, nothing like mother's milk and thing like that there is no problem on that. You stop the advertisement. Because the provisions of the Code are being violated on a large scale, that is why, there is the necessity also for this legislation so that the guilty can be penalised. I agree on that. But, at the same time, it has to be regulated. It cannot disappear from the market. There is a category of mothers, who, for obvious reasons, health, etc., are not capable of producing milk required for the baby. There are also orphans in the country. They will have to be given some milk. So naturally it cannot be done away with. It has to be regulated. What is required is that proper tests should be there. There should be laboratory test, proper test etc. before it is released to the market. There should be a regular campaign right from the

school education upto university level among the girls on the utility of breast feeding and evils of artificial baby food. It should find place in the syllabi particularly for the women education. It is good that our women folk is increasingly being educated. In fact, in many of the States, the Primary Education is being manned by women teachers. They are required to go to their schools early in the morning and return in the evening after covering a certain distance. In such cases, those women who have their infants left behind at home have to depend on some baby food. So, in such cases, it has got to be a combination of both breast feeding as well as baby food and the other alternative is cow's milk. As regards standard baby food is concerned, there should be some regulation that they should be produced on a limited scale and whatever is produced, it must adhere to the required standard so that health hazards can be avoided by all means.

Again, as stated by an honourable Members earlier, even according to a study, breast feeding is essential at least for four months. But the Maternity leave granted by the Government is only for three months and probably it cannot be extended. The working mothers have thus a problem.

The purpose of the Bill is laudable. There cannot be any dispute about it. But, as far as its practicability and its implementation is concerned, I have some doubts, some reservations. Large section of the women folk are not entertaining their children with breast feeding, especially the elite class. But, the poor, illiterate, tribal people mothers in the rural areas, they always feed their child with breast milk. So, it calls for an attitudinal change.

I support the Bill. while supporting the Bill, I request the hon. Minister, through you, to bring forward a comprehensive Bill considering all the pros and cons of this problem. I understand the Government is also coming forward with a comprehensive Bill soon and as such I would like to request the hon. members to withdraw the Bill. With these words, I conclude. Thank You.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram):
 Sir, I rise to support the "Infant Foods, and Feeding Bottels (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 1991 introduced by hon. Member Shri Ram Naik.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much time because the Hon. Member Shri Ram Naik has already stated a great deal on it. Wit 2 or 3 suggestions I shall conclude my speech. This Bill is certainly an ordinary one but it is indeed very important. As such I request the Government to pass this Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the present times the women are at par with men in every field of national development. Hence they are unable to devote adequate time for their children. Even then a mother Should breast-feed her babies for at least six months and it is only then that the health of the children who are the future of this country will be sound. Mother's milk is the most nutritious food for children and as such it is very necessary to train all mothers in this regard. It is indeed true that we are gradually forgetting the culture of our country and moving towards western culture. In clear terms we are moving towards disco age. The drift towards Western culture and forgetting the India culture is affecting the health of our future generation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to advertisements I would like to make a few submissions. The mothers should be trained to breast-feed their children and the advertisements for publicity of baby food on T.V., Radio and newspapers should be immediately banned. One more thing, women members should have participated in this debate but it is unfortunate that while this Bill is being discussed the presence of women members here is not satisfactory. Women Member should have certainly participated in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, without taking much time I would request the House to accept the Bill brought by Hon. Member Shri Ram Naik

[Sh. Chhedi Paswan]

or a Bill in this regard should be brought before this august House on these lines. With these few words, I conclude my speech.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank Shri Ram Naik who has drawn the attention of the House by introducing this important Bill. I do not want to speak much on this but I recall that effort was made to introduce this kind of a Bill in the past also and you have made a reference to it to which my attention has been drawn.

I Support the suggestion made by Shri Ram Naik. At the same time I would like to point out that a Bill on Infant Milk Food was brought in 1986 which was passed by Lok Sabha but before it could be passed by Lok Sabha the Eighth Lok Sabha was dissolved. Thereafter, when such Bill came up again, it could not be passed and the Ninth Lok Sabha was dissolved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This time there is no such possibility.

AN HON MEMBER: Then it is not proper for it. You are aware of the developments in case the House dissolves.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Still we make this commitment and give this assurance that we will bring this Bill. But you cannot predict how long this Government will continue. Earlier you had brought the Bill but unfortunately the Government could not continue. Today, I am giving you assurance to this effect that we will introduce this Bill ourselves as early as possible as this is very important. You have pointed out 2 or 3 things. The lobby of the multinationals is continuing to gain strength. It is not our Job to see as to why does it gain strength but our duty is to see that there is an all round Development of

the children of our country and our future is secure. As such I want that the Bill we bring should be all the more comprehensive. You have said that there should be an infant milk food and feeding bottle bill but we are in favour of bringing Infant Food Bill. At the same time we are looking in to several suggestions made by voluntary organizations and experts. We also want to include some of those suggestions. When comprehensive Bill is brought we can do something for the children of our country. With these words, I request you to withdraw this Bill so that we can bring a Bill in this regard at the earliest. I thank all those who have participated in this debate. I thank you for introducing this Bill but I request you to withdraw it so that the Government may introduce a Bill in this regard.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my heart felt thanks to Prof. Rasa Singh Rawatji, Dr. Laxmi Narayan Pandeya, Sultanpuriji, Vallabh Panigrahi and Chhedi Paswanji who have expressed their views in support of this Bill. I also thank all the members who were present to hear the discussion on this Bill because it was on account of their presence that this discussion could take place smoothly. For this I thank all the Members who were present. It is true that some Members were desirous to speak after preparation. I want to be brief because the hon. Minister has very rightly pointed out that she agreed to the views expressed in respect of this Bill and would make efforts to bring the Bill from the Government side as early as possible. She has given an assurance to this effect and has also pointed out that it will be a comprehensive Bill and I agree that a Bill introduced by the Government may be more comprehensive than a Bill introduced by a Member and it must be comprehensive. In this context, I have only one suspicion in my mind that this Bill was nipped in the bud twice. In 1986 while it was being conceived, it was miscarried. It is not necessary to go into its causes.

SHRI AYUB KHAN: At that time you were not there.

SHRI RAM NAIK: It is not so, if I were there even then it would have happened. In 1991, I was there but the Government stepped down. Once Lok Sabha was dissolved and next time the Government stepped down but now it has become a history and there was a lengthy discussion on it as to why did the Government step down and why did the Government step down and why did the Government not bring this Bill. Without going into that aspect, I request the hon. Minister to fulfil her assurance and I shall wait for the same. I expect the Government to bring this Bill in the next session and if it is brought in the next session, be rest assured that this Government will remain in power till the next session.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: It is not so, our Government will remain in power. It is not as you think. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: No, you have said just now that it is not known how long this Government will continue but I do not wish to blame anyone.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: I never said like that but what I pointed out was that last time the Bill could not be brought because the House was dissolved. (Interruptions)

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): We are here to run the Government. Don't be afraid. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: I have no intention to accuse anyone. I request the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill in the next session for which the Minister has given an assurance. That Bill should certainly be brought and with this, the House should permit me to withdraw this Bill. This is what I want to submit.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for the regulation of pro-

duction, supply and distribution of infant foods and feeding bottles with a view to the protection and promotion of breast-feeding and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

17.52 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of new article 19%)
 by Shri Chitta Basu

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call upon Shri Chitta Basu to move the motion for the consideration of the Bill, we have to fix the time limit for discussion of this Bill. Shall we fix 2 hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Chitta Basu move his motion.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I consider it a privilege for me to bring to the notice of this House the great urgency for the incorporation of the right to information as a Fundamental Right. I am really very much grateful to Mr. Naik and you, Sir, and my sister Mamata Banerjee for whose indulgence I have been able today to rise for moving the motion for the consideration of this Bill.

Sir, the object of the Bill is very simple, but of a revolutionary nature. The object of the Bill is that we have got a chapter on

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

Fundamental Rights-Part III - of the Constitution of the country. In that Chapter, Article 19 gives us the right of protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech etc. All citizens shall have the right (a) to freedom of speech and expression, (b) to assemble peaceably and without arms, (c) to form associations or unions (d) to move freely throughout the territory of India, (e) to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India and (f) to practise any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

These are the Fundamental Rights the Constitution enshrined. The object of my Bill is to incorporate the Right to Information as one of the Fundamental Rights of the citizens of this country and it is inviolable and for that purpose I have sought for insertion of another clause in the Constitution which is article 19A.

Sir, before proceeding further, I want to urge upon the House to take into consideration the significance of this article 19A which I propose to be adopted by the House. Sir, the right to speak and right of expression does not automatically entitle a citizen a right to information. Rather, the right to information can enable a citizen of our country to exercise the right to freedom of speech and freedom of expression.

Unless the right to information is guaranteed, excuse me and allow me to say, the right to freedom of speech, the right of expression, becomes limited. If we do not have that right, we cannot enjoy completely and fully.

The implication of it can be easily understood. What shall I speak if I am not informed?

What expression of my views will there be, if I am not given the right of information?

Therefore, the right to information is very important in order to exercise the right

to freedom of expression.

This is the basic lacuna and the basic shortcoming of the Constitution of our country.

I appreciate the circumstances under which the founding fathers of our Constitution had to ultimately frame the Constitution of our country. The country was then passing through an extraordinary situation and while giving some of the fundamental rights, the framers of the Constitution did not concede this very fundamental right. This is my first submission to the House.

Along with the question of right to information are linked other rights also. That is implicit and those implicit rights are the right to freedom of communication. If you not got, have not got that freedom of communication, you cannot have the information. If you cannot have the information, you cannot have the knowledge. If you have not the knowledge, you cannot really behave as enlightened citizen of the country. If there is no enlightened citizenry, democracy is always exposed to dangers, subversion and it will be undermined.

It is a great pleasure for us that the Constitution of our country has given us a representative form of Government.

It is a matter of great pride for India that the process of parliamentary democracy that we have initiated continues to remain in force uninterrupted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, the 3rd September at 1100 hours and I also take the opportunity to wish all of you a very happy and auspicious Janmash-tami.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Tuesday, September 3,
1991/ Bhadra 12, 1913 (Saka)*