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Friday, December 17, 1993
Agrahayana 26, 1915 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eighth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXVII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 17, 1993 Agrahayara
26, 1915 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

[*Translation*] (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH) : the
P.M. Should be asked to come here .

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA
(BANKURA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have
given notice for the suspension of the
Question Hour. Lut the Question Hour be
suspended. There should be no question
hour today..(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Since you have said
something, I also want to tell you something.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : We can
listen to only you.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of
Parliamentary Affairs, has informed me that

hon'ble Prime Minister would be present
here at the time of discussion.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Please
adjourn the House till then.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : There won't
be any discussion without the P.M.

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me
first. It won't go like this. this has been
discussed for eleven hours. Even then as
much time will be given as is desired by you.
If we have to sit after 6 p.m. we will do so. It
we have to sit after even 11 p.m. or 12 p.m.
we will sit and enough time will be given for
this. But I would like to say one thing that the
proposal like Dunkel, which is to be discussed
and replied, consists in thousands of pages
and it is a multilateral agreement. Which is
not only for 5 years but it may even continue
for a period of 50 years. Only those Members
should speak who have gone through it
thoroughly. The hon'ble Minister of
Commerce will be present here. If you want,
the hon'ble Prime Minister will also be present
here. The Minister of Commerce will deal
with it You can ask anything about policy in
this regard if you desire so. If you want to
have a meaningful discussion on this topic.
You can do so but I cannot allow you to make

irrelevant discussions like this.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Considering the importance of the matter let the Question Hour be suspended. The Prime Minister should be called here.

Prime Minister must be present in the House. Therefore, please suspend the Question Hour and immediately take up the discussion on the Dunkel proposals. We are demanding this for the last three days. They are treating this Parliament so casually. They have compromised our sovereignty. They have totally surrendered.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The country has been betrayed. The House has not been consulted... (Interruptions) This House has been taken for a ride. It has lost its meaning. You have managed to enslave the coming generations. The Question Hour should be suspended and the Prime Minister should be called here.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIBASUDEBACHARIA: We have heard you. We will not hear him unless the Prime Minister comes.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something. You have had your say, now let him say

something.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I have already told you that after the Question Hour is over, let us start the discussion on the Dunkel proposals.

At 12 O' clock, once the Question Hour is over, it can go on up to the time decided by this House. We have no objection to take up the discussion. I would request you not to suspend the Question Hour. The Question Hour should not be suspended. We should go on with the question Hour. After the Question Hour is over, we can take up the discussion on Dunkel Draft and we can go on till you decide... (Interruptions)

SHRIBASUDEBACHARIA: We have given notice for the suspension of the Question Hour. Let the Question Hour be suspended and discussion on Dunkel proposals should be taken up immediately. And the Prime Minister should be called... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ...*

MR. SPEAKER : I am again requesting you to start the discussion at 12 o' clock and continue it up to 2 o'clock and later on ...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not correct. Do not make your throat sore by shouting

like this.

(Interruptions)

11.06 hrs.

(At this Stage, DR. ASIMBALA and some other hon. Members came and Stood on the floor near the Table)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I deprecate this method of shouting slogans in the House. Let it be noted in the record. I do not appreciate it. I deprecate slogan shouting in the House. The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 o' clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Trade Blocs

*221. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government are aware of the now trading bloc-the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)-in addition to the already existing trading blocs like the European Economic Community and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) comprising the US, Mexico and Canada :

(b) whether India and its South Asian

neighbours are out of all the three groupings;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

d) the steps Government propose to take to forge ahead any viable economic understanding among neighbouring countries especially the SAARC ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (d) : Although the multilateral trading system based on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) remains intact, the EEC is moving towards greater integration and a larger membership, and NAFTA has been formed with a trade liberalization programme spanning 10-15 years. APEC covering the Asia Pacific region, is so far a forum for dialogue and consultation on trade liberalization and not a tradeintg bloc.

India and its South Asian neighbouring are not members of any of these trading blocs.

India is a member of one global preferential trading arrangement, the Global System of Trade preferences (GSTP)

Which is open to the members of the G-77, and one regional preferential trading arrangement, popularly known as the Bangkok Agreement which is open to all developing countries of the ESCAP region .

Recently India has become a member of the South Asia preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) alongwith Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Maldives to promote and sustain mutual trade and economic cooperation among member States. The SAPTA has yet to become operational.

*(Translation)***Silk Yarn Bank Scheme**

*222. SHRI MAHESH KA ODIAN :
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUHARY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced a Silk Yarn Bank Scheme on pilot basis for the States which are major consumers of silk yarn in the Handloom Sector:

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the assistance provided under this scheme since its inception. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Silk Yarn Bank Scheme has been introduced for Year 1993-

94 on pilot basis in selected States , i.e. Andhra Pradesh Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and other North Eastern States, with the objectives of making available quality silk yarn to hadloom weavers at stable prices.

The National Handloom Development Corporation has been design as the implementing agency for this Scheme for Bihar and North Eastern States. National Handloom Development corporation can also implement the Scheme in other States the State Governments so prefer.

For Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Orissa , Uttar Pradesh and Assam , Apex Cooperative Societies, Corporations and major primary societies are designated as the implementing agency.

Assistance is provided in the shape of equity based on additional quantity of silk yarn supplied to Handloom weavers.

(c) State-wise assistance provided under this scheme since its inception i.e. during the current year is as under :

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the states</i>	<i>(Rs. in lakhs) Amount</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27.00
2.	Tamil Nadu	25.00
3.	Uttar Pradesh	27.00
4.	Orissa	27.00
5.	Assam:	6.75
6.	West Bengal	13.50
7.	National Handloom Development Corporation, Lucknow	13.00
Total :		140.00

Export of Silk

*223. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-
RAO GUNDEWAR :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

- (b) the extent of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of silk ?

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) to (c) The quantity and value of raw silk exported during the last 3 years was as under : -

(a) the quantity of silk exported during the last these years:

Year	(Quantity in tonnes)	(Value in Rs. Crores)
1990-91	0.065	0.015
1991-92	8.821	0.90
1992-93	5.922	1.032

The silk being exported from the country is mainly in the form of value added silk textile products like dress material, scarves, sarees, carpets, garments etc. While the data regarding the quantum of silk actually contained in the silk products exported from the country is not being maintained, the extent of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years was as under :-

Year	Exports in Rs. Crores)
1990-91	435.94
1991-92	670.98
1992-93	720.00 (Prov.)

trade fairs, sponsoring of Sales cum Study Tours, organisation of trade fairs in India, publication of periodicals for dissemination of overseas trade information to member exporters and information on Indian silk industry to overseas buyers etc.

Besides, the benefits of Government's export promotion schemes like the Advance Licensing Scheme, Import of capital goods for export production at concessional rates of duties, full convertibility or rupee etc. are also available to the silk export sector.

[English]

Free Trade Zones

In order to promote the export of silk textile products, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council. The steps being taken by the Council for export promotion of silk products include organisation of silk exporter's participation in the international

*224 SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for creation of Free Trade Zones in the country ;

(b) the cities, town or areas which have demanded the creation of such Free Trade Zones; and

(c) the latest proposals with the Government for creation of Free Trade Zones in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERGEE) : (a) The criteria kept in mind while locating a Free Trade Zone/Export Processing Zone include proximity to sea/airport, availability of basic infrastructural facilities like roads, power and water supply, banking, communication facilities and access to social infrastructure such as housing, health, and educational facilities.

(b) The Governments of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Punjab, Haryana, Orissa, Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan have, from time to time, requested for the establishment in that state of an Export Processing Zone. Some specific locations for setting up of Export Processing Zone suggested by the State Governments, are Bangalore, Mangalore (Karnataka), Dhandari Kalan (Punjab), Gurgaon (Haryana), Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Marmogoa (Goa) and Jaipur (Rajasthan).

(c) A Committee set up to consider alternative models for creation of Export Processing Zones has suggested their development in the joint or private sector.

Nafa's Impact on India's Trade

*225. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATAK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be

pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by the US House of Representatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made of its impact on India's trade prospects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government there to; and

(f) whether India propose to join the APEC or EC keeping in view the far reaching consequences of this alliance ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is a trilateral agreement between the United States, Canada and Mexico to form a Free Trade Area which will be operationalised over a period of 10-15 years. Among other things, the agreement covers trade in goods and services, investments and intellectual property rights. The Agreement is expected to come into force on 1st January, 1994.

(c) to (e) Our major market in North America is the United States.

As Canada and Mexico do not directly compete with our major exports to the US, it is not anticipated that there will be any immediate adverse implications for India's exports. However, the functioning of NAFTA will have to be monitored over a period of

time to determine the impact it will have on Indian trade in practice.

(f) India cannot join the European Union because India does not belong to that region. APEC unlike the European Union, is neither a free trade nor a regional intergration arrangement. Whilst India has expressed an interest in the APEC, its membership is for the present confined to some Pacific Rim countries. However, both with the European Union and member countries of the APEC, India has had substantial economic and trade ties and will continue to intensify and exoand them.

Indian Tea

*226. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea Board Headquarters has been informed by the Moscow Office of the Tea Board (India) about a Russian programme on the television in which a packet labelled as India tea was shown, followed by what appeared to be a spread out coaree material which looked like wood chip;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to counter this programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As part of confidence building measures, Tea Board's Moscow office has been meeting buyers for resolving their problems and assuring them of the quality and reliability of Indian tea. In addition to this, promotional campaigns for Indian tea through media (press and television), tea

sampling demonstrations, participation in consumer exhibition etc. have also been planned by Tea Board's Moscow office.

Outflow of Foreign Exchange

*227. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outflow of funds (foreign exchange) has reached around Rs. 1700 crores worth dollars in the first half of 1993-94 compared to Rs. 814 crores during the same period last year;

(b) if so, the details of various board heads under which the funds have been withdrawn; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) : In the first half of the year 1993-94, there has been no net outflow of funds (foreign exchange) in view of the fact that the foreign currency assets of the Reserve bank of India have increased by Rs. 3728 crores (US\$ 1.2 billion) from Rs. 20140 crores (UD \$ 6434 million) at end march 1993 to Rs. 23868 crores (US \$ 7629 million) at end September 1993.

(b) : Funds have been withdrawn from the Foreign Currency Non-Resident Accounts (FCNRA) and the net outflow during April-October 1993 has been \$ 1057 million. However, the inflow under other NRI deposit schemes during the same period is estimated at \$ 1105 million.

(c) Excessive reliance on FCNR (A) deposits has been a matter of concern since the events of 1991 when large outflows occurred from these deposits. The government's intention is to restructure non-

resident deposits with the objective of (i) reducing volatility and (ii) minimising the exchange rate risk to be borne by the RBI or Government. In this context the RBI had announced the withdrawal of maturities of FCNR(A) Accounts below one year in May 1993 And those below two years in October 1993. The outflows that have occurred during the year represent the resultant favourable restructuring of non-resident deposits. The overall performance has been encouraging so far and is closely performance has been encouraging so far and is closely monitored by the government.

Insurance Premium on Bank Deposits

*228 SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of insurance premium on bank deposits has been increased in the recent past:

(b) if so, the extent to which the increase has been made:

(c) whether the above increase has adversely affected the small cooperative banks having less than ten branches as each such branch has to pay insurance premium whereas banks having more than ten branches pay the insurance premium on the basis of deposits made in their main branch; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard in the overall interest of small co-operative banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Deposit Insurance and

Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) has increased the rate of insurance premium on deposits from 4 paise to 5 paise per annum per Rs. 100/- with effect from 1st July, 1993.

(c) and (d). Each Bank and not each branch of a Bank has to pay insurance premium on the total deposits. The rate of insurance premium on deposits is applicable to all commercial banks, co-operative banks and Regional Rural banks. According to DICGC, the increase in the rate being nominal, it will not adversely affect the co-operative banks.

Assistance to States to Compensate Revenue Lose

*229. SHRI BASUDEB
ACHARIA:
SHRI AJOY
MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to the States to compensate for revenue losses on account of the economic reforms measures; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHIR M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : (a) and (b). The total transfers)(including both Plan and Non-Plan following from Centre to States as well as total share of States in Central Taxes have not been decreasing during 1991-92 to 1993-94. In fact, these transfers have been continuously increasing during the above period as evidenced by the following figures :

Year	(Rs. crores)	
	Total transfers to States (including Plan and Non-Plan)	Total share of States in Central
1990-91 (Actuals)	41421	14535
1991-92 (Actuals)	45159	17198
1992-93 (Actuals)	50637	20524
1993-94 (BE) (Actuals)	53833	2849

Since there has not been any reduction in both total transfers flowing from Centre to States as well as States' share in Central Taxes during 1991-92 to 1991-94, the question of any proposal for providing financial assistance to the States as compensation does not arise.

Child Labour Laws

*230. SHRI ANKUSH RAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments are sending periodic reports regarding implementation of the child labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which are yet to implement the child labor laws; and

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to implement the child labour laws in these States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR)(a) to (d). The details in respect of implementation of child labor laws as received from State governments/UT Administrations during the last three years are annexed as Statement.

With the objective of better implemetation of the legislative provisions for protection of working children periodic reviews are undertaken with the state governments and they are requested to take effective steps for ensuring stricter compliance. Towards this end the State Governmets have been requested to establish special child labour cells and to set up and activise Child about Advisory Boards. The National Labour Institute at NOIDA organises training of the enforcement agencies of various states. Other institutes located in different states are also being encouraged to take up similar training programmes.

A plan scheme for strengthening of enforcement machinery of the State Governments with 50% assistance from the Central Government as since been transferred to the state sector.

STATEMENT

State/UTs	Inspections	Prosecutions	Convictions
Arunachal Pradesh	1990-91	15	0
	1991-92	2	0
	1992-93	3	0
Assam	1990-91	0	0
	1991-92	0	0
	1992-93	0	0
Chandigarh	1990-91	189	0
	1991-92	189	0
	1992-93	280	0
Delhi	1990-91	232	0
	1991-92	295	0
	1992-93	142	0
Gujarat	1990-91	881	0
	1991-92	98	0
	1992-93	Not received	
Haryana	1990-91	-do-	
	1991-92	-do-	
	1992-93	4	4
Jammu & Kashmir	1990-91	75	0

State/UTs	Inspections		Propsecutions	Convictions
	Not received	Nor received		
Keral	1991-92	0	0	0
	1992-93	1102	0	0
	1990-91	737	0	0
	1991-92	1823	485	148
Madhya Pradesh	1991-92	2066	561	358
	1992-93	1776	691	389
	1990-91	1047	0	0
Maharashtra	1991-92	2443	0	0
	1992-93	194	0	0
	1990-91	16	0	0
Orissa	1991-92	12	0	0
	1992-93	9	0	0
	1990-91	134	448	381
Punjab	1991-92	134	345	440
	1992-93	238	1077	704

State/UTs	Inspections	Prosecutions	Convictions
Rajasthan	1990-91	0	0
	1991-92	0	0
	1992-93	10	0
Tamil Nadu	1990-91	2445	4
	1991-92	2104	59
	1992-93	1250	20
Tripura	1990-91	0	0
	1991-92	115	0
	1992-93	226	0
Uttar Pradesh	1990-91	5602	727
	1991-92	3217	887
	1992-93	12057	2002
Total	1990-91	75342	1665
	1991-92	87422	1853
	1992-93	57075	3835

States Giving Nil report are AP, Sikkim, Manipur, Mizoram, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Pondicherry, Nagaland, Daman & Diu.

States not Reporting are Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Goa, West Bengal.

Handloom Weavers

* 231. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether various welfare schemes are being implemented for the benefit of handloom weavers;

(b) If so, whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of those schemes in various States; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES: (SHRIGVENKAT SWAMY). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Thrift Fund and workshed-cum-Housing Schemes which were introduced during the year 1985-86 have been reviewed and modified from the year 1991-92. The Health Package Scheme and Group Insurance Scheme have been introduced only from the financial year 1992-93 and it is too early to review them.

Export of Unani Medicine

* 232. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

a) the value of Unani medicines exported during each of the last three years; and

b) the efforts being made for the promotion of Unani medicines

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANA MUKHERJEE) : (a) The value

of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines exported during the last three years is given below :-

(Rs. Crores)

1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
29.6	28.0	40.28

Export figures of Unani medicines are not maintained separately.

(b) Efforts being made by the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Exports Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL), Bombay for promotion of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines include :-

Formation of a separate panel to examine the various aspects of the promotion of these products groups;

Publication of a monograph on selected medicinal plants of India and sending of separate delegation abroad to facilitate registration of the products with the Health authorities of different countries.

Proposal to Organise a Seminar to share experience and formulate strategy for boosting of exports;

Compilation of a directory of various products included Ayurvedic, Unani and other herbal based products for aiding export promotion.

(Source : CHEMEXCIL., Bombay)

Overaged Aircraft

* 233. SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircraft of Indian Airlines, Air India and Vayudoot which are overaged or have outlived their life;

(b) whether the Government have decided to phase out all such aircraft or give them on dry lease;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether negotiations have been started with the prospective buyers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) : None of the aircraft belonging to Air India, Indian airlines or Vayudoot has outlived its life. Only aircraft with valid certificate of airworthiness are allowed to operate air services. However, some aircraft which have become old are not operated on economic considerations.

Indian Airlines has offered to sell or dry lease 8 Boeing 737-aircraft in its fleet. Preliminary enquiries have been received from 21 parties seeking technical information/clarifications; negotiations have not started so far.

Revival of Sick PSU's

* 234. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIFR has cleared five proposals of workers for revival of sick industrial units through workers cooperatives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government encourage revival of sick industrial companies through workers' cooperatives ;

(d) if so, whether any broad outlines have been worked out for such cooperatives where public sector units are facing closures due to chronic illness;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons there for?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (f): According to available information, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), has so far sanctioned four schemes for revival of sick industrial companies in the private sector based on workers' cooperatives These are :

1. Kamani Tubes Ltd. Bombay.
2. New Central Jute Mills, Calcutta.
3. Powder Metals and Alloys Ltd., Thana.
4. Kamani Metals and alloys Ltd., Bombay.

Proposals of workers for revival of sick industrial companies, whenever received, are considered on merits by the BIFR Ministry of Labour as a matter of general policy does encourage, inter alia, formation of workers' cooperatives for rehabilitation of sick industries. Industry-wise Tripartite Committees have resolved that at the enterprise level, the management and employees could get together and formulate rehabilitation proposals and bring up the same for consideration by the respective committee. Such Proposals can also be cooperative-based ones. Government have not worked out any general scheme for workers' cooperatives to run sick public sector industrial units as the scheme would differ

from case to case.

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

Budgetary Support to Central Sector

*235. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has deferred release of the promised budgetary support to the Central sector until the last quarter of 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this decision has created serious problems to some key sectors;

(d) if so, the alternative measures being taken by the government to solve the financial problems arising due to this decision;

(e) whether the Government have asked the infrastructural sectors to tap the bond market in the interim period to meet their requirements; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI M. V.
CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) : No,
Sir.

Airports

*236 SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM : be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of airports in the country are lying unused;

(b) if so, the amount spent on construction of each of these airports;

(c) the annual amount being spent on maintenance of each of these airports; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to make up losses as a result thereof particularly in view of the shortage of funds?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI
AZAD)

(a) to (c): Particulars of unused airports, amounts spent on their construction and estimated cost of maintenance of these airports are given in the statement

(d): Some of the airports may be reactivated in view of expansion of air taxi operations. It is also proposed to explore the possibility of transferring some of the aerodromes to State Government .

STATEMENT

.No.	Name of Airport	Amount spent on construction	Estimated amount of maintenance during, 1993-194
1.	Akola	19.76	0.65
2.	Sholapur	1.00	**
3.	Deesa	34.45	**
4.	Khandwa	*	**
5.	Panna	0.22	**
6.	Bilaspur	*	**
7.	Jhansi	0.67	**
8.	Satna	31.41	**
9.	Kota	30.69	11.36
10.	Lalitpur	13.52	**
11.	Donakonda	3.79	1.10
12.	Warrangal	1.02	1.35
13.	Cuddapah	42.95	3.25
14.	Hassan	7.00	**

No.	Name of Airport	Amount spent on construction	Estimated amount of maintenance during, 1993-194
15.	Mysore	0.22	**
16.	Vellore	0.36	1.60
17.	Jharsuguda	13.42	16.83
18.	Balurghat	1.68	4.90
19.	Malda	1.68	6.98
20.	Khowai	1.22	1.18
21.	Kamalpur	17.41	2.65
22.	Chakulia	1.42	**
23.	Jogbani	*	**
24.	Muzzafarpur	14.93	6.86
25.	Raxaul	3.09	**
26.	Gaya	36.58	37.05
27.	Rupsi	8.75	0.15

.No.	Name of Airport	Amount spent on construction	Estimated amount of maintenance during, 1993-194
28.	Shella	*	**
29.	Passighat	4.75	0.32
30.	Kailashahar	4.72	18.98

* These airports were transferred free of cost to NAA.

** Negligible amount is being spent on their maintenance. Separate date not available.

Merger of Vayudoot with I.A.

*237. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)
BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the
Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM:
be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have
taken a decision to merge the Vayudoot with
the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, whether all legal and
administrative formalities have been
completed;

(c) whether there is any objection or
agitation from either of the two organisations
or its personnel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the merger is
likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI
AZAD): (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Air Corporation
Employees Union have expressed their
reservation to the proposed merger
apprehending that seniority of the existing
employees of Indian Airlines might be
adversely affected and their career
progression impaired. Vayudoot employees
have asked for parity with employees of
Indian Airlines.

(e) At present it is not possible to
indicate the exact time by which the entire
process including legal formalities will be
completed.

Domestic Savings

*238. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the
Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of domestic savings in
terms of the percentage of gross domestic
product in 1993 in India; and

(b) the steps being contemplated to
be taken to raise the savings rate in the
remaining months of the current financial
Year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR
AHMED): (a) The ratio of gross savings as
a percentage of Gross Domestic Product at
market prices was 24.3 per cent for 1991-92
as per the latest figure available with the
Central Statistical Organisation.

(b) For aggregate savings to grow it is
imperative to improve the parameters which
have a bearing on savings behavior. These
include rate of growth in the economy, level
of fiscal deficit, inflation and confidence in
the economy. The various economic reforms
measures undertaken so far are expected to
have a favourable impact on the aggregate
savings. Besides, savings schemes are under
constant review and steps taken to improve
the collection whenever considered
necessary.

Exports of Textiles

*239: DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES: be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have
made any periodic assessment of country's
textiles export, Sector-wise:

(b)if so, the details of textiles export during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far, Sector-wise;

(c)whether the Government have formulated any scheme for upgradation of Research and Development and modern technical skills in textile sectors to improve competitiveness of country's textile exports ; and

(d)if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Details of textile exports Sector Sector-wise, during 1992-93 and April-October, 1993 are indicated in the Statement attached.

• (c) and (d) : The various Textile Research Associations are carrying out research on various aspects of textile technology with a view to adapting appropriate technology and production methods so as to help improve our competitiveness in world markets.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF TEXTILE EXPORTS, SECTOR-WISE, DURING 1992-93 AND APRIL -OCTOBER' 1993
(Provisional)

Sl. No.	Item	Value of Exports (Rs in Crores)	
		1992-93	April-October'93
		4869	3518
i)	Cotton Textiles		
ii)	Readymade Garments	8841	5773
iii)	Woolen Textiles	423	259
iv)	Silk Textiles	720	330
v)	Man-made Fibre Textiles	1413	1012

Source:- Textile Export Promotion Councils

World Bank Study on Banking System

*240SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether the World Bank has conducted a study on the banking system in India recently;

(b) if so, the specific features of the study and the suggestions made by the World Bank;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake any institutional and policy reforms in the banking system on the basis of this study; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Government is not aware of any recent Study Report prepared by the World Bank in 1989-90 on the Consolidation of the Financial system.

(c) and (d) : Based on the recommendations of the Narasimhan Committee and in the light of deficiencies in the Banking System revealed in the Securities scam, the government is taking several steps to improve the health of the financial system including the Banking system and the capital markets. The measures include reduction of statutory liquidity and cash reserve requirements, development of Government securities market, rationalisation of the interest rate structure,

strengthening of banking supervision and encouraging competition through entry of new private sector banks. The broad approach to institutional and policy reforms in the Banking system being considered by the Government are contained in a Discussion paper titled "Public Sector Commercial Banks and Financial Sector Reforms Rebuilding for a Better Future", copies of which have been placed in the Parliament Library.

Customs Duty Collection

2364. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN

: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) total customs receipts during 1992-93 and that budgeted for 1993-94

(b) total customs receipts during the period April-September, 1993 and the percentage change over the corresponding period during 1992-93; and

(c) the reasons for the change ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The customs revenue collected during 1992-93 is Rs. 23817.73 crores (provisional) and Budget Estimate for 1993-94 is Rs. 27727.00 crores.

(b) and (c) The provisional figures of customs revenue collected during April-September 1993 is Rs. 10078.51 crores which is 15.51% less than the collection in the corresponding period during 1992-93. The fall in customs revenue collection during April-September, 1993 is mainly attributed to sluggish growth in imports.

ITDC Hotels Dues Against State Governments

2365. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM : be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of State Governments owe large sums of money to the India Tourism Development Corporation hotels in Delhi / New Delhi :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the same expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) : As on 30th September, 1993, various State Governments owe a sum of Rs. 123.73 lakhs to ITDC hotels located in Delhi.

(c) : Realisation of the outstanding amounts by ITDC is a continuous process which includes periodic review of outstandings, regular follow-up by way of reminders, personal contacts and legal action, wherever necessary, etc

[*Translation*]

Handloom Sector in Gujarat

2366. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES : be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has forwarded any scheme to the Union government for increasing the production of handloom cloth in the state and for the welfare of the weavers :

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES : (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) Proposals for release of assistance under the various on-going schemes implemented for development of handloom sector have been received from Government of Gujarat from time to time .

(b) and (c) On the basis of specific proposals received from Government of Gujarat during the past three years, the State was provided with financial assistance under the following schemes in order to promote production/ marketing of handloom cloth and also for the welfare of the handloom weavers in the state :-

- (i) Share Capital Assistance to Primary Weavers Co-operative societies;
- (ii) Assistance for Modernisation/ Renovation/purchase of looms ;
- (iii) workshed-cum-housing scheme;
- (iv) setting up of Enforcement Machinery in the State ;
- (v) Janata Cloth Scheme ; and
- (vi) Market Development Assistance/ special Rebate scheme.

[*English*]

New Scheme to Replace EOUs/EPZs

2367. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COMMERCE : be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government propose

to introduce any new scheme to replace the present Export Oriented Units/Export Processing zones Scheme ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, sir .

(b) Does not arise .

Payment of Cash Compensatory Support To Exporters

2368. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representations for payment of cash Compensatory support to those exporters who concluded exports before July 2, 1991 during the last three months ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the DGFT have not issued appropriate clarification as required by the exporters for getting the payment ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the said payment is likely to be paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) some representations have been received from exporters who concluded exports upto 2nd July, 1991 for expeditious

payment of Cash compensatory support . Government have issued clear instructions that CCS is to be paid by the regional licensing offices to all entitled categories of exporters.

(e) Payment of Cash Compensatory Support to all entitled categories of exporters is being made regularly by the Regional Licensing Offices, whose claims are complete in all respects.

[Translation]

Central Silk Board

2369. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report NO. 15 of 1993 (for the year ending 1992) has made any comments on the financial powers of the Central Silk Board and its senior executive officer ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) . In its report, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India have observed that while there has been a steady increase in the annual expenditure of the Central Silk Board over the years, the financial powers of the Board and its Chief Executive have not been revised .

The above observation has been taken note of for consideration and appropriate action .

[English]

Accident To Boeing 737 Aircraft

2370. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM : be pleased to state :

(a) whether the enquiry report on Boeing 737 aircraft which crashed on April 26, 1993 has been submitted to the Government ;

(b) if so, the findings and recommendations of the enquiry ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which the enquiry is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) : No, Sir .

(b) : Does not arise .

(c) : The Court of Enquiry needed time till 31.12.1993 to complete its work. Government have extended the time limit accordingly .

[Translation]

Export Of Edible Oil

2371. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to export edible oils during the current financial year ;

(b) whether all varieties of edible Oil

have been included in the proposal ;

(c) if so , the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the details of the edible oil which have not been considered in the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d). Government has recently allowed export of edible oils (except groundnut oil) in consumer packs (upto 5 Kg.).

[English]

Small Farmers Agro-Business Consortium

2372. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3592 on March 19, 1993 and.

(a) whether the proposed Small Farmers Agro-Business consortium (SFAC) has since been set up; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) : no, sir . The process of registration of the Consortium as a society under the societies Registration Act, 1860 is on . No date has been prescribed for the same to be set up .

Modernisation Of Stock Exchanges

2373 : SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian development Bank has offered funds for modernisation of Indian Stock Exchanges ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of the modernisation programme to be undertaken by SEBI under this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c): The Government of India are in the process of reaching an agreement with the Asian Development Bank for a loan to support the Capital Market Development Programme. In this context, the government are formulating strategies for automated trading in debt and equity securities and automated settlement of exchanges.

Wind Shear Pilot Warnig System

2374 . MAJ. GEN (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM : be pleased to states :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the "Wind Shear Pilot Warning System" developed by scientists at the Shri Venkateswara University, Tirupati ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined its utility in avoiding flying hazard and accidents ;

(c) if so. the findings thereof ; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to undertake such an examination ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) : Shri Venkateswara University, Tirupati has developed the "Wind Shear Pilot Warning system" under the sponsorship of department of Electronics. The system, installed at Tirupati Aerodrome is under trial . The system will need further testing, evaluation and development before it can be considered for operational use for controlling aircraft movement .

(d) Does not arise .

Repayment Of Loan By Sick Industrial Units

2375. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE :
SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the existing number of sick industrial units, state-wise .

(b) whether defaults of sick industrial units in peoaying the loans taken from the public sector banks is increasing at alarming rate during the recent past ;

(c) if so, the details thereof as on April 1, 1992 and April 1, 1993, bank-wise , and the number of defaulting sick units alongwith their default amount ;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to deal with this phenomenon ;

(e) the results achieved therefrom, bank-wise and

(f) the bad debts written off during each of the last three years, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) As per the data available with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), there were 247924 sick industrial units in the country with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 11533.30 crores as at the end of March, 1992 (latest available). The state-wise break-up of sick/weak industrial units as at the end of March, 1992 (latest available) is given in the statement.

(d) and (e) RBI has advised the banks to identify sickness in the early stage itself and to initiate remedial measures immediately. Banks have also been advised to impress upon other companies in the group to assist the sick units. Viability studies are undertaken by banks for units identified

as sick, and those found viable on strictly commercial considerations are taken up by banks for revival under the rehabilitation packages evolved for potentially viable non-SSI sick/weak industrial units. The dues of banks are being recovered in a phased manner with a suitable reschedulement not exceeding 10 years. Where the units are considered non-viable, banks generally issue recall notices for the recovery of dues in the first instance. Other course of action adopted by banks include filing of suits, sale of stocks and entering into compromise proposals for one-time settlement.

(f) In accordance with the statutes governing the nationalised banks as also in terms of the practices and usages customary amongst bankers, the banks do not disclose the quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which provisions are made to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors as also the amount of bad debts written off.

STATEMENT

No. of Sick/week industrial units as at the end of March, 1992 (latest available)

NAME OF STATES	NO. OF UNITS
Assam	5355
Bihar	7889
Maghalaya	69
Mizoram	1
Arunachal Pradesh	52
West Bengal	32322
Nagaland	2040
Manipur	2277
Orissa	8484
Sikkim	76
Tripura	675
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23
Uttar Pradesh	34321

NAME OF STATES	NO. OF UNITS
Delhi	4739
Punjab	5532
Haryana	3544
Chandigarh	356
Jammu & Kashmir	771
Himachal Pradesh	1512
Rajasthan	14502
Gujhrat	6792
Maharashtra	20587
Daman & Diu	43
Goa	1086
Dabar & Nagar Haveli	9
Madhya Pradesh	22430
Andhra Pradesh	29807
Karnataka	17472

NAME OF STATES	NO. OF UNITS
Lakshdweep	—
Tamil Nadu	9978
Kerala	14953
Poandicherry	227
	247924

Modernisation Of Textile Mills

2376. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided by the Government for modernisation of textiles mills during the last three years, State-wise particularly to Gujarat; and

(b) the funds earmarked therefor during 1993-94

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) a Statement is enclosed.

(b) Modernisation of textile mills is a continuous process and quantum of modernisation assistance granted to an industrial unit including textile mills depends upon its need and ability to meet viability/financing norms of institutions.

As per information furnished by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), State-wise Assistance Sectioned and Disbursed to textile mills during the last 3 years in given below (1.8.91 to 31.3.93) :-

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of state	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Sanc.	Disb.	Sanc.	Disb.	Sanc.	Disb.
1	2	3	4	4	5	5	5
1.	Orissa	392.00	-	-	-	-	-
2.	West Bengal	-	-	310.00	200.00	-	-
3.	Assam	485.00	709.00	-	-	-	-
4.	Haryana	-	-	55.00	-	60.00	-
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	22.00	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Punjab	500.00	500.00	1560.00	910.00	1341.00	-
7.	Rajasthan	385.00	85.00	200.00	200.00	-	-
8.	Uttar Pradesh	180.00	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Gujarat	546.00	461.00	324.50	331.30	2201.00	1717.00
10.	Maharashtra	1246.00	1080.00	807.00	282.00	2808.00	1986.00
11.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	250.00	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	500.00	-

S.No.	Name of state	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Sanc.	Disb.	Sanc.	Disb.	Sanc.	Disb.
1	2	3	4	5			
13.	Andhra Pradesh	2076.00	1230.00	1257.00	1125.12	1235.40	216.00
14.	Karnataka	253.00	253.00		-	1105.00	-
15.	Kerala	104.00	104.00	425.00	245.12	-	-
16.	Tamil Nadu	3584.00	2548.41	1736.50	1129.80	3187.00	2100.45
17	Pondicherry (U.T)	-	-	685.00	-	-	-
	Total	9773.00	6970.41	7363.00	4423.34	12687.40	6019.45

[*Translation*]

Import Of Magnus Rubber

2377 DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will be the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to import magnus rubber; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the quantity likely to be imported during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) : there is no proposal to import any specific category to of rubber called magnus rubber. However, import of natural rubber is allowed to such an extent so as to met the demand-supply during 1993-94 is 4,000 tonnes and 4,51,000 tonnes respectively. In order to meet the demand supply gap, the Government had allowed the rubber consuming industry to import 10,000 tones of natural rubber during the lean production period of 1993-94. The actual import as per information available is only 4,131 tonnes.

As far as synthetic rubber is concerned, import of the same is allowed under the Open General Licence (OGL) system

Production-Cum-Training Centres In Bihar

2378. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any production-cum-training centres for manufacturing readymade garments in Bihar ;

(b) if so, the details and locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which these centres are likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES: (SRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) No such proposal is under Government's consideration.

LIC Agents

2379. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : With the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of agents working in the Life Insurance Corporation during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the services of these agents are continuously being withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a): The total number of agents working in the Life Insurance Corporation of India during each of the last three years is given below :

As at 31.3.1991	3,48,325
As at 31.3.1992	4,64,505
As at 31.3.1993	4,95,745

(b): No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

1992-93 Rs. 2767.68 crores {
(Provisional)**Export Of Cigarettes**

2380. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cigaretters manufactured during the last three years;

(b) the total number of cigarettes exported and the foreign exchange earned during the above period; and

(c) the total amount of excise duty collected from the cigarettes during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The total number of cigarettes manufactured during the last three years is given below :-

1990-91 61.6 billion pcs.

1991-92 66.3 billion pcs.

1992-93 61.4 billion pcs.

(b) Year	Qty. (Kgs)	Vale (Rs. lakhs)
1990-91	6247955	3896.45
1991-92	2409604	1558.97
1992-93	3456090	3681.90

(c) During the last three financial years Central Excise duties collected from cigarettes is a follows :-

1990-91 Rs. 2084.39 crores

1991-92 Rs. 2387.07 crores

Listing Of Shares

2381. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH : Will the Ministry of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines/provisions of the securities and Exchange Board of India regarding listing of equity shares;

(b) whether SEBI provides some right to the investors also in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some companies have not listed their equity shares at Delhi Stock Exchange even after several months of the allotment of the shares;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action against such companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) to (c) : Requirements with respect to the listing of securities of a company on a recognised stock exchange are governed by Rule 19 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, In addition, Section 73 of the Companies Act contains provisions relating to allotment of shares and debentures to be dealt in on a stock exchange. SEBI, which has been established with statutory powers and functions, is also protecting the interests of investors in securities.

(d) No Sir. However, there has been

some delay in the grant of permission by the stock exchange for dealings in securities of some companies, particularly due to delay in the encashment of stockinvest.

(e) and (f) : Do not arise.

Revival Of Sick Units In Andhra Pradesh

2382 . SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State

(a) the number of sick industrial units in Andhra Pradesh recommended by the Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction for revival ; and

(b) the number of such units revived so far and the number of units which are still pending revival ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRA AHMED): (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 30th November , 1993, 69 sick industrial companies of Andhra Pradesh have been put on the revival path . As per the information available with the BIFR, 21 of these companies have been turned around or are on the threshold recovery .

BIFR has further reported that 28 references of sick industrial companies of Andhra Pradesh were dismissed as nonmaintainable and 28 companies were recommended to the High Court for winding up . 45 references of sick industrial companies are under various stages of process as per the provisions of sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions Act, 1995.)

[*Translation*]

Raids on I. A. S. Officers

2383. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids conducted by Income-tax department on the promises of I. A. S. officers in various parts of the country during the last six months ;

(b) the details of objectionable articles and unaccounted money seized therefrom; and

(c) the action taken against them so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b): During the last six months, the promises of one I.A. S. Officer at Madras were searched by the Income-tax department . In course of the search the following unaccounted assets were seized :

(i) Cash of Rs. 30 lakhs .

(ii) Seven gold biscuits with foreign makings weighing 819 grams

(iii) Foreign currency of US dollars

ii. criminating documents seized indicate undisclosed investments worth Rs. 32 lakhs in movable and immovable properties .

(c) Besides informing the concerned administrative authorities for taking suitable action, necessary follow-up actions as provided for under the Direct taxes acts have

been taken up on the basis of the seized materials .

[English]

Value of Rupee

2385. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the present value of rupee in relation to the price situation of 1947 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED) The value of Rupee in October 1993 was 5.54 paise when measured as a reciprocal to the monthly consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers with 1947 as base .

Financial Assistance to Hotel Industry

2386 . SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to grant any financial protection/aid to the hotel industry during the current year ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the number of star hotels opened during 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) : There are various ongoing schemes for providing incentives/ concessions to the hotel industry . There include interest subsidy on loans, tax concessions, concessional import duty and

benefits under Liberalised Exchange Rate Management system (LERMS) and Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme .

(c) : During 1992-93, 25 Star category and Heritage Hotels have been classified .

Loan To Fish Farmers

2387 . SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have urged the Union Government to grant loan to fish farmers on priority basis at par with agriculturists with a view to promote aquaculture and create more employment opportunities in the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) to (c) : Government have not received any request from the Government of Karnataka for grant of loan to fish farmers to promote aquaculture, fishery is an activity allied to agriculture and forms a part of priority sector for the purposes of advances . Under the ongoing schemes for development of freshwater and brackishwater aquaculture, the subsidy for various items such as construction of new ponds, renovation of ponds and tanks, inputs, establishment of hatcheries, etc., is being provided to the fish farmers through district level Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFOAS). The remaining cost is arranged by the fish farmers from their own resources or taken as a loan from the financial institutions.

[Translation]

Menace of Narcotics in M. P.

2388. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the menace of narcotics is increasing in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the number of drug peddlars arrested during the last three years and the quantity of drugs seized during the above period in the State; and

(c) the number of drug peddlars prosecuted in the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) : Scale and consumption of narcotics is a clandestine activity, it cannot be said definitely whether it is increasing in Madhya Pradesh or otherwise. however, available information about the quantity of drugs seized and the number of persons arrested in the State during 1991, 1992 and 1993 (upto Nov.) are given below :-

(I)	Drug	1991	1992	1993 (upto Nov.) Quantity in Kgs.)
	Opium	289.600	540.600	224.945
	Ganja	1311.300	1157.515	1059.000
	Charas	22.000	0.280	3.190
	Heroin	32.304	0.746	29.833
(II)	Number of persons arrested	761	753	929

[English]

Export of Readymade Garments

2389. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations made by the Committee on Extreme focus Product Groups ; and

(b) if so, the action taken particularly for export promotion of

readymade garments and for other products?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) several decisions have been taken in respect of the recommendations on the extreme Focus Product Groups, which include reduction in interest rate on export credit, directions to commercial banks to increase the availability of credit to the export sector, opening up Inland Container Depots and Container freight Stations to the private sector, extending testing facilities for

packaging materials in the country and simplification of procedures relating to bank guarantees for fulfilment of export obligations. In the Budget for 1993-94, full convertibility of the Rupee on trade account has been introduced and customs duties have been reduced on specified capital goods for export-thrust areas, including textiles. Regarding readymade garments, a scheme for boosting exports of these items has been introduced enhancing the limit for investment in plant and machinery to Rs. 3 crores against 50% export obligation. Import of second hand capital goods is permitted without a licence in a number of sectors, including garments, in the revised Export-Import Policy 1992-97. Duty free exemption limit of labels, tags and stickers has been increased from Rs. 1000/- to 10,000/-. It has been clarified that buttons, snap and zip fasteners do not fall under the category of the commercial goods and hence are freely importable without licences.

Tourism Task Force

2390. SHRI ANBARASUERA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tourism Task force (TTF) was set up to promote tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, the programme/plan of the TTF for tourist promotion for the next three years ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) : Yes, sir. Tourism Task Force has been constituted in the ITDC.

(b) : The Tourism Task Force would undertake various promotional activities which include organising adventure camps,

undertaking surveys and studies of tourism projects etc.

Financial Assistance for Kerala Government

2391. SHRI THAYIL JOHN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sent any proposal for an additional financial assistance during the current financial year ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the decision taken by the government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) : A request was received by the Ministry of Finance for a medium term loan of Rs. 150 crores from the Government of Kerala during the current financial year for plan performance and to tide over the financial difficulty of the State. However, the above request of the state Government was not agreed to, due to resource crunch of the Centre and the position was accordingly intimated to the State government.

SCs/STs Reservations in Indian Overseas Bank

2392. DR. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE : be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of employees and representation of SCs & STs in Indian Overseas Bank as on September 30, 1993, grade-wise

(b) whether the Government directive

relating to reservation for SCs & STs in services are being properly implemented in Indian Overseas Bank ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the number of vacancies for SCs/ STs in direct recruitment and in promotions arose, reserved, filled - up, de-reserved and lapsed during the last three years and the details of current backlog in various cadres in Indian Overseas Bank ; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government

to fill up the reserved vacancies for SCs/STs in public sector banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) : The total strength of employees and representation of SCs and STs in Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) as on 30. 9. 1993 cadre-wise, as reported by the Bank was as under :-

Cadre	Total strength	Representaion of	
		SCs	STs
Officers	8123	980	401
Clerks	15366	3455	327
Sub-Staff	4283	1485	209
Sweepers	1329	434	33

(b) and (c) : As per information furnished by the Indian Overseas Bank, the Government directives relating to reservations for SCs and STs in services have been properly implemented in the bank.

(d) : A statement showing number of total vacancies, number of vacancies reserved for SCs/STs, filled up by SCS/STs and dereserved in each cadre for the years 1990, 1991, 1992 is enclosed . No vacancy reserved for SC/ST has lapsed during these three years . There is no backlog in promotions in any cadre . The current backlog as on 31.12 1992 in each Cadre in respect of Direct Recruitment as follows :-

	SC	ST
Offices Cadre	3	2
Clerical Cadre	14	9
Sub-Staff Cadre	17	15

(e) The steps taken by the Government to fill up the reserved Vacancies for SCs and STs Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions have been as under :-

- (1) Special recruitment drives have been carried out during the years 1989, 1990, and 1992

- and a substantial backlog has been cleared . During the current year viz . 1993 - 94, special recruitment drive for SCs and STs is being carried out to clear the backlog to the extent of available Vacancies ;
- (2) The recruitment and representaiton position of the SCs and STs in the Public Sector Banks is being reviewed through a comprehensive proforma by the Boards of Dirctors of each of the public sector banks every year and the position is being reported to the Government :
- (3) The banks have been advised of a revised format of the indent to be placed by them on the BSRBs /Employment Exchanges to ensure that the total backlog is taken into account at the time of inflenting for fresh recruitment ;
- (4) Pre-recruitment training is being imparted by all banks to the candidates appearing for the BSRB Examinations ;
- (5) Centres are being established for examination nearest to the areas of concentration of the ST population; and
- (6) Banks have been advised to hold training workshops for the personnel working in their SC/ ST Cell to make them fully aware of the need for implementation of the reservation policy .

STATEMENT

Direct Recruitment Promotions

	Officers			ClerksSub-Staff			Clericals to Officer			Sub-Staff to Clerical					
	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992			
(1) Vacancies Identified															
Total:	13	46	6	292	154	148	242	195	166	Nil	500	Nil	58	Nil	422
SCs	2	6	1	50	25	29	41	59	22	Nil	74	Nil	9	Nil	63
STs	1	3	-	10	10	7	10	7	1	Nil	103	Nil	5	Nil	31
(2) Vacancies Filled															
By SCs	-	6	1	81	25	27	73	59	20	Nil	76	Nil	12	Nil	167
By STS	-	3	0	19	10	1	5	7	1	Nil	66	Nil	2	Nil	32
(3) Lapsed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dereserved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-

Export OF Pharmaceuticals From Andhra Pradesh

2393. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE : be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of pharmaceuticals are being exported from Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the value of pharmaceuticals exported from Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years and the names of the major items being exported ;

(c) whether any representations are pending with the Government for improving the exports from Andhra Pradesh ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) : Yes Sir. Drug intermediates, bulk drugs and formulations are exported from Andhra Pradesh and the total FOB value of exports for the last three years are as under : -

(Rs. in Crores)

1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
68.04	263.27	201.45

The major items of export are Ibuprofen Sulphamethaxazole, Paracetamol, Trimethoprim, Ranitidine, HCL, Norfloxacin, Famotidine, Diltiazem, Ampicillin, Clexaillin, sodium, Lidhlorin Sodium and Drug Intermediate and Formulations

(c) and (d) Review of Export and Import policy is a continuous process and changes are made therein as and when

considered necessary by the Government in public interest .

To meet the financial requirement of exports from Andhra Pradesh, the Office of Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade at Hyderabad stands up-graded to the level of Jt. Director General of Foreign Trade w.e.f. 8.10.1993.

Tourism Promotion in Chandigarh

2394. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM : be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to promote weekend, get-away and convention tourism to Chandigarh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) : The Ministry of Railways have launched a scheme of rail weekend package tours . The scheme proposes to include our packages :

(i) Delhi - Chandigarh - Delhi

(ii) Shimla - Chandigarh - Shimla

Branches of R. B. I.

2395 : DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL :

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a): the number and location of the branches of the Reserve Bank of India at present, State-wise ;

(b): whether the Government propose to open more branches of the Reserve Bank of India during the current plan period ; and

(c): if so, the details thereof and the places where these branches are proposed to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at present have one branch each at the following places : -

	<i>Location of the Branch</i>	<i>State/U. T.</i>
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
2.	Bangalore	Karnataka
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Bhubneshwar	Orissa
5.	Byculla(Bombay)	Maharashtra
6.	Nagpur	- do -
7.	Cochin	Kerala
8.	Thiruvananthapuram	- do -
9.	Guwahati	Asam
10.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
11.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
12.	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir
13.	Srinagar	- do -
14.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh
15.	Lucknow	- do -
16.	Panaji	Goa
17.	Patna	Bihar
18.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh

(b) : RBI have reported that they do not propose to open any more branches during the current plan period .

(c) : Does not arise .

Export of Prawn

2396 . SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE : be pleased to state : The total quantity of prawn exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : The Information is as under :-

	<i>Qty in M. Tonnes</i>		
	<i>Value in Rs. Crores</i>		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Qty.	62395	76107	74393
Val.	663.33	976.16	74393

Source : MPEDA, Cochin

Interim Relief to Journalists

2397. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a demand has been made for a 40 per cent intreim relief for journalists and other news paper employees pending constitution of a new wage board ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c) : A number of representations have been received from newspaper/News- agency employees' unions and federations demanding, among others, payment of interim relief . The matte would be referred to a new Wage Board, as and when constituted .

Economic Cooperation with Vietnam

2398. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have agreed to boost economic cooperation with the Government of Vietnam so as to raise the Volume of trade from \$ 80 million to a substantial level ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) : The Government of India and the Government of Vietnam have agreed to enhance trade and economic relations so as to increase the volume of trade substantially . India has also agreed to re-rolling of credit of Rs. 39 crores

for another year. In this connection, various high level exchange have also taken place including the visit by the Hon'ble Vice-President of India to Vietnaamm in September, 1993 .

[Translation]

Recommendations of Bachawat Commission

2399 . SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Bachawat Commission have been implemented for the rural correspondents;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to implement its recommendations to the rural correspondents also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) : The Bachawat Wage Board has not made any separate recommendations in respect of rural correspondents . The recommendations of the Bachawat Wage Board are applicable to all newspaper employees. According to the lates reports available, as on 29.0.93, out of 1545 newspaper establishments, 605 have fully and 34 have partially implemented the recommendations of the Bachawat Wage Board . The Central Government have requested all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to ensure effective implementation of the recommendaions of the Bachawat Wage Board . The Central Government is also

regularly monitoring the implementation of these recommemndations .

[English]

Production of Flue-Cured Tobacco

2400. SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :
SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA :
SHRI R. SURENDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of superior Virginia tobacco, flue-cured tobacco and other Varieties of tobacco produced and procured in various tobacco producing States during each of the last three years ;

(b) whether tobacco farmers of some States have represented that there has been discrimination in procurement of superior and other varieties of tobacco in States during the current years ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of tobacco of various varieties procured in tobacco producing States from April to September, 1993; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for the even procurement of tobacco and redressal of the grievance of the tobacco farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) State-wise figures of last three years' FCV Tobacco crop marketed are given below : -

Variety of Tobacco State	Qty. Marketed (M.kgs)	
	1990-91 crop	1991-92 crop
		1992-93 crop
FCV TOBACCO:		
Andhra Pradesh	88.81	132.38
Maharashtra	0.35	0.40
Karnataka	20.33	26.41
Total :	109.49	159.19
		158.86

In respect of Non-FCV tobaccos the quantities produced (all states) are given below :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (M. kgs.)</i>
1990-91	443.00
1991-92	414.30
1992-93	421.14 (provisional)

(Source : Directorate of Economics & statistics, Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation, and Directorate of Tobacco Development, Madras)

(b) and (c) Karnataka State Tobacco Growers Forum have represented in a memorandum alleging discrimination against Karnataka growers and requesting for enhancement of Karnataka crop size to 50 M. Kgs and production quota to 2000 Kgs. per barn.

The quantity of FCV tobacco marketed from April to September, '93 is given below :-

A. P.	-	113.62 M. kgs.	[English]
Maharashtra	-	0.30	
Karnataka	-	Nil	

(d) A. P., Maharashtra and Karnataka States produce different styles of FCV tobacco. The demand, both domestic and exports, differs for each style of tobacco and hence their production targets are fixed accordingly. Similarly, since the barn sizes and capacities differ from State to State the barn-wise production quotas cannot be the same. In fact there is no discrimination in fixation of size.

[Translation]

Forest Communication Project

2401. SHRI ASIT BHUJA SHUKLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Forest Communication Project" sent by the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been forwarded to Japan for seeking financial aid by the Union Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the financial assistance from Japan is expected to be received ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) : No, Sir.

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

Revival of Sick PSUs

2402. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction propose to allow joint ventures and foreign investments for the revival/rehabilitation of sick public sector undertakings referred to it during the last three years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the above public sector undertakings/companies are also permitted to invite institutional loans from abroad ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) : The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) empowers the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to revive a company by taking various measures including amalgamation of the sick industrial company with a healthy one, change of its management, lease of sale of a part or whole of such a company etc. BIFR have reported that in the process of preparation of a revival package, if proposals for joint ventures and foreign investments emerge, these are given due consideration by the BIFR. However, in all cases of foreign equity participation, a representative of the Reserve Bank of India is invited to attend the hearings, since powers given to BIFR under Section 32 of SICA do not extend to the provisions of FERA .

(c) and (d) : BIFR has reported that sick industrial companies, including Public sector undertakings, may formulate their own proposals for revival which may, inter-alia, include loans from abroad . Such proposals, if received are given due consideration by BIFR .

INDO-US Trade Protocol

2403. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to states :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed on the trade protocol between India and U. S. A. ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise .

[Translation]

Export Oriented Units in U. P.

2404. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Uttar Pradesh Government to set up export oriented units ;

(b) if so the decision of the Govt. thereon;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh has not been provided the facilities to set up export oriented units during the last one year which have been provided to other states; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) : No proposal has been received from the Uttar Pradesh Government .

(c) and (d) : Government do not provided any special facility to State Governments under the Export Oriented Units Scheme .

Fourth Pay Commission Report

2405. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accepted all the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission ;

(b) if not, the details of the

recommendations which have not been implemented so far by the Government ; and

(c) the reasons for not implementing these recommendation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) : Major recommendations made by the Fourth Pay commission have been accepted and implemented by the Government.

(b) and (c): Six recommendations contained in para 19.8, 10.259, 10.263, 10.267, 27.24 and 27.23 of the Report of the Fourth Pay Commission are pending. These are under process with other Ministries/ Departments

Haldia Fertilizer Project

2406 . SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an inquiry has been conducted by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction regarding the sick Haldia Fertilizer Project of HFC :

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the outcome of the inquiry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) : The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that it is concerned with the cases pertaining to the sick industrial companies. A reference in respect of Hindustan Fertilisers Ltd. was registered with BIFR and in its hearing held on 12th November, 1992 the

company was declared sick. The next hearing has been fixed for 31st December, 1993.

[English]

ONGC Bonds

2407. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ONGC is tapping U.S. Financial market for Bonds ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the purpose for which this foreign exchange is being acquired ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir. ONGC has sought permission from government to place bonds in U.S. financial markets.

(b) ONGC has been allowed to launch a bond issue for about US\$ 250 Million in the US Domestic Market. The bonds will have a maturity of 10 years and will bear interest at a rate based on US Treasury Yields prevailing at the time of launch.

(c) The purpose of the bond issue is to meet the foreign exchange component of their plan expenditure and to meet their foreign exchange liabilities.

N J M C

2408. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited (NJMC)

has been incurring losses since its inception;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for its revival ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) : Yes, Sir .

(b) : Year-wise cash losses incurred by NJMC are given below :

(Rs. in Crores)

1980-81	3.47
1981-82	17.92
1982-83	18.68
1983-84	22.70
1984-85	73.16
1985-86	39.08
1986-87	44.47
1987-88	42.98
1988-89	49.48
1989-90	49.67
1990-91	56.49
1991-92	56.56
1992-93	59.03 (Prov.)

NJMC has been incurring heavy losses due to, inter alia, obsolete machinery low productivity, surplus labour force etc., in addition to competition from low priced synthetic substitutes .

(c) NJMChas. however, undertaken a number of measures to reduce its cash losses including, inter alia, reduction of surplus manpower through the Voluntary Retirement

Scheme, discontinuance of the uneconomic additional shifts, optimisation of product-mix etc. A scheme for the revitalisation of NJMC has been submitted to the Operating Agency appointed by BIFR which is under consideration in consultation of all parties concerned .

Export of Milk Powder

2409. SHRI C. P. MURAL GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of milk, milk powder and its products exported during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there is any decrease in the export of milk powder during the current year ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of milk powder ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE: (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) : Details of milk and milk products exported during the last three years are given below :

<i>Quantity (MTs)</i>	
1990-91	2466.40
1991-92	1967.12
1992-93	901.25

(Source : NDDE)

In view of the surplus availability of milk and milk products in the country Government decided to allow a quantity of 25000 MTs of milk powder for export with effect from 29th September, 1993. Further, in order to facilitate these exports Government also decided to decanalise export of these items .

Economic Intelligence Bureau

2410. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCIAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to wind up the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) : No, Sir .

(b) : Does not arise .

New Note Printing Presses

2411. SHRI HARISINGH CHAVDA .
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed two new note printing presses have since been set up in order to augment indigenous production of currency notes ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) if not, the time by which these are likely to be set up ;

(d) the progress so far made in respect of modernisation/expansion of the existing note printing presses a Nasik Dewas to augment existing production capacity;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more mints in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) : The work relating to setting up of the proposed two new note printing presses is in progress.

(b) and (c) : Civil construction work for phase I and other service wokers are in various stages of implementation. Supply orders for procurement of plant and machinery will be placed shortly. The initial line of production is expected to become operational by June, 1995. The entire lines of production are likely to be commissioned in about 39 months from the date of placement of order for plant and machinery .

(d) : Due to the resource constraints with the Government, it has not been possible to go ahead with the modernisation/expansion of the existing two note printing presses at Nasik and Dewas . However, the RBI is considering a proposal to procure the required machinery and equipment for the purpose . RBI expects to take a decision in the regard shortly .

(e) : No, sir .

(f) : Does not arise .

Passenger Amenities at Trivandrum Airport

2412. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

SHRI KODIKUNNIL
SURESH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase passengers amenities a international and domestic terminals at the Trivandrum airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the amount spent thereon during the last three years and the current year so far ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) : Development of International Airport at Trivandrum is a continuing process and is take up in a phased manner, depending upon projected requirements and availability of resources. In the Eighth Plan, a provision of Rs. 35 crores has been made for a new Integrated Tamil Complex at Trivandrum .The project can be taken up subject to land being made available by the State Government to International Airports Authority of India.

(c) : Amount spent is as follows :

Year	rupees in crores
1990-91	3.57
1991-92	4.07
1992-93	4.52
1993-94	5.24

(upto November, 1993)

Export of FCV Tobacco.

2413. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any commitment for purchase of FCV tobacco by the UK during the current year ;

(b) if so, the quantity of tobacco committed, actually contracted and the quantity supplied so far ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that such commitment is fulfilled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) : No commitment was given to the Tobacco Board by the English merchants for the FCV tobacco crop marketed in 1993 . The quantity of FCV tobacco contracted by English merchants for the crop marketed in 1993 is 7669 tons (packed weight) . According to trade sources the quantity shipped so far is 5131 tons (packed weight) .

(c) Does not arise .

Capital Investment by Foreigners

2414. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the indigenous industries have been affected because of foreign capital investment under the new liberal economic policy; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the

Government to check the adverse affects on the industries in the country “?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No sir. Government is pursuing a selective approach towards direct foreign investment. Automatic approval, of foreign investment upto 51 per cent of equity is permitted in only 35 priority industries. During the post-liberalisation period from August 1991 to September, 1993, the Government has approved 3270 foreign collaboration proposals including 1423 proposals with foreign equity participation. The total value of equity in foreign investment proposals in Rs. 104.6 billion and 80 per cent of these approvals are in the priority sector. Although the actual inflows of foreign investment amounting to Rs. 351.4 crore in 1991, Rs. 675.2 crore in the 1992 and Rs. 1177.3 crore in January-August 1993 have shown significant improvement during the post-liberalisation period, the present level of foreign investment constitutes less than 3 percent to total industrial investment in India. India industry is too strong and resilient to be adversely affected by such a small proportion of foreign investment. On contrary, foreign investment flows are essential for modernisation and upgradation of technology.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Production of Cardamom in Orissa

2415. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the MINISTER OF COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are promoting production of small and large cardamom in view of its foreign exchange earning capabilities in to the country;

(b) if so, the States where such cardamom is produced, proposed to be produced and the nature of assistance being given ; and

(c) the steps taken to encourage other States like Orissa for its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) : Yes Sir.

(b) : Small cardamom is grown in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and large cardamom is grown in Sikkim and West Bengal. The Spices Board is implementing both short term and long term programmes for the development of small and large cardamom like production and supply of planting materials, cardamom planting and replanting schemes, Western ghat development programmes in Kerala and Karnataka and extension advisory scheme.

(c) : Since cardamom is highly sensitive to Microeco climate of the growing tracts, it has not been found feasible to grow cardamom in the plains or in areas where Eco-climatic factors are different. Hence no programmes have been taken up in Orissa.

Investment by Commercial Banks in Gujarat

2416. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state : (a) whether the amount of per capita investment made by the commercial banks

in Gujarat by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan was less as compared to the national average .

(b)if so, the reasons therefore ; and

(c)the efforts made by the Government to increase the per capita investment in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The investments are made by the scheduled commercial banks in the State Government Securities and in other State Level bodies like State Electricity Board, State Financial Corporation etc. The per capita investment of commercial banks as at the end of 7th five year Plan (March 1990) in the State of Gujarat was Rs. 327 as compared to all India average of Rs.249. As regards the deployment of bank credit, the per capita bank credit in Gujarat was Rs. 2045 as at the end of December, 1992 as compared to all India average of Rs. 1824. It may be stated that the credit deployment in the State of Gujarat is well above the all India average . The Credit deployment depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the area which is related to availability of infrastructure like power, marketing network, communication etc. The issues relating to credit deployment in the States are discussed regularly at State Level Bankers Committee meetings.

Labour Intensive Units

2417. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a)whether the Government are providing incentives to labour incentive units in the country ; and

(b)if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) : Information is being collection and will be laid on the Table of the House .

Workshop for Readymade Garments

2418. SHRI . SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a)whether Government propose to set up workshops for Readymade Garments in Gujarat ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG.VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) : No such proposal is under Government's consideration .

Smuggling of Arms

2419. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a)the details of measures taken to prevent entry of smuggled goods in all the sea shore areas .

(b)whether the Government have taken any special measure to check the smuggling of arms; and

(c)if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to

(c) : Various measures have been taken to prevent entry of smuggled goods in all sea shore areas as well as smuggling of arms . These measures include strengthening of anti-smuggling formations by equipping them with better means to combat smuggling as well as greater coordination between various Central and State Agencies.

Pre-Shipment Credit to Exporters.

2420. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the MINISTER OF COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to provide facility of pre-shipment credit in foreign Exchange to exporters; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) RBI has issued guidelines for extending the facility of pre-shipment credit in foreign currency to exporters on 8 November 93 . (b) The facility will be available in all convertible currencies and the scheme will cover cash exports only . The scheme covers both the domestic as well as imported inputs of the exported goods. the facility will be available for a period of 180 days on the basis of firm export order or confirmed L/C . The ultimate cost to the exporter will not exceed 2% over 6 months LIBOR excluding withholding tax .

Foreign Exchange Reserves

2421. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign exchange reserves position has improved ;

(b) if so, the total foreign exchange

reserves as on November 30, 1993 ; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the reserves position further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) : Yes Sir .

(b) : The total foreign exchange reserves (including Gold and special drawing Rights) as on November 30, 1993 were Rs. 38216 crores (\$ 12182 million) .

(c) : Steps being taken by the Government to improve the reserves position further include encouragement to non-debt creating capital inflows, removal of export constraints, further stream-lining of trade policy and procedures, ensuring of and increase in domestic production of crude oil, further fiscal consolidation to keep inflation down, and maintenance of a competitive exchange rate .

Assistance to Sick Units in Gujarat

2422. DR. K. D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to sick units in Gujarat during the last two years ;

(b) the number and details of the sick units in the State for which proposals are pending with the Government for providing financial assistance ;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the time by which these proposal

are likely to be finally disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of

India (RBI) have reported that on the basis of half yearly data as on 31st March, 1992 received by them from the scheduled commercial banks, the total number of Non-SSI sick/weak and SSI units with bank credit outstanding from them in Gujarat is as under:

	<i>Nc. of Units</i>	<i>(Rs./Crores)</i> <i>Amount Outstanding</i>
Non-SSI sick	155	651.01
Non-SSI Weak	56	185.06
SSI Sick	6581	221.0

The banks have been advised to carry out viability study of sick/weak units and to undertake revival of those units which

are count to be viable as per RBI guidelines . The viability position of sick/weak industries in Gujarat is as under :

<i>Sick SSI Units</i>	<i>Non-SSI Sick Units</i>	<i>Units Sick Units</i>	<i>Non-SSI Weak Units</i>
Potentially viable	447	58	23
Non-Viable	58	81	85
Viability Yet to be decided	25	12	7
Of Viable those put under nursing	228	39	13

Facilities at Airports

2423 SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL :
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS
PATEL :
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

Keshod, Diu and Rajkot air ports/air-fields as on November 30, 1993 ;

(b) whether the Government have any plan to provide more facilities at these airports;

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(a) the present status of Porbandar.

(d) the allocation made for each of these airports/air-fields for 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Probandar, Keshod and Diu airports are fit for AVRO type of aircraft . Rajkot is fit for Boeing-737 operations with load penalty.

(b) and (c) : National Airports Authority has proposals to undertake following works : -

PORBANDAR

- (i) New Terminal Building.
- (ii) Satellite Communication (SATCOM) Terminal .

KESHOD

- (i) SATCOM Terminal

RAJKOT

- (i) Instrument Landing System (ILS) with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) .
- (ii) Simple Approach lights system.

(d) : Allocations made for 1993-94 are as follows : -

Porbandar	Rs. 170 lakhs*
Keshod	Rs. 10 lakhs
Rajkot	Rs. 279 lakhs

[Translation]

Pending Cases of Labour Disputes

2424. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial disputes/ labour cases pending with Labor Courts and Industrial Tribunals at present, State-wise ;

(b) the number out of them which are pending for more than five years;

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute special tribunals for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the remedial steps taken for the speedy disposal of these cases ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the number of industrial disputes and applications pending as on 31.12.1992 in various States and Union Territories is attached. The number of industrial disputes and applications pending for more than five years is not available . However, the statement gives information on industrial disputes and applications pending for more than 3 years .

(c) No, Sir .

(d) Does not arise .

(e) The steps in hand for speedy disposal of pending disputes, inter alia, are as follows : -

- (i) Improving and strengthening of Conciliation Machinery so that a larger number of cases are settled at the conciliation stage;

(ii) Expeditious filling up of vacancies of President Officers of the Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunal;

(iii) Setting up of additional Labour

Court and Industrial Tribunals, where necessary;

(iv) Holding of Lok Adalats, wherever possible .

STATEMENT

The Number of Industrial Disputes & Applications Under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 Pending Before Labour Courts, Industrial Tribunals and Industrial Tribunal-Cum-Labour Courts set up by State Governments Union Territory Administrations and the central Government as on 31 December, 1992

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Applica- tions pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Industrial disputes pending for more than 3 years	No. of applications pending for more than 3 years
1		2	3	4	5
1. State labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals					
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	15	15	3	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	7073	4745	634	1397
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	263	102	100	17
5.	Bihar	730	961	256	242
6.	Chandigarh	754	198	362	11
7.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
8.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	22209	22724	5116	5453

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Applica- tions pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Industrial disputes pending for more than 3 years	No. of applications pending for more than 3 years
1		2	3	4	5
10.	Goa	223	96	93 #	25 #
11.	Gujarat @	108998	N.A	18774	N.A
12.	Himachal Pradesh	229	136	34	0
13.	Haryana	4838	3037	828	293
14.	J & Kashmir	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A
15.	Kerala	1544	1134	92	217
16.	Karnataka	10146	3327	3883	1408
17.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
18.	Manipur	4	0	1	0
19.	Meghalaya	7	0	0	0
20.	Maharashtra	12342	23696	2271	4909
21.	Madhya Pradesh	2459	1274	681	201
22.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Applica- tions pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Industrial disputes pending for more than 3 years	No. of applications pending for more than 3 years
1		2	3	4	5
23.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
24.	Orissa	1191	1907	230	296
25.	Punjab	6647	7336	553	802
26.	Pondicherry	48	19	7	1
27.	Rajasthan	8201	4942	2571	1780
28.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
29.	Tamil Nadu	9553	9336	1833	1527
30.	Tripura	2	2	0	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	15241	5142	2096	712
32.	West Bengal	2260	175	837	70
TOTAL		214977	90004	41255	19364

@ As on 31.07.93

As on 30.06.92

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Applica- tions pending as on 31.12.92	No. of Industrial disputes pending for more than 3 years	No. of applications pending for more than 3 years	
		1	2	3	4	5
<i>II Central Government Industrial Tribunal -cum-Labour Court</i>						
1.	Asansol	47	9	0	0	
2.	Bangalore	312	15	87	0	
3.	No.1 Bombay	283	774	37	450	
4.	No.2 Bombay	198	2066	70	1670	
5.	Calcutta	279	231	62	21	
6.	Chandigarh	709	2018	257	323	
7.	No.1 Dhanbad	546	125	50	31	
8.	No.2 Dhanbad	447	36	16	4	
9.	Jabalpur	936	2094	323	983	
10.	Kanpur	760	1149	14	14	
11.	New Delhi	577	1299	123	237	
	Total	5084	9816	1015	3433	

[English]

Anti-Dumping Duty on Import of Raw Steel Scrap

2425. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Sponge Iron Manufacturers Association for levy of anti-dumping duty on import of raw steel such as scrap, HR, Coils, CR coils and other steel products ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ;

(c) whether the drastic reduction of import duty on raw steel scrap products and indiscriminate and large scale import of steel scrap has jeopardized the Viability of Indian Sponge Iron and Steel Industry ; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government proposed to take to protect the Steel Manufacturing Sector in India ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes , Sir .

(b) The representation received is not properly documented to provide prima facie evidence of dumping, injury to the domestic industry and a causal link between the two. The Indian Customs Tariff Act and Customs Tariff Rules requires the designated authority to satisfy itself about these aspects before undertaking any action on the representation .

(c) and (d). The customs duty on import of raw melting scrap was increased from 10% to 15% with effect from 1.3.1993 and is 12.5% with effect from 4.5.1993. Import

of steel melting scrap during April-August, 1993 was 3.79 lakh tonne during the corresponding period of last year showing a decline of 64%. Import of scrap has not affected the viability of the domestic sponge iron industry. As against the estimated demand of 7.6 million tonne of steel melting scrap/sponge iron/HBI in 1993-94, the domestic availability of sponge iron and scrap is expected to be about 2.5 and 3 million tonne respectively leaving a gap of about 2.1 million tonne which has to be met through import. The liberalisation of import and reduction in duty on many steel items has not resulted in higher import. As against the average annual import of 1.24 million tonne during the preceding 3 years, import in 1992-93 was about 1.06 million tonne only. Import during April to August, 1993 was 3.75 lakh tones a against import of 4.32 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year showing a decline of 13%.

Poverty Alleviation Programme

2426. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during his recent visit to Washington D.C. he urged the World Bank to stick to its Primary mandate of Poverty alleviation and to concentrate on the mean to achieve this object;

(b) if so, the context in which he made this plea ; and

(c) the response of the World Bank thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (a) to (c). During his

speech at the 47th Development Committee Meeting held at Washington DC, on September 27, 1993, the Finance Minister stressed that while it was necessary to take steps to strengthen the World Bank's procedure and operating mechanisms, we should not lose sight of one of the primary objectives of the World Bank, namely poverty reduction. He made this statement in the context of the substantial expansion of the World Bank lending to new members. In the communique dated 27.9.93, issued by the Development committee, it was stated that in its relations with borrowing countries, the Bank would do more to address the impact of adjustment measures and their on poverty employment, investment and the environment.

Microlight Aircraft

2427. SHRI TARACHAND
KHANDLWAL :
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of microlight aircraft have been lying unused at flying clubs across the country since 19989 and are no longer airworthy;

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

(c) whether the Aero Club of India has urged the Government for the development of aero-sports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of allocations made by the Government therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

AND TOURISM: (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir .

(b) Flying Clubs have not commenced regular microlight flying mainly due to operational restrictions imposed in view of security requirements.

(c) and (d). For the schemes proposed by Aero Club of India (ACI) for promotion of aero-sports, a total of Rs. 415.0 lakhs has so far been released out of Rs. 448 lakhs sanctioned as grant by the Government to the ACI .

[Translation]

Facilities to the Beedi Workers

2428. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the decisions taken in the Labour Ministers Conference held in Calcutta in regard to minimum wages and other facilities for the Beedi labourers;

(b) the details of the steps taken/ proposed to be taken for implementation of those decisions; and

(c) the details of the decisions implemented by the State Governments ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) Consequent to the Labour Ministers' Conference on 13.8.1993 a Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Labour Minister, West Bengal was appointed to consider other items on the matter fixing minimum wages of Beedi workers on regional basis . The report of the Sub-Committee which has to be placed before the next

Labour Ministers' Conference, has not been received so far.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Closure of NTC Mills

2429. DR. P.R. GANGWAR :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister TEXTILES be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to close down some of the units functioning under the National Textile Corporation ;

(b) if so, the names of these units and he reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of workers likely to be retrenched due to this closure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The future disposition of the mills of NTC shall be decided by the Board for Industrial & Financial

Reconstruction under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, after assessing their viability and in consultation with all parties concerned.

Registered Unemployed

2431. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased the state :

(a) the number of persons registered at the various employment exchanges during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) how does it compare to the number of those who stood registered during the corresponding year last year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b). The number of registrations made by the employment exchanges, State-wise, during 1991 and 1992 together with the percentage change over the preceding year is furnished in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Number of registrations made by the employment exchanges in the country together with percentage change

States/Union Territory	Number of Registrations made (1000)		Percentage change in 91 compared in 92 compared to 1991	
	1991	1992	to 1990	to 1991
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1. Andhra Pradesh	378.2	407.1	- 9.6	+ 7.6
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1.2	1.4	- 2.5	+20.1
3. Assam	410.2	144.5	+110.4	-84.8
4. Bihar	701.7	458.4	-10.8	- 34.7
5. Goa	10.6	13.7	-28.2	+29.7
6. Gujarat	196.6	181.2	- 8.4	- 7.8
7. Haryana	263.8	214.7	+18.9	-18.6
8. Himachal Pradesh	85.1	96.4	+ 4.6	+13.3
9. Jammu & Kashmir	54.4	22.3	+125.4	-59.0
10. Karnataka	358.9	276.0	+16.4	-23.1

States/Union Territory	Number of Registrations made (1000)			Percentage change in 91 compared in 92	
	1991	1992	1992	to 1990	compared to 1991
1	2	3	4	5	
11. Kerala	414.7	359.9	- 4.7	-13.2	
12. Madhya Pradesh	336.0	342.2	-36.1	- 1.9	
13. Maharashtra	578.8	551.4	- 6.1	- 4.7	
14. Manipur	27.6	17.5	- 4.7	-36.4	
15. Meghalaya	8.5	8.4	+16.9	- 0.5	
16. Mizoram	10.7	8.0	+35.6	-25.5	
17. Nagaland	6.3	5.9	+ 7.5	- 6.6	
18. Orissa	208.6	180.6	- 6.3	-13.4	
19. Punjab	143.7	140.0	-18.5	- 2.6	
20. Rajasthan	172.1	175.1	-11.1	+ 1.8	
21. Sikkim *					
22. Tamil Nadu	560.0	560.4	- 5.1	+ 0.1	
23. Tripura	10.4	18.0	-23.6	+73.7	
24. Uttar Pradesh	614.2	524.1	-14.9	- 14.7	

States/Union Territory	Number of Registrations made (1000)		Percentage change in 91 compared in 92		
	1991	1992	to 1990	4	5
25. West Bengal	458.6	379.6	-10.6		-17.2
Union Territories					
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.0	3.6	- 6.0		-10.0
27. Chandigarh	27.3	20.9	- 4.2		-23.3
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.0	0.8	+1147.6		-25.0
29. Delhi	180.0	176.2	+ 1.9		- 2.1
30. Daman & Diu	0.4	0.4	-		+ 5.0
31. Lakshadweep	0.9	0.9	-25.5		+ 0.1
32. Pondicherry	11.6	11.2	-16.2		- 3.7
Total :-	62.35.6	5300.6	- 4.7		- 15.0

Note :- 1. * No Employment Exchange is Functioning in this State.

2. State figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

[Translation]

Tea Plantation in Gujarat

2432. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in Gujarat during the last two years for the expansion of tea-plantation as a part of Rural Development Programme ;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof ;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct any such surveys in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d). No

survey for tea cultivation in Gujarat has been undertaken during the past two years. However, according to a study undertaken in August, 1990, soil in certain parts of Gujarat appears to be suitable for tea cultivation but the climatic conditions are not favourable for the same. Based on the study, Tea Board proposed establishment of trial plantation in Chinchali village of Dang district and Limbi village of Surat district and training of personnel on tea culture. The State Government of Gujarat are yet to respond in the matter.

Subsidy for Janata Cloth

2433. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPAHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have stipulated any norms for providing assistance to the weavers and formulated any scheme for promotion of production of Janata cloth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of subsidy provided to each State during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far; and

(d) the number of weavers and co-operative societies benefited therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES : (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Government of India is implementing the Janata Cloth Scheme since 1976. The implementation of the scheme is governed by a set of comprehensive guidelines issued for the purpose. The Apex/ Regional Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies and State Handloom Development Corporations are eligible to participate in the production of Janata Cloth. The State Level Janata Cloth Schemes Implementation Committee, headed by the Chief Secretary or Secretary in-charge of Handlooms of the concerned State, is responsible for a range of key functions of the implementation of the scheme. The Janata cloth produced by the handloom agencies is distributed through own retail outlets of the implementing agencies as well as consumers' cooperatives, fair price shops and other outfits of the Public Distribution System. —The current rate of subsidy allowed on production and distribution of Janata cloth is Rs. 3.40 per square metre for cotton and Rs. 13.60 per square metre for woollen Janata cloth.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) An estimated 5.72 lakh weavers covered under 26 number of Apex/Regional Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies and 15 number of Handloom Development

Corporations spread in 16 States and one Union Territory have been benefitted under this scheme during 1992-93.

STATEMENT

Statewise details of subsidy releases under jamata cloth scheme during the year 1992-93 & 1993-94.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount of subsidy released	
		1992-93	1993-94 (Upto 14.12.1993)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1567.81	706.12
2.	Assam	1203.77	111.05
3.	Bihar	291.07	197.34
4.	Gujarat	165.03	74.57
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	NIL	1.07
6.	Karnataka	1155.51	398.08
7.	Kerala	7.61	NIL
8.	Madhya Pradesh	480.10	NIL
9.	Maharashtra	852.56	437.26
10.	Orissa	495.92	385.97
11.	Punjab	90.39	68.31

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	(Rs. in lakhs)	
		Amount of subsidy released	
		1992-93	1993-94 (Upto 14.12.1993)
12.	Rajasthan	82.87	72.96
13.	Tamil Nadu	809.16	818.19
14.	Tripura	135.47	79.88
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2731.51	1062.30
16.	West Bengal	2096.51	195.62
17.	Pondicherry	0.15	NIL
Total	12165.44		4608.72

Meeting of State Labour Ministers

2434. SHRI DHARMAN DAYYA
SADUL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of LABOUR
be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the State Governments have suggested for convening a meeting of State Labour Ministers to discuss the question of amending the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and E.S.I. Scheme;

(b) if so, details thereof and the States which have suggested for the meeting; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c). The State of West Bengal alone has recently suggested for convening a meeting of the State Labour Ministers to review the measures taken for family planning and for adoption of future action programme. A view is yet to be taken in the matter.

**Loan To SSIs by Public Sector
Banks**

2435. SHRI CHINMAYANAND
SWAMI :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE
be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan provided by each of the Public Sector Banks to the Small Scale Industries in the country during each of

the last three years and the current year so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of Small Scale Industries thus benefited State-wise ;

(c) the position of recovery of loans during the above period. State-wise and Bank-wise ;

(d) whether the Government propose to give subsidy on bank loan to Small scale Industries in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(e) it so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the loans provided by the Public Sector Banks during the last three years viz. 1990, and 1992 to the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) and the number of units benefited were as under .

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Accounts</i>	<i>(Rs./Crores) Amount outstanding</i>
1990	2725068	15015.39
1991	2830090	16756.23
1992	2862777	17487.08

The time and labour involved in preparing statements showing the loans provided to the small scale industries during each of the last three years bank-wise, State-wise alongwith their recovery position bank-wise, State-wise may not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise .

[Translation]

Export Growth

2436. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as compared to China, India exports have been dismal despite many incentives, including low customs duties ;

(b) whether the Government have any plans apart from re-adjusting customs duties to benefit and protect indigenous industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) As per Published comparable data available upto June 1992, India's exports registered a positive growth of 4.2% during Jan-June 1992 as against a negative growth of 9.5% during 1991 while China's export growth increased from 15.8% during 1991 to 17.2% during Jan-June 1992 .

(Source : Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, UN)

(b) and (c) Government have taken several initiatives through changes and reforms in the trade, industrial and credit policies and given attention to development of infrastructure for promotion of indigenous industry .

ILO Convetion on Child Labour

2438. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of LAOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accepted ILO Conventions on Child Labour;

(b) if so, the details of the Conventions; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their implementation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) (a) and (b). India has ratified the following four ILO Conventions relating to child labour : -

(i) Convention No. 5 : Minimum Age (Industry), 1919 - Prohibits employment of children under the age of 14 years in any public or private industrial undertaking .

(ii) Convention No. 6 : Night work of Young Persons (Industry) 1919 - Abolition of night work for young persons in any public or private industrial undertaking . The provisions of the convention have been modified for India .

(iii) Convention No. 90 : Night work for young persons (industry Revised), 1948 - Abolition of night work for children and young persons . Provisions of the convention modified for India .

(iv) Convenyion No. 123 : Minimum age (underground work), 1965 - Provides that persons under 16 years of age shall not be employed or work underground in mines .

(c) The commitment conveyed through ratification of ILO Convention is fulfilled through the provisions of various labour laws relating to child labour and programmes taken up for their welfare .

Export of Tea U. S. A.

2439. SHRISARAT PATTANAYAK

: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of tea exported to U. S. A. during each of the last three years :

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce any action plan to boost tea exports o U. S. A. ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Quantity of tea exported to USA during the last three years has been as follows : -

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (in million kgs.)</i>
1990-91	2.13
1991-92	3.17
1992-93	4.10

* Estimated and subject to revision .

(b) and (c) Office of the Tea Board at New York has undertaken a number of promotional measures to increase exports of Indian tea to USA. Steps taken in this regard include participation in trade fairs and exhibitions in store demonstration/tea sampling field publicity, media publicity for promoting value added teas, etc.

Tax Arrears

2440. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total tax arrears as on March 1993

(b) the names of the persons against whom one crore or more than that are due as tax arrears; and

(c) the action taken and penalties imposed one these persons ?

THE MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The net realisable tax arrears of corporation tax and Income tax as on 31. 3. 93 was Rs. 5149.33 crores. This does not include : -

- (i) demand not fallen due;
- (ii) paid but pending verification;
- (iii) stayed by courts;
- (iv) stayed by Settlement Commission ;
- (v) Stayed by Income tax Appellate Tribunal .

(b) There are 816 names as on 30.6.93 against whom tax arrear of more than Rs. 1 crore is outstanding. Lot of effort and time would be required in furnishing all these 816 names which will not be commensurate with the objectives sought to be achieved.

(c) As regards the steps being taken for realisation of these arrears, high priority is given to the work of reduction of arrear demand and appropriate administrative, legal and other measures are taken to reduce the same. In bigger cases, dossiers are maintained and the position is reviewed regularly. In important cases involving high revenue stakes, Special counsels are engaged to defend the Government's stand, wherever considered necessary. Courts are also moved for expeditious hearing and Vacation of stays wherever required. Coercive measures like levy of penalty.

attachment of movable and immovable assets and even prosecution etc. are also taken by the Department in suitable cases for speedy recovery of arrear demand.

Tourism Development in Karnataka

2441. S H R I M A T I CHANDRAPAABHAURS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tourism projects sent by the Government of Karnataka for assistance from the Union Government as well as from the external agencies during 1993-94;

(b) the amount of assistance sought for each project ;

(c) the tourism projects approved by the Union Government for external assistance;

(d) the tourism projects in Karnataka sanctioned by the Union Government for Financial assistance during 1993-94 and the amount sanctioned for each project; and

(e) the amount proposed to be released for these projects during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The State Government of Karnataka have submitted four proposals to Central Department of Tourism seeking financial assistance during 1993-94. No proposal has been received from the State Government for assistance from external agencies during 1993-94.

(b) to (e) The proposals received from the State Government include

Construction of Sulabh Shouchalaya Complexes at ten different tourist centres in Karnataka . floodlighting of St. Philemena's Church, Sound and Light Show at Srinangapatnam and Basavkalyan .

[Translation]

Export of Readymade Garments

2442. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the position of the country in respect of export of readymade garments in the international market ;

(b) whether there has been any change in this position during the last five years ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) : The percentage shares of India in the World Clothing Trade Sector during the period are indicated below :

YEAR	% SHARE OF INDIA
1986	1.73
1987	1.82
1988	1.77
1989	2.01
1990	2.00

SOURCE . (International Trade: 90-91 (Gatt)

[English]

Central Excise from Agricultural Products

2443. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution of various States to the Central Excise from agricultural products during 1992-93, state-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide special assistance to the States making large contribution to the Central Excise revenue collection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No such data are maintained.

(b) At present no such proposal is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise

Smuggling of Narcotics and RDX

2444. SHRI SANDIPAN BHOGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing incidence of smuggling of narcotics and RDX by international agencies in India ;

(b) if so the effective and comprehensive steps taken to check the menace of the problem ;

(c) whether the Government are considering import of devices to be used at Ports/Airports and other sensitive check

points to check the increasing menace of smuggling of narcotics and RDX; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals under consideration of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir . It cannot be categorically stated that incidence of smuggling of RDX and narcotics is increasing.

(b) The following particular steps have been taken to check smuggling : -

(i) Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the various Acts. Training is being imparted to officers . Vehicles and communication equipment have been provided.

(ii) Under the chairmanship of State Home Secretary of NE Region, a coordination Committee has been constituted for periodical meeting with local Senior most officer of the Central and the State agencies .

(iii) For the purpose of coordination, nodal officers have been identified in all North-Eastern States .

(iv) Trafficking routes identified have been circulated to all agencies .

(v) A bilateral agreement with Myanmar has been signed in march, 1993 to provide for exchange of intelligence, etc .

to combat illicit trafficking drugs. A follow up Meeting was held in October, 1993 .

- (iv) A part of Indo-Pakistan border has been fenced .
- (vii) BSF and the Coast Guard who are deployed on the land and coastal borders have been vested with the powers under the Customs Act .

(c) and (d). Government have provided some equipment at the international airports and sea-ports. Further initiative has been taken to identify equipments required for improving the detection of dugs/explosives at sea and airports and also sensitive check-points .

Joint Bank Venture in Russia

2445. DR. VASANT NIWRUTLI PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India and the Export and import Bank of India propose to set up a joint venture bank in Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the modalities of such a participation in regard to the personnel and funds;

(d) whether the State Bank of India propose to set up such joint ventures in some other foreign countries also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR.ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c). State Bank of India (SBI) and Export and Import bank of India (EXIM BANK) have planned to promote and establish a Joint Venture Bank (JVB) in Russia in participation with local Russian Institutional partners . The proposed JVB would have a paid-up capital of US \$10 million to be shared by the proposed Indian and Russian institutional partners on share-holding basis . The modalities with regard to personnel, etc. are yet to be worked out.

(d) and (e). State Bank of India are examining establishment of JVBs in the following countries : -

- Kazakhstan
- Usbekistan and ;
- Ukrain

Project in this regard are at preliminary stages.

[*Translation*]

Loan to Agriculture Based Industries

2446. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any policy and programme have been adopted for providing adequate loans to agriculture based industries by the nationalised banks ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) has been issuing guidelines from time to time all nationalised banks regarding advances to be extended to agriculture and allied activities, non-farm activities including agriculture based industries. The requirements of credit for such activities are being met by the banks based on the size of operation, nature of activities, their viability and unit cost fixed by the technical committees at the district level. The refinance assistance is made available by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to the financing banks for setting up of agro processing and/or for integrated agricultural projects which have investment components for processing activities. The refinance is provided to the extent of 90% of term loans for 100 per cent export oriented units and at 75 per cent in respect of other units. Refinance is available from NABARD for the cost of investment like land/site development construction of work shed and building plant and machinery, equipment and tools, cost of technical up gradation/know-how and engineering fees, preliminary and pre-operative of transport vehicles. Concessional rate of interest at 15 per cent per annum will be applicable for loans over Rs. 2 lakhs when 100 per cent export oriented agro processing unit is involved.

Tribunals for Loan Recovery

2447. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up Special Tribunals for recovery of dues of banks and financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details of such tribunals and the extent to which these have helped in

settling the loan disputes;

(c) if not, reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, provides for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. However, no Tribunals have so far been set up as the process of identifying persons of integrity and suitable qualifications for appointment as Presiding Officer and the supporting staff is underway.

Central Cooperative Undertakings in Uttar Pradesh

2448 SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for making the Central Cooperative Undertakings economically viable as recommended by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR

AHMED): (a) to (c). Since the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 do not extend to Co-operatives, the question of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)'s recommendations for making co-operative undertakings viable does not arise

[English]

Import of Cloves

2449. **SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the quantity of cloves produced in India is far better than the imported cloves;

(b) if so, the reasons for such imports:

(c) whether the Government of Kerala and the Cloves Grower's have requested to impose curb or ban on the import of cloves: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDI AHMED): (a) and (b). Quantity of cloves produced in India falls short of its domestic requirements. Hence limited import is permitted to meet the demand.

(c) and (d). Keeping in view the interest of indigenous growers, Cloves have been placed in the Negative List of Imports of the current Export & Import Policy. Import is restricted and is allowed against a specific licence only subject to fulfilment of Export

Obligation as specified.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes for the Mine Workers of Bihar

2450. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evolved any schemes for the welfare of mine workers in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring them under the cover of group insurance and E. S. I. Scheme ;

(c) whether the Government pay any compensation to mine workers in the event of death or injury due to mine accidents; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Various welfare schemes are under operation under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund ; Iron Ore Mines, manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund to extend housing, health education and recreation etc. facilities to workers working in these mines in all the States including Bihar.

(b) to (d). There is no proposal at present to take up group insurance scheme for these mine workers or to take them under the ESI Act. However, for employment related injuries resulting in death/disablement, the mine workers are covered under the

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Under the Act, compensation is paid by the employer. As the provisions of the W.C. Act are being administered by the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, the details of the compensation provided during the last three years are not available.

[English]

Seeting up of Rural Industries by SIDBI

2451 MAJ. D. D. KHANDRIA :
SH. KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Industrial Development Bank of India has formulated any project to set up rural industries in the country;

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

(c) the schemes for promotional activities proposed to be formulated by SIDBI during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been providing assistance to units in the tiny and SSI sector under its refinance schemes through State Financial Corporations (SFCs)/ State Industrial Development Corporations (SIDCs) and banks in all the States/Union Territories. The assistance thus provided has created employment opportunities specially in rural areas all over the country. Schemes of assistance through which tiny

and rural industries are benefitted resulting in creation of employment opportunities include Composite Loan Scheme, Scheme for SC/ST and physically handicapped entrepreneurs, Single Window Scheme to provide term loan for acquiring fixed assets as well as working capital assistance, National Equity Fund Scheme to provide equity type of support to small intreprenurus and the Scheme for purchase of mobile vans.

(c) Since its inception, SIDBI has been laying emphasis on promotional and developmental activities and has initiated such activities in all the States. These relate to technology upgradation programmes in select industry clusters, promotion of rural industries entrepreneurship development programmes through specialist agencies, marketing support in the informal sector and providing informational inpute through publication on viable project ideas specially in the tiny sector.

[Translation]

Premium on Shares

2452. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
SHRI. ARJUN SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINACE be pleased to state :

(a) whether premium being charged on shares is not been calculated as per the guidelines issued by SEBI ;

(b) if so, the companies and commercial banks against whom the action has been taken for violation of these guidelines during the last two years;

(c) whether any Government machinery is working to ensure that the guidelines are being followed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) SEBI has not issued any guidelines for calculation of premium to be charged on shares. The issues are free to decide on the issue price in consultation with the lead manager. SEBI only requires that adequate justification for the premium proposed is given the offer document among with the issue price that would have been arrived at as per the valuation guidelines of the erstwhile Controller of Capital Issues (CCI) to enable the investors to make informed investment decisions.

(b) Since there are no guidelines of SEBI on premium fixation, the question of violation does not arise. The disclosures relating to premium justification and the CCI formula price are ensured at the time of vetting of the offer documents by SEBI.

(c) Further monitoring by the Government is not considered necessary.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Exports of Garments

2453. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the garments including silk, cotton and other varieties exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned thereby during the above period;

(c) whether the Government have any special measure to step up the export of garments in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY TEXTILES: (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b). Export of garments including Silk Garments during the last three years were as follows :

Year	Value of exports (Rs. Crs.)
1990-91	4795.45
1991-92	6572.63
1992-93	9115.67

SOURCE : Apparel Export Promotion Council & DGCIS.

(c) and (d). In order to step up export of garments Government have taken several measures which include full convertibility of Rupees, allowing import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production, participation in Buyer-Seller meets, fairs, exhibitions etc. Further necessary steps to boost garment exports will be taken at the appropriate time.

New Branches of Insurance Corporations

2454. SHRI NANDI CHARANDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) the criteria for opening of new branches of insurance corporations ;

(b) whether the Government propose to open some new branches of the above

corporations in Orissa during the current financial year ;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with their locations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Population, business potential, the viability of branch office, etc. are the main criteria for opening of new branch offices of Insurance Companies.

(b) and (c). While the four subsidiaries of General Insurance Corporation of India have no proposal to open any branch office in Orissa during the current financial year, the Life Insurance Corporation of India plans to open branch offices at Bhubaneswar and Talcher in Cuttack Division; and at Sambalpur and Bonai in Sambalpur Division.

Impact of Economic Liberalisation Policies

2455. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study on the impact of the economic liberalisation policies on the common man; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): The Government is keeping a close watch on the impact of economic liberalisation policies on the common man. The document 'Economic Reforms. Two Years After and the Task Ahead-Discussion Paper' released in July

this year has analysed the nearly results of economic reforms, including aspects which affect the common man. Among other things, containment of inflation following macro-economic stabilisation measures, revamping of the Public Distribution System, increase in expenditure on social sectors, including employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in the Budget for 1993-94 will help in ensuring that costs of reforms do not fall heavily on those least able to bear them.

Frauds in State Bank of Indore

2456. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of embezzlement, frauds and misappropriation detected in the State Bank of Indore during each of the last three years and the total loss suffered as a result thereof, branch-wise;

(b) whether some bank employees were also found involved in such cases;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the action being taken against such employees and to minimise such cases in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Porbandar and Keshod Airports

2457 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of movable and immovable properties of the National Airports Authority of India, the Indian Airlines and the staff posted at the Porbandar and Keshod airports;

(b) whether there is any proposal from the Indian Navy to take over these airports from the National Airports Authority;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAMNAI AZAD):

(a) : Details of movable and immovable property of National Airports Authority (NAA) given in the statement. Staff of NAA posted at Porbandar and Keshod airports number 33 and 32 respectively.

Indian Airlines (IA) discontinued operations to Keshod and Porbandar with effect from 22nd December, 1986. IA has no plans to reopen these stations. IA staff posted at Porbandar and Keshod were transferred to Bombay, Ahmedabad, Jamnagar and Bhuj and the office premises were handed over to the respective landlords. A part of IA assets at Porbandar and Keshod were transferred to other IA stations and some of the assets were handed over to M/s Vayudoot.

(b) No, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

Moveable and immovable Properties as on 31.10.1993 of National Airports Authority at Porbandar and Keshod airports:-

PORBANDAR AIRPORT
MOVEABLE PROPERTY

Crash Fire Tender	Three
Ambulances	Three

Jeep	One
Non-Directional Beacon	One
Very High Frequency and Air Traffic control equipment	

IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY

Land : 3301 acres and 17 guntas
Terminal and Air Traffic Control Buildings wireless Telegraph Station

Hanger	One
Staff Quarters	Two
Store Rooms	Two
Pump House	One
Diesel generator room	One

KESHO AIRPORT

MOVEABLE PROPERTY

Crash fire Tender	Two
Ambulance	One
Jeep	one
Diesel Generators	Four
Gun: 12 bore -	one
Non-Directional Beacon	
Very High Frequency and Air Traffic Control equipment	

IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY

Land : 441 acres, 27 guntas
Terminal and Air Traffic Control Building
Staff Quarters Fifteen
power House One
store rooms Two
Transmission station One
Pump House One
Water tanks Two
Static Tanks Two

Non-Depositing of EPF in Madhya Pradesh

EPF dues.

NRI Deposits

2458. SHRI SURAJ BHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

2459 SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether several employers of Madhya Pradesh have not deposited the amount of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) with the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner;

(a) the total inflow and outflow from the NRI deposits during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during 1992-93, and

(b) the corresponding figures for the period April-September 1993; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover this amount ?

(c) the average monthly net inflow during 1991-92, 1992-93; and April-September 1993?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) (a) to (c) As on 31.3.93 in Madhya Pradesh there were 655 establishments which defaulted in payment of the Employees' Provident Fund Contributions. Necessary legal and penal action has already been initiated against the defaulting establishments for recovery of the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The data on inflows/outflows under all deposit accounts for non-resident Indians for the year 1992-93 and half year April September 1993 are given below. These inflows are inclusive of accrued interest except under the Foreign Currency (Non-Resident) Accounts. (FCNRA)

Inflows (+)/Outflows (-) under NRI Deposits.

(US \$ Million)

April 1992-March 1993

April 1993-September 1993

(+) 1072

(+) 458 (Provisional)

(c) The data on average monthly net inflow (+)/Outflow (-) under all deposit schemes for NRIs are as follows :

Inflow (+)/outflow (-)

(US \$ Million)

1991-92

1992-93

1993

(April-March)

(April-March)

(April-September)

(-) 136

(+) 89

(+) 76 (provisional)

Average inflows under FCNRA included in the above figures exclude accrued interest.

SBI Shares

2460. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not permitted the State Bank of India to reserve shares to the foreign investors ;

(b) if so, reasons therefor ;

(c) if so, reasons is a lot of resentment among the foreign investment due to above decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). State Bank of India (SBI) had not approached Government in this regard. However, RBI had received a request from SBI for reservation of shares in favour of Foreign Institutional Investors (FII). THIS was not acceded to as RBI considered that there was no need for preferential allotment for FIIs .

(c) No, Sir .

(d) Does not arise .

Import of Currency Note Paper

2461. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2560 on March 12, 1993 and state :

(a) the manner in which the gap between the demand and supply of currency note paper is being met ;

(b) the quantity of currency note paper imported during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and the value thereof ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up another Security Paper Mill in the country with a view to make the country self-reliant in this regard ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The currency note paper produced at Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad meets only about 60% requirement of our note printing presses at Dewas and Nashik. The balance requirement is met by import following global tenderig procedure.

(b) The quantity and value of the currency note paper imported during 1991-92 & 1992-1993 are as under :

YEAR	QUANTITY (IN M.T.)	VALUE (IN CRORES)
1991-92	1109.72	62.16
1992-93	42.58	7.26

(c) The possibility of setting up another security paper mill is being explored.

(d) and (e) Does not arise at the moment.

Foreign Currency Options System

2462. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce a foreign currency options system in the country from January next year ;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ; and

(c) the advantages likely to accrue from this financial development in the form of foreign currency options ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India has permitted Authorised Dealers in India to sell cross currency options to resident customers with effect from January 3, 1994.

(b) Authorised Dealers would be allowed to sell cross currency options to resident customers to cover their genuine exposures . Such options may be sold to customers who are permitted to get cross currency forward exchange cover under current regulations . Cross currency options should be sold by Authorised Dealers on a fully covered basis, that is, the Authorised Dealers should buy from the Overseas branch bank, an identical option for the same amount, strike price and maturity date as the one sold to their customer . Option premia may be paid in foreign exchange to the overseas sellers by Authorised Dealers who, in turn may charge the premia to the customers by keeping a spread.

(c) Cross currency options would

assist Indian customers to hedge their foreign currency exposures . Since options convey a right but not an obligation to the purchasers, they offer protection against adverse fluctuations in exchange rates and simultaneously enable the purchasers to profit from favourable movements in exchange rates.

Development of Aeronautical Industry

2463. SHRI HARISH NARAIN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to establish a department for aeronautical development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, in view of the policy of globalisation and liberalisation, the Government propose to develop aeronautical industry with greater thrust during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the profile of important projects proposed to be executed during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). There is no such proposal under consideration in the Minister.

(c) and (d). Under the liberalised policy, manufacture of aircraft other than Defence aircraft has been reserved from the exclusive purview of the public sector.

Prices of Cigarettes

2464. SHRI SOBHAND REESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister

of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cigarette manufacturers have increased the prices of cigarettes since the introduction of the General Budget, 1992-93;

(b) if so, the additional amount earned by the cigarette manufacturers during the current year as a result thereof;

(c) whether any fresh additional excise duties have been levied on cigarettes in 1992-93 Budget;

(d) whether the cigarette manufacturers have passed on any part of the additional profits earned, to the tobacco growers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, whether the Government take the necessary steps to pass a percentage of the additional profits to the tobacco growers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V.
CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a), (b)
and (d) to (g). The information is being
collected and will be laid on the Table of the
House.

(c) During the 1992-93 budget, rates
of duties on cigarettes were enhanced as per
the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

RATE OF DUTY (PER ONE THOUSAND CIGARETTES)

DESCRIPTION

1991-92

1992-93

I.	Cigarettes, other than filter cigarettes, of length:		
	(a) not exceeding 60 millimetres	Rs. 110/-	Rs. 110/-
	(b) exceeding 60 millimetres but not exceeding 70 millimetres	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 230/-
II.	Filter cigarette of length (including length of the filter, the length of the filter being 11 millimetres or its actual length whichever is more):-		
	(a) not exceeding 70 millimetres	Rs. 260/-	Rs. 300/-
	(b) exceeding 70 millimetres but not exceeding 75 millimetres	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 575/-
	(c) exceeding 75 millimetres but not exceeding 85 millimetres	Rs. 675/-	Rs. 775/-

Cost of Living Index

2465. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of living index at the beginning of November, 1991 and the same as on November 30, 1993; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to curb such spiralling of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The cost of living index in terms of Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (with base 1982=100) was 225 for November, 1991 and 223 for October, 1991. It is 262 for October, 1993 (latest available).

(b) During the period the Government have taken a number of steps to curb inflation. These, inter alia include: control of budget deficit to contain aggregate demand, lowering of import tariffs and liberalisation of imports to facilitate industrial growth, imports of foodgrains and edible oils to augment domestic supplies and lately allow market releases of wheat by FCT to moderate the market prices of foodgrains.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Opium

2466. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the smuggling of the opium has considerably increased in the country ;

(b) if so, whether the Government

propose to take any specific measures to check it ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (c). Smuggling being a clandestine activity, the quantity of opium smuggled in the country cannot precisely be known.

Production of illicit opium in India is regulated under strict licensing control and supervision by the Central Government . Preventive and intelligence arrangements in the poppy growing areas have been further strengthened. Different drug law enforcement agencies keep strict vigil over poppy cultivation and stringent penal measures are taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act for any violation.

Value Added Advance Licence

2467. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints about the misuse of value added advance licence scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check this misuse?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaints about mis-use of value based advance licences under Duty Exemption Scheme for import of plastic raw

materials have been received alleging that a number of exporters were trying to import large quantities of the plastic raw materials disproportionate to the exports made, thus hurting the domestic industry.

(c) In order to safeguard the interest of domestic industry, Government has placed 20 items under sensitive list vide Public Notice N. 163 (PN)/92-97 dated 14.09.1993. The cases of misuse are being investigated through inspection of the firms and their documents. The orders placed by the foreign firms are also being investigated through Indian Missions abroad. In some cases after investigation, adjudication proceedings are being initiated and the show cause notices have been issued to offending firms under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. All the offices under the Directorate General of Foreign Trade have been directed to check such misuse by way of various administrative instructions issued recently.

Bank Note Press at Salbani

2468. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bank note press at Salbani in Midnapur District of West Bengal has been commissioned and the initial lines of production started ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). The construction work and other civil facilities relating to setting up of new bank note press at Salbani in Midnapur District in West Bengal are in various stages of completion. The RBI expects to place

order for procurement of main plant and equipment shortly. Initial line of production is likely to start from June, 1995. The entire lines of production are likely to be commissioned in about 39 months from the date of placement of order for the main plant and equipment.

Charter Flights Between Delhi-Moscow-Delhi

2469. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Memorandum of Understanding has recently been signed between the representatives of the Indian Commercial Pilots Association and the Indian Airlines for running charter flights between Delhi-Moscow-Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details of the terms agreed upon in the Memorandum ; and

(c) the time by which the agreement is likely to come into force and the charter flights would start ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Discussions were held between Indian Airlines management and representatives of Indian Commercial Pilots Association on 5th August, 1993 on issues such as flight time, flight duty time, rest period, weekly off and allowances for operation of chartered flight between Delhi and Moscow via Tashkent . The proposal was however subsequently dropped .

Seizure of Gold, Silver at Calicut Airport

2470. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of gold, silver and other contraband articles seized from the Calicut Airport during 1992-93 ;

(b) whether any such article was seized from within any of the Indian Airlines flights ;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has been made to determine Indian Airlines employees

in the deal ; and

(d) if so, the details of the investigation and findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The quantity and value of gold, silver and other contraband articles seized at Calicut Airport during 1992-93 as follows :

<i>Description</i>	<i>Quantity(in kg.)</i>	<i>Value(in lakhs)</i>
Gold	111.271	449.61
Silver	53.000	3.93
Other Contraband goods	-	124.94

(b) Yes , Sir . Details as follows :

<i>Description</i>	<i>Quantity(in kg.)</i>	<i>Value(in lakhs)</i>
Gold	2.8	11.50
Others	-	1.04

(c) and (d). Inquires were made to determine if any Indian Airlines employee was involved. However, adjudicating authority did not impose penalty on the suspected employees considering the explanation offered by them .

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) . No, Sir.

Nehru Memorial Pavilion

2471. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given o Unstarred Question No. 3703 on August 20, 1993 and sate :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted the revised proposal regarding the Nehru Memorial Pavilion ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

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

Export of Diamond to Begium

2472. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to inrease the export of diamond to Belgium ;

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

(c) the other areas in which Indo-Belgium trade is proposed to be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The scope for increasing the exports of diamonds to Belgium is circumscribed by the fact that Belgium is a trading and transit centre for diamonds, while the Indian diamonds industry is focussing on increasing exports to direct consuming centres.

(c) Efforts are being made to increase the share of value added goods like textiles & garments, electronics & computer software, leather products, etc.

Trade Deficit

2473. **SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export target for the current year;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any concrete step to achieve the export target fixed for the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Ministry in consultation with Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards has fixed an export target of US\$ 22138 million or Rs. 70847 crores for the year 1993-94.

(b) and (c). Concrete steps taken to achieve the export target include are of export promotional measures such as introduction of the unified market determined exchange rate, revision of Export-Import Policy for 1992-97, simplification and streamlining of policy and procedure reduction in the interest rate on rupee export credit, specific directions to

banks to increase availability of credit to the export sector and strengthening of infrastructural facilities through greater involvement of State Governments besides specific measure linking imports to export activity. Exports are being given a nation-priority status and inter-Ministerial meetings are being held to ensure prompt action on all export-related activities. Emphasis is being placed on improving quality to increase competitiveness and encourage production specifically for exports.

Hand-Over the Cashew Factories in Kerala

2474. **SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request to handover the cashew factories in Kerala which were taken over by Cashew Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The Government of Kerala in exercise of powers conferred on it by clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Kerala Cashew Factories (Acquisition) Act, 1974 (no. 29 of 1974), took over 36 closed down cashew factories in July 1988.

Cashew Export Promotion Council of India has been requesting the Central Government to request the Government of Kerala to return the factories to their original

owners. Since the subject matter falls within the jurisdiction of the State Government, the Central Government has written to the Government of Kerala requesting for the return of the taken over factories to their original owners in the interest of employment generation and foreign exchange earnings.

Incentives for Increasing Export

2475. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exports during 1992-93, zone-wise and which sector has achieved maximum growth in exports during 1992-93; and

(b) the present trend of exports, particularly in the Chemicals and

Pharmaceuticals Sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) India's exports by regions during 92-93 is given in the statement. Export of engineering goods has achieved the maximum growth of 14% in dollar terms (34% in rupee terms) during 92-93 over 1991-92.

(b). During April-August 1993, the (latest period for which such data is available, India's exports of chemicals and allied products at US\$ 914 million (Rs. 2865 crores) registered an increase of 29% in dollar terms (42% in rupee terms) over the corresponding period last year. Exports of drugs pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals during April-August 1993 at US\$ 248 million (Rs. 777 crores) registered 19% increase in dollar terms (30% increase in rupee terms) over the corresponding period last year.

STATEMENT

REGION-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE DURING 1992=93

Zone	1992-93 (Rs.Crores)	% Growth in 1992-93 over 1991-92	1992-93 (US \$ Million)	% Growth in 1992-93 over 1991-92
1. West Europe	16891	27.7	5832	8.7
2. Asia & Oceania	19550	25.4	6750	6.7
3. Africa	2077	49.6	717	27.4
4. America	11145	39.8	3848	19.0
5. East Europe	2276	- 52.7	786	- 59.8

Export of Books

2476. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of Indian books has increased in the recent years ;

(b) if so, the number of books exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during each of the last three years ; country-wise ;

(c) whether the prominent book publishers and distributors in the country have demended for changes in the Export Policy to given fillip to the export of books ;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is an encreasing trend in the export of books. However, statistics in regard to number of books exported are not available. Details of year-wise and country-wise foreign three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e). Under the Export-Import Policy 1992-97, exports of books and publications are allowed freely. Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) is granted to the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, annually which help to boost the export of books and publications. No special dispensation is granted to any industry in this regard .

STATEMENT

Sl.No. Major importing countries	India's Exports (in million Rs.)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1. Bangladesh	34.3	40.7	35.4
2. Bahrain	8.8	11.0	12.4
3. Canada	4.8.	5.0	4.0
4. France.	1.9	5.5	9.6
5. Germany	22.1	29.2	41.4
6. Iran	2.0	5.8	9.7
7. Japan	8.5	10.5	11.8
8. Kenya	4.3	9.0	10.0
9. Malaysia	6.4	7.2	8.8
10. Nepal	13.2	15.5	19.1
11. Netherlands	6.8	13.4	10.3
12. Oman	11.6	13.2	15.9
13. Pakistan	5.8	12.1	11.8

Sl.No. Major importing countries	India's Exports (in million Rs.)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
14. Qatar	4.5	7.5	7.1
15. Saudi Arabia	13.1	18.8	20.4
16. Singapore	8.5	5.2	7.6
17. Sri Lanka	7.9	14.0	31.3
18. Nigeria	3.0	0.5	1.3
19. UAE	26.2	28.2	33.3
20. UK	51.4	71.9	95.4
21. USA	43.0	53.7	59.9
22. Others	41.9	42.1	44.1
Total	330.0	420.0	500.0

(Source: Capexil, Calcutta)

Implementation of Revival Schemes for Sicks Units

2477. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the schemes approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for revival of sick public sector units are implemented properly ;

(b) if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether all the operating agencies extend their full co-operation in implementing the above schemes ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and

(b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) have reported that not revival scheme has been approved/sanctioned by them for revival of sick Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). The references received by BIFR are under various stages of process as per the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Recasting in Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction

2478. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to recast the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, streamline its time consuming procedure for early detection of industrial sickness and adopt faster mechanism to deal with the problem to realise huge amount of money locked up ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). Government have proposed substantive amendments to the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, which have been passed by the Rajya Sabha in August, 1992 and are pending for consideration in the Lok Sabha .

Indo-Slovak Trade

2479. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Slovak Republic have signed any trade agreement providing for all payments of commercial and non-commercial nature between the two sides in freely convertible currencies ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir . The Government of India and the Government of the Slovak Republic signed such and Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation at New Delhi on May 14, 1993

(b) The following are the other salient features of the Agreement :

- (i) promotion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation on a long term and stable basis ;
- (ii) mutual Most-Favoured-Nation treatment ;
- (iii) promotion of close cooperation such as through Joint Ventures, trade fairs and exchange of information ;
- (iv) setting up of a Joint Committee which would examine the possibilities of increasing and diversifying mutual trade and economic relations ;
- (v) counter trade and other internationally recognised forms of business cooperation ; and
- (vi) arrangements for liquidation of the rupee balances to the credit of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, through import of goods and service from India .

The agreement is valid in the first instance for a period of five years with the provision for automatic successive extensions.

Changes in SICA and BIFR

2480. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chambers of Commerce have lately submitted any memorandum/representation for removing certain alleged infirmities in the

Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in the light of Goswami Committee Report ;

(b) if so, the precise modifications sought by PHDCC ; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARA AHMED) : (a) to (c). No such memorandum/representation appears to have been received from PHDCC in the Ministry of Finance.

[*Translation*]

Projects of IAAI

2481. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the projects taken up by the International Airports Authority of India in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the Eighth Five Year Plan so far ;

(b) whether works on these projects have been completed as per schedule ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) if not, the reasons alongwith the cost overrun as a result thereof in each such project ;

(e) the officials found responsible for delay in execution of projects and the action taken against them ; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid time and cost overrun ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House .

Development of Sericulture

2482. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals for development of sericulture are pending with his Ministry ;

(b) if so, the details of those proposals, State-wise ;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of high quality silk ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). Of the project proposals received from various State Governments, the project proposed by the Government of Manipur for development of mulberry and eri sectors in the State, with the assistance from Japan, has not been cleared so far. The Central Silk Board has been asked to examine the techno-economic feasibility of this project. After the project feasibility is examined, it will be considered for posing to the concerned authorities for external assistance.

(d) In order to develop sericulture industry in traditional as well as non-traditional

areas and to increase the production of quality silk in the country, a seven year World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project is being implemented since 1989-90. This project covers five traditional and 12 non-traditional States. Besides, the Central Silk Board is providing necessary Research, Extension, Training and Infrastructural support through its countrywide network of units .

[English]

Industries Referred to BIFR

2484. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of manufacturing/processing industries referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction and subsequently registered as sick under the relevant provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 ;

(b) whether any industry other than the above industries has also been referred to BIFR during 1992-93 ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a). Section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) requires the Board of Directors of sick companies engaged in the manufacture or production of any articles falling under the First Schedule to the Industrial (Development and Regulation) Act to make a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for determination of the measures which shall be adopted with

respect to such companies. The references received are registered after scrutiny and the registered cases are dealt with as per the

provisions of the Act. The present position of cases received, registered, etc. as on 30.11.1993 is as under :

1. References received	1976
2. References registered	1418
3. Registration declined	515
4. Cases under scrutiny/under correspondence for rectification of defects	42
5. Cases disposed :	
(a) Dismissed as not maintainable	290
(b) Revival schemes approved under Section 17(2)	124
(c) Revival schemes sanctioned under Section 18(4)	309
(d) Winding up recommended to the High Courts	250
(e) References from Courts disoosed	3
(f) References drooped due to networth turning positive	4

The remaining 439 cases are under various stages of process as per the provisions of SICA.

(b) and (c). As stated in reply to Part (a) above, the Act extends to only industrial companies engaged in the manufacture of articles falling under the First Schedule to the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act. Registration is declined by the BIFR in respect of references received where the companies do not fulfill the conditions stioulated in the Act. BIFR has reported that data on registration declined o different grounds is not compiled as the same is not required in connection with the work of BIFR .

Income Tax Raids

2485. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids carried out by Income-Tax authorities during the first six months of the current financial year ; State-wise, and

(b) the details of seizures made, amount recovered and prosecutions launched ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V.

CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and
(b) Relevant details are given in the
statement .

Out of the searches conducted
during th year, prosecution has been
launched in one case.

State	No. of Searches Conducted	Seizures (Rs. in lakhs)			Total
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	
Assam (NER)	26	7.13	3.74	11.83	22.70
Andhra Pradesh	145	150.13	256.26	496.48	902.87
Bihar	59	74.82	62.58	118.742	255.82
Cgandigarh	59	11.75	20.48	116.55	148.78
Delhi	377	425.09	278.41	619.48	1322.98
Gujarat	273	395.40	601.71	1013.35	2010.46
Goa	1	0.99	—	—	0.99
Haryana	42	15.41	30.98	56.64	103.03
Himachal Pradesh	8	2.97	1.37	19.40	23.74
Karnataka	124	86.39	233.61	505.24	825.24
Maharashtra	357	296.17	551.41	3682.30	4529.88
Madhya Pradesh	70	120.48	131.89	400.57	652.94
Orissa	2	0.60	1.40	35.45	37.45
Punjab	131	53.89	28.70	493.81	576.40

State	No. of Searches Conducted	Seizures (Rs. in lakhs)			
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	Total
Rajasthan	57	45.95	304.10	768.09	1118.14
Tamil Nadu	72	187.63	723.46	289.83	1200.92
Pondichery (UT)	18	34.30	202.67	16.19	253.16
Uttar Pradesh	73	43.61	94.50	398.86	536.97
West Bengal	189	178.74	660.54	347.64	1186.92

Trade with U. K.

2486. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the United Kingdom has decided to extend financial assistance o promote trade in the country ;

(b) if so, the schemes under which and the year upto which the financial assistance is likely to be extended by U.K. ; and

(c) the details of areas identified for the promotion of trade between India and UK under those schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c). United Kingdom has decided to extend financial assistance to promote and Export Development Programme in India upto 1995-96. The areas presently identified under this programme are :-

- (a) Processed Foods.
- (b) Gem-studded Gold Jewellery,
- (c) Computer software,
- (d) Automotive components .

Export of Tea

2487. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have advised the tea manufacturers in the country to introduce foreign brand names to boost tea exports ;

(b) whether the indian names in tea is also catching up the world market ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for suggesting introduction of foreign brand names ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c). While no specific advice regarding use of foreign brand names has been given, the

possible use of foreign brand names is one of the elements of a strategy for boosting value added tea exports . Certain Indian brand names have become popular in some markets, however, strategies will vary from market to market . It is for private exporters to decide whether foreign brand names would help them in boosting their value added exports in some of the markets where brand loyalties are already strongly established .

Import of Silk

2488. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and value of silk imported (yarn and garments) during the last three years ;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation requesting for minimising the import of silk ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) while there were no imports of silk garments, the quantity and value of raw silk (including silk yarn) imported during the last three years were as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (in tonnes)</i>	<i>Value (Rs: crores)</i>
1990-91	1777.80	102.29
1991-92	2399.41	156.74
1992-93	3173.88	242.07

(b) Yes, Sir -

(c) In order to restrict the import of raw silk, the Government have revised input-output norms for import of raw silk under the Advance Licensing Scheme and the facility of Value Based Advance Licensing has been withdrawn in the case of silk textile products.

Delayed Flights

2489. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether several flights got delayed at Bombay and Delhi airports on November 18 and 20, 1993, respectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the cause for the delay; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to avoid such delays in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SEBI Directives to Brokers

2490. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has asked the brokers to report all the transactions on the concerned stock exchanges every day;

(b) if so, the reasons for this directive;

(c) whether these directives are being followed by the brokers; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the

Government to implement this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The stock-brokers, who are members of a stock exchange are required to report their transactions in securities to the exchange as per its Bye-laws and Regulations.

[*Translation*]

Settlement of Lic Claims

2491. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the claims on maturity of the policy or otherwise are settled expeditiously by the Life Insurance Corporation of India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding delay in settlement of such claims;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last year and the current year so far;

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure expeditious settlement of the claims of policyholders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a), (b) and (f). Yes, Sir. The LIC reported that the discharge vouchers are being sent to the policyholders two months in advance and, the reform, they could settle about 97% of claims in time during the last financial year. However, in a few cases delay occurs in claim settlement due to non-receipt of discharge vouchers or non-compliance of the requirements in this regard by the policyholders.

(c) to (e). The Ministry of Finance and Directorate of Public Grievances had received 153 complaints during the financial year 1992-93 and 119 complaints upto 30th November, 1993 in the current financial year regarding non-settlement of claims. All these complaints were got sympathetically reviewed by the LIC and the grievances got redressed where possible.

[English]

Nedumbaasseri Airport

2492. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent so far on construction of Nedumbaasseri airport and the share of the Union government therein;

(b) whether the Union Government have given any guidelines for construction of the airport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the airport is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d). The site for construction of a new airport at Nedumbaasseri (Cochin) has been identified and surveyed. An area of 1500 acres of land is required for the project. A consultant for preparation of detailed project report has been appointed. Cost of the project which can be firmed up only after preparation of the detailed project report, is expected to be financed mostly from contributions of Non-Resident Indians. A Society under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister of Kerala has been registered for taking up the project. It is not possible to give, at this stage, the likely time of completion of the project.

Export of Cotton Clothes

2493. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton clothes exported during 1992-93;

(b) the target fixed for export of cotton clothes in 1993-94;

(c) whether any mid term appraisal has been made as regards the fulfilment of the export targets; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) During 1992-93, 6669 Lakh pieces of Cotton Clothes (garments) were exported.

(SOURCE : APPAREL EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL)

(b) to (d). For 1993-94, an export target of US\$ 3510.51 million has been fixed for garments including cotton garments. During

April-October 1993, the exports of garments amounted to US \$ 1840.94 million which amounted to 52.4% of the target.

(SOURCE : APPAREL EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL)

Export targets for textiles and clothing are fixed only in value terms.

[*Translation*]

Encroachments on Land Owned by IAAI

2494. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large area of land belonging to the International Airports Authority of India has been encroached;*

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have fixed responsibility of any official in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Area of India belonging to the International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) under encroachment is as under:-

Bombay Airport	190 acres
Calcutta Airport	70.04 acres
Delhi Airport	4.50 acres
Trivandrum Airport	15 acres

(c) and (d). The encroachments have been continuing for long periods. It is difficult

at this stage to fix responsibility on individuals.

[*English*]

Purchase of Raw Jute

2495. DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN;

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of raw jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) the funds provided by the Government to JCI for purchase of raw jute during the above period; and

(c) the details of jute collection funds for purchase of raw jute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The quantity of raw jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India during 1991-92 and 1992-93 was 6.15 lakh bales and 9.37 lakh bales respectively. During 1991-92 Rs. 11.40 crores and during 1992-93 Rs. 32.60 crores were released to the Jute Corporation of India. Total value of purchase made by Corporation during 1992-93 was Rs. 65.94 crores against Rs. 44.31 crores in 1991-92.

Complaints Regarding Emigration of Workers

2496. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints regarding labourers received by the Protector General

of Emigrants during the last three years;

(b) the details of such complaints; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government on these complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR):

(a). During the years 1991, 1992 and 1993 (upto 30.11.93), 303 complaints were received.

(b) These complaints relate to cheating and extortion of money, substitution of employment contract, premature termination of contract, down-gradation of skills, unsatisfactory working and living conditions, harassment, non-payment or delayed payment of wages or allowances, delayed payment of death and disability compensation etc.

(c) The complaints against registered Recruiting Agents are inquired into and appropriate action taken under the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions abroad and the concerned Recruiting Agent. Action to suspend/cancel the Registration Certificate is taken in appropriate cases. Indian Missions abroad also render assistance to the aggrieved workers and contact the sponsors for redressed of the grievance of the workers.

[Translation]

Funds For NTC Mills In Gujarat

2497. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased on state:

(a) whether the Government had agreed to provide funds to the National Textile Corporation mills in Gujarat so as to complete

the work of converting these mills into financially viable units easily and to start short-term modernization work therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in providing the funds; and

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be provided by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). NTC (holding Company) releases funds, according to availability, to meet various requirements of all its Subsidiary Corporation, including NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. A sum of Rs. 18.46 crores has been made available by the Holding Company to NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. up till 30.11. 1993 during 1993-94.

[English]

Export of Leather and Leather Goods

2498. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have withdrawn excise duty on leather and leather goods;

(b) if so, the total loss of revenue to the exchequer because of withdrawal of excise duty on leather; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to make up the loss of revenue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) No change in the excise duty structure applicable to leather and leather goods has been made in the recent past.

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

[*Translation*]

Repayment of External Debt

2499. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether entry of multinational companies in India and capital investment made by them is likely to facilitate the repayment of external debt; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The repayment of external loan is made mainly from country's exports and invisible earnings. The capital investment made by the multinational companies in India will, however improve the economy to service the external loan.

[*English*]

Interest on Advances to Fisheries Sector

2500. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of interest on the advances of fisheries sector;

(b) whether this rate is equivalent to agricultural sector, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (a) to (c). Advances granted by commercial banks for development of fishers in all its aspects: from fish catching to stage of exports, financing of equipment necessary for deep sea fishing, rehabilitation of tanks (fresh water fishing), fish breeding, etc. are treated as agricultural advances and form part of priority sector are the same as that applicable for agriculture, and are as follows:

<i>Short Term & Long Term</i>	
a) Upto and inclusive of RS. 25,000/-	12.0%
b) Over Rs. 25,000/- and Upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0%
c) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0% (Minimum)

Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation

2501 DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation about non-implementation of the reservation rules in respect of SC/ST employees in the handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the backlog of SC/ST in the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation as on March 31, 1993 categorywise; and

(d) the steps taken to bridge this backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A representation as stated has been received. The Handicrafts and Handloom Exports Corporation, New Delhi has been advised to enforce reservation rules in respect of SC/ST employees as per the prescribed procedure.

(c) and (d). The backlog of SC/ST categories as on 31.3.1993 in Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation, New Delhi is two posts each in Group 'D' category. The handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation has been advised to take necessary steps to bridge backlog at the earliest opportunity.

Tourism Promotion

2502. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL :
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to adopt new strategies to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have identified any new tourist spots for providing

financial assistance during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the allocations made to promote each such spots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) . The Central Government has emphasised the importance of development of selected monuments in each state and the need for integrated development of special tourism areas and circuits in the country.

Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, Central Government extends financial assistance for promotion of tourism on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments/ Union Territories as per their merit, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Overdrafts by States

2503. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the States which remained in overdraft for more than seven days during the period from January 1, 1993 to July 31, 1993;

(b) the States whose payments were stopped by virtue of the overdraft regulation schemes of States during the period;

(c) whether only a few States have been renalised for default and other are being left without any action; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) The accounts of Kerala on one occasion and Himachal Pradesh on two occasions remained overdrawn with reserve Bank (RBI) for more than seven consecutive working days during the period from January 1 to July 31, 1993.

(b) Payments on behalf of Kerala on one occasion and Himachal Pradesh on two occasions were suspended during the period under the Overdraft Regulation Scheme.

(c) The provisions of Overdraft Regulation Scheme are implemented by the RBI uniformly in respect of all States banking with RBI.

(d) Does not arise.

Lady Pilot Trainees

2504. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA; Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please d to state:

(a) the prescribed minimum educational qualifications and age limit for recruitment of lady pilot trainee in the Indian Airlines and the Air India;

(b) the estimated expenditure on imparting training to a lady pilot trainee till her appointment as full time probationer along with the duration of the training; and

(c) the number of lady pilot trainees under training at present, separately, in the Indian Airlines and the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). A statement is attached

The prescribed minimum educational qualifications, age limit etc. for recruitment of lady pilot trainee in Indian Airlines and Air India are as under:

	Air India	Indian Airlines
Educational Qualification	Candidate should have passed Higher Secondary (10+2) or equivalent examination from a recognised University/Board. Preference will be given to science graduates and those having additional flying experience and with computer background.	Candidate should have passed matriculation or its equivalent examination. However, preference will be given to graduates with physics and Mathematics.
Age limit	(i) 30 years. Relaxable by five years for SC/ST candidates; (ii) Upper age limit can further be relaxed by one year only on the basis of additional flying experience of	(i) 30 years. Relaxable by five years in case of SC/ST candidates. (ii) Upper age limit is relaxable by one year for every completed 300 hours of flying experience over and above the minimum requirement of
300 hours or more over	minimum requirement of and above the minimum requirement of 250 hours of flying experience required for obtaining	250 hours of flying experience for Commercial Pilots Licence. This relaxation is subject to

Air India

Indian Airlines

Estimated Expenditure on imparting training to a lady pilot During of the training	CPL	a maximum of 2 years.
Number of lady pilot trainees under training at present:	Estimated expenditure on imparting training to a trainee pilot holding CPL is Rs. 6.50 lakhs approx. 16 to 18 months in the case of Commercial Pilot's Licence (CPL) Holder.	The expenditure on training from trainee pilot to co-pilot stage on Boeing-737 aircraft is Rs. 12.30 lakhs approximately per trainee. Normal duration is 8 to 10 months before she is cleared to fly on routes as a probationer.
	Nil	Fur

Rajkot Stock Exchange

[English]

2505: SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reorganisation and re-constitution of Rajkot Stock Exchange has been completed as per the directives of SEBI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). SEBI had issued an order date 20th April, 1993 to all Stock Exchanges including the Rajkot Stock Exchange directing them to amend their respective Rules or Articles of Association inter-alia to provide for broad-basing of their Governing Bodies with elected Stock-Broker Directors on the one hand and nominees of the Government or SEBI and Public Representatives on the other hand, on a 50:50 basis, and to change the composition of their Arbitration, Default and Disciplinary Committees with elected Stock-Broker Directors and outsiders on a 40:60 basis. The order also contained directives relating to the appointment of President, Vice-President, Public Representative and Executive Director of the Stock Exchange. Rajkot Stock Exchange has amended its Articles of Association in accordance with order of SEBI by passing special Resolutions in the Extra Ordinary General Body Meeting held on 16 th October, 1993.

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

M/s. Kirloskar Consultants Report

2506. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has sent a report on M/s. Kirloskar Consultants Report and recommendations to the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government regarding these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. A Report "On Market Study for Resource Mobilisation - Irrigation Bonds" by M/s. Kirloskar Consultants Ltd. addressed to the Government of Maharashtra had been forwarded by the State Government to the planning Commission. The Report recommends inter alia issue of bonds to finance irrigation projects in the State with Government guarantee along with certain tax concessions.

(c) In response to similar requests, the Government of India has advised that the present scheme for public sector bonds is restricted to only those undertakings which are wholly or partly owned by the Central Government. State Revel undertakings are governed by SEBI guidelines governing public issues. Borrowings by the State Governments are governed by the standard requirements of financing Annual Plans as approved by the Planning Commission.

Employees Provident Fund

2507. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and State Government Undertakings are not depositing their contributions to the E.P.F.B;

(b) if so, the total arrears of such dues of the Central Government and State Governments; and

(c) the action taken for the early payment of arrears?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR):

(a) Some Central and State Government undertakings have defaulted in depositing the provident fund Contributions in the Provident Fund.

(b) Rs. 60.43 crores (as on 31.3. 93).

(c) Necessary legal/penal action has been initiated for recovery of the dues outstanding against the defaulting establishments.

IMF Suggestion Regarding Bank Liquidity

2508. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has urged India to take early steps to tighten bank liquidity and to ensure unification of its dual exchange regime; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (a) and (b). The dual exchange regime has already been unified at the time of presenting the Union Budget 1993-94. There is therefore, no question of IMF urging India to take steps in this direction. Similarly, IMF is not urging India to take steps to tighten bank liquidity. In fact, the Government has taken steps to boost industrial production and exports by reducing interest rates on bank loans.

Incentive Packages for EOU/s EPZs

2509. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to formulate an incentive packages for Export Oriented Units and Export Processing Zones to increase efficiency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No package is contemplated but the policy and procedural framework for the Export Oriented Units/ Export processing Zones is reviewed from time to time and changes made in order to permit better performance of units operating under these Schemes.

[*Translation*]

Strike of Banks and Financial Institutions

2510 SHIR VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any strike was called in the banking industry and the financial institutions of public sector all over the country on September 2, 1993;

(b) if so, the reasons for calling the strike;

(c) the reaction of the Government there-to; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government so far to solve the problems of the employees of the banking industry and the financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). A section of the employees in the Banking Industry and some of the Financial Institutions had gone on strike on 2nd September, 1993 in response to a call given by the Joint Action Committee in support of their demand inter-alia for pension in addition to the existing retirement benefits.

(c) and (d). The issue has since been resolved and an agreement was signed on 29-10-1993 between the Indian Banks' Association and the representatives of the major trade unions of the bank employees.

[English]

Export of Tobacco

2511. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from framers and other co-operative societies to arrange export of tobacco from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Yes Sir, A representation had been received from the A. P Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Union, Ongole, A.P. The interest of the Cooperative Union, Ongole to get import orders from Russia for liquidating their stock was conveyed to the Russian authorities through the appropriate channels.

World Bank Loan in Power Sector

2512. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:
DR. P.R. GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please state:

(a) whether the world bank has Cancelled two loans to Karnataka in The Power Sector;

(b) if so, the amount of loan cancelled;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to persuade the World Bank authorities to reconsider its decision and to extend the loan facilities to Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. The undisbursed amount of US \$ 468 million of the two loans for the Karnataka Power Projects has been cancelled.

(c) and (d) . The loans were cancelled due to non-compliance with various covenants of the loan agreement with World Bank. These related to financial position of Karnataka Power Corporation, unsatisfactory bill collection by Karnataka Electricity Board and pending environmental clearance in respect of Sharavathi Tailrace Project inadequate progress of Talakalale Dam and unsatisfactory progress in Resettlement and Rehabilitation programmes. The Government had requested the World Bank not to cancel the loan but the Bank had felt that adequate progress had not been made under the projects which were approved by it on 28-10-86 and 27-10-88 respectively. Request to world Bank to reconsider its decision can only be made by Karnataka Government based on credible progress on all the issues mentioned above.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Loan in Power Sector

2513. SHRI CHHITUDHAT GAMIT:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed under the National

Savings Scheme for Seventh Five Year Plan and the amount actually collected state wise, during this period;

(b) the Statewise details of the target under this scheme for the Seventh Plan and in Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more incentives to collect more amount under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). The Seventh Plan assumed a net collection of small savings of Rs. 17916 crores at 1984-85 prices. There is no statewise break up of this target. The Eighth Plan has not indicated a target separately for small savings. The statewise actual net small savings collections in post offices during the seventh Plan at current prices have been indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) Due to measures taken by Government, the small savings collections upto October, 1993 during the current year have shown an appreciable increase over that during the corresponding period of last year. At present there is no proposal to provide further incentive to the small savings schemes.

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of State Net collections in post</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores) Offices during Seventh-Plan.</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1205.56
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.34
3.	Assam	555.71

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of State Net collections in post</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores) Offices during Seventh-Plan.</i>
4.	Bihar	1428.64
5.	Goa	111.36
6.	Gujarat	2641.04
7.	Haryana	816.37
8.	Himachal Pradesh	396.75
9.	Jammu & cashmere	322.25
10.	Karnataka	1374.01
11.	Kerala	629.47
12.	Madhya pradesh	967.92
13.	Maharashtra	2444.8
14.	Manipur	9.65
15.	Meghalaya	51.82
16.	Mizoram	3.41
17.	Nagaland	10.35
18.	orissa	477.34
19.	Punjab	1301.77
20.	Rajasthan	946.44
21.	Sikkim	3.68
22.	Temil nadu	822.34
23.	Tripura	65.16
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3756.67
25.	West Bengal	2799.18

Export of Poppy Flower

● 2514. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of the poppy Flower along with its stem was discontinued in 1986 (after the implementation of Narcotic Drug Act);

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to restart its export; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) to (c) . There has been no export of poppy flower as such in the past. However, the export of lanced poppy capsules (poppy straw) which was prohibited with the coming into force of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985, has since been allowed for decorative purposes w.e.f. 29.5.1989.

[English]

Extreme Focus Product Groups

2515. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reviewing the list of products and commodities to be included in the Extreme Focus Products Groups;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the criteria presently required for a product to be included in such Groups;

(d) whether any changes are proposed

in the present criteria; and .

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The identification of 34 Extreme Focus Products in 1992 was made by the Government on the basis of their potential to achieve a 30% growth per annum in value or volume terms over a three year period.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Rangarajan Committee Report

2516. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rangarajan Committee on balance of payments has submitted its final report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action being taken by the government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED) : (a) . Yes Sir.

(b) The recommendations mainly pertain to measures for evolving a medium-term

balance of payments strategy. These include exchange rate policy, foreign currency reserves management, utilization of external assistance, approach towards commercial borrowings, policy shift with regard to NRI deposits, management of short-term debt, policy and procedural changes for the structure of external debt, promotion of foreign direct investment, and export promotion measures. Copies of the Report have already been placed in the Parliament Library.

(c) . Most of the recommendations on which immediate action was required have, already been implemented or are in the process of implementation. The remaining recommendations are in the nature of suggestions to be kept in view while framing relevant policies.

Beedi Workers Welfare Fund

2517. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the annual collections of Beedi Workers Welfare Fund

(b) the welfare measures undertaken so far, since the creation of this fund;

(c) whether the Adviser for Beedi Workers Welfare Organisation has requested the Government to bring the Beedi workers under cooperative fold; and

(d) if so, the progress made thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) Annual Cess collection of Beedi Workers Welfare Fund is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount in thousands</i>
1990-91	Rs. 12,05,40
1991-92	Rs. 12,14,10
1992-93	Rs. 9,72,57

(b) A statement indicating the schemes/ programs launched for the welfare of beedi workers in all the States is enclosed.

(c) and (d) : The Central Advisory Committee on Beedi Workers Welfare Fund in the meeting held in September, 1993 recommended that initiative be taken to form co-operatives of Beedi Workers in selected States by contributing towards share capital. Action has been initiated only recently.

STATEMENT

Sl. No. Name of the Welfare Schemes

HEALTH

1. Scheme for provision of Mobile/Static-cum-Mobile/Static Medical Unit.
2. Maternity benefit scheme for female beedi workers.
3. Scheme for reservation of beds in T.B. Hospitals for beedi workers.
4. Demiciliary treatment to the T.B. patients.
5. Scheme for reimbursement of expenditure as a financial assistance to beedi workers suffering from heart disease.
6. Scheme for reimbursement of expenditure as a financial assistance to beedi workers for Kidney Transplantation.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Welfare Schemes</i>
7.	Reimbursement of actual cost of treatment to beedi workers suffering from Cancer.
8.	Family Welfare Programme - for payment of Ministry compensation for Sterilisation to the beedi workers.
9.	Scheme for grant of financial assistance to the beedi workers (including Gharkhata workers) for purpose of Spectacles.
10.	Scheme for leprosy relief for Beedi Workers.
11.	Treatment of workers suffering from Mental Disease.

SOCIAL SECURITY:

1. Group Insurance Scheme for beedi workers.

EDUCATION:

1. Award of Scholarship to the Children of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata beedi workers).
2. Financial Assistance to the School going children of beedi workers for supply of one set of dress.

RECREATION:

1. Establishment of Audio Visual Sets/ Cinema Vans/ Exhibition of films.
2. Organising Sports, Games, Social and Cultural activities for beedi workers.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Welfare Schemes</i>
3.	Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi workers.
4.	Supply of T.V. Sets to the beedi Co-operative Society for beedi workers.

HOUSING:

1. Build Your Own House Scheme (BYOHS) for beedi workers.
2. Housing Schemes for Economically Weaker Section of beedi workers.
3. Grant of subsidy to Co-operative Societies of beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.
4. Group Housing Scheme for beedi workers.

International Trade Fair, New Delhi

2518. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount of business transacted at the recently concluded International Trade Fair in New Delhi;

(b) the principal countries with whom business was entered into; and

(c) the main items which were in demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUM-

ER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDING AHMED): (a). On the basis of reports received from some of the participants, the business generated is estimated at Rs. 403 crores which includes exports, imports, counter sale, local orders and business under negotiations.

(b) according to the participants reports, business deals were concluded/being negotiated with Jordan, Japan, Indonesia, USA, Nigeria, Singapore, Taiwan, Poland, U.K., Spain, Malaysia, Nepal, Dubai, Lebanon, Saudi, Arabia, Egypt, Norway, etc.

(c) According to the participants, the main items for which business was negotiated were handicrafts, fertilizers, chemicals, woolen carpets, textiles, hosiery goods, sports goods, marbles, bamboo and wooden decorative items, ties, mixers/juicers, yarn stuffed toys, pure ghee, auto-rickshaws etc.

Equity Participation in Indian Banks

2519. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign banks are showing their interest in equity participation with Indian Banks:

(b) if so, the details of such banks; and

(c) the Indian Banks which are showing interest in such a participation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

: (a) : Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have not received any application from any foreign bank for opening a bank in participation with any Indian bank.

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

[Translation]

Commission from Customers by Nationalised Banks

2520. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the maximum and the minimum commission charged from customers for various services rendered by each nationalised bank:

(b) the reasons for disparity in these charges; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (a) to (c). Based on the recommendations of the Committee of Public Sector Banks on Service Charges, all public sector banks have adopted a common schedule of service charges which lays down the minimum that can be charged in respect of certain specified services. The details of these service charges are given in the statement. It has been left to the discretion of individual banks to selectively levy higher charges if special circumstances so warrant. The service charges are decided by the banks after taking into account the cost of inputs.

STATEMENT

SCHEDULE OF REVISED SERVICE CHARGES EFFECTIVE FROM 1.7.1990

Nature of activity/service

1. Ledger Folio Charges:

A per annum ledger folio charge on Current Accounts (one side of a ledger page containing approximately

Rs. 25/- per folio

50 entries) except for exemption as under:

Average Balance

Free Ffolios

Upt Rs. 1,500/-

Nil

Over Rs. 1,500/- upto Rs.5,000/-

3 ffolios

Over Rs. 5,000/- upto Rs. 10,000/-

5 ffolios

Over Rs. 10,000/- upto Rs. 25,000/-

10 folio

2. Issue of Duplicate Statement of Accounts/Pass-Book:

A charge of Rs.3/- per pass-book with opening entries with an additional charge of Rs.2/- per ledger folio. For duplicate statement of a/cs a charge of rs.2/- per ledger folio.

Nature of activity/service

3. Stop Payment Instructions: Recording of stop payment instructions per instrument for all types of accounts.	Rs. 10/- per instrument with a maximum charge of Rs. 20/- on any one accession.*
4. Issuance of Duplicate Instruments: Issuance of Duplicate Term Deposit Receipt Issuance of fresh Travellers cheques is lieu of lost Travellers Cheques Issuance of Duplicate Bank Drafts for amount upto Rs. 500/- Issuance of Duplicate Bank Drafts for amounts exceeding Rs. 500/-	Nil Normal charges e.g. 50 paise % minimum Rs. 5/- Nil Rs. 15/- per duplicate instrument
5. Inland Guarantees: For amount upto Rs. 25,000/- Above Rs. 25,000/-	20 paise % per month minimum Rs. 50/- for liability period plus additional claim period if any. 15 paise % per month minimum

Nature of activity/service

Rs.50/- per month for liability period plus additional claim period if any.

6. Bills for collection:	Rs. 5/-
For amt upto Rs. 1,000/-	Rs. 10/-
Above Rs. 1,000/- upto Rs. 2,500/-	Rs. 12/-
Above Rs.2,500/- upto Rs.5,000/-	Rs. 40/-
Above Rs. 5,000/- upto Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 5/- per thousand or part thereof maximum Rs. 1,500/-.
Above Rs.10,000/-	
7. Cheques for collection:	
For amt. upto Rs. 1,000 /-	Rs.3/-
Above Rs. 1,000/- upto Rs. 2,500/-	Rs. 10/-
Above Rs. 2,500/- upto Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 12/-
Above Rs. 5,000/- upto Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 25/-
Above Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 3/- per thousand or part thereof maximum Rs. 1,500/-.

Nature of activity/service

8. Handling charges on bills/ cheques sent for collection returned unpaid:

Local Cheques

Nil

Outstation Cheques

50% of prescribed collection charges on amount of the cheque subject to a minimum of Rs. 10/- per cheque

Local Outstation Bills

50% of prescribed collection charges on amount of the bill subject to minimum of Rs. 15/- per bill

9. Issuance of Rupee Travellers Cheques:

50 paise % minimum Rs. 5/-

10. Issuance of Deposit-at-call Receipts:

Rs. 5/- per receipt.

11. Issue of MICR Cheques:

In cities where MICR cheques are processed in clearing i.e. New Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, a charges of Rs. 1/- per leaf will be levied at the time of issuance of cheque books. This will not, however be levied on Savings Bank Accounts of individuals.

Nature of activity/service

12. Remittances DDs/MTs/TTs:
- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| For amount Upto Rs. 500 | Rs. 2 |
| Rs. 1000 Upto Rs 2500 | Rs. 5 |
| Rs. 2500 Upto Rs. 5000 | Rs. 10 |
| Rs. 5000 Upto Rs. 10,000 | Rs. 25 |
| Rs. 10,000 and Above | Rs. 2.50 per thousand subject to maximum of rs.1500 |
13. Banker's Cheques/Pay Orders:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| For amount Upto Rs. 500 | Rs. 2 |
| Rs. 500 Upto Rs. 5000 | Rs.5 |
| Rs. 5000 Upto Rs. 10,000 | Rs. 12 |
| Above Rs. 10,000 | Rs. 25 |
14. Standing Instructions:
- | | |
|---|---|
| For Credits to third party accounts in the branch | Rs. 3 |
| Outstation remittances | Rs.3 plus prescribed rate for exchange and actual postage expenses. |
15. Processing Charges:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Loans beyond Rs. 2 lakhs | Rs. 75 per lakh subject to maximum of Rs. 7500 |
|--------------------------|--|

[English]

Margin Money for Destitute Weavers Scheme

2521. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance was provided to Kerala under the margin Money for destitute Weavers Scheme during 1992-93 or 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

1992-93	1993-94
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Rs. 7.72 lakhs	Rs. 1.90 lakhs
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(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LIC Centres for Housing Loans

2522. SHRI HARI KEVAL, PRASAD: SHRI LAL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some more centers of LIC in the country for facilitating grant of housing loans under 'Own Your House' Scheme; and

(b) if so, the places where such centers

have been setup so far during 1992-93 and proposed to be set up during 1993-94, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMAD): (a) and (b): LIC Housing Finance Limited a Subsidiary Company of LIC of India, has been providing housing loans in the country since June, 1989. The Company has reported that the following 17 new Centres have been set up in the country during the Financial Year 1992-93:-

1. Warangal
2. Tirunelveli
3. Kolhapur
4. Tirupathi
5. Rajkot
6. Agra
7. Siliguri
8. Jodhpur
9. Silchar
10. Jabalpur
11. Ahmedabad
12. Jalandhar
13. Bareilly
14. Bikaner
15. Ludhiana

16. Varanasi

17. Amritsar

The LIC Housing Finance Ltd. has reported that as of now no new centres are proposed to be set up during the Financial Year 1993-94.

Loan by NHB to Bihar

2523. SHRI MOHAMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national Housing Bank have provided refinance to scheduled commercial banks, housing finance companies and state level apex co-op housing finance societies in respect of eligible loans disbursed by them to repair and to constrict the houses in Bihar; and

(b) if so, details thereof during the last two years, institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b): national Housing Bank (NHB) provides refinance to scheduled commercial banks housing finance companies and State level apex co-operative housing finance societies in respect of eligible housing loans disbursed by them. Besides, NHB also subscribes to Special Rural Housing Debentures (SRHDs) issued by State level Development Banks covering eligible housing loans. That date reporting system in NHB does not yield state-wise break up of the disbursements made by NHB. However, the total disbursements made by NHB to various primary lenders during last two years were as under :-

<i>July-June</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in Crores)</i>
1991-92	676
1992-93	486

[English]

De-Lining of Service of EPF and GPF Subscribers

2524. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committees appointed by the Government have recommended for de-lining of service conditions of EPF employees with that of the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on these study reports;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to implement this in PF Offices; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to come into force?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) : No, Sir.

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

Tourism Development in Orissa

2525. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Orissa for the development of tourism in the State during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the names of the tourist spots

for which proposals have been receive; and AZAD) : (a) Yes Sir.

(c) the funds allocated for each tourist spot?

(b) and (c) . Details of proposals received and sanctioned for 1992-93 are placed are statement and details of projects received during 1993-94 are statement.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI

STATEMENT -I*Projects/Schemes Sanctioned During 1992-93*

			<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
<i>Name of the project</i>		<i>Amount sanctioned</i>	<i>Amount released</i>	
Orissa				
1.	Yatri Niwas at Puri	44.85	20.00	
2.	Wayside amenities at Sakhi Gopal	13.53	7.00	
3.	Trekking equipment for mahendragiri	1.99	0.99	
4.	Bali yatra at Cuttack	12.05	9.64	
		72.42	37.63	

STATEMENT -II

Proposals Received from the Government of Orissa for 1993-94.

S.No.	Name of the project/scheme	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Construction of Tourist Complex at Gopalpur	45.00
2.	Construction of Tourist Complex at Paradeep	45.00
3.	Purchase of trekking equipment for Taptampani and Kuldhia	05.18
	Total	95.18

Setting up of E. P. Z.s

2527. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any Committee to consider or recommend setting up of more Export Processing Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received the recommendations from the said Committees so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(f) the present stage of setting up of EAZs in the coastal region of Orissa?

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

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

(f) At present, there is no proposal to set up an Export Processing Zone in the coastal region of Orissa.

Proposals Under E.P.C.G.S.

2528. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has approved various proposals under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme:

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount involved therein; and

(c) the total export turn-over expects to be achieved during the current Eight Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Since the inception of the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme with effect from 1st April 1990 and till 30th Nov. 1993, 3547 proposals for the import of capital goods worth Rs. 4831.58 crores with an export obligation worth Rs 20221.21 crores have been approved.

(c) As per the Eighth Five Year Plan document (Vo...I) the total export of goods is expected to be around Rs. 330,153 Crores during the Eight Plan period.

External Assistance

2529. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total receipt of external assistance during 1992 and January-September 1993 in SDR, dollars and rupees;

(b) the total repayment on account of debt service during the same periods in SDR, dollars and rupees;

(c) the latest estimate of the total inflow of external assistance and outflow of debt service payment for 1993; and

(d) the percentage that debt service

payments form of export receipts and of total receipts during y the two periods?

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

(a) and (b) : Information is given below.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Equivalent to</i>		
	<i>Rs. Crores</i>	<i>U.S. \$ Million</i>	<i>S.D.R. Million</i>
A. RECEIPTS OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE			
January-December, 1992	8874	3009	2441
January-December, 1993	5800	2168	1610
B. REPAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL			
January-December, 1992	4541	1540	1249
January-December, 1993	3819	1217	904
C. INTEREST			
January-December, 1992	3520	1194	968
January-December, 1993	2873	916	680

(c): The estimates are made for the financial year as a whole. As per the latest estimates the total amount of inflow of external assistance and outflow of debt service payment are estimated to be Rs. 11826 crores and Rs. 9060 crores respectively during 1993-94.

(d) : The information regarding export receipts and current receipts are available on a financial year basis for 1992-93. The debt service payment made on Government Account works out to 13.8% and 9.8% of export receipts and current receipts respectively during 1992-93.

Import of Toners

2530. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7932 on May 7, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding goods detected, extent of duty evasion by persons who imported toners by under-invoicing their values and mis-declaring these goods as carbon black has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the particulars of such importers; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. However, no organised racket in the import of toners and developers has come to the notice of the Government. No import of toners and developers in the guise of Carbon Black has been detected. However, in some cases the value declared was enhanced for assessment of duty.

All field formations have been alerted and have been supplied data of correct values from the manufacturers abroad.

Export of Oil Cake

2531. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rice bran oil units in the country, State-wise;

(b) the foreign exchange earned by export of oil cake and other by-products;

(c) the quantity and value of palm fat distillate imported during the current year;

(d) whether this import is adversely affecting the rice bran oil industry;

(e) whether the customs duty on raw palm oil has been reduced which is also responsible for the set back to domestic rice bran oil industry;

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for the encouragement of oil palm cultivation and domestic rice bran oil industry in a big

way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (f) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Rural Credit Scheme

2532. SHRI JANARDHAN MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand is being made continuously to start rural credit scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the above demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) : The existing rural credit policy is so formulated to meet the credit needs of agriculture and allied activities, cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts. Rural borrowers all over the country are provided loans by public sector banks for activities under taken by them on their own or through schemes framed by Government in this regard. The financing of such activities by the credit institutions is a part of their normal lending operations on a continued basis.

[English]

Security Force for Banks

2533. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a force like Central Industrial Security Force or Railway Protection Force for the security of the public sector banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED)

: (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Prudential and Capital Adequacy Norms for Export Credit Agents

2534. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India have any proposals to apply prudential and capital adequacy norms to export credit agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives likely to be achieved there by;

(c) whether the Reserve bank of India has also issued instructions to commercial banks to follow the aforesaid norms strictly in their spheres;

(d) if so, the details of the instructions issued in this regard;

(e) whether the Reserve bank of India has also finalised/issued norms in this regard for other financial institutions; and

(f) if so, the board details thereof and if not, the time by which the norms for financial institutions are likely to be finalised/issued

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED)

: (a) to (f): The Reserve bank of India (RBI) have issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks to implement prudential norms on income recognition, asset classification and provisioning and capital adequacy standards. These, inter alia, include:

(i) Defining a non performing asset (NPA) for the purpose of income recognition, (ii) classification of assets into standard, sub-standard, doubtful and loss assets, (iii) provisioning against loss, doubtful and sub-standard assets as per norms prescribed. As regards capital adequacy standards, Indian banks which have branches abroad are required to achieve a capital to risk assets ratio of 8% by 31.3.1994. Other banks excluding foreign banks were required to achieve the norm of 4% 31.3.1996. Foreign banks operating in India were required to achieve the norm of 8% by 31.3.1993.

RBI have reported that they are in the process of finalising guidelines on capital adequacy, income recognition, provisioning etc. for Development Financial Institutions including Export-Import Bank of India.

Operations of Lufthansa and Air India

2535. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lufthansa operates ten weekly services to Bombay and Delhi against the Air India's six weekly services to the

single Frankfurt gateway as reported in the 'Weekend' Observer, New Delhi dated November 20, 1993;

(b) whether this is a very profitable route;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase operations at this route:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) :Air India has made some profit on this route.

(c) to (e). A request was made by the German Government for increasing the entitlements of the designated airlines or both sides. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

Deposits in Banks, Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation of India under small savings in Kerala

2536. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount deposited in Unit Trust of India, nationalised banks and Life Insurance Corporation of India under small savings scheme and other deposit schemes in Kerala during each of the last three years; and

(b) the amount invested in various development projects out of those deposits in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTRY

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) : The gross and net collections under small savings schemes in Post Offices in Kerala during the last three years were as under:

<i>(in crores of rupees)</i>		
<i>Year</i>	<i>Gross</i>	<i>Net</i>
1990-91	411.60	213.83
1991-92	447.64	174.42
1992-93 (Provisional)	459.98	134.06

Three-fourth of the net collections in small savings schemes in a state have been advanced as long term loan to that State for financing the plan.

Information in respect of the Unit Trust of India, nationalised banks and Life Insurance Corporation of India is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Consumption of Cotton

2537. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic consumption of cotton has been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the domestic consumption of cotton in the country in general and in major cotton producing States in particular; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the growing need of cotton.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G.

VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The domestic consumption of cotton in the country (both Mill and Non-Mill consumption) for the last three years is as follows:-

Year.	Consumption (in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)
1990-91	115.50
1991-92	111.09
1992-93	124.07

(c) The Government is implementing centrally sponsored scheme of intensive Cotton Development Programme in important cotton growing states to increase the production of all types of cotton to meet the domestic requirement and export of surplus produce. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States for supply of critical inputs such as seeds, pesticides, equipments, irrigation, sprinklers as also for organising demonstrations of improved technology and farmers training etc.

Cane and Bamboo Training Centre

2538. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 184 on December 3, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the new location of the Cane and Bamboo Crafts Training Centre, Raiyam has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Participation of NRIs In Economic Activities

2539. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new set of proposals from NRIs for their effective and free participation in economic activities in India including banking sector is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the proposals accepted so far;

(d) whether the Government have worked out an action plan for disinvestment in nationalised banks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). In terms of the detailed guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for setting up new private sector banks, some of the applicants have indicated that they would endeavour to bring in funds from NRIs. The matter has been examined and it has been decided that NRI participation in the primary equity of a new banking company may be allowed to the extent of 40 per cent.

(c) RBI have so far received requests for NRI participation from M.s. Jayanta Madhav Associates and M/s. Indus Ind. Enterprises and Finance Ltd. 'In principle' approvals have been granted to both these companies by RBI.

(d) and (e). Government propose to permit the nationalised banks to access the capital market to raise fresh equity. This would need amendments to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) act, 1970 and 1980. The relevant amendments are receiving Government's attention. Government will, however, continue to retain majority there -holding in the equity of the nationalised banks.

Loan to Algeria by Exim Bank of India

2540. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Algeria had requested India for \$100 m loan from Exim Bank of India for import of India goods;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government there to;

(c) whether there is ample scope for widening bilateral trade between India and A Algeria; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. Algeria had requested India for \$ 100m. loan from Exim Bank of India for import of Indian goods during the Fifth Session of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission meeting in June 1993. Exim Bank has already extended a largely unutilized credit line of US\$ 50 million and does not favour another credit which will result in still larger exposure.

(c) and (d) : Exports to Algeria during 1992-93 were Rs. 36.61 crores and imports

from Algeria Rs. 4.58 crores. The principal commodities exported were basic chemicals, engineering goods and tobacco unmanufactured and metals and others including oil. Algerian side has requested for imports from Algeria to reduce the trade imbalance.

[Translation]

District Central Cooperative Banks

2541. SHRI MAHES KANODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of District Central Cooperative Banks in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of DCCBs which have not-submitted their report on management cost; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) : There are 352 District Central Cooperative banks (DCCBs) in the country, as on 31.3.1993. The state-wise details of the DCCBs are given in the Statement.

(b) and (c) : No report on management cost is required to be submitted by the DCCBs to the Government or Reserve Bank of India (RBI or National bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). However, the cost of management is reflected in the profit and Loss statements of the DCCBs submitted to RBI and NABARD. The receipt of such statements are watched by NABARD and the DCCBs are reminded at regular intervals for submission thereof.

STATEMENT

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Name of the States</i>	<i>No. of DCCBs</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Assam	01
3.	Bihar	34
4.	Gujarat	18
5.	Haryana	13
6.	Himachal Pradesh	02
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	03
8.	Karnataka	19
9.	Kerala	14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	45
11.	Maharashtra	30
12.	Orissa	17
13.	Punjab	15
14.	Rajasthan	26
15.	Tamil Nadu	18
16.	Uttar Pradesh	58
17.	West Bengal	17
All India Total		352

NTC Mills

2542. SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEX-
TILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mills under the nationals
Textile Corporation at Cannanore and Mahe
in Kerala have earned profits during 1991,
1992 and 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the profits earned by those mills during the above mentioned period ; and

(c) the names of the other NTC mills which have earned profits during the above period alongwith the profits earned by them, state-wise?

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI. G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) : Statement-I indicating the net profits earned/losses incurred by the Cannanore Spinning & Weaving Mills, Cannanore & the Cannanores Spinning and Weaving Mills, Mahe during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 is attached.

(c) Statement II indicating the mills of NTC which have earned net t profit during the last 3 years is attached.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

STATEMENT-I

NET PROFIT & LOSS

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the Mills	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Cannanore	+ 0.99	- 0.27	- 0.22
2.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills Mahe	+ 0.93	-0.22	- 0.30

STATEMENT-II

Statement showing Names of the NTC Mills which have earned net profit during the last three years ..State-wise

S. No.	Name of the Mills	(Rs. in crores)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Nataraj Spinning Mills, Adilabad	+ 0.14	-	-
2.	Tirupathi Cotton Mills, Renigunta	+ 0.20	-	-
	KERALA			
3.	Vijay Mohin Mills, Trivandrum	+ 1.25	-	-
4.	Alagappa Tex. Mills, Alagappanagar	+ 1.33	+ 0.25	-
5.	Kerala Lakshmi Mills, Trichur	+ 1.30	-	-
	MAHARASHTRA			
6.	Barshi Textile Mills	+ 0.42	+ 0.35	-
7.	Chalisgaon Tex. Mills, Chalisgaon	+ 0.25	-	-
8.	New City Mills, Bombay	+ 0.38	-	-
9.	Podar Processors, Bombay	+ 1.56	-	-

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the Mills	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
10.	Podar Processors, Bombay	+ 0.24	+ 0.17	-
	PUNJAB			
11.	Dayal Bagh Spg. Mills, Amritsar	+ 0.06	-	-
12.	Suraj Textile Mills, Malout.	+ 0.32	-	-
13.	Kharar Textile Mills, Kharar	+ 0.74	-	-
	PONDICHERRY			
14.	Sri Bharati Mills, Pondicherry	+ 0.12	-	-
	RAJASTHAN			
15.	Sri Bijay Cotton Mills, Bijaynagar	+ 0.30	-	-
16.	Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur	+ 0.47	-	-
17.	Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar	+ 0.56	-	-
18.	Edward Mills, Beawar.	+ 0.17	-	-
	TAMIL NADU			
19.	OM Parasakthi Mills, Coimbatore.	+ 0.25	-	-

S. No.	Name of the Mills	(Rs. in crores)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
20.	Combodia Mills, Coimbatore.	+ 1.78	+ 0.07	-
21.	Krishnaveni Textile Mills, Combatore	+ 0.77	+ 0.14	-
22.	Sri Rangavilas Mills, Combatore	+ 1.27	-	-
23.	Pankaja Mills, Coimbatore	+ 1.57	+ 0.33	-
24.	Pioneer Mills, Ramanathapuram	+ 0.56	-	-
25.	Balarama Varma Tex. Mills, Shencottah	+ 1.00	+ 0.43	-
26.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit, Ramnad	+ 1.96	+ 1.22	-
27.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills, Coimbatore	+ 1.55	+ 0.27	-
28.	Somasundaram Mills, Coimbatore	+ 1.14	-	-
29.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit, Coimbatore	+ 0.31	-	-
30.	Coimbatore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Coimbatore	+ 1.29	-	-
31.	Sri Sarada Mills, Podanur.	+ 1.03	+ 0.31	-

Bank Robberies/Dacoities

2543 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH RAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons including bank employees, killed and injured in robberies/dacoities which took place in the nationalised banks in Delhi and Maharashtra during last year and the current year, so far; and

(b) the amount of compensation paid to the injured persons and the employment provided to the dependents of the deceased persons by each such bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) and (b) : Reserve Bank of India has reported that there were no incidents of bank robberies/dacoities in Maharashtra during the period 1.1.92 to 30.10.93. However, there were two cases of dacoities/robberies in public sector banks in Delhi during the said period. In one of these cases one robber was killed. The question of payment of compensation or providing of employment to the dependents of the deceased (robber) does not arise.

International Fairs

2544. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of international fairs organised by the India Trade promotion Organisation (ITPO) in the recent past;

(b) whether ITPO has earned profit in organising such fairs;

(c) the estimated income and expenditure of ITPO for the current year; and

(d) the extent of budgetary support provided to the organisation by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) During the period April 93 to November, 1993 India Trade Promotion Organisation organised 4 international fairs in India. During this period ITPO also participated/organised participation in 29 fairs abroad. A detailed statement is enclosed 29 fairs abroad. A detailed statement is enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The estimated income and expenditure during the year 1993-94 is Rs. 42.77 crores and Rs. 40.84 crores respectively.

(d) The budgetary support to ITPO as per Budget Estimate 1993-94 is Rs 16.00 crores.

Fairs in India

1. Water India '93, April 23-29, 1993.
2. Intl. Security Exh, 1993, September 1-5, 1993
3. Shee Fair '93, October 17-19, 1993
4. India Intl. Trade Fair, 93, November 14-23, 1993

Fairs abroad

General International Fairs

1. Cairo Intl. Fair, April 10-23, 1993
2. Intl. Exhibition of Lille (France), April 10-19, 1993
3. Riyadh Intl. Fair, April 18-22, 1993
4. Qatar Intl. Trade fair (Doha) April 18-24, 1993
5. Tokyo Intl. Trade Fair, April 29 - May 3, 1993
6. Intl. Spring Fair, Dubai (NAE), May 8-14, 1993
7. Asian Intl. Gift Fair, Singapore, June, 2-5, 1993
8. Overseas Import Fair 'Partners for progress', Berlin , June 9-12 ' 93
9. Izmir Intl. fair (Turkey), Sept. 8-20, 1993

Fairs in India

10. Budapest Intl. Autumn Fair (Hungary), September 10-19, 1993
 11. Taejon Intl. Exposition (South Korea), August 7 - November 7, 1993
 12. Nairobi Industrial & Agricultural Show, Sept. 28-October 2, 1993
 13. Tehran Intl. Fair, October 2-12, 1993
 14. Lagos Intl. Fair (Nigeria), November 5-14, 1993
 15. Quang Trung Intl. Fair (Vietnam), November 24-30, 1993
- SPECIALISED COMMODITY FAIRS*
1. 8th Intl. Food & Drink Exh. London, April 25-29, 1993
 2. Intl. leather Fair, Hong Kong, April 26-29, 1993
 3. AIEE, Melbourne (Australia) May 31 -June 4, 1993
 4. Specialised Intl. Fair for Spinning Textiles, Readymade Garments and its production machinery, Damascus (Syria), May 20-29, 1993
 5. Pumps & Syslms Asia Fair, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), August 2-5, 1993
 6. National Hardware Show, Chicago (USA), August 15-18, 1993
 7. INTERSIC '93, Paris, September 13-15, 1993
 8. Pret-A-Porter Fair, Paris, September 3-6, 1993
 9. ANUGA Food Fair, Cologne (Germany), October 7-10, 1993
 10. Intl. Trade Fair for Leather Goods, Bags and Travel Goods, Singapore, October 6-9, 1993
 11. C.I.A. 93 (CHEM ASIA/INSTRUMENT ASIA/ANALAB ASIA), Singapore, October 4-7, 1993
 12. Asian Automotive & Accessories Exh., Singapore, October 7-10, 1993
 13. Intl. Cycle & Motorcycle Exh., Milan (Italy), October 18-24, 1993
 14. Interstaff Asia Fair, Hong Kong November 4-6, 1993

Special Import Licence Scheme

2545. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to expand the list of items allowed to be imported by exporters under the Special Import Licence Scheme and reduce duty level on such items; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) : Review of Export & Import Policy is a continuous process and the changes are made therein as and when considered necessary by the Government in public interest.

[Translation]

National Commission on Rural Labour

2546. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the National Commission on Rural Labour;

(b) the achievement made so far in respect of major goals for the rural labour i.e. improvement in their levels of living and ensuring their effective participation in the development process; and

(c) the time by which these goals are

likely to be achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c) The National Commission on Rural Labour had made a large number of recommendations highlighting the need for achievement of two major goals for the rural labour namely, improvement in their levels of living and ensuring their effective participation in the developmental process. To achieve this the Commission emphasised on further strengthening and improvement, inter alia, of landbase, agricultural growth, employment guarantee programme, infra-structure for rural labour industries, human resource development and provision of basic needs, social security, organisational aspects of rural and effective participation of rural labour in the decision making process through democratic decentralisation.

The recommendations relating to a central legislation for agricultural workers, a central legislation for construction workers, social security, and constitution of a Commission on Bonded labour have been referred to a Committee of State Labour Ministers headed by the Labour Minister, Maharashtra for consideration and early report to the Government.

In respect of other recommendations the concerned Ministries/Departments have duly examined the recommendations. Implementation of these recommendations in consultation with the State Governments, wherever necessary, is a continuing process, the results of which can be evaluated in the long run only. A majority of these recommendations call for strengthening of schemes and activities which have been in operation already.

A report on the action taken by various

Ministeries was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 1993 in fulfilment of an Assurance given during Short Duration Discussion on the conditions of rural labour in the country on 4.8.1992.

[English]

Investment in Tourism

2547. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state:

(a) whether the Government observed September 27, 1993 as the World Tourism Day;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to liberalise investment in tourism while checking eco-hazards; and

(d) the target of tourist traffic in respect of foreign and Indian tourists separately for 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the corresponding figures of actual tourist traffic during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The message from World Tourism Organisation was circulated to all Government of India Tourist Offices, State Governments and agencies concerned with tourism. Cultural programmes, facilitation of international tourists at various entry points, press publicity, such as, release of a special advertisement, distribution of literature, discounted tours, etc. were amongst the highlights of programs undertaken for celebration of this day.

(c) The Central Government has liberalised Investment Policy in the Tourism Sector. However, infrastructural development in ecologically sensitive areas is subject to guidelines prescribed under the Environment Protection Act and other relevant notifications issued by Ministry of Environment.

(d) International tourist traffic to India excluding nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh during 1993-94 is projected to be about 1.43 millions. The expected growth in arrivals during 1994-95 is 10%. The comparative figures for the last two years excluding nationals of Bangladesh and Pakistan is as follows:-

Year	Tourist Arrivals
1991-92	1.32 millions
1992-93	1.43 millions

Export of Wheat and Pulses

2548. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided any ceiling on exports of pluses during the current financial year;

(b) whether the Government also proposed to decontrol export of pulses wheat and its products; and

(c) if on, the time by which a final decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c). The export of pulses is allowed subject to licensing. So far, licences

for export of 50,000 MTs of pulses have been issued. Export of superior variety of wheat i.e. Durum Wheat known as Sirohi, Sharbati is allowed subject to Minimum Export Prices of US\$ 160 per MT and quantitative ceiling of 3 lakh MTs during 1993-94. Export of wheat products is allowed freely without licence.

[Translation]

Export of Electronic Goods

2549. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND
SWAMI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of electronic goods exported during 1992-93 and 1993-94 till-date;

(b) the estimated export of these goods and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom during 1994-95;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to boost the export of electronic goods? and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The value of electronic goods exported during 1992-93 was about Rs 900 crores. In the first six months of the current financial year, the exports of electronic goods is estimated to be about Rs. 490 crores.

(b) Assuming a growth rate of 15%, the estimated export of electronic goods and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be

earned from such exports will be about US\$ 430 million in 1994-95.

(c) and (d) The Government introduced the Electronic Hardware Technology Park Scheme to boost exports of electronic goods. The scheme is similar in some respects to the facilities available in the Export Processing Zones. Capital goods, inputs and raw-materials can be imported duty free and there are similar exemptions from payment of corporate income tax etc. There is, however, no minimum value addition requirement, but access to the domestic market is dependent on value addition.

An Electronic Hardware Technology Park may be a stand-alone unit or a zone in which a number of units are located. The infrastructure may be set up either by the Central or State Government by private parties.

[English]

Cancellation of Vayudoot Services

2550. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Vayudoot services were cancelled during November, 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the services cancelled and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have considered the adverse impact thereof on the tourism; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such cancellation of services and to resume these cancelled services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) : 171 flights were cancelled during the month of November, 1993 due to grounding of aircraft. Reasons for grounding are;

- i) Crack checks on the stabilizer of Dornier aircraft.
- ii) Major Check/Inspection of Avro aircraft.

(c) and (d). Efforts are continuing to make the grounded aircraft airworthy with available resources and to restore the normal schedule operations.

Production of Cloth

2551. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the production of cloth in the country has decreased considerably;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the production of cloth in the country during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Govt. to accelerate the cloth production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Production of cloth during the last three years is a under (including Silk, Khadi & Wool)

Years	Production of Cloth (mil. sq. mtrs)
1990-91	23330
1991-92	22978
1992-93	25475

(d) Government has taken various steps for increase in cloth production such as:

1. Remove of restriction on creation and expansion of capacity subject to only locational guidelines.
2. Measures to ensure availability of raw materials to the industry through policy intervention whenever necessary.
3. Permitting import of textile machinery under OGL and reduction in duty on such machinery imports.
4. Government have already allowed full fibre flexibility.

[Translation]

Economic Reforms in Cooperative Banks

2552 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state;

(a) whether any action plan has been chalked out to bring about economic reform in the State Cooperative Banks through NABARD:

(b) the extent to which this action-plan has been implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) and (b) : Based on the recommendations of the Agricultural Credit Review Committee (ACRC) the national Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has prepared an Institutional Strengthening Programme aimed at making "non-solvent" and 'near non-solvent' cooperative banks viable. The programme would be voluntary in nature and once a bank accepts the same, it would have to implement a detailed plan of action for regaining viability. The action plan would include measures for investigation of overdues and improved recovery performance, nationalisation of loan policies and procedures, diversification of loan portfolio, mobilisation of financial and manpower resources, better management of funds and revitalisation and development of affiliated cooperatives. The programme envisages support from NABARD, State and Central Governments to the Cooperative banks to help them to regain viability.

[English]

Import of Rubber

2553. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tyre manufacturers have been allowed to import rubber equal to the value of export undertaken by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is adversely affecting the rubber growers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) : No Sir. There is no Scheme under which the tyre manufacturers have been allowed to import rubber equal to the value of export under by them. However, certain quantities of natural rubber are allowed to be imported by manufacturer-cum-exporters of rubber products as per the standard input-output and value addition norms provided in the import policy. (Handbook of Procedure-Vol. II)

(c) No Sir.

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

Filling up of Reserved Posts

2554. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his Ministry and Departments under the Ministry lying vacant as on November 30, 1993;

(b) the dates since when these posts are lying vacant;

(c) the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to fill up these vacancies at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) : The information is being collected and will be laid to the Table of the Sabha.

Raids in Tamil Nadu

2555. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a), the total number of raids conducted by Income-Tax Department in Tamil Nadu during the period from April 1, 1993 to October 31, 1993; and

(b) total money seized in these raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) : During the period from April 1, 1991 to October 31, 1993 the Income-tax Department conducted 280 searches in Tamil Nadu. The total amount of cash seized in course of these searches was Rs. 699.77 lakhs.

Bombay Port Facilities to Nepalese

2556. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether collateral security is essential for bank credit to Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether the banks are following such practice;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e). The reserve bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has advised the banks in respect of security norms to SSI sector as under:

STATEMENT

Type of borrowers	Amount of loan/credit limits	Security to be furnished
Artisans, Village & cottage industries	Composite loan upto rs. 25,000/-	Pledge/hypothecation/mortgage of assets created out of the loan. Collateral
Other: SSIs	Upto Rs.25,000/- (Rs.35,000/- in case of loans to SSI units granted under SEEUY scheme.	security/ third party guarantee should not be taken.
-do-	Over Rs. 25,000/-	
Artisans, Village & cottage industries	Composite loan over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 50,000/-	As determined by the bank on merits of each case.

RBI has further reported that in respect of advances over Rs. 25,000/- collateral security by way of immovable properties or third party guarantee may be asked by the banks for only in cases where the primary security is inadequate or for other valid should not be turned down merely for want of such collateral security or third party guarantee.

Banks follow these guidelines and the individual complains are looked into by the RBI.

Bombay Port Facilities to Nepalese Exporters

2557. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDLWAL:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :
SHRI V. SREENIVSA

PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nepal has sought facilities at Bombay port for export of its products to other countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government has decided to extend port facilities to Nepal ;

(c) the terms and conditions agreed upon for extending such facilities and whether it is likely to affect adversely on our export; and.

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No such recent official request has been received from the

Govt. of Nepal.

(b) to (d). Does not arise

Tourism Development in States

2258. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the union government have received some proposals from the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for the development of new tourist places during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of tourist places and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the details of the allocations made to each of these States for the development of tourist places during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Yes. Sir, The Central Department of Tourism had received project proposals from the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93 and they were sanctioned during that year, the details of which are given in Statement-I.

During 1993-94, some proposals have been received from these states, details of which are given at Annexure II. in Statement II

STATEMENT

Projects/schemes sanctioned during 1992-93 for the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

		(Rs in lakhs)	
S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
RAJASTHAN			
1.	Tourist Complex at Barmer	12.90	2.50
2.	Tourist Reception Centre at Jaisalmer	8.46	3.75
3.	Tourist Reception Centre at Jodhpur	10.70	0.10
4.	Tourist Reception Centre at Bikaner	7.18	0.05
5.	Fast Food centre at Bikaner	6.00	3.00
6.	Wayside amenities at Sikar	4.74	2.30
7.	Pilgrim Sheds at Vishram Sihal, Ajmer:		
	(i) Raen Basera	10.28	6.00
	(ii) Pucca structures	24.38	12.00
8.	Public Conveniences at Vishram Sihal, Ajmer	8.48	4.00
9.	Public Conveniences at two places in Jaisalmer	7.36	3.68

(Rs in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
10.	Camping site at Jhalawar	10.55	5.27
11.	Camping site at Gajner	10.55	5.00
12.	Camping site at Kumbalgarh	10.55	5.32
13.	Floodlighting of Chittorgarh (phase-II)	6.87	3.00
14.	Jhalawar Festival	5.18	4.00
15.	Shilpgram Crafts Mela	1.00	0.50
16.	Publicity Support	8.13	8.13
		Total	68.60
		153.31	
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	Tourist Complex at Keylong	22.15	3.00
2.	Tourist Information Centre at Nurpur	13.68	6.80
3.	Wayside facilities at:		
	(i) Darlaghat	12.60	6.00
	(ii) Sarahan	12.60	0.50

(Rs in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
4.	Tourist Complex at Renuka	16.00	5.00
5.	Multi-storeyed commercial car parking Complex at Shimla (under equity pattern of funding)	17.92	9.00
6.	Water sports equipment for pong Dam Reservoir	2.99	0.19
7.	Shimla Summer Festival	5.00	5.00
8.	Kangra valley/Tea Festival	5.40	5.40
9.	Shivpuri Festival	3.60	3.47
Total		111.94	44.36
UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	Setting up of tented accommodation at Nandprayag	6.38	6.38
2.	Setting up of nodal centres at: (i) August Muni (ii) Helang	10.36 10.41	5.00 5.00

(Rs in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
3.	Yatri shed at Haridwar including Public Conveniences	20.68	10.00
4.	Improvement of Keshighat at Vrindavan	18.00	4.50
5.	Floodlighting of Fatehpur Sikri	15.15	7.50
6.	Tented accommodation at Vrindavan	10.00	5.00
7.	Taj Mahotsav	5.36	3.00
8.	Nodghat Festival	1.00	0.50
	Total	97.34	46.88

STATEMENT

Proposals Received from the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

(1993-94)

(Rs in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the project/Scheme	Estimated Cost
RAJASTHAN		
1.	Wayside facility at Salasar	4.74
2.	Wayside facility at Dechu	4.74
3.	Tourist Complex at Ganganagar	16.54
4.	Conservation of Jaisalmer Fort	40.00
5.	Fast Food Centre at Jodhpur	7.11
6.	Tourist Complex at Barr	10.35
7.	Tourist Complex at Ratangarh	10.06
8.	Tourist Lodge at Beawar	13.38
9.	Purchase of Swiss tents - 50 nos.	10.00
10.	Floodlighting of Fort wall of Chittorgarh, phase-III	22.98
Total		139.90

(Rs in lakhs)

(1993-94)

Estimated Cost

S.No. Name of the project/Scheme

	HIMACHAL PRADESH	
1.	Wayside facility at Gagret	12.60
	UTTAR PRADESH	
1.	Tourist Lodge at Sardana	13.48
2.	Wayside facility at Kandla	10.07
3.	Development and beautification of Triveni Ghat at Rishikesh	23.93
4.	Wayside amenities at Muradnagar	8.35
5.	Wayside amenities at Hapur	8.35
6.	Wayside amenities at pharenda	8.35
7.	Wayside amenities at Jaunpur	15.00
8.	Tourist Lodge at Shashganj	8.35
9.	Tourist Complex at Vindiyachal (Mirzapur)	45.00
10.	Tourist Reception Centre at Jhansi	25.00
11.	Publicity Support	25.00

* Total 190.88

Sliver Seized in Maharashtra

2559. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of the silver sized in Maharashtra during the last two years and the details of the places from where it was seized ;

(b) the number of persons apprehended in each case ;

(c) whether some gangs of smugglers have been found to be involved in these cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such smuggling?

THE /MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDERA SHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of branches of Central bank of India

2560 SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the nationalised banks especially Central Bank of India are considering to close down some of their Rural Branches during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

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

(c) its impact on rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED) : (a) to (c) : Under the current liberalised policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks are permitted to swap their stray or unremunerative branches with other banks. The banks have also been advised that RBI would consider their proposal for closing of loss making branches at urban/metropolitan centres which are generally well banked. Banks have also been allowed to nationalised their existing branch network in rural areas keeping in view their viability. At rural centres served by two commercial bank branches (excluding Regional Rural Banks), the concerned banks may, by mutual consultation, take a decision for closure of one of the branches. Banks should forward such proposals duly approved by the concerned District Consultative Committee to RBI through the State Government for their prior approval.

As records Central Banks of India, the bank has reported that they have no such plan for closing down their rural bronches. However, they are considering conversion of 50 loss making Rural/Semi-urban branches during 1993-94 into Satellite offices. The bank do not expect any adverse impact of the above decision on rural areas since the base branches in which loss making Rural/ Semi-urban branches will be merged will loss making Rural/Semi-urban branches will be merged will serve these areas on certain selected working, in a week .

Three Tier Stock Exdchance System

2561. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has suggested introduction of a three tier stock-exchange system to help small and medium scale to mobilise capital from the market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED) : (a) The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry had made such a suggestion to SEBI some time back.

(b) With the grant of recognition by the Government to the Over The Counter Exchange of India, which has been set up with the main objective of helping small and medium companies to mobilise capital from the market, there is already a two tier stock market system in the country. The classification of the other stock exchanges into different categories as suggested by the Chamber does not appear useful at this stage.

Development of Buddhist Tourist Sports

2562. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese Government have submitted any proposal to develop Buddhist tourist spots in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of the Government of Japan have entered into a loan agreement

with the Government of India on 15th December 1988 for financial assistance to the tune of 9.244 billion Japanese yen for development of infrastructural facilities along identified Buddhist Travel Circuit in U.P. and Bihar. Major components of the project are strengthening and improvement of National and State Highways, landscaping, water and electricity supply, telecommunication facilities, setting up of wayside amenities etc.

Government have also entered into a loan agreement with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of the Government of Japan on 9-1-1992 for Loan assistance to the tune of 3745 million Japanese Yen for conservation and development of Ajanta and Ellora in the State of maharashtra. main components of the project are strengthening of State highways, upgradation of Aurangabad airport, afforestation, augmentation of water supply and sewerage facilities etc.

Tobacco Board

2563. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an proposal to provide financial encouragement to Tobacco Board to intervene when market conditions make it necessary; and

(b) if so the steps being taken to ensure a more active role for the Tobacco Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b). In the event of auction prices falling below the Minimum Support prices fixed by the Govt. of India, the Tobac-

co Board could be asked to make market intervention and make purchases at the Minimum Support Prices, under Section 8(2) (g) of Tobacco Board. The Board has been discharging the role assigned to it under the Tobacco Board Act.

Setting up EXIM Bank in China

2564. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether eight members high level financial and commercial delegation of China visited India in the recent past on a special mission together detailed information about the functioning of the Export-Import Bank for setting up an EXIM bank in China;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held in this regard; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) : A delegation led by the Vice Minister of Finance, Peoples' Republic of China visited India in May 1993. The purpose of the visit was to acquaint themselves with the nature, role and functions of the EXIM bank of India which would serve as an input for the Peoples' Republic of China to set up EXIM Bank.

Productivity - Linked Wage Agreement

2565. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Airlines has signed

a productivity-linked wage agreement with pilots;

(b) whether similar agreements are also proposed with other sectors of the work-force in the Indian Airlines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts made by the Indian Airlines to increase productivity?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : Yes Sir. The management is working out productivity linked scheme pertaining to other sectors of the work-force also, for discussion with Unions/ Associations.

(e) The following steps are being taken to increase productivity:

- i) Improvement in customer services both on ground and on board the aircraft.
- ii) Introduction of schemes like Fly More and Fly Free. Point to Point Fares, Domestic Tour Packages etc.
- iii) Close monitoring of 'On Time Performance'.
- iv) Changes in marketing strategy including Productivity linked incentive for agents.
- v) Providing convenient schedules.
- vi) Stepping up utilisation of existing

fleet.

- vii) Increased international operations, and
- (viii) Control of unproductive expenditure.

Computerisation of EPF Offices

2566. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have resorted to large scale computerisation of the E.P.F. offices in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the expenditure involved therein;
- (c) whether there is any mutually agreed area of operation of computers; and
- (d) whether the E.P.F. employees are co-operating with the process of computerisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (d) : In order to improve the organisational efficiency and provide better service to the EPF subscribers and in acceptance with the recommendations of the Estimates Committee of the Parliament the EPF Organisation has decided to computerise its offices in a phased manner. With the agreement of the Staff Federation, the Organisation has set up 21 EDP Centres in its different offices. During 1992-93, a sum of Rs. 118.54 lakhs was incurred on computerisation of the organisation. The EPF employees have generally cooperated in making the computerisation programme a success in the Organisation.

Disposal of Surplus lands of Sick Textiles Mills

2567. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to dispose of the surplus lands of some of the sick textile mills;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the reasons therefore and
- (c) the manner in which the Government propose to utilise the money earned from the disposal of those lands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) : The surplus land of NTC is proposed to be disposed of to fund the schemes for its modernisation etc.

Tax Concession to States

2568 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tax concessions were extended to the North Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the period of such concessions;
- (c) whether there is a demand for extending similar tax concessions to the seventeen backward districts of maharashtra for a period of five year; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.

CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A five year tax holiday has been made available to new industrial undertakings set up in backward States and Union Territories specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Income-tax Act. The concession is available in respect of units which start production after 1-4-1993 but before 31-3-1998.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The issue regarding providing of tax incentive for industrialisation in backward districts of states which are not categorised as backward states has been examined by a study Group set up in the Finance Ministry. The report of the Study Group is nearing finalisation.

Participation in Export Auction of Coffee

2569. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed private sector participation in the export auction for the sale of coffee;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that it has affected the functioning of the Coffee Board?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) : The Private sector has been participating in the export auction ever since the introduction of the auction system for Coffee.

(c) No, Sir.

Production and Export of Cashew Nut

2570. SHRI KODIKUNNILL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of Cashew-nut produced in the country during each of the last three years; and

(b) the quantity of Cashewnut exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) : The estimated production of raw cashewnuts in the country, since 1990-91 was as given below:-

	(Production in MTS)
1990-91	2,94,590
1991-92	3,05,310
1992-93	3,49,390

(b) The details sought by the Hon'ble MP are contained in the reply given to part (a) Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 33 dated the 3rd December, 1993.

Convertibility of Rupee

2571. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rupee is convertible only on trade account but not on capital account;

(b) whether the ultimate objective is to make rupee fully convertible;

(c) the obstacles in making it fully convertible;

(d) when it is likely to be made fully convertible; and

(e) whether the value of the rupee has been falling or raising with respect to other fully convertible hard currency during 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). It is the intention of the Government to move towards full convertibility of Rupee over the medium term depending on the circumstances. The timing of the transi-

tion to full convertibility of Rupee on Current and Capital Account would depend on achieving a number of desiderata such as, a comfortable level of foreign exchange reserves, a sustainable deficit on Current Account, stability in economic growth, a low rate of inflation, a manageable level of fiscal deficit, removal of the remaining quantitative and other restrictions on trade and invisibles account etc.

Depending on the factors mentioned above, it is expected that Rupee would be made convertible initially on Current Account and full convertibility may follow subsequently.

(e) The rupee has remained stable against the U.S. dollar since April, 1993. Against the other major currencies, the rupee has remained firm, appreciating over the last two months viz. October and November 1993. A statement is enclosed

STATEMENT

EXCHANGE RATE OF THE RUPEE

(Monthly Averages)

Rupees Per Unit of Foreign Currency

Month	U.S. dollar	%APP/ DEP of rupee	Pound Sterling	%APP/ DEP of rupee	Deutsche Mark	%APP/ DEP of rupee	YEN	%APP/ DEP of rupee
1992								
December	30,7005		47,4215		19,4070		0,2477	
1993								
January	30,8833	-0.59	47,3135	0.23	19,0531	1.86	0,2465	0.49
February	32,6456	-5.40	46,9305	0.82	19,8792	-4.16	0,2695	-8.53
March	31,5256	3.55	45,9520	2.13	19,1156	3.99	0,2695	0.00
April	31,3105	0.69	48,4066	-5.07	19,6442	-2.69	0,2794	-3.54
May	31,3283	-0.06	48,5172	-0.23	19,5046	0.72	0,2841	-1.65
June	31,4068	-0.25	47,4174	2.32	19,0123	2.59	0,2929	-3.00
July	31,3704	0.12	46,9536	0.99	19,3094	3.84	0,2911	0.62

Month	U.S. dollar	%APP/ DEP of rupee	Pound Sterling	%APP/ DEP of rupee	Deutsche Mark	%APP/ DEP of rupee	YEN	%APP/ DEP of rupee
August	31.3725	- 0.01	46.7983	0.33	18.4806	- 0.93	0.3028	- 3.86
Septem- ber	31.3718	0.00	47.8524	- 2.20	19.3381	- 4.43	0.2978	1.68
October	31.3711	0.00	47.1961	1.39	19.1680	0.89	0.2935	1.47
Novem- ber	31.3706	0.00	46.4691	1.56	18.4608	3.83	0.2909	0.89

Donations by Banks

2572. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of cash and the value of goods donated so far by various nationalised and foreign banks operating in India for the earthquake victims of Latur and Osmanabad districts of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Import of Items Manufactured by Child Labourers

2573. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the items manufactured with the help of child labourers are being imported in a large quantity;

(b) if so, whether a demand has been made to the Government to check the import of such items; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c). The Government are not aware of import in large quantities of items manufactured with the help of child labourers or of any demand to check such imports.

[English]

Azamjahi Mills

2574. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the revival and rehabilitation of Azamjahi Mills at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh:

(b) if so, the details along with the financial implications and the source thereof;

(c) whether sale of vacant land of the mills is a part of the above scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d): To facilitate revival and rehabilitation of Azamjahi Mills, which as per the existing turn around strategy is to be closed, the South India Textiles Research Association has been asked to prepare a scheme for the rehabilitation of the Mill. The scheme has now been submitted for consideration of the Sub-Committee for the Special Committee on N.T.C. matters which will make its recommendations to the Government.

Development of Sericulture Industry

2575. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures taken by the Union Government for development of sericulture industry and to increase production of silk in the country particularly in Karnataka; and

(b) the details of the measures taken to spread sericulture in the non-traditional areas in the States and also to control various diseases affecting the mulberry, silk worms and cocoon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) : In order to develop sericulture industry in traditional as well as non-traditional areas and to increase the production of quality silk in the country, a seven year World bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture project is being implemented since 1989-90. This project covers five traditional and 12 non-traditional States. Besides, the Central Silk Board is providing necessary Research, the Central Silk Board is providing necessary Research, Extension, Training and Infrastructural support through its countrywide network of units.

The steps being taken to spread sericulture in the non-traditional areas and to control various diseases affecting the mulberry, silk worms & cocoons include the following:-

- i. Supply of mulberry cuttings at subsidised cost.
- ii. Supply of rearing kit to small and marginal farmers.
- iii. Conducting of farmers training programmes & study tours.
- iv. Providing incentives for bivoltine cocoon & raw silk producers.
- v. Propagation of disease & uzifly control measures involving use of disinfectants such as Formaline & Bleaching Power and formulations such as Resham Keet Ouhadh & Uzicide.
- vi. Undertaking research projects/experiments at Research Institutes of Central Silk Board to control the diseases.

In so far as Karnataka is concerned, it is

one of the five traditional States covered under the national Sericulture project. Besides, the Central Silk Board has established its Headquarters and a network of its units in the State.

Issue of Corporate Commercial Papers

2576. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Reserve bank of India or his Ministry regarding the issue of Corporate Commercial papers (CPs) by the companies both in the private and public sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; by the companies issuing Commercial papers and the inter-bank call money rate;

(c) the normal difference in interest between that offered by the companies issuing commercial Papers and the inter-bank call money rate;

(d) whether several banks are investing call money in corporate commercial papers; and

(e) if so, its impact on overall money market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b): With a view to enabling highly rated corporate borrowers to diversify their sources of short-term borrowing and also to provide an additional instrument to investors, Commercial papers (CP) was introduced in January, 1990. Guidelines were issued by Reserve bank of India (RBI) to banks for issue of commercial papers vide

Gazetted Notification dated 11th December, 1989. The amendments thereto carried out from time to time have also been gazetted. The guidelines are equally and uniformly applicable to companies in both private and public sectors. During the current financial year the following changes have been made in the guidelines for issue of Commercial Paper (CP with the objective of expanding the scope for issue of CP in the primary market.

- (i) The working capital (fund-based) limit of the issuing company has been reduced to not less than Rs. 4 crores from Rs. 5 crores hitherto.
- (ii) The tangible net worth of the company willing to issue of CP has been prescribed at a minimum of Rs. 4 crores as per the latest available audited balance Sheet as against Rs. 5 crores hitherto.
- (iii) CP can now be issued for maturities between three months and less than one year from the date of issue.

Any person including individuals, bank, company and other corporate bodies registered in India and incorporated bodies can subscribe in CP. NRIs can subscribe on non-repatriation basis and subject to the condition that CP shall not be transferable. CP issue cannot be underwritten or co-accepted in any manner whatsoever. No automatic roll-over is permitted. Every issue of CP including renewal is treated a fresh issue.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the current financial year the

interest rate offered on Commercial Paper have been higher than the Call Money Rates ranging between 2.50 - 5.00 and 7.43 - 8.93 respectively between the period April and November 15, 1993.

(d) RBI has reported that in the current financial year, the banking system in experiencing comfortable liquidity conditions, inter-alia, due to significant reduction in reserve requirements and the large increase in reserve money. Bank's investments in CP as on 15th October, 1993, amounted to Rs. 1,813 crores which accounted for 69.7 per cent of the total CP outstanding as on that date.

(e) The investment of banks in CPs has helped in preventing in sharp decline in call money market rates and rates of other money market instruments:

Foreign Assistance for Projects in Kerala

2577. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have approved foreign assistance of the development projects in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the projects for which this amount is proposed to be spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMAD): (a) and (b). A list of on-going projects in the State of Kerala, with foreign assistance from Multilateral and Bilateral agencies along with project-wise details are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

ON-GOING PROJECTS IN THE STATE OF KERALA

Sl.No	Name of the Project	Date of agreement	Loan/Credit Amount	Donor Agency
1.	Kerala Water Supply Scheme (Chiryankil)	21.5.82	Dfl. 11.00m	Netherlands
2.	KWS (Nattika Firka)	21.5.82	Dfl 28.00m	-do-
3.	KWS (Mala)	9.10.84	Dfl 8.30m	-do-
4.	KWS (Koipuram)	9.10.84	Dfl 2.30m	-do-
5.	KWS (Kundra)	9.10.84	Dfl 17190m	-do-
6.	KWS (Chikyandu)	9.10.84	Dfl 1.34m	-do-
7.	KWS (Trikundpuzha)	9.10.84	Dfl 0.40m	-do-
8.	KWS (Pavaraitty)	29.8.86	Dfl 44.50m	-do-
9.	Socio Economic Units Kerala phase-II	20.4.92	Dfl 4.70m	-do-
10.	Kerala Minor Irrigation	21.4.92	ECU 11.8m	EEC
11.	Kerala Horticulture	17.1.92	ECU 28.70m	EEC

Sl. No	Name of the Project	Date of agreement	Loan/Credit Amount	Donor Agency
12.	Coconut Dev. in Kerala	25.3.86	ÉCU. 45.00m	EEC
13.	Agricultural Markets in Kerala	30.3.89	ECU 18.65m	EEC
14.	Rural Frinking Water Supply	25.6.86	DKr. 213.70m	Denmark
15.	KSEB Power Systems Im- provement	12.4.88	C \$ 32.89m	Canada
16.	Kerala Fisheries Development project in Prawan Culture	24.2.89	KD 7.00m	Kuwait
17.	Kerala Rainfed Farming Dev.	27.6.91	US\$ 10.00m	GPEC
18.	Kerala Power Project	5.12.85	US \$ 156.00m	WB
19.	National Water Management	12.5.87	US\$ 127.27m	WB
20.	Kerala Water Supply & Sanitation	24.9.86	US\$ 41.00m	WB
21.	Technician Education - I (Multistate)	13.8.90	US\$ 218.215m	WB
22.	Udyagamandal Armonia Plant Replacement Project.	21.12.92	Yen 24482m	Japan
23.	National Agricultural Research Project-II	25.2.88	SDR 57.80m	WB

Sl. No	Name of the Project	Date of agreement	Loan/Credit Amount	Donor Agency
24.	Ilnd Roads Project	28.5.91	US\$ 250.00m	WB
25.	Kerala Researve Fisheries Development	1989	DM 3.00m	Germany
26.	North Kerala Dairy Development phase-II	19.10.1992	Rs. 15.51 Cr.	Swedan

Trade with Japan

2578. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have made any efforts for the expansion of trade between India Japan;

(b) whether a high power Japanese delegation has recently visited New Delhi and held talks with the Government on expansion of Indo-Japanese trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the plan drawn up for expansion of Indo-Japanese trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Branches of UTI

2579. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up additional branches of the unit Trust of India in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise

(c) the locations thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) Government does not set up additional branches of the Unit Trust of India (UTI), as these are decisions taken by UTI independently. No decisions to set up additional branches in the current year have been taken. UTI considers opening a branch at a particular centre when the business potential there rises to an economically viable level.

[*English*]

Export of Plywood

2580. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan is interested to enter the Indian plywood market in a big way for meeting its packing requirement;

(b) whether a Japanese delegation recently visited India to establish a direct contract with major Indian plywood manufacturers;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to encourage the export of plywood; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) No information has been received either about any specific Japanese interest to enter the Indian plywood market in a big way for meeting its packing requirements, or about any recent visit of a Japanese delegation in this regard.

Export of Textiles

2581. SHRI S.B. SINDNAL
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of US \$ 7400 million fixed for export of textiles during 1993-94 is likely to be achieved;

(b) if not, whether there are some major hurdles which hamper India's textile exports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove these hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) : Government are of the view that the export target for textiles for 1993-94 is likely to be achieved.

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

Restructuring of Banking Sector

2582. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reforms effected by the Government in the banking sector since January, 1993;

(b) whether the Government propose to further revamp and restructure the banking sector in the country and its operation abroad;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the recommendations of Narasimham Committee implemented by the Government so far; and

(e) the recommendations of the Committee which are still under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Major reform measures instituted by Government and reserve Bank of India in the Banking sector since January., 1993 include:

- (1) Further reduction in Statutory Liquidity Ratio and Cash Reserve Ratio while moving the yield on Government debt to market related levels.
- (2) Simplification/rationalisation of interest rate structure.
- (3) Budgetary provision of Rs. 5700 crores towards recapitalisation of nationalised banks and laying down of performance indicators for the banks receiving the contribution.
- (4) Enactment of the "Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act. 1993" to provide legal frame work for setting up Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and FIs.
- (5) Stipulation of guidelines for granting licenses to new private sector banks to promote competition and efficiency and grant of 'in principle' approval to 7 institutions of setting up banks in the private sector.
- (6) Merger of New Bank of India with

Punjab a National Bank.

- (7) Impetus to modernisation of banking operations through computerisation as a result of the settlement with the Trade Unions in the banking industry.
- (8) Further strengthening of income recognition, asset classification and provisioning norms.
- (9) Revitalizing of internal control systems.
- (10) Changes in the composition of priority sector lending by commercial banks.
- (11) Raising of threshold limit for obligatory consortium arrangements to improve the efficiency of the banking system in delivery of credit.

Seizure of Dollars at Madras Airport

2583. SHRI MANORNJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Revenue Intelligence Directorate had recovered over 46,000 US dollars from the youths picked up from the madras Airport on September 16, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.C. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Office of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence recovered and sized 24,600 US dollars from Shri Jahir Hussain alias Ismail Meeran aged 26 and 21,000 US dollars from Shri Syed Mohammed Sabir aged 19 (in all totaling) 45,600 US dollars at Madras Airport on 15/16th September 1993. when the said persons were attempting to smuggle the same to Singapore. South the persons were arrested.

Export of Spices

2584. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total export earning from various spices during each of the last three years, with spice-wise break-up;

(b) whether any efforts have been made during this period to reduce the cost of production of spices and make them competitive in the foreign markets; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) the details of exports of spices during 1990-1991, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below:-

S.No. Item	STATEMENT (Rs in lakhs)		
	Export during		Export During
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1. Pepper	10239.93	7420.82	8317.35
2. Cardamom (Small)	1086.61	1606.74	679.59
3. Cardamom (Large)	490.53	476.25	807.85
4. Chillies	2755.55	9790.64	6786.55
5. Ginger	1175.79	2032.45	1569.62
6. Turmeric	1548.48	3157.57	4631.65
7. Coriander	405.45	1190.39	1991.48
8. Cumin	304.95	589.53	1176.95
9. Celery	414.03	463.69	418.30
10. Fennel	201.22	362.73	635.80
11. Fenugreek	304.56	424.09	521.20 (Source: Spices Board)
12. Other Seeds	122.59	280.47	206.95

S.No. Item	Export during		Export During	
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	
13. Garlic	256.89	763.25	716.98	
14. Other Spices	1049.06	1179.00	2166.00	
15. Curry Powder	660.64	863.92	1040.95	
16. Spice Oil & Oleoresins	3198.74	5602.63	6539.23	
	24214.41	36204.17	38206.45	

(b) and (c). To enhance the production and productivity of spices, and therefore there export competitiveness, Spices Board, the Department of Horticulture and the States Governments have taken a number of steps which include:

- (i) Production and supply of quality planting material;
- (ii) Irrigation and Land development;
- (iii) Replantation of Uneconomic gardens;
- (iv) Propagation of high yielding varieties through tissue culture for improving productivity
- (v) Extension advisory services.

Turnover of LIC

2585. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new policyholders and the turn-over of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in the country each of the last three years; state-wise;

(b) the profit earned by L.I.C. during the above period;

(c) the share out of the amount earned from each State invested in various schemes and of these schemes; and

(d) the details of the places where new offices of L.I.C. are proposed to be set up during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-

MENTARY AFFAIRS : (a) to (d) . The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Tax Dues with Cine Artists in Tamil Nadu

2586. SHRI R. JEEVARAJHINAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the tax dues with the cine artists of Tamil Nadu as on April 1, 1993.

(b) the amount recovered by the Government so far from them during the current financial year; and

(c) the number of cases settled during this period by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRAKASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Information regarding cine artists against whom income tax demand of rupees one lakh and above was outstanding as on 30.6.1993. is available with the Income Tax Department. Accordingly, demands of Rs. 862.16 lakhs were outstanding against such cine artists as on 30.6.1993, who were assessed in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) : Assessment and collection is a continuous process and figures relating to amount recovered and cases settled are not readily available with the Department. it will require considerable time and effort to collect the information relating to the amount recovered and cases settled during the current financial year, which will not be commensurate with the objective sought to be achieved.

Finance of Enterprises

2587. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steps are being taken to prevent financing of an enterprise which has already been financed by financial institutions in States;

(b) whether any steps are being taken for joint appraisal of working capital and term loan by banks and State Finance Corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c): The small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that units in the SSI sector can avail of facilities under their Single Window Scheme (SWS) for projects costing out Rs. 20 lakhs and working capital assistance upto Rs. 10 lakhs from the same agency i.e. State Financial Corporations (SFCs), Twin development Corporations (SIDCs) and Scheduled Commercial banks. The financial requirement of tiny sector units upto Rs. 50,000/- for equipment or working capital or both is met under SIDBI's Composite Loan Scheme. Where the financial requirements of the Units whose project cost and working capital requirements of the unites whose project cost and working capital requirement exceed the ceiling prescribed under SWS, they are required to approach either banks for assistance both for fixed assets and working capital or to SFDs SIDCs for term loan for fixed assets and to banks for working capital. The Reserve bank of India (RBI) and the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) have issued suitable guidelines to banks and Statelevel Institutions in this regard. These guidelines, inter-alie, include joint/ simultaneous appraisal by SFCs/twin-function SIDCs and banks to enable them to sort out at the initial stage any difference on

project proposal. Further, SFCs have also been advised to ensure that the basis for estimating the working capital requirements conforms to the norms relating to inventory receivables, methods of lending etc., as adopted by banks. These guidelines also include timely sanction of working capital by the .

Insurance Scheme

2588. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has introduced as insurance scheme covering the risk of four major ailments; and

(b) if so details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced a close ended plan known as 'Asha Deep' during the period 7.9.1993 to 10.11.1993 for persons in the age group of 18 to 50 years, maximum age at maturity being 65 years, providing for benefits in case the policyholder is afflicted with Cancer, paralytic Stroke, Renal failures and Coronary Artery Disease requiring by-pass surgery. The following benefits are provided under this policy:-

- a) Immediate payment of 50% of the Sum Assured;
- b) Waiver of all future premiums;
- c) Yearly payment of 10% of the sum assured till the end of the term of the policy or till death of the life assured, should this occur earlier;

- d) Payment of balance 50% of the sum assured together with vested bonus on full sum assured, on the date of maturity or on earlier death of the life assured.

The sum assured could vary between Rs. 50,000/- and Rs. 3,00,000/-

The policies may be issued for 15, 20 or 25 years term. If the policyholder does not get afflicted with any of the aforesaid ailments, full sum assured and the vested bonus is payable on maturity of the policy or earlier death of the life assured.

Membership of Trading Bloc

2589. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought membership of any regional trading block or taken the initiative to forge one on its own; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b): India has not sought membership of any regional trading bloc. India prefers the multilateral to the regional approach. Our efforts have been to strengthen multilateralism during the Uruguay Round as it is believed that non-discriminatory trade offers the greatest promise for expansion of world trade.

India is a member of one Global preferential Trading Arrangement, the GSTP which is open to the members of the G-77 and one regional preferential trading arrangement

popularly known as the Bangkok Agreement which is open to all developing countries of the ESCAP region. Recently India has become a member of the South Asia Preferential trading Arrangement (SAPTA) along with Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Maldives. The SAPTA has yet to become operational.

Tax Arrears of Top Industrial Houses

2590. SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total assets of each of the top industrial houses as per the latest available information;

(b) the total dues against each of them under the income tax and other Central Taxes;

(c) the loans advanced by the various Public Sector financial institutions and banks which remains outstanding against them; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the early recovery of the loans and taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) to (d): The information sought is not maintained in the Ministry of Finance.

Commemorative Coins and Currency Notes

2591. MAJ. GEN (RETD). BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4773 on August 27, 1993 and state:

(a) whether there is any committee to examine and decide on the proposal received for issue of commemorative coins and currency notes:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any proposals were received for persons other than those mentioned in part (b) of the reply; and

(d) if so, the lost of such persons alongwith reasons for no-approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): There is no such Committee. However, proposals are examined by the Government in the light of guidelines approved by the Cabinet.

(c) and (d). The following proposals were received in the Ministry after framing Guidelines in March, 1991. However, they were not approved, since they did not meet the requirements of guidelines framed by the Government.

YEAR NAME OF EMINENT PERSONS

1991	Mahatma Jotiba Phule
-do-	late C. Rajagopalachari
-do-	Sant Janardan Swami
-do-	Late Birbal Sahni
1992	Lokmanya Tilak
-do-	Rani Durgawati
-do-	Sant Kripal Singh Ji Maharaj
1993	Babu Jagjivan Ram
-do-	Late Satyajit Ray

Strikes and Lock Outs

2592. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand for a moratorium on strikes, lock outs and go slow for a period of five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c) : The question basically refers to the proposed amendments of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. In this regard the position is that based on the recommendations made by the Ramanujam Committee on "New Industrial Relations Law" and the deliberations held in various forums and after taking into consideration the report of the Inter-ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 have been formulated and are under consideration. The proposals, Inter-alia seek to create an environment conducive to industrial development.

Gold Import Scheme

2593. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gold Import Scheme has made any substantial effect on gold

price in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). Since the domestic supply of new Gold is negligible, the gold price in the country is largely influenced by the price quoted in the London Market. During 1991, the

difference between the domestic price was substantial. With the introduction of the gold import policy, the domestic price of gold showed a downward trend thereby reducing the difference between the domestic price and the London price. However, since the London price shot up after reaching a seven year low during the first quarter of this year; the effect of the same is reflected by the increase in the domestic price. the details in respect of price of Gold (in Bombay) as per available information is as follows:

	1992	1993 (Rs./10g)		1992	1993 (Rs./10g)
Jan	4910	3991	July	4122	4561
Feb	4708	4018	Aug	4091	4534
Mar	4245	4089	Sept	4084	4401
Apr	4465	4346	Oct	4079	4481
May	173	4538	Nov	4010	No Available
June	4109	4457	Dec	3963	Not Available

Fiscal Support to Industrial Undertakings

2594. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study group has been constituted to explore methods for enhancing fiscal support for new industrial undertakings in backward districts;

(b) whether sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts have been included in such backward districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report of the study Group has not been received so far. It is expected to be finalised shortly.

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

Smuggling on Indo-Pak Border

2595. SHRI HARIKISHORE SINGH:
SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI
THAKORE:
SHRI GEORGE
FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of smuggling of arms, explosives, drugs, narcotics, gold and silver along the Indo-Pak borders in Gujarat and Rajasthan have increased in the recent past;

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

(c) the details of arms, explosives, drugs, narcotics, gold and silver seized on these borders during the current year so far;

(d) the number of persons arrested in this connection and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps being taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scindia Steam Navigation company

2596. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd. has closed down its Calcutta Office from February 1, 1993; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) : SCICI Ltd. has reported that M/s.

Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. (SSNCL) closed down its Calcutta office with effect from April 1, 1993 by giving a 60 days notice to the Government of West Bengal and one month notice to the affected workmen under Section-25 FF of the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947. Since there was no work for employees they were asked not to attend office from February 1, 1993.

(b) The main reasons given by SSNCL for closing down its Calcutta Office are as under:-

(i) Dwindling number of vessels calling at Calcutta Port had made Company's Calcutta office redundant.

(ii) Collapse of the Company's Black sea Liner services, the mainstay of the company, putting a severe strain on Company's finance.

(iii) Drastic reduction in fleet strength, from 47 ships in 1979 to 13 1992, had rendered the Company's workforce surplus and non-commensurate with the substantially reduced level of operations.

Import Licence to MELTRON

2597. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued import licence to Meltron to import multi voice channel logging recorders;

(b) if so, the amount of foreign exchange involved therein;

(c) whether before granting the licence, the government have verified placement orders by the users of MVCRLS; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No such import licence has been issued to Meltron under the current Export & Import policy, 1992-97 effective from 1.4.1992.

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

11.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till twelve of the clock

11.00 hrs

Lok Sabha reassembled at Twelve of the clock

(MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*)

CLARIFICATION SOUGHT BY HON. MEMBERS ON THE STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER OF COMMERCE RE: URUGUAY ROUND OF TALKS.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Dunkel proposals were discussed in this House for eleven hours. Nation-wide concern is being expressed regarding Dunkel proposals, considered to be against India's interests. The Government had given assurance in this House that the

feeling of the House would be kept in view; anything which was not in the nation's interest would not be accepted and attempt would be made to obtain as much concessions as possible. It was also thought that talks would also be held with the opposition parties and the expert groups working in this field. It is unfortunate that India signed the Dunkel proposals without having it improved and without getting any concessions. Earlier, it was approved by the Cabinet and you are aware of the situation created there after in the House. Yesterday the Commerce Minister from which two things were revealed. First, the Government have shown its helplessness. Either we would accept GATT or remain outside it. Whatever concessions were thought to have been obtained, were not achieved. Through you I want to seek clarification from the Government on few points.

Firstly, we want to know clearly from the Government the quantum benefit that the GATT proposals approved by the Indian representative on Government's recommendations would fetch us. We want to know explicitly in which area we would benefit and the extent thereof. In what way, our trade will increase and other areas will show some progress. The Government should clearly explain the extent of increase in the field of agriculture, textiles, machinery and services.

Secondly, whole nation including the rural areas are concerned on account of seeds. Regarding that we were given two points in GATT. Either we accept the patents or the sui generis system. We have accepted the sui generis system, and the Government has claimed that the rights of the farmers to retain seeds and their transaction have been

safeguarded. But they have clearly stated that there would be no right to sell the seeds. That is to say the farmers would have no right to multiplication of seeds, and whatever little rights that the framers are said to enjoy from which document of GATT is it derived? Regarding the assurance given to us in the field of seeds, I would like to borrow as to where is it mentioned in GATT agreement. We do not want to keep the people in dark regarding this. Any relief available under the Sui generis system is related to plant breeders' rights, which would be given by the multinational companies. Therefore, we want to know this thing clearly from the Government.

Thirdly, back loading period, in the field of textiles was ten years. This is included in the GATT agreement. Multi-fibre arrangement is there which means the quota system would continue for ten years. It was said that attempts would be made to achieve an improvement, but 10 year period has not been changed. They said America tried to extend the 10 year period to 15 years, but we remained to keep it upto 10 years. We are discussing Dunkel Proposals. Through you, I would therefor like to know from the Government clearly the provisions under which we are to get relief. Lastly, I would like to know thorough you whether we should remain to GATT or withdraw from it. The question is of bringing the ideology to the notice of the entire country. If we benefit by remaining in GATT, then we should do so. But GATT is going to affect our sovereignty because after approving it, we would have to bring changes in our laws; specially due to TRIP, Intellectual, Property Rights, we would have to amend our patent laws immediately.

It has been said that by remaining in GATT we get the, most favored nation' sta-

tus. it has also been said that due to GATT we will have security. But my submission is that on the one have we would have to change our existing laws, on the other hand America will note be needing changes in any laws. 'Special 301' will remain as it is. Therefore, through you I would like to know clearly from the Government as to what benefits we will have from GATT, in which field and in what manner we would be benefitted?

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADRESESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Through you I would like to seek some clarifications.

MR. SPEAKER: We have discussed this matter for eleven hours. May I request you to please be very brief?

SHRI SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE: I have to just seek clarifications on three points Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Please first hear me. You have made your contribution. I think all of you had enough time to speak. Now please put questions, so that you get clear answers.

SHRI SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE: I will not explain things, but I will put points straight away.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) . May I seek a clarification? We are very happy that we are able to now put some questions to get clarifications. This is not an ordinary routine matter. Everybody understands it. The country wants to know it. We find many ordinarily knowledgeable people also do not appreciate what are the ramifications of this agreement. Because these are

of a complex nature. Therefore when there are doubts and people are asking us questions - I must confess I am no expert economist at all - I cannot answer them because I do not have clear myself. I can tell you, people in important positions also do not know the exact scope and the ambit of what has been agreed to. We want to put specific questions; but there should be answers. The earlier discussion is of no effect because at that time we did not know many things.

MR. SPEAKER : You were not here in the morning. We has said that we will start the discussion at 12 noon and continue for two hours. Two hours should be more than sufficient.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I may not be so articulate to meet the Commerce Minister's knowledge about these aspects. But we will try to put it.

SHRI SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE: I will only put some points for clarification Sir. Firstly, the hon. Commerce Minister was telling that we have freedom to evolve our own sui generis system. Earlier the note from the Commerce Minister has stated that though Dunkel Draft does not specify any particular model of sui generis system, it has to be understood that it has to conform to the UPOV Convention, an international convention which has met to protect the plant breeders' rights. So I want to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the sui generis system which the Government wants to bring forward will have a completely independent nature or they will conform to UPOV Convention; if so, whether it will conform to UPOV 1978 Convention decisions or 1991 Convention decisions. If the Government evolves a sui generis system in tune with the

1978 UPOV decisions, my information is that those decisions will be valid up to 1995 after which those will not be valid and the decisions of 1991 will come into effect. So we want this very important point to be clearly clarified.

The second point is, the sale from farmer, from a farmer of this village to a farmer of the neighboring village is the life line of Indian agriculture through which 60 per cent of the seed requirements of farmers are being met. I would like to know whether this particular right will continue in further or not, whether the Government has placed any particular text of its own thinking that this is our sui generis way in which we are going to protect plant breeders' rights and whether the Government has placed in before the GATT negotiations table. If so, let the Government take the MPs into confidence and place it here.

Regarding the market access it is the IMF which has to decide as to whether this country is having any difficulty in the balance of payment position or not and whether the per capita income of this country is below 1,000 dollars or not. The frequent statements by the Hon. Finance Minister say that we have come out of a very grave financial difficulty and we are having a satisfactory foreign exchange reserve May I know whether this will amount to overcoming the balance of payment positions? (*Interruptions*) I am only making point, Sir, I am not making any speech.

Sir, earlier also I have brought it your notice that on 5.6.93, a new report appeared saying that the IMF has evolved the per capita income of India to be 1255 dollars, taking into account the people's purchasing

capacity. It is the IMF which will be deciding this particular aspect. May I know whether our Government has sought any clarification from the IMF as to how it has arrived at that figure?

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: As per our Government's statistics, our per capita income is only around 330 dollars. So, I want a clear clarification from the hon. Minister

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Surya Narayan Yadav.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I am concluding, Sir. I would not make a speech. May I know whether the Government has sought a clear clarification from the IMF in this regard?

Finally, I would like to know only one thing. The Government is telling that we need not have our commitment in regard to reduction of subsidies. Okay, we accept it. Why then the Government and particularly the Hon. Finance Minister is telling day in and day out that this Government is determined to do away with the subsidies?

MR. SPEAKER: We are not discussing the entire gamut of financial and economic aspect now. Shri Surya Narayan Yadav. I am not allowing these kinds of things.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr Speaker, Sir, I am also a Member of the Standing Committee and the

committee, which has been constitute by the entire House, has the representatives of all the political parties and we have unanimously decided that we will not participate in this agreement.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : No let us be very clear. This is misinforming the House. The report says something different. The report says that we should.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Sir, it has already been laid in Rajya Sabha (Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: The copy is with me.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Sir I withdraw my words.

Statement of the Government and indications given by GATT have caused confusion all over the country. Has the Government got facts and figures regarding advantages and disadvantages the country is going to get from GATT? The Government should also State the probable percentage of gains and losses that will accrue to the farmers and the industrialists? None will tolerate ruining of cultural heritage which is being done by the Government in the name of financial crisis. During elections, the Hon. Prime Minister had announced not only once but thousand times that no agreement detri-

mental to the interests of the country will be signed. Therefore, now I would like to know from the Hon. Prime Minister about the percentage of gains and losses that will accrue to the country by signing this Treaty?

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARIYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, I will keep myself confined to the responses to the statements made by the Hon. Commerce Minister. The first question that I would like to ask or the clarification that I would like to seek is regarding the question of the changes that will have to be made in the laws of the country following the signing of the Dunkel Draft. I want to know exactly what land laws, what labour laws will have to be changed.

Apart from the patent Act, that will have to be changed to consequence of the signing of this treaty.

In the statement of the Commerce Minister, it has been said that India's aggregate subsidy works out to a substantial negative figure thereby providing a very large scope for further augmentation of agricultural subsidies. If Government were to choose to raise the subsidies from the current levels, I feel that this is a very misleading statement because the GATT Treaty specifies that the Government, which is subsidising below the minimum level, connote increase the subsidy offered.

I think, this is an extremely misleading statement that has been made by the Minister. It should be clarified.

Then, it has been said that the reduction

in export subsidies in agriculture by developed countries will make Indian agricultural exports more competitive in world markets. I would like to know in the face of the facts that the Indian Government subsidises exports at a very low rate and there are other developed countries which subsidise exports at a very high rate, so even if the level of their subsidy is reduced, to what extent would it be of benefit to us?

In the statement regarding patents, he has said

"A country like ours which does not presently recognise the product patents in the field of drugs, food products and chemicals, has been allowed a transition period of 10 years for establishing a product patent regime for such items."

He has conveniently forgotten that there is a clause for pipeline protection which, in fact, was one of the negotiating points with India. Unless this pipeline protection clause is removed, then, this ten-year leave is of no use at all to us. So, I would like to have a clarification that.

It has been said about compulsory licensing that the Government would be able to undertake licensing for non-commercial public use as well as to prevent situations of either inadequate availability or exorbitant pricing. I would like to know what exactly has been said in the Dunkel Draft Text regarding compulsory licensing. Is it not true that compulsory licensing is going to be allowed only under very stringent circumstances and only with the permission of the patent-holder? The permission of the patent-holder absolutely necessary for compulsory licensing.

There is one more point (*Interruptions*). [Translation]

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Sir.

MR SPEAKER: Many hon. members would like to speak on this issue.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV I would like to submit that on this issue many hon. members.

MR SPEAKER: Mr. Minister has already made the Statement.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Please listen to me. I would like to submit that it is a very serious issue. Therefore, how can the hon. members ask all the questions in such a hurry.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we will raise our hands on this issue.

[English]

We want questions to be answered. (*Interruptions*) The questions raised by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya are very very important. You cannot deny that.

MR SPEAKER: Questions are important. (*Interruptions*) You need not read the statement made by the Minister.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is the statement? (*Interruptions*) The statement is a useless statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr Speaker, Sir, please don't make so haste on this issue.

MR SPEAKER: Mr Sharad Yadav, I am going to give you time. Time will be given. There is no need to read out the written text.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Kindly see that every question that Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya has put is most important. (*Interruptions*) You tell me which one is an unimportant question?

MR. SPEAKER: It is important. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: She is being into She is being interrupted. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER: You need not read out the statement. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER: Ask the question.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: This is regarding something which has not been mentioned in the statement at all. It is a question which I had raised earlier also. This is about Article 18 in part (iv) of the Original GATT Treaty.

It gives some protection to developing countries like ourselves. I would like to know the status of Article 18 exactly. It must be stated here as to what status that Article would have under the present treaty. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Speaker Sir, as you have taken 11 hours discussion on has already taken place on this issue, I would like to seek only a small clarification from the Government on one point only because the framers throughout the country are anxious on this issue. I believe that there has been discussion on elimination of agricultural subsidy and at the same time there has been great apprehension about.....

[*English*]

There will be a possible break-down of the PDS.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Minister has already given reply on this issue when you were not present here.

[*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER : He has replied on this 3 or 4 times.

[*English*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Dunkel allows upto 10 percent subsidy on agriculture. But there is three per cent negative subsidy. Will the Government, after the signing of this agreement, be able to give 10 per cent subsidy to the framers of our country? I would like to know this from the hon. Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main objective of this multipurpose trade agreement is to allow

affluent nations of the world to control Indian consumers market.

Yesterday, the hon. Minister of COMMERCE stated that export of India will go up by \$200 crore. I would like to know the name of consumer commodities exempted from custom and excise duties to affluent nations, coming to control the Indian market. What will be the impact of these exemptions on the resources of India and to what extent the import bill will go up in comparison to our export bill, which will definitely disturb directly the position of the Balance of Payment of India?

Anti-dumping laws, which are already in force, especially in regard to steel and fertilizers, are directly going to the affected adversely. I would like to know as to what extent India has made compromise in this regard?

Thirdly, U.S.A. has asserted that under Super 301 India has not amended its Patent laws in conformity with the laws in force in America. I believe that's why in October, USA, as a sort of sanctions against India, enhanced 15 per cent duty on the articles imported by America from India. Under the circumstances prevailing today, I would like to know what would be the fate of Indian articles after the efforts made by U.S. A. by imposing increased custom duties as a form of sanctions against India under Supre 301?

Newspapers are reporting that scientists of Agricultural Research Centre of Banglore after relinquishing the centre are joining multinational companies at higher salaries and thus they are gradually being tempted towards Multinational Companies. This will directly affect adversely the Agricultural Research Centre. I would like to know, what Government propose to do to

check exodus of the scientists?

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : All along the period of negotiations, this Parliament has been kept in the dark. Although outside, experts, former diplomats and many others have been expressing their serious reservations and presenting their viewpoints in the interest of the country, this august House has either been misinformed or disinformed. It was nothing short of withholding information from the House. I may mention the latest attempt of misinformation. When the hon. Commerce Minister initiated the discussion, he said that there is a misapprehension....

MR SPEAKER : Please seek clarifications.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am coming to it Sir, You yourself asked this question then. THE COMMERCE MINISTER stated that there was a misapprehension that everything was going to be concluded by 15 December and that that was not correct. This is what he said at that time. So far as we understand, now it is already closed. I charge this Government and my charge is that the Commerce Minister has deliberately misled the House. There is no scope at all for improvements or changes. (Interruptions).

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Then again, this House has been taken for a ride. In the background paper itself, it has been stated that it is not the time to take a final view and that they are seeking changes, improvements and understanding. In spite of the fact that the hon. Member had given their valued viewpoints and alternatives, the Government remained unresponsive.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your

question. I am allowing only clarification. This is becoming a speech!

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am seeking clarifications only Sir. On the seeds issue, I myself had posed a question as to whether the Indian framers would have the right to market and sell. This question was deliberately avoided.

MR SPEAKER : That question has already been asked by others. Please come to the next question.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : But it has not been answered. I am coming to other points in respect of textiles, it is very disappointing to note that because of the pressure of the United States, India has agreed to open up its markets for synthetic textiles of the United States of America and we have also agreed to cut down the import duties to the level of 90 per cent. With these imports, our textile industry is going to be in doldrums.

I am again coming to the question of American laws. The United States said that they were satisfied that the new agencies would not have power to overcome the US trade laws. They have institutionalized their right to cross-retaliate as per the provisions of super clauses. The American Government has stated that the new agency would have no right....

MR. SPEAKER : Others also want to seek clarifications. Please be very brief.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Let them clarify about the market access, about seeds, about pipeline protection about import as substitution by local manufacturers and so on. All these questions have been avoided by hon. Commerce Minister. The sovereignty of this country is being compromised and the

House is kept in the cark. Let them clarify.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Alleppey) : Sir, it is assumed that in the Services Sector, India is going to gain a lot. We have an abundant source of skilled persons who can move out and render their services. I have been told that in the final agreement, there were a lot of changes and access to banking, insurance and telecommunication sectors was given a go by the developed countries. I would like to know the current position in respect of services sector.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : I am a bit nervous as to what you are going to legitimately allow as a clarificatory question.

MR. SPEAKER : A statement has been made by the Minister. If you have any doubts or if you have any other questions, you may ask.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Inevitably, when the debate took place, many Members raised certain points and questions which were very relevant and which, some of us feel, have not been adequately clarified in his statement. Inevitably, some of those points may have to be raised again. If you say that it is already debated, then I cannot do anything.

Sir, this overall multilateral agreement, as it is described in this Statement has been crystallized for adoption and ratification by the Governments of 117 countries. Is it possible for any country, outside this multilateral agreement, to carry on imposing unilateral sanctions or embargoes on any country or is that regime over now once this multilateral agreement has been reached?

Just now some apprehensions have been expressed about the things like Super

301. There are trade embargoes enforced in different parts of the world against certain countries which have been targeted for by the USA for trade embargo. I would like to know from the Minister whether this means - with the Uruguay round being completed now - that no country however powerful can continue to impose unilateral trade sanctions whether it is Super 301 or any other country. We cannot do anything outside this agreement but can USA do anything outside this agreement, we would like to know.

Secondly, Sir, while remaining within the GATT and without trying to get out of it, I would like to know whether this option of trying to work out some common strategy along with other developing countries was explored by the Government of India at all or not. Out of these 117 countries, I would like to know how many are classified as the developing countries and how many are developed countries. I think - it is not clarificatory, of course, I am making a charge - that the Government of India has broken ranks with the developing countries whereas they were expected to play a leading role.

Only last week the Prime Minister was host to Dr. Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Dr. Mahathir Mohammad of Malaysia. This had expressed certain views, which of course we have read in the Press, where they had very much emphasised the point that the countries of the South should try to get together in order to resist the kind of unfair pressure which is being sought to be brought on them by the richer and developed countries. They said these things, but we did not say anything. We are silent on this issue. I would like to know why we are silent? Is that option being closed deliberately by us? We do not want to go into that kind of thing. There is a distinguished Secretary of the South-South sitting here. Of course, nowadays he

is speaking about North - North, very different to what he used to say and write earlier on.

As regards the question of majority, I believe that the majority of the countries are developing countries. Why the Government of India has never explored the possibility of trying to bring them together to work out some kind of common strategy in their own interest?

I had raised a point in my submissions during the debate, but no reply has come. After hearing me on that day, Seaker, Sir, you asked the treasury benches to go into the Constitutional aspect of the points raised by me and to tell us their viewpoint. In the meantime certain petitions have been filed on this point in different High Courts of different States.

MR. SPEAKER. I said that everybody should study the Constitutional issue.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : it is a Constitutional right of the State or State Governments to deliberate upon the matters which come within their exclusive jurisdiction, matters which are reserved as State-subjects. The point was, when you are entering into an international treaty, whether you can - you being in the Union Government - try to ignore the rights of these States, not to consult with them or not to take their consent and trespass and transgress into an area which is exclusively reserved under the Constitution for the State Government. We are living in another federal structure. I would like to know whether the Government is trying consciously to upset this federal structure and provoke all kinds of opposition and trouble with the States.

We will be in great trouble. Mr. Jyoti Basu had asked a question and he had written a letter last year to the Prime Minister

saying that nothing should be finally agreed without consulting the State Government. But I am told and I want a clarification on this whether any reply was given to him or not and if not they not. It is a serious matter. Now the High Courts are looking into them. Let us see, what have to say on this.

Then, Sir, Mr. Chidambaram, here while speaking in the House, had quite obviously admitted that prices of drugs, pharmaceuticals and medicines are going to go up steeply. But he had also said that 40 per cent to 45 per cent increase is likely to take place. So, I would like to know from the Commerce Minister how we are going to protect the interests of the people in this country, if they are subjected to a regime in which they will have to pay very high prices for medicines, life-saving drugs and all that. Even at their present prices, most of the people in this country are not able to afford them. Is this to be taken as a gain, a gain that we are getting out of this agreement or is it a total loss? I want to know about this.

Then, Sir, I want to ask something about these seeds. I had raised it that day also. I am not talking about ordinary seeds which they say that the framers will have every right to go on. They can store them. They can exchange those seeds. They can use them after one crop and so on, but they cannot use them for any commercial purposes. They cannot sell them. But, what about the higher varieties of seeds which modern science is developing every day and which should be accessible to our framers also? Hybrid seeds, high-yielding seeds and other types of specialised seeds are not covered by this undertaking at all and they will have no access to these seeds. Those seeds will all be in the godowns of companies, multi-national corporations like Cargill and all that. We are supposed to fight them. How can our framers afford to buy from these companies.

those important varieties of seeds at exorbitant prices? They would not be able to do it. So, will we not suffer? Will our agriculture not suffer? I want to know what is the reply to that question.

Finally, of course, it is an admitted fact and as Mr. Chidambaram had described, it is a cruel and unequal world. He had said a very true thing. We know that the playing field is not level. We are operating on a playing field where the powerful nations, with their disposal, are in a position to invade our markets. They are wanting them because of their own recession. So, access to our markets will be made much easier under this agreement. For example, I want to know from him whether we are under any compulsion now not to increase our own export subsidies. Are we allowed to increase export subsidies or will they be prevented? Are we allowed to raise import tariffs, if in some particular commodity or line we find that entry of those goods into our country, under lower customs tariffs are likely to have a very deleterious effect on our own domestic industries? So, you finish off our own indigenous industries which had been built up over the years with so much sacrifice and suffering. Are we allowed to do it viz. those import tariffs cannot be raised at all? They must be allowed access to our markets. I only want to have some answers to these questions, if the hon. Minister would enlighten us. I have got no time to go through this statement, otherwise, I would show that in every paragraph, in their own diplomatic language, there are expressions of reservations, of apprehensions, of discontentments with things that they had to agree to. It is written here, of course, in a very polite language, but we know what it means. It means that the Government of India is well aware of the fact we are going to be at a great disadvantage and our economy is going to be opened up and mortgaged to these

developed countries and stronger countries.

Therefore, finally, I would like to know - now after the 15th of December and upto the next day, next year, April or January or sometimes they say another one year; I do not know - when the final signing has to be done by us? Whether within this period - even if it is not a multilateral negotiation, but dealing with our main trade partners; they have got certain trading partners in the world with whom we have most of our trade, unequal trade perhaps, just as the multi fibre agreement says. We have agreed to allow the import of industrial fabrics much more. What is the meaning of the industrial fabrics? Will you please clarify it? Does it not mean those fabrics made out of these artificial fibres, man-made fibre? (Interruptions) Obviously, that is what they are interested in flooding our market with; and, though this multi fibre agreement has given us that much relief that it will be phased out within ten years instead of 15 years, but the Government have agreed that within this period, the import of what they call industrial fabrics from these countries will be stepped up: it will be allowed to come in greater quantities. And what will be the impact of that on our textile industry?

Please clarify some of these questions.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : I want to know categorically a few clarifications. India is rich in three resources originally - forest resources, mineral resources and oceanic resources. In the Dunkel proposal, regarding these resources, what is the reflection of business? And how steps are being taken to protect biodiversity and mineral ores of our country properly and valued in the Dunkel proposal?

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I would like to have some clarifications from the hon. Minister of Commerce only on two points. Is

it a fact that India chose to keep a low profile in the second half of Uruguay-Round of Talks as reported in the press? A more active, high level, high level intervention by India could possibly have reaped more dividends. Is it true? Is it also true that we are unable to get more concessions on movement of skilled and unskilled labour and in the matter of trading cut through our exports and also in the quicker elimination of textile quota embargo? How would these affect the export of our traditional products like coir, which may even be included in the multi fibre and cashew, etc.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADEV: (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know as to who is to fix the support price of foodgrains of the farmers, and whether the Price Commission, set up by the Government is likely to be wound to whether the food grains will be sold at international prices or some other prices? Who is going to fix the price of the paddy which is produced by the small, medium and marginal farmers?

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any problem in the matter of fixing prices?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADEV: What policy has been adopted for fixing prices under this agreement? Is there any indication in this agreement to make the country self-reliant in this regard? The propaganda being made on Television is nothing but to ruin the ancient Indian culture. Indian rural and agricultural heritage is going to be certainly ruined what measures are going to be taken by the Government to protect the Indian Culture under this agreement? It is being said that the prices of life saving drugs or other ordinary drugs, being used but the poor are going to increase under this agreement, to by 40 to 50 percent.

Mr. Speaker: You may please mention the names of the medicines whose price are likely to increase and conclude.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : It is my last question. There is no doubt that the multinational companies are coming here for business purposes. They are coming here to raise international market for their products. Our own will be finished. I would like to know the indications given in this agreement to overcome the problem of unemployment.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : I have only one question to ask. Various concerns have been expressed, some of them are genuine and some of them are not. My only question is, as the concern has been expressed, if most of the conditions are disadvantageous to the country, the only option left out for this country is to opt out of the GATT Agreement. If that is so, what would be the impact and if we are to go in for bilateral agreement, how will it affect our interests?

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the general apprehension is that the Dunkel Package, as it is in the present form, is highly detrimental to the interest of our country in many areas. Government has to convince the Members, as to how the Dunkel Draft is not going to affect the interest of the country.

Nothing new has come out in the statement of the Commerce Minister which he made yesterday. He has talked about certain benefits from the expansion of the world trade through Uruguay Round Agreement. I do not say that India should remain out of GATT but my contention is that before signing the agreement, some modification must be made in the areas of

agriculture, textile and Intellectual Property Rights.

MR SPEAKER : Your written statement is very comprehensive and very good. I think it replies all questions you are putting in.

SHRI P.G. NARYANAN: Government has to take the Parliament into confidence and reveal as to what is happening actually. Till date it is not known whether India has approved this Draft or not.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Just one line preface first. It does seem that if the major group objects to any portion of the issues under the GATT then those subjects fall outside GATT as you have discovered. But it seems, if we object to it, it is the country which has to be out and not the subject. Under these circumstances, what is the mystifying is that there is scope for discussion; What is the mystifying date of 15th of December? That has a constraint that unless it is passed by 15th of December, unless the Agreement is initialled, certain dominating countries of the world will not be able to place it before their own representative Houses. If that be so, how is it claimed that there is still scope for further negotiations and further modifications, if these are to be placed before the Houses of those countries who are the major negotiators and have to be sanctioned, if they require six months' notice? I want clarification on that.

The second question that I want to ask is about the drug prices which I raised yesterday also. I want a categorical answer from the Hon. Minister What is his anticipation about the rise in the prices of drugs of the patented variety? Shri P. Chidambaram had mentioned that they would rise by about 45 per cent. But Press reports say that it will be more than two to three times. What is the estimate of the Government about this?

The third question which has come out is, that we are very keen in terms of GATT to have the Most Favoured Nations' treatment and it is also said from the United States which is a major partner, that there would be two sets of nations, one is of the Most Favoured Nations and another of the Most Most Favoured Nations. is it true and if that be so, how do we derive that kind of an advantage?

The hon. Minister is also the Deputy Chairman of the Planing Commission. Has there been any exercise which indicates - because of this free trade regime being introduced — what are the domestic industries which would be mauled and which would be wiped out? When the ho. Minister says that there are gains, what exactly does he mean by 'gains' and if there are gains in those terms what would be the quantum of losses in the economy?

The next question is what Shri Indrajit Gupta also mentioned.

MR SPEAKER: You need not mention it again.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am illustrating it. Despite the existence of an embargo of the United Nations the United States continued with its embargo on Cuba.

MR. SPEAKER : That question had been asked by more than one Member.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The United States continued with its embargo on Cuba despite a unanimous condemnation in the United Nations and the question is despite the Multi-Trade organisation what are the instruments which will prevent them from imposing sanctions.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): My first clarification is with regard to process of negotiations. I am certain that at various stages of the talks the Government of India must have suggested some amendments or some alterations in the Draft. I would like to know from the hon. Minister exactly what drafts what alterations, formulations and amendments were submitted by us.

MR SPEAKER: He had explained them in his reply.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He has not. That has not been touched.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: We would like to know exactly what we had asked for and what we got. Have we got nothing? If we got something left him tell us precisely with to each amendment, alteration presented by us as to whether it was accepted or not.

Secondly, we had a forum for economic negotiations the Group-77. I would like to know whether during the last one year the authority of that Groups-77 was at all invoked by the Government at any stage.

My third question is about exports. The hon. Minister has suggested here a figure of US \$ 1.5 to 2 billions annually in addition to the normal growth as the possible increase in our exports. We would like to know from the hon. Minister the basis on which he has arrived at these figures, sector-wise and market-wise because we want to understand where does the potential for growth lie in terms of this GATT Agreement.

My final question is, has the hon. Minister done this exercise that supposing we opt out of the GATT what is the quantum of loss that we would suffer in terms of our exports?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the reference to the market areas in the field of textiles, cast some sort of mandatory obligations on the country to make some imports. Secondly, I want to know whether it is a fact that a very powerful multinational firm in the United States has accused President Clinton of selling out of the American interests in the field of textiles which would ultimately gain some supremacy for our country?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it was made clear in the Background Paper prepared by the Commerce Ministry itself and - I am quoting from it:

" India is seeking improvements, changes and understandings in certain areas and the final view will require to be taken on the results of the negotiations at the conclusion of the Uruguay Round."

This was the solemn statement submitted before the House also, Now, I would like to know whether you have got any improvement, any change for the better in our favour or any understanding in our favour since the preparation of this Background Paper. And if so, which are those improvements, changes and understandings in our favour? On is it that in spite of no benefits, changes or improvements being obtained we have signed because it seems to be the impression I get from the statement of the hon. Ministry, it could have been worse and, therefore, we have no alternative but to sign although all our efforts to seek changes have failed. I would like to know those areas in which you have asked for it.

Sir, other things have already been touched, I would like to know only one thing on the increase in export of 1.5 or 2 billion

dollars, as mentioned by you. I am not repeating the question. I would like to know what would be the increase in imports as a result of the globalisation and as a result of this agreement. Further, I would like to know whether it is a general agreement now and what will be the ultimate position.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr Speaker, Sir, you said that discussion on this subject had been going for the last 11 hours and no further discussion would be allowed. But it has remained under discussion in various countries for eight years and this agreements the result of their discussion to which our country is also a signatory. I think time of 11 hrs is not sufficient for such an impression issue because more and more questions are being raised everyday in this regard. Therefore, I would like to give you some suggestions. But before that, I would like to seek some clarifications regarding the statement of the Hon Minister

MR. SPEAKER. Sir, the Hon Minister made a statement yesterday; you may also have a copy of it in your hand. Page 4 of it is worth mentioning. The very first sentence of it exposes the Government to such an extent that in my view they should resign immediately on moral grounds; They say :-

[*English*]

"As regards the agreement on Trade Related Investment Measures, the position is that the Government retains its sovereign right to decide what type of foreign investment it wishes to allow into the country".

The Government retains its sovereign right. That means in other places you have

surrendered your sovereign right.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER, Sir, it is a very serious matter.

[*English*]

Sir, I am not indulging in semantics. To me, this betrays the whole exercise that has been done and the whole sell out of the country has occurred. This betrays- you call it a Freudian slip or you call it by any other name. The Government retains its sovereign right.

[*Translation*]

And what is that retention. For a minute, we may suppose that the sovereign right has been retained here. Please read the next sentence.

[*English*]

"Condition can also be imposed regarding fulfilment of export obligations to balance the outgo and inflow of foreign exchange by such ventures". That is to say, what type of foreign investment is to come. The next sentence is, I quote:

"The only requirement under the agreement is that once a unit has been allowed to come into the country it will be treated at par with other indigenous units in terms of regulations and policies".

[*Transaation*]

Everything is over. Nothing is left. Which companies are going to come has become clear. Nunz will come, Super Market area hss come who are selling potatoes, onions

and bananas etc of our own country.

[*English*]

13. 00 hrs.

Companies like Kentki Chicken and MacDonald are coming. Pepsi Cola Company has already arrived with hundred percent equity. Sauce and papad producing companies are also coming. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not joking. I am speaking seriously. We take many things lightly in this House. There is no area of take many things lightly in this House. There is no area of business likely to remain unencroached by foreign companies. I am happy that for the first time the hon Minister thought over it and made a statement. I do not know; there may be some officer in the Ministry who is against all these things and he might have been instrumental in presenting the real picture before the parliament and the country while writing a statement in this regard. Though I am not certain about it, but such things do happen at times.

MR. SPEAKER Sir, the situation has reached a point where our sovereignty has almost been surrendered I would therefore, like to know the correct position

[*English*]

AN HON MINISTER : Ask the question also.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Question is the sovereignty of the country.

[*Translation*]

Through you, would like to ask some concrete questions from the Hon Minister While the Hon Minister was making his statement he said in the first paragraph that the present system.

"Such a system confers the benefits of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Treatment to all members."

[*Translation*]

If all the member countries meted out the most favoured treatment, then I fail to understand as to what is special for you.

[*English*]

We are being pushed into a new regime. The Government is literally acting as a part of this whole international establishment.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : For that ,you will have to have a very theoretical approach of thought as to what is the most favoured nation.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Yes, we will have to have that approach.

MR SPEAKER : We are aware of some basic things about that and we have to base our discussion thereon.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I do accept it. What I mean to ask is what special is likely to be achieved if our country joins hand with 117 nations.

Now I would like to raise the next point which I had raised the day before yesterday also during the course of discussion and which was not replied to by the Home Minister. He, however, did mention that our trade would rise up from 1.5 billion dollars to 2.00 billion dollars and moreover he also expressed the hope that our export would increase. I would like to know the source from where he obtained such data. Is his

data based on the information laid down in 40 page pamphlet of O.E. C. D. ? I am seeing that the newspapers of India have also been presenting such things through their leading articles and the Government is also making similar statements, but the home Minister has not replied as to what is the source of the data presented by him. Has this data been received from GATT? In which particular document is that mentioned? Do you have the break up in that regard as to which particular trade is going to increase and to what extent? The Government have to its credit sustained efforts of 8 years. Can the Government state on the basis of its efforts of 8 years as to how did it present the data of 270 billion dollar. According to what is said to be the O.E.C.D. document the amount is likely to reach the figure 2 thousand billions after 10 years hence. It has also been mentioned in the document that the same has been prepared for the purpose of holding internal discussion. That should not be taken seriously. Then, from which source have the Government obtained that data? What is its basis?

MR SPEAKER, Sir, I am not going into details. When a few colleagues of ours were asking about P. D. S., they were not given proper reply. The Government have suffered a loss of 25 per cent in P.D. S. last year.

MR SPEAKER: I would repeat that he has said in his reply that it is not applicable for P. S. S. or for distribution. It is applicable on production.

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is already getting dismantled.

MR SPEAKER: That is altogether a different thing.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: What is left then?

MR. SPEAKER: Will that agreement have some impact thereon or not? That is the question.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It will have no impact.

MR. SPEAKER: He said that it is not applicable to distribution. It is applicable to production.

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Under the IMF conditionalities, you have already started dismantling the PDS.

[Translation]

This is my allegation. I would also like to know about textiles. There was some scope in textile sector, but this Government could not do anything. Not only that, we have also just received the report of the Parliamentary Committee. It has been stated therein that during the evidence it was revealed that none of the measures taken by the Government could succeed. You have said in your statement that some countries tried to put pressure on us by saying that textile market would be a very difficult market for us. The argument that unless our country opens textile market for those countries, there would be no change in their policy. I would like to submit that textile producers themselves are Americans. They are going to import cloths after exporting their manufactured goods to Latin America under NAFTA. They are the members of the European Community.

They want to sell the products of their mills in Hongkong, Singapore and in poor countries of the third world. Now, how can India be kept away from that trap ?

It is said that situation will totally change within 10 years but many of us, sitting here will not be alive by then.

SHRI VILAS MÜTTEMWAR (Chimur) :
May you live long.

Shri George Fernandes : All right, you good wishes many help me to live long. I would like to know the reason as to why the Government did not do anything in regard to generating employment opportunities in those areas where was possible. The hon. Prime Minister is present here. Weavers in his constituency are committing suicide. I would give him their names.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Here you are not supposed to deliver speech.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will you not consider even this point ?

The matter belongs to the area which provides the largest number of employment opportunities in the country. Shri Venkat Swami is sitting here. He is working hard, but his labour is not being acknowledged since his views do not fit in with the new industrial policy of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : You are supposed to ask questions only.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I would like to assert that the textile policy of the Government is a total failure. I ask whether the Government would think over a measure to bring the country out of that situation or are

we to follow the path dictated by Americans.

Now, I would like to know about 1 or 2 rights of the hon. Minister. Southerland is a prominent name in GATTA Next important. Persons is Mr. Anwarul Hoda whose interview has been published in The Business Today in the edition of 7 to 21 December.

[English]

The question put to him was :

"If the Uruguay Round does not conclude on time what will be its impact on the world economy?"

Mr. Minister, I would want you honest response to the reply which Mr. Hoda has given. His reply was :

"The the world will lose an important opportunity to strengthen and liberalise the trading system. This will affect the world economy in four major ways.

One-the industrialised West, especially the U.S. and the European Community, will find it difficult to climb out of its recession.

Two-East European economies will face hurdles in their reforms programme.

Thre he trend in favour of creating regional trading blocks like the North American free trade zone and the E.C. will strengthen. And

Four-the trend towards protectionism will grow.

[Translation]

Please tell me do you agree with this thought ? What benefit and loss we will have from this ?

This is the Report of the Parliamentary Committee. It contains not only the conclusions of the committee Members but also has several view point given demand evidence. If a reply is not given in this regard in the House today, it may cause great harm.

MR. SPEAKER: Instead of asking about evidence, please ask about the conclusions.

[English]

You are asking opinion on opinion. Let us come to the conclusion.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, Sir. Now, I come to the conclusions. I quote from paragraph 116. It says:

"The Committee is of the view that the Dunkel proposals would discriminate against Indian agriculture. The subsidies have to be limited to an upper bound of 10 per cent of the value of the output for developing countries. This may have grave implications for the poor resource farmers, because with increasing cost of energy and other inputs the sectorwise subsidy may exceed this limit."

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Now, the sectorwise subsidy has been dropped.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We want a clarification because this report was submitted to the House three days ago...*(Interruptions)***

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All these things are not going on record.

(Interruption)...

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, now I read paragraph 119 of the report.

[Translation]

The next conclusion of the Committee is very complicated. The Finance Minister has come in time.

[English]

"The Committee is of the opinion that the issue of applicability of the provisions regarding minimum access for imports to India is not very clear. While the Commerce Ministry claim that India is in balance of payments crisis which it will continue to have in the near future, the Finance Ministry has been claiming that the crisis on the balance of payments front is a thing of the past, If the view of the Finance Ministry are to hold, India will have to import the minimum volume of imports that the Dunkel proposals stipulate."

[Translation]

What is your opinion in this regard? We are aware of their opinion, but what is the opinion of the Ministry of commerce?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fernandes, according to Shakespeare, "Brevity is the soul of wit." So, please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: If we do not ask for a reply today, when else will we do so?

[English]

I will now read paragraph 240 of the report. It says:

"The Committee is of the opinion that the integrated dispute settlement mechanism as provided for in the MTO is heavily loaded against developing countries like India. They can easily be subjected to cross-retaliation, despite the safeguards that the Dunkel Text provides. The Committee, therefore, is of the view that such provisions which will have far reaching implications should be accepted."

[*Translation*]

This is the opinion of the Parliament.

[*English*]

In paragraph 241 it says :

"The Committee is of the further opinion that in the existing scheme of Dunkel proposals regarding cross-retaliation, the developing countries like India have no means to retaliate against the developed countries. Further, the provisions regarding compulsory arbitration and the arbitrator's award need to be defined in unambiguous terms."

[*Translation*]

What you have to say in this regard ?

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to give some suggestions before concluding my speech. A Ministerial level meeting is yet to be held regarding GATT. But we oppose it, because we hold a firm opinion that we should not sign the GATT agreement and should remain outside it. While expressing this opinion, I am giving my suggestions.

1. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has just said that several amendments have been made in the final draft of the Act of 20.12.1991 will day before yesterday. If it is true then I would not like to ask questions, but to give

suggestion.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : There will be reply also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I want that the final draft of the Act alongwith all the amendments should immediately be Caid in the House.

2. We should be given the opportunity to go through all the appendices, which are in small print and contain thousands of pages.

3. The Government should make a statement in regard to the areas where we are getting benefits and the areas where we are at a loss due to this agreement.

4. The hon. Minister should also give an official statement regarding its effect on the prices of drugs and medicines.

5. It should also be stated as to which are the areas where 200 billion dollars will be earned, which is being repeatedly said here and which areas will involve imports. This issue was raised here by Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

6. The Parliament is going to adjourn on 24th. I would suggest that all the documents should be laid before the Parliament and in the month of January, special meeting can be held for two, three or more, days if necessary, for holding discussion on the Dunkel proposals only. So, a special sitting of the House can be called for, so that this House and this country can give its firm opinion before the ministerial level meeting is held.

7. The hon. Prime Minister is sitting

here. He told about G-77 and NAM 259 countries of the world are today members of United Nations and out of them, 117 nations are involved with GATT. Bicalateral talks can be held with the rest of the countries, who are not in GATT and our views can be presented to them. The Government should, therefore, immediately call a meeting of these countries in Delhi or at any place, and bear the needed expenditure, but a firm view should be placed before the world. It is the responsibility of our country to lead all those nations, which require leadership today, and it should accept that responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are my 7 suggestions.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the 18th and 19th century, the developed countries of Europe and America used to exploit the underdeveloped countries with their gunboat diplomacy and used to rule them. The same is being done today by GATT, World Bank and IMF. It is not known why our country has become so helpless that even the meeting of G-77 has not taken place since last year. The Government has not initiated any step to give lead in this regard.

Secondly, our friends have asked about its effect on drugs. What you have to say in this regard ? A doubt has been expressed regarding the life saving drugs, particularly for cancer, leprosy and AIDS. The patents for these drugs have not yet been prepared. These are in the pipe-line and are waiting for the GATT agreement. It is apprehended that when the patents will be implemented, these drugs will be so costly, that these will be beyond the reach of the commonman of the country. So, what the Government is going to do in this regard ?

I want to know particularly about one

thing. Shri Balram Jakhar is the Union Agriculture Minister and also a big farmer. He had made promises that the agriculture would be protected. I would like to know whether the farmers of our country can export their agricultural produce to America ? Whether they can export fruits such as Oranges, Malts, Grapes and Mangoes, which grow in you area also, to the countries of Europe and America ? They cannot do so. Will the Government take any initiative in this regard and whether this point will be discussed in the Ministerial level meeting ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhuani) : I too would like to speak on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhogendra Jha ji, I am repeating that whenever debates is any going to conclude, you start you speech. A senior Member like you should help me but you always create difficulties for me. Now it is difficult to give you an opportunity to speak, but not allow you is also difficult. Therefore, I am giving you an opportunity to speak. Secondly, if any minister speaks here, he speaks as a representative of the Government and if the Prime Minister wants to interview on a particular point he condo it, whenever he so desires. But if you want a reply in detail and on technical matters then Shri Pranab Mukherjee would reply.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while discussing this agreement, whether this fact has been kept in view not that the three fourth of the farmers of this country are small and marginal farmers and those who are big farmers.. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : All are aware of these statistics.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am coming to the point. Our biggest farmer is the smallest

as compared to that of North-America and Europe. So he cannot continue farming without subsidy, seeds and electricity. I would like to know whether this fact has been kept in mind that if they are unable to compete then they would be rendered unemployed after selling their land and the agriculture of the country that we have achieved by implementing land-celling Act will be ruined. Secondly, we have a patent law. I would not like to go in details of the patent law. If the Parliament refuse to amend it, the Government cannot dare to do that. What would be its consequences? Do the Parliament and this country have this right? Would our Prime Minister like that the Parliamentary system should be a failure? ... (*Interruptions*).. There is no reference in the election manifest that Congress Government would sign the Dunkel Proposals... (*Interruptions*)... Is the Government ready for a new mandate? It is a question of our sovereignty as well as of economy. I would like to know whether the country is ready to face that situation? Again if there are any impurities in the seeds, who would have the powers to decide that, which authority will monitor the implementation of this agreement... (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prime Minister should intervene.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : You show me the rule under which the Prime Minister has to intervene. I will see it. If you are really serious about it, you will hear the hon. Minister. If you just say something, I am not accepting it. (*Interruptions*)...
[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Is the Prime Minister not going to speak on it should say something.

MR. SPEAKER. Mr. Nitish Kumar, Please sit down.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : I would like first to clarify some of the issues which have been raised by the hon. Members. Particularly one point was raised by Shri George Fernandes earlier also and I think I gave the reply and he should be satisfied. What is the basis of the calculation on which I am saying that about 1.5 to 2 billion dollars gain would be there.

It is not very difficult now-a-days to get the figures of the world-wide Wall Street, For example in 1992 the total world trade was 3,38,000 billion US dollars.

Now, if you just take into account that as a result of the reduction of rate of tariff which has been aimed at and attempted by these discussions, if you try to calculate it on the basis of one per cent increase, two per cent increase, three per cent increase—according to the UNCTAD study, the latest trend, the average annual growth is six to six-and-a-half per cent—from there, you get the figure. I need not go for any certified copy from anybody. This piece of information is available and on the basis of that, if we place our share of the overall world trade around one per cent, it may come to \$1.5 billions or it may come to \$2 billions. But that is not a very moot point in the debate. This is just a piece of information that I wanted to share with the hon. Members.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTICATTERJEE : Is there no sectoral allocation? (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to make one request. I have listened with patience to all the clarifications which the hon. Members wanted to seek. I will try to clarify it.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me stand up for a minute and say something. Well, I

congratulate the Members for the good speeches and the good questions they have asked. I would request you to patiently hear the reply.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I would like to cover each point. If there is any omission, let the hon. Members ask me. I have nothing to hide here because this is a matter with which all of us are concerned.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You cannot hide also !

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : But surely I can remove you misinformation. One point has been debated here repeatedly. The primary concern which was debated here on three matters, rather four matters, related to agriculture and our concept of food security. And the one point raised was whether our farmers would not get the support which they are getting from the Government today to carry on their agricultural programme as reflected in the subsidies which we are providing to them. What has been the improvement now ? The improvement has been—as a result of the negotiations—that earlier the 10 per cent was compartmentalised to product-specific and non-product specific. Now, it has been clubbed together. As a result of the clubbing together and the threshold level remaining at 20 per cent-10 plus 10—the scope of providing subsidies has increased substantially. Therefore, the question is whether the Government would be in a position to give this subsidy or not. It does not depend on what international obligations you are having. It depends on the capacity of the Government to give subsidy or not to give. If the Government has its capacity, it can give. To what extent can it give? The total subsidies which we gave in the base year of 1986-1989, taking the international price calculation into account, it is minus Rs. 19000 crores.

Therefore, one can easily imagine the scope if the Government has the capacity. But if the Government does not have the capacity, if the Government does not have the money, if it does not have the resources, then it cannot give subsidy from the Heaven. But nothing prevents in the agreement to give subsidies to the level which you want to give to support you agricultural programmes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : If the Finance Minister wants, he can give. But he does not want to. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : This is the information I have. I would like to clarify it. I will now come to the question of BoP. (*Interruption!*) Of course, the Finance Minister is present here. He can clarify. He can intervene at any point of time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He will nullify what you say !

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : What had he said? He said that we have improved the BoP situation. Surely, we have improved the BoP situation because today we are not to pledge our gold to get a few hundred million dollars. Surely, it is an improvement of the situation. But that does not mean that we have come out of the woods. Even if you take the trouble of reading the Eighth Plan Document where itself we have calculated and where we have pointed out that if we want to overcome the BoP crisis in future with which we were concerned so recently, our external support, as reflected in the Current Account deficit, should not go beyond 1.6 per cent of GDP—in absolute terms it is US \$22 billions at the price level of 1991-92. Now, assuming for the time being the country comes out of the BoP cover.

Then what would be the scenario and what would happen? Yes, we shall have to

give access to import. But what is the type-binding we are having? It is hundred per cent for cereals, 150 per cent for processed agricultural products and 300 per cent for edible oils. Do you not consider that this type of, this level of tariff protection is adequate to protect the interests of the Indian farmers? Who is going to make money by importing agricultural products by paying hundred per cent duties on cereals, 150 per cent duties on processed agricultural products and 300 per cent duties on edible oils? Where is he going to sell his products in the Indian market? So, how is it going to affect? So far as agricultural agreement is concerned, it will be operated for a period of seven years. The base year has already been fixed-1986-89. The level of subsidy which we have given there, which we have indicated and placed on the table of negotiation, is the final one in respect of us, in respect of any other country. Nobody can re-open it before this agreement comes to a conclusion after seven years. Assuming from the date of 1.1.95, the Dunkel, the Uruguay Round or the New GATT of 1993-let us talk in that term because Dunkel and Uruguay Round both have become obsolete and now it is New GAAT 1993-it comes to be operative after January 1995, then the agricultural agreement will be in operation up to 2000. You can re-open in 2001 in the sixth year depending on the condition prevailing at that point of time and every contracting party will re-negotiate. Therefore, we are not going to compromise on subsidy.

Why did the question of PDS come?

It came because of some language, some phrases in the text. And when this information was out, they accepted our view and necessary amendments have been brought in the text. Our public distribution system is not going to be affected.

Another point has been raised and I

was really amused to hear that. Yes, it is going to help these industrialised countries not to have recession and it is going to help us because if there is a recession in the industrialised countries, who is going to buy our goods? Where are you going to export? In heaven? It is the industrialised countries who have the capacity to buy. It is the industrialised countries' recession which put us on the map in the early eighties. That is why in the first three years of the Sixth Plan there was a steady export growth because there was tremendous recession in the industrialised countries. What is GATT? GATT since its inception, is meant for creating this liberal trade. If liberalism is a dirty word to use, do not go for GATT. GATT is basically meant for creating a liberalised trade atmosphere by reducing tariff by opening the market, by creating the level ground for all. Of course, the developed countries would have an advantage because they control it totally. We shall have to be realist.

Now coming to the third question and these are certain technical issues-I do not know whether I have replied to the hon. lady Member Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya about Article 18. Article 18 provides that some facilities in the developing countries will be in regard to qualitative restrictions or tariff restrictions in respect of import. And that facility is going to be continued in the GATT 1993. Therefore, it is not being withdrawn. So far as the GATT and it will phase out. The GATT 1993 will consist of the Agreements, which I referred to in this statement, I am not repeating that in the new organisation which is going to operate these agreements will be MTU. Therefore, article 18 which we are relating to because one should not look into my statement in isolation. It is in continuation of the reply to the debate and it is also in continuation to the overall developments which are taking place since the negotiation.

SHRIMATI

MALINI

BHATTACHARYA : Is India going to be regarded as one of the least developed countries? That is the difference which is going to be there.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Why should we be a least developed country? There are landlocked countries, small countries, tiny countries and each country have their own definition. Why should we like to be considered as a least developed country?

SHRI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : In that case, you would not have the facility. That is the point.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Otherwise, you do not get the benefit of article 18.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : There is no need for getting his benefit. The moot question was : whether or not India is going to get this benefit. You do not change your position. You can change it and I do not mind. You wanted to know, what would be the position of article 18, when the transition takes place. My reply to that is, article 18 is going to have a new form in the new GATT of 1993. And the reference, whether India will get this advantage or not, that is a different question. Why should we like to be treated as a least developed country after seven Five Year Plans? I do not like that.

SHRIMATI

MALINI

BHATTACHARYA : That is the point of the whole question.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : One hon. Member raised the question as to what type of benefit we have in Multi-Fibre Agreement (MFA). I will request, particularly, Shri George Fernandes to keep in view,

because he was the Industry Minister immediately after the Tokyo Round of discussions, the fact that for the last twenty years, we are trying that the MFA should go and textiles should be brought within the discipline of GATT. Is it a fact or not? If it is a fact, is it not an improvement that for the first time, after seven rounds of GATT discussions, at least, there is a definitive period that after ten years, it is going to be integrated? Even in Tokyo Round, the developed countries straightaway refused; even, till the last moment, there was a serious attempt to expand the transition period from ten to fifteen years. When negotiations were going on, there was tremendous pressure that bilaterally if we do not open up our market for their textile products, they are not going to allow us to have the concessions, the nominal growth, which are likely to emerge as a result of this integration, during the transition period.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You have opened the market for what they call as industrial fabrics.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I am coming to that. Yes, we have opened the market for industrial fabrics like bulletproof jackets which we do not manufacture; we have opened the market for those types of garments and industrial overhaul which we are not producing, which are being used by the Fire Brigade people and we are permitting certain specialised industrial overhauls. And this is not a new thing. Already, about \$ 1200 million worth of textile items come through various routes including the special Advance Licensing Mechanism route.

My colleague from the Ministry of Textiles' is also present here and as and when the situation demands, he will definitely share the information with you.

But, if I find that by opening up my market, to some extent, I will get a larger advantage by entering into their market, then, it is a question of judging and making a balance of advantages. So far as this issue is concerned, yes, we have agreed to reduce the tariff rates. Taking 1990 as the base year in agriculture, I have already indicated the tariff to you in certain other areas, we have reduced it. This is within the overall policy framework of us. The Chelliah Committee also had made this recommendation; various other Committees also have made recommendations.

Much has been said about the sovereignty. Why did this question of sovereignty come? I would not have liked to use that phrase at all. Day in and day out, it was pointed out that we are going to compromise our sovereign rights. All 117 countries, have they compromised their sovereign rights when they accepted this?

Mr. Speaker. Sir, you will appreciate the fact that even U.S.A. had to come back and concede certain things. What did they want? They wanted that semiconductors should not be within the discipline of the compulsory licensing. And when they had to concede on that, to the demand of the EEC, are they compromising their sovereign rights of when EEC countries are going to concede to the fact that they will have to reduce the support which they are giving to their Aviation industries, are they compromising their sovereign interests? In an international agreement, in certain areas you will have to give in and in certain areas, you will have to take in.

Sir, you will appreciate the fact that 450-page document is not available with us and we cannot go into each clause, each section and each schedule; and schedules will run into thousands of pages.

Therefore the total quantification of loss and gain will have to be made. Somebody has asked what has been the loss and what has been the gain. It is not a question that we are making some sort of arrangements on these issues quantifying them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
That is what you said.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Yes, gain is there if the international atmosphere is less protective, if the international trading arena is less protective.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
: How do we gain?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : We gain because we have the competitive advantage in certain areas.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
: It is the multinationals who gain always.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : We are gaining Mr. Chatterjee, if you are not blind to the development. Even in the last eight months our export has grown to the extent of 20 per cent in US dollar terms despite losing a very important market of erstwhile Soviet Russia, now CIS countries, which accounted for nearly 34 per cent of our exports. There has been a sharp decline to the extent of 62 per cent only in the year 1992-93. Despite that if we have a positive growth in the last eight months, this is an indication that we are also improving. But, nonetheless we did never claim that we are a major player: I did never say that I am a major player.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
: In a free trade only major players gain.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : My

point is, as I am not a major player my maneuverability to that extent is limited...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, I am a player, I am going to be a player.

Last time I concluded by saying that all of you endorsed the policies of the Government which we were pursuing till the other day and I have no doubt after six or seven years you are going to endorse the same policies. That Sir, is entirely evident as some of the hon. Members here speaking from that side were in the interregnum period in the Government and I did not find from the document anywhere that they had a different approach because these negotiations were going on from September 1986 till yesterday. I did not find anywhere that they had a totally different approach from what we are having. Let us not go to that aspect. I know that.

Now I come to the question of what type of sui generis protection we will have. Shri Rao has raised it and it is a very pertinent question whether it is UPOV 1978 or UPOV 1991. My submission is, we need not imitate any model because the provisions are given to us. This is an area where I would like to seek your guidance, where I would like to seek your cooperation. The Minister of Agriculture has appointed a small group to look into the frame of legislation which we shall have to enact where we can protect our farmers' interests.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : How ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I am seeking your suggestions. If you have anything, you come out. *(Interruption)*

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE : You cannot protect the farmers' interests.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Do

not get excited.

My limited point is that we will have to make a national legislation. We have got to do that. What have we tabled? The conditionalities which we have tabled there are that we are not going to accept the patenting of seeds. It is not acceptable to us - patenting of macro organisms in live forms and naturally occurring genes. The arrangement is that we shall have to give protection in some form. We shall have to provide for plant breeders' rights and if we want to provide that it will have to be provided in the national legislation. What would be the format of national legislation in which we can provide this protection would be worked and precisely for this purpose the Agriculture Minister has appointed a small group. If you have any suggestion, that according to you this is the way we can protect in the legislation our farmers' rights, you can give that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Within the terms of the GATT 1993.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I am talking of the GATT terms. I am not talking about anything else right now.

I have already touched the DoP cover. Now I come to the question of developing countries and the common strategy. It is known to you what common strategy we had and how one country after the other fell on the wayside. We had it with 37 countries, not one. They, under the leadership of the President of Argentina, wrote a letter to President Clinton, to the British Prime Minister, to the Japanese Prime Minister that we want successful conclusion.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Sir, it is all well-known. I do not think, we should mention names. The point is that the solidarity with which the

negotiations started did not last long enough to sustain our position because the conditions were different in different countries; I am not blaming any country. But, these facts are well-known; I do not think, we should mention names.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So, it is known. They wanted the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Talks on the basis of the Dunkel Text. Therefore, let us not go into the aspects of what G-77 did and what others did.

Secondly, it is an area where we shall have to keep in view certain conflicting interests which are there. Even in the area of textiles, some of the developing countries have higher quota. They find that if India does not get higher quota, it will be advantageous to them. They can take the raw materials from us, put their craftsmanship, add value to that; and on the basis of that, they can expand their exports. Here, everybody would like to go according to one's own national interest.

Now, if you want to come out of that system, who can prevent you from coming out of that system, if you want to choose it? So far as the old GATT was concerned, the notice for sixty days was required. But, so far as the new arrangement is concerned, if you decide not to go there, you can come out by giving a notice of six months. Nobody prevents you. But, what would be the great advantage you will have? Then, with whom will you have to deal? You have to deal with these mighty economic powers which account for 70 per cent of our external trade. (*Interruption*) Let us be very fair. They account for 70 per cent of our external trade. Now this question comes. If we cannot have favourable terms with them in the discussions under a multilateral umbrella, what is the guarantee that we will get concessions?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
Because we are in India.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So what? (*Interruptions*) So what? You will have to take into account... (*Interruptions*) Sir, most respectfully, I will submit. I am not talking of the size of the population, I am not talking of the largest democracy which we are having. I am talking of and we are discussing today about 'trade'. What is our total import? What is our total export? What is the share in the international trade? Last year, our exports accounted for 18 billion US dollars. Last year our import was 21 billion US dollars. So, total was, 18 plus 21, it is 39 billion dollars, of 3,38,00 billion dollars. So, what is the percentage?

We have not opened up. It is really the dichotomy under which we are suffering. If you open your economy, then you will have strength. You say, "Do not open the economy; keep it closed." At the same time, you are expecting that in the trade arena, you will play a major role! These two things cannot go side by side. (*Interruptions*) In regard to the investment, where is the question of compromising our sovereignty? (*Interruptions*) In regard to the investment, Sir, where is the scope of compromise? What we have said and what is the stated position is this, that every country like India will decide which foreign companies they will allow, which foreign investment they will allow and in which areas. Nobody asks us to open our door. Where you would open, to what extent you would open and where you would allow the foreign investment, etc. depend on us. When we passed the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1991 which got the endorsement of this House itself and when we opened 34 sectors for investment from abroad to the extent of 51 per cent equity participation, then, this Text was not finalised. At that time, '15th December 1993' was not

there. It was our own volition and it was our own decision that we would like to open these sectors for investment from abroad. What is now demanded is this. If you open one area, you cannot make discrimination. Most respectfully I would like to submit that we have never made any discrimination; rather, we have even favoured to some extent. In 1969 when we nationalised the commercial banks, we did not nationalise the foreign banks.

SHRINIRMAL KANTICATTERJEE

: And gave them special facilities?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : No. We did not give any special facilities nor you are going to give them any special facilities. India is known for non-discriminatory treatment to the investor. Yes, in certain areas, we were closed up to some point of time. Now, we are opening. But it is our own decision. If we do not want to open, there is no compulsion that we shall have to open it, particularly, in respect of the investment to the protection of the small-scale industry. There itself is a policy statement. We are not going to discuss the whole range of the economic policies within the purview of this debate. (*Interruptions*)

Coming to the drug prices, as I mentioned, 80 per cent of the drugs which are being used in India today are outside the patent. But somebody says that, no, it is 85. Fifteen to twenty per cent of the drugs are patented. Now, what is going to happen? Even that pipeline protection will perhaps be from 1990 to 1995, for a period of five years. After 1.1.1995, if some company gives patentee right of some medicine in some country, till we make our laws, whichever is earlier, I am assuming that we will make our laws at the end of the year-you will have to give the exclusive marketing rights.

But two safeguards are there. One safeguard is compulsory licensing. Another safeguard is the inherent right of the Government. If they find that certain prices are going to be exorbitant and beyond reach and it is going to affect the health programme of the Government, the Government will always have the inherent right of intervening. Government can apply price control mechanism to ensure that the prices do not go beyond the reach of the common people nor it upsets the health programme.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA : What are the conditions under which compulsory licensing is allowed?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Only one criterion would be there, that is, the sovereign Government of the country comes to its conclusion that the behaviour of the patent-holder is detrimental to the interests. (*Interruptions*) Yes, that is there. (*Interruptions*) Let us not go to the debate. That is my reading. If I am incorrect, I will come and I will subject myself to the correction. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA : The applicant has to go to the patent-holder. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Exclusive marketing rights in our case will have to be given not from 1995 but from 1.1.2000. That means, after seven years.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : When the application for the patent is pending, that applicant for the patent during that interim period will be given exclusive rights of marketing in the country.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Exclusive marketing rights for five years:

yes, I admitted that point.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Why should that be done? Why should he be given exclusive marketing rights?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : India has to submit !

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : No, not submitting. (*Interruptions*) There is no question of compromise. (*Interruptions*)

Then, I come to the last point. What was the significance of 15th December? I explained it a number of times that the official level negotiators were appointed. They were given a date from September, 1986 to December, 1993. Seven years are enough. No other round has taken so much time. So, negotiations have been completed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Trade and so many things were brought in. That is why so much time has been taken.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Yes, that is true. But still there is some delay. You should appreciate that because of our persistent pressure, the financial service sector is out. (*Interruptions*)

What has happened? Other matters like Trade Related Investments, Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights, are being brought. After all, the world scenario is also changing very fast.

With the types of technological revolutions which are taking place in various fields, surely the scenario in which GATT was originally conceived in the post Second World War is no longer there. Another point should be kept in view that some of the countries got favourable terms in bilateral

arrangements in the context of the Cold War. I would not like to mention the name of the country because Prime Minister has very correctly pointed out that it is not desirable to do so but you know a particular country and about the facilities which they got before 1985 and what they got very recently. Two countries were given only one year period to change their patent law and here, we have got ten years to change our patent law. That is the difference between bilateral and multilateral arrangements. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do consider the points which the hon. Members raised and I have tried to clarify them. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He has not replied to a lot of questions raised by me.

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling is this that he has replied to the majority of questions...(*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker : Please ask the next question. Why are you creating a dispute on this point?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : My submission is that had two options in the GATT go in for sui either to accept the patent or generis. The Government had submitted that they were not going to accept patenting of life form, the patenting of naturally occurring genes. It is a very good idea but GATT has asked either take it or leave it. Now, want to know as what is the position in this regard...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please address the chair.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : This is Parliament. Please listen. They have talked about Sui generis system. We wanted to know the way the rights of the farmers in India would be protected under this

system... (*Interruptions*).. They have tried to be fool the nation through this House. You are saying that the farmers have the right to retain the seeds. Should the right to multiply the seeds or to sell the seeds be with the farmers or not because two-third supply of seeds is made by multiplying and selling them by the farmers. He has not replied that point (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So far as replanting is concerned, they will have the right to retain and to replant. So far as sale is concerned, as I mentioned while replying to the debate, patented seeds by packaging and levelling with commercial sale will not be permissible; exchange is possible, retention for replanting is permissible... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : This policy would enslave the farmers... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Nothing will go on record except Mr. George Fernandes's statement.. (*Interruptions*)**

MR SPEAKER : Mr. Nitish Kumar, what you have protested has gone on record. You allow him to speak now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : When I asked how that two hundred billion dollars will be earned, the hon. Minister stated that it is a simple mathematics. Two hundred billion dollars is increasing every

year because the growth rate during the last decade is 5.5 percent. You are not clarifying the point, how is it rising with the great efforts done by you. I am asking this point third time today but the answer is not coming. You should stop these misleading statements.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of my seven suggestions was that before signing any agreement in Geneva or at any other place, the hon. Minister should make statement in the House... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : With regard to international agreements this procedure is not followed.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The hon. Prime Minister is present here. I would like to know the reaction of the Government there to,

[*English*]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I would like to clarify one point. I thought that it is known to the hon. Member as to which are the major components of our export basket. Or is it not known to you?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, he has been caught; the Government has been caught... (*Interruptions*)... (Not recorded.) They have no way of saving themselves.

MR. SPEAKER : This portion is not going on record.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, I am on my legs. It is not a fair comment from a senior Member like him.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not part of the record.

**Not recorded

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I did not say about him, Sir. I said about all those who have been making such a campaign. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : That is not a very major point in a very substantive debate like this even assuming that I am wrong...(*Interruptions*).. I am sticking to it...(*Interruptions*).. You are doing the sell-out and nobody else. It is your responsibility. I am not going for that. The only point which I am trying to clarify is about the sui generis system which Mr. Nitish Kumar wanted to know. He wanted to know the way of protection of the farmers. We are going in for sui generis. There is no fixed pattern for sui generis and I have also suggested that it is not necessary that we should imitate. (*Interruptions*)

14.00 hrs

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Is the hon. Prime Minister going to intervene because it is a very serious matter ?

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has replied on behalf of the Government.

SHRI BASUDEBACHARIA : We want to know whether the Prime Minister is going to add anything. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I think your agreements are more powerful than your protestations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the questions raised by the hon. Members during the entire discussion have not been replied to. Shri Fernandes gave pointwise suggestions. It is clear from

the reply of the hon. Minister that these suggestions have not been accepted by him. The Government have given evasive replies on the questions pertaining to agriculture and seeds etc. One can put forth one's view point quite forcefully but the important thing is that when views of both the sides are presented, they should be taken care of and should be attended too. 107 countries are covered under the fresh proposal and developed countries among them are only seven. Decision on Uruguay Round talks could not be arrived at because of the differences among seven most industrialised nations of the world. As soon as the differences were resolved by these nations among themselves, pressure for signing the Treaty was mounted. Questions pertaining to agriculture, medicine, industry and open market have not been properly replied to. Economic subservience scenario has not changed. Statements made in the House in this regard are simply misleading. Even apprehensions of the people of India in this regard have not been removed. Therefore, I stage a walkout from the House along with my colleagues.

14.03 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sharad Yadav and some other hon. Members left the House

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I thank all the Members for participation. The House stands adjourned till 3 p.m.

14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Saha Then Adjourned for Lunch
til Fifteen of the Clock*

15.06 1/2 hrs.

(2)

Annual Report of the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Computer and Auditor General thereon.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*Aircraft (Second Amendment) Rules 1993**[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : On behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Aircraft (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.452 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th June 1993 under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4781793]

Notification under spices Board Act, 1986 and spices cess Act 1986 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : I beg to lay on the Table.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-47861193]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi for 1992-93

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : On behalf of Shri G. Venkat Swamy, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 40 of the Spices Board Act, 1986:-

(i) The Spices Board (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 661 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 1993.

(ii) The Spices Board (Registration of Exporters) (Amendment) Regulations, 1993 published in Notification No. 2377/GI/93 in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 1993.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-478893]

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi for the year 1992-93

(2) A copy of the Spices Cess (Amendment) Rules, 1993

(Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 662 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 5 of the Spices Cess Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No.-LT 4789193]

(iii) The Export Inspection Council Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 263 in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1993.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4791/93]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India, Cochin, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India, Cochin, for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library See No LT-479093]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4792/93]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions), under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963:-

(i) The Export of Chillies (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 976 in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 1993.

(ii) The Export of Raw Meat (Chilled/ Frozen) Quality Control and Inspection) Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 1989 in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1993.

(6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 39 the Bureau of India Standards Act, 1986 :-

(i) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Terms and conditions of Service of Employees) Amendment Regulations, 1993, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 552 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th August 1993.

(ii) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 557(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 1993.

[Sh. Kamaluddin Ahmed]

(iii) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Appointment, Terms and Conditions of Service of Director-General) Amendment Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 692(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th November, 1993.

(iv) The Bureau of Indian Standard (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 702(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th November 1993.

↳ [Placed Library See No. LT-4793/93]

Notification under Coinage Act, 1906 and Notification under Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transma of undertakings Act, 1980 etc.,

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE SHRI (MANMOHAN SINGH): On behalf of Shri M. V. Chandrashekhar Murthy, I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy of the Coinage (Standard weight and rRemedy of the Two Rupees Coin containing Copper 75 percent and Nickel 25 percent) coited with the theme "BIO DIVERSITY-WORLD FOOD DAY" Rules, 1993 (Hndi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 644(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.

[Placed in Library See No LT-4794/93]

(2) A copy of the New Bank of India (Amalgamation and Transfer of Undertakings) Scheme, 1993 (Hindi and

English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 662(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1993 under sub-section (6) of section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980. [Placed in Library See No LT-4795/93]

(3) A copy of the amendment to Regulation 20 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, General Regulations, 1961 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 6 in Gazette of Indian dated the 6th February, 1993 under sub-section (4) of section 50 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, 1961.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4796/93]

(4) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Deposit Insurance and Credit guarantee Corporation, Bombay, for the year 1992-93. [Placed in Library See N\O LT-4797/93]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 29 and sub-section (5) of section 34 of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library See No LT-4798/93]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 19 and sub-section (5) of section 24 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1992-93. [Placed in Library See No LT-4799/93]
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) on Fourth and Fifth instalments of Market Loans issued on the 1st September, 1993 and the 16th November, 1993 respectively. [Placed in Library See No LT-4800/93]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the year ending the 31st March, 1993, alongwith Audited Accounts under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Life Insurance Corporation of India for the year ending the 31st March, 1993.
[Placed in Library see No. LT-4801/93]
- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Companies Act, 1962:-
- (i) G. S. R. 607(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods imported by Units set up in the Vishakapatnam Export Processing Zone from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (ii) G. S. R. 610(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to bonafide gifts upto a value of Rs. One thousand when imported through the medium of Posts or through air freight from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (iii) G. S. R. 717(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to certain Notifications mentioned therein.
- (iv) S. O. 907(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th November, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imports and calculation of stamp duty.
- (v) S. O. 908(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th November, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchanges for for conversion oif certain foreign currēncies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of exports and calculation of stamp duty.

[Sh. Manmohan Singh]

[Placed in Library See No. LT-4802/93]

- (10) A copy of the Interest-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 685(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1993 under sub-section (4) of section 27 of the Interest-tax Act, 1974.

[Placed in Library See No LT-4803/93]

- (11) A copy of the Gift-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 683(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1993 under sub-section (4) of section 46 of Gift-tax Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library See No LT-4804/93]

- (12) 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) The Central Excise (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 681(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st November, 1993.
- (ii) G. S. R. 709(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 1993 making certain amendments in Notification No. 266/67-CE dated the 28th November, 1967.

[Placed in Library See No LT-4805/93]

- (13) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 72 of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1975 :-

- (i) The Delhi Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. F4(28)/92-Fin(G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 9th July, 1993.

- (ii) The Delhi sales Tax (Amendment) Rules, 1993, published in Notification No. F4(31)/93-Fin.(G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 29th April, 1993

[Placed in Library See No LT-4805/93]

15.09 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Third Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (DEOGARH) : I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals on 'Production, Imports, R&D, Promotion and Marketing of Fertilizers' and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

15.9 1/2 hrs

TRASPLANTATION OF HUMAN
ORGANS BILL, (AS PASSED BY RAJYA
SABHA)

(I) Appointment of Dr. R. Shridharan to the Select Committee on the said Bill)

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (SHILLONG) : I beg to move :

" That this House do appoint Dr. R. Sridharan to the Select Committee on the

Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. R. K. G. Rajulu."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

" That this House do appoint Dr. R. Sridharan to the Select Committee on the transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. R. K. G. Rajulu." resignation

The motion was adopted

(ii) Extension of time for presentation of report of the select Committee

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : I beg to move.

" That this house do extend up to the 22nd December, 1993, the time for presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The questions

" That this House do extend up to the 22nd December, 1993, the time for presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted

11.10 1/2 HRS

**SPECIFIED AREAS (ISSUE OF
IDENTITY CARDS TO RESIDENTS)
BILL.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : I beg to move for

leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the issue of identity cards to the residents of Specified Areas in States and Union Territories 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 the issue of identity cards to the residents of Specified Areas in States and Union Territories and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, introduce the Bill.

11.11 hrs

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

(i) **Need to provide 27 per cent reservation facilities to Muslim Community in Government employment**

[English]

SHRI KOLIKHUNIL SURESH (Adoor) The Mandal Commission Report has recommended 27% reservation in Government of India services to only Mappila of Muslim community in Malabar area of Kerala. But the Muslims of Travancore area of Kerala will not get this 27% reservation facility. The people of Muslim community of Kerala are very much agitated over this.

The entire Muslim community should be considered as OBC and they must get 27

[Sh. Kolikhunil Sures]

%reservation in the Central Government employment, I, therefore, request the Central Government to reconsider this suggestion and to provide 27% reservation benefits to entire Muslim community in Government service.

(ii) Need for early completion of Jabalpur Airport Project and also to start taxi services to and from Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur) : Jabalpur, which occupied a status amongst the top cities of Madhya Pradesh and was being considered for being made the capital of the State, has besides being the seat of the High Court and the Central Administrative Tribunal and number of Universities have been losing their importance due to lack of transport and communication links. The Prime Minister had assured for early completion of the Jabalpur Airport Project latest by 1995. On the ground, however, the work is yet to be started. On the other hand, despite the fact that Madhya Pradesh Government have already allotted more than the area of land required for the airport free of cost, Ministry of Civil Aviation have not yet allocated funds for it.

I urge upon the Government to immediately take up the work on the Airport Project and complete it as per schedule.

Meanwhile, immediate steps be taken to start taxi-services to and from Jabalpur by using the existing air-strip.

(iii) Need to provide adequate assistance to Kerala State for using soil ameliorants such as lime, dolomite etc. for any menting paddy production

[Translation]

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : The assistance received by Kerala

State under the Integrated Paddy Development Scheme is inadequate. The soil in Kerala has high acidity. It is, therefore, necessary to use the soil ameliorants such as lime, dolomite, calcium carbonate, etc. to augment its productivity. But the Union Government provides assistance only when Zinc Sulphate is used as soil ameliorant. A change in this policy is very essential for the development of paddy cultivation in the State. The Government of Kerala has already brought this matter to the attention of the Union Government. I therefore, request the Union Government to take immediate steps in this regard and provide adequate assistance to the State.

(iv) Need to create a Free Trade Zone in Tamil Nadu keeping in view the increased Trade

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode) : In 1997 Hongkong will be taken over by China and so the Eastern countries will be looking forward for a Free Trade Zone in Asia. Singapore in particular will be very much interested to establish a Free Trade zone in India.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu also requested the hon. Prime Minister during her talks recently for the establishment of a Free Trade Zone between Singapore and India in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu has all the infrastructural facilities for the establishment of such a Zone. This has become very essential since the volume of trade between Singapore and India has increased enormously during the past few years.

So, I request the Government of India to take early steps and provide possible assistance for the creation of a Free Trade Zone between Singapore and India in Tamil

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

Nadu.

1517 hours

(v) **Need to start seamen training centre at Beypore port, Kerala and make it an all weather port**

SHRI E. AHAMED (MANJERI) : Malabar is the most backward area in Kerala. Beypre port near Calicut is one of the important Beypore minor ports of the country. There is a steamer line service sailing between Beypore and Lkshadweep Islands. But all development programmes prepared to make in an all-weather port have not been sanctioned by the Central Government. There is a proposal to start a training institute for seamen at Beypore utilising natural facilities around Beypore Port. That scheme is still pending before the Government.

I urge upon the Central Government to take expeditious steps to start the proposed seamen training centre as Beypore and make Beypore an all-weather port.

(v) **Need to supply speed boats to Kerala strict implementation of fishing regulations in the state.**

SHRI P.C. CHACO (TRICHUR): Enforcement of the marine fishing regulations has been a major concern for the Kerala Government as disputes between traditional fishermen and fishing boat owners are developing into a serious law and order problem. Speed boats are required for the supervision and implementation of the provisions of the fishing regulations. Then Central Government has sanctioned a new scheme for providing speed-boats to the State Governments. The Kerala Government have requested the Ministry of Agriculture to make arrangements for supply of eight such boats.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take immediate necessary action in this regard.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
DISAPPROVAL OF PROTECTION OF
HUMAN RIGHT OF ORDINANCE
AND
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
(BILL)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We Shall now take up further discussion on the Statutory Resolution and Protection of Human Rights Bill. The time allotted to this subject was three hours and time already consumed is two hours and twenty-six minutes. Thirty-four minutes is the balance. Shri Ramesh Chennithala was on his feet.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the first World Conference on Human Rights held in Iran adopted a Charter. After 25 year, in June 1993 this Charter was up-dated in Vienna. In Vienna a document was passed considering the present day requirements for the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

It was very evident that the Government of India had given top priority for the promotion and preservation of Human Rights in our country. India was always a signatory to all these international Charters.

The introduction of this Bill by our hon. Home Minister is definitely a novel chapter in the Indian parliamentary practice. Nobody can challenge the credibility as well as the *bona fides* of this Commission. The Commission has direct political and social dimensions which are beyond the purview of social justice and its decisions are going to play a vital role in changing the destiny of our

[Ramesh Chennithala]

nation. We have independent courts, we have Fundamental Rights enshrined in our Constitution, we have a very independent and vigilant Press and we have got our Parliament. All these will definitely go a long way in protecting the Human Rights.

Why the Government of India has promulgated an Ordinance for setting up a Commission? It is for creating an awareness among the people about the human rights and to create a sense of feeling among the people of India. The Government of India is very much concerned about protecting the human rights not only inside the country but also outside the country. We must give a message that India is a country which is protecting the human rights and we will preserve the rights of the humanity.

This Bill has given weightage to the judicial members unlike other Bills. If we go through the Bill, we will be able to understand that we are giving more weightage to the judicial members. That is why, the credibility of this Commission is very high. This is a model to all other countries. If a simple petition is sent to this Commission, the Commission can institute an enquiry on that petition. This Commission can interfere in any pending cases which are in the courts and this will definitely be helpful for preventing the misuses of the official machinery. For example, take the case of custody deaths. Nowadays we hear a lot of news in the newspapers that there are deaths in the custody. Even in the police custody, a lot of people were tortured and murdered. Such items and items like rape and fake encounters are appearing in the newspapers. There are a lot of instances about the fake encounters. I do not want to go into the details.

Section 13 relates to the human rights

courts. There is a special provision for setting up District Level Session Courts. But, I have a request to the hon. Home Minister to make it mandatory because the State Governments will definitely evade this thing. It must be made mandatory. The State Governments should be asked to provide enough financial support for the smooth performance of this District Level Session Courts because India is a vast country and the Commission in the apex will not go into all the details. So, we have set up State Level Commissions as well as District Level Session Courts. If the State Government is not giving adequate financial support to this District Level Session Courts, they cannot function very well. So, this must be a mandatory one.

Sir, a lot of hue and cry is there about taking the army personnel and paramilitary personnel. A lot of allegations are also there. I do not want to go into the details. Of course, we are proud of our military, Navy and Air Force who are working in very hazardous situations. The Government of India should take care about their activities also.

There are reports about the fake encounters in Punjab and in other States. I was told that 125 officers were punished because of the excesses committed by them. Unfortunately, the publicity is more.

Hon. Finance Minister is present in the House. During the Vienna conference when our officials and delegations were going inside, some people were coming out with posters, some people distributed pamphlets about the exaggerated picture of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. It is very unfortunate. We must take adequate precaution so that our military personnel and paramilitary personnel should act with caution and nobody level charges against our prestigious military and paramilitary forces, I wonder why the Army is not coming voluntarily before the

Commission to prove that only few are doing the crime. Why the entire forces was blamed. More transparency is needed in this.

Indian army is one of the best armies of the world. I think that our army officials should come forward voluntarily before the Commission so that they are able to prove that not the entire army but only a few people are culprits. We can find few such people everywhere. The entire army's fame and name should not be tarnished by such isolated incidents. I think their activities should be more transparent so that we are able to save the prestige of our army and para-military forces.

Regarding the misuse of TADA, I want to say that I have seen and I have experienced personally during the last Government's time that lot of people were booked under TADA for no reason. Because of the political enmity, they were taken into custody and booked under TADA. I think the Home Minister had sent a circular to all the State Governments to give a periodical report about TADA. I want to know from him how many States have sent such periodical reports. So many Congress people, so many political enemies of the then Government of Rajasthan were booked under TADA.

AN HON. MEMBER : By BJP Government.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Yes, by BJP Government. So, our Government should take care to see that this TADA is not misused. There must be some mechanism to prevent the misuses of TADA and the practice of employing the army.

I want to make one more important point. Wherever some incidents happen in our country, we employ army. Army's job is

entirely different. The responsibility of maintaining law and order is entirely vested in the local police. But wherever something happens, we are sending the army there. This practice should be stopped. The employment of army should be curtailed. The use of army for internal civil duty should be decreased. Army is meant for a different purpose. The exaggerated reports which are appearing in the papers will definitely demoralise our para-military forces which are working in very hazardous situations.

In India, we are very much conscious about the human rights. Whatever the other people may say, timing of publicity is the most important thing. For that, our diplomatic efforts are not at all effective. Countries like America and European countries are so much concerned about the human right in India. I think our diplomatic corps should be more vigilant so that this type of exaggerated reports must be corrected and India's prestige and India's name is saved.

I welcome this Bill and I support this Bill. I do not want to go into all the details but I think more teeth should be given to this Commission so that it can function properly and can ensure that a country like India, which is the largest democracy in the world, is able to protect the human rights very well. Thank you very much, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not sure whether this Bill will again be taken up tomorrow or on Monday. If the discussion is taken up again on Monday then I would like to dell at length that very day only. However, today I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards two three points. Being a Member of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, I am very happy to note that

[Ram Vilas Paswan]

many changes have been made in the Bill on the lines of the contents of the Report submitted by the Committee. However, the main issue remains unchanged. However sound any vehicle may be, the actual running depends on the person controlling the steering. Human Rights Protection Bill is very good. Shri Manmohan Singh is present in the House. He always argues in favour of these rights but who will manage the whole affair. Appointing authorities both the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are the politicians. We elect the Speaker and the Chairman. Though they are also associated with one or the other political party, yet after assuming office they work in partisan manner. In my opinion as long as Chief Justice is not appointed on the Commission as we have suggested ... even if you go through the interview of Shri B. G. Verghese ...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Paswanji, you may continue later. We will take up the Private Members' Business now.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, the problem is that I will not be here tomorrow. If this Bill comes tomorrow, I will not be here. If it comes on Monday then I will be able to speak. I request you to kindly allow me for only five minutes. I will be concluding at 3.35 p.m.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, let him complete.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the desire of the House to extend the time to allow the Member to complete his speech?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House is really very liberal.

(Interruptions)

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (JALANDHAR) : Sir, if the Opposition wants, let the Private Members' Business be suspended today.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let Shri Paswan complete his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The PM Office remains quite busy. Therefore, instead of the Prime Minister, the Home Minister should be associated with the Commission because the Home Ministry will have to oversee implementation of the recommendations. Therefore, instead of the Prime Minister the Chief Justice should be on the Commission to give it a non-political touch.

Besides, in the Definition clauses, in the beginning .

[English]

Sir, Clause 2(1) (a) says :

"armed forces" means the naval, military and air forces and includes any other armed forces of the Union

[Translation]

I urge the Minister of Home Affairs to delete everything after 'and' because Army has got its own independent status. Even in the case of Army, powers have been given to the Commission to publish its reports but

right of investigation has not been given. If any matter cannot be investigated, then how can the report be submitted? Therefore, I urge upon the Government to keep para-military forces out of its purview. Para-military Forces are constantly on the job. Please do not club them with Armed Forces. Please include a separate clause for all this. There is a need to have a separate clause because of the provision of Court Martial in the Armed Forces, though it is practised in case of Para-military Forces also at some places. Therefore, have a separate clause for distinction.

Thirdly, I would like to submit that this is not the question of intension of the Government but somewhere something has been left out. Provision for three Members have been made—one Member will be the Chairman of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission, second Member will be Chairperson of the Minorities Commission and third Member will be the Chairperson of the Commission for Women. However, there is one more Commission in the country, called the commission for Backward Classes. My opinion is that if the Chairperson of these three Commissions are included and the Chairperson of Backward Commission is not included, there will always be the possibility of injustice. I would like to urge upon the Government to appoint the Chairperson of the Commission for Backward Classes also as a Member.

My fourth suggestion is in regard to my recent meeting with Shri Tarkunde and those involved in civil rights movement. They have pointed out that the Secretary appointed in this regard has been given the status of Secretary General. But the person on this post may be required to investigate the matters concerning persons of higher status. In view of this, the post of Secretary General should be designated as Secretary to the

Commission. At the same time no restriction should be imposed that he should be of the rank of a Secretary in the Central Government. He can be a Secretary, also but a person in the civil field should also be eligible for appointment if found suitable, so that he may investigate the matter independently.

It is perhaps the first instance where the object of the committee has been fulfilled to a great extent by this Bill. There is a great difference between the previous Bill and the present Bill. The Government had issued an ordinance which was not appropriate in the opinion of the Committee. But since international seminar was going to be held and the session was about to start, the Government issued the ordinance. Now another Bill has been brought. I would like the Government to pay attention to the four suggestions I have given and accept them. These are, to separate the Armed Forces and Para-military Forces, to appoint the Chairman of Backward Commission, changing the status of the secretary from Secretary General to Secretary to the Commission and inclusion of the Chief Justice in the Selection Committee. I feel that if the Government accepts these suggestions, the aim of the Bill will be fulfilled. The Commission will be able to see and investigate into the incidents of human right violations wherever they take place.

I would not like to go into the details of what happens at a particular place; these are minor issues, like the recruitment of staff in the State Commission and the National Commission. Though a demand has already been made that the authority for staff recruitment should be given to the Commissions which is not with them at present. These are minor issues which I would like to raise separately. My submission to the Central Government and the hon.

Minister of Home Affairs is that they should agree to these suggestions. I had assured that I would conclude by 3.35 p.m., and the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is showing me his watch, time and again. With these words, I conclude.

15.35 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
Third Report

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Third Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on the working of the Department of Women and Child Development (regarding Child Development), Ministry of Human Resource Development.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up Private Members' Legislative Business.

1536 hrs.

PROTECTION OF PROPERTY RIGHTS
OF WOMEN AND GIRLS BILL*

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to protect the property rights of women and for matters connected

therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to protect the property rights of women and for matters connected therewith."

The Motion was Adopted

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : I introduce the Bill.

15.36 1/2 hrs.

UTTAR ORISSA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
BILL*

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential University in the State of Orissa and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential University in the State of Orissa and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The Motion was adopted

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : I introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Insertion of new Article 16A)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
(Kishanganj): 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 SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I introduce the Bill.

15.37 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Insertion of new Article 28A, etc.)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
(Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution on 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 SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I introduce the Bill.

15.38 1/2 hrs

SPICES AND CASH CROPS PRICES
COMMISSION BILL

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA
(Kottayam) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Commission for the purpose of recommending to the Government the remunerative prices for spices and other cash crops.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Commission for the purpose of recommending to the Government the remunerative prices for spices and other cash crops.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : I introduce the Bill.

15.39 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of article 19)

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
(KATTAYAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithla]

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : I introduce the Bill.

15.39 1/2 hrs.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of section 12)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI
BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI MALINI
BHATTACHARYA : I introduce the Bill.

15.40 hrs.

INDIAN ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of section 12)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI
BHATTACHARYA : (Jadavpur) : I beg to

move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI MALINI
BHATTACHARYA : I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Kashiram Rana-not present.

15.40 1/2 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 30, etc.)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : 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 PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I introduce the Bill.

15.41 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Article 107, etc.)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we go to item No. 16, namely further consideration of the motion moved by Dr. Laxminarayan in Pandeya.

Shri Satyapal Singh Yadav not present.

Shri P. M. Sayeed, Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): Sir, the time allotted for this Bill is six hours. Already 5 hours 11 minutes are over. Even the person who moved the Bill is not present.

Sir, clause 2 of the Bill which my friend, Dr. Laxminarain Pandey has moved says that after clause (2) of article 107 of the Constitution, the following proviso shall be added at the end, namely:

"Provided that a Bill which affects any religion, religious place of worship, religious endowment, or religious institution, shall be deemed to have been passed by each House only if it is passed by a majority of the total membership of that House and by majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting."

In this connection, it may be stated that such a procedure is applicable only in the case of a Constitution (amendment) Bill and not to any other Bill. Moreover, a Bill of the nature referred to in the proviso may also fall within the legislative competence of the

States. In this regard, it is relevant to mention here that Entry 28 of the Concurrent List (List III) reads:

"Charities, charitable institutions, charitable and religious endowments and religious institutions"

As such the States are equally competent: to make laws on the subject. However, article 107 deals only with legislative procedure in Parliament. Article 196 which deals with introduction and passing of Bill in the Houses of Legislature of a State is not sought to be amended by the Bill under consideration on the lines on which it proposes to amend article 107. Thus the aforesaid proviso may create an anomaly in the legislative procedure on the same subject between Parliament on the one hand and the State Legislature on the other.

Moreover, generally decisions on Bills are taken by majority of votes of the Members present and voting thereon. Statement of Objects and Reasons to the Bill also does not give any rational justification for placing such legislation at par with Constitution amendments. Such special procedure as applicable to the amendment of the Constitution in terms of article 368 has not been extended to ordinary legislative process by the framers of the Constitution in their wisdom. This has stood the test of the time. There is nothing which warrants a change in the existing well-established legislative process based on the rule of majority which is inherently imbibed in the concept of democracy. In this regard, it may be noted that the legislative power to enact any law affecting religion has to be exercised in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Thus, any law which offends the right to freedom of religion as guaranteed in articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution will be void to the extent it is inconsistent with

[Sh. P. M. Sayeed)

Constitution of India, be taken into consideration. "

such guarantee. Limited regulation by the State in this regard has been provided in the Constitution on the grounds of public order, morality and health. This is, however, subject to judicial review. In view of the aforesaid, it may be stated that there is an inbuilt protection in the Constitution itself as regards the right to freedom of religion and, therefore, it may not be necessary to provide any special procedure for legislation as suggested in the proposed amendments to proviso to article 107.

The motion was negatived.

15.50 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Omission of Article 44, etc.) by Shri Bhagwan Shaṅkar Rawat

[English]

Therefore, I oppose this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Iaxminarayan Pandeya. Absent.

Before I put the motion for consideration to the vote of the House, this being a Constitution (amendment) Bill, voting has to be by Division. Let the lobbies be cleared.

Now the lobbies have ben cleared.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir the Mover of the Bill is not there.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : The Mover of the Bill is not there. There is no need of a division. Let it be put to voice vote.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, let it be by voice vote.

I shall now put the motion for consideration to the vote of the House. The question is :

" That the Bill further to amend the

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We can take up the next itme, item No. 17. The next item on the Agenda is the motion for consideration of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1992 (Omission of Article 44, etc.) by Shri Bhagwan Shaṅkar Rawat.

The Bill seeks to amend the Constitution with a view to securing a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.

The House will recall that on 10th December, 1993, a Resolution by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan which also sought framing of a Uniform Civil Code was negatived by the House.

Rule 338 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha provides that " a motion shall not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the House has given a decision in the same Session". I find that provisions of the Bill by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat are substantially identical to the Resolution of Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan which was negatived by the House. The consideration

* Motion to Consider the Bill was barred under Rule 338 of the Rules of procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha since the motion was identical with the Resolution moved by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan in the same session and negatived by the House.

of the Bill is, therefore, barred under the above rule.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, in any case, the hon. Member is not present here.

15.52 hrs.

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE
(AMENDMENT) BILL

Amendment of section 51, etc.) by Shri
P. P. Kaliaperumal

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The next item on the Agenda, that is, the code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1992 (Amendment of section 51, etc.) by Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal can now be taken up for consideration.

Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal to move

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL
(Cuddalur) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, be taken into consideration."

Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the object of this Bill is to provide immunity from imprisonment to the indebted persons-in legal phraseology they are termed judgement-debtors-for their failure to discharge the decretal debts or in other words their contractual obligation.

Section 51 of the Code of Civil Procedure empowers the courts of execution to execute the decrees and especially the money-decrees by three modes. The first

mode is by attachment and sale of property. The second mode is by sale without attachment of the property of the judgement-debtors and the third mode is by arrest and detention of the judgement debtors in prison. These are the three modes enumerated under Section 51 of the Civil Procedure Code for execution of the money-decrees. The other provisions relating to arrest and detention of judgement-debtors are section 55, 56, 57, 58 and 59 and rules 11/ 11A 21, 30, 37, 38, 39 and 40 of Order 21 and Rule 37 of the Civil Procedure Code. The present Bill seeks to delete the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code for arrest and detention of the judgement-debtors. The *raison d'être* of the amendment are : Article 21 of the Constitution of India which has been described or applauded as the Magna Carta of India guarantees the right to life and right to property;

I quote Article 21 of the Constitution. It says :

"No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law."

The expression 'personal liberty' in Article 21 has been interpreted as 'right of an individual to be free from restriction, free from physical restraint. The reach and ambit of the meaning of the expression 'personal liberty' is wider and is extensive. Article 21 is embedded in Part-III of the Constitution of India which part enumerates the Fundamental Rights. Article 19(1) (d) also guarantees freedom of movement. I quote Article 19(1). It says:

" All citizens shall have the right :-

(a) to freedom of speech and expression;

[Sh. P.P. Kauaperumal]

- (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 w occupation, trade or business."

So, from the combined reading of Article 21 and also Article 19 it is clear that right to life and right to personal liberty are constitutionally guaranteed rights.

1558 hrs.

(SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the Chair*)

I submit that these constitutionally guaranteed rights—right to life and right to personal liberty—cannot be jettisoned on any account. If an indebted person, if the judgment debtor is arrested and detained in a civil prison, then it means that his right to life and his right to personal liberty are deprived of. Article 21 itself provides that the right to life and right to personal liberty can be abridged or annihilated according to the procedure established by law. My submission is, even this restriction shall stand the test of Article 19 of the Constitution. In this respect, I want to quote the judgment of the Supreme Court which has been reported in AIR 1978 at page 597. I quote :

The law must, therefore, now be taken to be well settled that Article 21 does

not exclude Article 19 and that even if there is a law prescribing a procedure for depriving a person of 'personal liberty' and there is consequently no infringement of the Fundamental Right conferred by Article 21, such law in so far as it abridges or takes away any Fundamental Right under Article 19 would have to meet the challenge of the Article. This proposition can no longer be disputed after the decisions in R. C. Cooper's case, Shambhu Nath Sarkar's case and Haradhan Saha's case,

16.00 hrs

Now, if a law depriving a person of 'personal liberty' and prescribing a procedure for that purpose within the meaning of Article 21, has to stand the test of the fundamental rights conferred under Article 19."

Thus it is established that the law which deprives a person's right to personal liberty within the meaning of Article 21, has to stand the test of Article 19 of the Constitution. hence, the provision of arrest and detention of Judgement debtor in a civil prison is in violation of article 19 (1) (b) and also Article 21 of our constitution. The expression "according to procedure established by Law" in Article 21 must also stand the test of Article 19(1)(d). But, in fact, the provision for arrest and detention in civil Procedure Code do not stand the test of Article 19(d). Hence, the provisions of arrest and detention are in violation of Article 19 (1).

The provisions, for arrest and detention, of the Cr. P. C do not also attract the concept of "Reasonable restriction" often pleaded. "Reasonable restriction" as expressed in Article 19 (6) means that it should not be of a excessive nature, beyond what is required in public interest. It is because the provision for arrest and detention is of an

excessive nature unreasonable and it is beyond what is required in the interest of public. The decree can be executed by several means. As I have already stated, a decree can be executed by attachment and sale of the movable as well as immovable properties of the Judgment debtors. The creditors can attach the shares and other documents for the realisation of the debt. Thus, there are ample opportunities for realisation of the Judgment debt. So, where is the necessity to arrest the Judgment debtor and detain him in a civil prison? In this respect, I want to quote the judgment of the Supreme Court which has been reported in AIR 1982, at page 33.

“ The expression ‘reasonable restriction’ signifies that the limitation imposed on a person’s enjoyment of the right should not be arbitrary or of an excessive nature, beyond what is required in the interest of the public. The test of reasonableness, wherever prescribed, should be applied to each individual statute impugned and no abstract standard or general pattern of reasonableness can be laid down as applicable in all cases. The restriction which arbitrarily or excessively invades the right, cannot be said to contain the quality of reasonableness and unless it strikes a proper balance between the freedom guaranteed in Article 19(1)(g) and the social control permitted by clause (6) of Article 19, it must be held to be wanting in that quality”.

Hence, Mr. Chairman, I submit that the provisions for arrest and detention do not stand that test of reasonableness; it is not fair; it is not justice and it is not reasonable.

My next reason for deletion of this provision from the Civil Procedure Code is, the right to life and right to personal property are guaranteed by Constitutional law; in other words by substantive law and not by procedural law. But these right can be

abridged or annihilated only by substantive law and not by procedural law. The Code of Civil Procedure, all of us know, is only a procedural law and not substantive law. So the fundamental rights—the right of life and right to personal liberty—guaranteed by our Constitution cannot be abridged, cannot be taken away, cannot be annihilated by a procedural law which is the provision of Civil Procedure Code. For this reason also I submit in this august House that the provision for arrest is unreasonable.

Thirdly, the provision for arrest and detention of an indebted person is also against human rights. We welcome human rights. We are bound to support, protect and foster human rights. The international covenant for civil and political rights is one of the instruments of the universal declaration of human rights. This international covenant for civil and political rights has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2200A on 16.12.1966. It came into force on 23rd March 1976. India is a signatory to this covenant.

Article 11 of this international covenant for civil and political rights prohibits arrest and detention of any person for his failure to fulfil his contractual obligation. I quote :

“No one shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of the inability to fulfil a contractual obligation.”

This is article 11 of the international covenant on civil and political rights. I want to ask whether it is right to enforce a contractual inability by arrest and detention of the debtor on the teeth of article 11 of the international covenant of civil and political rights. I quote further article 2 of the covenant :

“ Each State party to this present covenant undertakes to respect and

[Sh. P.P. Kauaperumal]

ensure to individuals within its territory and suggest for its jurisdiction of rights recognised in this covenant”.

Thus India has a legal obligation, moral obligation and international obligation to promote and protect human rights. Article 51 of the Constitution of India obligates a State to foster and respect an international law and treaty obligations. So the provision for arrest and detention of debtor must also stand the test of article 11 of the international covenant for civil and political rights. It is evident, it is not disputable. Hence also the provision for arrest and detention is improper.

The provision for arrest and detention are often being misused by the creditors. Quite often, creditors are filing affidavits in the courts on false grounds, imaginary grounds and concocted grounds about the judgment debtors, stating false information about the income, property, etc. On the basis of the affidavits, courts issue arrest warrants and detain the judgment debtors in prison. But the poor judgment debtors are not able to defend themselves in court of law and get themselves released.

As is said, access to justice is very costly in India. It is not an easy procedure. They have to spend a lot of money. Already they are debtors; how can they engage lawyers, appear before the courts and get justice? So, they are not able to defend them in the court of law. Hence I feel that the amendments are imperative.

The Civil Procedure Code only binds our courts and not the International Covenants. The courts are not bound by the International Covenant. They are bound by the Civil Procedure Code. So, the

International Covenant must be transformed into municipal law and also into our national law. Unless and until the provisions of International Covenant are transformed into our national law and also into our municipal law, the courts cannot enforce them. They are bound to enforce only our national law and our municipal law. Since India is a signatory to the civil and political rights, it is obligatory to delete the provisions of arrest and detention of judgment debtor from the Civil Procedure Code.

Indebtedness is widely prevalent in India and especially in rural India. The Royal Commission on Agriculture has portrayed the picture of the rural indebtedness in the following words. I quote :

“ Indian farmer is born in debt, lives in debt and dies in debt; and bequeaths debt. It is still a reality”.

Indian debtors consist of small farmers, marginal farmers, landless agricultural labourers, rural artisans and so on and so forth. In the land of 'dharithiranarayana', to be poor is not a crime. So, the poor people are deprived of their rights by Shylocks like creditors. Their rights are deprived and annihilated. They are not ordinary rights. They are human rights, fundamental rights, natural rights and what not? So also, the provision for arrest and detention of the debtors is against the fundamental freedom, it is against the human rights and finally, it is also against the social justice which is embedded in our socialistic constitution, the Magna Carta of India.

I therefore plead, Madam Chairman, to delete the provisions for arrest and detention of indebted persons. With these words, I beg to move the code of civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill in this House for consideration.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

" That the Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, be taken into consideration. "

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Madam Chairperson, at the outset, I would like to congratulate you. For the first time, you have gone over there to preside over the proceedings of the House.

The hon. mover of the Bill, Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal, has dwelt at length about his intention of moving this Bill. Certainly, the purpose behind moving this Bill is appreciable. As you know, in our Civil Procedure Code, it appears to be a feudal provision, a provision which befits feudal rule and not of a type of democratic rule or socialistic rule. As you know, rich people, solvent people and feudal people were sometimes deriving sadistic pleasure in sending the poor and innocent people to jail. There were several such cases during the pre-Independence days. Things like that had happened.

What was the purpose behind that? They were taking advantage of this provision. They wanted to establish their dominion over the society. They wanted to have a control over the society. They wanted to let loose a reign of terror upon the poor people. Even the bonded labour were paying something and making an agreement for an amount higher than what was paid to them. Things like that had happened. When that particular victim wanted to free himself from this burden, they wanted to suppress him. Sometimes, they went to court of law under this provision. The poor chap could not fight out such a case. He had no property. He had to go to jail. In some cases, it was a

punishment. But then the decree-holder had to bear the expenditure of a particular person. Of course, it was transferred later on to that debt, to his property, etc.

This is a very peculiar provision. The hon. mover has made out a very strong case. The hon. Law Minister is also a lawyer of repute in the apex court. I feel that this provision should be reviewed. Now, it is a proper time. The time is moving very fast. The things are changing. Should a provision of this sort be retained? It is more misused than properly used. There are bad people in the society. There are criminals. When the criminals commit a crime, sending them to jail is all right. But this is not something of a civil nature. Certainly, when the solvent people or the industrialists are involved, they know what they are going to do. Who is paying a debt to whom, his capacity, his risk, etc., everything is known to the creditor. It is only sometimes the poor people in the villages who become the victims.

Secondly, Madam, when Mrs. Indira was there, she had introduced the 20-point programme and that 20-point programme contained a provision about the people who had lot of debts outstanding against them. In such cases, when the loan amount gets more than double, then he need not pay. Interest can go to a maximum of 100 per cent, that is, the capital amount or the principal amount which is called Principle of Damdupat. Both Principal and interest cannot be more than double the principal amount. That is principle of Damdupat. Even such cases are not cared for. We are a party; we have ratified the international agreement. The international covenants in civil and political rights and even the doctrine dated 15th December 1966 had come into force from 23rd March 1976. This provision is present there that no one shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of his inability to fulfil the

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

contractual obligatinos and India had ratified this covenant in 1979. Therefore, necessary legislation should be enacted in consonance with this provision. After having rectified this, naturally consequential relevant laws need to be made. Therefore, it is quite appropriate that the amendment proposed by the honourable Mover should receive due attention. It is rather high time to be considered by the Government of India. As I told you a little earlier, there are so many types of debtors or ones getting Government loans, cooperative loans and bank loans. There are so many people who are capable of repaying it but they do not repay. There are people who follow rules scrupulously; they have fear for the rules and laws; they try to abide by the rules and they do not indulge in illegal activities. Take for instance encroachments. We know that encroachment is not legal. But some people encroach over objectionable piece of Government land and they build hutments; they continue with it without caring for anybody. It so happens that after a certain period of time, Government takes a decision that all the encroachments, wherever they are, are legalised. So, those who are followers of rules and regulations stand to lose sometimes and those who defy the rules and regulations stand to gain. This is a very peculiar situation. While moving in my constituency, people ask me a question. People are repaying the Government loans in time but still some action is being taken against them but those who are resorting to different methods do not repay and they just carry on like that. There was a general waiver announcement about two or three years ago.

So, those who have means to repay it, do not bother to repay it and with result that they stand to gain. There should be some provision for very strict way of realisation of

such arrears or dues from such people. This provision should be retained in the Civil Procedure Code which dates back to 1908. After independence so many changes have taken place in our country.

Having regard to all these changes and also the type of socio-economic transformation that we have in mind, there should be a detailed study on our C.P.C. and Cr. P. C. Since, we were a party to it who had ratified this document viz. International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, it is obligatory on our part also to make necessary further changes in the C.P.C. After that a comprehensive Bill should also be brought forward by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) :
Madam, Chairperson, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Member who has introduced the Bill for the consideration of the House to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and thus has drawn the attention of the House to the civil liberty. The Code of Criminal Procedure enacted in 1885 was also amended in 1974-75 by this august House when there were discussions on human rights all over the world and there were movements at various places for personal liberty. This House amended several preventive sections of this code in 1974-75, particularly, sections 107, 117 and 151 which were mostly of preventive nature with special parameters for ending personal liberties. Extensive amendments were made in them by this House at the instance of the Supreme Court of India. But nothing could have been more tortions than the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 enacted by the Britishers whose brunt was borne by the oppressed and enslaved Indians. The sections 51 and 52 of this Code clearly state, "if any amount is outstanding against anybody..." then as per this section

that person may be detained for a period of 3 months if the amount payable is Rs. One thousand and if the amount payable is less than Rs. one thousand but more than Rs. 500 he may be detained or imprisoned for a period of 6 weeks. to what extent this section is being misused in a poor country like India can be witnessed in villages where a poor ordinary mans weither engage a lawyer nor can he file a suit in a law court. A rich person in society files a suit in the court for a small amout against the poor and sends them to jail for 1 1/2 to 3 months just for his satisfaction. They are detained for a period of 15 days on the basis of even an official affidavit where even the essential civi amenities are not provided. There is no scope for any facility in Tehsil level jails.

Madam, Chairperson, in our society the rich people who have an income-tax of crores of rupees outstanding against them and who have been sitting pretty on millions of rupees in the name of Bank loans. When this section is used against them, they get stay-orders from the higher courts. A legislation was passed in the last session that a special Court would be formed within 6 months to recover outstanding bank loans. Similarly, provision has been made to take legal action against those rich people who do not pay sales tax, income tax or bank loans. There is a wider scope to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 in such situation. A Select Committee had been constituted in 1974 after its enforcemet for 90 years to amend the Criminal Procedure Code. On similar lines, this Procedure, to face the challenges and to protect the freedom in Independent India, should also be amended . I therefore, urge upon the hon'ble Minister to take advantage of this opportunity and refer this Bill to a Select committee specially keeping in view that this Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 had been enacted by the British Government to harass and ruin the

poor Indians. I would like to thank the hon'ble Member for begning this Bill and by attracting the attention of the House to this one section, he has given us an opportunity to convince the House to consider that there is a scope for amending this Civil Code also. A Comprehensive Bill may be introduced by the Hon'ble Minister and be passed by this House. Only then we shall be able to fulfil our promises of civil liberties, to the cause of which India is committed. The poor common man, unemployed youth, who are harrassed under this section should be benefited by this new Bill. The same section sates that the Court can exonrate a person who declares himself insolvent. To declare and prove oneself insolvent is very easy in itself. There are many references to show the circumstances in which one can declare himself insolvent. But today circumstances necessitate a complete amendment. With these suggestions, I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to take the credit that the Civil Code Procedure was thoroughly amended during his ministership.

With these suggesions, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Madam, Chairperson, I stand to support, in principle, the Bill introduced by my learned colleague Shri Kaliaperumal.

Madam, this is a Private Bill. Usually the scope of the Bill is to highlight some of the aspects and areas of common interest. Usually under the procedure a Private Member's Bill may not be passed. However, it gives us an opportunity to discuss issues.

Madam, I feel this is an issue which has been very rightly brought forward by my learned friend. In fact, I have gone through the Bill only just now but because of the

[Sh. A Charles]

importance of the Bill, I thought, I should also give my views on this Bill.

The Code of Civil Procedure is an Act 5 of 1908, more than eight decades before we got our independence. There are certain acts which have been handed over as a legacy of the Britishers. I think, the time has come when we have to look back, rethink, re-examine, study and make suitable amendments. Law is said to be the crystallised commonsense of the community. When the thinking of the community changes, when the social needs change, when the social structure changes with the changed times, we have to bring forward legislations to suit the need to the time.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, my friend has pointed out Article 11 of the International Covenants of Social and Political Rights. Madam the word used is 'no one shall be imprisoned merely on the grounds of his inability to fulfil contractual obligations.' The word 'inability' is very important there. It is not the refusal or purposeful avoiding the payment. A person has become a pauper and he is unable to pay and in that circumstance if he is to be imprisoned, I am afraid we are still in the barbaric period and I may say that it is a draconian law.

Madam, when I talk on this Bill, a very beautiful story in the Bible comes to my mind. Jesus Christ was preaching all over. Multitudes followed him. He was teaching them in parables and he was fighting against the social injustices of that time. Those were the times of the Law of Moses an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Can we think of such draconian law in these days.

There was a debtor, he had to pay

20,000 pounds to a rich man and then under the law the debtor can be sold.

His wife and children could be sold, everything could be sold because that was the time of slavery. When this man was caught he was unable to pay. He pleaded with the creditor, he prayed that he and his family should be spared. The rich man was a kind man. He took pity on him and saw the agony of the family. Out of Compassion ahe was kindated manhe gave them freedom. That debtor was happy.

He was rushing to his home. But on the way he saw a small debtor who owed him only two and a half pounds. This man was returning with joy because he was relieved of the debt of a huge sum of 20,000 pounds and he was running back with joy. On seeing the debtor who was to pay him only two and half pounds, he caught him and demanded that he should pay the money. He replied that he was unable to pay and said that he was a pauper. But the first man insisted that he should pay the money. In the story it is said that he caught him by the neck and forced him to pay. Some people were watching this and they were unhappy. They were surprised that poor man owed him only two and a half pounds and this man was cruel and he was going to send the other man to the prison. So, they rushed back to the rich person who set him free and told him about all that had happend He became furious. He caught debtor and said that he would show no sympathy on him becuase as he had relieved him of a huge debt he should have also spare mercy to the other man. The story says that he was put into the prison.

So, here is a case of a person who was sent to prison for a small amount of 2½ pounds. What does the Code of Civil Procedure say about this? Again there is a proviso for the arrest and detention of such

a person. There it is provided that where the decree is for the payment of a sum of money, the execution of detention of any person shall not be ordered unless after giving the judgement-debtor an opportunity for showing cause. A number of provisos are given. It is only on those conditions that he can be sent to prison.

But I am surprised to see another clause here. Order XXI, First Schedule, under 'EXECUTION OF DECREES AND ORDERS' which says:

"Where a decree is for the payment of money the court may, on the oral application of the decree-holder at the time of the passing of the decree, order immediate execution thereof by the arrest of the judgement-debtor, prior to the preparation of a warrant if he is within the precincts of the Court."

Here it says that if the judgment-debtor is within the precincts of the Court, he can be immediately taken into custody.

But in the main Annexure Section 51, Clause (c) the proviso says, "due notice, reasonable opportunity has to be given". So, I think these two are contradictory and they cannot stand in a court of law. I am sure that it is high time that these provisions are re-examined and looked into. My friend Shri Sriballav Panigrahi was just now pointing out the cases where the abnormal increase of debt comes.

Madam you may know about the small and tiny industrial sector. I know hundreds of cases. I have an association in Kerala which has about one thousand units of the small and tiny industrial sector. More than 80 per cent of the units in the small and tiny industrial sector are now sick. They are

not able to pay the money. It is well-known that if somebody takes Rs. 50,000 as a loan from the nationalised banks or from other financial institutions and under unusual circumstances if he is unable to pay, then he is gradually getting into the debt trap.

And what is the present functioning of the present banking system? Once in three months the interest will be added to the capital and this goes on like that and a person who has taken Rs. 5000, it becomes Rs 5 lakhs after ten years.

In the last Session of the Parliament this august House has passed a legislation on Recovery of Dues Bill. If the dues of a person comes to Rs. 10 lakhs he comes within the ambit of the Act.

In Trivandrum, I know one case where a person has taken Rs. 1 lakh for a business. The amount then came to Rs. 17 lakhs. His house and property were given as security and a decree was passed for auctioning the house and property. The moment he came to know that the house is being auctioned, he committed suicide by hanging in his own house. It was only four months back. I may suggest that if a person takes Rs. 5 lakhs and if the dues come to Rs. 10 lakhs, let him come under the above Act.

I know that there was an Agricultural Debt Relief Act in the erstwhile State of Madras from where the mover of the Bill comes. According to this the maximum amount a debtor will have to pay will be only ample of what he has taken as loan. Thus if a person has take Rs.1000, the maximum that he has to pay back would be only Rs.2000 Like that, Rs. 5 lakhs taken as loan, the maximum at any point of time, that one has to repay should be limited to Rupees ten lakhs.

According to the CPC, a debtor can

[Sh. A. Charles]

be sent to the prison at the time of passing the decree if he is within the precincts of the court even though he may not have the time to inform his wife and children. I think, this is unfair. It is high time that we bring forward a suitable amendment to this. I request the hon. Law Minister to look into this; or even we can constitute a Committee to examine and put up proper proposals.

The mover of the Bill has also pointed out about Article 19 in support of his Bill. I quote :

“ To freedom of speech and expression, to assemble peaceably and without arms, to form associations or unions”.

This is a Section with wider interpretation and we cannot say that everybody will have an access to every place under Article 19(1) of the Constitution. There are of course restrictions.

Today I have the right of entering this august House. Tomorrow I may not be a Member of Parliament. Then can I have the right of entering this house ? So, article 19 does not give unsettled freedom to every one to move freely on he likes :

But article 19 gives us a direction. Anyway I congratulate, the mover of the Bill for presenting this Bill. He has presented it in a very learned manner and has given us an opportunity to look into this and to study this. I request that this may be taken very serious note of by the Government and by the learned Law Minister and I hope that the feelings and the sentiments that have been expressed here, will be respected and relief will be given to the really poor debtors who are unable to pay under unusual circumstances.

In any case, under no circumstances anybody be sent to prison because of his inability to repay the debt.

With those words, I support the Bill to the extent that necessary amendments will have to be brought forward to the Code of Civil Procedure so that this anomaly is removed.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT
SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. It is mentioned in this Bill that the poor who are unable to repay the loans are sentenced to imprisonment which cause lot of hardships to them. Our civil and criminal laws were framed during the period of British rule. These laws should be amended in such a way that the benefits of these reach the poor. We have to see as to how the poor may get rid of indebtedness and how they may be benefitted by modern laws. Many rich persons had taken loans but they did not repay them; their loans upto Rs. ten thousand were waived off. But we do not come forward to help those whose loans should really be waived off. The poor never intend to swallow the loans of the Government or money lenders. Loans are given to the poor but still there are people in villages who in spite of the enactment of many laws, do not want to be indebted heavily. That is why the poor go to banks and cooperative societies but there also, even if they take a loan of Rs. 500/- from them, the amount gradually increases to thousands of rupees. Some people keep the rate of interest so high that they cannot repay it in full throughout their life. Earlier, the rich people used to give loans and in lieu of that the borrower had to render services to the lender. This prompted the late Prime Ministers Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi to introduce the 20 Point Programme which emancipated

the poor from this trap of indebtedness. All the banks have a bad debt account which adjusts the loans of big people, but their reports are not published. There are tax evaders in this country who have undermined our economy. No suitable action is taken against them. When they are asked to pay taxes, they move the High Courts and the Supreme Court and get stay orders. That is why they do not get punished. But the poor who take petty loans are trapped in indebtedness by money lenders and banks and get punished. The cunning bank employees exploit them. Recently, I went to Bihar. There, I found that branches of many banks had given loans to such persons for purchasing machinery etc. who did not have any land. Therefore, the aim of our Government to alleviate poverty is getting a set back. The main object of this Bill is that the poor should not be penalised. As Shri Mohan Singhji has said, they have to pay Rs. 20 thousand just for a loan of Rs. 500/- but no action is taken against those who commit embezzlement of crores of Rupees. The Government should take action against those who are undermining the economy of the nation. Here, it has been said that recovery of loan from women should be made in such a way that they are not exploited. Today, atrocities are being committed on them. 2-3 days back, I was looking at a report where in it was stated that a lady was thrown out of her house with her 2 little children by her husband. She filed a case in the court and the court issued a decree against the husband. But even then no alimony was given to her. She was not in a position to bring up her children, though, of course, later her husband was punished by the court. I would like to submit that in such cases, where a husband commits such atrocities on his wife and children, it should be made mandatory on him to pay for their subsistence. Such women against whom decrees are issued but who are widows, no action should be taken against them. We

should fix a limit for a limit for this purpose which does not exist at present. The Government should contemplate seriously on this issue and bring a legislation which should safeguard the interests of widows and destitute women and punish the persons who commit embezzlements. In the erstwhile Greater Punjab, when Shri Chhottu Ram was the Revenue Minister, he had introduced a legislation that no one can buy the land from the farmers. That was the time of Britishers. That is how he saved the farmers. But today we have our own government. We have democracy in our country. Therefore, we want that no one should exploit those who are poor and helpless, who have no sympathisers. There should be stringent provisions in our Civil law to punish such capitalists who have usurped the whole wealth of the nation. The criminal and civil law should be used properly and if any amendment is required in them for this purpose, we should do it. I am grateful to hon. Member Perumal who has introduced this Bill. I support this Bill. I feel that the Government should accept some of his points and the hon. Member will withdraw it if hon. Minister asks him to do so. However, hon. Law Minister may consider as to how the poor can be benefitted from this legislation.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI B. AKBER PASHA (Vellore) : Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Civil Code Procedure (Amendment) Bill brought forward by my friend Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal, who is also from my State. I support the objects of this Bill. He himself is an advocate and he has done it in a nice manner. I did not have the intention of speaking today; but I was prompted by the way he has presented the Bill. I rise to support the Bill.

[Sh. Adber Pasha]

I would like to submit one thing that this Bill is as old as 1908. It is 85 years old. It requires some changes. Hence just like my previous speakers who have also made this suggestion, I suggest that a committee may be constituted to review the various provisions so as to suit the present socioeconomic changes.

1701 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Many things have been spoken about the hardship of the people who have to borrow money. Some of them have to pay interest as high as 60 per cent per annum which is hitting very hard the poor people. We have to safeguard the citizens and their fundamental rights as well as their human rights.

With these few words I support the Bill and I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I welcome this piece of legislation which Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal has introduced. This Private Members' Bill is on the right direction because this provision in the Civil Procedure of India is totally unacceptable. It should be changed. Actually this is a legacy of the colonial past because as it has been rightly mentioned in the State of Objects and Reasons, article 11 of the international covenant of Civil and political rights says that no one shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of his inability to fulfil contractual obligations. If somebody borrows money from a person and if he cannot give the money back at the prescribed time limit, the party can move the court and the court can pass a decree. If the

person is not in a position to repay the money, he will have to suffer imprisonment. This is highly cruel. This man is not repaying the money because of his inability, because of his poverty. But he has to suffer imprisonment for this. This is against all civilised human norms. I think that the Government will take care of this and the Government should come forward to amend this provision of the Civil Procedure Code.

There are other methods for getting the money back. There must be some provision to get back the money even from the person who has to give the money. The only point is that we have to adopt other methods than imprisonment. This is inhuman. This feudal provision should be deleted from our Civil Procedure Code.

When we speak of civil procedure code, there are certain provisions which are not in tune to the time. So, those are to be looked into and changed. There are certain demands from different corners of our country that certain provisions are inhuman and those do not fit when the time is changed, when the country is progressing, the world is changing. According to the change of the time, the provisions of C.P.C. also should be changed. Unfortunately, for a long time, no amendment or change of the provision has brought about by the Government in this regard. Because of those provisions, the poor people are suffering. Moneyed people can influence the court judgment and other things and they can secure a decree so that they can escape. Only the poor people are suffering.

So, the Bill which has been moved by the hon. Member Shri Kalia Perumal is very much relevant and it is highly helpful for the poor people who are suffering from poverty.

I request the hon. Minister who is a very learned lawyer will come forward to

accept the suggestion made by the hon. Member, Shri Kalia Perumal.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 moved by Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal. I wholeheartedly support this Bill moved by him on the basis of various grounds.

In the objects and reasons, the hon. Member has pointed out that article 11 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which came into force on 23.3.1976 says that no one shall be imprisoned merely on the ground of this being inability to fulfil contractual obligation. The law provides for the abolition of section 51 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. This section provides for the imprisonment of persons who have been declared debtors by the courts. Because of the imprisonment, the man who will be imprisoned will lose his civil right. What is the civil right? It is the right which consists in a bunch of privileges which prevail around the human being or individual person concerned. Those privileges enable him to protect his outer value and inner content of health. By outer value means, survival of the man which should be ensured in every civil society. This right was not available in the cave ages.

In the socio-economic condition of the society which was very much primitive, those rights were not recognised at all. After gradual progress and advancement of the society through struggle, we have been in a position to get all these rights. But even in the beginning of the 20th century, there was the British Government by which the colonial rule was established. In those days, the zamindars and landlords of our society could dominate the society and their wishes and intentions could be translated into law and those British rulers also fulfilled their wishes. In such a society, it was possible that when

a man was declared to be debtor to a landlord, he was to be imprisoned. But if the conditions and the circumstances led that individual to take loans and subsequently he failed to repay the loans, he was compelled to be imprisoned by the landlord through the mechanism of the British rule.

If a human being is imprisoned, if he is not given the privileges to move freely in the society, then his inner virtues cannot be developed. I think his inner virtues and his inner contents of value are restricted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Normally, you are given ten minutes. We have to do a lot of business. So, please conclude quickly.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Our society has made advancement. We achieved freedom 45 years ago. So, our rights should be preserved and I think these civil rights differ from political rights. These are not the political rights which the Bill seeks to preserve. But the intention of the author of the Bill is to safeguard the rights and privileges of any individual in our society and he has also quoted the relevant provision of our Constitution which said that international obligations should be restricted positively and I think the human society or the world body consisting of various human societies has very aptly provided for the preservation of the rights of the individual being. So, I think what was possible and what was relevant in the socio-economic conditions in those days in 1908, are not relevant in the present situation.

All those relevances have been lost. So, we have to think anew how best we can safeguard the interests of the individual beings; we have to think how best we can preserve their interests and rights. I think, in the present situation, a stage has been reached in which we can freely discuss how

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithala]

the rights of the individual beings can be saved; preserved in relation to the tortuous behaviour of those who are debtors. I think an expert committee should be constituted with people who have definite commitment to the social uplift of the people who are suppressed, who are deprived of their human value; who are deprived of their right to freedom of speech etc. So, an expert committee should be constituted. In this committee, some Members from both the Houses of Parliament should be included and some people who have actual commitment to the society should also be included. I think the Bill should be adopted by the Minister and the Government should also come forward with effective measures which could actually preserve the rights of the individual beings. So, I support the Bill.

Sir, I would like to conclude by saying that the hon. Member who has moved this Bill had stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that right to life and liberty of the indebted persons are also to be protected in a socialist State. Most probably, he has misconceived notion of the nature of our Indian State. Our State is not a socialist State. It is a bourgeois, capitalist, landlord State and the rules and regulations to be framed by this Government and by the States definitely will not protect the interests of the deprived and the downtrodden people. So, I appeal to him, through you, that if he really wants to give relief to the downtrodden, then, he must change his political views because the Congress Government in this country cannot actually give relief to the downtrodden people. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is making a suggestion that a Committee should be constituted to go into all these things and suitable amendments shall have to be

effected. I agree with you that he is a part of this system. Everyone is a part of the system existing in the country.

Thank you Shri Sudhir Giri. Now, the hon. Minister to reply..

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have put forth their views on this Amendment Bill which seeks to amend section 51 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The Bill seeks to further amend the Civil Procedure Code with a view to omit certain provisions relating to arrest and detention of judgement-debtors in civil matters and in civil prisons. The object and the spirit with which this amendment is sought to be brought forward is very noble. We are a democratic society and we value very much the life and liberty of our citizens.

You will find that the hon. Member has stated that the provisions of Code of Civil Procedure 1908 in relation to the arrest and detention in civil prison for their inability to satisfy the money decree passed against them are contrary to Article 11 of the International Covenants on civil and political rights. This is one point which the hon. member has made.

And the other point which the hon. Member has put forward is that the provisions of arrest and detention in these matters are also being misused and the indebted persons' life and liberty is being jeopardised.

The hon. Member has also drawn the attention of the House that this is violative of the Directive Principles enshrined in our Constitution. On all these points, the hon. Member seeks that we should delete clause 1 (c) of Section 51 of Code of Criminal

Procedure and omit subsequent sections 55, 57 and 58 and consequential deletions of the other execution procedure. You kindly find in Section 51 that there are various modes of recovery of the decree money by the decree holder against a judgment debtor and section (c) provides for the method by arrest and detention in prison for such period not exceeding the period specified in section 58, where arrest and detention is permissible under that section. There is a proviso to this. It says :

“ Provided that, where the decree is for the payment of money, execution by detention in prison shall not be ordered unless, after giving the judgment-debtor an opportunity of showing cause why he should not be committed to prison, the Court, for reasons recorded in writing, is satisfied.

- (a) That the judgement-debtor, with the object or effect of obstructing or delaying the execution of the decree,
 - (i) is likely to abscond or leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Court, or
 - (ii) has, after the institution of the suit in which the decree was passed, dishonestly transferred, concealed, or removed any part of his property, or committed any other act of bad faith in relation to his property, or
- (b) that the judgment-debtor has, or has had since the date of the decree, the means to pay the amount of the decree or some substantial part thereof and refuses or neglects or has refused

or neglected to pay the same, or

- (c) that the decree is for a sum for which the judgment-debtor was bound in a fiduciary capacity to account.”

All these are provisos. What it means is, if a decree holder want to recover money from a judgment-debtor the court will not straightaway arrest him unless it is satisfied that he is acting dishonestly or with a view to concealing property. These provisos have to be satisfied before his arrest can be ordered. Safeguards are there built-in, in that section. Only a dishonest judgment-debtor can be arrested for a specified period.

SHRI A. CHARLES : What about the other clause where he can be taken straightaway ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : This is the basic safeguard and nobody can violate it. If he is not in a position to pay money, there is no question of arresting him. If somebody does not have money, wherefrom are you going to get money from him ? He has no money, no property. That would be a torture. If he is straightaway sent to jail, it would be something uncivilised, that a person who has no means is sent to jail.

But, now, in this section itself, this proviso has given sufficient safeguard and before a court will order his detention or arrest, the court has to be satisfied; and this is the duty cast on the court that the court must satisfy that the judgment debtor is doing one of these things and, therefore, his arrest should be ordered. •

The second thing is a part of Section 51. This section contains both the provision and the exception. Therefore, if the court is satisfied that he has no means to pay, there

[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

are two exceptions. A person with nothing on him or a person who has no means or property, cannot be arrested; that is an accepted proposition and every day we see that. First of all, the court has to be satisfied. Otherwise, what are you going to get by sending a person to jail? So, this safeguard is given therein.

With regard to violation of Article 11 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, it was referred to the Law Commission and the Law Commission, headed by Justice Mr. Gajendra Gadkar had examined it. With your kind permission, I will read out the observation of the Law Commission. The Law Commission, after taking into consideration the decision of the High Court of Kerala, have declared that :

“ This question was discussed in a Kerala case, where it was held that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights does not have the force of Civil Law. Individual citizens cannot, therefore, complain about breach in Municipal Courts. It was also held, that section 51 (c) does not violate the above article.

The Kerala High Court observed -

As already indicated by me, this provision (provision in the International Covenant) only interdicts imprisonment if that is sought solely on the ground of inability to fulfil the obligation.

Section 51 also declares that if the debtor has no means to pay, he cannot be arrested and detained. If he has, and still refuses or neglects to honour his obligation, or if he commits acts of bad faith, he incurs the liability to imprisonment under section 51

of the Code, but this does not violate the mandate of Article 11. However if he once had the means but now has not, or if he has money now on which there are other pressing claims, it is violative of the spirit of Article 11 to arrest and confine him in jail so as to coerce him into payment. The construction of the proviso to section 51 C.P.C. suggested by the Division Bench of this Court in Francis V. Palal Central Bank Limited harmonises the noble objective of the International Covenant and the provision in the Civil Procedure Code.”

These provisos to section 51 and Article 11, harmonise each other. You cannot send those innocent people to jail, who have no means to pay that. Therefore, there is an inbuilt safeguard in the section itself. I am not saying that it is a very good provision.

SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGARHI: The small farmers, marginal farmers and those who have a marginal property, are also being tried under this proviso.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Let me reply. It is a very important question. It is not violative of Article 11 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This Law Commission's Report is based on the judgment of Kerala High Court .

So, this contention of the hon. Member that it is violative of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights, in my humble view, is not correct.

The fact remains that the other aspect whether it violates any of the fundamental rights was also answered by the Supreme Court in the judgment of the case of Jolly George Verghese Vs Bank of Cochin, A.I.R. 1980, S.C. 47. Article 21 of the Constitution provides that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according

to procedure established by law. In para 10 of their judgment in *Jolly George Verghese Vs Bank of Cochin, A.I.R. 1980, S.C. 470*, the Honourable Supreme Court of India has occasion to observe as follows :

“ The proviso to section 51 of the Code would not suffer from the lethal blow of article 21 and would not therefore be struck down. The provisions of the Code relating to arrest and detention are law within the meaning of that expression as defined in clause (3) of article 13 of the Constitution. This being the position, the provisions of section 51 (c) of the Code are Constitutionally valid and is in harmony with article 11 of the International Covenant.”

So, the submission that it is violative of article 21 also is not legally sound. But there is some force in the argument of the hon. Member Shri Mohan Singh and others that we are a very enlightened and a democratic society where people should not be sent to jail because our country is poor. Shri Panigrahi said about small and marginal farmers. That provision is there in my mind and I personally feel that there is a need to review our Civil Procedure Code, Criminal Procedure Code and the Evidence Act.

Sir, with your permission, I would like to take the House into confidence that we are quite alive that our law needs a lot of change. Recently, we have put the agenda before the nation in the Meeting of the Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices and we are going to give a substantially strong system in favour of the rural poor. That is what we have promised and in that procedure, we are trying to build as much safeguards as possible for the rural poor in which small and marginal farmers, peasants, workers,

Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and Children are covered. One amendment of a section will not solve the problem because, after all once you get a decree against some person, you cannot detain him. But the Question of poverty and pestilence is basic in our country and we should bend the law in favour of the poor. Unless we bend the law in favour of the rural poor and those under-privileged sections of the society who are handicapped because of lack of resources, the answer will not be there by amending one particular section.

So, I congratulate the hon. Member for giving this suggestion and I promise that we will have a wide ranging debate as to how we should improve the system. I agree that this Anglo-Saxon system has not been very successful in recent years due to increasing cost of litigation and other reasons, but this is not an opportunity. I had already discussed this matter at length with Law Ministers throughout the country. We will examine this issue also along with other amendments. Personally, I value his suggestion that no person, for non-payment of money, should sacrifice his life and liberty. This is a very wholesome and noble principle and I quite share this view. But, that needs a different type of procedure and trail. We will examine it while we examine the other laws. So, I request the hon. Member to kindly withdraw this Bill.

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as a man who is committed to social justice and human rights I had an opportunity to present this Bill and express my intentions. Since the hon. Law Minister has assured to review the Code of Civil Procedure generally and since he shares my views, I would like to withdraw this Bill.

I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

" That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL : I withdraw the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Item No. 19. Shri Kashiram Ran - Not present.

Item No. 20. Shri Ram Naik
- Not present.

17.36 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Increasing Population in the country

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we have got *sometime*. We have also got an important subject to discuss, that is about the population problem, under Rule 193. If you all agree, we can take it up now. I take it

that you all agree. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

[ranslation]

SHRIRAMVILASPASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are going to discuss an issue which is not related to any political party and I am happy to note that the hon. Speaker himself took interest in holding discussion on the issues that have not been discussed in the House during last few years and he took the decision in consultation with all the members of the B. A. C. Today the attendance in the House is poor though we are going to discuss an important issue.

Thanks to the farmers of the country due to whom we are self-reliant in agriculture sector and have been able to face this severe situation arising out of the population explosion. But, the day the fertility of our fields comes to a stand still, the situation will be explosive. The land has its own limitations. America has three times more land than we have today but its population is one third as of ours Canada has one and half times more land than that but its population is very less but our population is increasing. We have 2.4% of the total world land but our population is 16%. This population is increasing day by day. I would like to present some figures before the House :

Country	Population in 1950	Population in 1992
United Kingdom	50 million	58 million
U. S. A.	52 "	255 "
Japan	83 "	124 "
Italy	87 "	58 "
Germany	72 "	80 "
France	42 "	57 "
Canada	14 "	27 "
Australia	8 "	18 "

Today our country is holding the second position after China in the world. The population of China was 560 million in 1950 which is 1167 million today. If we combine the total population of our country along with the population of Pakistan and Bangladesh, it comes equal to the population of China. Pakistan and Bangladesh were parts of our country. Today, if we see the population of Bangladesh it comes to 113 million and the population of Pakistan is 120 million. If the population of Bangladesh, Pakistan and our country is combined it comes to 1150 million.

That is why I have mentioned that on one hand our population is on the rise and on other hand our resources are limited. While sitting here in Delhi, we plan to make arrangements for schools for certain lakhs of children for a particular year but by the time we implement that plan, our population is increased two fold. If a school building is constructed in England, the number of children in that school remains the same even after 10 years but in our country if a school building is constructed for one thousand children, the number of the children reaches upto 10 thousand by the time it is completed. That is why, I have said that this problem is not related to any political party but it is a serious problem which is above party politics.

There are three types of countries in the world—one of them are the higher income countries, where the per capita income is high in comparison to the other countries, like U.K., U.S.A. Japan, Italy, France, Canada, Australia. The population of these countries has not increased to the extent as that of middle income countries or the low income countries.

The population of the middle income countries like Algeria, Korea, Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, Thailand and Poland has

comparatively increased. The population in low income countries like Afganistan, Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, India and Pakistan has increased at a much high pace particularly, during the last few years. The main reason for this phenomenon is the climate of those countries. India is also among those countries who have hot climate. In hot climate countries, the productivity age among boys starts at the age of 15-16 years, while in girls it starts at the age of 13-14 years whereas in cold countries, the productivity age among boys is 20 years and in girls it is 18 years onwards. Therefore, the climate of a country plays a decisive role in population growth of a country.

The second reason of population growth is illiteracy. Everyday, it is shown on T.V. that after every 1.2 second a child takes birth in our country. Fifty children take birth in a minute in our country and in one hour the figure reaches 3000 children which means 72 thousand children take birth every day in our country. In this way, the population of our country is increasing at the rate of 1.75 crore per annum. It is true that due to better health services, the average age in our country has gone up to 59-60 years in 1992, while it was 32 years in 1950 but on one hand, we have controlled death-rate while on the other hand, the population of our country is increasing with the same pace.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to the figures available with me show that we have 3,28,72,631 square kilometre of land which is just 2.4 per cent of the total land mass of the universe whereas we have 16 per cent of the world population in our country.

The most disturbing thing is that in 1901 the population of the country was 252 million which rose to 359 million in 1950 and in 1993 it reached 90 crores. It reveals that from 1901 to 1950 the population of the

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

country increased by one and a half time whereas from 1950 to 1993, it has increased two and half times. The situation is explosive. The result of such a situation is that 70 per cent people in the country do not have proper housing facility. They either live in huts or in such houses where no facility exists. Today, why the people from the villages are migrating to Delhi ? Why the people from the villages are migrating to Calcutta, Bombay or Madras? Because they are not getting the basic facilities like electricity, road and proper housing there, what will happen to a country like ours where 70 per cent population cannot afford even a hut.

Mr. deputy speaker. Sir, in our country 4 crore people either do not have houses or they are living on pavements. Just now, I was going through the statistics; in 1950, 170 kilograms of foodgrains was required per capita per annum in asia Continent. But in India, even today it is 140 kilogram per annum. To accomodate this growing population of our country, we require 25 lakh additional houses, 1.26 lakh schools, 3.2 lakh teachers, 4.3lakh additional employmet opportunities, 1.2 crore quintals of foodgrains and 175 crore metres of cloth every year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, in the light of all these problems it seems that the problem of growing population is the gravest. There are several reasons for it and the Government spends lot of money also to solve these problems. As we know, during seventh five Year Plan Rs. 3256 crores were allocated for family welfare and this amount has been raised to Rs. 6600 crores during the Eighth Five Year Plan thus making it double the amount allocated in the Seventh Plan In spite of all this, the Government is not getting the expected results and there are reasons for it. Our social traditions are mainly

responsible for it. Even today, our country is a male dominated one. Even in ancient times of Ramayana also, we find that King Dashratha had to perform a yajna to have son. According to one of our traditions, no person can go to heaven if his pyre is not lit by his son. Thus it has become a tradition that one must have a son. In villages, even today people bless their youngers for having hundred sons. We shall have to do away with the old traditions of which we have been proud of. Rs. 6500 crore has been allocated for family planning but the deserving people are not getting its benefit. Salaried people living in Delhi are educated people and they understand that they cannot rear more children. They, therefore, find out ways in this regard. But in rural areas, one cannot easily buy contraceptive pills. In Delhi also, one cannot buy contraceptive pills as easily as Onacin. In the name of ideals, all the evil deeds are going on in the country. Neither we have followed the Western countries nor our own traditions.

A National policy on population should be formulated. Sanjay Gandhi had his own thinking in this regard, but this issue was mishandled by the administration and it committed excesses and emergency was imposed. It would have been better if the Government had supplied background material regarding action taken by it before the members spoke on this issue. In my view no political party should try to have political mileage out of it. The basic issue is that a national policy should be formulated to curb the rate of increasing population and in the meantime the Government should have general consensus at the earliest including the change of viewpoint of the people living in villages.

In our country, people wear 20 meter long turbans whereas in foreign country, skirt of 2 1/2 metre is worn by a girl. We have

introduced a ten metre long saree and on an average durability of a pant is equal to the durability of five sarees. We feel proud of wearing turbans. We have never given a thought to economise the use of cloth hand water and how to use nutritious food. We have not been able to wipe out superstitions from the minds of people living in villages and to tell them properly about the norms of small family and its advantages. They say that the god has blessed them with son and if they have more children, they will be able to work more and earn more. The result is that population is increasing rapidly. Increase in population is but natural in a country where 51 per cent people are illiterate. The rate of increase in population in Kerala is 1.3 per cent where 90 per cent people are educated. This problem is ever increasing in countries where illiteracy is more. This problem does not exist in developed countries but in the developing countries and the Countries having low income which do not have proper housing, drinking water, education and medical facilities for their people, this problem has been continuously increasing.

20 years earlier, plague and cholera were considered as divine wrath, smallpox was called 'Bari Maa' and no treatment used to be given for it. T. B. too was considered a divine wrath. Even today in tribal areas, people believe in existence of witches etc. There is no such thing as law and order in those areas. Superstition is a social evil which causes problem of rapid increase in population. In our society, mothers with daughters and fathers with sons cannot talk freely. In cities, cable televisions have been installed whereas there is no such facility in villages. People there have to live a censored life. There is a need to think with open mind in this matter. Here we have all the facilities but in villages, the poor have small huts in which they live. You have created an

impression in the minds of the people that men and women relation is only meant for producing children. Therefore, the foremost need is to wipe out such thinking from the minds of people. If the government has good intentions it should give it wide publicity.

18.00 hrs.

The Government can supply contraceptives free of cost through fare price shops. It will lose the cause. But we have already seen that the number of vasectomy operations does not cross the figure of one lakh at any given time. The vasectomy operation is not only expensive, it brings bad name also to the Government whereas the benefits in proportion to the expenditure made are very less.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Paswan one minute. Shall we sit for some more time ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I am concluding now. Tomorrow, I will not be here. I am going to Calicut, Kerala in connection with the State Backward Classes Commissions' Conference.

[Translation]

Sir, I would like to emphasise that there is need to change the attitude of common people and to formulate an effective national policy in this regard after discussing the issue with all the political parties. From the Janata Dal's side I assure you that we will support the Government in taking any effective steps in this regard.

With these words, I hope that

[Sh. P.P. Kauaperumal]

Parliament would be able to take an important decision in regard to this serious matter after the debate. I thank you for allowing me to speak on this issue.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deograh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you kindly do one thing. You ascertain in the very beginning from the hon. Members who are likely to participate in this discussion as to what is the number of issues they are having and if they do not have more than one, then only you allow them to speak, otherwise not.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Sir, he is right. Anybody who has more than one child, he should not be allowed to participate in this debate.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi) : How many issues the hon. Member will be having after this debate ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Members are realising it very late. Should they regret for that ? Should they be denied to have more ?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, kindly instruct the Minister in charge that he

must circulate papers on which the hon. Members can express their views. There must be some background paper on this.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, you make it compulsory that in future only those hon. Members who have only one child will be allowed to come to Lok Sabha so that the people get a message. Otherwise, there will not be any message regarding this.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Will this be applicable to the Minister also? If any Minister who has more than one child, will he be allowed to continue as a Minister?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : That is correct. But that should be made applicable only in the future

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : So, the House will not be in a position to sit for some more time.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : If you ask the House to continue still further, then we will ask for Quorum.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet on Saturday, the 18th December, 1993 at 11.00 a.m

18.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Saturday,
December 18, 1993/Agrahyana 7, 1915
(Saka)*