

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

**Tenth Session**  
**(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



2  
Date 8-8-95

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

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXIV

[Tenth Series, Tenth Session. 1993/1915 (Saka)]

No. 13

## LOK SABHA

*Monday, August 16, 1993/Sravana 25,  
1915 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### PRASAR BHARATI ACT, 1990

\*261 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

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

(a) whether discussions on the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 have been held with all concerned recently;

(b) if so, whether any amendments have been proposed to the Act; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) to (c) Further action is being taken to consult political parties and employees associations on the proposed amendments to Sections 11, 23 and 25 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHJELA GAUTAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 400 amendments to the Act have been brought forward. Of them, 65 amendments have been passed after hectic discussions. The Government have assured the House time and again that it would be implemented. But

Doordarshan and A.I.R. are still under the control of the Government. As long as it continues to remain under the control of the Government, there will neither be improvement nor will it be able to serve the nation. Will the Government issue notification to implement this law or not? If so, by when it will be implemented? Otherwise, this Bill will remain unimplemented.

[Translation]

[English]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the hon. Member's question is regarding how to improve and put in the service of the nation and that is the very thing which the Government is considering.

In the Consultative Committee of Parliament, we have decided that within six months viz. by 31st December, the consultation with political parties here in Parliament and the Association will be complete and then I will have to go to the Government and then bring the Bill in its entirety to Parliament.

This is the time limit which we had set; and it had been agreed by all the Members of the Committee. There was a consensus. In the last meeting of the Consultative Committee, we had decided because there were wide ramifications.

By the end of this Parliament Session, I will be meeting all the leaders of all the political parties here in Parliament. I have written to them a letter; they should be receiving that letter by today; and before the session ends on the 27th of August, I will be consulting them. Then during the inter-session period, we will be meeting all the associations and the unions; and by December, I will be in a position to complete it.

*[Translatoin]*

**SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary whether the autonomous character of Doordarshan and A.I.R. will continue even after delegating powers to the Government under section 23, 24 25 of the Prasar Bharati Act. If not, what is the rationale of introducing this legislation?

*[English]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is a question of opinion; but you cannot ask for the opinion from the Minister.

**DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :** I am grateful to you for this. The Minister has stated here that further action is being taken for discussion with political parties. What are the earlier discussions which held by the Government so far with any political party or with any State Government or with any such corporation?

**SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :** The decision to consult the political parties here in Parliament and the associations was made last year by my distinguished predecessor. I am only following up the action. Since 1990, there has been a spate of activities as a result of which we are in the final stages of formalising the Prasar Bharati Act as a result of discussions.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prasar Bharati Bill was passed by the Parliament in 1990. The question was to implement it. The hon. Members who were in the Ninth Lok Sabha would recall that the consent of all parties was taken in the matter at that time. When the Bill was being discussed in the House, record number of amendments were considered and the Bill was passed. Despite that, it has not been implemented. It indicates as to what is the intention of the Government. The Government does not want to take out the Doordarshan and the A.I.R. from its grip since it has become a very powerful media after the introduction of five channels.

Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the details of the proposed amendments to these three sections. What are their broad details? The Government should explain whether it wants to make the Prasar Bharati Bill null and void or ineffective or it really wishes to make it an autonomous body.

*[English]*

**SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :** Actually, it was introduced in 1979. Then the Government fell. In 1990, it was taken up again; it had got the President's assent. Again the Government fell before implementing it. It was this Government which picked up the thread in August 1991; and as a result of that—as I mentioned in my earlier statement—there are—after a complete review of the Act only three sections. Eleven, 23 and 25 are the amendments which were to be incorporated or to be amended. This we have already discussed in the Consultative Committee amongst ourselves. There is a unanimity in that, I will tell him the broad details of sections 11, 23 and 25.

As far as Section 11 is concerned, the Central Government is empowered to transfer to the Corporation any officer or employee on the cadre of Akashvani and Doordarshan. The proviso to this sub-section prohibits the issue of order in respect of any officer or other employee in the Akashvani or Doordarshan, who opts against becoming an employee of the corporation.

The reason for this proposed amendment is that the proviso is silent about the manner of regulating the services of the officers who opt against being transferred. The proposed amplification is suggested to make the position clear.

The second one is Section 23. This enables the Central Government to issue to the Corporation directions in the interest of the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India or the security of the State or preservation of public order not to make the broadcast—operative word is 'not'—on any matter of public importance specified in that direction. The reasons are: the existing provisions of this Section are somewhat ambiguous. It is therefore, proposed to bring more clarity through the proposed amendment. The proposed provision which we have brought is to indicate that Government would enjoy the power of issuing directions to the Corporation not only about not to broadcast but also to direct it to make broadcast in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.

The third one is Section 25. This Section provides for the manner in which the Board of Prasar Bharati can be superseded. It empowers the President to issue a show cause notice to the Corporation after receiving the recommendation from the Parliament for the supersession of its Board.

The primacy of Parliament in deciding the supersession of Prasar Bharati is proposed to be highlighted through the proposed amendment. Therefore, the intention is not to run away or to hijack the proposed legislation. The Government's stand is to make it into more foolproof and as the hon. Member said the five channels will definitely have to be reviewed because the five channels were not there when the original Bill was conceived neither during the time when it was reviewed.

Now that we are going to meet the leaders of various political parties and the associations, this point will also be taken up. Government is moving this to the logical conclusion and I would request the hon. Member not to have the doubt that we will hijack the Bill.

**SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :** Sir the Bill was passed in 1990 and there was a clear statement of the then Minister of Information and Broadcasting that it will be implemented in March 1991. No doubt there was a change of Government but that was also processed by the Department as the Department Officers were there when the Bill was passed. What are the objective factors that led the Government to delay the implementation of the Bill? What objective factors developed that the Government thought that the Bill should not be implemented?

**SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :** As I mentioned earlier this present Government came in June 1991. In August 1991 it picked up the threads from where it had been left incomplete both in 1990 as well as in March 1991. As a review it found that three clauses, as I said Section 11, 23 and 25 which were ambiguous and defective, require to be reviewed and this amendment brought in so that it may be made foolproof and there is no ambiguity. This has been found consensus in the Consultative Committee. I am discussing it with the leaders before the 27th of August and we are committed to bring it to the House by 31st of December so that there is no delay whatsoever.

#### FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

\*263. **SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :**  
**SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :** Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an investment of Rupees 300 crore was anticipated in food processing sector during the Eighth Plan after the announcement of liberalised industrial policy;

(b) if so, the total capital investment for which approval was accorded to various projects till June 1993 and the actual investment made during the period;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bridge this gap of investment;

(d) the foreign exchange earned during the last financial year and the target fixed for the current financial year;

(e) whether the Government propose to invest more in research and development work relating to food processing sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :** (a) Expected investment in food processing and deep sea fishing sector during the Eighth Plan is Rs. 12,000 crores.

(b) : Since liberalisation, Government have approved investment proposals worth approximately Rs. 4,500 crores and the estimated actual investment during the period is Rs. 700 crores. Government have also received 2185 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda containing investment proposals of over Rs. 28,000 crores.

(c) : While no gap in investment is envisaged, the situation regarding implementation of these proposals is monitored.

(d) : Foreign exchange earning from export was approximately Rs. 3457 crores in 1992-93 and it is targetted at Rs. 3930 crores in 1993-94.

(e) and (f) : The Ministry has earmarked Rs. 2.65 crores for 1993-94 and Rs. 8.15 crores for the 8th Plan period under its Plan schemes for assisting research and development proposals in fruits & vegetable processing, meat & poultry processing, soya products, traditional foods, packaging, grain milling and for a Food Engineering Centre at Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.

**SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :** The food processing sector ranks fifth in terms of its contribution to value addition and tops the list in terms of employment content with approximately 1.5 million persons employed, consisting of 19 per cent of the country's industrial labour. Further, this industry contributes 19 per cent of the total number of manufacturing units, 13.5 per cent of the output and 6.5 per cent of the value added. In sharp contrast with other sectors, the food processing industry accounts for 5.2 per cent of the investment of the industry in the whole country and contributes to 18 per cent of the GDP.

Under the circumstances, considering the present scenario of the food processing sector, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the major constraints are in this sector, to attract better investment and what are the thrust lines on which this sector will grow. What is the initiative taken by the Government in mobilising the cost effective technology for storage, processing and marketing of the agricultural products?

**SHRI TARUN GOGOI :** The first constraint is the lack of infrastructural facilities in the country. For example facilities like roads, communications, cooling facilities, insulated vehicles, port facilities, shipping facilities are not adequate. Then come the high costs, like cost of marketing etc., because of which the market, even the domestic market, is not picking up. Then the cost of the packaging materials is also there. Then there is another factor about processable raw materials being not available over a long period at a reasonable price. These are the factors which are standing in the way.

The Government has formulated lot of new schemes for development of all these areas. This Ministry was created only a few years back. For the improvement of the infrastructural facilities, first of all, we have taken steps. We have also taken steps for the reduction of excise and customs duties so that they are affordable and the consumer can get them at reasonable prices. We are also helping in marketing the products of small units. We are trying to link up the processing industry with the farmers, which we call it backward linkage. These are the steps which the Government of India is taking and there is also a scheme for giving assistance for research and other activities.

**SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the monitoring mechanism to ensure that the food processing units function within the policy laid down by the Government and whether it is a fact that a foreign investor like Pepsi has flouted the conditions of the licensing.

**SHRI TARUN GOGOI :** We have formulated the scheme for giving assistance to nodal agencies being set up in different States for monitoring.

About Pepsi, in fact, there was a case earlier. Pepsi was given a licence. At that time there was no need for a licence because it was delicensed in 1985. But they applied for it and we gave the licence. Then there was an export obligation that 50 per cent of the total turnover would be exported. There was an allegation again that there was a violation of the export obligation and we have written to the Director General of Foreign Trade.

**SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA :** The hon. Minister just mentioned that lack of raw materials stands in the way of further growth of the industry. But it think that the Government, before setting up of an industry, also investigates whether raw material is available or not.

Sir, I would just mention one example. The Modern Food Industry, Silchar, which was a Government Undertaking, was set up at the cost of several crore of rupees. We do not know the reasons as to why this industry had been handed over to a private party.

**MR. SPEAKER :** This is a specific question. You are moving from general to a specific question.

**SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA :** This is a specific question regarding food processing.

I want to know on what basis that was handed over to the private party and the Memorandum of Understanding.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please understand that you cannot jump from the general to the specific question.

**SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA :** Sir, this is a very pertinent question.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be important but you should follow the rules.

Mr. Minister, if you have the information, please reply. Otherwise, you can send the reply to him in writing.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: The Government has not handed over the plant to any private party.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO: Sir, the basic research in the preservation of seasonal fruits is not being done and the technology available with the CFTRI is not being popularised also. The Government has decided to start this preservation process for jack-fruit and pineapple at its own factory, especially in Kerala where these fruits are growing. Once, in this House the Minister had given an assurance in this regard. But the Government has not come forward. Before the private sector or the private enterprise coming to this field because of lack of technology, will the Government come forward with pilot projects so that the technology for preservation of the seasonal fruits, especially jack-fruit and pineapple, will be popularised in Kerala?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In fact, the Government would not set up any industry. We are encouraging the private sector to set up industries. We are giving the research assistance to CFTRI. We are giving the research assistance to the State Governments also, if they want to do any research in this regard.

#### OIC MEET

\*264. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN:

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) was held in Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, whether reference to Kashmir was made by Pakistan and resolution to that effect was adopted by OIC during the meet;

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

(d) whether the Government have taken up the matter with OIC and its member countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof and their response thereto; and

(f) the steps taken proposed to be taken by the Government to counter such moves by Pakistan at various international fora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATTIA): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The relevant extract of the communique issued at the conclusion of the OIC Special Ministerial Meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina held in Islamabad on July 12-13, 1993 is attached along with the Indian official statement of July 15, 1993.

(d) to (f) India's position on Kashmir has been unequivocally conveyed to OIC and its member-states at various levels. The OIC and member-states are, therefore, not lacking in information regarding India's stand. As a result of these efforts, a large number of OIC member countries have affirmed their desire to strengthen friendly relations with India regardless of pronouncements made at OIC meetings. We are continuing our efforts with OIC number-states and others to apprise them of the true facts regarding Kashmir, especially in regard to instigation and support from Pakistan to terrorism in Kashmir.

#### OIC Special Ministerial Meeting

(Islamabad: July 12-13, 1993)

#### Relevant Extract from Final Communique

The meeting strongly condemned the continuing massive and systematic violations of the human rights of the Kashmiri people and expressed its serious alarm over the deployment of thousands of additional Indian troops to quell the popular Kashmiri uprising for self-determination. It urged the international community to persuade India to cease forthwith its policy of repression against the Kashmiri people and to enable them to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. It also appealed to the member states to provide humanitarian assistance to the Kashmiri people. It also

reaffirmed the provisions of Resolution 9/21 on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute adopted by the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and called for a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Resolutions.

**Official Spokesman's Statement on the Special Ministerial Meeting of the OIC Member Countries in Islamabad on July 12 & 13.**

We are surprised to learn that the communique issued after the Special Ministerial Meeting of the OIC on Bosnia-Herzegovina held at Islamabad on July 12 & 13 has made references to Kashmir. Immediately on receiving the news we contacted a number of representatives of the OIC member countries which participated in the Special Ministerial Meeting. These friendly countries have indicated to us that the communique's references to Kashmir were discussed at the special meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina and were imposed on them at the last minute as a Pakistani proposal. They did not wish to raise a controversy over this at the forum of the OIC meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina, but they have clarified to us that they, on their part, do not question the territorial integrity of India or concur with advocacies for the dismemberment of any state under the guise of concepts of human rights or self-determination. Pakistan has once again patently attempted to involve other Islamic countries in its acts of subterfuge in blatantly interfering in the international affairs of India. Pakistan's conduct is in contravention of the spirit of Simla Agreement under which India and Pakistan are committed to resolve their differences through bilateral negotiations. Though India has high respect for OIC member countries and has friendly relations with them, it is regrettable that the Secretary General of the OIC made a statement at this meeting which was in its approach on Kashmir partisan and attempted to project his views as the view of the OIC. In any case, the Government of the people of India find his views untenable and unacceptable.

*New Delhi*

*July 15, 1993*

**SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :** Sir, the Organisation of Islamic Conference took place on the 12th and 13th July. The Agenda for this Conference was actually the situation and support to Bosnia-Herzegovina. But the discussion

ultimately took place about Kashmir and even a Resolution condemning India for its present measures in Kashmir was passed. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government was aware that a Resolution to this effect will be put up by Pakistan or not. Why were we not ready for this? What kind of action we have taken to contact the OIC countries in order to avoid this kind of a situation?

**SHRI R.L. BHATIA :** Sir, the attitude of Pakistan is very clear that on all the fora of the world, they always create the question of Kashmir, whether it was proper to put up this question or not. In this meeting, it was specially called for Bosnia-Herzegovina issue and that was the only Agenda. This matter was not discussed at all. No proposal was sent. No Resolution was put forward. At the end of the meeting, when the meeting was over, Pakistan brought a Resolution, which was not even discussed, but it became a part of the Communique.

**SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :** Sir, Pan Islamism is a political creed which is creeping up and destroying the peace in the world. The countries like Algeria and Egypt are really worried about this and to a certain extent, they had taken certain decisions in their own countries to curb this fundamentalism. Has India contacted these two friendly countries to take their help for the kind of mischief which Pakistan is playing by giving a wrong information to the OIC members? What was their reaction?

**SHRI R.L. BHATIA :** Sir, India has contacted not only these countries but all the other countries and we have very categorically explained our position with regard to Kashmir and with regard to the human rights question which Pakistan generally raises, and all these countries are aware of this fact . . .  
(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please do not interrupt. It is not correct.

**SHRI R.L. BHATIA :** So, we have been able to explain to them and India's point of view is very well known to them.

**SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :** Sir, in the statement, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the continuing efforts with the OIC members regarding the Kashmir issue. Our External Affairs Minister is doing a good job on that. But there are certain reports that several countries

which previously supported us, are now reluctant to support us, especially in the OIC Ministerial meetings, because of the highly shameful incident which had occurred on the 6th of December. I would like to know whether India finds any difficulty in convincing these members of OIC, On India's stand on Kashmir.

**SHRI R.L. BHATIA :** Sir, India finds no difficulty as our stand is very clear. Our Missions have contacted all those countries and explained our position. In our own meetings with the Foreign Ministers, we have always been emphasising India's point of view. I would like to explain to the Members that all these resolutions are there, all these countries do meet in these committees, but it has no effect on our bilateral relations. I can explain that our bilateral relations have even improved. Therefore, this is a rhetoric which Pakistan continues to do in these meetings. There is no effect on our bilateral relations with these countries.

**SHRI ANNA JOSHI :** Sir, I am very glad that in spite of the stand taken by all these member nations which have taken part in this Conference, their relations with India are very good, and we congratulate the Foreign Minister for that. But I would like to say that when this resolution was passed in that OIC, all of them have supported it. How is it that on one side we say that they have got no misunderstanding about our stand and, on the other side, the resolution is passed and not a single country of them as opposed it? So, how will you explain that?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :** Sir, no resolution was passed. This was mentioned only in the communique. There are two aspects which I would request the hon. Members to bear in mind. One is the merit of the Kashmir issue on which we have very wide support, including from the members of the OIC. But Pakistan presents it as a religious issue, in which they find it embarrassing to oppose Pakistan. So, they do not support Pakistan but they tend to become neutral in that because of the purely religious aspect of the question. But, otherwise, there is wide support for us. There was no doubt that the incident of 6th December did arouse religious sentiment . . . . .  
(Interruptions)

**SHRI ANNA JOSHI :** I have not asked that.

**SHRI DINESH SINGH :** No, this is with regard to the earlier question. I am only giving more information that it did affect the sentiments of Muslims in other countries but they fully appreciate the role of the Government and are convinced that this Government will protect and is capable of protecting the minorities and their interests and that India's secular policy will continue despite these aberrations that come in from time to time.

[Translation]

#### TELEPHONES IN DELHI

**\*265. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of telephones in Delhi went out of order after the very first pre-monsoon rain on June 24, 1993;

(b) whether thousands of telephones further west out of order after the first monsoon rain on July 7, 1993;

(c) if so, the number of telephones which went out of order, zone-wise, with reasons therefor;

(d) the reasons for delay in their restoration; and

(e) the measures taken to avoid such breakdowns in future?

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :** (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Sir, around 20,000 telephones out of a total of about 7 lakh were rendered non-operational due to heavy pre-monsoon rains on 24-6-1993.

(b) only around 20,000 telephones became in-operative due to very heavy rainfall that lashed the capital on 7-7-93 and another 20,000 went faulty in the next two days.

(c) The details are given in Annexure-I.

(d) Although round the clock restoration work was taken up immediately after the faults were detected, the work was seriously hampered due to frequent rains, water-logging and poor drainage. Whereas restoration work was taken up to attend the faulty underground cables as expeditiously as possible, the customers were kept informed of the areas affected through the media. Specific instructions have also been issued to grant rebate in rental as provided under rules on account of telephones remaining continuously faulty for seven or more days. In addition easy to remember 'Help Line' telephones have been opened for prompt attention to clear delayed complaints.

(e) As long term measures, the planned ducting of cable routes is being expedited besides greater emphasis on pressurisation of old paper insulated cables.

#### ANNEXURE—I

Total number of telephones which had become defective in the five zones due to rains on 7-7-93 and in the following two days were :

Zone	No. of affected telephones.
Central	1594
East	2221
North	7095
South	16711
West	12595
	<hr/> 40216 <hr/>

The main reason for the telephones becoming faulty after the rainfall was ingress of water/moisture in underground cables at points where they were damaged inadvertently during digging operations by various agencies in their day-to-day activities.

[Translation]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to my question about the number of telephones that became non-operational during the rainy season, the hon. Minister gave the zone-wise details of telephones to talking about 40,216 that went out of

order in five telephone zones in Delhi. As and when the rain comes, water gets seeped into telephone cables and renders telephones out of order. I would like to know the zone-wise number of telephones which went-out of order due to technical faults and other common reasons separately. Has the Government made any permanent arrangement to check the damage of telephones taking place after monsoon rain so that the telephone system could run smoothly?

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Delhi we have different types of cable networks. Some of the cables are old paper-insulated cables and some of them are jelly-filled cables. Recently we have started ducting of the cables also. Wherever heavy rains come, they usually damage the old paper-insulated cables which get dampened. In the normal course the damage does not appear. Only when it rains and the water gets seeped into the inside of the earth where the cables are laid, then the faults come up. All efforts are being made to detect these cables faults and rectify them as early as possible.

The Delhi telephone system has expanded considerably over the last seven years. As against 3,36,000 telephones that were there in 1986 when MTNL was formed, today we are touching the figure of almost eight lakhs. In Delhi the construction work goes on in almost every colony and roads are also laid and digging work goes on and sometimes they are done without informing MTNL authorities. We also have a large incident of cable thefts in Delhi which also cause these disruptions. On an average—apart from the faults due to rains Delhi experiences around seven to nine thousand faults every day due to various other problems. These faults are also attended to. At the moment we have only around 2,250 faults which are still to be rectified on account of cable faults and out of these only 1,300 are more than seven days old.

[Translation]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that telephones go out of order in three ways. The first relates to technical ground. Second is of general nature and about the third, you perhaps do not know.

The telephones are made non-operational in collusion with departmental employees. After making the lines faulty money is extorted from subscribers. This practice is repeated again and again. Thereafter, these telephone lines do not function in their normal course because these people want to make money continuously. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to inform that as per the given figures, maximum number of telephones remain out of order in the Western Zone. In the Janakpuri Exchange, the J.Es and Operators posted there are running a business of extorting money after creating faults in telephone lines. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would assure the House to conduct an inquiry into it and take action against the officials found guilty? Will the Government suspend the guilty officials?

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that there may be a few erring subordinates here and there. The Department of Telephones has its own share of good, bad and indifferent employees. I do not deny that there are no such complaint. There have been complains and we have taken action against them and if the hon. Member can give specific instances, we will not hesitate to take any action against anybody.

[Translation]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : If the hon. Minister wants, I can give the telephone numbers, and other information about them here itself.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has given a good reply to your question. If you give in writing he will take action. Do you want to do everything here itself.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has stated in his reply that in six zones, the total number of telephones that have been defective is 40,216. I want to know categorically from the hon. Minister as to how many telephones have been presently recovered and are functioning and how many are still defective.

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered that.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I have already given the figures.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the end of the statement, especially in Annexure-I, the Minister has mentioned that the main reason for the telephones becoming faulty after the rainfall was ingress of water/moisture in underground cables at points where they were damaged inadvertently during digging operations by various agencies. There is a system in different cities that the Chief Engineer of the Local Authority calls all the agencies who are concerned with digging operations and sees to it that digging is done after informing the telephone authorities. Is such a practice followed in Delhi? If not, what are you going to do in this matter?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that such a Committee exists in Bombay and no digging takes place without the permission of the Chief Engineer of the Municipal Corporation. There is a Standing Committee for this purpose. I told the MTNL officers today to request the Delhi Municipal Corporation to form such a Committee and inform them whenever any digging takes place. I think there is a lack of coordination. In future, we will see that such coordination takes place.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : It should be done everywhere.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Yes; it will be done.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has just now levelled allegation against the officials of the Telephone Department. The hon. Minister has asked to report if there was any specific case. Through you, I would like to bring a specific case to his notice . . . .

MR. SPEAKER : No please. Do not bring specific cases here as the House is not meant for specific cases. I am not allowing it. You are an hon. Member of this House. You should go by the rules and not use this forum like this.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : I would like to inform the hon. Minister that all the P.C.Os installed in villages are lying idle.

The Government has launched this scheme after incurring expenditure of lakhs and crores of rupees. But everything is going waste. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would set up an inquiry committee to go into the irregularities committed in regard to villages, particularly in Bihar.

MR. SPEAKER : No. This question relates to Delhi. But you are stretching it to Bihar. This question does not relate to Bihar.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : But lakhs and crores of rupees of the Government are being wasted. Due attention should be paid to that also.

MR. SPEAKER : Before asking question you should know about the subject matter of the question. It should not be that the question you are asking is something other than the main question. I am not allowing it. There are other hon. Members also who want to put questions. But in this manner, they do not get a chance.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the condition of telephones in Delhi is bad. I would like to state that situation is alarming be it the transfer of telephones or installations of new ones. In one case, O.B. was issued in the month of February, and now it is the month of August.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Khandelwal, perhaps, you have also not read the original question. This question is about defective telephones and not about new connections.

SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL : As regards the reply given by the hon. Minister I would like to say that the Department of Telephone can dig the roads. It has lot of experience of digging roads. But the roads are not repaired for six months. It causes trouble not only to the people but to the Department of Telephones too. Because when it rains, the water gets seeped into the earth where the cables are laid and then the cables are damaged, causing faults therein. In this regard, I have met the officials of the Department many a times. I have already met the hon. Minister six times during the last 10 years. Today again I would like to ask the hon. Minister if the Department can dig the roads, why cannot repair the roads. Therefore,

the hon. Minister should assure the House, whether he would issue directives to his department to repair the roads.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KALKA DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to tell the Minister of Communications that the condition of telephones in Delhi is bad. The newspapers report this thing everyday. This is what has been stated in the reply. It has been accepted that 20,000 telephones are lying out of order. I would like to know the number of complaints that have been received by the Department from the telephone subscribers. These telephones have remained out of order for weeks and months together....

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kalka Dasji, if you heard the hon. Minister carefully, he has already given reply to it.

SHRI KALKA DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister had announced that if the telephones which remain out of order for 15 days, the subscriber will not be charged. But the department is not implementing this announcement. Rent is being charged from the subscribers as usual. I would like to know the number of such applications received and the reason as to why rent is being charged from them.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : If you have the information, give it or send it to him in writing.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir, I would like to correct the Member that the number of telephones which still remain out of order is not 20,000 but 2,250. Out of these, 1300 are defective for over seven days. I can assure the Members that all these 2,250 telephones will be repaired within seven days.

Regarding rebate, the subscriber is entitled for a rebate up to 14 days proportionate rental and beyond 14 days-one month rental.

The subscriber should write directly to the concerned General Manager of the area who

will arrange for the reduction of this amount in the next bill.

### DOORDARSHAN SERVICES TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

\*267. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Will The Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide services like consultancy; project management and other television expertise to third world countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) This Ministry does not directly provide such services.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Sir, the reply to my question is neither adequate nor complete. My question was :

"Whether the Government propose to provide services like consultancy; project management and other television expertise to third world countries."

The reply says, the Minister does not directly provide such services. I ask, "Whether it proposes to provide". I know, it is not existing. I asked whether the Ministry has any plan to provide such services to the third world countries but the reply is not adequate. It says, it does not provide it directly. It shows that it is indirectly providing. I would like to know the details of indirect services which this Department is providing.

As far as I know, the Water and Irrigation Services, the Rail Technical Economic Services and also Telephone Consultancy Services Ltd. started with just Rs. 10 lakhs turnover and now they have a turnover of Rs. 300 crores. Why is the Department not getting inspired from this? This is a great achievement of putting Insat-2B into the orbit. I would like to congratulate the experts, the technocrats, the Ministry, the prime Minister and the Information and Broadcasting

Minister also. he is a very dynamic Minister. Why has he kept his mind closed to these services? Why cannot he think of this? Will he think of providing these services?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the hon. Member is very right that there has been a lot of technological innovations, if I may say so, technological revolution in the media.

At the moment, various dialogues are going on with the other sister Ministries. To claim that I propose to set it up would be misleading the House. So, unless and until we come to a firm proposal, it would be incorrect for me to claim that we are proposing to set it up. We are having dialogues. We are also mindful of the various other Ministries which do have a consultancy service. In 1982, a proposal had been mooted by the All-India Radio. It was discussed in the various fora of Government. At that time, it was not thought prudent. But, as a result of our five additional channels and the technological innovations, we will certainly examine the possibility of having such a body. More than that, I would not like to state in the House because I am not prepared at the moment. It is still in the dialogue stage. But I thank the Hon. Lady Member for having very kindly pointed it out.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good question.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : I thank the hon. Minister for the good response given by him. My second question is whether the Star TV has offered an encrypted digitally compressed satellite channel on its forthcoming ASIASEAT 2 satellite to Doordarshan free of cost? It has also been stated that ASIASEAT 2 would be launched in 1994 and would become operational from 1995; it will allow Doordarshan to promote India in over forty countries from Japan to Turkey and from China to Australia. What are the reasons? Why are they giving it free of cost? What is the reaction of the Government or the Ministry to that?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We are examining that offer. As far as compressed digitalisation is concerned, we are not far behind it.

## INDIAN COMMUNITY IN GERMANY

\*268. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any reports regarding element of fear and anxiety among Indian community in Germany following some racially motivated attacks on immigrants in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure safety and welfare of Indian nationals and persons of Indian origin in that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (Shri R.L. BHATIA) : (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*Statement*

Government are aware of reports regarding an element of anxiety among members of the Indian community in Germany on account of some racially motivated incidents involving immigrants.

2. The Indian Embassy in Bonn as well as Posts at Frankfurt, Berlin and Hamburg are constantly monitoring the situation. Every incident that is reported or comes to their notice involving Indian nationals or persons of Indian origin is fully investigated and taken up immediately with both the German Federal Government as well as the local authorities concerned. Furthermore, concerns of the Indian community are under regular discussion at meetings organised by our Missions with community leaders.

3. Our Missions in Germany have been and will continue to be vigilant in ensuring the safety and welfare of members of the Indian Community in Germany.

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, may I know from the hon. Minister how many such incidents of attack on the Indian Community took place ? What was the number of persons killed or injured ?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Sir, in 1993, there was a case of quarrel between the two inmates in the Asylum House. But it was not an anti-racial incident. In 1992, two Indian students have been attacked there but that question has also been settled by the intervention of our Ambassador there. They brought the case to the notice of the local authorities as well as the Federal authorities. That problem has been solved.

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN : I would like to know whether under the German laws any compensation was paid to the victims. Has the Government proposed to send any delegation to Germany to have a talk with that Government and also console our people there ? Has the Government proposed to send this issue to the international forum ?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA : As I explained, it was not an anti-racial question. Of course, there is a question in Germany because there are a large number of other nationalities. There are 6.22 million foreigners staying there. Mostly, they are Turks and other groups like Poles and Greeks are there. So far as the Indians are concerned, 35,000 Indians are there. But there have been no anti-racial incidents with regard to the aliens. This is a small incident which took place. Our missions have taken up with the Government. They are enquiring into the matter and fixing the responsibility. Coming to your other question whether the Government will send some delegation there, I do not think there is a need of such a thing because our missions are doing well there.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether two or three months ago any industrialist who has set up his factory or industry under Indo-German Agreement, has been humiliated by the Government or the police of that country. If so, whether the Government will investigate or look into the matter ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It does not arise. Disallowed.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Thank you very much. Last month, one Indian Parliamentary Delegation was sent by you to Europe. While

coming back. I was coming via Germany. I was there for three days in the city of Essen and Dusseldorf. Three days back, when I was there, there was a commotion because of an attack on the Turkey's family. Three persons were killed and their houses were burnt. Fortunately or unfortunately, I was in that city. Those people belonging to Indian community were basically from South India. They are workers there in different factories. They also joined the protest rally with the Turkish people. I had the apprehension that there might be quarrel between those people of the Indian community who were there and the pro-racist forces of Germany which are growing in Germany. In view of that, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he will please take up this issue with them? It may not be there right now. But it may lead to that kind of a situation because that kind of racial tendency and attack is going on there.

**SHRI R.L. BHATIA:** As I have already explained, our Mission has already taken up these incidents with the local Government as well as the federal Government. Our Missions are constantly in touch with the Indians there and they continue to know their problems and process it. There is no such thing as anti-racial against Indians.

So far as Indians are concerned, they are quite respectable people. They are peaceful people. There is no problem between the Germans and the Indians as such.

[Translation]

#### REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS AND WEEKLIES

\*270. **DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:**

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND

**BROADCASTING** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any time limit has been fixed for the disposal of applications submitted for registration of weeklies and newspapers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such applications received during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the number of applications disposed of and titles issued State-wise; and

(e) the reasons for not disposing of the remaining applications?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (**SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO**) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) No time limit has been prescribed for disposal of applications for registration of newspapers under the Press and Registration of Books (PRB) Act, 1867.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The number of applications received and the number of applications disposed of State-wise during the last three years is given in the *Annexure*.

(e) Certificate of registration to the remaining applicants could not be issued owing to non-completion of the formalities required under the PRB Act by the applicants.

#### Annexure

State/UT	No. of applications received			No. of Registration issued		
	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
Andhra Pradesh	468	519	163	41	51	46
Delhi	1228	1240	404	188	311	255
Haryana	879	964	164	89	67	75
Punjab						
Chandigarh						
Himachal Pradesh						

State/UT	No. of applications received			No. of Registration issued		
	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
Karnataka	385	460	227	59	72	61
Kerala	671	336	93	27	34	22
North East Pondicherry Assam	182	215	90	40	33	12
Orissa	420	457	106	38	20	33
Tamil Nadu	791	826	204	112	171	74
W. Bengal	742	856	220	57	58	56
U.P.	351	540	711	195	369	470
Maharashtra	283	261	480	122	158	195
Rajasthan	262	260	479	130	205	346
Gujarat	65	84	74	26	38	36
Bihar	213	184	134	141	154	88
J & K	28	15	29	9	10	15
Goa	10	3	1	3	—	1
M.P.	329	398	345	288	269	226

The number of applications recieved indicated above includes all types of receipts relating to registration of newspapers/periodicals as the information has been compiled from the common register maintained in the office of RNI.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has stated in his statement that no time limit has been prescribed for this, but if somebody applies for registration, the applications remain pending upto a period of ten years. Will the Government think over it and fix any time-limit so that an applicant may get information with regard to the acceptance or rejection of his application within one or two years?

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The problem of fixing a time limit is such that you cannot clap

with one hand. There is lot of information which is required. If this requisite information is not available, it may take even more than ten years because the applicant has to respond back giving information. If it is incomplete, then it cannot be done. We are trying to streamline the things. There have been in-house meetings whereby like the Ministry of Environment where if there are certain documents or certain information which is lacking or inadequate, are returned—the suggestion of the hon. Member that he should be intimated, that we are trying to do. We will cut down the time.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, many times applications submitted to the District Magistrate for registration of journals—be it periodicals, monthlies or dailies, are rejected on the ground that some other journals under these names are already registered. However, there is a book in the Registrar of

Newspapers' office which contains the journals' already registered and to be registered separately. Would you be kind enough to make it available to all the District Magistrates so that applications are not rejected on the said ground and less time is taken in completing the formalities?

[English]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : This is a suggestion for action. We shall must certainly look into it.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my experience, I have come across many cases where a name of a newspaper, once registered, is frozen practically for all time to come.

And apparently, the Act does not empower the Government to cancel that registration, even though the paper is not brought out for a long number of years. There was a suggestion that the Act should be amended, in order to provide that a registration will automatically be cancelled if newspaper is not brought out say within one year or within six months, so that that particular name is available for the registration of alternative papers. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what progress that suggestion has made and when does he propose to amend the Act.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : The hon. Member is very right. There are about two lakhs of titles which are blocked: about 1.65 lakhs titles have been verified. The hon. Member's suggestions are very welcome. We shall have to examine it since it is a suggestion for action. It is a very useful suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, newspapers have their own rules and regulations. But generally it has been seen that after the registration some of newspapers publish such items of news which are against the recognised policies of the country and which inflame passions, communalism and subversion. This deeply hurts the basic objects of registration. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to make any provision to take some undertaking at the time of registration so that such kind of news and articles may not be published.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, again, it is a very useful suggestion. I would not like to mislead the house. It is a very useful suggestion. I think, it is a very welcome suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good suggestion. We were laughing only because if you say they are good suggestions, it becomes an assurance.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Yes, Sir, I would like to give an assurance, if I can. The type of articles that are coming, they really are inflaming the passions. So, I would very much like to examine it.

MR. SPEAKER : Without giving an assurance.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Yes, Sir, without giving an assurance.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It is hat-trick of the assurances.

MR. SPEAKER : The suggestions are also good. If the suggestions are good, he will accept them.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some foreign companies have also applied for the registration of some weeklies and newspapers. Their aim is to spoil the culture and development of villages and flourish their own business. The foreign companies want their publicity which will spoil the village culture and affect the development in rural areas. I would like to know whether the Government has drawn any scheme to check the registration of periodicals and newspapers applied by these foreign companies who have malafied intention.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, it does not arise from this question. I will have to be given a separate notice for it.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister might have paid his attention to his own State also. In Orissa 420 persons had applied in 1990 out of which only 38 applications were accepted for registration.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : 420 ?

[English]

Mr. SPEAKER : Do not be afraid of the number.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : In 1991 only 20 applications out of 457 applications were recommended for registration. In Bihar 134 persons had applied out of which 88 persons got the registration. I would like to submit that after seeing these data you must have felt that the performance of some of the States is very good, but why the pace of work in his own State is very slow ? What does he propose to do for prompt registration of newspapers there ? It may please be explained.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, streamlining the procedures and expediting is a continuous process. We shall keep on expediting and improve on our performance.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : One of the reasons that the Minister has given for delay is that sometimes the queries are not replied for over ten years. I would like to point out to the Minister that the cause of delay is also because the questions are asked in instalments. Would the Minister be pleased to look into it and assure us that all the queries are asked in one installment and not one after another ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : That is the procedure. We will still look into it and see if it can be streamlined.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

\*262. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation for repair and maintenance of National Highways during 1992-93, State-wise;

(b) the length of National Highways running through each State with length covering Ghat section and areas of heavy precipitation. State-wise;

(c) whether allocation is made keeping in view the weather conditions;

(d) if so, the extent to which provisions are made for Ghat sections and areas with heavy precipitation; and

(e) the original work done on National Highway No. 17 during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Statement-I showing the allocation for maintenance and repairs of National Highways during 1992-93 state-wise is attached.

(b) Statement-II showing the length of National Highways through each State including that section and area of heavy precipitation is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The maintenance norms for National Highways provide premium of 15—30% over the average normal maintenance cost (ordinary repairs and periodic renewals) for roads in hilly areas and 15—20% over the average normal maintenance cost for roads in high rainfall areas (above 1500 mm annual rainfall).

(e) 45 original works estimated to cost Rs. 31.52 crores have been sanctioned on NH 17 during the last three years.

#### *Statement-I*

#### **Allocation for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways During 1992-93**

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Total (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1249.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.41
3.	Assam	1039.62
4.	Bihar	1072.66
5.	Chandigarh	15.48
6.	Delhi	171.80

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Total (Rs. in lakhs)
7.	Goa	208.20
8.	Gujarat	881.37
9.	Haryana	380.83
10.	Himachal Pradesh	529.55
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	143.39
12.	Karnataka	1105.85
13.	Kerala	587.82
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1213.25
15.	Maharashtra	1506.67
16.	Manipur	73.32
17.	Meghalaya	170.27
18.	Nagaland	3.50
19.	Orissa	738.52
20.	Pondicherry	5.78
21.	Punjab	638.97
22.	Rajasthan	1141.02
23.	Tamil nadu	1134.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1394.96
25.	West Bengal	1071.51
26.	BRDB	353.00
Total :		16867.00

*Statement-II*

Length of National Highways in various States covering Ghat section and areas of heavy precipitation

S. No.	Name of State/UTs	Total length (km.)	National Highway Nos. with part section passing through Ghat sections and having areas of heavy precipitation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2888	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	330	52, 52A
3.	Assam	2296	36, 37, 53, 54.
4.	Bihar	2117	2, 6, 23, 31, 32, 33

1	2	3
5. Chandigarh	24	Nil
6. Delhi	72	Nil
7. Goa	229.	4A, 17
8. Gujarat	1631	Nil
9. Haryana	698	Nil
10. Himachal Pradesh	854	20, 21, 22
11. Jammu & Kashmir	648	Nil
12. Karnataka	1996	4A, 48
13. Kerala	940	17, 47, 49.
14. Madhya Pradesh	2946	7, 16, 26, 27, 43
15. Maharashtra	2918	3, 4, 8, 17
16. Manipur	431	39, 53
17. Meghalaya	472	40, 44, 51
18. Mizoram	551	54, 54A, 54B
19. Nagaland	113	39
20. Orissa	1649	5, 6, 23, 42, 43
21. Pondicherry	23	Nil
22. Punjab	892	Nil
23. Rajasthan	2931	Nil
24. Sikkim	62	31A
25. Tamil Nadu	1896	Nil
26. Tripura	200	Nil
27. Uttar Pradesh	2613	Nil
28. West Bengal	1638	31, 31A, 55
Total :		34,058

## TV TRANSMITTER CENTRES

\*266. SHRI CHHITUBHAJ GAMIT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new low/high power T. V. transmitter centres in the country during the Eighth Plan period:

(b) if so, the amount allocated therefor:

(c) whether the Government have selected the sites for setting up of these centres: and

(d) If so, the details thereof, state wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 43.35 crores.

(c) It is a continuous process.

(d) The details are likely to be finalised very shortly.

### DOCK WORKERS

\*269 PROF MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any schemes have been formulated for the decasualisation of dock workers;

(b) if so, the extent to which these have been implemented;

(c) whether the Government's recent proposal to amend the definition of 'dock worker' is likely to affect these schemes in any way; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A list of schemes formulated is given in the attached Statement. All these are implemented.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

### Statement

List of the Schemes under which dock workers are registered/listed under various Dock Labour Boards/Major Port Trusts

#### *Bombay Dock Labour Board*

1. The Bombay Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1956.
2. The Bombay Chipping & Painting Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1969.
3. The Bombay Foodgrain Handling Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1975.

4. The Bombay Dock Clearing & Forwarding Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1983.

#### *Calcutta Dock Labour Board*

1. The Calcutta Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1970.
2. The Calcutta Chipping & Painting Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1970.
3. The Calcutta Dock Clerical & Supervisory Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1970.

#### *Madras Dock Labour Board*

1. The Madras Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1956.
2. The Madras Unregistered Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1957.
3. The Madras Unregistered Dock General Pool Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1988.
4. The Madras Unregistered Dock Clearing and Forwarding Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1988.

#### *Kandla Dock Labour Board*

The Kandla Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1969.

#### *Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board*

1. Visakhapatnam Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1959.
2. Visakhapatnam Unregistered Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1968.

#### *Cochin Dock Labour Board*

The Cochin Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment), Scheme, 1959.

#### *Mormugao Dock Labour Board*

Mormugao Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1965.

**PORTS****Paradip Port Trust**

Paradip Port Cargo Handling Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1979.

**New Mangalore Port Trust**

New Mangalore Port Cargo Handling Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1990.

[Translation]

**NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS IN GUJARAT**

\*271. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Highway projects in Gujarat which were to be completed by the end of the Seventh Plan (1985—90);

(b) the names of the projects which had been completed within the stipulated time, those which are still incomplete and the projects which have not yet been started; and

(c) the details of the amount allotted and spent so far on each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) : 52 numbers of National Highway Projects individually costing more than Rs. 50 lakh each in Gujarat State were to be completed during Seventh Five Year Plan. Out of these 32 projects were completed within the Seventh Plan Period and the remaining 20 projects have been completed subsequently.

[English]

**SECOND CHANNEL OF DOORDARSHAN**

\*272. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up second channel at various Doordarshan Kendras during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up second channel at Hyderabad and Bangalore during 1993-94; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**ADVANCE TO PRODUCERS BY DOORDARSHAN**

\*273. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the producers who are allotted serials under the 'commissioned' category are paid the production cost in advance;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such producers given advance during each of the last three years;

(c) whether some producers, after receiving advance, transfer their serials to the 'sponsored' category but fail to return the advance money;

(d) if so, the details of such cases and the total amount due from them; and

(e) the steps being taken to recover the advance amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The entire production cost of serials under the Commissioned Programme category is not paid in advance by Doordarshan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

# INDO-KAZAKHSTAN JOINT COMMISSION

\*274. SHRI RABI RAY :

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan visited India recently in connection with the meeting of Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Commission;

(b) if so, the bilateral subjects discussed at the meeting and the broad outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreement was reached and signed at the meeting;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof;

(e) whether Kazakh delegation held any talks with the Federations of Business and Industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) A statement is attached.

## *Statement*

(b) to (d) The Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan called on the Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Co-chaired the Indo-Kazakh Joint Commission meeting :

Wide-ranging discussions were held for the intensification and expansion of trade, economic, scientific and technological cooperation between India and Kazakhstan. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the two sides which summarised the agreements arrived at for cooperation in various sectors. These included :

(i) **Agriculture** : to promote cooperation in agricultural sciences & technology including research, education, extension training, development projects and joint ventures. Indian experts would work out a detailed work plan jointly with their Kazakh counterparts.

(ii) **Hydrocarbons** : areas of cooperation identified included, amongst others, exploration

(offshore and onshore), refining, and training of Kazakh nationals: Setting up of specific groups to promote cooperation.

(iii) **Railways** : Exchange of teams of experts of the two countries for identification of areas of cooperation and development.

(iv) **Science and Technology** : the establishment of a joint information system & data base on scientists, institutes and available technologies; identification of themes for perspective cooperation including possibilities of Indian participation in Kazakhstan's proposed National Scientific Centre, biotechnology, new technologies, mineral processing, informatics, telecommunication and computer science and energetics.

(v) **Civil Aviation** : Early conclusion of air services agreement; Indian invitation to Kazakh Government to start tourist charter services.

(vi) **Tourism** : intensive exchange of tourism-related information about each other; encouragement of Indian entrepreneurs to visit Kazakhstan for studying joint ventures in the tourism industry.

(vii) **Technical Cooperation** : Training of technical cadres for Kazakhstan and the gifting of two pilot (demonstration) projects.

(viii) **Ecology & Environment** : consultation in international fora and exchange of material on ecological and environmental policy.

(ix) **Trade, industrial collaboration, joint ventures credit** : Measures to promote bilateral trade and the strengthening of banking links, utilization of credit of US\$10 million offered by India.

The meeting also set up Sub-Committees for the following areas :

(i) Agriculture

(ii) Trade and Economic Cooperation & Industrial collaboration.

(iii) Science and Technology

(iv) Hydrocarbons

(e) and (f) Apart from individual meetings with important businessmen and industrialists having a special interest in Kazakhstan, the

Kazakh delegation also met collectively members of the Confederation of Indian Industry and Indo-CIS Chamber of Commerce. These meetings enabled the Kazakh delegation and Indian businessmen/industrialists to get better acquainted with the potential which exists for strengthening commercial and economic relations between the two countries.

### METRO CHANNEL

\*275. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total revenue earned by Metro Channel since its inception;

(b) whether the Government are considering any proposal to relax the norms for the production of programmes in Metro Channel;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Rs. 3,37,82,250.00 upto 31-7-93.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The norms prescribed for programmes on this channel are considered appropriate.

### FILM INDUSTRY

\*276. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "Film Industry on Warpath" and "Film Industry threatens Stir" appearing in the Hindu and the Hindustan Times respectively dated July 16, 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the observations made therein and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the film industry propose direct action if royalty rates for film telecast by Doordarshan are not revised; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (d) Government have seen the news items. The film industry has raised the following three main points :—

(1) Abolition of entertainment tax;

(2) Increase in the royalty rates for feature films telecast; and

(3) streamlining the procedure for selection of feature films for telecast

2. Regarding (1), entertainment tax is a State subject and it is primarily for the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to consider this.

Regarding (2), the royalty rates for telecast of Hindi and regional language feature films in the National Network of Doordarshan have been enhanced on 8-6-93.

As for (3), it was suggested to the film industry to nominate 8 members on the selection committee for films meant for Doordarshan, but the film industry did not avail of the opportunity.

3. It is reported in the news item that the film industry has threatened direct action; but, according to a report in the "SCREEN" dated 6-8-93, the film industry has postponed the direct action. Government is always ready to discuss the problems being faced by the film industry so as to find a solution for the same.

[Translation]

### TELEPHONE EQUIPMENTS

\*277. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone equipments are being manufactured by the public undertakings and the private sector;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of the production of these equipments in both the sectors during the last two years:

(c) whether any orders have been received for the export of such equipments during 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Figures of production of telephone instruments in public sector and private sector during last two years :

	1991-92 (Nos.)	1992-93 (Nos.)
(i) Public Sector	6.79.000	8.94.000
(ii) Private Sector	6.69.000	10.48.000
	<hr/> 13.48.000	<hr/> 19.42.000

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Approximate value of Export orders received by telephone instruments manufacturing companies in public sector and private sector are :

	1991-92 (Rs. Lakh)	1992-93 (Rs. Lakh)
(i) Public Sector	9.87	2.32
(ii) Private Sector	550.06	600.29
	<hr/> 559.93	<hr/> 602.61

[English]

#### JOINT VENTURES ABROAD

\*278. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL :  
Will the Minister of  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have asked Indian missions to monitor the performance of Indian joint ventures abroad;

(b) if so, whether any of the Indian missions abroad have sent any report to the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which the performance of Indian joint ventures abroad is to be improved as a result thereof;

(e) whether the government have directed Indian missions to create comprehensive data bank on bilateral economic relations with important trading partners; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Missions keep general track of the progress made by Indian joint ventures and from time to time include reports on them in their periodic and annual commercial reports.

The nodal Ministry for joint ventures abroad is the Ministry of Commerce.

Indian Missions abroad endeavour to keep abreast of the functioning of Indian joint ventures. This is done, through personal contacts and wherever possible the annual reports of the joint venture. Further, Missions also assist in assessing new proposals for joint ventures that are referred to them by the Ministry of Commerce. The views of the Missions in this regard assist the Government in arriving at decisions on approving new joint ventures abroad.

(d) The performance of joint ventures is governed by commercial and business factors and decisions. Indian Missions try and assist, where necessary, by using their goodwill to help remove bottlenecks to improve the functioning of the joint ventures.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, the Missions are compiling information on bilateral trade and economic relations with the country (ies) of their accreditation. This collection of facts and figures are conveyed to the Government of India, private companies and public sector units on a regular basis. The major objective of

maintaining such data is to provide useful inputs for important policy decisions of the Government of India and to assist Indian companies in their trade enquiries and actions on the economic front.

#### DESU TRANSFORMERS

\*279. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :  
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of transformers with the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

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

(c) whether DESU propose to introduce the system of mobile power transformers;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated cost involved; and

(e) if not, the other steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the shortage of transformers ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (e) Recently there has been some shortage of Distribution Transformers with DESU due to contractual problems with the suppliers. DESU has already taken necessary action to ensure regular supply of transformers by the manufacturers, speedy replacement/repairs of transformers which failed within the warranty period. Additional quantities of Transformers commensurate with the requirements are also being acquired. Special drive has also been undertaken to repair damaged transformers at the departmental workshop to supplement the stock. The position regarding availability of transformers is now satisfactory. Provisions of Mobile Transformers already exists at all the six Distribution Circles of DESU to meet the emergency situations.

#### HINDUSTAN COPPER LIMITED. KHETRI

\*280. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the profit earned by the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) plant at Khetri during the last three years;

(b) the installed capacity, investment made and production in the plant during the last three years;

(c) whether there is any proposal from HCL to expand the plant at Khetri;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government to the proposal of HCL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The profits earned by Khetri Copper Complex (KCC) during the last three years are as under :

Year	Profit (Rs. in crores)
1990-91	17.98
1991-92	53.67
1992-93	15.60 (provisional)

(b) The total investment made in mines and plants at KCC having a smelter with an installed capacity to produce 31,000 tonnes of refined copper (cathodes) per annum, upto 31-3-1993 is about Rs. 308 crores. The production of cathodes at KCC during the last three years was as under :

Year	Production of refined copper (cathodes)
1990-91	26010 MT
1991-92	32395 MT
1992-93	32545 MT

(c) and (d) Company has conceived a proposal for expanding capacity of the existing smelter from 31,000 tpa to 1 lakh tpa. For this purpose, the company has commissioned a detailed feasibility study which is yet to be finalised.

(e) In the absence of detailed feasibility report, the question does not arise.

#### STREET LIGHTING IN CAPITAL

2833. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether tubelights/bulbs on most of the roads/streets in the Capital starts blinking after some time and are not replaced in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to replace all such lights with sodium ones;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) DESU provides and maintains street lights on behalf of the concerned colonising/road-owning agencies viz. Delhi Municipal Corporation, Delhi Development Authority, Public Works Department, Group Housing Societies etc. on payment of 100% cost of installation/maintenance charges. The defective/fused tube lights and bulbs are replaced by DESU from time to time. At present there is no scheme to convert *en-bloc* all street light points into Sodium Lamps. Any such scheme is required to be sponsored and financed by the concerned Civic agency.

[Translation]

#### FUNDS FOR LINKING STATE ROADS WITH N.H.

2834. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has made any request to the Union Government for allocation of special funds to link some of the State roads with the National Highways;

(b) if so, the number of such roads for which this amount has been sought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is having in mind the proposals submitted by the Government of Gujarat for financing of certain projects linking State Roads with the National Highways. The Government of Gujarat has forwarded 76 road/bridge schemes costing Rs. 56.57 crores under the Centrally Aided Programme of the State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance in the 8th Plan.

#### REPAIR OF BRIDGES, BIHAR

2835. SHRI LAL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges repaired or being repaired on National Highways in Bihar during each of the last two years; and

(b) the details of the amount spend during the above period in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Flood Damage Repair/Special Repair to seven bridges on various National Highways in Bihar were approved during 1991-92 and 1992-93.

(b) An amount of Rs. 91.62 lakhs was allocated for the repair of these bridges during the last two years.

[English]

#### RICE MILLS

2836. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rice mills as on March, 1993 State-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Government to modernise rice mills during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have provided grants-in-aid to various institutions to promote research and development, extension and training work on modernisation of rice milling industry and better by product utilisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Information relating to number of Rice Mills State-wise as on 31-3-1993 is given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) The amount sanctioned to modernise rice mills during each of the last three years is as under:—

Year	Amount
1990-91	45.00 lakhs
1991-92	35.00 lakhs
1992-93	112.70 lakhs

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are given in the attached Statement-II.

*Statement-I*

**Number of Rice Mills as on 31-3-1993**

S. No.	State/UT	Hullers	Shellers	Hullers- cum- Shellers	Modern/ Modernised Rice Mills	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4609	1776	2364	12995	21744
2.	Assam	305	14	1871	418	2608
3.	Bihar	4749	63	9	51	4872
4.	Gujarat	1890	159	67	1045	3161
5.	Haryana	807	—	—	990	1797
6.	Himachal Pradesh	890	1	3	222	1115
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Karnataka	9131	462	1103	3674	14370
9.	Kerala	13413	2	13	2668	16096
10.	Manipur	71	—	97	1	169
11.	Maharashtra	6191	99	472	2515	9277
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3114	239	227	94	3674
13.	Meghalaya	85	—	8	—	93
14.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Orissa	6398	125	289	552	7364
16.	Punjab	4416	442	—	1965	6823
17.	Rajasthan	152	2	6	193	353
18.	Sikkim	17	—	—	—	17
19.	Tamil Nadu	13292	144	1530	3262	18228
20.	Tripura	689	5	8	1	703
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5707	562	150	1215	7634
22.	West Bengal	9404	2	71	980	10457
23.	Chandigarh	4	—	—	27	31
24.	Delhi	3	—	—	31	34
25.	Pondicherry	179	—	8	33	220
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	116	—	—	—	116
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8	1	—	—	9
29.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Goa	675	—	5	37	717
31.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—
		86315	4098	8300	32969	131682

*Statement-II***Grants-in-Aid Released to Various Institutions During 1992-93**

S.No.	Name of Institution	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Post Harvest Technology Centre, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (W.B.)	40.00
2.	Paddy Processing Research Centre, Thanjavur (T.N.)	40.00
3.	Regional Extension Service Centre (Rice Milling) at :	
	(a) Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur	4.00
	(b) Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology Bhubaneswar	4.00
	(c) Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	5.60
4.	Research & Development Scheme :	
	(a) Regional Research Laboratory Jorhat (Assam)	1.25
	(b) Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	6.17
	(c) Modern Food Industries Ltd., New Delhi	21.23
5.	Rice Mill Machinery & Allied Equipment Testing Centre at :	
	(a) Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur	6.00
	(b) Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (W.B.)	7.25
	(c) College of Agriculture, Pune	3.50
	(d) Tamilnadu Agricultural University Coimbatore (T.N.)	3.75

*[Translation]***TELEPHONES IN DELHI AND BOMBAY**

2837. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of telephones went out of order during rains in Delhi and Bombay in June and July, 1993;

(b) the period for which these telephones remained out of order;

(c) the reasons for charging increased rental and call charges from telephone subscribers when the telephone network in Delhi and Bombay remained out of order during this period; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, some telephones were rendered non-operational in Delhi and Bombay due to pre-monsoon/monsoon rains during June/July, 1993.

(b) The service of most of the affected members was restored within a Week by carrying out

restoration work round the clock. A few cases however, took a longer time due to frequent rains, poor drainage and continuous water logging.

(c) No increased rental and call charges are being charged from the telephone subscribers when telephones remain faulty; instead a rebate is given in the rental charges when a telephone remains faulty continuously for seven or more days.

(d) Apart from attending expeditiously the telephones reported faulty, other major steps taken to reduce the incidence of faults are :

- (i) Pressurisation of paper insulated cables.
- (ii) Laying of cables in protected ducts.
- (iii) Close-Co-ordination with various digging agencies.
- (iv) Extensive patrolling of cables routes.
- (v) Using jelly filled cables to the maximum extent.
- (vi) Computerisation of Fault Repair Service.

[English]

#### AIR STATION AT PAURI IN U.P.

2838. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Radio Station has been under construction at Pauri, District Garhwal, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, when was it started and what was the initial date of its completion;

(c) whether as per the revised schedule, the Station was to be technically ready during 1992-93;

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The site for the Station was under dispute. After the settlement of the dispute, the civil works were awarded in August, 1989. The initial date of completion of the Station was envisaged as September, 1991.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Due to difficult terrain condition, non-availability of water supply and contractual problems, this could not be completed during 1992-93.

(e) This station is envisaged to be technically ready by December, 1993, and this will be commissioned once the minimum essential staff required for its operation and maintenance is in position.

#### STD/PCOs

2839. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/PCOs sanctioned in the country so far. State-wise;

(b) the total revenue earned during 1992-93 from these STD/PCOs;

(c) whether any case of leakage of revenue came to the notice of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The required information is given in the attached Statement.

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

#### Statement

#### STATUS OF STD/PCOs AS ON 31-3-93

Sl. No.	Circle	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2957
2.	Assam	405
3.	Bihar	551

Sl. No.	Circle	
4.	Gujarat	4814
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	83
6.	Kerala	3100
7.	Karnataka	2954
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2600
9.	Maharashtra	3958
10.	Orissa	594
11.	Haryana	950
12.	Himachal Pradesh	130
13.	Punjab	2923
14.	Rajasthan	2286
15.	North Eastern	183
16.	Tamil Nadu	2955
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3437
18.	West Bengal	84

#### METRO DISTRICTS

1.	CALCUTTA	1181
2.	MADRAS	1358
3.	DELHI	1954
4.	BOMBAY	2558

[Translation]

#### ASSISTANCE FOR ROADS/BRIDGES OF ISEI

2840. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assistance has been provided to Uttar Pradesh for the Roads/Bridges of Inter-State and Economic Importance during the last three years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the criteria for selecting roads/bridges having economic importance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Due to the limited allocation of funds for Central Sector Roads Programme, it will be possible to take up only some selected projects under the programme during the 8th Plan in the States subject to certain priority considerations.

(c) The broad criteria are as under :—

(i) Roads/Bridges required for opening up new areas to which railway facilities cannot be provided in the near future; and

(ii) Roads/Bridges which can contribute materially to rapid economic development, e.g. in hilly areas and places having rich mineral resources for exploitation.

#### BUSES OPERATING UNDER STA PERMITS

2841. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether many Redline and Blue-line buses operating under the STA permits in Delhi are plying without any allotted route numbers;

(b) if so, the number of such buses;

(c) whether the Government have directed the operators of such buses not to put route numbers on their buses; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### MARINE FISHING POTENTIAL

2842. SHRI HAPJISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of proposals approved in the deep-sea fishing sector during the last two years and the estimated cost thereof, State-wise;

(b) the extent of foreign equity investment, country-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether country's marine resources are largely under-utilised;

(d) if so, the extent of under-utilisation: and

(e) the details of the projects undertaken/cleared/proposed for harnessing huge marine fishing potential particularly in Western coast covering Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) 30 proposals in deep sea fishing sector have been cleared during the last two years, for joint ventures, leasing and test fishing. The estimated cost of the projects State-wise, on the basis of base of operation indicated in the projects, is furnished in the attached Statement-I.

(b) Out of the 30 projects indicated above, foreign equity investment is envisaged in 27 projects. Country-wise and project-wise foreign equity investment is furnished in the attached Statement-II.

(c) and (d) The estimated potential of marine fishery resources annually harvestable is 3.90 million tonnes. The production from marine sources in 1992-93 is 2.57 million tonnes. The gap between harvestable resources and present level of exploitation is, therefore, 1.33 million tonnes.

(e) In order to exploit coastal marine fishery resources there are about 1.68 lakh non-motorised traditional craft, 15,000 motorised traditional craft and 23,000 mechanised fishing boats. Apart from the above, there are about 180 deep sea fishing vessels (20 M and above overall length). Permission has been given for deep sea fishing under Joint Ventures/Test Fishing/Leasing recently for operation of 129 vessels out of which 27 vessels, 5 vessels and 3 vessels would be operated from Goa, Mangalore and Cochin respectively, to exploit fishery resources, particularly along the Western Coast.

*Statement-I*

**Deep sea fishing projects cleared during the last two years for Joint Ventures, Leasing and Test Fishing—Statewise with estimated cost**

State	No. of proposals	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	3	3522
Tamil Nadu	10	70058
Kerala	3	3037
Karnataka	2	4337
Goa	12	20625

*Statement II*

**Deep sea fishing projects cleared in last two years involving foreign equity investment (Country-wise and project-wise)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Indian Company	Name of the Foreign Company	Extent of foreign investment (US \$ in lacs)	No. of Vessels introduced/ proposed to be introduced
1	2	3	4	5
<b>THAILAND</b>				
1.	M/s. Target Marine and Engineers Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. Silver Oceanic Co. Ltd., Thailand	0.40	Two, Stern Trawlers (S.T.)
2.	M/s. Leela Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd., Visakhapatnam	M/s. Supachoke Co. Ltd., Thailand	0.14	Four (S.T.)
3.	M/s. Indamar Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Hartford (Thailand) Co. Ltd., Bangkok	0.60	Three (S.T.)

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Sri Kumaran Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Madras	Evergreen Fisheries Co. Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand	1.33	Four (S.T.)

## SOUTH KOREA

1.	M/s. Fishing Falcon Ltd., Hyderabad	M/s. KOJE Shipbuilding Co. Ltd., South Korea	8.60	Two Tuna Long Liners
2.	M/s. Inko Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Namiyangsa Co. Ltd., Seoul, Korea	1.67	Two (S.T.)
3.	M/s. Buoy-Dae (India) Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. DAE MYEONG Fisheries Co. Ltd., Seoul, Korea	0.15	One (S.T.)

## NORTH KOREA

1.	M/s. Leo Suzind Fisheries Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. Deep Sea Fishing Co., Pyongyang, DPR Korea	0.56	Five (S.T.)
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## RUSSIA

1.	M/s. New Era Agro Chemicals India Ltd., Madras	M/s. All Union Fishing Coop. Assn. Moscow (Renamed Collective Fishing Farms Union)	1.45	Two (S.T.)
2.	M/s. Marine Resources International, New Delhi	M/s. Oceanic Fishing International Ltd., Russia	3.92	Two (S.T.)
3.	M/s. Styendra Aquaculture Ltd., Hyderabad	M/s. Korsakov Base of Ocean Fishing (KBOR), Russia	4.06	One (S.T.)
4.	M/s. Sovin Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. NPK OKEAN, Moscow, Russia & Hertford Co. Ltd., Thailand	1.35	One Factory Trawler
5.	M/s. Sarb Consulate Marine Products Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	YUG Business Service Moscow, Russia	0.50	One (S.T.)

## UKRAINE

1.	M/s. Green Wave Marine Harvest Ltd., Hyderabad	M/s. RYBFLOT, Sevastopol, Ukraine	0.70	One (S.T.)
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## LATVIA

1.	M/s. Chaika Exports Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. Collective Fishery UZVARA, Latvia	0.50	One (S.T.)
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61	<i>Written Answers</i>		SRAVANA 25, 1915 (SAKA)	<i>Written Answers</i>	62
1	2	3	4	5	
2.	M/s. Indamar Aquatics Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	BANGA-LATVIA	0.50	One (S.T.)	
3.	M/s. Indamar Sea Foods Pvt. Limited	Sarkana Baka Co., Latvia	0.50	One (S.T.)	
<b>ESTONIA</b>					
1.	M/s. Fortune International Ltd., New Delhi	'Ookean' Estonian Fishing Jt. Stock Company, Estonia	20.00	Ten (S.T.)	
<b>PHILLIPINES</b>					
1.	M/s. Greaves Cotton Ltd., Bombay	M/s. Frabelle Fishing Corpn., Manila, Phillippines	8.00	Three Tuna Purse Seiner	
2.	M/s. K.S.K. Fisheries Ltd., Calcutta	RBL Fishing Corpn., Manila, Phillipines	9.20	One Tuna Purse Seiner	
<b>PORTUGAL</b>					
1.	M/s. AVT. Miradouro Marine Co. Ltd., Madras	Socidade De Pesca Miradouro Lda of Portugal	4.00	One (S.T.)	
<b>FRANCE</b>					
1.	M/s. Shivganga Fisheries Ltd., New Delhi	Chevanne Merceron Ballery (CMB) & M/s. Cof-repeche of France	1.40	One Tuna Purse Seiner	
<b>JAPAN</b>					
1.	M/s. Oriental High Sea Fisheries, Visakhapatnam	Toyo Kosuisan Co. Ltd., Japan	3.00	One (S.T.)	
<b>U.S.A.</b>					
1.	M/s. Indfish Ltd., New Delhi	Consolidated Sea Food Corporation, Boston, U.S.A.	8.00	48 Mini Liners, 12 Multi liners & 2 Tenders	
<b>TAIWAN</b>					
1.	M/s. Ting Tai India Ltd., Visakhapatnam	M/s. Ting Tai International Co. Ltd., Taiwan	1.45	Two (S.T.)	
<b>DENMARK</b>					
1.	M/s. Oceania Merchandise Ltd., Hyderabad.	M/s. Scan Fish, Denmark.	1.67	Two (S.T.)	
2.	M/s. Ron Maritime Ltd., Cochin	MECO Engineering International KOLDING, Denmark	1.33	One (S.T.)	

**WEST COAST CANAL**

2843. **SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN** : Will the Minister of **SURFACE TRANSPORT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala has recommended any more stretches on the West Coast Canal to be declared as National Waterway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of work completed on the West Coast Canal and the total amount spent as on June 30, 1993?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER)** :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details of works completed and expenditure incurred are as follows :

(Rs. in lakhs)

(i) Hydrographic survey on Champakara Canal and Udyogmandal Canal	Rs. 12.53
(ii) Dredging on Udyogmandal Canal	Rs. 20.00

[Translation]

**DOORDARSHAN COVERAGE IN M.P.**

2844. **SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN** : Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of population covered by Doordarshan transmission in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore districts of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the schemes to cover cent percent population of the above districts by Doordarshan?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)** :

(a) TV service is, at present, available to an estimated population of 99% of Vidisha district, 88.5% of Raisen district, and 99% of Sehore district of Madhya Pradesh. These coverage figures are inclusive of fringe service areas.

(b) Whereas, a Low Power TV Transmitter (LPT) is presently under implementation at Sironj in Vidisha district, a High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) is also envisaged to be set up at Guna in Madhya Pradesh, subject to approval of the scheme by the competent authority and availability of resources for the purpose. When commissioned, this transmitter will also cover parts of these three districts. Further expansion of TV service in the remaining uncovered parts of these districts depends on future availability of resources and inter se priorities.

**TV TRANSMITTER AT LAKHIMPUR KHERI, U.P.**

2845. **SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK** : Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had considered a proposal to set up a high power T.V. Transmitter at Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-installation of TV Transmitter so far; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be installed and transmissions to be commenced?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)**

(a) Yes, Sir. A High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) is envisaged to be set up at Lakhimpur in Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh subject to approval of the scheme by the competent authority and availability of resources for the purpose.

(b) Whereas, the site for the project has already been finalised, and is expected to be taken over soon by Doordarshan, further work would be taken up after the scheme is formally approved.

(c) The project is expected to be completed in about 3-4 years time after its approval.

[English]

**COMPANIES MANUFACTURING TELEPHONE EQUIPMENTS**

2846. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the Indian companies manufacturing Cordless Telephones, Telephone Answering Machines, Facsimile equipment; Electronic Mail; Videotex; Voice Mail and Video Conferencing;

(b) the names of foreign collaborators for respective companies, item-wise:

(c) the foreign exchange outgo in case of foreign collaborations;

(d) whether the Government has imposed export commitments to offset the foreign exchange outgo; and

(3) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The details are given in the attached statement.

(d) and (e) No export obligation is imposed on manufacture of all types of Telecom equipment since manufacture of these equipment is de-licenced and foreign collaborations are allowed automatically.

*Statement***Particulars of Indian Companies making FAX, Cordless Phones, answering machines****ANNEXURE-I**

S. No.	Name of the company	Item of Manufacturer	Name of the collaborator	F. E. outgo (for know-how payment)
1	2	3	4	5
(A)				
1.	M/s. ECIL	FAX	M/s. NEC, Japan	45 million Yen
2.	M/s. Scantel Pvt. Ltd.	FAX	M/s. Dial-a-copy Canada	2.45 Lakhs US\$
3.	M/s. Modi Xerox	FAX	M/s. Samsung Electronics Ltd. Korea	Rs. 1.00 crore
4.	M/s. Bee Canon	FAX lens	M/s. Canon Ltd., Japan	20 Million Yen
5.	M/s. Himachal Wireless	Cordless phones	Import of Design & Drawing from M/s. Winfair Electronics Company	45000 US \$
6.	M/s. India Telecom.	Cordless phones	M/s. Hasler Ltd., U.K.	70,00 pds. Sterling.
7.	M/s. Bharti Telecom Ltd.	Cordless phones	M/s. Lucky Gold Star of Korea	1,00,00 US \$
8.	M/s. Tata Keltron	Cordless phones	No foreign collaboration	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
9. M/s. ITI Ltd.	Cordless phones	No foreign collabora- tion	Nil	
10. M/s. Tata Keltron	Telephone Answer- ing Machine	Import of Design & Drawing from M/s. Tiptel. Germany	Nil	
11. M/s. Bharati Tele- com. Ltd.	Telephone Answer- ing Machine	Tatacom Corpn., Japan	Nil	
12. M/s. Teledata Controls India Pvt. Ltd.	—do—	No foreign collabora- tion	Nil	

(B) Regarding Electronic Mail, Videotex, Voice mail & video conferencing it is stated that these are computer based value added services only.

Note: The foreign exchange outgo has been indicated in different currencies since payments have been made to the foreign collaborators at different times and different rates of conversion.

#### HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO ANGOLA

2847. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Angola for humanitarian relief to millions of its refugees who are returning home from neighbouring countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has gifted consumer durables worth Rupees 20 lakhs as relief assistance to Angola in response to its request.

#### POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN ANDHRA PARADESH

2848. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Posts and Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges opened in

Andhra Pradesh, District-wise during the Seventh Five Year Plan:

(b) the number of Posts and Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the targets thereof in 1993-94 and 1994-95 particularly in Warrangal District:

(c) whether there are number of small towns and villages in the said district without these facilities; and

(d) if so, the time by which the aforesaid facilities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):

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

[Translation]

#### FOOD PROCESSING UNITS IN MADHYA PRADESH

2849. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing units granted permission and number of them functioning in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise; and

(b) the number of proposals pending with the Government, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) Under the new Industrial Policy in July, 1991 entrepreneurs of the Industrial undertakings are required to file only a memorandum of information with the Secretariat for Industrial Approval (SIA) in the Ministry of Industry for manufacturing of articles not covered by compulsory licensing. Moreover, almost all Food Processing Industries with the exception of a few are delicensed and they are both in organised and unorganised sectors because of which District-wise information with record to all Food Processing Industries are not maintained Centrally.

However, during the last two years Government have approved 15 proposals for projects/units in Food Processing Sectors which include proposal for Joint Venture, EOU, units with NRI/OCB investment, units requiring industrial licence and proposal for which plan assistance has been provided. Out of these, as per available information one has been implemented.

(b) A proposal for setting up a fruit and vegetable processing unit at Hoshangabad district in M.P. has been received on which action has been initiated.

[English]

#### WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE IN BOMBAY

2850. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the earliest date on the waiting list in the general category, exchange-wise, of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Bombay; &

(b) whether the MTNL is planning to reduce the waiting list period to two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be liad on the table of the House.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS BY DAVP

2851. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on advertisements by the DAVP during 1992-93:

(b) the break-up of the expenditure by language with the number of recipient papers in each language:

(c) the break-up of the expenditure by the State of publication: and

(d) the classification of the newspapers for the purpose of fixation of advertisement rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) During the year 1992-93, DAVP released press advertisements amounting to Rs. 29,86,27,428/-.

(b) The language-wise break-up of the advertisements released is given in the attached statement-I.

(c) Break-up of expenditure State-wise committed during the year 1992-93 is given in the attached statement-II.

(d) The rates of newspapers are fixed on the basis of a formula devised by an Expert Committee and are applied uniformly as related to circulation of a publication.

#### Statement-I

Statement showing languagewise expenditure committed during the period from 01-04-1992 to 31-03-1993

S. Language No.	Amount (Rs.)
1. English	114061800.00
2. Hindi	92978847.00
3. Urdu	12232393.00
4. Punjabi	8608269.00
5. Marathi	12488068.00
6. Gujrati	10307039.00
7. Sindhi	609632.00
8. Assamese	2239016.00
9. Bengali	14606832.00
10. Oriya	4073765.00

S. Language No.	Amount (Rs.)
11. Tamil	7718527.00
12. Telugu	4277695.00
13. Malayalam	10453195.00
14. Kannada	3734811.00
15. Sanskrit	16982.00
16. Nepali	90347.00
17. Mizo	97248.00
18. Khasi	27865.00
19. Konkani	5097.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>298627428.00</b>

*Statement-II*

**Statement showing statewise break-up of advertisements released to newspapers/periodicals during 1992-93**

S. No.	State Name	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10355692.00
2.	Assam	4807013.00
3.	Bihar	9049880.00
4.	Gujarat	11412175.00
5.	Haryana	1461677.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	597577.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2778424.00
8.	Karnataka	7376742.00
9.	Kerala	12628539.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	15292636.00
11.	Maharashtra	31359422.00
12.	Manipur	334166.00
13.	Meghalaya	553636.00
14.	Nagaland	181250.00
15.	Orissa	4552867.00
16.	Punjab	15569546.00
17.	Rajasthan	12699567.00
18.	Sikkim	134699.00
19.	Tamil Nadu	11499163.00
20.	Tripura	820449.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	23170711.00
22.	West Bengal	24089196.00
23.	A & N Islands	31513.00
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	224491.00
25.	Chandigarh	7617779.00
26.	Delhi	89200848.00
27.	Goa	608361.00
28.	Mizoram	95736.00
29.	Pondicherry	122673.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>298627428.00</b>

**BERMO COAL MINES**

2852. **SHRI PIUS TIRKEY**: Will the Minister of **POWER** be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Bermo Coal Mines owned by Damodar Valley Corporation are lying closed and the amount of loss so far as a result thereof;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to open the Mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the time by which they are likely to be opened and the estimated amount to be spent on the opening; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)**: (a) The Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) had decided to close down the Bermo Coal Mines in December, 1991. However, the mines could not be closed down fully for various factors viz. non-completion of legal process, agitation by local people etc. The precise loss on this account is yet to be assessed.

(b) and (c) Considering the quality of coal available in the mines, there is a proposal to reoperate the mines this year. The estimated investment will be of the order of Rs. 4.05 crores.

(d) Does not arise.

**200 KV LINE FROM ANTA TO JAIPUR**

2853. **SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE**: Will the Minister of **POWER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given final clearance for the loop-in and loop-out 200 KV Double Circuit Line from Anta to Jaipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)**: (a) and (b) The work of

looping in and looping out of both the circuit of Anta-Jaipur 220 KV double Circuit line at Dausa has already been completed by Rajasthan State Electricity Board.

(c) Does not arise in view of answer (a) & (b) above.

#### LOANS FOR UPGRADING URBAN POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

2854. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has sanctioned loans to the State Governments for upgrading the urban power distribution system during 1993-94: and

(b) if so, the amount of loan sanctioned to various States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement indicating the loans sanctioned by Power Finance Corporation to different State Electricity Boards during 1993-94 (upto 31st July, 1993) is enclosed.

#### *Statement*

**Statement indicating the loans sanctioned by Power Finance Corporation to different SEBs during 1993-94 (upto 31st July, 1993)**

Sl. No.	Name of State Electricity Board	No. of Loans sanctioned	Amount sanctioned (in Rs. crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	1	66.40
2.	Gujarat Electricity Board	5	16.90
3.	Karnataka Electricity Board	4	54.20
4.	Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board	6	58.70
5.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	3	25.00
6.	Orissa State Electricity Board	1	30.60
Total upto July, 1993		20	251.80

#### T.V. SERIAL 'BIBLE KI KAHANIYAN'

2855. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has discontinued the telecast of T.V. serial 'Bible ki Kahaniyan' :

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be re-telecast ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) The telecast of the serial has been discontinued due to the failure of the producer to supply fresh episodes. No firm date for the resumption of its telecast can be indicated at present.

#### BRANCH POST OFFICES IN ORISSA

2856. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for opening of Branch Post Offices/Sub post Offices in Orissa during 1993-94.

(b) whether all the Gram Panchayat headquarters are likely to be given priority while opening Branch Post Offices;

(c) whether the construction of the building of Bank Sub Post Office in Bhadrak Postal Division has started by now; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) During Annual Plan 1993-94, a target for opening 30 extra departmental branch post offices in tribal areas and 5 in other areas, 2 departmental sub post offices in tribal areas and 2 in other areas has been fixed for Orissa Circle.

(b) Gram Panchayat headquarters are given priority while opening branch post offices subject to fulfilment of departmental norms, availability of resources and within the Plan target.

(c) The construction of the building of Bank Sub Post Office in Bhadrak Postal Division has already started.

(d) Does not arise.

#### EXTERNAL BULLETINS BY A.I.R.

2857. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether External Bulletins are broadcast by the A.I.R. both in Indian and Foreign languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether not a single external bulletin is broadcast in Malayalam;

(d) whether Government propose to broadcast a few bulletins in Malayalam; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) 65 news bulletins are broadcast by the External Services Division of All India Radio in the following languages:

Foreign	Indian
Arabic	Hindi
Baluchi	Tamil
Burmese	Telugu
Chinese	Bengali
Dari	Gujarati
French	Punjabi
Indonesian	Sindhi
Nepali	Urdu
Persian	
Pushtu	
Russian	
Sinhala	
Swahili	
Thai	
Tibetan	
English	

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal. at present.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF CARGO BERTH AT PARADIP PORT

2858. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken for the construction of a multi-purpose cargo berth at Paradip Port;

(b) if so, when the construction work was started;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. The construction of a Multi-purpose Cargo Berth at Paradip Port has been sanctioned on 13-8-92 at an estimated cost of Rs. 2636.00 lakhs.

(b) The contract for the construction of berth was awarded on 22-12-92.

(c) The physical progress achieved so far is about 15%.

(d) The project is scheduled to be completed by August, 1995.

#### STD/ISD PUBLIC TELEPHONES IN ASSAM

2859. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/ISD Public Telephones working in Assam at present; district-wise; and

(b) the number of applications lying pending for allocation of new Public Telephones in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHI RAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**STD/ISD IN MAHARASHTRA**

[Translation]

2860. **SHRI ANNA JOSHI** : Will the Minister of **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/ISD Public telephone booths working in Maharashtra at present; and

(b) the number of applications lying pending for allotment of such booths in the State?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)** : (a) There are 4310 STD/PCOs in the Maharashtra Circle as on 30-6-93.

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

**TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN WEST BENGAL**

2861. **SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA** : Will the Minister of **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone exchanges in West Bengal particularly at Tamluk, Midnapore which were commissioned recently are not functioning upto the mark;

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

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)** : (a) C-DOT type electronic exchange at TAMLUK has recently been commissioned on 18-2-1993. This exchange is giving satisfactory service. No exchange has recently been commissioned at Midnapore.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A C-DOT type of electronic exchange of 2000 lines capacity has been planned to be commissioned during 1993-94 at MIDNAPORE to replace the existing strowger exchange.

**ROYALTY ON MINERALS**

2862. **SHRI SIMON MARANDI** :  
**SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH** :

Will the Minister of **MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of the royalty on minerals paid to the Government of Bihar by the Union Government during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether the Government of Bihar have requested the Union Government for the expansion and modernisation of various mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of mines.

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) whether it is a fact that since the last revision of the royalty rates, the issue prices of these items have increased manifold accruing steep increase of revenue to Government; and

(f) if so, the date of last revision and rates effected therein for the respective items?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV)** : (a) Royalty on minerals extracted accrues to the State Governments concerned and it is payable by the holder of the mining lease to the State Government concerned. Since the Central Government does not operate any mine directly, it does not pay royalty on minerals to any State Government including Government of Bihar.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Expansion, modernisation and other development of mines is done by the holder of the mining lease.

(e) and (f) The Government have revised the rates of royalty on minerals other than coal, lignite and minor minerals with effect from 17-2-92. A copy of the notification revising the rates of royalty on minerals has been laid on the Table of the House on 9-3-92. The rates of royalty are related to the quantity of minerals extracted and not to its value.

[English]

**CAPITAL RESTRUCTURING PROPOSAL  
OF ROURKELA STEEL PLANT**

2863. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-  
GRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Rourkela Steel Plant has  
submitted any proposal for its capital  
restructuring:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the action taken thereon: and

(d) the steps taken to improve the perfor-  
mance of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH  
MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The following steps are being taken by  
SAIL on continuous basis to improve the per-  
formance of the Rourkela Steel Plant:

- (i) Increase the production of saleable  
steel.
- (ii) Improving the product mix in line with  
the market requirements.
- (iii) Improvement of techno-economic  
parameters.
- (iv) Reduction of energy consumption.
- (v) Improvement in the yield of by-  
products and attainment of better  
recovery of waste and secondary  
arising.
- (vi) Increasing quality steel production.
- (vii) Optimising of captive power  
generation.
- (viii) Vigorous implementation of budgetary  
control system.
- (ix) Inculcation of cost consciousness at all  
levels through seminars, training, cost  
meetings, display board at work  
places etc.
- (x) Modernisation, technological upgrada-  
tion and refurbishing of existing aged  
and obsolescent plant and equipment.

[Translation]

**WORKING OF DELHI AND BOMBAY  
TELEPHONES**

2864. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Upphokta Adalats in Delhi  
and Bombay have given verdicts against the ser-  
vices and working of the Delhi and Bombay  
Telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the reaction of the Government on the  
prevailing discontentment on account of failure  
in providing full satisfaction to the sub-  
scribers: and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to  
improve the telecommunications services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The Consumer Dis-  
putes Redressal forum have given verdicts only  
in individual subscribers complaints regarding  
excess metering, faulty telephones, etc.

(c) The Government is conscious about the  
discontentment and is actively taking suit-  
able measures.

(d) As given in the attached Statement.

*Statement***STEPS TO IMPROVE TELECOM SERVICES**

Several measures have been taken towards  
betterment of services by improving reliability  
as well as by improving customer interface.  
These are as under:—

**1. Telephone Exchanges and Media:**

(a) Introduction of Electronic Exchanges.

(b) Introduction of Electronic TAX's.

(c) Introduction of Electronic Transit  
Exchanges.

(d) Phasing out of old and life expired  
electro-mechanical exchanges.

- (e) Introduction of PCM systems, optical fibre and digital micro-wave systems for interexchange junctions.
- (f) Introduction of AMA for electromechanical exchanges.

## 2. External Plant :

- (a) Laying of underground cables in ducts.
- (b) Pressurisation of paper core underground cables.
- (c) Use of Jelly filled PVC insulated underground cables.
- (d) Use of improved terminations by introduction of terminations by insulation displacement method.
- (e) Replacement of old fault prone cables.
- (f) Use of insulated dropwire with proper accessories.

## 3. Computerisation of Services :

- (a) Fault Repair Service.
- (b) Financial Management system including commercial and building activities.

## 4. Opening of additional computerised customer services centres/quick Customer Services Centres.

## 5. Increased access to telephones by opening :—

- (i) Additional Public Telephones for local & STD Calls.
- (ii) Additional Telecom. Centres.

## 6. Improved Customer Interface :

- (a) *Easy Accessibility of officers* : In a large network some customers may have their problems which have not got attended to satisfactorily. It is to resolve such problems that all field officers are available to meet the customers from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on all working days. The customers can also see the area General Manager during these hours with prior appointment on all working days except Friday when they are available between 10.00 to 13.00 hours without any prior appointment.

- (b) *Conduction of Open House Sessions/Customer's meet* : Open House Sessions are

held at different levels to apprise our customers of our development plans. This also provides a forum for interaction with customers to know their observations about service and inform customers about what all is being done by MTNL to extend satisfactory service.

- (c) *Conduction of Telephone Adalats* : In addition, telephone Adalats are regularly held once in every quarter to provide on the spot redressal of grievances pertaining to service, billing etc.

7. Providing convenient easy to remember 3/4 digit access codes for frequently used public utility numbers such as railway enquiry, airlines enquiry etc.

## PROPOSAL TO ALLOW PASS HOLDERS IN PRIVATE BUSES

2865. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :  
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :  
PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to allow the pass holders in Delhi to travel in the private buses such as Redline, BlueLine:

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

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal for allowing the pass holders in Delhi to travel in Redline and BlueLine (Air-conditioned) buses. However, the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi have directed the "Suvidha Bus Services" which were earlier operating under DTC and which have been granted STA permits from 1-6-1993, to honour the monthly as well as student passes.

- (c) The present scheme does not permit honouring passes in Redline and BlueLine (Air-conditioned) buses.

### FINISHED PRODUCTS OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

2866. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH :  
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI MAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world:

(b) whether raw materials used for processing of fruits and vegetables in the country are costlier than those used in other countries:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor:

(d) whether finished products of food processing industries in the country are costlier than the products of other countries: and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make our products competitive in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While some of the major raw-materials used for processing of fruits and vegetables in the country are costlier, the international prices of some other raw-materials such as mushroom, certain vegetables, certain tropical fruits, etc. are stated to compare favourably with the international prices.

(c) The main reasons for certain raw-materials being costlier are attributed to low productivity; lack of postharvest infrastructure leading to wastage, lower yield in production from the raw materials, etc.

(d) According to an assessment made by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA), some of the finished products of food processing industries in the country are cost effective in the international market. These include Meat and Meat Products, tropical fruit juices, concentrates, pulps, tomato, paste, puree and other products, mushroom, canned and frozen vegetables etc.

(e) Government has taken several steps to make our exports competitive such as liberalisation of trade policy, reduction of customs duties on capital goods, packaging materials and inter-mediaries, full convertibility of export earnings at market determined exchange rate, 100% export-oriented unit scheme, and liberalisation of industrial policy to permit foreign equity and technological collaboration to make the products of these industries competitive, etc. In addition, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and the Ministry of Food Processing Industries are also implementing various developmental plan schemes for strengthening infrastructure, setting up processing facilities, undertake Research and Development, market promotion etc. which will help to promote exports by making them more competitive in the international market.

[English]

### PROCESSING OF APPLE

2867. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of apples produced in the country during the last three years, State-wise:

(b) the quantity of apples used for processing purposes during each of these years: and

(c) the policy of the Government in regard to apple processing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The State-wise production of Apples during the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 was as under:—

S. No.	Name of the State	Production in M.T.		
		Year		
		1989-90	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	8,229	9,300	9,330
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3,94,868	3,42,071	3,01,730
3.	J. & K.	5,20,000	5,20,000	6,24,469
4.	Nagaland	140	169	185.9
5.	Sikkim	2,130	2,130	28
6.	U.P.	1,58,750	1,98,000	2,12,000

(b) Approximately the following quantities of apples were processed during 1990, 1991, 1992.

In M.Ts.		
1990	1991	1992
18000	11000	15000

(c) Government encourages investment in post-harvest processing for better marketability of fresh fruits and vegetables including apples as well as processing of the same for value added products.

#### SETTING UP OF FAST FOOD CHAIN BY US MULTINATIONAL COMPANY

2868. **SHRI RAM KAPSE** : Will the Minister of **FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pepsico Inc. of USA propose to set-up Pizza Huts. and Kentucky Fried Chicken fast food chains in the country;

(b) whether the said company or any Indian subsidiary of that company has approached the Government for permission/assistance in this regard; and

(c) if so, the decision taken in the matter ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOD)** : (a) to (c) M/s. Pizza Huts International of Hong Kong have indicated interest in setting up of Pizza Hut restaurants in India. But no proposal for permission or assistance in this regarding has received in this Ministry either from M/s. Pizza Huts or from M/s. Pepsico Inc., USA.

#### PULSE MILLS IN MADHYA PRADESH

2869. **SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI** : Will the Minister of **FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pulse mills functioning in Madhya Pradesh for the processing of pulses; and

(b) the number of such mills set up during each of the last three years ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)** : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### HARASSMENT TO INDIAN WORKERS ABROAD

2870. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH** : Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are receiving complaints of harassment from Indian labourers working abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons for such complaints inspite of the action taken by the Government;

(c) whether the Government have taken any effective step to resolve their problems; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA)** : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government continues to receive complaints which *inter alia* include non-payment or delayed payment of wages, long and arduous hours of work without adequate compensation, denial of leave to come to India and facility for air passage, withholding travel documents of workers by the sponsors/employers, non-fulfilment of contractual obligations and ill-treatment in general.

Many of the labourers being illiterate are ignorant of their rights. Many such labourers are also duped by the recruiting agents into signing contracts which are against the interests of the workers. There are also instances where labourers have managed to enter foreign countries illegally and are, therefore, exploited by employers.

(c) and (d) The Government of India through Indian Missions abroad maintains regular contact with foreign Governments to ensure the welfare and to improve conditions of Indian workers in the respective countries. The Indian Missions at first try to resolve the differences between the aggrieved worker and the employer

to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution. Wherever necessary cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Government to persuade the employers to redress the grievances of Indian workers. Where no alternative employment or any solution is possible despite best efforts of the Mission, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the aggrieved worker.

[English]

#### PERMISSION TO US COMPANIES TO SET UP FOOD PROCESSING UNITS

2871. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant permission to US companies Kelong and Del Monte to set up Food Processing Units in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of States where these units are proposed to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) While no proposal has been received from M/s Del Monte to set up Food Processing Units in the country, approval had been granted by the RBI to M/s. Kelong to set up food processing unit in India with 51% foreign equity. Later however, their request for increasing the foreign equity to 100% has been acceded to by the Government.

(b) M/s. Kelong proposes to set up a high technology ready to eat cereals facility at Toloja, Maharashtra with a total investment of Rs. 180 crores.

D.T.C.

2872. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA :  
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the introduction of Red Line and other services in the Capital has had an adverse effect on the financial position of DTC;

(b) if so, the losses suffered by DTC on that account during the last two years;

(c) whether the revision of fares, introduction of Green Line Service and opening of new routes have improved its financial position;

(d) if so, the extent thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

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

(b) The average daily earning of DTC has been reduced from Rs. 40.67 lakh per day in October, 1992 to Rs. 25.32 lakh per day in June, 1993. This has been not only on account of the introduction of Red Line Buses, but also on account of certain other factors i.e. reduction in the fleet strength and load factor etc.

(c) and (d) The daily earning of DTC increased from Rs. 26.44 lakh during 1991 to Rs. 30.64 lakh during 1991-92 and Rs. 39.36 lakh during 1991-93 on account of revision of fares, introduction of Green Line services and opening of new routes.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

[Translation]

#### QUARTERS FOR P AND T EMPLOYEES

2873. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate number of staff quarters have been constructed for the employees of the Departments of Posts and Telecommunications at Indore;

(b) if not, the extent to which the number of existing staff quarters is less than the requirements; and

(c) the time by which the shortfall is likely to be made up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

#### SCHEMES ON FOOD PROCESSING IN NORTH EASTERN STATES

2874. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any techno-economic survey has been conducted by the Union Government to assess the potentiality for establishment of food processing industry in the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the facilities and schemes provided so far in the North East including financial assistance and loan for establishing such industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The CFTRI undertook the feasibility study of the various available as well as potential agri-horticulture resources of the seven States to assess the prospects of promoting agro-processing industries & industrial development of North Eastern Region in 1988. The North Eastern Council has also got prepared through the North Eastern Industrial & Technical Consultancy Organisation Ltd. (NEITCO) a techno-economic feasibility report for setting up of food processing units in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya.

(c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several Plan schemes for the overall development of food processing industries. Financial assistance to the tune of over Rs. 5.57 crores has been rendered to the North Eastern States for implementing Plan schemes in the F&VP sector, Meat & Meat Products sector & Fisheries sector, etc.

#### INTER-STATE ROUTE PERMIT

2875. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy for issuing inter-State route permit;

(b) the number of buses, both private and Governments running with inter-State route permit, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal for issuing new route permit from Puri to Calcutta; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Inter-State Route permits are issued by State Transport Authorities concerned in terms of Section 88 (5) of the Motor Vehicles Act of 1988. According to this Section, the States can enter into agreement between themselves for the grant of permits in respect of a route or area. The Motor Vehicles Act does not prescribe any limit for the number of such permits to be granted.

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

[Translation]

#### TELEPHONE TO GRAM PANCHAYATS IN GUJARAT

2875. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide telephone service at Village Panchayat level;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide telephone facility in Gujarat particularly in Sabarkantha district under this scheme during the current year;

(c) if so, the number of telephones to be installed and the locations thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) 120 Panchayat Villages in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat are proposed to

be provided with telephone facility. The location of such telephones will depend upon technical feasibility and decision of local panchayats etc.

[English]

#### WIDENING OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 36

2877. SHRI PETER G. MAR-BANIANG : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to widen the National Highway No. 36 from Nowgaon to Dimapur in view of the heavy traffic on that section;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Out of a total length of 168 km. of NH 36 in Assam, 89 km. are yet to be widened to 2-lane. In the 8th Plan, there is provision for widening to 2-lane in selected stretches of this NH in a length of 30 km. The work of widening to 2-lane would be taken up in a phased manner depending upon the availability of funds. As such it is too early to indicate the time by which it is likely to be completed.

[Translation]

#### ASSISTANCE TO COOPERATIVE SECTOR

2978. SHRI RAM TAHA CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated various schemes for providing assistance to the units of cooperative sector for the processing, including setting up of post crop basic processing, facilities for fruits and vegetables;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated various developmental schemes as listed in the attached statement for providing assistance to various organisations including cooperative sector undertakings for setting up/upgrading of fruit & vegetable processing industries, developing the infrastructure, training in fruit and vegetable processing, marketing of products and development of backward linkages, etc. Besides, National Horticulture Board also provides assistance for setting up of post-harvest infrastructure. Assistance available under the schemes of the Ministry are for specific projects proposed by the implementing agency and recommended by the concerned nodal agencies of the States. Therefore, state-wise earmarking of assistance has not been made and it is for the implementing agencies of the different States to take advantage of the schemes. Government have sent copies of the schemes to the nodal agencies of different States, have held several meetings with the States and advised them to sponsor projects to take advantage of the schemes of the Ministry.

#### *Statement*

#### **Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for Implementation During the Eighth Plan Period**

S. No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Areas.
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable Processing facilities.
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.

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**S. No. Name of the Plan Schemes**


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6. Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
  7. Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
  8. Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (from 1993-94).
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**CREATION OF A FUND WITH ISRAEL**

2879. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :  
SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any joint declaration has been made in regard to creation of any fund during the recent visit of Foreign Minister of Israel; and

(b) if so, the amount likely to be contributed by both the countries separately and the purpose for which the fund is likely to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI  
R.L. BHATIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) During the visit of the Foreign Minister of Israel to India from May 17 to 19, 1993 it was informally agreed to set up a common fund of US \$ 3 million with both sides contributing equally. This fund will be utilised to implement research projects and scientific programmes by a joint committee of scientists to be set up under the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation signed during the visit.

**WRITINGS AND BOOKS OF FORMER  
PRIME MINISTER JAWAHARLAL  
NEHRU**

2880. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of selected writings and books of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru

purchased by Indian Missions abroad during the last three years;

(b) the total amount spent for this purpose;

(c) whether these writings and books are being kept in Nehru Museum; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI  
SALMAN KHURSHEED)

(a) The Ministry of External Affairs have purchased the following books of former Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru :

1. An Autobiography—20 sets
2. Discovery of India—20
3. Glimpses of World History—20 Sets
4. Vol. IV of J.L. Nehru's letters to Chief Ministers—120 Copies
5. Vol. V of J.L. Nehru's letters to Chief Ministers—120 Copies
6. Bibliography-J.L. Nehru—40 Copies

(b) Rs. 54, 082/-

(c) Yes Sir

(d) Does not arise.

**CONSTRUCTION OF BY-PASSES ON  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 24**

2881. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR  
GANGWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE  
TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct by-passes on National Highway No. 24 at different places;

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

(c) the time by which these by-passes are likely to be constructed ?

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

(b) The locations of the proposed by-passes on National Highway No. 24 are at Hapur, Muradabad and Shahjahanpur.

(c) It is too early to indicate time by which the construction of these by-passes would be started as the projects are still under planning stage.

*[English]*

#### PURULIA PUMPED WATER STORAGE SCHEME

2882. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have cleared the Purulia Pumped Water Storage Scheme in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) to (c) Purulia Pumped Water Storage Scheme envisaging installed capacity of  $4 \times 225$  MW has been cleared by Central Electricity Authority in March 1993 for an estimated cost of Rs. 1456 crores at September 1991 price level. The West Bengal Government has yet to obtain the investment approval from the Planning Commission.

#### UNESCO MAP WITHOUT BURZAHOM

2883. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :  
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV :  
DR. S.P. YADAV :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI  
ATHITHAN :  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in

"Times of India" dated June 27, 1993 regarding UNESCO publication of a map showing Burzahom as a part of Pakistan;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the UNESCO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the UNESCO thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The news-item refers to a joint publication by UNESCO and the Centre for East Asia Cultural Studies (CEACS) entitled "Recent discoveries in Pakistan" authored by a Pakistani archaeologist Prof. A. H. Dani. The news item states that the site of Burzahom situated near Srinagar is wrongly shown as part of Pakistan in the map published in Prof. Dani's book.

The map in question is not a political map but a rough archaeological sketch of historical sites pertaining to the stone Age and Indus Valley Civilization period. It pertains to a period much before the creation of Pakistan itself. In the map the dotted boundary line on the Eastern sector ends at Lahore and does not extend northwards to cover the site of Burzahom within the territory of Pakistan. Neither does J&K find a mention anywhere in the map. In addition, the book carries the following legend in accordance with UN requirement :

"The designations employed and the presentation of the material throughout the publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or of its frontiers and boundaries".

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The matter was taken with UNESCO since the map could give the misleading impression that certain sites in Indus Valley area, namely, the city of Burzahom are parts of the political territory of Pakistan. It was specifically stated that the city was located in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir and thus formed an integral part of India.

UNESCO gave an assurance that no such distortions would occur in future and the Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO would be consulted before maps depicting India and Pakistan were published in UNESCO publications in the future.

[Translation]

# INCLUSION OF LUCKNOW-FARAKKA ROAD IN MASTER PLAN OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2884. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1976 Bihar Government had recommended inclusion of Lucknow-Farakka road via Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Gazipur, Buxar, Arrah, Patna, Munger, Bhagalpur and Sahibganj in the Master Plan of National Highways;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have accepted the said recommendation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is having in view the inclusion of the Lucknow-Farakka road traversing through Sultanpur-Jaunpur-Gazipur-Buxar-Arrah-Patna-Munger-Bhagalpur-Sahibganj in the National Highway grid. Lucknow-Sultanpur-Jaunpur road is already forming the part of the N.H. No. 56. Similarly, the Arrah-Mokameh road segment is also covered under N.H. No. 30. However, owing to severe limitation of funds and other priority considerations, it has not been possible to include the remaining segments of the road in question in the National Highway system.

# TELECAST OF FILMS FROM AHMEDABAD DOORDARSHAN KENDRA

2885. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Hindi and Gujarati feature films telecast from Ahmedabad Doordarshan Kendra in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of regional language feature films by reducing the telecast of Hindi feature films;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The details are as under :

Hindi films	: 15
Gujarati films	: 115

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The frequency of telecast of Gujarati films by Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad is considered adequate.

# CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON AIR IN MAHARASHTRA

2886. DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consultative Committee on All India Radio has been reconstituted in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it is likely to be reconstituted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) All India Radio stations at Aurangabad, Bombay, Jalgaon, Nagpur, Pune, Ratnagiri and Sangli in Maharashtra are eligible to have a Programme Advisory Committee. All these committees have been reconstituted.

(b) Composition of the Committee is as follows :—

I. Chairman—The Station Director of the Station.

## II. Ex-officio Members—

- (i) Director-General. All India Radio or his representative.
- (ii) The Station Engineer of the station.
- (iii) The Director of Information/Publicity of the State/Union Territory concerned.
- (iv) The News Editor/Assistant News Editor of the All India Radio station.

III. Non-official members—Normally not exceeding 15, representing art, culture, linguistic and social interests.

IV. Secretary—The Assistant Station Director of the Station.

- (c) Does not arise.

## DECLINE IN POPULARITY OF NEWS

2887. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the popularity of news telecast and broadcast by the Akashvani and Doordarshan respectively is declining;

(b) whether the public believe more in the news telecast by foreign T.V. networks than the news of the Doordarshan and the Akashvani;

(c) whether the Doordarshan is not having its own network for the news-collection; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

- (d) Does not arise.

[English]

## TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN CHANDIGARH

2888. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of applicants for telephone connections on the waiting list in Chandigarh is more than the number of connections working at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Working connections as on 31-7-93 is 29693 and the waiting list as on 31-7-93 is 30276.

(c) As per the eighth plan objectives of the department of telecommunication the waiting period for telephone connections in large telephone system areas is to be contained to two years by the end of the eighth plan period. Accordingly expansion plans are being made for Chandigarh. About 15,000 lines of exchange capacity is proposed to be added during 93-94 in Chandigarh.

[Translation]

## LEVYING OF ENTRY FEE AT INTER-STATE BUS TERMINUS

2889. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:  
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to levy entry fee on all buses entering the Inter-State Bus Terminus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether D.T.C. has decided not to send its buses inside the Terminus;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether commuters are facing difficulties as a result thereof; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to save the commuters from these difficulties?

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

(b) Stand Fee on buses operating through the "City Terminus" was introduced with effect from 1-6-1993 @ Rs. 10/- per trip or alternatively at a monthly consolidated fee of Rs. 1000/-per bus.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since DTC were to operate about 800 trips daily from "Inter-State Bus Terminus" it was not financially feasible to operate these trips.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

#### ACCIDENTS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY BETWEEN NERIYAMANGALAM AND MUNNAR

2890. SHRI K.M. MATHIEW: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many accidents have taken place on the National Highway between Neriya mangalam and Munnar because of inadequate repair and maintenance;

(b) if so, the effective measures proposed to be taken to reduce the number of accidents;

(c) whether there is any proposal to allot more funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the stretch; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No separate data is collected for accidents on any particular highway. The steps taken by the Government to reduce the number of accidents are given in the statement.

(c) and (d) The Road in question falls on NH No. 49 in the State of Kerala. In the Annual Plan 1993-94, there is a provision of Rs. 4 crores consisting of Rs. 2.00 crores for Land Acquisition in selected stretches of NH No. 49 and Rs. 2.00

crores for corrective improvements in selected stretches.

#### *Statement*

#### **The Steps taken/being taken include—**

1. The M.V. Act, 1988 and the Rules framed thereunder provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences, and stringent penalties for offences.
2. Formal training in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
3. Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for vehicles.
4. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles except light motor vehicles.
5. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughout the country.
6. It is prescribed that road safety devices would be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction indicators with blinker system for vehicles, special labels on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.
7. A National Road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures. State Governments were also requested to set up State level road safety councils.
8. Strict and rigid enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.
9. Regular special drive against rash and negligent driving, driving without driving licences, drunken driving, defective headlights, over-speeding, over-loading etc.
10. School children are also imparted necessary training/educations in the schools about the rules of the roads and related safety aspects by the road safety cell of Delhi Traffic Police.
11. Introduction of blinkers/signals at accident prone areas.
12. More Police presence in accident prone areas

13. Use of Doordarshan/AIR/Press for giving wide publicity on road safety.
14. Painting of bus boxes, yellow boxes in Metropolitan cities.
15. Special night checking on Highways.
16. Painting competitions and other road safety activities are being organised by Road Safety Cell to inculcate the sense of road safety among various road users and children.

[Translation]

#### SUPPLY OF POWER TO STATES

2891. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide power to backward States at concessional rates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

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

#### PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF STEEL

2892. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of the major steel plants during 1992-93;

(b) the total export of steel during the above period;

(c) whether the Government have received any cess and levy on steel production from these industries;

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

(e) whether a hike in sale-price of steel was accrued on account of this cess and levy;

(f) if so, the per tonne increase made therein;

(g) whether the steel was sold in the international market at the domestic prices; and

(h) if so, the average sale price of the steel in the international market during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The total production of Saleable Steel by the major steel plants during 1992-93 was 11.28 million tonnes.

(b) The total exports of steel by the Main Producers during 1992-93 were 8.95 lakh tonnes.

(c) and (d) The total amount collected from the Main Producers on account of levies/cesses was about Rs. 577.2 crores during the year 1992-93.

(e) and (f) There has been no increase in the levies and cesses on steel produced by Main Producers during the last 2 years.

(g) In the international market the prices of various categories of steel fluctuate from time to time depending upon the international trade in steel. The export prices of steel are generally much lower than the internal market prices of the exporting countries. Therefore, a comparison of the domestic prices of Indian steel with the international prices will not be appropriate.

(h) The average price realisation by Main Producers for export of one tonne of steel during 1992-93 was about Rs. 7847/- per tonne.

[English]

#### NEW DIAMOND MINES

2893. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new diamond mines have been explored in India in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the locations thereof and approximate reserve of such mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) have recently conducted regional survey and identified three new kimberlite pipes at Behradih, Payalikhanda

and Jangra in Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh and two kimberlites between Anantapur and Dharmavaram in Andhra Pradesh. The diamond potential of these pipes is yet to be established.

[Translation]

#### FOREIGN POST OFFICES IN U.P.

2894. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing foreign post offices in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to open such post offices in Bareilly and Aligarh districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be opened with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) At present there are four Foreign Post Offices in the country—one each at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. In addition, there are five sub-Foreign Post Offices—one each at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Cochin, Jaipur and Srinagar besides an Export Extension Window at Varanasi.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### OPENING UP OF FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR TO MULTINATIONALS

2895. DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH:  
SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government's decision to allow multinational companies to set up food processing units in the country has adversely affected the domestic industry including cold drink industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the immense scope of food processing sector is being exploited by the

multinational as the country is not adequately prepared for the opportunities; and

(d) if so, the rationale for opening up such vast market to foreign investors/multinationals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Under the new Industrial Policy of July, 1991, foreign investment has been allowed in various sectors of industry including food processing sector. The food processing companies with foreign/NRI investment has to compete with the existing and future domestic industry to market their produce. The Ministry has not received any report of decline in production of the domestic food industry including that of cold drinks due to the operation of the companies with foreign equity.

(c) and (d) While there is considerable scope for development of food processing industries in India, it is not correct to say that domestic market is being exploited only by the foreign multinationals as many Indian companies are already operating in the country and the domestic investors have filed 2150 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda with proposed investment of over Rs. 28,000 crores upto May, 1993, since the announcement of the new Industrial Policy.

The rationale for permitting the foreign investment in food processing sector in the country is to bring in, *inter-alia*, the attendant advantages of technology, marketing expertise, introduction of modern managerial technique and new possibilities of promotion of exports.

[English]

#### NAVIGATIONAL TRANSPORT FROM ALLAHABAD TO HALDIA

2896. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes have been formulated to boost up navigational transport from Allahabad to Haldia Port along the Ganges; and

(b) the time by which the scheme is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. The details are as follows:—

(i) Two schemes at a total cost of Rs. 263.00 lakhs have been sanctioned for carrying out river conservancy works from Haldia to Patna and for data collection and hydrographic surveys for future planning of the works in Patna-Allahabad stretch of the Ganga. These schemes are scheduled to be completed by March, 1994.

(ii) A scheme for construction of cargo terminal at Patna has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 490.00 lakhs which is likely to be completed in about 2 years time.

(iii) A scheme for construction of floating terminal at Calcutta has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 198.00 lakhs which is scheduled to be completed in a period of 2 years.

[Translation]

#### EXPORT OF HIGH QUALITY STEEL BY SAIL

2897. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) also exports the high quality steel-products: and

(b) if so, the names of the countries thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) SAIL is exporting prime quality steel conforming to various international specifications.

(b) The countries to which SAIL is exporting its products are:

1. China
2. Korea
3. Japan
4. U.S.A.
5. Taiwan

6. Sri Lanka

7. Germany

8. U.K.

9. Italy

10. Malaysia

11. Phillippines

12. Singapore

13. Bangladesh

14. Bahrain

[English]

#### SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS

2898. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether new food processing policy includes specific development plans which suits each region's natural resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) The National Food Processing Policy would address issues relating to accelerated growth and development of FPI with a view to augment employment opportunities and income, both in rural and urban areas, reduce post-harvest losses, establish productive linkage between industry and farmers, increase exports of processed foods and generally support the productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities. These would also take natural resources of different regions into account. Ministry of Food Processing has also formulated several developmental Plan Schemes for implementation during the 8th Five Year Plan for overall development of the Food Processing Industries. Assistance in varying degrees under the schemes is provided to the proposals for utilisation of the resources of various regions.

**POLICY ON TELE-TRANSMISSIONS***[English]*

2899. **SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new policy on tele-transmissions:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Government have decided to extend the benefits of relay transmissions in the Metro-Channels to the other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide the Door-darshan transmission in the entire country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (d) As already announced by Government, five satellite channels have been introduced on the INSAT-II B Satellite System. It is also envisaged to extend satellite transmission facilities at other centres for relay of regional and Metro programmes. Whereas five satellite services commenced with effect from 15th August, 1993, the regional satellite services would be started from 2nd October, 1993 in ten regional languages.

*[Translation]*

**CONVERSION OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES INTO AUTO EXCHANGES IN GUJARAT**

2900. **SHRI RATILAL VARMA :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the telephone exchanges of Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar districts of Gujarat have been converted into auto-exchanges; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these exchanges are likely to be converted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**STAFF STRENGTH IN SAIL**

2901. **SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM :** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the present staff strength in Steel Authority of India Limited after reported voluntary retirement of 20,500 employees:

(b) whether the same number of posts have been abolished or some of them filled up subsequently by new recruits or by promotion:

(c) the details in this regard: and

(d) whether SAIL has been declared a sick unit and its case stands referred to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The manpower strength as on 1-4-93 was as under :

SAIL	1,90.062
IISCO	33.760
(including IISCO Ujjain)	
Total	2,23.822

(b) and (c) SAIL has been continuously monitoring the manpower requirement of its plants and units. Through the instrument of an annual manpower budget, manpower targets are decided for each plant/unit of SAIL based on their technological advancement and need for manpower rationalisation, for the financial year. An estimate for different types of separations is worked out and the optimum recruitment plan is made. The recruitment plan does not allow filling up of vacancies caused due to Voluntary Retirement. As a result reduction in manpower has always been more than the Voluntary Retirement on an overall basis. In SAIL the Voluntary Retirement Scheme was in operation in two spells i.e. from 1-10-86 to 31-3-89 and subsequently from 1-9-89 to 31-3-93 and during its operation about 20,500 employees were granted Voluntary Retirement. During this period a net manpower reduction of about 26,300 was achieved in SAIL (including IISCO).

(d) No, Sir.

**MANUFACTURE OF HOVERCRAFT**

2902. **SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI**: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some programmes have been drawn up to manufacture hovercraft in some States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the names of such States and Union Territories;

(c) whether infrastructural facilities for this project have since been made available;

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

(e) whether any target to complete manufacture of these hovercraft has been fixed; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Infrastructural facilities to manufacture Hovercrafts do not exist in Public Sector Shipyards under the Administrative control of this Ministry.

Hovercrafts can however be manufactured by the Private Sector units also. One of such units was issued licence to manufacture hovercrafts in December, 1981.

In spite of Government's encouragement given to the Shipbuilding Industry, the manufacturers of Hovercrafts are not coming forward possibly due to insufficient demand for the Hovercrafts in the country.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) In view of insufficient demand, the target for indigenous manufacture of Hovercrafts cannot be fixed.

**TALKS WITH PLO LEADER**

2903. **SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES**: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he held any talks with the PLO leader Mr. Yassar Arafat in June, 1993; and

(b) if so, the subjects figured in the talks and the outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA)**: (a) The Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri R. L. Bhatia, as the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, held talks with the PLO leader, Chairman Yassar Arafat on May 26, 1993 in Tunis.

(b) The Minister of State for External Affairs explained to Chairman Arafat in detail about the talks which were held with the Israeli side during the visit of the Israeli Foreign Minister to India from May 17 to 19, 1993. It was reiterated that establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel and subsequent dialogue to develop mutually beneficial bilateral co-operation do not dilute India's commitment to the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. Views were also exchanged on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Chairman Arafat appreciated Prime Minister's gesture of conveying a special message to him on this occasion.

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON DEEP SEA FISHING**

2904. **PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU**: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to broaden the Technical Committee of deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)**: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Technical Committee may invite any officers/experts/industry representatives as special invitees if the Committee feels it necessary.

## POST OFFICES IN H.P.

2905. MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for opening new post offices in urban areas of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the present number of post offices and the average population served by each post office;

(c) whether more post offices are not being opened due to non-availability of accommodations; and

(d) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to open more post offices in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Criteria for opening new post offices in hilly area of the country are under review.

(b) The present number of post offices in urban areas of Himachal Pradesh is 111 and the average population served by an urban post office is 4046.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) post offices are opened subject to justification as per departmental norms and availability of resources, taking into account demand as well as the targets fixed. A target of opening of 32 post offices (both departmental and extra departmental) in Himachal Pradesh during 1993-94 has been fixed.

## FOOD PROCESSING IN PRIVATE SECTOR

2906. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :  
SHRI BOLLIA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any assistance to private sector/entrepreneurs including NRIs at all levels in setting up of food processing units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of proposals received from them by the Union Government to set up small scale and large scale food processing units in the country during each of the last three years. State-wise; and

(d) the number out of them accorded approval during the period. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Union Government has delicensed almost all food processing industries except for distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and items reserved for small scale sector. Government has also allowed automatic approval for foreign equity upto 51% (100% in case of Non-Resident Indians/overseas Corporate Bodies). Various concessions in the Union Excise duties and custom duties have been provided for wide ranging food machineries and packaging materials used in the food industry. Besides, under the Plan Schemes of this Ministry, assistance in varying degrees is provided to State Government undertakings, cooperative sector, joint sector units, assisted sector units, voluntary organisations, private sector units for setting up/upgrading food processing units infrastructure, machinery, etc. for processing fruits & vegetables, meat & poultry and modernisations of rice hullers. Assistance to private sector is limited only to certain fruits & vegetable processing, meat & poultry processing units and modernisation of single huller rice mills which is provided through an agency approved by the Government.

(c) and (d) As far as small scale units are concerned, they are only required to register themselves with the State authorities concerned. Moreover, the food processing industries are both in organised and unorganised sectors and information in respect of all the food processing industries is not maintained centrally. Since the liberalisation of Industrial Policy in July, 1991, entrepreneurs are only required to file a memorandum in respect of most food processing industries. 2190 such Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been filed till June, 1993 for setting up of industries in different States. Besides, Government have approved 419 proposals for projects/units in Food Processing and Deep Sea Fishing sector which include proposals for joint venture, export oriented units; units with Non-Resident Indians/Overseas

Corporate Bodies investments, units requiring industrial licence and proposal for which plan assistance have been provided. The State-wise distribution of the projects approved is given in the attached statement.

*Statement*

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of proposals/units approved in last 2 years
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42
2.	Assam	3
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Gujarat	14
5.	Haryana	32
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
8.	Karnataka	17
9.	Kerala	32
10.	Madhya Pradesh	15
11.	Maharashtra	46
12.	Manipur	—
13.	Meghalaya	—
14.	Nagaland	2
15.	Orissa	8
16.	Punjab	17
17.	Rajasthan	22
18.	Sikkim	1
19.	Tamil Nadu	35
20.	Tripura	1
21.	Uttar Pradesh	42
22.	West Bengal	23
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
25.	Chandigarh	—
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
27.	Delhi	14
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	17
29.	Mizoram	9
30.	Pondicherry	2
31.	Lakshadweep	2
Total		419

[Translation]

**POST & TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES IN U.P.**

2907. SHRI RAM BADAN :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY :  
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh where telephone, post office and telegraph office facilities have not been provided at present:

(b) the number of villages where such facilities are proposed to be provided during the current year and under Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of villages in Uttar Pradesh without facility of Telegraphs, Telephone and Post Offices at present is as under :—

	Telephone	Post Office
Villages	97,214	1,00,968

(b) (i) 10,000 Panchayat villages are proposed to be provided with Public telephone facility during the year 1993-94. The remaining Panchayat villages are proposed to be covered with telephone facility progressively by 31-03-1995. In addition, 1.5 lakh Non-Panchayat villages are proposed to be covered throughout the country during the year 1995-96 & 1996-97. The implementation of this programme will, however, depend upon availability of resources.

(ii) (a) it is proposed to open 93 extra departmental branch Post Offices in rural areas of U.P. during the current financial year.

(b) No further time frame can be given for the Post Offices as the same are opened keeping in view the departmental norms and subject to availability of resources as per Annual Targets fixed.

(c) The amount cannot be assessed as it will depend upon the technical feasibility, availability of suitable equipments and stores.

Informaion concerning Telegraphs in parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Question is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

# ADVERTISEMENTS ON AIDS

2908. SHRI MANJAY LAL :  
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Doordarshan has received any proposal to carry a series of advertisements designed to create public awareness of AIDS menace;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted by Doordarshan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Doordarshan received 3 spots on AIDS. All these spots have already been telecast on a number of occasions.

[Translation]

# AGREEMENT WITH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

2909. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement with Asian Development Bank for funding road building activities has been signed;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the beneficiary States; and

(c) the time by which the agreements is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) Two loan agreements for US \$ 198 Million and US \$ 250 Million have been signed with the Asian Development Bank in December, 1988, and May, 1991 respectively. The first loan includes projects of four-laning of National Highways in the States of Haryana,

Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh and improvement of State Roads in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The Second loan includes projects of four-laning of National Highways in the States of Rajasthan, Kerala and Karnataka and improvement of 550 Km. of State Roads in Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The projects are likely to be implemented by December, 1996 and June, 1997 respectively.

[English]

# WIDENING OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY BETWEEN BANGALORE AND TUMKUR

2910. SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the traffic on the National Highway between Bangalore and Tumkur is of very high density;

(b) whether the above highway is accident prone and the number of accidents is increasing every year;

(c) whether the Union Government have approved any project to widen this National Highway;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(c) to (e) Bangalore to Neelamangala (30 km.) has already been widened to four-lane. From Neelamangala to Tumkur feasibility study for four-laning has been approved at a cost of Rs. 15.33 lakhs in March, 1993. The approval of widening project would depend upon inter-se priority and availability of funds.

[Translation]

# STATELESS PERSONS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN MYANMAR

2911. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the hardships being faced by people of Indian origin in Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to grant Indian Citizenship to the Stateless persons of Indian origin in that country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government had earlier decided to repatriate these persons to India;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that regard;

(g) the number of applications received for the issue of Emergency Certificates to these persons during each of the last three years;

(h) the number of Emergency Certificates issued to them; and

(i) the criteria being adopted for the issue of this certificate?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are estimated 4,30,000 persons of Indian origin in Myanmar. Of these approximately 10,000 hold Union Citizenship Certificate (UCC) which may qualify the person to become a full-fledged Myanmar citizen. An estimated 3 lakhs are Stateless. The Myanmar laws distinguishes between the rights of the nationals and the naturalised citizens. It leads to hardships in education, job procurement and the transference of immovable property.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration.

(e) and (f) There is no commitment on Government's part to repatriate all these persons to India. In any case, the Stateless persons are now being permitted to apply for naturalised citizenship under the Myanmar Citizenship Law, 1982.

(g) and (h) Our Mission in Yangon received 60 applications in 1990, 49 applications in 1991, 25 applications in 1992 and 6 applications to date in 1993 for issue of Emergency Certificates. In all these cases Emergency Certificates were issued.

(i) Under Section 20 of the Passport Act, our Mission in Yangon is authorised to grant Passports for travel to India for persons of Indian origin holding Foreigners' Registration Certificate (FRC) in Myanmar.

#### COMMITTEES CONSTITUTED ON DOORDARSHAN

2912. **SHRI RAMASIRAY PARASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Committees constituted by the Government for making improvements in the working of Doordarshan during the last three years; and

(b) the details of recommendations made by them;

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):** (a) and (b) A Committee under the chairmanship of Sh. S.C. Mahalik, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting was set up to make recommendations for increasing Doordarshan's commercial revenue. The gist of the recommendations of the Committee is given in the attached Statement.

Another High powered committee under the chairmanship of Sh. U.C. Agarwal, Retd. Secretary, Department of Personnel & Central Vigilance Commissioner was set up to study the aspects relating to the services and cadres of all the media units and organisations of the Ministry (including Doordarshan) and suggest remedial measures. This Committee has not yet submitted its report.

#### *Statement*

#### **Gist of Recommendations of Mahalik Committee on Commercial Advertisements of Doordarshan**

1. In order to compete with Cable TV, Doordarshan should carve out a 4 hour entertainment slot in the afternoon.

2. The National Programme should start at 8.30 PM and should be restructured to accommodate one hour entertainment slot between 8.50 PM and 9.50 PM. Entertainment slot

consisting mostly of films should be provided after 11 PM onwards.

3. Doordarshan should strictly adhere to the announced schedule of programmes.

4. Regional Kendras of Doordarshan should become centres of advertisements and their infrastructure properly strengthened to take on this activity so that smaller companies which operate within the limits of a particular geographical area can advertise their products in the regional service.

5. Doordarshan should provide advance information of its forthcoming programmes to its own Sales Offices. Advertisers and advertising agencies.

6. Doordarshan should undertake attractive publicity of their forthcoming programmes on the TV screen and if necessary in the print media. Preview of this new programmes should also be arranged for advertisers.

7. Doordarshan should make available the results of audience surveys done by their own Audience Research Unit to the Advertising agents on regular intervals.

8. A review of Advertisement code be conducted keeping in view the policy of economic liberalisation specially in relation to the advertisements relating to foreign banks, foreign models and foreign locales.

9. Doordarshan should enter into long term agreements with the organisers of international sports events. It would be advantageous if coverages of sports events are directly purchased by Doordarshan and marked both for sponsorship as well as spot buys.

10. Doordarshan should stop free telecast of tournaments where the organisers have sold the rights to a sponsor unless the sponsor pays the requisite telecast fee.

11. The organisation of Sales of Doordarshan should be suitably strengthened at all levels in order that Doordarshan broadens the base of advertisers.

12. A system of volume discount for advertisers on the lines of Start TV rate card be introduced for Doordarshan.

[English]

### EDITING OF DOORDARSHAN PROGRAMMES

2913. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criterion prescribed for the editing of Doordarshan programmes and other video magazines;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints against heavy censorship of programmes; and

(c) if so, the policy and action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) While Doordarshan programmes are exempt from the provisions of Film Certification, the Video Films intended for Public exhibition are examined by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

(b) Such criticism has been made from time to time.

(c) The Cinematograph Act, 1952 permits appeals by the aggrieved persons against any order of the CBFC.

### NAVIGABILITY OF HALDIA-CALCUTTA CHANNEL

2914. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vital navigable channel connecting Haldia dock with Calcutta port is steadily getting choked; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase the navigability of this channel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The present navigational route from Haldia to Calcutta is through Rangafalla Channel which

is being maintained through periodical maintenance dredging.

There is siltation in the Balari Bar area which is on the western side of Nayachara Island on the earlier route from Haldia to Calcutta. River training works and capital dredging have been sanctioned to improve the navigability and river training works have been carried out.

[Translation]

### CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS

2915. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the roads for which construction works were sanctioned under the Central Road Fund Scheme during 1992-93;

(b) the number of the roads whose construction works have been completed out of the sanctioned works indicating the total amount spent thereon;

(c) the reasons for non-completion of the remaining works so far; and

(d) the time by which these incomplete construction works are likely to be completed and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) During 1992-93, 19 road works were approved under Central Road Fund Scheme in various States.

(b) to (d) These being State Roads, the execution of these works as well as monitoring of progress and expenditure vests with the State Governments concerned.

### POWER T & D LOSSES

2916. SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of power lost during the process of transmission and distribution in various States and the country as a whole during 1992-93; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to minimise the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued to the power utilities for reducing the losses. These include, inter alia, conducting of the energy audit for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to improve the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening and improvement of their transmission and distribution systems, installing tamper proof meter boxes to check theft of energy and setting up vigilance squads to detect cases of theft of energy. The theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence from August, 1986 under the provisions of Section 39 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An Incentive Scheme was introduced by the Govt. of India among State Electricity Boards from the year 1987, for bringing about reduction in the Transmission and Distribution losses.

In the Power Ministers Conference held on 8th and 9th January, 1993 at New Delhi a Resolution has been passed that all SEBs/Energy Departments of the country will make all out efforts to achieve reduction of T&D losses by 1% per annum during the 8th Five Year Plan.

### COMMITTEE ON POWER RATES

2917. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted a committee to give suggestions for increasing the rates of electricity in various States and to allow private sector to participate in the activities of the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the committee; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Planning Commission has set up an NDC Committee on Power on 3-6-1993 to examine measures to make State

Electricity Boards economically viable by re-casting tariff, improving efficiency and considering de-linking of distribution from generation.

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee are as under:—

- (i) to review the factors which have contributed to technical and managerial inefficiencies of the power utilities in the States leading to increased costs and inefficiencies in the supply of electricity to different categories of consumers and recommend measures to minimise the unit cost of electricity supply to consumers;
- (ii) to review the electricity tariff structure in the States and recommend a set of national norms for implementation to make the state power utilities economically viable and enable them to generate adequate internal resources for financing their future capital expansion programmes for meeting the increasing demand for electricity in different parts of the country;
- (iii) to review the institutional and financial structure of the State power utilities and recommend necessary changes including, inter-alia, the need to delink distribution from generation and the need to involve the consumers in the management of electricity distribution through rural cooperatives etc., in order to ensure that the State power utilities function on commercial lines with adequate customer orientation; and
- (iv) to suggest measures necessary for suitably orienting the State power utilities towards promoting investments from the private sector within the framework of the recently announced changes in the economic and industrial policy for covering the anticipated gap in the availability of financial resources for power development in the coming years.

(c) The Committee is to submit its report by the 3rd October, 1993.

[English]

T.V. TRANSMITTERS IN A.P.

2918. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION

AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of High, Low and Very Low Power transmitters sanctioned and commissioned in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years with their location and cost of each project;

(b) whether any such new proposals are pending with the Government for sanction;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Metro Channel is being extended to Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Four High Power Transmitters (HPT), sixteen Low Power Transmitters (LPT) and two Very Low Power Transmitters (VLPT) were sanctioned/commissioned into service in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, i.e., from 1-4-90 to 12-8-93. The requisite details are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) An HPT and an LPT are envisaged to be set up at Rajamundry and Nagar Kurnool respectively in Andhra Pradesh, subject to availability of adequate resources and inter-se priorities.

(d) Metro channel service is, at present, available at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi. There is no proposal, at present, to extend this terrestrial service to any other part of the country, including Andhra Pradesh.

(e) Does not arise.

*Statement*

S. Location No.	Class	Capital Cost (Rs. in lacs)
1. Nandyal	HPT	744.15
2. Kurnool	HPT	767.55
3. Anantapur	HPT	330.00
4. Tirupati	HPT	391.85
5. Bheemavaram	LPT	101.34

S. Location No.	Class	Capital Cost (Rs. in lacs)
6. Hindupur	LPT	101.34
7. Kuppam	LPT	85.07
8. Jagtial	LPT	101.34
9. Atmakur	LPT	101.34
10. Allagadda	LPT	101.34
11. Gadwal	LPT	101.34
12. Giddalur	LPT	101.34
13. Kavali	LPT	85.07
14. Siddipet	LPT	85.07
15. Tandur	LPT	85.07
16. Yellandu	LPT	85.07
17. Madanapalli	LPT	85.07
18. Nirmal	LPT	89.65
19. Medak	LPT	89.65
20. Kadiri	LPT	89.65
21. Paderu	VLPT	70.81
22. Srisailem	VLPT	70.81

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

2919. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the 8th plan about 20 new R&D schemes have been modified in priority list;

(b) if so, the number out of them which have been started so far, and the number out of which were started in 1992; and

(c) the amount utilised in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT : (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) In the 8th Plan, 20 new R&D Schemes have been identified in the priority list.

(b) Four new Research Schemes have been sanctioned during 1993 and none during 1992.

(c) An amount of Rs. 7.4 lakhs has been released for these schemes so far.

[Translation]

#### CONSTRUCTION OF SIKAR-KOTPUTALI ROAD

2920. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for the development of 124 kilometre long Sikar-Kotputali road linking Delhi is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to sanction funds for the development of this road; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The Government of Rajasthan had sought loan assistance for widening of certain sections and some essential works of construction of bridges to be undertaken on Kotputali-Sikar road estimated to cost Rs. 5.00 crores. In May, 1993 the Government of India has communicated its approval to loan assistance not exceeding Rs. 5.00 crores for the purpose.

[English]

#### DECLARATION OF KOLLAM-KOVALAM STRETCH AS NATIONAL WATERWAY

2921. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to declare Kollam-Kovalam stretch of the West Coast Canal as part of the National Water Way No. III; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala had requested that the West Coast Canal including the Kollam-Kovalam stretch be declared as National

Waterway. However, based on the techno-economic feasibility studies only the Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals have been declared as National Waterway, with the concurrence of the Government of Kerala. However, a fresh feasibility study of the Kollam-Kovalam stretch has been taken up by the Inland Waterways Authority of India, recently.

#### DRY DOCK FACILITIES

2922. **SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :**  
**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :**

Will the Minister of **SURFACE TRANSPORT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish dry dock facilities at the major ports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :** (a) and (b) The ship repair/dry dock facilities are already available at the major ports of Calcutta, Visakhapatnam, Madras, Bombay and Kandla.

The proposals for setting up of ship repair/dry dock facilities by a private entrepreneur at Mormugao Port and leasing of such existing facilities at Calcutta Port to a private party have been approved subject to certain terms and conditions.

Paradip, Tuticorin, Cochin and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trusts have invited offers from private entrepreneurs for creation of such facilities.

[*Translation*]

#### TELECOM FACILITIES IN FLOOD AFFECTED AREAS IN BIHAR

2923. **SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV :**  
Will the Minister of **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telecommunication facilities in each of the post offices of flood affected areas of North Bihar particularly in Saharsa-Surpoul;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) :** (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Subject to technical feasibility we try to provide telecom facilities by setting up small exchange or Public Telephone to cater to public needs.

[*English*]

#### INDO-BURKINA FASO JOINT COMMISSION

2924. **SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE :** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Burkina Faso have agreed to set up a Ministerial Level Joint Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this Commission is likely to start functioning?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) :** (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The Joint Commission is expected to meet bi-annually with the objective of promoting and reinforcing economic, technical, political and cultural cooperation.

(c) The formal agreement in pursuit of the decision to set up the Joint Commission is in the process of being finalised. This is expected to be concluded shortly, whereafter it will become possible to settle dates for the Joint Commission to meet.

#### DESU'S DUES TOWARDS N.D.M.C.

2925. **SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :**  
Will the Minister of **POWER** be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of purchase 'per unit' of electricity at present by New Delhi Municipal

Corporation from the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking:

(b) the rates at which electricity, is being charged, per unit, by N.D.M.C. from its commercial and domestic consumers;

(c) whether the N.D.M.C. has not been making timely payment to DESU;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to clear the dues of DESU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) The Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) is presently supplying electricity to the New Delhi Municipal Committee at the rate of Rs. 1.42 per Unit for 66/33 KV supply and at the rate of Rs.1.47 per unit for 11 KV supply.

(b) The existing NDMC tariff for domestic and commercial consumers is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) NDMC is already making timely payments to DESU for the purchase of electricity. However, there are some past outstanding dues against NDMC prior to the revision of tariff in March, 1986. NDMC has taken up the matter with Delhi Administration for waiving of these dues on the analogy of BTPS dues against DESU waived of by the Government as on 31-3-1989.

*Statement*

**NDMC TARIFF FOR DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL CONSUMERS**

Sl. No.	Category	Tariff (Paise per Unit)
1.	<b>Domestic</b>	
	First 100 Units	42
	Next 100 Units	53
	Next 100 Units	158
	Above 300 Units	210
	Separate Power Connection	210

Category	April	May	June	July	Total
Conductor	600	218	138	73	1029
Drivers	—	873	—	21	894
W/Shop and Class-IV	—	339	1	277	617
Ministerial (V. E.)	—	435	—	102	537
Traffic Supervisors	—	569	—	6	575
Officers	—	35	—	—	35
<b>Total</b>					<b>3687</b>

Sl. No.	Category	Tariff (Paise per Unit)
2.	<b>Commercial</b>	
	Upto 100 KW	158
	100 KW & above (HT)	314
	100 KW & above (LT)	314+10%
	Large Industrial Power (LT) /	345+10%

**CLOSING DOWN OF DTC DEPOTS**

2926. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to close down certain DTC depots;

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

(c) whether the DTC Management has decided to implement a golden hand shake scheme for the employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) DTC has introduced Voluntary Retirement Scheme w.e.f. 9-12-1992. Under this scheme the request from employees/officers who voluntarily submitted their option to be retired were processed by the Committee constituted by the DTC Management. The category-wise list of employees whose request for voluntary retirement under the scheme accepted as on 31st July, 1993 is given below:—

[Translation]

### FACILITIES TO BIG INDUSTRIES

2927. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether big industries are given the facilities of borrowing without giving security and rebate at the time of booking their orders in Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these facilities have been denied to small scale industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts made to provide these facilities to small scale industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The deregulation of distribution and pricing of Iron & Steel w.e.f. 16-1-92, liberalisation of the economy and reduction in custom duty has led to easy availability of steel in the country, both from the domestic sources as well as imports. Keeping in view the market conditions as well as the commercial facilities available to the consumers of steel in the competitive market, SAIL also extends certain commercial facilities like credit, quantity linked rebate etc, as per prevailing guidelines.

(c) to (e) such commercial facilities are applicable to all customers of SAIL including the Small Industries with good track record and sound financial standing.

### POSTAL DISTRIBUTION IN BIHAR

2928. SHRI SHIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received from Bihar regarding irregularities committed in postal distribution and payment of money order since January, 1993, till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) :

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

### MULTI-CHANNEL PROGRAMMES IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS

2929. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install high power T.V transmitter in rural and urban areas for multi-channel Doordarshan relay programmes during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the sites selected for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

### FARAKKA SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT

2930. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned "Farakka faces problems of plenty" and "500 MW Farakka unit likely to be scrapped" appeared in 'The Statesman' dated June 29, 1993 and the 'Times of India' dated July 5, 1993 respectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the power project suffers from excessive power generation and stage-III

(500 MW) unit of the project is likely to be scrapped;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) and (e) The Farakka Super Thermal Power Station generated 940.9 million units at a Plant Load Factor of 70% in the period April-June 1993 and it backed down to the extent of 46 million units during the same period due to lack of demand in the grid which was caused partly by non-availability/inadequacy of transmission links. The Central Electricity Authority and the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited have been advised to take action to strengthen the distribution system so as to maintain generation at high level.

In so far as Farakka STPP Stage III (500 MW) is concerned, the project was approved by the Government in September, 1989 and no decision has been taken to scrap this project.

(d) Does not arise.

### LOSSES IN POWER SECTOR

2931. **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the accumulative losses of State Electricity Boards as well as National Thermal Power Corporation included DESU as on March 31, 1993;

(b) the total amount of overdues to be recovered by each of these organisations as on above date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for helping these organisations in the recovery of dues and reducing losses?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :** (a) The cumulative deficit of the State Electricity Boards and DESU, as on 31st March, 1993, are as under:—

SEBs : (—) 4683.73 crores.

DESU : (—) 834.29 crores.

NTPC has positive working results.

(b) The total amount of overdues to be recovered by SEBs, DESU and NTPC are as under:—

SEVs : Rs. 6,425.67 Crores. (1991-92)

DESU : Rs. 1,014.00 Crores. (31-3-1993) Provisional)

NTPC : Rs. 2,572.81 Crores. (31-3-1993) including surcharge.

(c) State Governments have been advised to undertake measures such as rationalised tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy, improvement in Plant Load Factor, reduction in T & D losses etc. to improve the finances of the State Electricity Boards and to reduce their losses. The Conference of the Power Ministers held on 8th—9th January, 1993 also discussed about ways and means to improve the performance of SEBs both in physical and financial terms, and has adopted an Action Plan which include, inter alia, liquidation of the arrears of subsidy in a phased manner, reduction in outstanding dues, tariff rationalisation, fixation of minimum agricultural tariff etc. Action has also been taken to adjust the overdues of NTPC from Central Plan assistance payable to the defaulting States.

### CENTRAL INLAND WATER TRANSPORT CORPORATION

2932. **SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are monitoring the progress of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation in the use of river for transport purposes;

(b) if so, the new rivers surveyed for transport purposes;

(c) whether the number of ships with the corporation are inadequate; and

(d) if so, the new ships proposed to be acquired during the 8th Plan period for river transport?

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

(b) Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited (CIWTC) has carried out survey for operating in Surat, Cochin backwaters and Bombay. Besides, the Inland Waterways Authority of India has carried out techno-economic feasibility studies on the Sunderbans, the Godavari and the Krishna with a view to assessing their potential for declaration as National Waterways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 38.00 crores exists for acquisition of new vessels by the CIWTC in the 8th Plan. However, at present there is no proposal under consideration.

[Translation]

#### OUT OF TURN TELEPHONES IN DELHI

2933. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2869 on March 15, 1993 and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are no pending letters of MPs in MTNL, Delhi for allotment of telephones on out of turn basis from their quota upto 31-3-93. As regards Gujarat Circle, 172 cases are still pending. The break up is as under:—

(1) 67 cases: Subscribers have not completed commercial formalities, like registration for telephone or nonsubmission of registration particulars.

(2) 32 cases: Technically non-feasible at present.

(3) 73 cases: Under process for installation of telephones.

Telephone connections at (1) above will be provided within one month of completion of commercial formalities by the subscriber, subject to technical feasibility. Telephone connections at (2) above will be provided as soon as they become feasible, the status of which is reviewed periodically.

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

[English]

#### PROPAGANDA BY PAKISTAN

2934. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH  
DRONA:  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan launched vicious propaganda against India in foreign countries and at international fora;

(b) whether Indian missions abroad are functioning effectively to counter this propaganda;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereon; and

(d) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Countering anti-Indian propaganda by Pakistan in foreign countries is an on-going process. Government successfully continues to rebut false Pakistani allegations and disinformation. Steps include the following:

(i) Frequent and continuing interaction with other governments, to provide the facts regarding false allegations.

(ii) Preparation and distribution all over the world of documents and pamphlets depicting the factual situation in Punjab and J&K and exposing Pakistan's role in aiding and abetting terrorism.

(iii) Preparation and distribution of similar audiovisual material.

(iv) Regular briefing of Indian and foreign journalists here as well as in other countries through our Missions.

(v) Dissemination, on a regular basis, of information to our Missions, enabling them to take swift and effective corrective action with all relevant target audiences.

(vi) Further proposed steps in this regard include, inter alia, greater interaction with NRIs, acquisition of modern communications equipment, examining possibilities of publicity through TV Satellite Channels and strengthening of information wings in missions abroad.

[Translation]

#### POWER GRID CORPORATION'S DUES TO SEBs

2935. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Electricity Boards are not paying the outstanding dues to the Power Grid Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About Rs. 470.49 crores of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Powergrid) dues are outstanding against various utilities as on 31-7-1993. The statewide details are given in the attached statement.

(c) Passing of outstanding dues by generating companies consequent to de jure transfer of

assets to Powergrid with effect from 1-4-1992, dispute regarding depreciation rates and rate of return on equity capital and the financial constraint on the part of the utilities are the main reasons for the outststanding dues.

(d) Periodical discussions with defaulting utilities have been followed by letters from Powergrid as well as Ministry. Notices have also been issued by Powergrid to the effect that failure to clear the dues will lead Powergrid no choice but to disconnect power supply to the defaulting utilities.

#### Statement

#### Regarding power Grid Corporation's Dues to SEBs.

(Rupees in crores)

State	Current Outstanding (As on 31-07-1993)
Madhya Pradesh	33.54
Maharashtra	5.31
Gujarat	5.73
Goa	0.06
Daman & Diu	0.08
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
Andhra Pradesh	33.12
Karnataka	15.12
Tamil Nadu	26.45
Kerala	3.24
Pondicherry	0.20
Goa	0.55
Uttar Pradesh	107.40
Rajasthan	41.53
Delhi	34.55
Punjab	21.50
Haryana	34.87
Himachal Pradesh	3.16
Jammu & Kashmir	15.10
Chandigarh	0.64
West Bengal	2.67
Bihar	17.27
Orissa	7.52
Damodar Valley Corporation	5.42
Sikkim	0.05
Assam	9.71
Arunachal Pradesh	0.18
Manipur	1.81
Mizoram	0.99
Tripura	1.00
Meghalaya	0.35
West Bengal	8.76
Bihar	10.28
Orissa	6.64
Damodar Valley Corporation	14.37
Sikkim	0.19
Total	470.49

**PRODUCTION COST OF GOLD**

2936. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of producing gold is very high;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) the year-wise quantity of gold produced during the last two years, the cost of production thereof and the value of the gold so produced; and

(d) the reasons for continuing production of gold inspite of the fact that the income earned thereby is less than its cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Among the primary producers of Gold in India namely Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) and Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited (HGML), the cost of production of Gold in BGML is high vis-a-vis the market price.

(b) and (c) The quantity of Gold produced during last two years, its value and cost of production of 10 gm. of Gold is as under :—

Name of the Company	Quantity of Gold produced (in Kgs)	Value in Rs/ crores	Cost of production of 10 gram of Gold (in Rs.)
1991-92			
BGML	671.72	28.87	7629
HGML	1079.74	50.38	2887
1992-93 (provisional)			
BGML	658.13	26.98	8510
HGML	887.76	38.68	4073

In addition to this, 284 Kgs. in 1991-92 and 291 Kgs. Gold in 1992-93 was produced as a by-product by Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL).

(d) Efforts for reducing the cost of production are continuing.

**RECRUITMENT OF ST/BACKWARD CLASSES IN DOORDARSHAN**

2937. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTAN-PURI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons belonging to scheduled Tribes and backward classes recruited in Doordarshan during the last one year;

(b) the number of posts reserved for such categories still lying vacant; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) While the categories coming under the backward classes have not been defined by the Government so far, the percentage of posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes varies from Kendra to Kendra depending upon the State in which it is located. Such information is not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(c) Continuous efforts are made to fill up the reserved posts as per the instructions issued by the Government from time to time.

**CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES IN U.P.**

2938. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a pucca bridge over Gomti river at Kerakat Pipa Pul in Jaunpur District of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the pucca bridge at Chandvakh on Varanasi-Ajamgarh road has been collapsed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d)

Constitutionally, the Central Government are primarily concerned with the roads declared as National Highways including bridges thereon. For all other roads and bridges thereon, the respective State Governments are responsible for their construction/development etc. Since both the bridges in question do not lie on the National Highways, it is for the Government of Uttar Pradesh to take necessary action in the matter.

[English]

#### RECOVERY OF TELEPHONE BILLS

2939. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone connections were not released to lakhs of people from the already installed exchanges during 1992-93 as has been brought out in the C & AG report on Posts and Telecommunications for the year ending March 31, 1992:

(b) if so, the reasons thereof:

(c) whether DOT is to recover telephone bill arrears amounting to several hundred crores:

(d) if so, the reasons for not realising the arrears:

(e) whether there has been shortfall in the capacity utilisation in 1990-91 and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to tone up the working of DOT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) 9.86 lakh telephone connections were released during the year 1992-93. The capacity utilisation at the end of the year was 86.7% as against 87.1% on 31-3-91. The small reduction in capacity utilisation is due to larger capacity addition in the last quarter of 1992-93.

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

(e) and (f) The capacity utilisation as on 31-3-91 was 87.1%. Guidelines for optimising the exchange capacity utilisation have been issued by the Department.

#### USE OF INSAT—2A

2940. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private company has been granted to use the INSAT—2A Satellite for extending voice and data communication service in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. One proposal for providing data domestic service via Satellite has been accepted in principle.

(b) M/s Hughes Escorts Communication Ltd., New Delhi has submitted a proposal for providing 64 kbps satellite based data domestic service. The service intends to provide data communication facility to domestic subscribers scattered throughout India, using satellite in very small aperture terminals provided at the subscribers premises. The proposal has been accepted in principle for operation in extended C-Band of INSAT—2A Satellite.

#### COMPLETION OF KOZHICODE-BYPEASS

2941. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the work of Kozhikode-bypass road is likely to be completed:

(b) whether some of the land owners are yet to be given the compensation for the acquired land:

(c) if so, the details thereof: and

(d) by when they are likely to get compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The work of Kozhikode-Bypass is proposed to be taken up in 4 phases. Land acquisition for Phase-I has been completed. For the remaining three phases, work of land acquisition is in various stages of progress. Therefore, it is too early to indicate the time by which the entire bypass is likely to be completed.

(b) to (d) : Kerala Public Works Department has reported that some of the land owners have to be given compensation for land. It is too early to indicate the time when they are likely to get compensation as their cases are still to be settled by the Revenue Authorities.

#### REPAIR OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 31

2942. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the damages caused to National Highway No. 31 from North Salmara to Guwahati by the recent flood and rain;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to repair and strengthen the National Highway in that area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The damages caused by flood and rain during this year to North Salmara-Guwahati Section of NH 31 in Assam are under assessment. Emergent repair works have already been taken up by the State P.W.D.

[Translation]

#### FRUIT PROCESSING UNITS IN PUNJAB

2943. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether orange, chiku, bananas and other fruits are produced in large quantity in Punjab;

(b) whether the Union Government are providing any assistance to the State for the setting up of fruit processing units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A sizeable quantity of fruits like kinnow, malta, orange, grapes, etc. are produced in Punjab.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several developmental schemes as listed in the attached Statement for providing assistance to various organisations such as State Government undertakings, joint sector undertakings, cooperative sectors, voluntary agencies, private sector etc. for setting up/upgrading of fruit & vegetable processing industries, developing the infrastructure, training in fruit and vegetable processing, marketing of product and development of backward linkages etc. National Horticulture Board also provides assistance for setting up of postharvest infrastructure. No proposal seeking assistance for setting up of fruit processing unit in Puajab has been received in this Ministry.

#### Statement

#### Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for Implementation During the Eighth Plan Period

Sr. No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Areas.
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable processing facilities.
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.
6.	Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
7.	Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
8.	Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (from 1993-94).

[English]

# SHORTAGE OF TELEPHONE EQUIPMENTS IN RAJASTHAN

2944. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone equipments and other items have been found short in various godowns of telecom centres in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether responsibilities have been fixed for this shortage; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d): Not applicable in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

## C.B.I. ENQUIRY INTO T.V. SERIALS

2945. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

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

(a) whether lapses have occurred in the selection of serials for Doordarshan.

(b) if so, whether some of the officials have been found guilty in the matter by C.B.I.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) The report of C.B.I. has not been received so far. They have been asked to expedite and complete the enquiry on priority basis.

[English]

# LINKING OF VILLAGES WITH CITIES WITH TELEPHONE FACILITY

2946. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL:  
SHRI N. J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the district-wise number of villages in Gujarat particularly in Chhota Udaipur tribal area, which have been linked with cities by telephone upto June 1993 under the scheme of linking villages with the cities by telephones;

(b) the district-wise number of villages proposed to be linked during 1993-94;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges set up by June, 1993;

(d) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to set up during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 6177 villages in Gujarat including 24 of Chhota Udaipur tribal area have been covered with telephone facility as on 30-06-1993. District-wise details are shown in the attached Statement.

(b) 4,500 villages including 33 of Chhota Udaipur tribal area in Gujarat are proposed to be provided with telephone facility during the year 1993-94. District-wise details are shown in Annexure.

(c) Total 1,170 telephone exchanges have been set up upto June, 1993 including 12 new telephone exchanges commissioned during the period 1.4.93 to 30.6.93.

(d) 40 New Telephone exchanges are proposed to set up during the year 1993-94.

*Statement***District-wise Details of Villages in Gujarat are Provided/Proposed with Telephone Facility as on 30-06-1993**

(a) & (b) Name of District		No. of villages provided with Tele. facility as on 30-6-93	No. of villages proposed to be provided with Tele. facility during 1993-94
1.	Ahmedabad	350	167
2.	Gandhinagar	40	23
3.	Amreli	308	180
4.	Banaskantha (PNP)	401	240
5.	Bharuch	343	240
6.	Bhavnagar	255	370
7.	Jamnagar	254	230
8.	Junagadh	337	340
9.	Kheda (Nadiad)	708	210
10.	Kutch (Bhuj)	413	190
11.	Mehsana	646	230
12.	Panchmahals (Godhra)	263	410
13.	Rajkot	298	330
14.	Sabarkantha (HMR)	457	120
15.	Surat	327	290
16.	Surendranagar	255	230
17.	Vadodara	173	347
18.	Chhota Udaipur	24	33
19.	Valsad	292	308
20.	Dangs	10	12
21.	U.T.	23	—
Total		6177	4500

*[Translation]***TIME ALLOTTED TO RAJASTHANI LANGUAGE ON AIR/DOORDARSHAN**

2947. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to broadcast/telecast programmes in Rajasthani language from AIR/Doordarshan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Nine Stations of All India Radio at Jaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Chittorgarh,

Suratgarh, Udaipur, Nagaur, Barmer and Sawai Madhopur are already broadcasting programmes in Rajasthani dialect. Similarly, Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur is also telecasting programmes in Rajasthani. In addition, feature films in Rajasthani are also telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi and are relayed by Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur and other relay centres in Rajasthan.

*[English]***EEC ASSISTANCE TO FOOD PROCESSING PROJECTS IN KERALA**

2948. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3212 on March 16, 1992 and to state :

(a) the progress made in the implementation of the programme relating to setting up of fruit processing units in Kerala with the assistance of European Economic Community; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in the implementation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):** (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the Government of Kerala, extensive field studies have already been conducted by experts to assess the quality and quantity of pineapple, banana and mango available for processing. A preliminary market study of work plan for the project has also been prepared with specific time frame for completion of each activity which has been presented to the European Economic Community for approval in late June, 1993. Besides, field survey and technical evaluation of the various sites for identifying the location for food processing plants have also been initiated. Kerala Government has informed that the project is progressing as per the schedule.

[Translation]

#### POSTAL BAG IN EAST DELHI

**2949. SHRI ASHT BHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the recent past a postal bag carrying postal articles including registered letters has been found in nullah in trans-Yamuna area in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been instituted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the non-recurrence of such incidents in future?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):** (a) and (b) Letters including registered letters from a mail-bag closed for Shahadara post office were found abandoned near a Nullah in Shahadara on 21-4-1993. Taking into account both letters directly recovered by departmental officials and those obtained from a newspaper office, the total number of

articles involved was 585 ordinary letters and 17 registered letters.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The following measures have been taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents:

(i) Operational and Supervisory lapses noticed in the course of investigation have been suitably dealt with:

(ii) One of the supervisors was placed under suspension and mail clerks of concerned offices were shifted to other offices.

(iii) The matter has also been reported to CBI for further investigation and action.

(iv) Directions have been given to the Chief Postmaster-General Delhi Circle to review the existing arrangements for transmission and exchange of mails within Delhi city and to tighten the supervision to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future.

#### PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN FIJI

**2950. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:**  
**SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:**  
**DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing incidents of atrocities on people of Indian origin in Fiji;

(b) whether the Government have taken up this matter with that country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have taken/propose to take up this matter at the international level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED):** (a) We are not aware of recent incidents of atrocities on people of Indian origin in Fiji.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) and (d) Not applicable.

(e) and (f) Not applicable.

[English]

#### GRANT FOR POWER SUPPLY IN TAMIL NADU

2951. DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide grant for supply of power to the farmers in Tamil Nadu for operating their irrigation pumps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target in this regard during 1993-94; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Union Government to provide grants for supply of power to the farmers in Tamil Nadu, for operating their irrigation pumps.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### TELECOM EXPANSION PLAN OF MAHARASHTRA<sup>1</sup>

2952. SHRI PANDURANG PUNDLIK FUNDKAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any expansion plan regarding telecom facilities has been chalked out by Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of additional telephones, telex and Panchayat phones targeted for

Maharashtra Telecom Circle including MTNL, Bombay for 1993-94 are :

	Maharashtra Circle including MTNL, Bombay
DELs (Lines)	1,56,800
Panchayat phones	6,000
Telex (Lines)	220

(c) Budget allotment for 1993-94 for Maharashtra Circle (including MTNL) is about Rs. 900 crores.

#### TALAKS WITH US ON CRYOGENIC ROCKET ENGINE DEAL

2953. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :  
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN  
CHANDRA KHANDURI :  
SHRI BHOLA BULLI RAMAIAH :  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US held any talks with Russia in regard to the Cryogenic rocket engine deal between the latter and India recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have held any talks with the US to convey its point of view; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the US there to ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US position is that elements of the ISRO-Glavkosmos contract of January 1991 are in violation of the MTCR guidelines, notwithstanding the safeguards provisions in the contract that the engine technology would only be used for civilian purposes and would not be diverted or transferred to third countries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been repeatedly conveyed to the US side, inter alia, that (i) no element of the

ISRO-Glavkosmos contract is violative of MTCR guidelines and (ii) India's space programme is meant entirely for peaceful purposes. Government are fully committed to achieving self-reliance in the field of high-technology, particularly in areas like space which have a major bearing on India's economic and social development programmes. The US position is that its domestic legislation does not distinguish between technology for missiles and space launch vehicles.

[Translation]

#### POSTAL LIFE INSURANCE SCHEME IN GUJARAT

2954. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to extend the Postal Life Insurance (PLI) scheme in Gujarat particularly in its Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahals districts; and

(b) the target fixed for 1993-94 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The following steps were taken :

(i) Meetings and drives organised through Development Officers and Field Officers.

(ii) Publicity was made through hoardings, neon sign boards, and advertisements in newspapers. Out of 75 hoardings and 7 neon sign boards displayed in the Circle, 6 hoardings are exhibited in Vadodara, Bharuch and panchmahals Districts. An expenditure of Rs. 8432 was incurred on advertisements in newspapers.

(iii) Publicity was also made through personal contacts, distribution of publicity brochures and souvenir items. An expenditure of Rs. 1,30,577 was incurred on this account.

(iv) The scheme is conducted by the Circle office through Circle field staff not district-wise. However, following field staff have been deployed in the three

districts of Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahals for propagation of PLI :

(a) Vadodara—One Development Officer and three Field Officers.

(b) Bharuch—One Development Officer and two Field Officers.

(c) Panchmahals—One Development Officer and five Field Officers.

(b) The target for the year 1993-94 for Gujarat Circle has been fixed at Rs. 132 crores.

[English]

#### TELEPHONE TO GRAM PANCHAYATS

2955. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have planned to provide telephone facility to every Gram Panchayat in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats provided such facility so far. State-wise;

(c) whether any priority has been given to underdeveloped and remote areas like hills, deserts etc.;

(d) if so, the norms or guidelines issued in this regard; and

(e) the number of Panchayats provided telephones so far in the hilly districts of Pauri-Garhwal and Chamoli and proposed to be provided during 1993 and 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1,00,263 Panchayat villages have been provided with telephone facility as on 30-06-1993. State-wise details are shown in the attached Statement.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. It has been decided that priority may be given to the following areas for providing Telephone facility in the Panchayat Villages :—

(i) Areas affected by Law and order situation.

(ii) Sensitive Border areas.

(iii) Hilly and Tribal areas.

(iv) Cyclone prone areas.

(e) Details are given below :—

	Panchayat Villages having telephone facility as on 31-7-93	Planned	
Pauri	94	50	50
Chamoli	132	50	50

#### *Statement*

#### **Providing Telephone Facility to Panchayat Villages Status as on 3-6-1993**

Sl. No.	Circle	Total No. of Panchayat	No. of Panchayat Villages with telephone facility as on 30-6-1993
1	2	3	4
1.	A.P.	19533	12335
2.	Assam	2485	1301
3.	Bihar	11762	5696
4.	Gujarat	13047	5986
	U.T.	100	23
5.	Haryana	5792	3709
6.	J. & K.	1461	600
7.	Karnataka	8335	5888
8.	Kerala	982	982
9.	M.P.	23523	12014
10.	Maharashtra	24752	9649
	Goa	185	178
11.	Himachal Pradesh	2597	1159

1	2	3	4
12.	North East :		
	Arunachal Pradesh	944	163
	Manipur	166	146
	Meghalaya	450	194
	Mizoram	613	151
	Nagaland	1001	168
	Tripura	910	216
13.	Orissa	4411	3837
14.	Punjab	11030	4163
15.	Rajasthan	7562	5594
16.	Tamil Nadu	13288	10132
17.	Uttar Pradesh	73741	13779
18.	West Bengal	3304	2123
	A. & N. Islands	44	34
	Sikkim	138	43
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,32,156</b>	<b>1,00,263</b>

[Translation]

#### **MILK PLANT IN GUJARAT**

2956. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Union Government to set up a milk plant in Gujarat for producing baby food and other milk products;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total investment likely to be made thereon; and

(c) the time by which the work regarding installation of the plant is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) Central Government does not set up the Food Processing Industries directly. As per the New Industrial policy, no Industrial Licence is required for setting up units for manufacture of Milk Products. No proposal has been received in this Ministry from the State Government of Gujarat to establish a plant for manufacturing/preparing/making baby food in Gujarat.

*[English]***MODERNISATION OF POWER PLANTS**

2957. **SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANIYE**: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from two multinational power companies to renovate/modernise some power plants operation for more than 25 years in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)**: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal for rehabilitation of Units 1 & 2 ( $2 \times 75$  MW) at Durgapur Thermal Power Station of M/s. Damodar Valley Corpn. (DVC) envisaging rehabilitation of the Units by a consortium of M/s. MAN ENERGIE, Germany, M/s. ACC Babcock Limited (ABL), Durgapur and M/s. CESC, Calcutta, with overall responsibility of M/s. MAN ENERGIE on turn-key basis, was received in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in June, 1991. The proposal was techno-economically cleared by CEA in September, 1991 at an estimated cost of Rs. 322.69 crores, excluding Interest During Construction (IDC), and Rs. 374.93 crores including IDC. However, in January, 1993, the DVC revised the Project cost and the revised cost estimate of the project increased to Rs. 452 crores (excluding IDC) and Rs. 548.73 crores including IDC. The revised proposal was not found techno-economically viable. The Corporation has been advised to review these cost estimates as per CEA norms for re-appraisal by the CEA. Another offer was received from M/s. ABB, Germany for Renovation and Modernisation (R & M) and Life Extension of Talcher Thermal Power Station ( $4 \times 60$  MW) of Orissa State Electricity Board (OSEB) at an estimated cost of Rs. 352 crores. Based on this offer, a Project Report was received from OSEB in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in February, 1993 but the proposal was found deficient in many respects. However, the proposal was further discussed in a meeting held on 5-5-1993 in CEA with the State Government of Orissa and it was agreed that the areas covered under the proposal

were not complete for achieving the sustained PLF of 60% during the proposed extended life of 15 years. It was therefore, decided that a revised comprehensive proposal for R & M and Life Extension would be submitted by the OSEB after detailed studies, investigations and tests. The OSEB have now intimated that they would be able to spare one unit for tests in 1994-95 and as such revised proposal would need to be based on the test results.

*[Translation]***PUBLICATION OF TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**

2958. **SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN**: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in publication and supply of telephone directory in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the responsibility has been fixed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)**: (a) The reasons are:

(i) delay due to non-completion of formalities by tenderers.

(ii) frequent updating/change of telephone numbers due to frequent expansion of exchange.

(iii) poor response when tenders are called for.

(b) to (d) Earnest money deposit has been forfeited in respect of one contractor and security deposit has been withheld in another case.

*[English]***DISCONNECTIONS OF TELEPHONES IN DELHI**

2959. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA**: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephones are being disconnected in Delhi even where the bills do not reach the subscribers;

(b) if so the number of such cases during the last year and since January, 1993 till date;

(c) the reason therefore; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Bills in Delhi are issued on bi-monthly basis as per billing schedule. They are despatched to the subscribers by ordinary post. Subscribers can also obtain duplicate copy of the bill free of cost, from the customer service centres located in every Area Office in case of non-receipt of bill. Before disconnection of a telephone, subscribers are reminded on telephone as well through a Registered Notice, for arranging payment of the outstanding bills.

(b) No such instances have come to notice.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

#### ROAD DEVELOPMENT FUND

2960. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :  
DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMALAH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken to abolish the old road development fund operating since the last 55 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### ISSUE OF BONDS BY M.T.N.L.

2961. SHRI SANTA KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL) is going in for "bonds on tap";

(b) if so, the amount estimated to be mobilised as a result of the issue of these bonds; and

(c) the purpose for which this amount is likely to be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No such decision has so far been taken.

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

#### IMPORT OF COAL BY T.N.E.B.

2962. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has decided to import two million tonnes of coal for power generation against the advice of Coal India Ltd;

(b) if so, the reasons given by the Board;

(c) whether the import has been allowed by the Government; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to resolve the difference between the CIL and the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) Import of Coal is covered under the O.G.I. scheme. Govt. of India, in consultation with the concerned Departments have issued an ad-hoc exemption order permitting Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) to import 2 million tonnes of coal for its thermal power stations at concessional import duty of 30% to maintain adequate stock of good quality of coal to ensure uninterrupted generation of power

#### INTEREST ON REGISTRATION DEPOSIT

2963. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of registration deposit collected by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in Bombay during 1990-91; 1991-92 to 1992-93.

(b) whether MTNL is paying any interest on these deposits;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The amount of registration deposit collected by the MTNL in Bombay is as follows :—

During 1990-91	= Rs. 30.01- Crs.
During 1991-92	= Rs. 36.75 Crs.
During 1992-93	= Rs. 50.26 Crs.

(b) Yes, Sir. Interest is adjusted against the dues payable by the subscriber after the new connection is energised.

(c) The details of the amount of Interest accrued is as follows :—

During 1990-91	= Rs. 2.32 Crs.
During 1991-92	= Rs. 2.98 Crs.
During 1992-93	= Rs. 4.21 Crs.

(d) In view of (b) and (c) above, question does not arise.

#### LOSSES OF VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT

2964. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is incurring losses:

(b) if so, the steps taken to wipe out the same: and

(c) the foreign exchange expected to be earned by the said plant during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Production units of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant under Stage-II taking the capacity of 3 million tonnes of crude steel were commissioned in July, 1992. The production units are still in the process of stabilisation. The Management has initiated remedial measures to improve the capacity utilisation of the facilities, optimisation of product-mix and reduction in the manufacturing costs. VSP is expected to achieve 100% capacity utilisation by 1996-97 and start earning profit from the year 1997-98.

(c) During the current year 1993-94, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is expected to earn foreign exchange of the order of Rs. 790 crores.

[Translation]

T. V. TRANSMITTER IN RATNAGIRI DISTT., MAHARASHTRA

2965. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a T.V. Transmitter on the high hill near Chiplun in Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra: and

(b) if so, the time by which a T. V. transmitter is likely to be set up there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) A Low Power T. V. Transmitter (LPT) is proposed to set up at Chiplun in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra. As per the present indications, the said transmitter is expected to be commissioned into service during 1994-95.

[English]

PLYING OF 'LIMITED STOPS BUSES' IN DELHI

2966. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether during peak hours DTC is plying most of its buses as 'Limited Stops' buses and charging a flat rate as against the normal rate:

(b) if so, the number such 'Limited Stops' buses being plied from various terminals;

(c) whether the number of such buses have increased many fold during recent months;

(d) whether DTC has taken this step for augmenting their financial resources;

(e) is so, the extra revenue generated by the DTC by plying "Limited Stops Buses" for the last two years till 1993: and

(f) if not, the reasons for plying a large number of 'Limited Stops' buses during peak hours only?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Limited Stops services are being operated by DTC is about 10% of the total peak hour trips operated by DTC at a flat fare of Rs. 3.00 per trip.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) Limited Stops Services are operated by DTC to provide for the convenience of the passengers to reach their destination within less time, especially during peak hours.

#### TELEPHONE TO GRAM PANCHAYATS IN MAHARASHTRA

2967. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra provided with telephone facility during 1992-93, district-wise:

(b) the amount spent for the purpose; and

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats where this facility is proposed to be provided during 1993-94, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of Panchayat villages in Maharashtra provided with telephone facility during 1992-93 is 2905 District-wise details are shown in the attached statement.

(b) Rs. 36 Crores (approx.)

(c) The number of Panchayat villages proposed to be provided with telephone facility during 1993-94 is 6000 District-wise details are shown in the attached statement.

#### *Statement*

#### District-wise Details of Panchayat Villages in Maharashtra Provided/Proposed with Telephone Facility

S. No.	District	No. of Panchayat Villages provided with telephone facility during the year 1992-93	No. of Panchayat villages proposed with telephone facility during the year 1993-94
1.	Ahmednagar	248	200
2.	Akola	71	280
3.	Amravati	99	200
4.	Aurangabad	91	180
5.	Beed	18	320
6.	Bhandara	76	290
7.	Buldhana	58	210
8.	Chandrapur	69	240
9.	Dhule	114	220
10.	Gadchiroli	1	140
11.	Jalgaon	162	230
12.	Jalna	95	150
13.	Kolhapur	155	210
14.	Latur	56	200
15.	Nagpur	257	90
16.	Nanded	56	330
17.	Nasik	230	200
18.	Osmanabad	64	160
19.	Parbhani	44	320
20.	Raigad	91	90
21.	Ratnagiri	51	200
22.	Sangli	56	80
23.	Pune	117	240
24.	Satara	106	320
25.	Solapur	134	175
26.	Sindhudurg	5	100
27.	Thane	270	200
28.	Wardha	70	100
29.	Yeatmal	25	320
30.	Goa	16	5
		<b>2905</b>	<b>6000</b>

[*Translation*]

## TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN U.P.

2968. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be  
pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list  
in Uttar Pradesh for telephone connections,  
district-wise and category-wise, at present:

(b) the number of persons provided  
telephone connections category-wise and  
district-wise: and

(c) the time by which the waiting list is likely  
to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM) : (a) The districtwise and  
category-wise details of the number of persons  
on the waiting list in Uttar Pradesh for tele-  
phone connections as on 31-3-93 are furnished  
at the attached statement.

(b) Category-wise record after a telephone is  
sanctioned is not maintained. Status of D.E.L.'s  
working in each Distt. in U.P. as on 30-6-93 is  
being compiled by field unit and will be placed  
on the table of the house.

(c) As per the objectives of the Department of  
Telecommunications the waiting period for  
Telephone connections will be restricted to two  
years in large telephone system areas and  
telephone connection will be provided practi-  
cally on demand in rural and tribal areas by  
the end of the eighth plan period. Expansion  
plans are being made accordingly for Uttar  
Pradesh Telecom Circle.

*Statement*

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Persons in waiting list.			
		OYT	SPL	GENL	TOTAL
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Agra	528	1384	14809	16721
2.	Aligarh	26	69	2599	2694
3.	Allahabad	2	297	6867	7166
4.	Almora	—	4	70	74
5.	Azamgarh	13	4	678	695
6.	Bahraich	—	12	187	199
7.	Ballia	3	10	167	180
8.	Banda	25	27	630	682
9.	Barabanki	—	—	156	156
10.	Bareilly	38	20	1542	1600
11.	Basti	—	2	70	72
12.	Bijnore	1	4	208	213
13.	Badaun	—	—	—	—
14.	Bulandsahar	12	103	1680	1795
15.	Chamoli	—	—	—	—
16.	Dehradun	849	938	9939	11726
17.	Deoria	—	—	118	118

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Etah	—	11	110	121
19.	Etawah	8	36	641	685
20.	Faizabad	—	—	—	—
21.	Farrukhabad	—	—	356	356
22.	Fatehpur	2	18	200	220
23.	Ferozabad	—	—	1734	1734
24.	Ghaziabad	366	288	15239	15893
25.	Ghazipur	3	1	174	178
26.	Gonda	4	6	176	183
27.	Gorakhpur	—	—	2081	2081
28.	Hamirpur	1	7	257	258
29.	Hardoi	3	17	372	392
30.	Hardwar	100	117	2883	3100
31.	Jalaun	82	59	744	885
32.	Jaunpur	—	38	367	405
33.	Jhansi	64	63	1677	1804
34.	Kanpur	15	5	10324	10344
35.	Kanpur rural	—	1	300	301
36.	Lakhempurkhiri	—	—	30	30
37.	Lalitpur	30	21	397	448
38.	Lucknow	153	439	15677	16269
39.	Maharajganj	—	—	—	—
40.	Mainpuri	—	—	315	315
41.	Mathura	59	63	2406	2528
42.	Maunathbhanjan	—	—	322	322
43.	Meerut	—	721	11491	12212
44.	Mirzapur	17	22	330	369
45.	Moradabad	8	19	1643	1670
46.	Muzaffarnagar	85	—	2108	2193
47.	Nainital	118	100	2741	2959
48.	Paurigarhwal	—	1	186	187
49.	Pilibhit	—	—	—	—
50.	Pithoragarh	2	24	295	321
51.	Pantapgarh	—	—	177	177
52.	Raebareli	8	20	341	36
53.	Rampur	—	7	399	40
54.	Saharanpur	229	2131	3099	3541
55.	Shajahanpur	7	46	389	442

1	2	3	4	5	6
56.	Sidharthinagar	—	—	46	46
57.	Sitapur	—	—	102	102
58.	Sonbhadra	17	3	233	253
59.	Sultanpur	5	7	447	459
60.	Tehrigarhwal	—	—	13	13
61.	Unnao	—	—	111	111
62.	Uttarkashi	—	—	10	10
63.	Varanasi	—	121	6248	6369

[English]

#### REPAIRS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS. A.P.

2969. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent on repairs of the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh during each of the last two years;

(b) whether all the damaged roads have been repaired;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) Amount of Rs. 1350.91 lakhs and Rs. 1300.39 lakhs was spent during 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively for repairs of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Maintenance and repairs of National Highways is a continuous process and all the National Highways in the State are kept in traffic worthy condition by taking up necessary repairs from time to time within available funds.

[Translation]

#### SC/ST EMPLOYEES IN AKASHWANI AND DOORDARSHAN KENDRAS IN BIHAR

2970. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the

Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees of various categories working in Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras in Bihar;

(b) the number out of these employees belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(c) the number of posts lying vacant with these Kendras and the time by which these are likely to be filled up;

(d) whether there is wide scope of recruitment of employees and artists of various categories in music and drama divisions in Bihar; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government for the expansion of these divisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### DRIVING TEST FOR REDLINE DRIVERS

2971. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Only one knows how to drive" appearing in "The Indian Express" dated June 4, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Delhi State Transport Authority had launched a campaign recently to hold test for redline bus drivers:

(c) if so, whether during this campaign, the drivers were found unqualified:

(d) if so, the number of drivers who had undergone these tests:

(e) the percentage of drivers found qualified: and

(f) the time by which the thorough test and assessment of the qualifications in respect of all these drivers is likely to be made?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Out of 811 drivers appeared for the proficiency test as on 12-8-1993, 268 drivers did not pass the test.

(e) 66.95%.

(f) No specific time can be given by which all the Redline drivers will be made to undergo such tests as the drivers keep on changing and it is a continuing process.

CONTRACTORS OF TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES IN U.P.

2972. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether action taken against the contractors in respect of publication of telephone directories in Uttar Pradesh was not uniform:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor:

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SOYA PLANTS IN M.P.

2973. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any programme for the setting up of new Soya-Plants in Madhya Pradesh:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether government propose to implement any programme to provide technical know-how to farmers in that regard: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English/

PAYMENT FOR T.V. SERIALS

2974. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Kendra of Doordarshan and the Directorate have incurred infructuous expenditure during 1991-92 by releasing payments for TV serials in violation of contractual provisions:

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard: and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation/

SETTING UP OF CELLS IN METROS

2975. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given on May 3, 1993 to Unstarred Question No. 7468 and state the

stage at which the matter pertaining to setting up of four cells for inquiring into the cases of revenue evasion stands at present?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):** The Department of Telecommunications had given its approval to the setting up of four cells in the CBI for dealing exclusively with the detection and follow up of cases of Telephone revenue leakage. Concurrence, in principle, to this proposal has since been conveyed by the Department of Personnel and the details are being worked out by the C.B.I. at present.

[English]

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DTC

2976. **SHRI HARIN PATHAK:**  
**SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:**  
**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:**

Will the Minister of **SURFACE TRANSPORT** be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance extended by the Government to DTC after the introduction of Red Line and Blue Line services under STA permit;

(b) whether DTC is likely to earn extra revenue with the introduction of these services;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any recovery is likely to be made from the above mentioned services by the government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total amount of loan outstanding against DTC, which is to be paid to the Union Government and other Government agencies?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):** (a) The Government provides capital loans and ways and means loans to DTC, on year to year basis, to meet its plan expenditure and to cover its working deficit respectively.

(b) and (c) DTC has been charging bus terminal fee from private operators for use of its

bus terminals, w.e.f. 5-7-1993, @ Rs. 10/- per trip per day or alternatively Rs. 1000/- per bus per month. An amount of Rs. 3,31,630.00 upto 2-8-1993, has been realised by DTC, on this account.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) DTC has taken loan only from the Union Government. As on 31-3-1993, a total of Rs. 711.38 crores is outstanding against DTC.

[Translation]

#### DOORDARSHAN RELAY CENTRES IN MADHYA PRADESH

2977. **SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:** Will the Minister of **INFORMATION & BROADCASTING** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Doordarshan Relay Centres in those districts and divisional headquarters of Madhya Pradesh where the same have not yet been set up;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up such centres at Khargon, Nagar, Badyani and Dhamnod; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):** (a) A low Power TV Transmitter (LPT) at the Headquarter town of Datia in Madhya Pradesh is presently under implementation. Setting up of TV Transmitters at other District Headquarters/Divisional Headquarters of the State where there is no TV Transmitter will depend upon future availability of resources.

(b) and (c) An LPT is at present functioning at Khargon in West Nimar district of Madhya Pradesh. There is yet no proposal at present, to set up TV Transmitters at Badyani and Dhamnod.

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN M.P.

2978. **SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:**  
**SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:**  
**SHRI YOGANAND SARASWATI:**  
**SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:**  
**DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:**  
**SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:**

Will the Minister of **COMMUNICATIONS** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh as on date district-wise:

(b) the number of new telephone connections provided during 1992-93 district-wise:

(c) The number of new telephone connections proposed to be provided during 1993-94 district-wise, particularly in Bhopal City:

(d) the existing and utilised capacity of each telephone exchange district-wise:

(e) whether Government propose to increase the capacity of existing telephone exchanges:

(f) if so, the details thereof district-wise: and

(g) if not, the reasons, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKII RAM): (a) to (d) District-wise information is given in the attached statement I.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) District-wise detail is given in the attached statement II.

(g) Does not arise.

*Statement-I*

**District-wise Information of M.P. Telecom.**

Sl. No.	District	Waiting list as on date	NTCs Provided in 92-93	NTCs proposed in 93-94	Exchange Existing As on 31-3-93	Capacity Utilised
		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Balaghat	130	899	800	5428	3553
2	Bastar	634	1045	1200	6484	4035
3	Betul	258	1198	820	4868	3409
4	Bhind	1113	539	1700	5080	2727
5	Bhopal	7631	2898	5500	42052	36530
6	Bilaspur	3483	2208	4500	18517	13759
7	Chhatarpur	869	324	1000	3805	2486
8	Chhindwara	537	1543	1200	9573	5959
9	Damoh	421	268	900	2849	1846
10	Datia	357	224	500	2101	1198
11	Dewas	1750	1138	1600	8561	6047
12	Dhar	275	2321	1000	12551	7899
13	Durg	4215	2226	2800	10208	6956
14	Guna	1243	758	2000	6238	4056
15	Gwalior	6916	4798	3000	25832	21935

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Hoshangabad	419	3267	1000	11655	8367
17.	Indore	32400	6909	30000	57289	46837
18.	Jabalpur	8431	5271	6000	29572	25663
19.	Jhabua	61	923	400	5176	3177
20.	Khandwa	678	3260	2000	12196	9100
21.	Khargone	297	2598	1000	13358	8772
22.	Mandla	209	495	500	3344	1987
23.	Mandsaur	1098	3663	2000	19616	12484
24.	Morena	308	1691	1600	7902	5531
25.	Narsinghpur	148	699	900	6228	3619
26.	Panna	177	466	350	1832	1220
27.	Raigarh	90	1016	1000	7196	4256
28.	Raipur	5838	3226	6000	28124	21629
29.	Raisen	36	783	200	5617	3604
30.	Rajgarh	—	961	500	4980	3516
31.	Rajnandgaon	511	747	600	4456	3095
32.	Ratlam	819	2431	1800	13344	10295
33.	Rewa	918	983	1950	5332	3001
34.	Sagar	2120	759	2700	9216	5769
35.	Sarguja	1039	749	1400	4140	2915
36.	Satna	1521	657	1300	5824	4200
37.	Sehore	126	1007	600	5640	3737
38.	Seoni	86	803	600	4168	2669
39.	Shahdol	448	516	1000	5704	3587
40.	Shajapur	—	1485	400	8682	5410
41.	Shivpuri	571	768	700	5360	3164
42.	Sidhi	144	558	460	2736	1792
43.	Tikamgarh	270	214	500	1913	1155
44.	Ujjain	2026	2879	2000	18831	14130
45.	Vidisha	200	1325	700	6820	3968

*Statement-II***District-wise Expansion Programme 93-94—M.P. Telecom.**

Sl. No.	District	Total Expansion Proposed	Details of Major Expansion
1	2	3	4
1.	Balghat	600	
2.	Bastar	1200	Jagdalpur—1000L
3.	Betul	600	
4.	Bhind	1400	Bhind—1000 L
5.	Bhopal	4000	Bhopal—4000 L
6.	Bilaspur	6500	Bilaspur—5000L. Korba—1000L
7.	Chhatarpur	1200	Chhatarpur—1000L
8.	Chhindwara	1200	Chhindwara—1000L
9.	Damoh	600	Damoh—400L
10.	Datia	200	
11.	Dewas	1000	Dewas—600L

1	2	3	4
12.	Dhar	800	Dhar—400L
13.	Durg	2000	Durg—1000L. Dongargarh—400
14.	Guna	2500	Guna—1400L. Ashoknagar—400L. Mungawali—400L
15.	Gwalior	4000	Gwalior—2000L. Dabra—1000L
16.	Hoshangabad	400	
17.	Indore	35000	Indore—30000L. Rau—10000L. Depalpur—400L. Gandhinagar—400L
18.	Jabalpur	6000	Jabalpur—5000L. Katni—800L
19.	Jhabua	600	Jhabua—400L
20.	Khandwa	2000	Khandwa—1000L. Burhanpur—400L
21.	Khargone	600	Barwaha—400L
22.	Mandla	400	
23.	Mandsaur	800	
24.	Morena	1400	Morena—1000L
25.	Narsingpur	1000	Narsinghpur—600L
26.	Panna	400	Panna—400L
27.	Raigarh	800	Raigarh—400L
28.	Raipur	4500	Raipur—3000L. Dhamtari—400L. Bhatapara—400L. Mahasamund—400L
29.	Raisen	400	
30.	Rajgarh	300	
31.	Rajnandgaon	600	Rajnandgaon—400L
32.	Ratlam	3400	Ratlam—3000L. Jaora—400L
33.	Rewa	400	
34.	Sagar	2400	Sagar—2000L
35.	Sarguja	1000	Ambikapur—400L. Mahendragarh—400L
36.	Satna	400	
37.	Sehore	400	Sehore—400L
38.	Seoni	1200	Seoni—1000L
39.	Shahdol	800	Shahdol—400L
40.	Shajapur	400	
41.	Shivpuri	400	
42.	Sidhi	1600	Sidhi—1000L. Singrauli—400L
43.	Tikamgarh	1200	Tikamgarh—1000L
44.	Ujjain	2400	Ujjain—2000L
45.	Vidisha	400	

#### ACCIDENT IN BHILAI STEEL PLANT

2979. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH.  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN  
SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a lift in furnace No. 4 of the Bhilai Steel Plant has collapsed recently;

(b) if so the number of persons killed and injured therein;

(c) whether the Government have inquired into the reasons of the accident; and

(d) the details of compensation proposed to be given to the injured persons and to the dependents of the deceased ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEVI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The lift of Blast Furnace No. 4 of Bhilai Steel Plant fell down at 3.50 P.M. on 5th July, 1993.

(b) Four persons were killed and one received minor injury.

(c) Yes, Sir. An Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Director, Industrial Health and Safety, Government of Madhya Pradesh has investigated into the causes of the accident.

(d) Details of the amount of compensation paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act

and other payments due to the next of kin of the deceased employees are given in the attached statement.

However, no compensation was paid to the injured person, namely Shri Ganga Prasad, as he received a very minor injury and was discharged immediately after first aid.

*Statement*

Name	Designation	Compensation amount paid under Workmen's Compensation Act	Date deposited on	Provident Fund	Gratuity	Life cover	Sewa Fund
		(Rs.)		(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
<i>S/Shri</i>							
K. Rajendran	Senior Technician	86,112.00	20-7-93	12,000	15,636	26,000	30,000
P.R. Mohan Rao	Chargeman	57,072.00	20-7-93	1,73,000	68,000	26,000	30,000
Sudhakar Deulkar	Chargeman	58,480.00	15-7-93	1,04,277	38,500	26,000	30,000
S.K. Saxena	Deputy Manager	82,380.00	15-7-93	62,000	68,700	26,000	30,000

The dependant spouses of Late Shri S.K. Saxena and Late Shri Mohan Rao and the dependant son of Late Shri Sudhakar Deulkar have been given employment on compassionate grounds in the company. Late Rajendran was unmarried and his parents are aged and, therefore, SAIL could not offer employment to any one of them.

**POWER GENERATING UNITS IN GUJARAT**

2980. **SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:**  
**SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI**  
**THAKORE:**

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of power generating units in Gujarat alongwith their capacity

at present and the locations thereof;

(b) the number of such units which are not functioning properly;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) At present, there are 13 thermal, 1 nuclear and 3 hydroelectric power stations in operation in Gujarat. The district-wise location and installed capacity in MW is given below:—

Station	Capacity (MW)	Locations
Thermal		
Dhuvaran	534 <sup>1</sup>	Kaira
Dhuvaran (GT)	54	Kaira
Ukai	850	Surat
Gandhi Nagar	660	Gandhi Nagar
Utran	39	Surat
Utran (GT)	114	Surat
Wanakbori	1260	Kheda
Sikka Replacement	240	Jam Nagar
Kutch Lignite	140	Kutch
Ahmedabad Electric Co (Old)	80	Ahmed Nagar
Vatwa (GT)	99	Ahmed Nagar
Sabarmati	330	Ahmed Nagar
Kawas (GT)	644	Surat
Nuclear		
Kakrapara	220	
Hydro		
Ukai	300	Surat
Ukai Left Bank Canal	5	Surat
PIL		
Kadana	120	Panchmahal

(b) and (c) The performance of all the thermal and Nuclear Power Stations in Gujarat is by and large satisfactory. However, after the commissioning of Units 1 and 3 of the Ukai Hydro Electric Project, problems of generator winding faults were experienced and it is therefore proposed to replace the existing Class 'B' windings of the generators with Class 'F' windings under the "Renovation and Modernisation" scheme.

(d) Various other measures taken to improve the power generation in the State of Gujarat include maximising generation from the existing stations, implementation of renovation and modernisation programme, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, effective load management and conservation of energy etc. Assistance is also made available to Gujarat from the neighbouring States whenever conditions are conducive to such transfer.

[English]

## TELEPHONE TO GRAM PANCHAYATS IN ORISSA

2981. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facilities in Orissa, district-wise till the end of June 1993; and

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats yet to be provided telephone facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 30-6-1993, 3926 Panchayat Villages in Orissa have been provided with Telephone facility. District-wise details are shown in the attached Statement.

(b) 1335 Panchayat villages are yet to be provided with such facility.

## Statement

District-wise Details of Panchayat at Villages in Orissa Provided with Telephone Facility as on 30-6-1993.

Sl. District No.	No. of Panchayat villages provided with Telephone facility
1. Balasore	323
2. Bolangir	237
3. Cuttack	694
4. Dhenkanal	291
5. Ganjam	474
6. Kalahandi	098
7. Keonjhar	205
8. Koraput	300
9. Mayurbhanj	207
10. Phulbani	109
11. Puri	470
12. Sambalpur	355
13. Sundargarh	163
Total	3926

# DOCK WORKERS (REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1948.

2982. SHRIMATI MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the definition of 'dock worker' in the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

# POSTAL SYSTEM IN DELHI

2983. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postal system in Delhi is satisfactory;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the number of letter boxes and post offices is less than the requirement;

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether there is no post office which remains open twenty four hours; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to improve the postal system including the opening of post offices for twenty four hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. In general, it is so.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are 2949 letter boxes and 550 post offices in Delhi. These have been found to be by and large adequate to the present requirements.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Round-the-clock post office has been provided at Indira Gandhi International Air Port (Terminal-2). Besides facility of posting of Speed Post articles has been provided round-the-clock at (i) Safdar Jung Air Port, (ii) Both terminals of Indira Gandhi International Airport, and (iii) Eastern Court Post Office.

(f) The efficiency and adequacy of the postal system in the Capital is constantly reviewed. Measures proposed for further improvement of the service include opening of six new post offices, purchase of ready built accommodation for housing of post offices in better premises, construction of departmental buildings and introduction of multi-purpose counters in more post offices. Additional counters are invariably provided during peak hours to minimise waiting time. Delivery of mails is frequently monitored and remedial measures are taken wherever delays are noticed. As the working hours of selected post offices have been suitably structured to provide postal facilities to the public upto 8 P.M. on working days and upto 1 P.M. on Sundays/holidays in different localities, it has not been considered necessary for opening of post offices which work for 24 hours other than the existing ones.

[English]

# DUCT MANHOLES

2984. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANS-DARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken construction of duct manholes for laying the underground cables in most of the big cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

**IMPORT OF POWER GENERATORS**

2985. **PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number and cost of power generators imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the countries from which these have been imported;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve the quality and production of indigenous power generators to avoid such imports:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) and (b) The number and cost of power generators of varying capacities imported during each of the last three years and the countries from which these were imported is given as below:—

S. No.	Year of Import	Country from which imported	No. of power units imported	Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	1990-91	Japan	2	30335
2.	1990-91	West Germany	2	33864
3.	1990-91	France	6	6889
Total			10	71088
1.	1991-92	Switzerland	1	6428
2.	1991-92	Japan	6	35500
3.	1991-92	West Germany	2	16673
Total			9	58601
1.	1992-93	Japan	4	8102

(c) to (e) Substantial indigenous manufacturing capacity and capability is available for manufacturing power equipments. Indigenous

power plants are of acceptable quality standards and are being extensively used.

Due to paucity of funds, it is not always possible to find internal resources for purchase of indigenous power equipments. The import of electric generators was necessitated only on account of turn key project imports linked with international finances/bilateral agreements.

**VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT**

2986. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a capital restructuring plan for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) has been cleared by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the performance of the plant?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme for restructuring the capital base of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (VSP) envisages the following :

(i) Conversion of Government of India's loans to the extent of Rs. 1184 crores into equity capital.

(ii) Conversion of Government of India's loans to the extent of Rs. 1185 crores into 7% Non-cumulative Preference Shares redeemable at the end of 10 years.

(iii) Conversion of interest due on Government of India's loans amounting to Rs. 791 crores. into interest free loan for a period of seven years.

(iv) Conversion of Government of India's loans received after 1st August, 1992 for the year 1992-93 into 7% Non-Cumulative Shares redeemable at the end of 10 years from the date of allotment.

(v) Waiver of penal interest on Government of India loans.

(c) Action is being taken to implement the scheme which will improve the long term

financial performance of the Company. VSP Management has also initiated remedial measures to increase the capacity utilisation of production facilities. The plant is expected to achieve 100% production by 1996-97.

### PIN CODE

2987. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Social Audit Panel has urged greater use of PIN Code in addressing of mail; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Social Audit Panel, in its Action Report No. 1 dated 5-7-92 has pointed out that greater use of Pin Codes will reduce delays in delivery schedules and has recommended the following measures :—

- (i) Pin-Code information needs to be brought out in a geographic map;
- (ii) The maps and Pin-Code directory should be brought out in local languages and displayed in Post Offices;
- (iii) Promotional campaigns should be organised;
- (iv) Institutions and the trade/corporate sectors should be encouraged to publish Pin Code directories as seasonal gifts;
- (v) Promotional campaigns such as 'Pin Code Week' should be organised.

[Translation]

### NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED FROM MAHARASHTRA

2988. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, bi-monthly and annual newspapers published from Maharashtra;

(b) the number of complaints received against these newspapers during the last two years till date; and the details of newspapers of which licences were cancelled during this period as a result thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) There were 3943 newspapers from Maharashtra registered with Registrar of Newspapers for India as on 31-12-1991. Their names and other details are available in the Annual Report of RNI titled Press in India—1991 (Part II) and Press in India—1992 (Part I) one copy each of which have been placed in the Parliament House Library.

(b) As per records maintained in the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India, no complaint had been received during the last two years against these newspapers.

(c) Does not arise.

### LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

2989. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHDARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters received from the Members of Parliament from July 1, 1992 upto June 30, 1993;

(b) the number of cases in which a final reply has not been sent so far;

(c) the reasons for not sending a final reply in those cases; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) 728 letters were received from Members of Parliament in the Ministry of Power, during the period from July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993.

(b) Final replies have not been issued in respect of 206 cases out of the above.

(c) Final replies could not be sent in the above cases since requisite information from different sources/organisations such as State Electricity Boards/Project Organisations etc., has not been received.

(d) The Ministry of Power monitors the pendency of such references periodically. The Ministry also pursues the pending cases with the concerned organisations by issue of reminders, from time to time.

[English]

#### POWER SUPPLY TO PITAMPURA AREA

2990. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking has charged money from Co-operative Societies of the West-Enclave area of Pitampura to provide double source of supply of power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the DESU has provided double source of supply of power to these Societies;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) DESU has been framing and executing electrification schemes as sponsored and financed by various Co-operative Group Housing Societies located in West Enclave area, Pitampura by charging 50% cost of electrification, including cost of providing duplicate source of supply, as per prescribed policy. Some of the Societies recently electrified have already been provided double source of supply as an interim measure. Regular arrangements for providing double source of supply would be possible only after the establishment of a 66 KV grid Sub-Station in the area.

[Translation]

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN ORISSA

2991. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections provided in orissa during last three years; Year-wise;

(b) the time by which all applicants are likely to be provided with telephone connections; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to modernise telecommunication facility in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of Telephone Connections provided in Orissa during the last three years year-wise is as under :

1990-91	— 10289
1991-92	— 13312
1992-93	— 15340

(b) Most of the waiting list as on 31-3-93 in Orissa is likely to be cleared by the end of March, 1994 subject to the availability of resources.

(c) The 8th Plan proposals for modernisation of Telecom Facilities in the State envisage :

- Replacement of life expired and wornout equipment by electronic equipment.
- Practically all new equipment proposed for induction during the 8th Plan period to be of digital type.
- Computerisation of Telecommunication services such as directory enquiry billing, manual trunk service etc.
- Replacement of all strowger MAX-III exchanges by electronic exchanges (as part of the programme to provide national subscriber dialling to all exchanges).
- Provision of Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility to all exchanges.

This is subject to availability of resources.

[English]

#### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

2992. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION

AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of daily newspapers and periodicals in Malayalam registered with Registrar of Newspapers:

(b) the names of the three leading newspapers and periodicals in Malayalam and the extent of their circulation: and

(c) the names of the english newspapers and periodicals having maximum circulation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) As per the records maintained in the office of the Registrar, of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on 31-12-1991, there were 174 dailies and 940 other periodicals in Malayalam registered with them.

(b) The particulars of the three most circulated newspapers and periodicals in Malayalam are given below :

Dailies	Circulation
1. MALAYALA MANORAMA, Calicut	1.99.572 copies
2. MALAYALA MANORAMA, Kottayam	1.90.769 copies
3. MATHRUBHUMI, Calicut	1.90.307 copies
<b>Periodicals</b>	
1. MALAYALA MANORAMA (Weekly)	11.40.539 copies
2. MANGALAM (Weekly)	10.03.408 copies
3. VANITHA (Fortnightly)	2.53.863 copies

(c) Names of three most circulated English newspapers and periodicals are given below :

*Dailies*

1. HINDUSTAN TIMES, Delhi
2. TIMES OF INDIA, Bombay
3. HINDU, Madras

*Periodicals*

1. INDIA TODAY, Delhi
2. THE SUNDAY TIMES, Bombay
3. FRONTLINE, Madras.

**MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS**

2993. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK :  
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the delays in settlement of claims\* in Motor Accident Tribunals:

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to amend the existing provisions to provide minimum statutory period to settle such claims:

(c) if so, the details thereof:

(d) whether there is any proposal to pay an interim compensation to the victims/family soon after the accident: and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Instances of this nature have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Although Government are proposing to have a predetermined formula for payment of compensation based on the age and income of the victims, no time limit can be fixed for settlement of the claims.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 25,000/- in the case of death and Rs. 12,000/- in the case of permanent disablement on the basis of no fault liability.

(e) Does not arise in view of answer to part (d) above.

[Translation]

**PIPAVAV GAS BASED POWER PROJECT**

2994. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI :  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position in regard to the construction work at Pipavav gas based power project in Gujarat and the estimated cost thereof; and

(b) the target fixed for completion of the project and the amount allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The scheme for Pipavav Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Project (615 MW) was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority in March, 1991 at an estimated cost of Rs. 587.45 crores subject inter-alia to the confirmation of 2.25 MCMD of gas by the Ministry of petroleum & Natural Gas. The gas linkage for the proposed scheme has not been tied up. The investment approval by the Planning Commission has, therefore, not been accorded in respect of this scheme. Accordingly, the construction work at Pipavav Combined Cycle Gas Turbine project has not commenced. The scheme has not been identified for yielding benefits during the Eighth Plan. The target for completion of this project could be anticipated only after the investment approval has been accorded in respect of this scheme. No specific provision has been made during the Eighth Plan for this project. However, for new schemes, a lumpsum provision of Rs. 500 crores has been made for the Eighth Plan which includes Pipavav Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Project, subject to approval of such schemes.

#### PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA

2995. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for constituting Press Council of India and nominating its members;

(b) the number and names of journalists of English and Indian languages given membership of this Council separately;

(c) the reasons for giving more representation to journalists of foreign language as compared to Indian languages; and

(d) the corrective steps government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Press Council of India is constituted in accordance with criteria laid down in Section 5 of the press Council Act, '78 read with rules 3 and 4 of the Press Council (Procedure for Nomination of members) Rules, '78.

(b) The names of journalists of English and Indian languages given membership of the Council are :

*Editors in relation to newspapers in English :*

1. Shri B.G. Verghese
2. Shri Ramu Patel
3. Shri V.N. Narayanan

*Working Journalists other than Editors in relation to newspapers in English :*

4. Shri Brij Bhardwaj
5. Shri Umashankar Phadnis
6. Shri Harihar Swaroop

*Editors in relation to newspapers in Indian languages :*

1. Shri Uitam Chandra Sharma (Hindi)
2. Shri Harsukh Sanghani (Gujarati)
3. Shri Bishamber Newar (Hindi)

*Working Journalists other than Editors in relation to newspapers in Indian languages :*

4. Shri R.C. Pandit (Hindi)
5. Shri Parmanand Pandey (Hindi)
6. Shri Arun Bagchi (Bengali)
7. Shri Madhukar Upadhyaya (Hindi)

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### POST OFFICE BUILDINGS AND STAFF QUARTERS IN MAHARASHTRA

2996. DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE : - Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post office buildings and staff-quarters in Maharashtra district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct post office buildings and staff quarters in Maharashtra during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### PRIVATISATION OF WORKS IN PORTS

2997. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :  
SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH :  
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEWAL :  
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for privatisation of certain works at ports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Proposals for privatisation of port services and facilities are received from time to time, from the Port Trusts and also directly in the Ministry. The proposals are examined on their merits and decisions taken accordingly.

[Translation]

#### DOORDARSHAN SERIALS/ PROGRAMMES

2998. PROF AHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan serials and other programmes produced in the country are clandestinely sent abroad and telecast by foreign T. V. networks resulting in loss of foreign exchange and tax evasion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH

DEO): (a) In so far as programmes produced by Doordarshan are concerned, no such complaint has been received by Doordarshan/ Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### SPECIAL COURT FOR DESU

2999. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the creation of a special court/tribunal to deal with cases pending in various courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) DESU has submitted a proposal to the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi for setting up of Mobile Courts for investigation and trial of offences under Sections 39 and 39-A of Indian Electricity Act, 1910 regarding theft/misuse etc. of electricity. Decision in the matter vests with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[Translation]

#### TIME SLOT OF METRO CHANNEL

3000. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to increase the time slot of the Metro Channel in view of its more popularity and efforts are also being made to show new programmes in short intervals;

(b) whether there is a proposal to show one Hindi-Feature film, daily on this channel; and

(c) if so, by when this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) From 15th August, 1993.

[English]

#### ALUMINIUM PRODUCTION OF NALCO

3001. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Aluminium production of NALCO for last three years;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to boost up the production;

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

(d) whether NALCO has made any agreement with any foreign country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Production of aluminium by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) during the last three years is given below :—

Year	Production (‘000 tonnes)
1990-91	151.33
1991-92	192.02
1992-93	191.07

(b) and (c) Government has sanctioned an additional unit (VIth Unit) of Captive Power Plant at Angul to enable the Company to operate its aluminium smelter at optimum level of installed capacity of 2.18 lakh tonnes per annum. The VIth Unit of 120 MW capacity is scheduled to be commissioned by July, 1994.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

3002. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Fund for the development of food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also accorded their approval for foreign-investment in this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) No proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to set up a national fund for the development of Food Processing Sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government have approved various foreign-investment proposals as well as these for 100% EOU in the different sector of FPI such as Deep Sea fishing, Fish Processing, Meat & Poultry Processing, Fruit and Vegetable Products, Consumer Products, Beer, Soft-drinks etc. involving foreign equity of over Rs. 950 crores.

[English]

#### VISIT OF KING OF NEPAL

3003. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the King of Nepal visited India recently; and

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues figured in his talks with Indian leader and the broad outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, the King and Queen of Nepal paid a State visit to India from May 6 to 12, 1993.

(b) In India the King of Nepal called on the President and received the PM and other Ministers. During these discussions both sides

reiterated the close ties that exist between the two countries and expressed happiness at the continued deepening and strengthening of India-Nepal relations.

#### PROBLEMS FACED BY DEEP SEA FISHING SECTOR

3004. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of fish caught after the simplification of deep sea fishing policy by the Government and during 1992-93.

(b) the number of sick deep sea fishing units in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to revive these sick units and to solve the problems faced by the deep sea fishing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a)

Year	Fish Production (lac tonnes)
1990-91	23.00
1991-92	24.40
1992-93 (Provisional)	25.73

(b) There are about 75 sick/defaulting deep sea fishing companies which were assisted by erstwhile SDFC/SCICI. The details of these are as under :—

Name of State/UT	SDFC	SCICI	TOTAL
Andhra Pradesh	21	3	24
Tamil Nadu	21	2	23
West Bengal	3	—	3
Karnataka	3	—	3
Kerala	4	—	4
Orissa	2	—	2
Pondicherry	1	1	2
Delhi	11	—	11
Chandigarh	3	—	3
Total	69	6	75

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government for the development of deep sea fishing industry :—

- (i) Provision of 33% subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.
- (ii) Provision of loan facility on soft terms by SCICI Ltd. Interest subsidy is provided for this purpose.
- (iii) Assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports.
- (iv) Training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.
- (v) Assistance for diversified fishing.
- (vi) Price reimbursement on HSD consumed by export oriented deep sea fishing vessels.
- (vii) Equity participation by Marine Product Export Development Authority in deep sea fishing project.
- (viii) Rehabilitation assistance to sick deep sea fishing units.
- (ix) Assistance under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- (x) The Government has also constituted a Technical Committee to look into the problems of sick deep sea fishing industry in India.

#### BUILDING FOR POST OFFICES IN MADHYA PRADESH

3005. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices working in the rented accommodation in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number out of them is in Dhar district;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct departmental buildings for these post offices;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 1132 post offices working in rented accommodation in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) 14 post offices in Dhar district are working in rented accommodation.

(c) and (d): The Government propose to construct departmental buildings for post offices at Rajgarh & Pithampur in Dhar district. presently.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) & (d) above.

#### EXEMPTION OF TAX TO HAJ PILGRIMS

3006. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Haj Pilgrims are exempted from payment of foreign exchange

conversion tax and international airport tax: and

(b) if so, the amount spent for this purpose during each of the last three years, tax-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATTIA): (a) and (b) Foreign Conservation (Travel) Tax was levied w.e.f. 15-10-1987. By virtue of notification issued in that connection, a tax to the tune of 15% of the amount released as foreign exchange to all those travelling abroad was levied. The notification also provided for exemption from payment of this surcharge in respect of pilgrims proceeding for Haj/Ziarat, visits to shrines in Pakistan/Bangladesh and visits to Kailash Mansarovar

So far as Haj pilgrims are concerned, following amounts on account of Foreign Exchange Conservation (Travel) Tax would have been paid had the notification not provided for the exemption:

Year	No. of pilgrims	Amount of foreign exchange released per pilgrim	Surcharge @ 15%	Total amount exempted
1990	24,227	Saudi Riyals 4,600 = Rs. 21,620	Rs. 3,243	Rs. 7,85,68,161
1991	23,318	Saudi Riyals 4,600 Rs. 24,242	Rs. 3,636	Rs. 8,47,84,248
1992	24,217	Saudi Riyals 4,600 = Rs. 32,462	Rs. 4,869.70	Rs. 11,79,29,525

In 1993, when 25,205 pilgrims went for Haj, no exemption was granted to the haj pilgrims as the same was abolished in June 1992 and the foreign exchange was released on normal rate applicable to all nationals travelling abroad.

#### FOREIGN TRAVEL TAX

Pilgrims travelling by air for Haj were exempted, vide notification No. 38-FTT/90 dated 22-10-1990 issued from the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance, from payment of airport tax. The exemption from payment of airport tax was applicable from Haj (June) 1991. Had these pilgrims been required

to pay the international airport tax, following sums would have been collected:—

Year	No. of pilgrims travelled by air	Tax at the rate of	Total amount exempted
1991	18,790	Rs. 300	Rs. 56,37,000
1992	19,494	Rs. 300	Rs. 58,48,200
1993	20,643	Rs. 300	Rs. 61,92,900

[Translation]

# TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN WEST BENGAL

3007. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in West Bengal, district-wise;

(b) the capacity of each exchange;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of those exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

[English]

# RESOLUTION ON BOSNIA IN UN CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

3008. SHRI B. L. SHARMA, PREM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any resolution was adopted on Bosnia Herzegovina in the recent UN Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role played by Indian delegation thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Special Declaration on Bosnia-Herzegovina inter-alia called upon the Security Council to implement the Vance-Owen Peace Plan under Chapter VII of the UN Charter and lift the arms embargo against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(c) While expressing anguish and outrage against the atrocities, including ethnic cleansing, which have been perpetrated on the people

of Bosnia-Herzegovina, India was constrained to abstain from voting on the Declaration on the principle that the World Conference was convened to enunciate universal principles, and not to adopt Declarations on specific situations. The Indian Delegation also regretted that instead of developing consensus on an agreed text, the Resolution was put to vote thus dividing support to the cause of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

[Translation]

# SUBSIDY TO PILGRIMAGES

3009. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:  
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 15 on 26-7-93 and to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide monetary grants/subsidy to other pilgrimages on the lines of assistance provided to Haj pilgrims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BILATIA): (a) to (c) Government have been providing appropriate organisational and logistical support to groups of pilgrims of different faiths visiting shrines and places of pilgrimage abroad. This support consists of provision of temporary shelter, communication support, medical assistance, liaison officers and other assistance as may be required along the route of pilgrimage. Government propose to continue extending such support and assistance to pilgrims.

# DOORDARSHAN TIME-SLOTS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

3010. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the average time-slot available for educational programmes meant for students on Doordarshan;

(b) the programmes chalked out for allotting time slots for educational programmes on new metro-channels; and

(c) the average daily time-slot proposed to be fixed by Doordarshan for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan telecast 16 hours of educational programmes per week. ~

(b) and (c) No specific time slots have been earmarked for educational programmes on the satellite channels of Doordarshan.

[English]

#### BAUXITE MINES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

3011. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of bauxite ore available in Andhra Pradesh and the estimated value of these;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for exploration of bauxite mines;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the private entrepreneur for bauxite mines or for processing plant; and

(e) if so, the details of such companies alongwith their offers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The total quantity of recoverable reserves of bauxite in the State of Andhra Pradesh are placed at 592 million tonnes as per National Mineral Inventory updated to 1-4-1990. It is difficult to assign value to these resources at this stage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) & (e): State Government being the owner of minerals, proposals for grant of bauxite mines are made to the State Government concerned. The Central Government, however, received following five applications for setting up of 100% EOU for Alumina plant based on the bauxite deposits in Andhra Pradesh:—

	Capac- ity (lakh TPA)	Deposit
1. M/s. Coastal Alumina Company Limited.	2.50	Chintapalli
2. M/s. Karnataka Telecables Limited.	4.00	Araku Valley
3. M/s. Birla Technical Services.	10.00	Jarella
4. Shri K. Sivananda Reddy (M/s. Kandula Aluminium Co.)	5.00	Araku Valley
5. M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation	10.00	Jarella

#### ROAD SAFETY EQUIPMENT

3012. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMIAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to promote road safety, there is any proposal to procure certain road safety equipment as a part of the World Bank assistance for the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the procurement made under this scheme and equipments provided to the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(d) the extent to which these equipments have helped to improve road safety measures in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government have already procured four

Drivers Training Simulators which have been placed at the disposal of Transport Departments at Delhi, Calcutta, Pune and Madras. Further it is also proposed to purchase a few Portable Weighing Bridges and Vehicle Testing Equipments. So far no equipment has been supplied to Government of Andhra Pradesh.

#### TELEPHONES IN KARNATAKA

3013. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons registered for telephones under different categories in Karnataka by the end of June, 1993;

(b) the number of new connections so far given in Karnataka and Bangalore by the end of June 1993; and

(c) the new connections proposed to be given by the end of December 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of persons registered for telephones under different categories in Karnataka by the end of June, 1993:

OYT	6205
Non—OYT—Special	9416
Non—OYT—General	177752

(b) The number of new connections so far given in Karnataka and Bangalore by the end of June, 1993 (from 1-4-93 to 30-6-93).

(i) In Karnataka excluding Bangalore	3241
(ii) In Bangalore district	3895

(c) 15,000 new telephones are proposed to be given by the end of December, 1993.

#### MICRO-WAVE SYSTEM IN DELHI

3014. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce micro-wave system in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Several Microwave Systems are already working in the capital.

(b) it is further proposed to introduce,

— 10 numbers of 18 GHz Microwave systems.

— 4 numbers of 13 GHz Microwave systems.

— 15 numbers of 11 GHz Microwave systems, in a phased manner during 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPORATION

3015. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has recently stopped funding the State Electricity Boards especially of Orissa for rural electrification and energisation of irrigation pumpsets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### LINKING OF GOOTY WITH NATIONAL HIGHWAY

3016. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Gooty on National Highway No. 7 in Andhra Pradesh with Guntakal-Bellary-Hubli-Yellapur-Belaguli-Karwar and to join these to National Highway Number 17;

(b) if so, the total distance of the above proposed link road; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared and implemented?

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

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

#### TRUNK CALLS

3017. SHRI AMAR ROYPARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of instances have been brought to his notice that the trunk calls booked by the subscribers from their Delhi telephones to home-town do not mature for months together;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during 1992 and 1993 so far;

(c) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(d) whether any concession is proposed to be given to such subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING POWER GENERATION CAPACITY IN SIKKIM

3018. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals for increasing the power generation capacity of the existing power plants of Sikkim are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) No proposal is pending with the Government for increasing the power generation capacity of the existing power plants of Sikkim.

#### UPLINKING KANNADA PROGRAMMES OF BANGALORE DOORDARSHAN THROUGH SATELLITE

3019. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to uplink Kannada programmes of Bangalore Doordarshan with Delhi Doordarshan and other Kendras in the country through satellite;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Regional service is normally meant for the specific region/State, as it carries programmes produced and telecast in the language of the region/State. However, with a proper dish antenna and receiving system, it would be possible to receive the service in any part of the country.

[Translation]

#### BUILDING FOR TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN BIHAR

3020. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trunk auto-exchanges functioning at present in Bihar; district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more such exchanges;

(c) if so, the details with location thereof;

(d) whether all such exchanges are likely to function in Departmental buildings;

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government for construction of Departmental buildings therefor; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Two Trunk Automatic Exchanges (TAXs) at Patna, One at Ranchi and one at Muzaffarpur are functioning in Bihar at present.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Fourteen (14) new TAXs are planned to be installed in Bihar during 8th Plan. The details are given in the attached statement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

#### *Statement*

#### Trunk Automatic Exchanges Proposed in Bihar

Sl. No.	Name	Capacity	Time Frame
1.	Gaya	500 lines	93—94
2.	Jamshedpur	500 lines	93—94
3.	Dhanbad	1000 lines	During 8th Plan
4.	Bhagalpur	500 lines	During 8th Plan
5.	Dharbanga	500 lines	During 8th Plan
6.	Hazaribagh	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
7.	Arrah	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
8.	Chapra	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
9.	Daltonganj	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
10.	Deoghar	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
11.	Katihar	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
12.	Monghyr	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
13.	Motihari	512 Ports	During 8th Plan
14.	Saharsa	512 Ports	During 8th Plan

[English]

#### FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR TELECOM SYSTEM

3021. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by his Ministry for getting foreign financial assistance for modernisation of telecommunication system in rural areas during the last two years and its utilisation for each year, separately; and

(b) the details of assistance likely to be obtained and utilised during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) No foreign assistance could be obtained for modernisation of Telecom system in rural areas for the last two years. However, discussions with ADB are going on to explore the possibility of a loan for this purpose.

#### CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL FILM AWARD RULES

3022. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to bring certain changes in national film award rules;

(b) if so, the circumstances in which it has led to these changes; and

(c) the major changes likely to be brought out in the rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) The following major changes have been recently introduced in the National Film Festival Regulations, on the acceptance of the recommendations of the juries of 39th National Film Festival, by the Government:

(i) Award for 2nd best feature film has been abolished.

(ii) Amount of special jury award has been increased from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 25,000/-

(iii) Additional sum for getting a film sub-titled as mentioned in Regulation 27 has been increased from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 20,000/-

(iv) A new award for best music direction with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- and a Rajat Kamal to the Music director has been introduced for non-feature film Section.

No further changes are contemplated at present.

[Translation]

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEEP SEA FISHING SECTOR

3023. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified deep sea fishing or an important sector due to export potentiality;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the assistance being provided by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) the amount of financial assistance allocated to deep sea fishing sector for the Eighth Plan in comparison to the allocation during the Seventh Plan;

(d) whether the Government have received any request from the deep sea fishing companies for providing financial assistance to solve the operational problems arising due to financial constraints during the last three years;

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(f) the measures contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following incentives are being provided to the deep sea fishing sector:—

(i) Provision of 33% subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.

(ii) Provision of loan facility on soft terms by SCICI Ltd. interest subsidy is provided for this purpose.

(iii) Assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports.

(iv) Training of deep sea fishing operative for manning the fishing vessels; and

(v) Assistance for diversified fishing.

(vi) Price reimbursement on HSD consumed by export Oriented Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.

(vii) Equity participation by Marine Products Export Development Agency in deep sea fishing projects.

(viii) Rehabilitation assistance to sick deep sea fishing units.

(ix) Assistance under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(c) Approved outlay for 8th Plan (1992-93 to 1997-98) is Rs. 27.00 crore.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f) A scheme for rehabilitation of deep sea fishing industry was announced in April, 1991 which has further been liberalised in June 1992. The scheme provides for re-scheduling of loan repayment, moratorium on loan repayment period, waiver of penal interest, provision of additional loan for modification of vessels etc. Besides, there is an on-going scheme for providing interest subsidy on loan for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels. The Government has also constituted a Technical Committee to look into the problems of the sick deep sea fishing industry.

[English]

# **CLOSING DOWN OF HOOGLHY DOCK & PORT ENGINEERS UNIT**

3024. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to close down one of the Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers unit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) There is no proposal, at present, for closure of any unit of Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

## **FOREIGN VISIT OF PRESIDENT**

3025. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government during the last two years to strengthen further the bilateral relations with the countries visited by the President recently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : The President was on State visit to Ukraine, Turkey and Hungary and on private visit to United Kingdom and on transit visit to Iran, Greece and Bahrain.

## **IRAN**

In the last two years, the Government has pursued a policy of strengthening India's relations with Iran. Frequent high level exchanges, including several Ministerial-level visits, and efforts at the diplomatic level have brought about a greater political understanding with Iran. The bilateral economic relationship has also touched a qualitatively new level.

## **UKRAINE**

Since recognition of Ukraine by India in December 1991 and in keeping with desire of

both for continuity in the close and substantial ties, India has pursued a policy of strengthening bilateral relations with Ukraine. With this end in view, during President Kravchuk state visit to India in March 1992, agreements on (1) trade and economic cooperation; (2) cooperation in the field of science and technology; and (3) cooperation in the spheres of culture, arts, education, tourism, sports and mass media were signed. A treaty on Friendship and Cooperation was also signed.

Earlier the President of Ukraine had met our Prime Minister in February 1992 at Davos. Our Raksha Mantri also visited Ukraine in October 1992 and discussed bilateral defence relations.

## **TURKEY**

Steps to strengthen bilateral relations with Turkey during the last two years included regular high level visits. These included a visit by Minister of State for Commerce in January 1992. Representatives of prominent business houses also visited Turkey. India participated in Izmir International Trade Fair in 1992. An MOU on Air Services was signed in 1992.

## **HUNGARY**

In the last two years, agreements between the two countries have been signed for cooperation in health, Cooperation in Tourism and Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement. The cultural exchange programme was also renewed. High level exchanges included state visit by President Arpad Goncz in April 1991 and visit by Minister of State Sh. R.L. Bhatia to Budapest in February, 1993.

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

During the last two years, there has been a number of high level exchanges between UK and India which have contributed to the further strengthening of bilateral relations. The British PM John Major visited India in January 1993 as Chief Guest for Republic Day. The visit symbolised the maturity of Indo-British relations and placed them firmly in a modern, forward looking context free from any past misgivings. It paved the way for greater Indo-British cooperation in the areas of trade and investment. An Industry-led Indo-British Partnership Initiative was launched during PM Major's visit. The Vice-President paid a visit to the UK in May 1993 at the invitation of the UK Government.

India and UK signed the Indo-UK Extradition Treaty and Confiscation Agreement in September 1992, reaffirming the importance they attach to cooperation in combating terrorism.

## GREECE

Bilateral Foreign Office consultations with Greece were held in March, 1993. Indo-Greece relations are problem free and efforts are being made to impart to them more substantive economic content in areas of mutual interest.

## BAHRAIN

Relations between the two countries are problem-free and efforts are being made to impart to them more substantive economic content in areas of mutual interest. A 10 member business delegation sponsored by Federation of India Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) visited Bahrain in November 1992. In November 1991, 30 permanent Indian companies participated in 'Rebuild Kuwait 1991' exhibition held in Bahrain.

High level exchanges included visit by MOS in May 1992 and visit by Secretary (West) in February 1993.

### T.V. SERIALS ON FAMOUS TRIBAL FREEDOM FIGHTERS

3026. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make T.V. serials based on the life of famous tribal freedom fighters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of freedom fighters on whom telefilms/T.V. serials have been made and telecast alongwith the details of payment made by Doordarshan for each telefilm/serial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Presently no such proposal has been short listed for final approval.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A six episode series titled 'Adivasi Kranti Doot' telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi

was based on the life of Birsa Bhagwan, Veerappa & Puthu Varappa, Joria Bhagat, Banjara Guri Govind and Tana Bana. An amount of Rs. 1.75 lakhs was sanctioned for each episode.

[English]

### NEWS ITEM CAPTIONED "LARGESSE TO ROY PEEVES PRODUCERS"

3027. SHRI SANDIPAN BILAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Largesse to Roy peeves producers" appeared in Indian Express dated 11-7-93;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made therein; and

(c) details of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Doordarshan has not assigned to Shri Roy the 13 part serial referred to in the news item.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### REVENUE EARNED BY DOORDARSHAN

3028. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the income earned by Doordarshan through commercials during the last six months;

(b) the names of the companies paid maximum money for telecasting their advertisements; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The gross revenue earned by Door-darshan during the last 6 months is Rs. 184.02 crores.

(b) and (c) The details of the 3 top most advertising agencies that had done business with Door-darshan during the period 1992-93 are as under:—

1. Lintas India	— Rs. 64.89 crores
2. H.T.A.	— Rs. 40.28 crores
3. O & M	— Rs. 21.46 crores

[English]

#### PLANT LOAD FACTOR

3029. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether plant load factor in some power plants have gone down after renovation and modernisation, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of these plants and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to increase the plant load factor in these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Plant Load Factors (PLFs) in respect of Dhuvaran Thermal Power Plant of Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) and Ramagundam 'B' Thermal Power Plant of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB), whose Renovation and Modernisation (R&M) works (Phase I) have been completed during the last three years, have gone down. The lower PLF of the above plants can, however, not be attributed to the implementation of the renovation and modernisation schemes as they only improve the performance. The factors reported to be responsible for poor performance of Dhuvaran TPP (GEB) include frequent failures of C.W. pump motors, inefficient cooling towers, condensers and air pre-heaters and those for Ramagundam 'B' TPP (APSEB) include supply of oversized coal and coal having gone pieces. These problems are being taken care of while formulating the Renovation and Modernisation Schemes (Phase II).

#### CHANGE IN ROUTES BY REDLINE BUSES

3030. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the routes of Redline buses were changed; and

(b) the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 974 routes were changed/diverted/extended.

(b) The details are given in the attached statement. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4360/93]. The Redline buses were introduced on 808 tentative routes and on time-table framed by D.T.C. Some routes were later changed/extended/diverted at the request of the operators and the needs of the commuters.

#### PERFORMANCE OF SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA AND DREDGING CORPORATION OF INDIA

3031. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by the Government for increasing the profit of the Shipping Corporation of India and the Dredging Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the achievements made by these Corporations during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the turnover of these Corporations are likely to be increased during the Eighth Plan period;

(d) if so, the target set therefor; and

(e) the details thereof?

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

(b) The achievements made by the Shipping Corporation of India and Dredging Corporation of India during the last three years are as under:—

	(Rs. in crores)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provi- sional)

**SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA**

Turn over	1151.0	1381.1	1499.2
Net profit	54.5	108.9	143.2
Internal resources	165.7	246.7	306.0

**DREDGING CORPORATION OF INDIA**

Turn over	78.90	111.60	134.29
Net profit	17.49	12.80	14.61
No. of Dredging days	1930	2389	2598

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) and (e) The year-wise targets set for turn over during Eighth Plan period are as under :—

	(Rs. in crores)			
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Shipping Corporation of India	1714.2	1906.2	1833.3	1868.9
Dredging Corporation of India	135.00	141.37	150.45	175.35

**PLUGGING OF AREAS DUG UP BY DESU**

3032. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DESU has plugged all the areas dug up for laying electric poles and underground wiring before the arrival of monsoon;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty officials, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) The trenches and other diggings are plugged by DESU with earth filling on completion of work of laying of underground cables, installation of poles etc. The metalling of road-cuttings etc. is done by the concerned road owning agencies viz. Municipal Corporation, Delhi Development Authority, etc. against the payments deposited by DESU towards road restoration charges. However, appropriate action can be taken by DESU, if any specific case of non-filling of the areas dug up by them is brought to their notice.

**REDLINE BUSES**

3033. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the provisions of the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950 it is the sole responsibility of the State Transport Undertakings to provide passenger traffic service;

(b) whether any cases of violation of the provisions of the Act have come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether teenagers have been employed as drivers by the Redline operators and whether these teenagers have also been issued driving licences by the S.T.A.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**MOU WITH BELARUS**

3034. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any memorandum of understanding has been signed for bilateral relations between India and Belarus, recently; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following agreements were signed during the visit of the Prime Minister of Belarus to India from 12-15. May, 1993 :

- (1) Declaration on Principles and Directions of Cooperation.
- (2) Agreement on Visa-Free Travel of Government officials.
- (3) Agreement on Tourism Cooperation.
- (4) Agreement on Cooperation in the Spheres of Culture, Arts, Education, Mass-Media, Sports and Tourism.
- (5) Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology.
- (6) Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation.
- (7) Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Related Technical Co-operation.

#### TV COVERAGE IN HILLY AREAS. U.P.

**3035. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of T.V. coverage in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up high power T.V. transmitter centre in these areas;

(c) whether a large part of Chamoli region is covered by Doordarshan; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to expand T.V. coverage in remaining parts of Chamoli and Pauri region ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):** (a) T.V. Service is, at present, available to an estimated population and area of 38.6% and 26.7% respectively in the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) There is no scheme at present to set up High Power T.V. Transmitter in these areas.

(c) and (d) Whereas, large parts of Chamoli region remain uncovered by T.V. Service at present, a Low Power T.V. Transmitter (LPT) at Kotdwar in Pauri Garhwal district, and a Very Low Power T.V. Transmitter (VLPT) at Joshimath, in Chamoli district, are presently under implementation. These transmitters, when commissioned, are expected to improve the T.V. service in Chamoli and Pauri region of Uttar Pradesh. Further expansion of T.V. service in these areas, depends on availability of resources and inter se priorities.

[Translation]

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN PUNJAB

**3036. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of persons have applied for telephone connections in every telephone exchange in Punjab and they are yet to get this facility;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list, district-wise; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government for providing telephone connections at the earliest ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The district-wise waiting list of Punjab Circle as on 31-3-93 is given in the attached statement.

(c) As per the objectives of the eighth five year plan of the Department of Telecommunications, the waiting period for telephone connection is to be restricted to two years in large telephone system areas and the telephone connection will be provided practically on demand in rural and tribal areas by the end of the Eighth Plan period. Expansion plans for the districts of Punjab are being prepared accordingly. 51000 Direct Exchange lines are planned to be added during 1993-94 in Punjab Circle.

*Statement***WAITING LIST DISTRICT-WISE OF PUNJAB CIRCLE AS ON 31-3-93**

Name of SSA	OYT	Non-OYT SPL.	Genl.	Total
Amritsar	202	994	13561	14757
Bhatinda & Mansa Distt.	161	204	4341	4706
Chandigarh	3422	2124	37736	43282
Ferozepur & Faridkot	450	149	10214	10813
Hoshiarpur	237	77	6170	6484
Jalandhar & Kapurthala	3670	781	24843	29294
Ludhiana	4461	4615	50105	59181
Pathankot	96	137	4439	4672
Patiala & Fatehgarh Sahib	375	303	9362	10040
Sangrur	142	69	4455	4666
	13216	9453	165226	187895

*[English]***TELEPHONE EXCHANGES**

3037. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :  
 SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
 SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEL-  
 WAL :  
 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been reduction in the allocation of telephone exchanges in Delhi and other States during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

*[Translation]***TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN RAJASTHAN**

3038. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons the waiting list and subscribers for telephone connections in Rajasthan, category-wise and district-wise separately;

(b) the number of persons to be provided telephone connections during 1993-94, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The information is furnished at attached statement-I.

A total of 177690 persons are on the waiting list as on 31-3-93.

(b) The information is provided at attached statement-II.

(c) Clearance of waiting list will be as per the objectives of the Department of Telecom, which envisage curtailment of Waiting period for Telephone connection in large system upto two years and provide telephone connection practically on demand in rural and tribal areas by the end of the eighth five year plan period (92-97).

Expansion plans for Rajasthan Circle are being made accordingly.

*Statement-I*

**RAJASTHAN TELECOMMUNICATION CIRCLE DISTRICT-WISE WAITING LIST  
AS ON 31-3-1993**

S.No.	Name of District	W/L OYT	W/L NOYT S&SS	W/L NOYT (G)	W/L Total
1.	Ajmer	504	551	8390	9445
2.	Alwar	520	177	5037	5794
3.	Banswara	155	91	1312	1558
4.	Baran	10	9	481	500
5.	Barmer	181	119	2452	2752
6.	Bharatpur	37	132	2684	2853
7.	Bhilwara	399	407	4396	5202
8.	Bikaner	314	505	5631	6450
9.	Bundi	49	16	1180	1245
10.	Chittorgarh	39	51	1678	1768
11.	Churu	0	0	1235	1235
12.	Dausa	0	0	1131	1131
13.	Dholpur	4	22	575	601
14.	Dungarpur	103	18	631	752
15.	Jaipur	2082	3059	60699	65840
16.	Jaisalmer	0	0	187	187
17.	Jalore	7	0	614	621
18.	Jhalawar	1	0	420	421
19.	Jhunjhunu	75	122	4943	5140
20.	Jodhpur	285	585	11937	12807
21.	Kota	783	905	11065	12753
22.	Nagpur	173	77	3423	3673
23.	Pali	24	1	3368	3393
24.	Rajsamand	77	83	1668	1778
25.	Sawai Madhopur	1	0	1458	1459
26.	Sikar	66	147	4668	4881
27.	Sirohi	106	6	1381	1493
28.	Sriganganagar	68	1	6060	6129
29.	Tonk	26	20	999	1045
30.	Udaipur	1177	2498	11175	14850
<b>Total</b>		<b>7266</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>160872</b>	<b>177690</b>

*Statement-II*

**Subject to timely availability of resources the number of persons expected to be provided Telephone Connections in Rajasthan during 1993-94 district-wise is as follows**

Sl.No.	Name of District	No. of persons to be provided telephone connections
1.	Ajmer	2000
2.	Alwar	2400
3.	Bharatpur	2300
4.	Baran	500
5.	Bundi	800
6.	Banswara	1300
7.	Bhilwara	1300
8.	Barmar	2300
9.	Bikaner	2500
10.	Churu	1700
11.	Chittorgarh	2000
12.	Dholpur	700
13.	Dausa	1500
14.	Dungarpur	600
15.	Jhalawar	700
16.	Jhunjhunu	3500
17.	Jaipur	10000
18.	Jalore	150
19.	Jaisalmer	300
20.	Jodhpur	1600
21.	Kota	4000
22.	Nagpur	3500
23.	Pali	3400
24.	Rajsamand	1200
25.	Sawaimadhopur	800
26.	Sikar	4900
27.	Sirohi	700
28.	Sriganganagar	6000
29.	Tonk	1300
30.	Udaipur	1100
Total		64950

**BHILAI STEEL PLANT**

**3039. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: (a) whether there is apprehension of decline in availability of raw material in Bhilai Steel Plant during the ensuing years;

(b) whether it is proposed to develop certain new mines for keeping up the production as per expected capacity of this plant;

(c) whether the mines for this purpose have been identified and a scheme formulated and submitted for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not according approval so far to the scheme to develop the said mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is apprehended that by 2000-2001 A.D. there will be a shortfall in availability of iron ore from the existing iron ore mine at Dalli-Rajhara.

(c) to (e) On account of its techno-economic advantages Rowghat has been identified by SAIL as the possible source of iron ore in order to meet the shortfall. However, till now there is no concrete proposal for final linkage to Bhilai Steel Plant at present for supply of iron ore.

**POWER THEFT IN DELHI**

**3040. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:**  
SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND:  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:  
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of power theft registered in Delhi and the loss caused to the Government as a result thereof, during each of the last three years; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The number of cases registered by DESU with the Delhi Police against theft of electricity during the last three years, are given below. The resultant loss cannot be quantified.

1990-91	— 306
1991-92	— 832
1992-93	— 944
Total	2082

Theft of electricity has been made a cognisable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. DESU has intensified raids against theft/fraudulent abstraction of energy and FIRs are lodged with the police for prosecution of the persons involved in such cases.

[English]

#### COMPUTER IN AHMEDABAD PASSPORT OFFICE

3041. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced the Computer-system in passport office in Ahmedabad (Gujarat) taking into consideration the heavy rush of applications; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Computerisation of all Passport Offices is being undertaken in a phased manner.

[Translation]

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

3042. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA : SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed by the Government for providing telephone facilities in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of target achieved so far;

(c) the ratio of population on the basis of which targets have been fixed for providing telephone connections in urban and rural areas; and

(d) the approximate number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in the country as on date and the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM) : (a) The 8th Five Year Plan of the Department of Telecommunications envisages addition of 75 lakh new telephone connections during the Plan period.

(b) During 1992-93 (first year of the 8th five year plan) 9.86 (13.3%) lakh telephone connections were provided in the country against the annual plan (92-93) target of 8.5 lakh telephone connections.

(c) The targets for new telephone connections in Urban or Rural areas are fixed on year to year basis depending on the demand and resource availability.

(d) 30.48 lakh persons are on the waiting list for telephone connections in the country as on 30-6-93. The objective of 8th five year plan provides :

— Telephone connection practically on demand in the Rural/Tribal areas, small and medium towns.

— Telephone connection within two years of registration of telephone in the large cities.

[English]

#### EXPORT OF PROCESSED FOOD ITEMS

3043. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state;

(a) the target fixed for export of processed food items during the Eighth Plan;

(b) the estimated foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) It is estimated that by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan, the export of processed foods including rice and marine products will exceed Rs. 6000 crores per annum.

(c) Several steps have been taken by the Government for enhancing export which inter-alia include providing incentives for setting up of 100% Export Oriented Food Processing Units,

concessions under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, duty free import for certain materials for the purpose of production under advance licencing system, scheme for assistance formulated by this Ministry and APEDA for export production, infrastructure development, participation in International/National Exhibition.

[Translation]

#### MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN GUJARAT

3044. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the works taken up with the help of available funds to maintain the national highways in Gujarat;

(b) the location-wise details thereof; and

(c) the works likely to be taken up during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDIGH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Maintenance and repairs of the National Highways in the country including those in Gujarat is a continuous process. It is carried out on the entire National Highway network as and where required so as to keep it in traffic worthy condition within the funds available. During 1993-94 an allotment of Rs. 766.70 lakhs has been made for maintenance of National Highways in Gujarat.

#### MINING OF DIAMONDS IN M. P.

3045. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have entrusted the mining of diamonds in Madhya Pradesh to some foreign/Indian or multinational agency;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the employees working in these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### QUOTA OF IMPORTED NEWSPRINT

3046. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the grant of quota of imported newsprint is based on the quantity of indigenous newsprint purchased by the printer;

(b) if so, the proportion and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations to review the imported newsprint policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This is true in respect of newspapers whose annual entitlement of newsprint is more than 200 metric tonnes who are allowed to import one tonne of newsprint against purchase of two tonnes of indigenous newsprint from the scheduled mills. This proportion has been worked out on the basis of the total availability of indigenous newsprint and the quantity of newsprint required to be imported to meet the full requirement of the newspaper industry.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from the Indian Newspaper Society, Indian Newsprint Manufacturers' Association etc. While the former has been demanding rescinding the Newsprint Control Order and allowing the newspaper establishments to decide the source and quality of purchase of newsprint both indigenous and imported, the latter has been mainly demanding temporary ban on import of newsprint, removing of all controls on newsprint and levying of an import duty of 40% and deferring of further addition of new indigenous mills to the Schedule I of the Newsprint Control Order.

# INDUCTION OF WOMEN IN MERCHANT NAVY

3047. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Merchant Navy has been thrown open to women officers;

(b) if so, the response thereto;

(c) the branches and services in which women officers are proposed to be inducted; and

(d) the steps taken to impart training to these officers ?

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

(b) A number of representations were being received for inclusion of women candidates in Merchant Navy.

(c) Women candidates are to be admitted to 3 years B.Sc. (Nautical Science) Course at T. S. Rajendra (Now T. S. Chanakya) and 4 Years Marine Engineering Course at Directorate of Marine Engineering & Training.

(d) The women candidates will attend the classes alongwith their male counter-parts. They will however, be provided with self-contained separate accommodation in both the training institutes.

*[Translation]*

# DOORDARSHAN STUDIO CENTRES IN GUJARAT

3048. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Doordarshan studio centres for which foundation were laid during the last three years in Gujarat;

(b) the number out of them constructed or under construction; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No foundation stone was laid during the last 5 years for any T. V. Studio Centre in Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]*

# TELEPHONE BILLS IN HYDERABAD

3049. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone bills in Hyderabad City of Andhra Pradesh are not issued on time and the authorities are insisting the subscribers to collect the same personally in case it did not receive the bills on the stipulated dates;

(b) whether telephone bills have not been issued in a number of cases even after a lapse of six months in 1993; if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to ensure that telephone bills are sent to the subscribers regularly in order to relieve the subscribers the ordeal of collecting bills personally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The information has been called for from the concerned unit and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

# DEVELOPMENT OF HALDIA PORT

3050. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes have been drawn up for the development of Haldia Port during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The major schemes included are construction of Additional General Cargo Berths (No. 10 & 11). Second oil jetty with Tractor Tug,

Replacement of three locomotives, Procurement of Grab Dredger, Replacement of Dredger Churni and Augmentation of existing container Terminal.

[Translation]

#### LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY

3051. SHRI RAMLAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received from the Members of Parliament by his Ministry between July 1, 1992 and March 30, 1993 and the number of those whose reply has not been sent so far;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found guilty/responsible in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Out of 852 No. of letters received from Members of Parliament between 01-07-1992 and 30-03-1993, 757 letters have been replied and 95 letters are yet to be replied. Since in most of the cases relevant information comes from Field Organisations located at different stations, reasonable time is taken by them.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### DECLARATION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN U.P.

3052. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/norms laid down for declaration of State Roads as National Highways;

(b) the reasons for not declaring any State Road in Uttar Pradesh as National Highway since October 19, 1984;

(c) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has made repeated request in 1987, 1989 and 1991 for declaring the Historical Grand Trunk Road from Delhi to Kanpur as a National Highway;

(d) if so, whether the road fulfils the criteria laid down therefor; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not declaring this road as National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The details are as under, viz.

(i) Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country;

(ii) Roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iii) Roads connecting State capitals;

(iv) Roads connecting major Ports and important industrial or tourist centres;

(v) Roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) Roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length; and

(vii) Roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economies thereby.

(b) to (e) The various State Governments including Uttar Pradesh have made representations to the Central Government from time to time for declaration of certain State Roads, incidentally including the road in question from Delhi to Kanpur, as new National Highways. However, owing the severe financial constraint and other priority considerations, it has not been possible to declare new National Highways in U.P. as well as in other States.

#### VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT SCHEME IN DTC

3053. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: SHRI PREM DHUMAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of Delhi Transport Corporation who got voluntary retirement during 1992-93; and

(b) the amount allocated to the Corporation under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme and the amount out of it spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No employee could be retired during 1992-93 since the scheme which was introduced from December, 1992 took some time to finalise the various formalities before it could be implemented.

(b) The details of amount allocated are as under:—

1992-93	Rs. 30 crores
1993-94	Rs. 60 crores

A total amount of Rs. 40.46 crores have been paid as compensation to 3687 employees covered under the scheme upto 31-7-1993.

#### PAKISTAN AS SPONSOR OF TERRORISM

3054. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to influence Congressional and public opinion in the United States in regard to the declaration of Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Government constantly monitor Congressional and public opinion in the United States in regard to issues of concern to India. Our Ambassador in Washington as well as other Embassy officials are in constant touch with a large number of US Congressmen from both political parties and also leading opinion makers in the US so as to put matters in a correct perspective in regard to all matters of bilateral concern including the continuing state sponsorship of terrorism by Pakistan. Regular dialogue is also maintained with the US Government at political and official levels. The Indian-American community have also been writing to their representatives to sensitise them on this issue. Government's efforts to sensitise friendly foreign countries and international public opinion, including the US, will continue on the issue of Pakistan's continuous abetment of terrorism in India.

[Translation]

#### PERFORMANCE OF DELHI TRANSPORT CORPORATION

3055. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned or loss suffered by the Delhi Transport Corporation during each of the last three years;

(b) whether Planning Commission has recommended that Delhi Transport Corporation should not expand its fleet;

(c) if so, whether Planning Commission has also directed phase-wise privatisation of public transport system in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Details of working loss incurred by DTC during the last 3 years are as under:—

Year	Working loss
1990-91	113.23
1991-92	83.86
1992-93	53.93

(b) to (d) Rationalising the size of DTC fleet to 3500 buses and withdrawal of DTC buses from loss making routes after STA, Delhi has issued permits to private operators on these routes, are amongst the proposals contained in the Inter-connected package being finalised by the Government for rehabilitation of DTC to ensure its long term viability.

[English]

#### DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN MAHARASHTRA

3056. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released/proposed to release any amount to the

Government of Maharashtra for the development of National Highways in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance for the development of roads and construction of small bridges etc. in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) An amount of Rs. 36 crores has been allotted for the development of National Highways in the State of Maharashtra during 1993-94, out of which an amount of Rs. 6 crore has already been released.

(c) and (d) Presumably, the Honourable Member has in view the centrally sponsored scheme of State Roads of Inter-state and Economic Importance. Due to the limited allocation of funds for central sector Roads programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it will be possible to take up only some selected projects in the States subject to certain priority considerations.

[Translation]

#### EXPANSION AND MODERNISATION OF STEEL PLANTS IN BIHAR

3057. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any action for the expansion and modernisation of the steel-plants located in various districts of Bihar, particularly in the tribal areas:

(b) if so, the action taken during the last three years in this regard;

(c) the amount allocated and actually spent under this head and the contribution of the World Bank and the other multinational companies therein;

(d) the names of the steel units which are sick at present; and

(e) the reasons of the failure in improvement thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) After the announcement of the new Industrial Policy in July, 1991, steel plants in the private sector do not require permission of Government for expansion or modernisation except for certain restricted locations. So far as the public sector is concerned, Government have approved the investment proposal of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to modernise Bokaro Steel Plant (Stage-I) at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 1625.79 crores inclusive of foreign exchange component of Rs. 283.50 crores. The entire capital to be invested is being funded from the internal and extra budgetary resources of SAIL.

(d) and (e) Two electric arc furnace units in Bihar, namely M/s. TISCO, Adityapur and M/s. Kashi Ispat Limited, Bhagalpur are lying closed at present for the following reasons:

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (i) M/s. TISCO.<br>Adityapur  | Power Problems                    |
| (ii) M/s. Kashi<br>Ispat Ltd. | Uneconomic cost<br>of production. |

[English]

#### INDO-TANZANIA COOPERATION

3058. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Tanzania have agreed to increase the scope of bilateral cooperation in various areas including agriculture and industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A team of Indian experts from agricultural and industrial sectors visited Tanzania in April 1993 in order to suggest means of increasing bilateral cooperation. The team recommended a number of measures including:

- (i) To depute an expert for increasing yield in Arid Zone farming.

- (ii) To depute an expert from National Dairy Development Board for development of proper system of milk collection, processing and marketing.
- (iii) To depute a team from National Small Industries Corporation to assess the requirement of 49 small scale industrial projects set up under credit given by Government of India.
- (iv) To depute an expert to assess the current status of the Common Facilities Centre gifted by India to Tanzania in 1979, and to recommend measures for its further development.

Follow up action is being taken.

[Translation]

#### POWER STATIONS IN U.P.

3059. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation propose to invite the private sector for setting up power stations in its industrial establishments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of industrial establishments of the State to whom licences for power generation are proposed to be given in the first phase ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) UPSIDC has obtained industrial licences for setting up Captive Power Generation & Distribution Projects in 8 industrial areas, viz. Jaunpur (Kanpur Dehat), Kosi-II (Mathura), Khurja (Bulandshaher) Loni (Ghaziabad), Masuri Gulwati (Ghaziabad), Sandila (Hardoi), Satheria (Jaunpur) & Talanagari (Aligarh).

[English]

#### RADIO STATION AT SURAT, GUJARAT

3060. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will

the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the F.M. Radio Station at Surat in Gujarat is not providing satisfactory service;

(b) the present range and capacity of the Station to cover the area;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a full-fledged high power commercial radio station at Surat during 1993-94;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the revenue earned by the All India Radio on commercial advertisements from Surat city during last year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) 2 x 3 KW FM Transmitter at Surat provides satisfactory service to an area of 60 Kms. around it.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) During 1992-93, All India Radio earned Rs. 25,420/- through commercial advertisements from Surat city.

#### MISSING CREW OF M.V. TALENT

3061. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the outcome of the efforts made to locate the 17 missing crew members of the Panamanian vessel M.V. Talent which sank in the Bay of Bengal near Sandheads on June 17, 1993; and

(b) the preventive measures likely to be taken to check such mishaps in the Indian waters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Through search had been carried out for a number of days in the area, where M.V. Talent reportedly sank, by Indian naval Vessel, Nirdeshak and Saryu, coast guard ship, Virat, and Cochin Port Trust vessels. Air sorties were carried out by aircrafts of Indian Air Force and Naval

Helicopters, but no trace of the missing crew of M.V. Talent could be found.

(b) All vessels are statutorily required to be registered under classification societies, who ensure sea-worthiness of the vessels before the same are allowed to navigate in high seas. Mercantile marine Department under Directorate General of Shipping ensures strict compliance with this requirement as per laid down standards for safety of the vessel.

[Translation]

# WIDENING OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY 24 BETWEEN SHAHJAHANPUR AND LUCKNOW

3062. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to widen National Highway No. 24 between Shahjahanpur and Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does enot arise.

(c) National Highway No. 24 between Shahjahanpur and Lucknow is already two lane wide. Further widening is not contemplated.

12 : 00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Before the hon. Members stand up, we were thankful to you for cooperating on two-three days. But what was achieved in two-three days was wiped out in the next two-three days. May I expect that hon. Members will keep in mind that this activity should be over within half an hour without the Presiding officer having to remind the hon. members that is has to be over within half an hour and the presiding officer's Intervention.

One thing that we can adopt in this respect is, if one topic is raised by one member, it should not be necessary for other Members to speak on that topic, so that other Members also can raise more topics.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (KATWA) : Thank you for giving me this time. The Minister for Internal Security is here in the House. I would like to bring through you to the notice of this House and to the Minister that it has been revealed by the Jain-Agarwal Committee that during the riots after the killing of Shrinmati Indira Gandhi in November 1984, the police in Delhi grossly derelicted their duty in registering cases. This Committee has really condemned the police and recommended for appropriate action.

In those three days in one minute one murder took place totalling 2733 people killed. These are the official figures. Victims' kith and kin went to the police stations. contacted police officials; but cases were not registered. I want to know whether it has come to his notice, if it has come to his notice whether he understands the gravity of the recommendation that has come and what action he is going to take, so that the blot that has come on the police and the administration which may harm our image outside also, which may not generate confidence in the people unless action is taken, is removed. What concrete steps is he going to take in this matter ? I want a response from the Government, Sir.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA) : I am constrained to raise this issue. Earlier also I raised the issue that the Delhi Administration and the police in connivance with some dark forces are continuously attacking Bengali speaking people under the garb of Bangladeshis. That day the hon. Minister was kind enough to reply to it. We are for screening the people cautiously and deporting them. But on that ground no indian genuine citizen should be harassed. This is our demand.

On 8th August, in Jhahangirpuri 19 persons were taken in. All of them were from Sataheta Police Station of Midnapore District of West Bengal. I raised it; I wrote to the home Minister. In spite of that again after two days two separate raids were organised in Jhahangirpuri and 17 and 18 people, totalling 38 or 39 people were taken and we do not know where they have been taken. They are Bengali speaking people, they are from various parts of West Bengal, for twenty years they have been staying here. These things

are repeatedly happening here in spite of raising it again and again. No genuine citizen of India should be harassed; but these things are happening. This is unfortunate. Foreigners have to be deported, but not the genuine citizens of India.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please do not repeat it. You have made that point; it is not necessary to repeat.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (KOT-TAYAM) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Internal Security Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot, to the 20 days old strike by the people of Katra. The Shrine Board of Vaishno Devi has decided that like Tirupati temple, a road would be constructed upto Vaishno Devi temple for the pilgrims. Sir, the people of Katra have raised their voice against it because they are of the view that the pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi is a scared one and every pilgrim should walk on foot from Katra to Vaishno Devi to have darshan of Devi. There is a resentment among the people against the said decision of the Shrine Board and moreover, it is a matter relating to the scaredness of the pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi. I would like to submit to Rajesh Pilotji that this strike is going on for the last 15 days so he should give an assurance that he would get the decision of the Shrine Board changed. You know about it... (*Interruptions*)... You should tell about it so that they may call off their strike. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Sir, the Minister is ready to reply. It is a very serious issue. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** He will inform you.

(*Interruptions*)

**PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (TENALI) :** Sir, the Tobacco Board in Andhra Pradesh has taken a decision recently, denying tobacco growing to about 50 per cent of the growers, in the recent meeting that was held on the 24th July. With this, about 50 per cent of the total tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh are in an agitated mood. This decision has been taken by restricting the crop size to 52 million tonnes as against 103 million tonnes last year, and 125 million tonnes during 1991-92. With

this, the growers Central and Northern Black Soils in six districts are going to keep the land barren; and the infrastructure that is meant for tobacco curing is also going waste.

Now, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government that this has happened due to the protocol discontinuation with the Russian Government and also the discontinuity of the technical credit and *ad hoc* credit arrangement, hitherto being extended to Russia. I request the Government to revise its decision and continue the extension of the technical credit to Russia; and see that this 50 per cent of the tobacco growers also grow tobacco this year so that the farms and other infrastructure—which have been constructed by taking bank loans—will be put to use. Otherwise, if no income is going to be generated they will not be in a position to discharge the bank loans. (*Interruptions*) In this case it is not possible, the Government may consider payment of compensation to the growers towards the cost of farms.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You have made the point. You need not repeat it. Mr. Patra, please. Yes, it is a good point; please do not repeat it.

(*Interruptions*)

**DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (BALASORE) :** Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to bring to the notice of the August House regarding the serious situation and the miseries of more than two-and-a-half lakh of people in my constituency, Balasore, Orissa. Sir, the normal life has been paralysed. Flood is there. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** We discussed 'floods and droughts' for six hours, here.

(*Interruptions*)

**DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :** The rivers—Subamarekha, Budhabalanga, Jalka and Kansbans—are flooded. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Yes. We discussed it for six hours.

(*Interruptions*)

**DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :** Sir, it rained upto 20, 25 inches. Even now, rain is there. All the communication network has been disrupted. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Very good. Yes, Shri Chhedi Paswan.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patra, you have made your point. Shri Chhedi Paswan now.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chhedi Paswan, please.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, I have brought it to the notice of the ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have brought it to their notice, my notice and the notice of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: I have also talked to the ... *(Interruptions)\* ...*

\* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, what he is saying is not going on record. Please take your seat, Mr. Patra. Now, Shri Chhedi Paswan.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patra, please take your seat now. This is too much. I said, "We discussed it for six hours." Still, I allowed you also. Now you cannot continue like this.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please help us. There are other Members who want to speak.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (SASARAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House towards a very serious matter. Shri Jagjivan Ram was a great freedom fighter and a genius, who had proved his ability by holding the charge of different ministries of the

Government of India efficiently but his samadhi has not so far been constructed in Delhi, whereas the samadhi of all other leaders have been constructed at Rajghat or Shantivan. This discrimination is being made because of the untouchability. All Members often shed crocodile tears for Harijan-tribals in the House. Therefore, I would like to say through you, that if no statement comes from the Government within a week in this regard then I will bring urn from the Samadhi of Shri Jagjivan Ram, built at village Chandava, and will sit on dharna in front of the Lok Sabha gate in support of my demand of construction of samadhi in Delhi.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you should not have raised this matter in this fashion. We are going to have Jagjivan Ramji's statue in the Parliament itself.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Anyway, this kind of things are not allowed.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the then prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had allocated fund for the construction of a samadhi of Shri Jagjivan Ram, but this Government is keeping silence over it.

SHRI RAM NAIK (BOMBAY NORTH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the religious leaders of people of Tibet and their ray of hope Shri Dalailama is in Delhi now a days. He has expressed his views at different places. A programme was organised by Parliamentary Forum, in regard to Tibet in which leaders like, 95 years old Shri Nijlinggappa, the former speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Rabi Ray and leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee etc. had expressed their views.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please see that if a delicate international issue is there, you do not raise it in this fashion because it has implication in all directions.

SHRI RAM NAIK: There would not be any controversy. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we are trying to have good relations with some countries. it should not be offensive.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NAIK : The Prime Minister is going to China. I would like to submit that the prime Minister should also discuss the issue of Tibet and the issue of safeguarding the rights of Tibetan people during his visit to China. he should inform the House about the view point of the Government in this regard.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (DARBHANGA) : Mr. Speaker. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Bihar particularly to North Bihar where Kalazar is spreading on a large scale. Many people are suffering from and dying of this disease. The incidence of another disease called leprosy is also on the increase. When the Central team went there, 600 cases of leprosy were traced in Darbhanga alone.

12.14 hrs.

*[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]*

I demand that a Central team should be sent to my constituency and to other parts of North Bihar to check this disease. Separate camps should be set up there for treatment. Some concrete steps should be taken to check the disease.

12.14½ hrs.

RE : INCIDENT OF KILLING OF 16 BUS PASSENGERS IN KISHTWAR, DISTRICT DODA, JAMMU AND KASHMIR ON 14 AUGUST, 1993.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (SOUTH DELHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one day before the Independence Day, i.e. on 14th August a bus coming from Jammu was abducted by the Pakistan supported terrorists at Kishtwar town in Doda district and 16 persons of a particular community. . . . *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : I have got a point of order. The home Minister has written a letter to the Speaker saying that they are going to make a statement on this very subject today. Therefore, the Speaker has decided that since the Government statement is coming, if it is necessary, it can be raised later on. Since the Government statement is coming, raising an issue of this kind is not necessary at this point of time. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I want to apprise you about the happenings in Srinagar on 14th and 15th August. Some people, belonging to a particular community were killed there. The situation requires a statement by the Minister in the House. Four days ago, it was published in Pioneer and other newspapers that terrorists were rehearsing to celebrate the Pakistan day on the roads of Srinagar wearing black clothes and masks on their faces. The Government was claiming to have the area put on 'red-alert' on 14th and 15th August. Yesterday, bombs were hurled and fires were shot and our tricolour was also burnt there. *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, the Minister is going to make a statement on this.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, has there been a suo-motu statement then you could have restrained the Member. An hon. Member is raising this issue which is a matter of concern for the citizens all over the country. It was announced publically on 15th August that separation of Kashmir will not be allowed at any cost. but the entire nation is worried due to the actual position there. Therefore, let every Member speak first and subsequently he may make a statement.

*[English]*

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, may I make a submission ? *(Interruptions)* After the Government have made the statement, with Speaker's permission, it may be permitted. The

Minister has already informed the Speaker and the Speaker will have to take a decision whether it should be permitted or not. The Minister has already informed the Chair that a statement is going to be made. Before the statement of the Minister and before the decision of the Speaker, such a discussion not be permitted. So, Sir, I would request you not to allow them to raise this issue at this point of time. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Khurana, the Minister is going to make a statement on this.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You will be surprised to know that in what casual way the Minister of parliamentary Affairs is dealing with the Kashmir policy. When a Parliamentary delegation under the leadership of Shri Syed went to Jammu on 25th July, it was told by the Governor that it was all peaceful there and he had ordered the military to hold the elections before December and here our Home Minister says that it is not in the interest of nation to hold elections there. It is a serious incident which has taken place there. They have announced on 14th that they will celebrate the Pakistan day and unfurl Pakistan's flag. They observed a bundh in the city and unfurled the flag of the Pakistan on 15th August. The anti-national elements are openly running their activities and photos of their rehearsal on 14th August published in the leading dailies of Delhi. In spite of a red-alert in the area it hapened on 15th August. Who is responsible for this ? Shri Pilot will air dash there and say that everything is under control. But infact the situation in Kashmir is very serious and the Government is keeping mum. I demand that mere statement is not sufficient. a white paper on Kashmir should be issued. The Government should come out with a white paper and make its policy clear on Kashmir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have always been saying from the Government side in the House that the situation in Kashmir is very critical. The House as well as the country is well aware of the situation in Kashmir. Whenever there has been a discussion we have always presented facts in the House. Today, my friends who are quoting newspapers should

also apply their mind before saying anything. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : At least 16 people died there, is it also merely a news of newspapers; you are misleading the House.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : At least, you should listen to me and if you do not like it, you can outrightly reject me. You said that since 1990, when the situation started deteriorating there, they used to unfurl the flag of Pakistan off and on but this time we took such strong measures that they were not allowed to unfurl a flag and if at any place they did so it was removed within an hour's time whereas previously it used to be there for 3 days together. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Previously, it used to be hoisted for 3 days but this time they hoisted it for one day and then it was removed. Is it a metter of pride ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am presenting facts before the House. This is true that they have been raising such slogans at the time of Independence day. The period during 14th, 15th and 17th August has always been very critical. Everybody knows that what they are upto during these days. This time we issued very strict orders in order to control them. This is true that even then they managed to unfurl a flag but it was removed then and there. The photos which you are showing were in fact photographed earlies. Even on 12th, I was going to tell the House that they have taken some photographs in which 50 to 100 people are there who are attending this ceremony and it took place in a village far away from the city and later they got these photographs published claiming that they unfurled a flag on 15th August. I want to assure the House that nothing happened on this sort. You should rely on your Government and your security forces.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : 16 persons have died. Is it untrue ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : On 14th August a bus was coming to Jammu from Kishtwar. Three militants stopped the bus on the way and asked the women and children to leave the bus and after driving it to a distance of one kilometre they asked the persons belonging to a particular community to get down from the bus and opened fire on them. This is very cruel, our hearts are crying in pain. 14 persons died on the

spot while the other two died on way to Jammu. This is also true that militants are trying to fan communalism in Kashmir. This is what Pakistan wants. But we have to curb their activities. Since the happening of this incident, I have been making inquiries at every hour to know their whereabouts. Somebody told me that they belong to Afghan group. I still have to get it confirmed. I have written a letter to the speaker in the morning that I am ready to give a statement in this regard. I agree with Shri Khuranaji that we can have a discussion on it if the hon. Members so desire. It will make the whole picture clear and if you feel, some improvement can be made in it, the Government is ready to do that. But there should be an open discussion in which you may tell about the efforts being made by you as well as by the Government in this regard. Although, I have given a statement and if you want we can have a special discussion under Rule 193. The budget of Jammu and Kashmir is also being discussed today. We can also discuss the situation therein also. But I want to assure the House that there is no hitch from the Government side and the security forces as well as the administration is fighting out the terrorism very effectively, which can be established through this fact that 20 terrorists of a group and 24 of other group were killed in Kupwara. During the last three months period, pressure has been mounted on the terrorists which is at peak at present. In a state of utter frustration, they are trying to give it a communal touch. I can very well understand your feelings. You are overwhelmed with sorrow. But just think about the grief-stricken families of those 16 persons who were shot at in this incident. This is a matter of sorrow for all of us and the Government do not want to conceal anything from the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already given this suggestion that a Delegation of Members of Parliament should visit Kashmir and analyse the situation there as well as the efforts being made by us. You can have a discussion whenever you want but let 17th pass off peacefully as it is very critical then you can have a discussion under rule 193 or under Short Duration Discussion. The Government is ready for this. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The hon. Minister has agreed to discuss it. The Minister is ready for a debate on this.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that it is true that we must not give a communal colour to every matter. However, the Government should not consider the situation as normal. The incident that took place on the 14th is different from the terrorist incidents that took place earlier, and this incident is likely to have more ill-effects, because it is the first incident of its type happened in Jammu. The hon. Minister must know about the prevailing situation in the area where the incident took place. If terror prevails there due to this incident, the people of the area, where 45 per cent of the people belong to a single community, are likely to migrate to Jammu. The situation similar to that which arose in the valley is likely to arise in Kishtwar and we will have to face the bad consequences of all these things. We would have to lose the alternative route to reach the valley. My submission is that a Red Alert had been sounded in the area. Despite the red alert, such an incident occurred in the area. It is not an ordinary matter. It is not proper on the part of the Government to say that such incidents are common in the area. The Government seems to have developed the habit of adopting indifferent attitude to the prevailing situation and giving false assurances that the situation would be made normal in few days; while we have witnessed the performance of the Government during the last two years. We may accept that we were incapable to do something concrete, but now the persons in the Government are capable to do something concrete, Shri Khurana has also raised a good point in this regard. He has rightly pointed out as to why such an incident took place while the Government was capable to control the situation. It has created a threat not only to Kashmir valley but also to Jammu. We must know as to what the Government has been doing in this connection.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the other hand, this is the matter of great concern that the statements being issued by the officers and the Governor are creating confusion in the minds of the people. The senior Ministers make some statements and when the Opposition Members make some different statements stating the factual position, the Government feels anguished

over it. The incident that occurred on the 14th is rather a turning point in the terrorism in Kashmir, and nothing can be more unfortunate than that the Government take it as an ordinary matter.

**SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as the discussion on the situation in Kashmir valley initiated by Shri Khurana and the reply given by the hon. Minister of state in the Ministry of Home Affairs is concerned, I would like to submit in this House, through you that Kashmir is not an issue to be discussed from the point of view of scoring the debate points. Kashmir is a very sensitive area and you are aware that All Party Parliamentary delegation, including Shri Khurana, myself and other hon. Members had visited the Kashmir valley and witnessed the factual situation for themselves there. If we continue to raise the Kashmir issue and talk of alienation again and again in Lok Sabha, it will create a bad impression in the world. Therefore, my submission is that if at all a discussion is to be held on the subject, it should be serious, besides, all members should reach a consensus on the Kashmir issue. The matter of discussion here should not be the date as to when the national flag was burnt some hon. Members say that it was 15th while the hon. Minister says that actually it was 12th when the flag was burnt and its picture was published and the publicity was made as if the incident occurred on 15th August. This is the factual situation there. The alienation that has taken place there is not only a proof of presence of pro-Pakistani element, but also an evidence of the hunger for freedom that has arisen recently there. It also proves that pro-Indians are also there. I would like to submit that if the Government continues to take the matter lightly, the country will have to suffer. We must make very sacrifice to protect every inch of our land. However, if we continue to indulge ourselves in futile discussion, the situation may further deteriorate; and as a result of it we may lose Kashmir and perhaps the future generations would never forgive us for that. Therefore, all the hon. Members should think over the matter with a cool mind. My submission is that when we returned from the valley, we had suggested for an economic package. Why the youth was alienated there? There has been a wide spread corruption, and the people in the power have also been involved in the wide spread corrupt practices and thus alienation took place. The manner in which elections were held and

irregularities took place was the cause of alienation. Unemployment has increased and people have been facing great difficulties. A wrong impression was created all over the country that funds in other sectors were curtailed to be spent on Kashmir. It was also wrongly publicised by a responsible political party that a particular number of temples were demolished there. All these things have proved wrong and as per the prevailing situation. *(Interruptions)*... I am not talking of any political rivalry. All these things have taken place and the overall situation of Kashmir is very explosive and sensitive. Therefore, a discussion should be held over it and all the political parties should rise above the party politics and develop nationalism to support it. *(Interruptions)*.

*[English]*

12.33 hrs.

#### RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF MISHRA COMMISSION REPORT AS WELL AS OTHER COMMITTEES REPORTS ON 1984 HAPPENINGS IN DELHI

**SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot) :** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I would like to raise a very sensitive and a very serious matter to draw the attention of the Government and the Home Minister. The matter is regarding the implementation of the Mishra Commission Report. I would like to bring to the notice of the Home Minister that in nine years, only three murder convictions have taken place. Three thousand people were killed in Delhi massacre in one week from 31st October till 7th November.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the Government a very important matter and that is the Government had constituted six Committees viz. Potti Roshia Committee, Jain-Bannerjee Committee, now lately, a Committee headed by Jain-Aggarwal. The Jain-Aggarwal Committee had given a 206-page Report to the Lieutenant Governor. I would like to quote one paragraph of that Report which says :

"Indeed, the whole investigation was done in such a casual and mechanical manner that no attempt was made even to find out the witnesses present during the occurrence, if any, much less corroborative evidence in any shape or form."

Jain-Aggarwal Panel had suggested action against 298 police officers of Delhi. I would like

to bring to the notice, specially of the Home Minister, that the widows, for the last nine years have been demanding, from the Government, that action should be taken against the people who are guilty.

The most important thing is that the Jain-Agarwal Committee has given a report. In three days, 300 people were killed. I have got hundreds of affidavits with me; the most important affidavit is that of Anwar Kaur. She has alleged that important Congress leaders who were involved in the Delhi riots—22 senior leaders. The report is with the Home Ministry.

CBI, which is the biggest investigating agency of the country, has told the Government that it is not ready to handle the cases because when it goes to arrest important people—you know what happens, it is not able to do it.

I would like to bring it to the notice of the Home Minister that in this report, even the Government has admitted that the total number of people killed was 2736. Till now—after nine years—only three murder cases were convicted, which involves 15 accused cases and 20 deaths.

The term of the Jain-Agarwal Committee has not been extended. The term of this Committee expired on the 31st July, 1993. I would request the Home Minister to at least extend the term of this Committee and they should look into the cases where offences have been committed but the cases have not been registered. It is a very serious matter.

The Prime Minister on the 15th August, 1993, yesterday, said that the minorities of this country would be protected. What is the fate of the minorities of this country? There was a massacre of 3000 people and there has been no action taken uptill now.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** As we have already agreed and the hon. Speaker has been repeatedly requesting the House to close the Zero Hour by 12.30 p.m., let us close it.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum):** Very important issues have been raised by the hon. Members. All the political parties should be allowed to express their views on them.

[Translation]

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there have been a very few matters in the history of the last few years about which the Government has seemed to be serious. The matter raised by Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar just now is of the same category. The Government must realise that this is not a matter which can be suppressed by adopting a silent attitude over it. This will never happen. After all Delhi is the capital of the country.

Three thousand innocent persons were burnt alive within three or four days in the capital. I do not remember of any such abhorrent incident occurred even in 1947. Murders were committed in those days too, but innocent people were not charred to death in this manner.

In my opinion, the feelings of insecurity in the minds of common people started developing on the very day when people started thinking that they belonged to a particular community. Can they live safe in Delhi in such a situation? Thereafter, the same developments took place in Kashmir also and Shri Chandra Shekhar had referred to then in his speech in the context of the incident occurred a day before yesterday, I understand that it is a great failure of the Government. This is not only a failure.

[English]

This is not merely a sin of omission. This is a sin of commission.

[Translation]

It is a great crime, it is a heinous crime and the people responsible for this misdeed, have not been punished till date. Whereas 9 long years have passed since the incident took place. You cannot forget that incident. The people cannot forget it. This is not the issue of a particular community alone. The people all over the country will continue to ask questions from this Government and the Congress party in this regard.

I would like to request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that if at present he does not want to say anything in this regard he should at least give an assurance to the hon. Speaker, to this august House as to when he would make a detailed statement on this incident because this incident took place in 1984.

As Shri Chandra Shekhar has very correctly noted the militancy in Kashmir is taking a new turn in becoming communal. It did not rise in that fashion. The Kashmiri people were dissatisfied because of the policies pursued at the Centre by the Ruling party and gradually it took this kind of militancy. Now this is turning into a communal direction.

If we feel that the Sikh people are satisfied then by and large we are able to control militancy in Punjab. But will we succeed if the kind of question that is being raised even from the ranks of the ruling party from Punjab, which continues to be frustrating the entire people?

We, therefore, very strongly feel that the Government should take an attitude which must prove to the people that it is non-partisan and that narrow party interests will not be allowed to prevent it from taking all such actions which are necessary to convince even our minorities and the rest of the people.

I, therefore, agree with Shri Nitish Kumar's suggestion that these matters should not only be discussed here and a statement should be made, but also that the various leaders of the political parties should be called to discuss what should be done to punish these people who belong to the ruling party and to prevent the Kashmir situation from taking a communal turn. This is a must if we want to save the country and save it from disintegrating, in future.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : One of the perpetrators was apprehended, but he was made an M.P.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Rabi Ray and then Shri Lokanath Choudhury. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called the name of Shri Rabi Ray. Please have some patience.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first I would like to express my thanks to Shri Saifuddin Choudhury and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar for raising the issue of massacre of Sikhs in Delhi in the wake of Mrs. Indira Gandhi's assassination. Just now I was listening to Shri Paswan who narrated how his house was set ablaze that year. It appears to me that.

[English]

Parliament the Lok Sabha is being taken for a ride.

[Translation]

The public opinion not only in Delhi, but also in the entire country has been agitating from the very beginning on this issue. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs was very impatient to make a statement on Kashmir issue, but today he has been keeping silence over this issue. Shri Brar and other colleagues have raised this issue. The political aspect of the incident becomes more ghastly when the ruling party perpetrates this misdeed. Direct allegations have been levelled against the police department and politicians. It is in the interest of the ruling party to hold a discussion on such issues. The Verma and Jain Commissions reports should also be discussed in the House and the Government should at least make a statement tomorrow in this regard. This incident had taken place in the capital.

While addressing the nation from rampart of the Red Fort yesterday, the hon. Prime Minister stated in a firm voice about the religion. It is a very sad incident for the future of the country. Should our country and the entire House remain a silent spectator over such treatment meted out to our Sikh brethren? Should we not explore any possibility to resolve it?

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, you should also say something on it so that the Government may not take it lightly. All other issues should be set aside and this one should be considered as the main issue and a discussion should be held on it. So that something concrete may come out of the discussion in the House. It is in the interest of the ruling party and the country. Sikh community should also be given the impressions that the country has different attitude towards this incidents. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagat-singhpur) : Sir, the Government is confounding the issue. The Government has not taken any action against the police officials who were found to be guilty by not registering the cases against them.

Secondly the matter concerning the death of 3000 people is continuing for nine years. No doubt, there is a good situation today in Punjab. The Government should not take this for a ride. The Government should know that this problem will haunt the nation in the years to come. The behaviour of the Government so far

indicates that the Government is not serious on such an issue. It indicates that the Government has something different in its mind. The Government cannot escape it. The situation is limping now and further the situation in Punjab may also become worse. Therefore, Sir, as Shri Nirmal Chatterjee and Shri Nitish Kumar have said, this is a very sensitive issue and the Government should reply as to what they are going to do and an All Party Meeting should be called. Action should be taken against those officers who had not registered the cases. Special measures also should be taken, to dispose of the three thousand cases which are pending so that it would really help to protect the country's integrity and to check the divisive forces.

The Government should take this issue seriously and the hon. Minister, Shri Pilot, should react to the two requests that I have made now.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that the happenings in the 1984 were distressing to every responsible citizen of the country and it is a black spot on the history of India. I have travelled all over the country. Every individual irrespective of his community, points out this issue. People have started giving reference of this incident and they say that 1984 incidents should not be repeated at all. I agree to the feelings of the august House. It was bit delayed. We could not be able to present the facts about the action taken by the Government before the nation in a proper way. A committee was set up. Action has been taken in some cases, but we could not present it before the country properly and the country could not be able to have the full information about it. *(Interruptions)*

The voice was raised against it from every neck and corner. *(Interruptions)* It is our fault that it could not be completed. We could not reveal it before the country in detail as to what action was taken and what report was presented by the committee and what measures were taken by the Government. This information could not reach the people. I agree to the sentiments of the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to assure the House that the guilty persons who were involved in the incidents of 1984 would be punished severely without any consideration of party or their position in the Government. *(Interruptions)*

I cannot make a promise just now in this august House. We will give all the information to the House during the next session when it will be convened after one or one and a half months. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : The names of the hon. Members of Parliament as have been referred to by the Commission should be revealed in the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : As per my information, that report has not been presented in Lok Sabha. I would like to ask whether a copy of the report will be made available to us or not. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would like to know whether the Home Minister will extend the term of the Jain-Agarwal Committee, which expired on 31st July. They were doing a good job. I would like to know from the Home Minister why their term has not been extended. They have initiated action against those police officers and they were in the process of investigation. Why their term has not been extended ?

That is the point. I would request the hon. Minister to extend the time.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I have understood the point of the hon. Member. As I have said, the intention of the whole House seems to be that justice should be meted out to those people who have suffered and the people who are involved should be punished. That seems to be the intention of the whole Houses. It is very difficult for me to say whether the term can be extended. The legal thing I have got to check up as to what were the terms and conditions given to the Commission. But let me assure the House that nobody will be spared. We, in the Government, look everyone as equal. The hon. Members have charged that there could be somebody from the Congress or somebody from some other party. Let me assure the House that as far as law is concerned, law is above everybody and the Government will not spare anyone.

The second charge that the hon. Members made was that the hon. Prime Minister was the Home Minister at that time. I remember, I was a Member of Parliament. Now late Darbara Singh is not here. He was sitting with me in the

House. When we rang up Narasimha Rao Ji who was the Home Minister at that time, he said that every action had been initiated, army was called and the Area Commander was informed. If you recollect, Sir, late Rajiv Gandhi had also. . . *(Interruptions)*.

AN HON. MEMBER : The army was called after two days.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, the idea is not to go back to the history and find faults as to how it has happened; the idea is to punish those people. Let me assure the House that when we meet next time—not in this session; I cannot promise for this session—I will certainly come out with the action taken. This much assurance I can give to the House. Sir. . . *(Interruption)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has made it very clear that as per the law, they are going to take action. It is already one o'clock now. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : One point, Sir. The Mishra Commission has stated that the then Home Minister did not come out and went to a single place to condole the people. . . *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the Zero Hour is over. We shall take up the next item now. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : What about the Report, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. George, this cannot be a debate.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : We want a copy of the Report. Is this House going to be denied the Report?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Home Minister, would you like to place the Report on the Table of the House?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have stated that there are certain formalities. I have got to check up the legal part of the things. But I have assured the House that action will be taken against those people who are involved. About the Report, I will come back

to the House, when we meet in the next session.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we shall go to the next subject. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Sir, today's entire Zero Hour has been devoted to two issues—firstly Kashmir and secondly the 1984 happenings. Two issues specifically have arisen. In respect of which you can ask the Government. First is that we would like to have a copy of these Reports. The Minister has only said that he would take action and convey to this House in the next session what action has been taken, so that for this particular session the matter is over. We would like to have a copy of the Report in respect of the 1984 happenings.

So far as the Kashmir issue is concerned, we would like to know because the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, a couple of times, said that he has already written to the Chair—at what time is he going to make a statement in respect of the 14th August incident.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I have given in writing to the hon. Speaker but the hon. Speaker has desired that as there is a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget today, it could be discussed at that time. This is the hon. Speaker's ruling that there is a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget, so all these points could be brought out in that discussion. I have given him in writing for five o'clock but the hon. Speaker has given a ruling to me that it could be discussed during the debate on J&K Budget.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about the Report, Shri? *(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, they want to know whether you will be placing the report regarding 1984 incidents on the table of the House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I have said I have no hesitation in coming with a statement. But as the discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget is there, everything can be discussed. I will intervene. I have no hesitation. Hon. Speaker said so.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) :** We want the report on 1984 incidents.

**SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :** The Jain Committee report should be placed on the table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Mr. Minister, they want the report. Would you like to place the report on the table of the House?

**SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) :** Sir, why cannot it be laid on the table of the House?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** Sir, off-hand I cannot say what was the condition in which this committee was appointed. Let me see the details, check up that aspect. Then I can let the House know. Off-hand I cannot say anything. I cannot say it without going through it. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Thank you very much for your cooperation. We shall now take up Papers to be laid on the table of the House.

13.02 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*Notification under Major Port Trusts Act, 1963: memorandum of understanding between the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. and the Ministry of Surface Transport for 1993-94 etc.*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER**) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

(1) a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 :—

- (i) G.S.R. 392(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1993 approving the amendment to Tuticorin Port Trust (Licensing of Ship Repairing, Ship Chandling, Chipping and Painting and Miscellaneous Trades) Regulations, 1992.

- (ii) G.S.R. 476(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 1993 approving the Calcutta Port Trust (Licensing of Stevedores) First Amendment Regulations, 1993.

- (iii) G.S.R. 492(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th July 1993 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust (Transport, Handling and Storage of Dangerous Goods) Regulations, 1992

- (iv) G.S.R. 521(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd July 1993 approving the incorporation of a new clause No. 22B in the Bye-laws of the Calcutta Port Trust.

[*Placed in Library See No. LT-4305/93*]

2. A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Shipping Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Surface Transport for the year 1993-94.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4306/93*]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Surface Transport for the year 1993-94.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4307/93*]

3. (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 33 of the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950 read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 15th December, 1992 issued by the President in relation to the State of Madhya Pradesh.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Road [6 Transport Corporation for the year 1989-90.

4. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4308/93]

**Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Zinc Limited and the Ministry of Mines for 1993-94 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Zinc Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4309/93]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4310/93]

**Memorandum of Understanding between the Telecommunication Consultants India Ltd. and the Department of Telecommunications for 1993-94.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sukh Ram, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4311/93]

**Memorandum of Understanding between the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd. and the Ministry of Steel for 1993-94 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation

Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4312/93]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4313/93]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Kudremukh Iron ore Company Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See LT-4314/93]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4315/93]

**Notification under Passports Act, 1967**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Passport (amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 503(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1993 under sub-section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4316/93]

13.02½ hrs.

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA**

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Thursday, the 5th August 1993, adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Undertakings :

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the

Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one member from the Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Sunil Basu Ray who ceased to be a Member of the Rajya Sabha on his retirement and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri M.A. Baby, Member, Rajya Sabha has been duly elected to the said Committee.

13.02¾ hrs.

#### FINANCIAL COMMITTEES (1992-93)—A REVIEW

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Hindi and English versions of the "Financial Committees (1992-93)—A Review".

13.03 hrs.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)—1993-94

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): Sir, on behalf of Shri M.V. Chandrasekhar Murthy, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4304A/93]

13.03¼ hrs.

#### DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL)—1989-90

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): Sir, on behalf of Shri M.V. Chandrasekhar Murthy, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1989-90.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4304B/93]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shall we take up matters under rule 377?

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I have a point of order. On 13th August, when the List of Business was circulated to us, in addition to the ordinance and Bill on Oil and Natural Gas Commission, the Public Premises (Eviction) Act was shown to be discussed first and then the Supplementary Demands were to be taken up and then the Legal Services Bill was to be taken up. But in today's List of Business, the Public Premises Bill has been taken away. Suddenly we are required to start discussion on the Supplementary Demands. You can imagine the problem which we will be facing. Our speakers or speakers from various parties have to be briefed that they have to speak on the Supplementary Demands. Suddenly, if the order is changed, it becomes very difficult to coordinate.

So, I demand that such changes should not be made. Once you show it on the agenda, it should not be changed. If things are changed like that, who will take care of the Public Premises Bill? This Bill has been pending for the last two sessions. I demand that this should not be changed often. We come here and off-hand we are to discuss the Supplementary Demands. Supplementary Demands of five States are to be discussed. How it can come up suddenly?

You should take care of the feelings of the people who want to participate. The debate has

to be fruitful. Just starting it and talking something and going back is not the way how the debate is to be conducted. We take strong objection to this change.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I appreciate the hon. Member's point of view. But I think he is aware—and I think he was present in the House—when I placed the next week's Government business. I read it out and submissions were made on the statement made for the next week's business.

SHRI RAM NAIK: But the order is not to be changed.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: The order is made for every day. We have a situation where the Demands for Grants have to be cleared in this session. I do not say that that Bill is not important. I do agree with the important point mentioned by the hon. Member.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): The Session is not ending today that you are so curious about it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Are we going to have a cross-examination? Then, I will bring my files and give you a cross-examination.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is a Professor and you are an Advocate.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I am willing to be cross-examined if the hon. Member wants that. So far as the point of order is concerned, I would like to mention it is not a point of order, because there is no rule which says that what is listed on the previous day has to be carried over to the next day. But there is, as rightly pointed out by the hon. Member, a method of etiquette where the hon. members are informed in advance. But, this being a very important item, we brought it up. Definitely we will keep in mind what the hon. Member has said.

In future, whenever we bring up I will try and mention it to the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Alright: this is noted for future guidance. Now, we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

13.06 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

##### (i) Need to increase contingency funds for natural calamities for Orissa State.

[English]

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker. Sir, Orissa State situated on the eastern coast line of India, is hit by cyclones and severe floods every year owing to its geographical location. The permanent scars of damage caused to the coastal districts during the unprecedented cyclones and floods in the year 1990 are still prominently visible. Extensive damage has been caused to roads, bridges, dwelling units and cattle belonging to the coastal inhabitants of the State.

There is a standing provision of Rs. 47 crores per annum for natural calamities, from the Central Government for Orissa State. This amount is inadequate, owing to the above-mentioned reasons. Further, even the interior districts of Koraput, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Bolangir, etc. get affected badly, due to the high intensity of the cyclone and floods.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government that the contingency funds for natural calamities be increased from the existing Rs. 47 crores to Rs. 100 crores per annum for Orissa State forthwith.

##### (ii) Need to formulate new hydro project for production of more electricity in Himachal Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Himachal Pradesh has the capacity to produce 20 thousand megawatt hydro electricity. After conducting survey the State Government has informed the Central Government about it and the representatives have also told about the

electricity capacity of Himachal in the Seminars organised by the State Electricity Boards in different parts of the country. The loan being given by the World Bank can be helpful for these works which is being allocated for such schemes at present. The fact is, hydro electric projects are cheaper than thermal power projects and the coal stock of our country can be used for other purposes. In my opinion, the coal stock should be reserved so that the coming generations may take full advantage of this stock. The Central Government should implement more and more hydro electric schemes. It will be helpful for nation's development, and unemployed engineers and other educated men and women will get employment in these schemes.

I demand from the Central Government that among hilly areas, more schemes for electricity generation be prepared for Himachal Pradesh and 20 thousand megawatt electricity be generated after utilising total present resources. I have also to state that a large portion of Punjab was included in Himachal Pradesh but only 2.19 percent electricity was provided to Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, crores of rupees of State Government are due. I have also to state here that all those states which owe payment to Himachal Pradesh must pay it to the state so that the same may be utilized for electricity programmes.

**(iii) Need to halt mail trains at Naupada railway station, Andhra Pradesh.**

[English]

DR. VISWANATHAM K. NITHI (Srikulam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Naupada lies on broad gauge railway line between Madras and Calcutta. The travelling public of Naupada and its surrounding areas in Waltair division of South Eastern railways face a lot of problems. The only two fast mail trains used to stop at Naupada till 1976.

In the year 1976, the Railways introduced a system that tickets to the passengers travelling below 200 kms. would not be issued for the convenience of long distance passengers. This has resulted in the fall in revenue at Naupada station which is on the broad gauge double railway line between Madras and Calcutta. On this ground, the mail trains ceased to stop at Naupada causing a lot of hardship to the travelling public of this area. This being the station for the revenue Divisional headquarters,

a railway junction and an importance centre, it deserves due recognition. The Express trains halt at many other places of less importance. This action on the part of the Railways had resulted in a number of agitations like rail *roko*, hunger strikes etc.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to ensure that all the Mail trains halt at Naupada, immediately.

**(iv) Need to review the decision to supply inland letters with reduced size.**

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : The inland letters and postcards issued by the Postal Department are largely used for communication by the common man from the rural as well as urban parts of the country. The inland letter is preferred over post-card because it gives more writing space and also keeps the contents more confidential than the open post-card. The Ministry of Telecommunications have suddenly reduced the size of the inland letter and the quality of paper is also inferior as compared to the earlier inland letter. The writing space has been reduced from 24.5×18 cm. of the front page of old inland letter to 26.5×15 cms. of the new letter, and the back page writing space has been reduced from 11.6×18 cms. to 8.7×15 cms. The net effect is reduction of writing space from 660.60 sq. cms. to 528 sq. cms., i.e. 132.60 cms. which works out to 20%. This reduction of size is causing considerable inconvenience to the people and is also a back-door method of earning revenue without the approval of Parliament.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister for Communications to withdraw the new inland letters and supply them as per old size. For the people who have already purchased the new inland letters, the Government should refund the money at the rate of 15 paise per piece.

**(v) Need for construction of a overbridge at Damoh in Madhya Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to this very important issue under Rule 377.

An overbridge on railway line at Damoh Headquarters of Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh was sanctioned two years ago. In spite of this the construction of this overbridge is

being delayed. The traffic usually remains blocked at this railway crossing for several hours. Passengers are often harassed by anti-social elements. Such incidents are common at this place.

I, therefore, request the Central Government that an overbridge at Damoh should be constructed immediately.

**(vi) Need to introduce Air-India flights on Madras-USA segment.**

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode) : Sir, though there is considerable air traffic between the USA and Madras and *vice versa*, till date there is no Air India flight to feed this segment. Due to non-availability of direct flight of Air India in this sector, the inflow of NRIs and their investment in Madras, particularly in Tamil Nadu is affected considerably.

Further, those coming from the USA to Madras and *vice versa* have to change the flight either in Bombay or in Delhi and they are the worst sufferers due to different rules followed by Air India and the Indian Airlines. Last but not the least, the non-availability of Air India on this route has enabled other foreign airways operating in this segment to earn revenue.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to introduce Air India flights on the Madras-USA segment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.16 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SAFAI KARAMCHARIS BILL—contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House

shall now take up further consideration of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill. Out of the two hours time allotted for this Bill, 52 minutes are already over. I shall now call Shri K. D. Sultanpuri to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am standing here to support the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, which has been presented in this House.

So far as this country is concerned, since the time the Congress Party started the struggle for independence and thereafter, since 1947, the Congress Party has been making efforts to uplift the status of every class, especially the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes which still continues. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and this House for taking decision to set up a commission for safai karmacharis. It is very commendable step as this commission will bring out their problems and the whole country will come to now know their plight. It is also stated clearly in that Bill that the commission who will consider this report, will submit all copies of the report in the House. This is a praiseworthy step of the Government.

People might have different opinions. Many members have stated that nothing has been done by this party upto now. But I would like to tell them that there was time when one section of people did not like to see barbers in their villages and they used to say that they did not like to be shaven by them; they were not allowed even to get water from the wells of the villages. But today the situation is different in the villages. Which party has done all this? Even today there are some people who wish that persons of SC and ST and backward classes should be kept backward. But the decision taken by this Government is well known to you and the country. Our great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajivji and Sanjayji and all our other leaders have tried their best to bring them forward without any caste discrimination. I think that whatever allegations are levelled here, they are not correct. This is done to take political advantage. This is said by those who do not have any base in villages and in the bastis of

cities. These people always conspired against them to keep them backward and this is the cause why these people have not come forward. When Land Ceiling Act was passed in our vast country, at that time Shrimati Indira Gandhi had provided land to safai karamcharis on lease and made them owners of the land. But thereafter, such a Government came who did not implement it. Our Government is determined to do away with the backwardness of the poor and they should get equal status in the society. I think that this is the effort of this Government and they are going to take some major steps to bring them forward.

Yesterday, our leader Shri Narasimha Raoji had also said this thing during his speech. But I am sorry that the nation has not accepted the spirit of his statement in which he made it. Conspiracy is being hatched to defame him. If a clean person is defamed like this, it would be not good. A man who is trying to uplift the status of society, he should be blamed.

Instead of being called Safai Karamcharis the people of a particular section were addressed in a particular manner, which was regretted afterwards, but a lot of hue and cry was made on it. Whereas on the other hand, some political parties and individuals have remained engaged in their efforts to ensure their votes in the name of Harijans, minorities and weaker sections. My submission is that this act of theirs is not in the interest of the country and that the country cannot go ahead in this manner.

Today, a wide spread propaganda is being made of the temple issue: it is said that temple is a sacred place. But a particular section, who toils hard to build the temple has no right to enter it. I have seen many sacred places where the people of these classes do scavenging etc. but thereafter no Harijan or Adivasi can enter. These people always keep on indulging in hypocrisy and creating a wrong impression that they are the only persons capable to take the country ahead. I would like to submit that during the last few years there was a coalition Government comprising of various political parties, including Bhartiya Janata Party. Why did those people not bring this Bill at that time, and on what basis they are taking this step only now? If some facilities are being provided to the people of backward classes, the credit goes only to the Congress Party. It is the Congress Party which has brought this Bill in the House. I feel that the hon. Members should appreciate the measure, for, it is

a good step taken by the Government which should be appreciated by all. If at all the hon. Members find anything objectionable in the Government's policy they may raise objection but it is something below their dignity to engage in personal criticism. I fail to understand what type of feelings the hon. Members want to develop in the country and in what manner they want to take the country ahead?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the Government has made good provisions in this Bill. A seven members commission proposed to be set up will have the provision to include a woman member in it, and I consider it to be an praiseworthy measure. Our Cabinet has done a good job by giving representation to women in this commission. Many more good measures are proposed to be taken. The hon. Members do know that the Panchayati Raj Bill passed recently will enable the employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and their relatives living in rural areas to continue to live there and look after themselves, and thus there would be no violation of law. Now, they would contribute in the upliftment and development of the country and taking it ahead while living in rural areas. I do know that we are passing through a difficult period at present. When we got independence, our people had to face a lot of hardships, but today we are fully independent. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to education. Though the Government has decided to set up a commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I would also like the Government to make a provision under which the children of Safai Karamcharis may get free but best education. The Government should provide all the required finances in this regard. If they get free education, they would come forward to contribute in the national development, and this would strengthen the feeling of nationalism. We want our country to move ahead. We can come forward even in the field of education. The back-log with regard to jobs in whatever departments exists should be filled. I have observed that in all the nationalised banks, Safai Karamcharis are engaged on contract basis and are given a specific area to clean for which they are paid a fixed amount, such as Rs. 120/- or Rs. 200/- Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the Government that contract system should not be adopted for engaging Safai Karamcharis in the nationalised banks or Public Undertakings. The workers engaged there should be employed

on regular basis, so that they may get salary equal to other employees, but they are being exploited there. The Safai Karamcharis working in banks and Public Undertakings should be paid salary sufficient to look after their families. I would like the Government to take stringent measures in this regard and fill the backlog of vacancies meant for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and weaker sections.

Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, in the end I welcome the Bill for the Constitution of National Commission for Safai Karamchari and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I welcome the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis. Bill, 1993. Though the Hon. Prime Minister had made an announcement to this effect on 15th August, 1992, the Bill has been introduced now. In any case, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for presenting the same. However, I regret to say that even after 45 years of independence the Safai Karamcharis have not been recognised as human beings. I have closely watched their diabolical condition because I lived in their locality. While living amongst them I felt their pain and it is perhaps difficult to find such an example in any of the civilized societies. For instance, I witnessed them carrying night soil in leaking buckets, due to which they became victim of many dreaded diseases. Even today, about 6 lakh scavengers all over the country are engaged in this disgraceful work. Passing the Bill based on human values create an impression that we have reached the last halt of our journey. I am confident that by the end of this century, all the scavengers would be rehabilitated and trained to do other dignified jobs. Had Mahatma Gandhi been alive, this problem would have been solved much earlier.

Sir, we welcome the constitution of this commission. In this context it is praiseworthy that the commission is time bound, and it will have to accomplish the work entrusted to it within four years. I would like the Government to rehabilitate the Safai Karamcharis within this period. This commission is also expected to provide alternative employment to the Safai Karamcharis. I would like the hon. Minister to tell us clearly as to how this work is likely to be accomplished in the prevailing circumstances. It has been stated in objects and reasons of the Bill that the project will be implemented by the

State Governments or the Scheduled Castes Development Corporation set up by the State Governments. In this regard, it is not clear as to what will be relation between the National Commission and the State Governments? Has the Government taken measures to establish a coordination between the State Government and the National Commission? The hon. Minister should also clarify this.

Finally, I would like to put 2-3 demands and conclude. First of all, the Safai Karamcharis working in all the Municipalities and Municipal Corporations of the country should be regularly paid their monthly salaries. It is seen that these employees, working in the Municipalities are not paid their salaries for 15 months. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to take immediate action on this.

The Central Government should also take initiative about increasing the salaries of the Safai Karamcharis, so that people of other castes are also encouraged to do this work. This will help in ending the caste-discrimination in our society. The hon. Minister should give a clear reply in this regard.

In the matter of reservation people of this category are far more lagging behind than the other Scheduled Castes. The Central Government should, therefore, prepare a special scheme to educate these people so that they could also join the national mainstream.

SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak. When this Bill came in the Parliament, I went to a scavenger's colony in Patiala. There are two colonies consisting of five thousand houses. In 1946, when I was a Congress worker, I had visited that colonies. These are in the same condition today, as these were in 1946. What has the Congress Party done in the last 46 years? They have brought this Bill now. Through this, they are making permanent arrangements so that the Safai Karmacharis remain in the same condition and do not get any other work, 41 children, who have passed matric, were simply wandering in those slums. They were not given even a peon's job, not to speak of a clerk's job. Such a legislation would only be an eye wash. I would like to submit that in Punjab, the sweepers should be given employment first and only after that the general candidates should be recruited. Even the Parliament has about 100 Scheduled Caste Members.

What are they doing? Some seats in the Cabinet as well as in the Rajya Sabha should be reserved for this category. There are 35 Judges in the Punjab High Court, but none of them belongs to Scheduled Castes. There is not a single Scheduled Caste judge in any of the courts in the country. There are more than hundred Scheduled Caste lawyers in Punjab. Cannot those lawyers become judges? The people of this category should get reservation in Rajya Sabha, Council of Ministers, High Courts and in Public Service Commissions. The scavengers have no proper housing facilities in their colonies. The Government should provide houses to them. As many as 12 children live in a single room. A Commission has been constituted and Sardar Buta Singh will be made its chairman. That is enough. Now they will say that a Commission for scavengers has been constituted. I would like to tell the Congress Government here that it was the Scheduled Caste people who had voted the Congress Party to power in Punjab, but the State Government did nothing for them. They are still starving. No employment was provided to them. They are not complying with the directives given by the Centre. I, therefore, would like to tell the Government of Shri Narasimha Rao that this Commission has been constituted just for the name sake and four five rich and influential persons will be made its members. Efforts should be made to provide food and shelter to scavengers. They should be given priority in the government services. 45 years have passed and even after the next 45 years, the Congress Party will not elect a Scheduled Caste as the Prime Minister. Gandhiji had always said that the upliftment of Scheduled Caste was necessary. There have been only two Scheduled Caste leaders, namely, Shri Jagjivan Ram and Dr. Ambedkar, who have been known in the entire country. Sardar Buta Singh and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan talk a lot but I praise them. Which Prime Minister or Chief Minister has even tried to improve the lot of the SCs/STs. It is only being said that this much has been done and they will do this and that, but nothing is actually done.

I would like to point out to the Government that 46 years have already passed. We should now do something for them. With these words, I conclude.

**SHRI RAJ NARAIN (Basgaon) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after a long wait and after much pressure from the Opposition, the Government has brought forward the National

Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill and we support it.

The condition of Safai Karamcharis is not going to change just by moving or passing this Bill. The responsibility of the Government does not end here, but besides a clear-cut policy for their progress and the facilities to be provided, it should also have clear intentions. We do not doubt the intention of the Government, but there are some instances which strengthen this doubt. For example, the Government had assured in this House that the practice of carrying of night soil on head will be stopped, but nothing has yet been done in this regard. The Government had assured that the system of dry toilets will be done away with and arrangements would be made for providing other alternative to the Safai Karamcharis, to earn their livelihood, but that assurance has remained on paper only. Assurance was given about their rehabilitation and education of their children, but that also has remained on paper only. Even the persons recruited for collecting money at the 'Sulabh Shuchalayas' constructed at different States were not recruited from among the Safai Karamcharis, but were taken from other categories. I would request that these appointments should be made from among the Safai Karamcharis only.

Such instances raise doubt on the intentions of the Government. As per my understanding, there are only four means of progress, through which a person can prosper. First is agriculture; second is Government job; third is private enterprise job and the fourth is business. The number of Safai Karamcharis in comparison to other Scheduled Castes and other categories is much more.

Sir, a Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was constituted after independence, but what is its scope of work. Our Congress colleagues, who are expert in celebrating centenary years, will celebrate its Golden Jubilee after a few years. But even after these 46 years, the reservation quota for Scheduled Castes has not been completed in class I, II, III, IV, posts. A large number of Safai Karamcharis, who live in the villages, do not have the means of agriculture and neither they have been provided any such work. Recently, a scheme was prepared by the Government that to improve the economic condition of the people of weaker sections, Scheduled Castes and Safai Karamcharis, the vacant land in the villages will be distributed among them. Everyone

heard about it, but no one got any land. In some cases, several persons were given the same plot of land, which led to fighting among them. People had to spend their hard earned money in courts and police stations. They became poorer. Neither they have been provided any facilities for agriculture nor the means of agriculture are available there. There is no surplus land which can be distributed to them.

Now comes the question of Government job. Reservation facility was provided in it. We all are aware of the situation which occurred on 12th in this House. So, the reservation policy is not being implemented in the country properly, as the intentions of the Government are not clear in this regard. Some of the Members try to become the leaders of the Scheduled Castes, but they are not present here today, when the National Commission on Safai Karamcharis Bill has been moved. Their commitment towards the cause of Scheduled Castes and Safai Karamcharis can be assessed from this fact. Third is the private sector job, that is, working in private industries and in business. The Government provides aid to different firms, but even after 46 years of independence, no such arrangement has been made to provide reservation facility in this sector also. There is no such provision that the units, which do not fulfill the reservation quota, will not be given Government aid or the aid would be withheld. Until such a provision is made, the people of lower categories will not be able to get employment here. The fourth is self-employment. It is seen that the Government makes tall in this regard and says that it is providing loans. But this loan amount will not be more than Rs. 6000 and only half of the loan amount will be waived. Big businessmen are being given loans on only 4 per cent interest by the Khadi & Village Industries Department, but they declare themselves bankrupt and put the Government to loss. This Government and some political parties politicise the issues of Scheduled Castes and Safai Karmacharis and try to find out ways to solve them, but there are getting more complex. Why? The reasons behind this should be found.

So, a common man like me doubts the intentions of the Government that it enacts all such rules just for political gain and does not want to fulfill them actually. May be it enacts a rules in the morning and telephones the officials in the evening asking them not to implement that rule. That is why, rules are not properly implemented in our country. If a survey is conducted today regarding the loans given in the villages for

setting up business or other works, it will be found that the loan amount did not reach the poor in the villages, but its benefit was reaped by others. When I was a Block Pramukh 10 years ago, I had a survey conducted in one of the villages. Loans were granted in 36 cases in that village, out of them 18 were fake. By fake, I do not mean that the loan was taken for some other work, but was utilised for something else. A fake loan is that which is shown in the name of one person and is taken by some other person. This is the present order of the day in our country and this raises doubt on the intentions of the Government. I would request the Government to take solid measures for social, educational and economic upliftment of Safai Karamcharis, Scheduled Castes and weaker sections and they should be implemented properly so that they can join the mainstream of the country.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (KISHAN-GANJ) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish I could support this Bill wholeheartedly but I have a feeling that it is yet another knot in the chain of deceptions that the Government have been parading before the country.

There is a feeling that this is no more than a political gimmick. It appears to be a brilliant idea that there should be a National Commission for this particular category of people who are, among the lowliest of lowly and who are among the most depressed of the depressed and the most under-developed in our country and who perform a social task which is so essential and at the same time so much looked down upon our society.

Sir, I remember, at this moment, a fomulation by Lenin when he said that "Soviets plus electricity equals communism". In the same vein, Dr. Mukraaj Anand, in one of his novels, defines socialism as "Swaraj plus flush toilets". I do not recall the name of that novel but I distinctly recall this fomulation. But I find that this Government has created the National Commission on Women which is still dys-functional. It created a National Commission on Minorities, gave it a statutory authority and it took more than two years to reconstitute it. It has taken two-and-a-half years to create a National Commission on Backward Classes which has just been announced. I have not yet seen any Reports of the National Commission on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes being debated in this House. We had the Places of Worship (Special

Provisions) Act passed in 1991 in a great hurry and nothing has come out of it. We have, since 1981, a programme for the uplift of the minorities called the Prime Minister's 15-point Programme for the Welfare of the Minorities, a very high-sounding title. We, in this House, are yet to see and receive a Statement by the Government, over the last twelve years, of what has been achieved under this 15-point Programme of the Prime Minister.

You may recall that these very gentlemen blocked the implementation of the Mandal Commission Report which was submitted in 1979 and now we have finally been able to force the implementation thereof in 1993.

15.00 hrs.

And they are not desisting from creating more legal obstacles. I may recall yet another report, the Gopal Singh Panel Report constituted again in pursuance of an electoral promise, immediately after Mrs. Indira Gandhi came back to power in 1980. The report was submitted in 1983 and now we are in 1993 and we are yet to discuss that report in this House.

We have a statutory provision for the linguistic minorities, there exist the post of the Linguistic Commissioner for linguistic minorities. I do not recall the exact number, but I believe that for the last 14 or 15 years, the Annual Report has never been discussed in this House. Of course, we had the old Minorities Commission which went on submitting one Annual Report after another, one Special Report after another; and during its entire existence from 1978 to 1992, not one of its Annual Report was discussed in this House. Therefore if the Government today tells us that they are going to form yet another Commission for yet another afflicted section of our society and that they are sincere about it, I have got to take it with a pinch of salt.

The original Bill, as it stood, said that this Bill, this Act shall cease to have effect after the 31st day of March 1997, that is to say, not a permanent Commission but a temporary Commission was envisaged; and perhaps that was in the fitness of things, because after all this Commission was concerned with a particular profession or vocation. The national purpose was to abolish that vocation, to eliminate manual scavenging. Therefore, it was, absolutely in the fitness of things that the Commission envisaged should be temporary. But, now, the hon. Minister has moved an official amendment, which extends the definition of the term "Safai

Karamcharis" beyond persons engaged in or employed for manually carrying human excreta, to those engaged in any sanitation work. Now, if the definition has been extended, I think, it follows automatically that that concept of temporariness or transitoriness must also go. I would like the hon. Minister to kindly consider this aspect that this having extended the definition, he must also delete Section 1, sub-section 4 of the Bill. Otherwise, the two are in direct conflict and direct contradiction to each other. Therefore, the Government is not clear in its mind what sort of a Commission does it want, what shall be its actual purpose and for how long.

Coming to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, there are two reasons given here for the creation of this Commission. It says that there is no agency at the Central level to study, evaluate and monitor the scheme of liberation and rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis.

Now, I am amazed that 14 years ago, when Mahatma Gandhi's birth centenary was observed in this country, it was part of the national programme that to commemorate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, who tried to dignify the profession of manual scavenging by doing scavenging by his own hands in his Ashram, we said, we shall abolish this manual scavenging within a year. It is amazing for the Government to say that so far no agency of the Government, not the Ministry of Urban Development, not the Ministry of Rural Development, not the Ministry of Welfare in whatever shape it existed in the past, has ever bothered about the fate of the Safai Karamcharis or gone into the effectiveness of the implementation of the schemes provided by the Government. It is really amazing. Surely, there is enough authority with the Government; there is enough executive power vested in the Government. You do not require yet another advisory body; you do not need any further recommendations, you do not require information; you have enough experience; you have enough knowledge. What you lack is the political will and nothing but the political will. If you had the political will, then 14 years would not have lapsed after the birth centenary of Mahatma Gandhi for abolition of manual scavenging to be taken up in this country.

15.05 hrs.

[Shri Nitish Kumar in the Chair] 44 years would not have elapsed after the independence of the country for manual scavenging to have

been abolished. Therefore, this plea that there is no central agency for the purpose is not correct. I am sure every Government Department is absolutely competent to evaluate any scheme that it is supposed to implement. It does not require any additional machinery though sometimes it might like to have a second opinion. Therefore, again I would say, you are not clear in your mind whether you want an executive commission or you want a purely advisory body; whether you want an implementation agency or you want merely an agency which you should consult from time to time.

From what I read here in the Bill itself, its scope is extremely vague and shadowy. You have said, "it might recommend to the Government specific programmes of action." Again recommend. You have said "it might study and evaluate the implementation of the programmes and schemes which are being done by the Government." Again purely a study group. Then you say, "investigate specific grievances and take suo-moto notice of non implementation of various schemes. Well that is to say look into the grievances. Surely any Government Department can also look into such grievances.

Then finally you say, "make periodical report to the Government". It has got no executive authority at all. Then why do you bring in this idea of so many hundreds or crores in relation to this Commission. You are not giving any power to execute any scheme with the power for resource application. You are depriving it of all substance of power. You only want a shadow commission like all the other commissions that you have created. A shadow commission will not help to abolish scavenging from the country.

Sir, I would like to make a specific point. The liberation and rehabilitation of manual scavengers basically requires universal education. Why is it that most sons in our country follow the profession of their fathers? I am sorry to say that now many do even in the case of politicians, sons follow the profession of their fathers. Somebody told me a few days ago: in our country the son of a potter will remain a potter and the son of a king will become a king. Have you any objection to it?

But now we are now living in a democracy and a democracy is characterised by both vertical mobility and horizontal mobility. There is no bar on any citizen getting necessary educa-

tion, acquiring necessary skills, obtaining necessary training, to take himself away from the traditions, from the rut, of customary profession or vocation followed by his parents or his family and start a new life. That is the meaning of modernisation, that is the meaning of urbanisation, that is the meaning of development and that is the meaning of democracy.

Unfortunately, in our country we have failed to keep one promise we made to our children that we shall introduce within ten years of independence, sorry, within ten years of the promulgation of the Republic of India, free and compulsory primary education for all children upto the age of 14. Had we done that, you would not find any manual scavengers anywhere? But that you did not. Even today you are not prepared to do that. You do not have sufficient provisions for universal education of vocational training.

I am not against when I see my old scavenger. He has passed his prime. He will die as he has lived. But I am absolutely shocked and anguished when I see his little son coming with him and helping him in his job. That is disgusting, that is the disgrace. What are we doing for those children? What vocational training are we giving them? What education are we providing them? Therefore, Sir, what is needed is the political will to provide universal education and universal vocational training so that alternative openings are available for the lowest elements in our society. Alternative vocations and alternative skills should be provided so that children do not necessarily follow in the footsteps of their fathers, so that there is social mobility—vertical and horizontal.

Thirdly, we have to, along with skills, provide employment opportunities, we have to take special care of them. We have to apply measures in order to pick up a group of people, train them, educate them, give them a new vocation, give them training, give them skill and then give them a job. We have to provide jobs for them.

That is where implementation must come in. Therefore, merely having a Commission and merely debating a Commission's report will not do. For the Government, it is all right, if they want something as a political gimmick, if they want something as an advance manifesto for the election which is on their head, if they want to deceive the country and delude the masses as they have been doing all these years, all right, let

them get away with this piece of paper. I do not mind it. But if they really want to change the society, if they want to really bring some *parivartan* and a new *samaj* to be born in India, then they have got to pick up these people from the grassroots, from the bottom and give them a new life, a new hope and a new opening.

Coupled with it also, is a question I would like to put before the Government. I do not know on what they are going to spend these Rs. 905 crore. We have no details here. I wish the hon. Minister will tell us what he proposes to spend it on. But I do wish that a part of it will go into housing. The orbit of the schemes, Indira Aawas Yojana or the Ambedkar Aawas Yojana whatever it is, must be widened in order to give special treatment for these people whom you have been able to take out of the manual scavenging and give them a new job.

Therefore, to conclude, I look at this Bill this way. I do not see any reason really to oppose it. There is nothing to oppose in it. But I have my doubts. I am sceptic about its usefulness and I am really doubtful about the motive of the Government. Therefore, I would suggest that the hon. Minister must assure us with reference to the actual programmes that he envisages in respect of this Rs. 905 crore, on how he proposes to spend it, what are the major schemes that he has been able to introduce in the last two years and in what manner would he use the proposed Commission to monitor the progress of implementation, especially of the schemes, and whether he would be bound by the recommendations made by the Commission.

I would also like that at the very apex level the Government must have it that not only the Ministry of Welfare must act as the nodal Ministry, that it must, because no executive work can be done without pinpointing the responsibility—but it must also invalue all the other Ministries concerned like the Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Education and the Planning Commission. There must be a central committee in order that there is continuous interaction with these ministries and the Government do not face any difficulty, when they have schemes and really master political will to do something for changing the face of the lowest element of the society, the manual scavengers.

With these words I await what the Minister has to say, before I decide in what way to vote.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the national Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, 1993 has been introduced in the House. This Bill relates to a section of society which is the most backward from social, economic and cultural point of view. This section has been totally neglected in the society. In order to provide justice to them through a Commission, the Government has brought this Bill.

' It is worth noticing that how the Commissions have been set up by this Government so far and how their reports are lying in cold storage. Besides, it has also been observed that this type of political trick is played to dilute the resentment as and when it erupts among them. If this Commission has also been set up with the same intention and in the same manner, it is certain that it will also prove to be a futile exercise. I would like to submit that the aims and objects and reasons given in the Bill introduced by the Government to set up a Commission for scavengers says that the efforts made by the Government to improve their social and economic condition has not yielded desired results. The Government admits this fact. That is why they are going to set up this Commission for a limited period. The term of the Commission will be of 3 years. It will comprise a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, 5 members and one lady member. The Commission will submit its report both to the Centre and the State. It has not been indicated clearly that in what manner the State Government will use it and what would be the objectives of the Commission in this regard. I, therefore, request that the same may be clarified.

Secondly, in the definition, there should not be any discrimination on the basis of caste and religion in the matter of providing facilities to Safai Karamcharis. During Pandit Nehru's time, reservation was provided to a Hindu sweeper but a Muslim sweeper was deprived of it. Facilities of Scheduled Castes were provided to a Hindu washerman but not to a Muslim one. Therefore, it is requested that facilities should be provided at par without any discrimination.

Thirdly, it has been noticed that in the Banks persons are recruited in the name of scavengers who have nothing to do with scavenging and they rather deploy some other persons on contracts basis to carry out the job. In this connection, it should be clearly defined that only those

persons should be recruited for this job who come under this category. The Safai Karamcharis working in the towns, notified areas, Municipal Corporations do not get their salary for six to eight months. Their number should also be increased in proportion to the ever increasing population. A special scheme should be chalked out for providing proper residential facilities to them. Besides, the facility of reservation provided for their upliftment should not be provided in the matter of services only, but also in issuing licences and other professions as well. Apart from this, they should be given equal opportunities at every level for their economic development. Now, the Government has adopted the system of privatisation and free trade. The people who have been provided the facility of reservation so far, are not going to be benefited under the new system. Therefore, the Government should think of issuing them licences and providing other facilities to make them economically strong.

With regard to the Commission, I would like to say that the term of the Commission should be extended from 3 years to 5 years and members of the Commission should be appointed from those who are already engaged in this professions. With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (VIJAYAWADA)** : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you giving me the opportunity. I rise to support the Bill, for setting up of a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, on behalf of our party.

In fact, this is a long overdue Bill. The objectives of this Bill are quite laudable. My only fear is that unless the Government take concrete action, the objectives may not be fulfilled. We have our own example of the Dowry Prohibition Bill. In spite of the Bill, we come across several dowry deaths almost everyday in the Press because woman is not provided a right in the property of her father. That is one of the main reasons. Similarly, though the Government has got very good intention to do away with the manual scavenging by the end of the Eighth Five-Year Plan, unless the Government provide adequate funds, not only for the rehabilitation and uplift of the scavengers but also to improve the sanitation conditions in the urban areas as well as in the rural areas, this is not going to be really completely eradicated, though to some extent it may certainly help.

Among the functions of the Commission, I have not found two important components. Apart from the functions which are stated in the Bill, my suggestion is that this Commission should also assess the magnitude of the problem as it exists today in the cities, in the towns and in big villages and provide funds required to improve the sanitary conditions throughout the country. Coming from the rural area, you are quite aware that still in rural areas, not even two per cent of the population is enjoying this septic latrines facility. It is a matter of shame of find women folk going for call of nature of the public roads where so many men move about. They have no other alternative because they do not have enough financial capability to have septic latrines in their own homes. I am very sorry that the Government has not taken care of this problem. Though you want to do away with the dry latrines but unless you provide funds for construction of septic latrine, it is not going to help. I know you are providing some help from CAPART or some other agencies to some extent.

In reply to a question in Parliament you have stated that the Government intends to spend nearly Rs. 30 crores in the year 1993-94 under the Centrally sponsored rural sanitation programme. It will be very-very inadequate when compared with the problem that exists today. You are spending so much money for meeting the physical conditions in the urban areas especially in the cities. Although there are beautiful lighting arrangements, still you want to spend more money on the sodium vapour lamps so that even in the night times we may feel as if it is day time. But you do not have any care about the bare necessities of the rural women, especially the poor.

My suggestion to the Government is to kindly provide funds for meeting the sanitation conditions in the rural areas and in the towns. Just your saying that you will be doing away with manual scavenging will not hold good unless the house owner who is having that dry latrine facility—as the situation is today—is made to have the underground drainage facility or something like that. Then only it will be helpful to the people. My suggestion to the Government is to kindly take care of that particular aspect also. Then only your intentions can be achieved.

I am sure it is a right step in the right direction. With these words, I am happy to say that the Government will take the suggestions that

have been made by the hon. Members during the discussion and accept certain amendments to really take care of this problem which is very very long overdue.

[Translation]

**SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill is indeed a good Bill. In spite of a good policy, much depends upon the intention of the Government. We are apprehensive about the intention of the Government. The reason behind it is that the objects for which the commissions have been set up by the Congress Government so far, have never been properly implemented. Therefore, it is natural that we are apprehensive. The matter of surprise is that the man who performs the work of scavenging is considered a man of lower category whereas a man who spreads filth is considered a man of higher level. It is really surprising. I would like to state categorically that we will have to change this concept.

When Pt. Deen Dayalji and Dr. Lohia used to deliver speeches from a common stage. Pt. Deen Dayalji had said in 1967, that serving the poor is the real worship of God. In the same manner. Dr. Lohia had also said that the queen and the maid servant should get their education in the same school. I mean to say that Pt. Deen Dayalji and Dr. Lohia also used to advocate this philosophy. It was their firm conviction that serving the poor is the worship of God. Supporting their ideology, I would like to say that while endeavouring to provide several facilities to Safai Karamcharis, the Government will have to prepare itself for curtailing the amenities given to the upper class persons. Only then it can be proved that the Government has provided facilities to the Safai Karamcharis in the real sense. If our facilities are to be curtailed, I am ready for that and I know that all of my colleagues sitting on this side are also ready for that. I am aware that even today the Congressmen require more Safai Karamcharis for scavenging. On the one hand, the Government introduces Bill to provide facilities to Safai Karamcharis and on the other hand, they need more Safai Karamcharis for scavenging work. In this way, on seeing the difference between their policy and intention, it does not appear that the proposed Commission will be of any use.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, arrangements should be made in this Bill for proper education of their

children. They are considered of the lowest strata of society, but I do not consider them so. I consider them among the good people of the society. Bapuji once told that in order to maintain the unity in the society, people of the higher classes had performed sanitation work in the colonies of scavengers which helped in generating confidence among them and a feeling that the people belonging to upper classes also belong to their society. Today the hon. Members of either side, be it treasury benches or the opposition benches, would hardly be prepared to do so. For this purpose, we have to prepare ourselves mentally. They have to go to the villages to accomplish political task, to strengthen the unity and create confidence among the different people of our society. The people in villages are poor. Therefore, they perform sanitation work. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to state that in order to create confidence among them, the Commission have to do something. They are important part of our society. Therefore, confidence needs to be generated among them.

In the Bill it has been mentioned that financial assistance will be provided to them. They have been given financial assistance earlier also. But the aid is swallowed by the middlemen. In my constituency, I had recommended some cases to the financial institutions for providing assistance, but the middlemen have swallowed the funds. They are in pitiable condition. Therefore, there should be a proper procedure for penalising such people and it should be enforced strictly so that people belonging to upper classes may not grab the share of the people lower classes.

These Safai Karamcharis work in the municipalities and it has been mentioned in this Bill that financial assistance would be given to them. But it is also a fact that there are frequent strikes in municipalities. Why does it happen? They do so because they work throughout the month but they are not paid on time and adequately for their work. They are suffering from hunger and that is why they go on strike. On account of their strikes garbage is not removed from the cities and towns as a result of which garbage remain dumped and causes several diseases and take many lives.

I, therefore, would like to request the Government that while setting up the Commission, it should be ensured that the Safai Karamcharis in Municipal Corporation get their wages regularly and according to their labour. It

should not happen that the servant of an hon. Minister is getting Rs. 7000/- and a Safai Karamchari is getting Rs. 700 only.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, certain evil practices are prevalent in the society. In order to abolish such social evils some symposia will have to be organised. Such things cannot be abolished merely by providing funds and setting up of a commission. If they are to be associated with the society, they will have to be educated first. So long as the arrangement for the uniform education for rich and the poor is not made, there cannot be a social equality.

Foreign companies are coming to this country. They have completely taken hold of the cities. Now they think that if they enter the rural sector also, the entire country will come under their grip. Has the Government even thought over it as to whether they have formulated any scheme for the upliftment of the poor and down-trodden or not? You will be surprised to know that certain works relating to municipalities and corporations are also proposed to be done by the foreign companies. If such thing happens, the scavengers will become jobless. If they are rendered jobless, that would create a severe crisis in the country. The Multinational companies should be restricted not to enter atleast this sphere. The provision should be made in Bill that the foreign companies would not be allowed to enter the original work of the rural people. The Government is unable to drive out these foreign companies. We will accomplish this task when we will sit on that side.

With these works I would like to state that the Government is formulating good policy but it should also make its execution good. Then alone, the appointment of this Commission will prove to be useful.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (ALLAHABAD): I would like to welcome the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill and state that it is very distressing that even after 46 years of independence, a particular working class in our country is forced to lead life worse than that of animals and they are engaged in inhuman work like carrying nightsoils on their heads which is a blot on our society. We have made a lot of progress in other fields. We have conquered the sea and we claim to have reached in the space. We claim with great pride that we are citizens of free India. But on the other hand, our Safai Karamcharis are still carrying night-

soil on their heads in this age of scientific development. In return, the society and the Government do not provide two square meals to them. The Safai Karamcharis sweep our houses so that we may live in neat and clean houses. They clean the roads and dust so that we may have clean atmosphere outside our houses. But when these Safai Karamcharis go in search for a roof over their head, they get space for their huggis only beside a dirty drain, heaps of garbage, a cremation ground or a graveyard. It is the picture of independent India and misfortune of our Safai Karamcharis. The children of Safai Karamcharis are brought up in such dirty environment. The women carry their small children with them they also assist their mothers in carrying dirt on their heads. They grow up in such atmosphere. Such kind of manual work is being done even after 45 years of independence. It is nothing but a blot on our society. They are paid meagrely for their work. Thereafter, they are humiliated in the name of their caste. They are considered lower class citizens and are ignored. The Safai Karamchari, who earns his livelihood by carrying waste on his head and gets humiliated by the society, cannot feel even for a moment that he is also a citizen of free India. He is leading a life which is surrounded by dirty environment and worse than that of the life of animals. In such circumstances the Government has done 2 commendable work by introducing a Bill to set up a Commission for them but it should have been done much earlier. Had this Bill been introduced and the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis set up earlier, 2 lakh Safai Karamcharis out of 4 lakh would have been rehabilitated by now. However, "better late than never". Now the Government has decided to set up the Commission. Therefore, we welcome it. A time bound scheme has been brought by the Government which is an appreciable step. But I do not think that the work of this Commission could be completed in four years, because earlier also, so many Committees were set up for this purpose. The Malkani Committee was set up in 1964. It recommended that dry latrines should be converted into flush latrines. The families of Safai Karamcharis should be identified and arrangement for their rehabilitation be made. But nothing has so far been done in this direction. The practice of carrying night soil on head is still prevalent in the society.

It has been said that alternative employment would be provided to them. On the one hand the Government is banning recruitment in both Private and Public Sectors and it is reducing the

job opportunities, on the other hand, they are giving assurance to provide alternative employment for approximately 4 lakh Safai Karamcharis. It seems to be a castle in air. The work of liberation and rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis has become a political stunt for creating vote bank. Such illusive schemes are floated by the Government to win their favour. This is quite an impossible thing. It seems that the manner in which the scheme has been chalked out and time fixed by the Government, it could not be able to accomplish the work successfully. We are not very optimistic about the prospect of the scheme for which an amount of Rs. 464 crore has been allocated for Eighth Five Year Plan. If the Government has firm determination, strong political will and resolve to work in cooperation with all the people, it will certainly achieve success. But like other commissions if this commission is also politicised, it will not attain its objectives. For instance, the Women Commission was set up, but it has been completely politicised. The Mandal Commission was appointed and now it is also being politicised. Therefore, if something happens with this Commission, it would prove to be eye wash only and the Safai Karamcharis and their families will continue to suffer for ever. For this purpose, some revolutionary steps have to be taken and the social attitude will have to be changed.

Merely the constituting of a Commission is not enough. How can the Government provide financial assistance to them without checking the prevalent corruption in the Banks? During 1992-93, the Government had started a multifarious scheme for the rehabilitation of scavengers. Under this scheme 30,000 manual scavengers were to be rehabilitated and trained but when his scheme was reviewed, it was found that hardly 1678 persons out of 30,000 were rehabilitated. If the present scheme is also implemented in the same manner there will be no use of appointing the Commission. I, therefore, would like to suggest that if the Government has chalked out a time bound scheme for four year, it should first of all identify the families of the Safai Karamcharis and arrange for their training. I welcome the announcement made by the Government to give the status of Central University to Dr. Ambedkar University. But it should be implemented. I would like to say that one school is not enough to provide training to the Safai Karamcharis. The Government has to set up such training Centres on national level and proper education has to be provided to them for creating awareness among them. For this purpose, seminars

have to be organised. Besides, you will have to change your attitude. As just now our colleague Shri Virendraji has stated that in order to remove the difference between the rich and the poor, we all have to change our attitude. Only then our behaviour towards these brethren will change.

Today, we live in a neat and clean atmosphere but disregard those people who work for keeping the atmosphere clean. They clean our houses and cities but we disregard them. After a daylong work of cleaning the garbage and being humiliated by the society, they resort to drinking to forget their sorrows and humiliations. We have to check it. We have to embrace them. We have to create a new atmosphere. It is not that because we have been born in upper class, it is only our right to live in good houses but we have to provide houses also to those people who clean our houses. The assurance to provide alternative employment along will not serve the purpose. According to a survey, there are 53 lakh dry latrines and you have to bring a comprehensive scheme to convert these latrines into flush latrines. So long as the dry latrines are not converted into flush latrines, how can they be liberated. Besides alternative employment, arrangement for training of Safai Karamcharis has to be made in town area, notified area and rural area. Unless the contract system under which the Safai Karamcharis are exploited is abolished this Commission will remain on paper only and the endeavours made to bring a ray of hope for the Safai Karamcharis will go waste. I therefore, would like to urge the Government and suggest that along with providing alternative employment and training to them, the existing social conditions should also be changed. In addition to it, the prevalent corruption in the Banks have to be checked where the middlemen and other officials taking advantage of their illiteracy and ignorance swindle the Government aid meant for them. At the time of taking loan from Banks, the middlemen get the signature of the Safai Karamcharis on blank cheques or stamp papers. Subsequently, only when they receive demand for recovery or warrant for their loans they come to know that they have fallen victims of loans. Under such prevalent corruption, how can they be uplifted, how can they be brought at par with other citizens? I would like to know as to how you would like to make their upliftment of these people?

The Government has to remain more vigilant about the implementation of the scheme. Under Bhangi Mukti Yojana some caste Hindus and

affluent people have been benefited. Such complaints have been received from Allaiabad and certain such complaints have also been received by the Central Government. Therefore, I would like to request that a thorough inquiry should be conducted into such cases and stern action should be taken against them. If the society has to be changed, merely constituting commissions will not serve any purpose. So long as the Commission is not empowered with legal powers, the prevailing double standards of discriminating people on the basis of castes cannot be removed. These things should be given wide publicity and more and more people should be educated. Only then we can achieve success.

I once again would like to warn the Government that it should make its intention clear, strengthen its political will-power and rise above the party politics in its endeavour to liberate these people from such inhuman work. A practical scheme for alternative employment should be formulated. Then alone its objectives can be fulfilled.

**SHRI PREM CHAND RAM (Nawada) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, another Commission, the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis is going to be set up after the Mandal Commission and a discussion on Creamy Layer. One J.P.C. has been working on this which is also like a commission.

Sir, I would not like to talk about the intentions. Please see as to what is the situation after 45 to 46 years of independence. The Safai Karamcharis took out a procession in which the hon. Prime Minister participated. Shri Buta Singh is its President. There was a demand to make Buta Singh a Minister. It was difficult to make him a Minister. So, a commission was set up and Shri Buta Singh was appointed its Chairman.

In this way offices are created for a particular person. This is the system being followed here. Under this system food is not provided to producers. It is provided to people who do not produce. The person who spreads dirt is given a high position and the person who maintains cleanliness is let down. This is the system prevailing here. How can we expect justice where justice and equality do not prevail. How can we talk of policy and intentions. We cannot think of making such high aspirations.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, everybody says that it is a very neglected section of the society. It should be uplifted. This thing has been duly mentioned in this Bill in a most balanced and sweet language. It has been said that it was the sacred duty and dream of the Government of India but this dream was shattered several times. Then how can the scavengers be uplifted.

Last year, on 15th August, the hon. Prime Minister uttered the word 'Bhangi' from the rampart of the Red Fort but this time, on the same day he used the word Safai Karamchari for them. Please correct your language, whether you do something for them or not.

There is also a rush in the hell. The 'Brahmins' and 'Kshatriyas' have also started coming in this job because it is a question of bread and butter for them.

"Paye Apavan Thaur Mein Kanchun Saje Na Koi"

If gold falls in the gutter, pick it up. This has been the view of upper caste people. Since they get money in safai job they are performing it. It is now a question of bread and butter for them.

The Government has done a good job for them by bringing this Bill though we do not have any faith in this Bill. This Bill has come after an uproar created by the opposition. The whole credit goes to the opposition. The Government takes steps of national interest only when an uproar is created by the opposition. It takes steps just to sidetrack the issue.

I am proud that I belong to that community. I know as to what justice is being done to them and what is the intention of the Government. The hon. Minister of State is also sitting here. He also belongs to this community but he is associated with a system. He can only shed tears for that community but cannot give them anything. Unless this system is changed, nothing can be done. If they claim that they are definitely going to do something, that is not correct. A discussion is going on about the Commission for SC/ST people, but these people are deprived of the means of production. They do not have land and capital. Therefore, they are forced to sell their labour. They want to come forward by struggling, but they are prevented from doing so

that they may keep quiet. Once the 'Bhoodan Andolan' and Telangana movement were launched. That time Sant Vinoba Bhawe united the farmers who came out to agitate against the landlords. But not a single inch of land was given to them after the entire exercise. The people of the whole world will come to know after the introduction of this Bill that this Government is not going to fall in the grip of new economic policy and there can be no other Government which carry similar views. I am not happy to support this Bill. They are talking about 25 per cent reservation.

16.00 hrs.

If we add 27 per cent to it, as recommended by the Mandal Commission the total percentage of reservation will come to 52. Heaven is not going to fall if we made it fifty fifty. 7 hon. Members changed their floor and went that side but no one comes to this side. I cannot say how this system will change? Sir, I have a hope in you because you are a supporter of Mandal Commission. I hope that you will give me some more time. ....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You yourself said that you are going to conclude.

SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Should I take it that you are also tied with the system. If one of our 4 brothers is a policeman, he can eke out a living. But what will be the fate of others. If any one of them starts picking pockets, he will be called a pick pocket and the same brother will send him to jail. That is why I said that we can entertain some hope in you. The hon. Minister of Welfare is also tied with the system. He also comes from that community. There is no doubt that Keserji is a Welfare Minister and a supporter of backward classes. He has brought this Bill but he cannot work for economic equality of these people. We, the Members of Parliament, have been in service also but we cannot be compared with those, who have not been in service and keep servants. We welcome this Bill, because it is for the first time that he has spoken the truth but before this he never spoke the truth. I hope that you will try to improve the system. If you want to improve the system, then only you should think of making amendments in the Constitution, so that these people could associate themselves with production, get social justice and enjoy equal status in society. If you can associate them with production, they will

also earn money, receive education and build their own houses. Are they not citizens of this country? Will they beg alms to build their houses. If they do so then what is the duty of the Government. If this Government is of a particular class, then that class will be benefited. If this Government has vision of equality then it is its duty to provide the facility of involving them in production. They can also produce. They can also contribute in production of the country. Unless they are provided with means of production, this bill has no meaning.

Discrimination made against them on the economic front should be done away with. Cleaning dirt is a very important work but the people whose dirt they clean call it an unsocial work. But I know that it is a social work. I want that they should be well paid so that they can keep their moral high.

The Government has made a provision of Rs. 400 crores for this. I do not think that this amount is sufficient because the Municipal Corporation in this country is such a department which is filled with people from a particular class. Battle of reservation, promotion, demotion is going on in this department. This is the only department where the workers are from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A few of them, of course, come from minorities. Some people have joined this department on the basis of SC certificates. That is why I said that these people can do anything for the sake of money.

Mr. Chairman Sir, just now my colleague was saying that people who work among the poor are called 'Narayan'. He is 'Narayan' who sees God in man. Can a man see some other working in a difficult situation? Therefore, I submit that if we are human being we must have the feeling of a humanity, the feeling of equality, good conduct, and truthfulness. If we have these things we must have a clear intention. If one goes against this policy, he has no morals. They must be provided with houses and other basic amenities. We must ensure that their houses are kept clean who clean to others houses.

With these words I support this Bill. I hope that the work will be done as a matter of moral duty. With this I conclude.

[English]

SHRI YAJMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. The Bill proposes for the establishment of a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis.

Sir, I understand this there might not be any opposition for this Bill: and so, it will be passed by this House. I am not going to go into the depth of the Bill. I would like to appreciate the determination of the Government to take up the cause of the oppressed and the most exploited section of the people, whom we call the 'safai karamcharis'. I only want to appreciate the determination taken by the prime Minister. He announced on the 15th of August last and also yesterday—the 15th of August—that the Government is determined to take up the cause of them. From that, we now understand that the Government is very much determined to take up the cause of the section of the people whom we call the 'safai karamcharis'.

Sir, I recall that Mahatma Gandhiji was approached by a reporter and that reporter put a question to Mahatmaji.

He asked: after independence, whom will you suggest to be the President of India under the new Constitution? Gandhiji replied that he would prefer to make a Harijan girl to be the President. The reply was very simple. It carries a high spirit and also a determination towards uplifting the cause of the Harijans. But we have to regret that we have not been doing for the last more than 40 years for these people though Gandhiji, the father of the nation, stood for their cause. That is our regret.

But still the Government is now prepared to take up their cause. It has come up with this Bill. So, I appreciate it very much for the stand taken by the Government. I would like to extend whatever we have for the fulfilment of the determination of the Government. I hope, with all the support of this House, the Government will be able to take up the cause quickly, instantly and with all strength. We could have sacrificed certain programmes meant for the promotion of our comforts and luxuries in favour of taking up the cause of these oppressed and exploited sections of people of the nation.

Although the amount mentioned here for the Eighth Five Year Plan is not adequate, I would

like to suggest that we can slash down from some other programmes so that the amount required for taking up the programmes for Safai Karamcharis can be taken up more promptly and satisfactorily. Imagine in my State of Manipur when the British were there. They engaged a certain section of the people to cleanse or to carry the night-soil over their heads and throw it away in a far-off place. That section of the people still work.

There are certain cities or towns where the latest scientific septic latrines or you call it by some other name—I do not know—have not been constructed. Those municipalities, who failed to provide funds for constructing them, are still being managed by these people for cleansing and also for carrying the night-soil even over their heads. Can you imagine? They are your sisters and brothers. They are your people. So, it has been a stigma on the social fabric of the nation. So, we have to take up instantly the programmes for liberating them. To liberate them, we have to provide for funds. We have to think for their rehabilitation. We shall have to sacrifice many things for their cause.

So, Sir, there should be liberation from scavenging. We have to agree to the proposals made by the Government through this Bill but I am not personally so much interested in discussing about the term of the Commission, about numbers and strength. We can improve on it but what we are more concerned about is the spirit and determination of the Government in taking up programmes instantly, actively and effectively for the cause of these people whom we call as brothers and sisters.

What I have been expressing in Manipuri language is this. I have said that India is a casteless society, a nation where there is no classification of society by way of professions and earnings. With these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support and welcome the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill that has been introduced by the hon. Minister in the House keeping into consideration the interest of Safai Karamcharis. I, however, doubt whether the provisions of the Bill would be implemented in letter and spirit. The hon.

Minister showed much concern for the cause of Safai Karamcharis while he was introducing the Bill whereas I hold that it was merely an eye-wash and an act of deception. Even after 46 years of independence, Safai Karamcharis are facing oppression due to the wrong policies of the Government, due to the rampant corruption in administration as also due to social evils. They are being oppressed everywhere. All the Prime Ministers who have held office so far, talked of abolishing scavenging practice being carried out by Safai Karamcharis, but it remained on paper only and nothing could be done substantially. If someone has to be accused for corruption in administration and for the evils in the society, it is the Congress Party only because it did not really do anything except expressing its concern about that time to time. They only expressed their concern and did not do anything in 46 years of independence to abolish the scavenging practice. There has been Congress rule in the country during all these 46 years except for a short period in between. Moreover, the Congress Governments have spread caste discrimination in the name of minority and majority classes as also in the name of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes during all these 46 years. None else than the Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh has made some remarkable efforts to abolish the scavenging practice in order to remove the aforesaid discrimination. It was only the Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh whose people associated themselves with the people of oppressed classes and dined with them and provided educational facilities to their children by opening schools in their localities. The whole credit goes to the R.S.S. The Government have, however, not paid any attention to their problems.

I would like to submit that this Bill has been introduced in pursuance of the announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister on 15th August last year from the rampart of the Red Fort. He has assured to set up a National Commission. When Safai Karamcharis came to know that a Bill in that regard was not being introduced, they threatened to block the way of the hon. Prime Minister if the said Bill was not introduced by 15th August. That is why the present Bill has been introduced before 15th August. I would like to say that if the Government had been honest about its concern expressed for Safai Karamcharis, the Congress Ministers would have refrained from moving

into luxurious air conditioned cars and would have come to their rescue.

The plight of village scavengers is miserable. Their wives come out for scavenging while their husbands take wine to forget everything. There was a good progress wherever Rashtriya Swamsevak Sangh opened schools while the Congress Party restricted its progress in statistics made on papers. All the documentary statistics being displayed by the Congress Party are a mere show of politics of votes.

Even today, inspectors are exploiting the Safai Karamcharis of Narela, Najafgarh and in the areas of South Delhi. The complaint regarding their exploitation has also been brought to the notice of authorities of Central Vigilance Department as also to the Deputy Labour Commissioner. He however, showed his total unawareness in this regard. An assurance was given to provide them with tea stalls in Janmagar, Silampur and New Silampur areas of Delhi but the said grant was not provided to them even after they already having left the job of scavenging. They have, therefore, resumed the scavenging practice once again.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that the failures of the Government are due to its wrong policies. The figures regarding the conversion of dry latrines into flush latrines do not also seem to be correct. According to the survey of 1979, there were more than 6 lakhs safai karamcharis. Their number throughout the country has been shown to be 4 lakhs 999 thousands, but this figure is wrong and their number is far more than that.

If the amount of Rs. 464 crore as has been provided in the 8th Five Year Plan is utilised properly, then I would welcome this Bill. I would further like to offer a few suggestions in this regard. First, good schools should be opened in jhuggi clusters to provide educational facilities for the children of slum dwellers. Moreover, our leaders should go there and should live and dine with them so that they may feel that they are also a part of this society. That will bring a sense of equality among them and they will be awakened. It has just now been said that the scavenging work in the latrines of the Railways and jails would be carried out by those people only. I would, however, say that they should not be asked to

do scavenging work in the Railways. They should be provided some alternative employments and also housing facilities. Latrines should be constructed both in towns and villages so that they may be liberated of their present job.

In the last, I would like to express my strong support in favour of this Bill. Nevertheless, I would conclude by adding that there should be proper utilisation of the funds. That alone can ensure their welfare.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, you all have already spoken for more than scheduled one hour. There are 5-6 more members to speak. I would therefore suggest you to be brief in submission.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to express my gratitude for providing me an opportunity to speak on such an important Bill. The Government has brought a Bill which is meant for the upliftment and economic development of the most oppressed and exploited section of the society. Though belated, at least wisdom has prevailed upon the Government of India and it decided to do something for the poor of the country, to whom I consider Dalits who are in this profession and are considered as second class citizens. I welcome this Bill and express my gratitude towards the Government for waking up after 46 years sleep and for thinking about the welfare of the poor and Dalits who are doing the cleaning job.

I was Councillor of a Municipal Corporation for about 8 years and was also Deputy Mayor of the city. I have closely watched their day to day affairs. Mostly, all the members of a family work as Safai Karamcharis but economically they are very weak. After working for the whole day, when they retire to their houses, they cannot provide their children proper food, clothes and basic education. This is a great mockery that the Government till date did not pay any attention towards the welfare of this section.

16.29 hrs.

*[Shri Peter G. Marbaniang in the Chair]*

Had the Government genuinely felt about it then, there would have been a lot of upliftment of the Safai Karamcharis of the country and

they would have made better progress in their life style as well as in their mental level. But nothing was done in this regard. The Government continued to frame policy after policy and shed crocodile tears but did nothing concrete. So, even after 46 years, the pitious condition of Safai Karamcharis is evident before the country. After doing tedious job through out the month, when he goes to get his salary, the middleman takes away all his salary and he returns to his house empty handed. Although, all members of his family do this cleaning job but even then he has to take loan. For this purpose he has to go to the money lenders who charge exorbitant rate of interest from them. All these circumstances make him mentally ill. Therefore, there is an urgent need to improve their mental status by providing them education. Unless they are provided with the education, their present condition will remain as it is. They work for the entire day but even then they are unable to get sufficient earning to pull on their life. We all should rise above this feeling and work for their welfare. Then only we can change their plight. We want that we should be known as Social Workers or political workers. If we want to change their life, then we will have to forget our differences and work for their welfare. We can improve their economic condition but to improve their lot, it is very essential to improve their mental level for which they require good education. For this purpose, we need to take some revolutionary steps.

At present most of them live in J.J. Colonies and a number of them even do not have a hut to live in. They make a hut anywhere and their all family members live in it. There are thousands of people in our country who do not have a house to live in. Even after 45-46 years of independence the Safai Karamcharis do not have a house of their own.

When we were not independent, the freedom fighters had a dream to make a country where every citizen would get a house to live in, clothes to wear and food to eat but we have not been able to fulfil their dream. In order to improve their life, we have to provide them with good housing facilities.

The Bihar Government has taken many revolutionary steps. The Government of Bihar has constructed multi-storied flats for the Safai Karamcharis, who earlier used to live in filthy places. They would not have even thought

that they could ever live in multi-storeyed flats but the Bihar Government fulfilled their dream of owning a house by rapidly constructing houses in the best available localities in the city. The rulers and the Ministers should think as to how the upliftment of Safai Karamcharis can be done. They should think about providing them education facilities because without education they cannot make any progress. Today, you are thinking about their upliftment. Why did you not think about it 45 years ago. I wish to inform you that houses are being constructed in Bihar for the people living in inhuman conditions. Education facility is also being given to them and educated persons from that community are being appointed as teachers to look after their interests.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit that this Bill brought by the Congress is a well planned step taken on the occasion of 46th anniversary of our independence. But people of India are well aware about the tactics of Congress Party as well as the Congress Government. The Government has lost the people's confidence. Now the people have seen through the Congress tactics. They are tired of the shedding of crocodile tears by the Congress on the problems of the people. By bringing this Bill, they are talking about the upliftment of the poor but in fact they are hoodwinking the people. The people sitting in the power should have thought much earlier as to how the social and economic upliftment of Safai Karamcharis could be done. Though belated even then I welcome this Bill but want to submit that it should not remain on paper only as they have been making a lot of rules earlier also but have not given any practical shape to them. That is why the people of this country are suffering.

I think, the idea with which you have brought this Bill for the social and economic welfare of poor and Safai Karamcharis will take a material shape and you will try to achieve these goals. With these words, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak. I would like to request all the Members of the other side to think about it with a cool mind and keeping aside their differences with the Members of the Opposition parties, they should take a revolutionary step in collaboration with the opposition parties to give Safai Karamcharis a new lease of life.

[English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi) : Mr.

Chairman, Sir, first of all let me compliment our Government for bringing in this Bill.

It is first the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi, who identified this problem. It is Mahatma Gandhi who made this problem as a part of freedom struggle of our country. It is Mahatma Gandhi who taught all of us the dignity of labour. It is Mahatma Gandhi who had a fight with Kasturba on this issue. And it is then, the people of this country realised how great this problem is.

In Karnataka, in early 1970, we were able to abolish the problem of carrying night-soil over the head. It was under Shrimati Indira Gandhi's time, with her blessings, in Karnataka Shri Basavalingappa, who is no more now, brought in this Bill and we are grateful to him. It was under Shri Devraj Urs's Chief Ministership, in early 1970, we were able to abolish the problem of carrying night-soil.

Sir, it is not enough that we bring in a Bill to abolish carrying night-soil. We have to educate the children of these people, who are mostly Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It has something to do with poverty. Unless we open more and more residential schools and give them education, along with that vocational training, we will not be able to overcome this problem. So, it is not a question of merely establishing a Commission. It is a question of finding an alternative employment to these people, through education, through vocational training.

Sir, we are committed to give land to this section of people. If we are able to give sufficient land to these Karamcharis, then they will be able to go in for agriculture and become prosperous also. So, my request to the Minister and to the Government is that out of whatever surplus land is available or even at the cost of acquiring private land, give land to these people.

Sir, Safai Karamcharis in large numbers are concentrated in urban areas. Many of them are living in the Government quarters. And after their retirement, they are thrown out and they have no roof over their head. I urge upon both the Central Government and the State Governments—the major role has to be played by the State Governments—that during the

period of their service itself, these people should be able to get their own houses.

I do not want to take any more time of the House. I compliment our Government for bringing in this Bill.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV** (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a number of issues have already been raised and I would not like to go deep into them. The matter raised today is a very serious social problem. We remain engaged in delivering long speeches only and make allegations against the Government and the Congress Party; but what is the truth? Not to talk of scavengers who carry night soil on their heads, even the domestic servants are given humiliating treatment by their employees. Do we ever take tea together with the scavengers employed to clean the Government quarters of MPs? It is very easy to deliver lectures and condemn the Government. Unless we change our attitude nothing concrete can take place. It is a social problem. Everyone will have to think over it and bring about a change in our attitude. The Government proposes to abolish the system of carrying night soil on the head....

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (**SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM**): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order. I think we have exceeded the time allotted for this Bill and we have not extended the time. Normally, when the time allotted, which was accepted by the House for discussion of a Bill, is exceeded, we allot the exceeded amount of time. I think we have not done that. I think it is by about an hour that we have exceed. Therefore, I would request, firstly, that we should obtain the feeling of the House on how much of time should be extended.

*[Translation]*

*[English]*

**SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV** (Saharasa): It should be extended by one hour more.

**SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM**: I want your ruling, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN**: I think let him finish.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV**: It is difficult to provide the facility of safety latrines in the country. An alternative arrangement in the form of Sulabh Shauchalayas was made in Bihar and this system does not require much water. If such a facility is provided at large scale in rural areas at Government expense, the current system can be improved, but without finding an alternative system, it would be difficult to abolish this system. Thereafter the question of rehabilitation would arise. In that situation the allocated funds would be inadequate and some measures will have to be taken for the social upliftment. The Government should make a provision to give priority in jobs to those non-scanvengers who marry the children of scavengers. If an initiative to this effect is taken at All India level, it would help in eradicating untouchability. As a matter of fact, there is no reservation in jobs, however scanvengers should be given preference and arrangements for their education and rehabilitation should be made. With these words I conclude.

**SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM**: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to repeat again. We originally had two hours allotted for this Bill. We have already consumed three hours and twenty minutes on this Bill. So, already an hour and twenty minutes we have to extend for this Bill. I would suggest that within ten minutes if the Members have to make specific points, they can make and then the hon. Minister may be called to reply. Therefore, an hour and forty minutes extension is called for.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV**: As the Minister of State of parliamentary Affairs has already suggested to conclude the debate in just 10 minutes, my opinion is that as the Members of all political parties have not been able to participate in the discussion, they should not be deprived of taking part in it. Therefore, the

time should be extended by one hour, so that the hon. Minister may also give his reply and the Bill be passed.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I think I should clarify the position. Sir, the position is that we have already crossed more than one hour and 20 minutes extra over the allotted time. It is without the permission of the House. We should have taken the permission of the House. That was my point of order. Otherwise there is no purpose in allotting the time.

I would, therefore, request that considering the other business—I am not saying that this is not an important Bill and I do understand the feelings of the hon. Members—I request that we should cooperate and complete the Bill quickly. That is my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have crossed one hour and 20 minutes of extended time. We now have five more speakers. They may take some 20 minutes. Do I have the sense of the House that we extend the time till all the five speakers complete and then the hon. Minister replies to the debate ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, I think your proposal is acceptable. The only thing is we should fix the time upto 5.15 p.m. for the speakers to complete and then reply may start. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : The National Commission for Safai Karamchari Bill is a very important Bill. Very few Members are left who have to speak. they should not be deprived of doing so.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : They are not being deprived of. The Chair has directed that five Members may speak and thereafter the hon. Minister would give the reply.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is extended

upto 5.15 P.M. for the speakers to complete their points quickly. I now call Shri Suryanarayan Yadav to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heartly welcome the Bill with regard to Safai Karamcharis introduced by the Minister of Welfare. I am grateful to him also. As per the prevailing situation in the country, Safai Karamcharis are in most diplorable condition. Our colleague Shri Ram Kripalji was speaking. he expressed his heartiest feelings before the House. Perhaps, while speaking, he might have deviated a little from the topic but the problem is how to improve the diplorable conditions of the Safai Karamcharis. I do not feel that the system can be changed only with the passing of Bill, introduced in the House unless we remove the basic hurdles in the way.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in order to solve the problems of the scavengers; priority should be given to solve the housing problem of a large number of them residing in urban areas. It is true that we have failed to abolish the system of carrying night soil on the head but some concrete work has been done in this direction. Just now the hon. members proposed to provide the facility of 'Sulabh Shauchalayas' because if this facility is made available at large scale in urban and rural areas, the problem would be solved automatically. The hon. Minister will have to think seriously to solve this problem.

At the same time as long as the financial condition of scavengers is not strengthened, their problems cannot be solved. Unless provision is made to fulfill the basic necessities of their children and also to educate them and provide employment to them, merely enacting laws would be of no use. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should formulate a scheme to improve their diplorable condition. The Government does not lack funds. The only thing which is required is to develop a healthy outlook and the day when the Government pays attention towards it, the problem would be solved.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Bill and request you to please include my suggestions in it. I am thankful to you for the time you gave to speak.

**SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Vikram-gang):** Mr. Chairman. Sir, the Government have made an effort to remove the stigma on the country by introducing National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill.

I would like to say that as has been apprehended during the course of discussion held on this Bill, I fear that after passing the Bill, it will remain in the list of Bills pending implementation. Such mentality has been inspired by the politics of attracting votes.

The Government have provided Rs. 905 crores and have given the number of Safai Karamcharis as five lakh. This amount is not enough. I would request the Government to increase it to Rs. 1200 crores. The Government should make arrangements to provide free education to the children of Safai Karamcharis upto the college level, to provide shelter and make bank loans available at simple rates to ensure economic development. The Government should conduct a survey in respect of people who carry night soil on their heads and chalk out schemes to do away with this practice.

17.00 hrs.

All the old urinals should be converted into 'Sulabh Shauchalayas'. I urge upon the Government to provide free medication, shelter and free education to their children upto the college level and this amount be increased from Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 1200 crores. I conclude by thanking you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

17.04 hrs.

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

*Incident of Killing of Bus Passengers in Kishtwar,  
District Doda, Jammu and Kashmir on  
14 August, 1993*

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):** Mr. Chairman. Sir, I regret to inform this august House that in an

unfortunate incident, which took place in Kishtwar, District Doda, Jammu & Kashmir, on 14th August 1993, 16 persons lost their lives. These persons, alongwith other passengers, were travelling in a bus which left Kishtwar for Jammu at 6 A.M. on 14th August 1993. After travelling 7 Kms. from Kishtwar, the bus was intercepted by three masked terrorists and the driver was forced to take the bus towards a link road for Sarthal. The bus was taken near a nallah about one kilometre from the main road. The terrorists made the passengers get down and asked the women and children to stand on one side and segregated the rest of the passengers on communal basis. 16 persons of one community were fired upon by the militants in cold blood with AK-56 rifles. The other passengers were ordered by them to run away. Some of them managed to reach the main road from where they boarded a bus and returned to Kishtwar and informed the Police and para Military Forces. The security forces, led by a Commandant of BSF, proceeded to the spot immediately alongwith contingents from the Army and the J&K Police. On reaching the spot, they found 14 persons dead and 2 injured. The injured persons were immediately shifted to Kishtwar, where one of them succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. The other injured person was air lifted to Jammu. He also expired in the hospital in Jammu. The deceased included the driver and the conductor of the ill fated bus. Amongst those killed, three belonged to Udhampur, four to Jammu and eight to Kishtwar and surrounding areas. One person is yet to be identified.

The security forces are making all possible efforts to apprehend the militants and combing operations have been launched in the thick jungles in the areas of Sarthal, into which the militants are suspected to have escaped. The Inspector General of Police and Divisional Commissioner, Jammu visited Kishtwar and Doda to review the security and other arrangements. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has announced ex-gratia relief of rupees one lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased persons.

As a precautionary measure, curfew was imposed in Kishtwar and Bhandarwah. The district authorities in all districts of the Jammu Region have been alerted and asked to maintain the utmost vigilance to prevent untoward

incidents. The DIG BSF, DIG Doda and Deputy Commissioner Doda are camping at Kishtwar to supervise the operations by the security forces. The State Government is maintaining a close watch over the situation.

On 15th August, some miscreants intercepted a truck and roughed up two persons of the other community at Udhampur. An attempt was also made to set a truck on fire but the situation was controlled through timely intervention by the Police. In Chinani, in Doda District, some miscreants pelted stones on a few trucks carrying fruits and damaged their glass panes, following the cremation of some of the deceased persons.

In the recent months continued efforts have been made by the militants to spread violence to the Jammu region in general and Doda District in particular. Their aim is not only to divert the attention of security forces from Kashmir Valley, where they have been under great pressure for the last few months, but to also communalise the situation. The dastardly and cowardly act of cold blooded killing of innocent passengers of one community on 14th August exposes the designs of the terrorists and their supporters across the border. This act needs to be unequivocally condemned.

I would like to assure the House that we are alive to the situation and are determined to frustrate the designs of the terrorists and those who are supporting them. We have already augmented the presence of the security forces in Doda District and will further strengthen the force levels, as necessary, to effectively deal with the terrorists in the area. At this juncture, I would like to appeal, through this House, to all citizens of the State to exercise restraint, and refrain from doing anything that would help to further the blatant and nefarious designs of the terrorists. I also appeal to all members of this august House to support the ongoing effort of the State Government so that peace can be maintained inspite of the attempt of the terrorists and their mentors across the border to unleash communal violence in the State.

#### NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SAFAI KARAMCHARIS BILL—Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBRAT MUKHERJEE (Raiganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on

this Bill. Much discussion has been held on National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, yet I would like to say a few things. Whenever a furore is created in the House on some matter, the Government announces the formation of a Commission to escape the arraignment: though the Bills introduced are not according to the requirements.

We have been told about the Safai Karamcharis here. I won't repeat whatever has already been said on it. The time is limited, so I am only putting the specific points before you. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they are going to make arrangements only for those four lakh Safai Karamcharis mentioned in the Bill or do they propose to consider all those people who are engaged in the sanitation work in the country?

Secondly, what type of alternative work has been considered for Safai Karamcharis? Because according to your new economic policy, you are going to remove these people from their work. I would like to have a clear answer as to how are you going to make arrangements to induct the 4 lakh Safai Karamcharis in the country in new jobs. I am hopeful that hon. Minister would provide information to the House in clear terms.

Thirdly, as you have mentioned in this Bill, the State Governments would be responsible for implementing the recommendations of the Commission and to make it successful. I would like to know as to what would be the relation, the economic relation, between the Commission and the State Governments and the Central Government. Nothing has been mentioned in this Bill in this respect. I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister, through you, to give clear replies to the points I have raised. I conclude with these words and thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI RAMASHIRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to repeat anything that has been said in respect of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, 1993 on which discussion has been going on. I welcome the Bill introduced by the Government. First of all, I would like to ask as to why did the Government not do anything about this problem earlier, for, this problem has been raised time and again for years. I am of the view that the Government would not have reacted even today and introduced this Bill in the House if a demand had not been made

to provide social justice under Mandal Commission and much hue and cry not been raised in all parts of the country.

The demands have been raised time and again before the Government and many a time these have resulted in agitations when these were not fulfilled. The Government have accepted this fact in the objects and reasons of the Bill that our social system is a blot on our society.

How a system is formed? This system was formed the day our caste-system came into being. One class was created to serve the other class. It all happened due to this caste system. They did not have any political pull, either in Lok Sabha or in Legislative assemblies. The people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were provided many facilities because they had political representatives. If the Safai Karamcharis has also had their political representatives, then, this Bill would have been introduced 10 years back, which might have completely eliminated this problem from our society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, once I had gone to Calcutta where I stayed with a friend. As we had to go somewhere, my friend brought a 'tonga', a 'Baggi' which was being pulled by a man. I refused to sit in it. These days even the system of carrying brides and bridegrooms has been dispensed within villages. And, here a man is carrying a man in cities.

Sir, I am afraid whether this work can be done in the prevalent financial crisis. However, crores of rupees are being spent in cities. So, can we not cut this amount and accomplish this task? It is good that the Government has introduced this Bill. It should be enforced in either and spirit and the slur on the face of the country should be removed. By implementing it, the nation should be made to believe that this evil will be eliminated.

**SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, even after 46 years of independence our brethren are in difficulty. The Government has introduced a Bill relating to them. The previous speakers here have rightly stated in their speeches that it should be brought properly. We should make our mentality such that the condition of these poor brethren may improve. As the practice of carrying night-soil on head is prohibited both in cities and villages. Sometime they are provided

alternative jobs but other persons take their place and they have to come back to the same job of carrying night soil on their heads. Thus, they are being harassed in every manner. I, therefore, would like to state that they should be assigned work at appropriate places.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, new researches are being made. Some research should be made to provide them such means of livelihood that they may lead their life with honour. Such modern lavatories should be constructed in the villages as do not require their services. I live in Ahmedabad city. There is a big colony of Valmikis. But there is no arrangement of Safai Karamcharis for sanitation and it remains very dirty. They are not provided even brooms at their place of their work. They have to arrange for brooms on their own.

Now the stage has reached where it is said that if they are willing to do the job, they should bring brooms on their own. Other employees are provided with the means but they are provided neither any broom nor the uniform. Their condition is becoming worse day by day.

I would like to summarise in one sentence only, that we will have to develop intimacy with them. They will have to be treated as our younger brothers and we should provide them maximum help to improve their lot.

**SHRI GEROGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is very difficult for me to support this Bill because through this Bill an attempt has been made not only to mislead the entire country, but also that class of the society which is downtrodden and which has been the victim of the system of this country for thousands of years. This is my allegation against the Government.

Please go through its Financial Memorandum. It has been so stated in its Financial Memorandum as if the Government is going to do a great deal of work for the welfare of Safai Karamcharis by spending Rs. 50 lakh a year. I do agree that the Government has certainly stated in its Objects and Reasons that the total expenditure including the allocated Budget amount and the amount to be taken from Banks and State Governments will be to the tune of Rs. 905 crore in a period of five years. Out of 5 years, two years have already passed and the Government is still talking of this Five Year Plan. You are arranging Rs. 50 lakh only to accomplish this task. It means that Rs. 4 lakhs will be spent

every month on this commission. The Government have set up a 7 member Commission. It seems to me that the intention of the Government is to provide motor car with a flag and red light and a bungalow from the public exchequer to seven political persons. If there are seven members in the commission, the provision of Rs. 58 thousand will have to be made monthly. This will include expenditure for their house-rent, expenditure on telephone bills, electricity bills, motors, their own salary and that of their drivers and Personal Assistants. Thus, the total expenditure on every member will be to the tune of Rs. 58 thousand per month. By broadcasting of performing such a big task the Government is, on the one hand, befooling this august House, and on the other hand, they are befooling that class of society which has been suppressed and exploited for thousands of years. That is why I have stated that it is painful for me to support this Bill.

Moreover, I would like to point out some other things also, such as—they are entrusted with the task of recommending finances and powers of the Commission to the Central Government. Does the Central Government not have any machinery in the Ministry together information regarding the present condition of Safai Karamcharis? We are ready to get this work done by our party without any commission. Please save this amount of Rs. 50 lakh.

I have spent 40 years of my life among Safai Karamcharis. If the Government intends to improve their lot and wants to ensure social justice and dignity to them, it can only be done when we first arrange for their livelihood.

Let me tell you that in a country like America, there is no caste system and there is no scope of entrusting the scavenging work to a particular class. In America the Safai Karamcharis, the sanitation staff in the planes get their salary one and a half times more than a clerk. This should be the first and foremost task of the Government. If the Government dare and has such outlook, it should uplift the exploited people first. We have done it in our practical life. That is why, I am submitting it both in anger and pain.

[English]

Study and evaluate the implementation of the programmes and schemes relating to socioeconomic rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis.

[Translation]

There is already Ministry of Planning Programme Implementation and a Minister is in charge of this Ministry. What is he doing? The Government has introduced this Bill in the Parliament just to use Rs. 50 lakhs for other purposes. Why are you befooling us? Therefore, the Government is requested to withdraw this Bill here itself. This Bill should be brought only after having deliberations with the leaders of the House. The Safai Karamcharis belong to that class of the society, who has been suppressed for thousands of years. Please do not play trick with them like this. That is what I want to request.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we also support this bill but half heartedly. Some Members have already spoken on this Bill. I would like to start expressing my views as per my own experiences. Once I went to attend a meeting in a town. When I reached there, all the Safai Karamcharis stood up. They told me to sit on the chair. When I also told them to sit beside me on the chairs, they told me that they could not sit beside me because they do most undignified work such as carrying night soil on their heads, cleaning drains etc. and carrying dead animals. That is why they are not able to sit beside me. I was shocked to learn this. I told them that there are doctors who are Brahmins, Kayastha, Muslims, Christians working as Pathologists. They examine stool, urine and sputum but they are not called 'Bhangis'. A lot of amount is spent on them by the country to make them doctors and they go to foreign countries for higher studies. No job is therefore, small. There is no use of enacting laws only for the upliftment of these people. It is very essential to improve their economic and social conditions. Besides, there is a need to make them socially conscious.

Retrenchment of Labour is going on due to anti-people policies of the Government and it will also adversely affect the Safai Karamcharis. You should implement the reservation policy and provide land to the poor, make arrangements for irrigation for them. It will improve their economic condition. In this way their social condition will automatically be changed.

Many of our Ministers belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Brahmin and other caste Hindus are working in their houses as cooks etc. I would like to submit here that such arrangements should be made as these

people may be able to get respect in the society alongwith the improvement in their economic condition.

**SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari):** Sir, I would like to say that the intention of the Government in bringing this Bill is not clear. They are afraid of election as well as agitation which can be launched at any time by this class of people. Shri George has rightly said that this Bill has been brought to fulfil the vested interests of certain leaders. Moreover, this Bill is not a complete Bill and the objective of this Bill is not going to be fulfilled. So I would like to ask the hon. Minister the *per capita* amount to be spent on each of the Safai Karamcharis out of the fund or grant announced by the Government for the rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis and agricultural labourers and the welfare activities which can be launched with this fund.

My second point is that in Champaran district, from where Mahatma Gandhi had started Satyagrah movement long ago, the amount being paid to the Safai Karamcharis in the Municipalities of Motihari is very less. Moreover, they do not get work in time. They do not get work for years together. Apart from from it, money lenders also exploit them. This is my own experience. I know that you wanted to give them central subsidy. State Governments are also there to provide benefits to Safai Karamcharis. State Governments, Local Self Governments, Town Area Committees, Municipalities are the bodies through which the assistance is provided to the Safai Karamcharis. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what will be the way for providing central assistance to the Safai Karamcharis, so that they may be able to get this assistance directly.

The hon. Minister has mentioned about alternative employment. Shri George has very rightly commented on the meagre amount of assistance which the Government has allocated for them. How many people will be benefited with this amount? What is your plan for alternative employment for Safai Karamcharis? I know the reality of the Government policies. At present, the Government is trying to find out the alternative arrangement for retrenching the Safai Karamcharis. Alternative employment plan is merely an eyewash and to console the people. You kindly make it clear as to what will be your alternative planning. You know about their living conditions. I think, perhaps you

might have seen the living condition of poor labourers in cities, they live in Jhuggis and at least 7-8 persons of a family live in one Jhuggi only. They live like animals. What steps you have taken for their housing, education, improving their economic condition and increasing their wages? And my colleague has rightly pointed out that the people belonging to this category who can understand their problems should be given representation in the Commission. Lastly I would like to mention that if this "Bhangi Mukti Plan" is actually for the welfare of Safai Karamcharis, it should be launched in every district, town and village.

In the end, I would like to draw your attention that you would have seen with your own experience that these people have been freed from this work in those cities where the arrangements for 'Sulabh Sauchalays' have been made. In this context, I would like to know whether there is any scheme to provide Sulabh Sauchalayas in all the districts, towns and villages so that the Safai Karamcharis may be relieved of this inhuman work.

Lastly, I would like to say that the attention should not be given only to 'Bhangis and Mehtars' but also to all the Safai Karamcharis. Hence, a comprehensive Bill should be brought giving attention to all the Safai Karamcharis. Otherwise, no real benefit can be provided to these categories of people, despite the Government's good intention.

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely happy; and thank all the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion on the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill; and I am also extremely thankful to them for the valuable suggestions made by them.

Sir, in my introductory speech, I made it very clear about the intention of the Bill and the need for bringing in this Bill at this moment, that is to remove the stigma in the society, particularly with regard to the Safai Karamcharis. As I have already said, as per the survey conducted by the Planning Commission in the year 1989, about four lakh Safai Karamcharis were identified and also as per the request made by the Welfare Ministry, the various State Governments are also in the process of

identifying the Safai Karamcharis in the respective States. According to the available reports, today, about seven lakh Safai Karamcharis are in the country who are manually handling the human excreta. Hon. Prime Minister, Shri P V Narasimha Raoji, in his last Independence Day speech on the 15th August, has made it very clear that it is a national shame that persons are engaged in this unclean activity and we cannot tolerate it any more; we cannot allow them to continue in this fashion. That is why, we have decided, our Government has decided to bring them out of this social malady.

Sir, I would like to mention that in the election manifesto in 1991, our late lamented leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi has made it very clear and I quote from the pages of the election manifesto of the Congress party:

"The scavenging will be eradicated in the next five years and the affected people effectively rehabilitated."

On that basis, the beloved Prime Minister said in his last Independence Day speech; and also yesterday he again reiterated the importance of this Bill and its being passed in this august House. Many hon. Members have made valuable contributions. While making them, they made some references about the functioning, allocation of funds and also about its implications. As we said, in the Eighth Five-Year Plan, we will eradicate this menace by providing about Rs. 905 crore from the Government of India side. While allocating the funds in the last year, we have already released an amount of Rs. 111.23 crore to the various State Governments for the purpose of identifying and providing rehabilitation programme. Many State Governments are in progress. I must happily say that the reports received from the State Governments are very much encouraging. They are really doing a good job in this section.

I do not want to deal with the various aspects of the Bill because it has already been made very clear in my speech. Many Members have also dealt with it very-very effectively. Particularly about the financial pattern, they asked; how are we going to implement this scheme? This has two sections. One is training programme and the other is the rehabilitation part. These are the major avenues for rehabilitating about four lakh scavengers who are handling the human excreta. The Welfare Ministry at the Centre is allocating funds to the State Governments through the State-level SC-ST Financial Deve-

lopment Corporation. The SC-ST Financial Development Corporation is directly in charge of this programme in conjunction with the Urban Development Ministry in the respective State.

We have given very clear directions to the State Governments that a time-bound programme has to be worked out. On the basis of that, they have to take the scavengers and give them viable means and training according to the local needs.

There are two or three schemes which have been worked out by the State Governments. For instance, they give training according to the local needs. One is self-employment. The second is community living. The training programme and the rehabilitation system differ from State to State because every State is not having similar problems. Self-employment is one of the main criteria. For the training programme, we have earmarked Rs. 105 crore and for rehabilitation programme we have earmarked about Rs. 800 crore. The total amount will be Rs. 905 crore out of which the Centre's subsidy part is Rs. 400 crore. The amount of margin money loans to the State Corporations, that is SC-ST Development Corporations, will be Rs. 58 crore.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): I want an assurance from the Minister that nobody will be rendered jobless.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: First, let me complete the financial part. The hon. Member raised a pertinent question. In the Eighth Plan, two years are already over.

And what we are going to do in the remaining years and whether we will be able to complete it or not. We have already allocated about Rs. 111 crores for this programme and the balance of Rs. 783 crores will be allocated in the course of the coming years. In 1992-93, we have allocated Rs. 60.73 crores and in 1993-94, we have provided Rs. 73.20 crores. Everyone of us know that this menace has to go. I am happy that the whole house has accepted it and has not only given valuable suggestions but also its support to this Bill. This itself is a welcome measure. We should not think party-wise or Government-wise while implementing this great task. This is not an easy task because we all know that this has been continuing for the last thousands of years. This inhuman act should go away and that is why, we have taken these corrective steps.

I am grateful to Mr. George Fernandes for giving his idea. I must say that he is a forerunner in this direction. Mr. Basavalingappa, the then Congress Minister in Karnataka, a prominent social reformer, has taken up this issue. And Indiraji, when she was the Congress President, had approved this programme and it is with her blessings, we have been able to start this programme in the past. Except Karnataka, no other State tried to implement or complete this programme since 1971 onwards. From 1981-90, we have tried a number of times: the Central Government requested many State Governments to do away with this evil menace but it was not possible for us to do away with this evil menace. At this juncture, we have taken up this programme not only on humanitarian grounds but also because, in social life, this should not continue. That is why, as we have mentioned in our election manifesto and under the directions of our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and following his footsteps, our Prime Minister Mr. Narasimha Rao has taken up this gigantic task last year and we are on the job now. With great respect I must say that Mr. George Fernandes said that this is a gimmick and that we are fooling the people and all that. He is not present at the moment. As usual, he tried to fool people and went away. We are not here to do that job; we really want to do good to the people who are needy. This is our custom and we will continue to do it.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH** (Sheohar): Will the Government announce a cut-off date in this regard in the memory of our late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi?

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: I am happy to reply to your question. As we have mentioned, before the Eighth Plan period, this menace will be completely eradicated by this Government. This is our commitment. We are working on that direction and almost all the State Governments, irrespective of political affiliations, are also cooperating with us which I must confess.

**SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA** (Pali): You have been talking about it since 1950!

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: Sir, at the moment, there are three States, viz. Karnataka, Pondicherry and Gujarat which have totally abolished scavenging activity in their States.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RATILAL VARMA**: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is objectionable because hon. Minister has just mentioned about Gujarat. Today, in Gujarat in the cities as well as in the villages, the number of scavengers, who carry night soil on their heads is quite large. You should give necessary directives to the Government of Gujarat.

[*English*]

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: Recently, a meeting was held in Delhi. The Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare has informed that these three States have done this work. If there is any factual error, I am subject to correction. I will certainly come to the House and give you information.

**SHRI ANIL BASU** (Arambagh): What is the expenditure incurred on this?

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: We have allocated funds to each State. There are many States where this work is going on. That is why I mentioned it. If anything else is there, I will certainly come to the House and inform accordingly. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. CHAIRMAN** (SHRI PETER G. MARBANLANG): Please address the Chair. Then, everything will move smoothly.

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: In this direction, there are three categories of district groups.

**SHRI ANIL BASU**: If a new scheme is coming up now and if certain States have already implemented the scheme, the House should be kept informed of the developments that took place in those States.

17.46 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU**: I mentioned these aspects on the basis of the reports of the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of the Government of Gujarat. If anything is to be corrected, as already mentioned, I will certainly do so. I will come to the House and inform you. There is no problem.

Some of our friends, Shri Shahabuddin in particular, mentioned that the Government is

appointing a number of Commissions and the those Commissions are not functioning properly. The very intention of appointing a Commission is to see that there is proper correlation between the Centre and the States. The need of the hour is effective monitoring mechanism. Our past experience shows that we were not able to fulfil our targets mainly due to the lack of correlation. That is why we have come before this House with a Bill to have a full-fledged Commission which is empowered to monitor the work and also go round the country and see the implementation programme and plug loopholes wherever lacunae are found. That is the main intention of this Bill. Hon. Members need not imagine any other things about this Bill. Just for the sake of opposition and politics, our friends in Opposition should not indulge in arguments. I assure you that this Commission will certainly work. One of the hon. Member has mentioned that Shri Buta Singh is spearheading the movement in favour of the Commission, only because he wants to become its Chairman. Shri Buta Singh is spearheading this cause because of his commitment to do away this evil menace from our society. One should not attribute motives and ridicule those persons who are fighting for a cause.

Sir, I would also like to mention certain other important points. Shri Shahabuddin has mentioned about the backward Classes Commission, Minorities Commission, SC/ST Commission and so on. Though it does not fall within the ambit of this Bill, I would like to reply to his criticism. As he has referred to the delay in the work of these Commissions, I would like to assure him that this Government, under the leadership of Shri Narasimha Rao, has no intention of delaying anything from its side.

Whatever delay is there, it is not due to the Congress party. I must say that the Prime Minister's announcement with regard to the Backward Classes Commission of Minorities Commission should not be ridiculed. The Government's real intention is to help the minorities and this was our only intention in making that announcement. The backward classes are a big force for us and that is why we wanted to help them. It is the well known policy of Congress to help the backward classes and Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes and keeping that in view yesterday the Prime Minister made this announcement. We are not delaying in any way the implementation of the Mandal Commission's Report. After the Supreme Court's judgement, our Government has

been sincerely attempting to do away with all the irritants and we are doing everything on the basis of that judgement.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: The report of Mandal Commission and the judgement of Supreme Court have come. Implemented them.

[English]

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: We are on the job.

Another very important scheme, as I mentioned, is that of conversion of dry latrines into water borne latrines. We have implemented this scheme in a number of States and the result has been quite satisfactory. Members wanted to know whether we have made some provision with regard to this. I would like to say that the Ministry of Urban Development has been engaged in this constructive job of converting dry latrines into water borne latrines. The Ministry of Urban Development and the Welfare Ministry both are in conjunction with each other and we are on the job. The Urban Development Ministry is making efforts to see that almost all the municipalities in the towns get this facility before the end of 8th Plan so that we can abolish the scavenging system and rehabilitate the scavengers.

DR. ASIM BALA (NABADWIP): I would like to know whether you have any specific plan of action because most of the scavenging work is done by ladies and if you abolish this system they will be rendered unemployed. They must be given a job guarantee. Otherwise it is not useful.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: They will be rehabilitated fully. They are being given proper training.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (HOWRAH): You please state, what is the specific action plan? Crores of unemployed youths are already there. The scavenging work is done mostly by ladies. If you are going to abolish this system you will render a lot of lady workers jobless. So, unless and until you provide them with an alternative job, it will not work.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I may tell you that they are being given full training and

during their training they are also paid some allowances. After this training they will be self-employed. The community development programmes are being worked out by various State Governments. You need not worry about their employment. I assure the House that their livelihood will be protected. The State Governments also have to cooperate in this regard and I seek your cooperation for this. The State Governments are doing their best.

Shri Parshuram Gangwar has pointed out certain defects in the implementation of the scheme in the nearby areas of Seelampur, Welcome Colony and some other areas of Delhi.

Sir, I will request the hon. Member to give me in writing or let me know specifically where it is happening. We will take up this matter with the concerned authorities and we will see that this kind of anomaly never occurs in future also. I can give that much assurance to the hon. Shri Gangwar. *(Interruptions)*

Many hon. Members have mentioned that housing facility should be provided to the Safai Karamcharis immediately. I would say that we are in that direction. Already 20,000 houses, in and around Delhi, have been given to these scavengers' family from 1989 onwards viz. ever since this scheme was approved.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Sir, I would like to challenge the statement of the hon. Minister, for the D.D.A. has not yet constructed this much number of houses. Then, how this much number of houses could be allotted to scavengers' families. To my knowledge, the D.D.A. has constructed a total of 5 thousand houses only.

*[English]*

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I said the same thing. Our target is 20,000 houses to be constructed and given to scavengers in Delhi itself. We are moving towards this direction. From 1989 onwards, the work is going on.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Please tell us this much as to who provided houses to scavengers out of the total 20,000 houses.

*[English]*

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: I said, the total number of houses to be constructed is 20,000. It is a continuous process. It is going on.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Since 1989, how many houses have been constructed in Delhi? You have a plan to construct 20,000 houses.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I must say that it is in different stages, in different areas and according to the plan. It is a continuous process. We are committed to the people.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They are already in the process of constructing those houses.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Another scheme under which we have provided homes to the Safai Karamcharis is Indira Awas Yojna.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): How many houses have been constructed in Delhi and in other States since 1989?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I had already mentioned that in and around Delhi 20,000 houses.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members wanted to know your target and by what time, you will be able to achieve your target?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: It is an on-going project.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It may be an on-going project, but you must give us the figures. You collect the figures and inform us.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I will certainly convey it to the hon. Member.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How many have been allotted?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I will inform the hon. Members.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Not even a single house has been constructed and allotted to them in last four years. I have got the proof that the Government collected money from 32,000 people, but not even a single person could be provided a house. 32,000 applications were received in toto since 1989 and money was collected from those applicants, but no house has been allotted to anyone in last four years.

[English]

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: As I said, it is under construction. It is a continuous process. I will let you know the correct details.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: No house has so far been allotted to any one. The money that was collected from them has been deposited in fixed deposit. You may get it confirmed whether the money was put in fixed deposit or not? I have got the proof to substantiate the fact that the money has been put in fixed deposit.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is a very serious allegation. The money which has been allotted for the construction of houses, that money has been deposited in a Fixed Deposit Account. It is a very serious allegation. You must look into it. You must inquire into it.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: I will look into the complaints of the hon. Member and if he gives in writing, I will take necessary steps and see that if anybody is erring, he will be taken to task.

18.00 hrs

Another important factor in this is that we have asked the State Governments to coordinate this programme with the HUDCO and the Indira Vikas Yojana. Houses are being provided to the scavengers. This is a specific programme for them for which we have asked the State Governments to coordinate.

Last year, we had requested the State Governments to use Special Central Assistance Funds also to build houses for the Safai

Karamcharis specifically. So, we have asked the State Governments to do this and they are also at it.

Shri George Fernandes was telling that there is a provision for only Rs. 50 lakh in this Bill. With this small provision, how can we implement it. He is not understanding it properly. It is only for the maintenance of the Commission.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: How long will you sit late?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was decided in the Business Advisory Committee that the House would sit late. Then it was brought to the notice of the House also.

[Interruption]

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have been raising this issue for the last 4 years. (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: (Jharkhandpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not in favour of extending the sitting of the House upto 7 o'clock. We want that the sitting of the House should be extended till this Bill is passed ..... (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): There are a number of Bills pending which we have to pass. At least, the House should sit late upto 7 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Many hon. Members want to participate.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Let us sit till the Bill is passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the Business Advisory Committee, it was decided that the House would sit late upto 7 p.m. Every hon. Member cannot participate in the debate unless the time taken by each Member is five minutes or four minutes.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARJA :** The House should be extended till the Bill is passed.

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU :** I was making a mention about Mr. George Fernandes. He was telling that Rs. 50 lakh provided in the Bill is not sufficient. This money is meant for the administrative expenses; this is not the money which is going to be used for the training programme of Safai Karamcharis. This has to be kept in mind by the hon. Members. As I said, the persons who are engaged in the manual handling of human excreta, in this area, about four lakh people will be brought out of this menace totally within the time frame of the Eighth Plan. Apart from this, I have brought an amendment to this stating that the other persons who are engaged in other walks of life in the society are also to be considered for which the Government has been thinking; and we are willing to go ahead with the new programmes. After that, the necessary infrastructure will be built up by this Commission. The Commission will go ahead with that programme.

With regard to the money, money will not be a problem. The Government is willing to provide any amount of money for the welfare of this section; and we will do our best to see that this section of the people will be benefited.

Through this Bill, I appeal to all the hon. Members, irrespective of party affiliation to cooperate with the Government; their cooperation is very much needed because this menace has to go without any hindrance.

I personally appeal to the hon. Members that, in their respective States, in their respective areas, to see that about this menace people are properly educated and sold for early eradication of this menace.

With these words, I request the hon. Members to pass this Bill unanimously.

**SHRI SWARUP UPADHYAY (JESPUR) :** Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister in respect of this Bill what would be the relation between the Centre and the States.

**SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU :** I have already mentioned about the Centre and State relations. The Central Government Welfare Ministry is allotting funds to the State Governments through the SCST Finance Development Corporation. Through the Corporation this programme is being implemented and we are in

constant touch with the State Governments. We have a Corporation here also. We have a great deal of good understanding between the Corporation and the Central Government. There is no problem with the Central Government and the State Governments.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The question is :

"That the Bill to constitute a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2—Definitions

*Amendment made*

*Page 2.—*

for lines" 7 and 8, substitute—

"(e) 'Safai Karamcharis' means a person engaged in or employed for manually carrying human excreta or any sanitation work;" (1)

(Shri K.V. Thangka Balu)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The question is : "That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The question is : "That clause 3 to 15, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

Clause 3 to 15 were added to the Bill

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The question is : "That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

Clause 1. the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: I beg to move: "That the Bill, as amended be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is: "That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, I have to make one request, Capt. Satish Sharma, who had to move for consideration the Bill on Oil and Natural Gas Commission is not keeping well and has requested the hon. Speaker that this Bill can be taken up a little later. In the meantime we can take up Jammu and Kashmir Demands for Grants. . . . (Interruptions). . . . We can take it up today. We will have to start sitting late because we have not been able to complete the Business the way we had intended earlier. We can atleast sit upto 7 o'clock today. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Tomorrow we can sit upto 7 o'clock, but today we have agreed to adjourn after passing of the Bill. . . . (Interruptions). . . . Many Members will speak on Kashmir. (Interruptions)

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: We can continue the discussion tomorrow but we can start the discussion today (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly oblige to cooperate. As Capt. Satish Sharma has sent a letter making a request, so we will just

start the discussion today and continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up Item Nos. 15 and 16 together. Item No. 15 is discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (Jammu and Kashmir) for 1993-94.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (SOUTH DELHI): Let the Budget be introduced today, but we may have the discussion tomorrow.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (MADHEPURA): The feelings of the House should be respected. The House should be run with the general consensus of the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have got lot of things to say

18.10 hrs.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR BUDGET, 1993-94

*Demands for Grants (Jammu and Kashmir), 1993-94*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved: "That the respective sums not exceeding the amount on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1994, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands 1 to 27".

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS-BUDGET (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) FOR 1993-94 SUBMITTED TO  
THE VOTE OF THE LOK SABHA**

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on 29-3-1993		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	General Administration Department	8,50,87,000	1,15,71,000	8,50,87,000	1,15,71,000
2.	Home Department	90,89,37,000	29,75,000	90,89,36,000	29,75,000
3.	Planning and Develop- ment Department	1,20,18,000	3,50,00,000	1,20,18,000	3,50,00,000
4.	Information Department	1,64,27,000	20,50,000	1,64,26,000	20,50,000
5.	Ladakh Affairs Depart- ment	35,84,16,000	25,88,18,000	—	—
6.	Power Development Department	139,29,30,000	120,84,75,000	139,29,30,000	120,84,75,000
7.	Education Department	113,66,43,000	7,80,00,000	113,66,43,000	7,80,00,000
8.	Finance Department	53,51,37,000	5,25,00,000	53,51,37,000	5,25,00,000
9.	Parliamentary Affairs Department	73,68,000	—	73,68,000	—
10.	Law Department	2,98,97,000	—	2,98,97,000	—
11.	Industries and Commerce Department	15,57,35,000	38,00,68,000	15,57,36,000	38,00,68,000
12.	Agriculture, Rural Development and Co- operative Department	29,76,94,000	26,20,80,000	29,76,94,000	26,20,80,000
13.	Animal Husbandary Department	17,74,36,000	4,33,25,000	17,74,36,000	4,33,25,000
14.	Revenue Department	28,21,28,000	3,18,000	28,21,29,000	3,18,000
15.	Food Supplies and Transport Department	14,60,94,000	128,54,49,000	14,60,94,000	128,54,49,000
16.	Public Works Department	56,61,28,000	45,27,22,000	56,61,28,000	45,27,21,000
17.	Health & Medical Education Department	53,58,64,000	8,38,00,000	53,58,63,000	8,38,00,000
18.	Social Welfare Department	7,21,41,000	3,68,28,000	7,21,41,000	3,68,29,000
19.	Housing and Urban Development Department	9,05,71,000	22,70,50,000	9,05,72,000	22,70,50,000
20.	Tourism Department	3,62,89,000	6,85,25,000	3,62,90,000	6,85,25,000
21.	Forest Department	17,91,54,000	10,06,20,000	17,91,54,000	10,06,20,000
22.	Irrigation & Food Control Department	23,95,75,000	16,59,58,000	23,95,74,000	16,59,58,000
23.	Public Health Engineer- ing Department	35,25,95,000	25,33,50,000	35,25,74,000	25,33,50,000
24.	Estates, Hospitality and Protocol and Parks and Gardens Department	7,32,80,000	1,35,77,000	7,32,80,000	1,35,77,000
25.	Labour, Stationery and Printing Department	4,03,65,000	1,11,04,000	4,03,65,000	1,11,04,000
26.	Fisheries Department	1,37,30,000	94,50,000	1,37,31,000	94,50,000
27.	Higher Education Department	20,82,22,000	5,87,71,000	20,82,21,000	5,87,70,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Madan Lal Khurana to initiate the debate.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: This Budget is not upto the expectation. We have been emphasising the point for the last several years that we should get a complete report alongwith this Budget. How can we hold any discussion on this Budget in such a situation. The previous years' targets and achievement are normally shown in the Budget. (Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (SHILLONG): The Business Advisory committee in its meeting agreed to extend time, in fact, from Friday last. However, on Friday the 13th, the first day, it was not extended. I think we should also obey and respect the decision of the BAC. After all, leaders of all political parties are Members of the BAC and they had all agreed in the BAC that from today we shall extend the time. I think we should extend the time.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (MANDSAUR): The ONGC Bill was scheduled to be introduced first. Our hon. friend was ready to express his views thereon, but in the meanwhile the hon. Minister made a sudden announcement that there could be no discussion thereon at the moment. The Members of our party are not prepared at the moment to participate in a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget. They received the copies of the Budget today itself.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (SAHARSA): The hon. Members are not in a mood to sit late. It is all right that the Business Advisory Committee has submitted its report but it is also imperative to seek the opinion of the House. Moreover, today the hon. Members have come here from distant places and they are not prepared to sit late. We will sit late tomorrow.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, this is not fair. Dr. Pandeya is just saying that we have just

shifted the matter. In the afternoon itself we had discussed this matter. But in any case, as Shri Peter G. Marbaniang has pointed out, we are actually at this point of time very hard pressed for time to discuss the various Bills before us and if we do not start sitting right from now/late in the evening, we will not be able to complete the business in time. Later on there may be lot of problems to complete the business.

Shri Khurana was saying that he was not prepared to speak. He is such an expert speaker and on a topic like Kashmir, he was speaking immediately after the Zero Hour even today itself! He was prepared even at 12 noon itself!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Zero Hour is a source of inspiration for him.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (DHANDUKA): I have been invited by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to view the feature film 'Aina'. So, I have to go there also.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: The list of business is changed by the Government. The Government altered the order of the Public Premises Bill which was scheduled to be introduced earlier. The Government is now introducing the Budget of Jammu and Kashmir instead of introducing the Bill that was scheduled to be introduced by Sharmaji. We are, however, ready to sit late to consider these things. (Interruptions). Nevertheless, I object the stand taken by the Government.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are now aware of the views of the Members of Treasury Benches and the Members of Opposition. Moreover, you are also aware of the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee. Now I fail to understand as to why the Government is rigid in this regard. A reference has been made about Business Advisory Committee and moreover Peter Sahib, who is also on the Panel of Chairman, is also making a reference. This has been the practice in the House. The Business Advisory Committee who has the members of opposition also reached a decision in this regard. Therefore, it is not that the work should be done without even a slightest change in it. There has been a precedences and moreover the mood of the House is also taken into consideration. Moreover, it is required to seek the approval of the hon. Members of the House. (Interruptions). The business of the House cannot be conducted like this

without taking the consent of the hon. Members. If the majority of the Members are not in favour of late sitting today, they will then do it tomorrow and the work will also not suffer. It should be decided and the Government should not have any objection to it. The hon. Members are well determined to stick to their submission and you have already sought the opinion of the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are yourself wise enough and you should therefore use your wisdom and discretion and adjourn the House to meet again tomorrow to sit late.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (MIR-ZAPUR): Sir, even a Village Panchayat does not operate without the consent of the Panches. I think that this biggest Panchayat of the country is also modelled on the same structure. Even there the Sarpanch follows the consensus view of the Panches. Similarly, the Sarpanch of this House should also honour

the views of the Panches. This is what we want to submit.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Taking into consideration the mood of the House, it is highly desirable that we shall adjourn the House now. But tomorrow, we shall have to compensate by sitting late. What happens is that some people are denied the opportunity of expressing their views. Keeping that in mind, we shall have to sit late tomorrow.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 hours.

18.18 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 17, 1993/Sravaha 26, 1915 (Saka)*