

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 8, 1996/ Phalguna 18, 1917(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with deep sorrow of the passing away of one of our former colleagues, namely Shri Robin Kakoti.

Shri Robin Kakoti was a member of Fifth Lok Sabha representing Dibrugarh Parliamentary constituency of Assam during 1971-77.

He was a member of Rajya Sabha twice during 1962-68 and 1978-84.

Earlier, he had been a member of Assam Legislative Assembly during 1952-57.

A veteran freedom fighter and a Gandhian, Shri Kakoti was an active political worker. He left his studies in 1930 and joined Civil Disobedience Movement and was imprisoned several times for participation in India's Freedom Struggle.

A popular and a seasoned labour leader, Shri Kakoti took keen interest in Co-operative Movement. He was instrumental in establishing Co-operative Farming and Weaving society in Sibsagar and Dibrugarh districts of Assam. He also served as Organiser and President of Assam State Co-operative Union from 1953 to 1971. He was the President of the All Assam Freedom Fighters' Association.

A widely travelled person, he authored a few books namely Vivardhan, Dishhara and some other books on co-operatives and labour movement. He was Editor of Dharmayug bi-weekly during 1958-65 and Sahajatri weekly during 1968-71.

Shri Robin Kakoti passed away on 3rd March, 1996 at Guwahati at the age of 84 years.

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

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

11.02 hrs.

The Member then stood in silence for a short while

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice under Rule 388 to suspend the Question Hour. You are aware that the Supreme Court has given its verdict....(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Is the hon. Prime Minister coming to the House or not?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, as I had said earlier, the Prime Minister is coming at 12 o'clock and he will speak here.

[Translation]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : I could not understand what you have said.

[English]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : The Prime Minister is coming at 12 o'clock and he will speak here.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Will he clarify our points?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, no business could be transacted in the House during these days due to which the plight of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh.....(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

* Not Recorded.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

1106 hrs.

*[Translation]***Economic Offences**

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

(a) whether there has been considerable increase in the economic offences during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the plans drawn up by the Government to minimise these offences and to bring to book the culprits?

[English]

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

(a) On the basis of information available with the enforcement agencies, the Government have noticed some increase in the incidence of economic offences during the last three years.

(b) with a view to curb such offences, tax laws and related procedures have been simplified and rationalised. At the same time, enforcement agencies have been re-vamped and asked to maintain strict vigil and step up their preventive operations.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted in his reply that there has been an increase in the incidence of economic offences. Through you, I would like to know the total increase in economic offences registered during the last three years i.e. 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95; the number percentage and the categories of these offences such as embezzlement, bank scam, Hawala scandal, smuggling and tax-evasion etc. and the type of offences registering increase. I would also like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether some foreign hand is also involved in it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to economic offences, any statement that is made is on the basis of action by the various law-enforcement agencies. If you look at the totality of the growth rate of the economy, I would like to assure the House that there is no cause for alarm but we have to be vigilant.

I have the figures with regard to the activities of the various Wings of the Ministry of Finance.

Seizures by Anti-Smuggling Wing**1993**

Number of cases - 52,963; value of goods seized - Rs. 388.96 crore

1994

Number of cases - 49,997; value of goods seized - Rs. 535.21 crore

1995

Number of cases - 46,246; value of goods seized - Rs. 575.80 crore

Evasion of Central Excise**1993-94**

Number of cases - 5,286; amount involved - Rs. 911.36 crore.

1994-95

Number of cases - 7,606; amount involved - Rs. 1386.03 crore.

1995-96 upto January 1996

Number of cases - 4,359; amount involved - Rs. 807.84 crore

Income Tax Searches and Seizures**1992-93**

Number of cases of searches and seizures - 4,777; value of assets seized Rs. 384 crore

1993-94

Number of cases - 5,026; value of assets seized - Rs. 396 crore

In 1994-95, the number of cases was 4830; the value of assets seized -- Rs. 381 crore.

FERA seizures, under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act -- number of searches have gone up (1992-93 -- 1180). The Indian currencies seized are Rs. 401 lakh; the foreign currencies seized in 1992-93 Rs. 197 lakh; total seizure -- Rs. 598 lakh. In 1993-94 the number of searches was 1278; Indian currencies

seized -- Rs. 704 lakh; foreign currencies seized Rs. 515 lakh; the total currencies seized -- Rs. 1219 lakh. In 1994-95, the number of searches -- 1493; Indian currencies seized -- Rs. 937 lakh; foreign currencies seized -- Rs. 773 lakh; total seizure -- Rs. 1710 lakh.

Under COFEPOSA, detention orders issued in 1990 were 1083, actually detained were 749. In 1994 detention orders issued were 437, actually detained were 363. In 1995 detention orders issued were 314 and actually detained were 306.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance just now gave the figures relating to economic offences but the procedure adopted to curb economic offence is protracted, ineffective and takes long time. That is why, these offences are increasing constantly. The hon. Minister has talked of simplifying and rationalising it. Will the hon. Minister specify the improvements over the old procedure effected in the new procedure adopted now and whether some improvements are based on the recommendations of the Challaiah Committee report? I want to know whether political patronage of such offenders is the main reason behind the constant increase in economic offences and whether it is because of this political patronage that time consuming procedure is adopted so that the offenders can go scot free? What measures have been adopted by the Government to minimise political influence and to

check offences like the *Hawala scandal* the securities scam etc. and whether any offenders have been held?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, action against the economic offenders has to be on several fronts.

First of all, I would refer to the case of smuggling. In the case of smuggling, one of the reasons is high incidence of import duties and also the fact that we have quantitative import restrictions. Therefore, there is a natural temptation for people to smuggle.

For 50 years, since 1947, gold was being smuggled into this country. Smugglers made empires out of it. Yet our laws simply assumed that no gold was being imported into India. Our Government took action to liberalise the import of gold, liberalise the import of silver and I am not going to claim that smuggling of gold and silver has stopped. But it has very substantially reduced. We have to move on the same strategy.

Similarly, before our Government came into office, import duties were as high as 300 per cent. There was a natural incentive for people to smuggle. Now, if we want smuggling not to flourish then, I think, India must have an import duty regime which discourages smuggling and this old fashion mechanism of managing our balance of payments through quantitative import control, I think, has to be given up. We have operated to moderate but we have not been able to eliminate totally, I think, the rigours of the old system.

With regard to Central Excise, we are expanding the scope of MODVAT. I think, in the last four years, as a result of the recommendations of the Chelliah Committee we have extended the MODVAT now to nearly all sectors of the economy with the exception of tobacco, textiles and petroleum products. That combined with the reduction in the number of rates of duties, moving from specific of *ad valorem* duties, reducing the scope for classification and other related disputes, I think, over a period of time it is yielding a good result.

In the same way about income-tax, our philosophy of income-tax is moderate rates but stronger stricter administration. I have given the figures to the House when I presented the interim Budget. I think, the success of that policy is quite obvious from the figures of the income-tax collections and I would like to once again, compliment the Income-tax Department for the good work that they have done.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister if he is aware that in the country there are certain organisations and individuals who are alleged to have received millions of dollars and also gold under the garb of construction of certain places of worship through illegal means and illegal agencies. If this fact is correct, I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister what action has been taken by the Ministry of Finance to stop this illegal receipt of amount and smuggling of gold. Also I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether any case has been registered against the violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act. If it is yes, then how many cases have been registered and if it is no, I want to know the reason.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Several cases of smuggling of gold have come to our notice and the offenders have been booked either under the Customs Act or some of them have even been imprisoned under COFEPOSA. But about the receipt of.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : What about the money collected for the purpose of construction of places of worship?.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I have no information about that. I would be very grateful to the hon. Member if he could pass on that information to me and I will make the necessary investigation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether violation of EERA and 'The Prevention of Corruption Act'

are treated as economic offences? If so, whether that would make out bit cases of economic offences against the present and the former Prime Minister for having taken crores of Rs. under the Hawala Scandal. If so, what steps have been taken by him to declare them as offenders in the aftermath of the Supreme Court direction?.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Only in the case of those who have been charge-sheeted already(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not think the Question Hour is an occasion to levy wild charges. In any case this case is now before the Supreme Court and it will not be appropriate for me to say anything about this.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, this is a very unsatisfactory reply.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Sir, the Finance Minister has said that whatever the increase has been in economic offences is not any cause for alarm. He had said the same thing at the time when the bank scam first of all erupted. Therefore, I would like to know from him whether actually a particular kind of economic offence, that is money laundering through banks, particularly through foreign banks, has increased recently in the last four years; whether his policy of liberalisation has been able to check the tendency of money laundering.

This is an evidence that the Finance Ministry is not so alert. There is some cause for alarm. The evidence of that lies in this, that four months ago, a five-Member Committee under the leadership of a Member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes was set up to prevent money laundering. I would like to know whether they have said that as a result of volume of transactions having gone up, the scope of laundering has increased, with banks easing restrictions to attract deposits. I would like to know, whether the large amounts of foreign

investment coming as equity in various companies are actually suspect funds at the starting point of the transaction or not. I would like to have his response on this.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : It is always possible where the economy is growing. Our foreign trade has increased in the last three years at the annual rate of about 25 per cent. We are getting lot more foreign investments. So there is always a possibility that I think, some unscrupulous elements....

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : It is not a question of possibility. What is happening we want to know.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : There is always a possibility that some unscrupulous persons may take advantage of that. Our Government is fully alert to this possibility. I would be the last person to say that there are no such cases of frauds and others.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Why was the Committee set up?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : The Committee is set up in order to ensure that our systems are improved and we are improving these systems from time to time.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : You are locking the stable door after the horse had run away.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : But I would like to say, over all the economic management of the country today has offered less scope for these offences than what it was the case before our Government came.....
(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Our hon. Finance Minister, in his reply to the first part of the Question, has referred to smuggling, evasion of income-tax and evasion of excise duties and so on. But I would like to know from him whether it is not a fact that millions of dollars are being lost to the country through under-invoicing and over-invoicing which is going on, perhaps, more than it used to be in the past, Maybe, because he

says, the volume of trade has increased. I do not know whether that is an excuse for this but this under-invoicing and over-invoicing is leading to a heavy drainage of money from the country at a time when the Government is complaining about stringency of financial resources. So what is being done to plug this under-invoicing and over-invoicing through which this is taking place?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, the fight against over-invoicing and under-invoicing of foreign exchange transactions is again a multifaceted operations. We have to ask this question: Why is it that people indulge in these transactions? Part of the reason is illegal capital flight. So if our economy, I think, over a period of time, it would reduce very substantially the scope for illegal flight of capital. But it cannot happen overnight. Then there are other reasons why...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is it increasing?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Well, whether it is increasing or not, I do not have the authentic figures to assert that. But I do admit that the scope exists. We have a system of, let us say, export incentives. We have a system, for example, where export profits are totally free of tax. Therefore, it is an incentive for people, I think, who manipulate foreign exchange transactions. Over a period of time, we must deal with all these things. We have certain import incentives. Therefore, I think, they also give scope for people to indulge in over-invoicing and under-invoicing. Over a period of time, we have to be vigilant and also adopt corrective measures.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Full convertibility can solve all these problems.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is a matter of concern that economic offences are increasing day by day. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there are some politicians and leaders from all over the country, who are economic offenders, who have kept their money in the Swiss Banks. I want to know the

State-wise break-up. I also want to know if the Governments have a list with them; if not, will the Minister conduct a survey of such people who talk of morals and credibility but who have got their money in Switzerland. I want to get a specific answer from the hon. Minister and I want to know the State-wise details from him.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I have no such list with me.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the hon. Minister make a survey so that the country's money can be saved?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : If we get any cues, we will take action; if the hon. Member has nay information it may be passed on to me.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I have got lot of information with me.

Monitoring of Export Proceeds

Realisation by Exporters

*123. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the exporters have been found to be refraining from realisation of their export proceeds;

(b) if so, the amount of non-realisation of export proceeds by the exporters during 1995;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against them;

(d) whether the Government are monitoring the realisation of export proceeds by the exporters;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (f) According to the information received from the Reserve Bank of India, the amount of export proceeds pending realisation beyond the due date, as on 30th June, 1995 is Rs. 5168.64 crores.

The Reserve Bank of India monitors the realisation of export proceeds by the exporters. Where proceeds are not realised within the stipulated time period, the Reserve Bank of India follows up with the concerned exporters and their bankers for ensuring realisation of the outstanding export proceeds. Extension in time for realisations of export proceeds is granted in appropriate cases.

Cases of recalcitrant exporters are referred to Enforcement Directorate for necessary investigation and action under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of serious concern that out of the total Indian export of Rs. 85,000 crores during 1994-95 about eight percent sales proceeds nearing Rs. 7,000 crores were not allegedly repatriated. This was revealed by the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, a Government agency under the Ministry of Finance.

The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau has made a study regarding non-repatriation by certain units of their proceeds and has in its recommendation said:

[English]

The Income Tax Act, 1961 provides for deduction of 100 per cent of profit on the ground of misuse.

[Translation]

I would, therefore, like to know whether the hon. Minister is considering this recommendation so that some control can be exercised on this un-repatriated money amounting to nearly Rs. 7,000 crores.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The figure of a little over Rs. 5,000 crore which is outstanding exports proceeds realisation as on the 30th June, 1995 is not out of 1994-95 exports alone. It is a cumulative figure over a period of years. Therefore, I would disagree with the hon. Member that it is eight per cent of that year's exports. That represents the cumulative arrears over a period of time.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : From When?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is a cumulative figure from the very beginning. It is a cumulative figure which is maintained from the very beginning whenever the exports realisation did not come.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : When did that begin ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is several years ago.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Up to 1993 it was only Rs. 1200 crore. For your information it was only Rs. 1200 crore up to 1992-93. The maximum figure of the amount not repatriated is only after 1993.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I was only disagreeing with the hon. Member that he applied this Rs. 5,168 crore on 1994-95 exports alone. I will give the figures. For example, in June 1994 the outstanding was Rs. 3,644 crore, in December 1994 it was Rs. 4,492 crore and in June 1995 it was Rs. 5,168 crore. During this period in 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 our exports have risen by 3.8 per cent, 20 per cent, 18 per cent and now over 22 per cent. Therefore, the proportion which the hon. Member wishes to draw would not be a correct proportion to draw.

As regards action to be taken, yes, action has to be taken by the Reserve Bank of India.

Both under F.E.R.A. and other laws, authorised, dealers are required to report in every quarter and in every six months about the outstandings. Show cause notices are issued and the Reserve Bank is taking action against persons who do not have permission for an extended period to repatriate and would not have repatriated their export proceeds.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Sir, my second Supplementary is as follows : From 1990 to 1995, availing of export benefit was linked to remittances. But after the hon. Minister has taken over he has removed this condition of remittances. Now, in the new policy which the hon. Minister has formed he has done away with this stipulation of export realisation and the entire

onus has been put on the Reserve Bank of India for the repatriation and for the remittances. Under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, the non-repatriation of export earnings is not an offence, which the hon. Minister is talking about.

The other problem is with the rise in the dollar rate. Most of the exporters are delaying the realisation of their exports. What is the hon. Minister doing about this? You are putting the onus on the Reserve Bank of India and the survey also shows that the Reserve Bank of India is also not prepared as yet, it is not geared up for this change which the hon. Minister has brought in. The hon. Minister of Finance is also sitting here. It is a very serious situation that the exporters are deliberately not getting their remittances because the dollar rate is increasing. It is a very alarming situation and it seems that there is no coordination between the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce. What the hon. Minister is going to do about this situation? You are putting the entire onus on the Reserve Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of India says that they are not geared up for this kind of situation. How is the hon. Minister going to tackle this situation?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I would most humbly submit that the inferences which the hon. Member is drawing may not be quite right and not borne out by the facts either. The Reserve Bank and the hierarchy of banks perform the banking functions. The trade regime and trade policy is aimed at facilitating imports and accelerating exports so that the trade intensity of the economy goes up from the current level of about 19 per cent to a desired level of about 30 per cent which is what most developing countries, which have shown remarkable progress, have achieved.

Now, you can have any number of forms, any number of certificates and any number of authorisations in order to give a benefit to an exporter. The idea is to reduce that number; the idea is to keep control at one point and not at several points. Now, what was the purpose of insisting upon an export realisation certificate? The purpose was that he will get his incentive only after he produces that certificate. But that certificate is another document, another impediment in the free flow of trade and in the quick movement of goods in and out of the country. So, after talking to the Governor, the Governor convinced us that the Reserve Bank of India and the banking system are fully geared to deal with the export realisation. So, with the full concurrence of the Governor and the Ministry of Finance, we eliminated this requirement of an export realisation certificate. Now, the Reserve Bank is monitoring and what are the results? It shows Rs. 5,000 crore as export outstanding over a

period of time. Even applied to today's level of Rs. 100,000 crore, this five per cent is five per cent even on current level of Rs. 100,000 crore. But, if you take my earlier statement it is a cumulative figure; it is a very small proportion. Why does it happen? There are ten countries with serious BoP problems. Money does not come from those countries. There could be a case of importers going bankrupt; there could be a case that the goods are returned. One has to provide a certain amount of cushion for defaults which will occur in the normal course of trade and business. Is it alarming? To the best of my judgement and what I have spoken to the Governor, it is not an alarming situation.

The Governor and the Reserve Bank have assured me that they are fully in control of the situation and that repatriation is normal and the outstanding level is also normal. Secondly, I have been told that if you fail to repatriate within six months and do not take an extension from the Reserve Bank, then both the authorised dealer who does not report is liable to face penal action as well as the exporter who does not realise it is liable to face penal action. If a specific question is put, I am sure the Finance Ministry will reply about the action taken and the punishments given to both the authorised dealers and to exporters.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, after this extended non-reply, let me put this question.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is this extended non-reply?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is a rigmarole.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is a dialectical material...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, even his figures - he is not fond of figures - indicate that accumulation of foreign exchange elsewhere out of export is at a higher rate than the growth in exports. That is what his figures tell. The question is, it within his purview to answer how many of these recalcitrant exporters are not bringing in and for how many years? He says it is all cumulative. I would like to know what is the amount of five-year old cases and what steps have actually been taken against them? The question is not whether this annual accretion of Rs. 1,00,000 crore is one per cent of the GDP, the question is that Rs. 5,000 crore of foreign exchange is not with us right at this time which depletes our foreign exchange reserves. So, will the hon. Minister please satisfy us that the cases are all up-to-date, others have been punished and this is the manner in which they have been punished.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I do not have the figures of year-wise action taken or punishments meted out. I have the figures for the year 1995. In 1995, based on investigations made, sixty-four show cause notices involving cases of the value of Rs. 10 lakh and above were issued...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Which year's case?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, obviously it will relate to a case of 1994, 1993 and 1992.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Not obviously, is it a five-year old case?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, as I said, I do not have the date-wise or the year-wise data. I started by saying that I do not have the year-wise data. In 1995, the Reserve Bank has issued sixty-four show cause notices, involving cases of the value of Rs. 10 lakh and above to exporters for failure to repatriate export earnings.....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question takes this very issue a little further. Does the hon. Minister in the Ministry of Commerce maintain a list of such recalcitrant exporters who, over the years, have been evading the transfer of the total realisation of the export proceeds and whether such a list is published so as to bring such defaulters into the public domain and perhaps shaming them into action. I would like to know the number of such exporters corresponding to this figure of Rs. 5,168 crore - the total number at least he should have - number of cases in which penalty has been imposed during the period that you are talking about, and the nature of those penalties imposed either by the Reserve Bank of India or the ministry of commerce.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Only notices have been issued.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : No, there must have been also some cases where penalties have been imposed.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, when RBI taken action against an exporter for default, it sends a list to the Ministry of Commerce and that list is maintained to deny to them any other advance licences or similar licences.

So, that list is available with the Ministry of Commerce. I do not believe it is being published in the manner in which the hon. Member has suggested. As far as the actual number of cases is concerned, that is not within my knowledge. It is not available with me. On that, I would request, that a separate question may be put to the Finance Ministry, and R.B.I. will furnish the case-wise and amount-wise action taken. That is not within my jurisdiction.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will table the year-wise information which has been asked for by the Members and I would also like to know whether he is satisfied by the discussion with the Governor of R.B.I. that the situation is really normal. I would request him to tell this. Secondly, you are having the list of offenders and, therefore, you do not issue the new licences and all that. I want to know whether there are any habitual offenders who were caught in this process.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, as far as the first part of the question is concerned, I have just consulted the Finance Minister and, Yes, we will ask the R.B.I. to furnish us the year-wise action taken and we will lay it on the Table of the House.

On the second question, I would require notice. I cannot say Yes or No. But as far as possible, the instructions are that if a list of defaulters comes from DRI and customs* no further advance licence and similar licence should be issued to such a person. I would require notice about whether, despite that, licences have been issued to* a habitual offender and I will furnish the information.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will you table that information also?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Yes, I will table whatever information that I get.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Sir, the most important factor that has led to the increase in the non-repatriation of export proceeds is the continuous depreciation of Indian rupee and the Minister knows that. In the last year the realisation of export proceeds which were transferred were much less than what they are today. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government is taking to stabilise the value of Indian rupee which will prevent further non-repatriation.

MR. SPEAKER : No, that cannot be asked from the Commerce Minister.....(*Interruptions*)

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the reasons of pendency of realisation of export proceeds and whether there are any procedural defects or it has been done intentionally by the exporters for the non-realisation of export proceeds. I also want to know whether it has been surveyed as to what are the reasons of so much accumulation of amount. An amount of Rs. 5,618.64 crore is yet to be realised from the exporters.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, from time to time the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau takes up the number of cases of non-repatriation of export proceeds and tries to find out why they have not been able to repatriate. Some reasons come up in these studies. For example, during a certain period, a large number of African countries faced serious foreign exchange problems and, therefore, those countries have barred any repatriation of earnings. Another reason which has come up in another study is that the technical credit was suddenly stopped in case of exports to the former Soviet Union and during that period, a large amount of money could not be repatriated from the former Soviet Union to India.

Another reason which has come up is that foreign buyers have refused to take delivery of goods on the allegation that they are of poor quality or delivery was delayed or packing was bad and those kind of reasons. Another reason which has come up is that the B.C.C.I. Bank was liquidated and again a lot of money got blocked there. Another reason is that Iraq had serious problems and a little over Rs. 11 crore could not be brought. There are a number of reasons. These reasons are being addressed as and when these reasons arise.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I would like to know from the Minister whether, and if any, what part of amount of the non-realised export proceeds are being or have been utilised for arms-droppings like the Purulia incident or for financing the conduits like Jain brothers through the *Hawala* proceeds and endangering our national security like this. Let him say no art is being used. Why can he not say when are they going? I would also like to know whether, or if any, what part or what amount is being utilised for this. The non-realised export proceeds must go through some way, must go somewhere. If they endanger our national security, they are much more offensive than the economic offences. Let him answer this, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Can you answer?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, it is obvious that I cannot answer such a question.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Sir, I have asked a question to the Finance Minister whether the parking of the export earnings due to the reasons of slide in the value of Indian rupee against Dollar has come to the notice of the Government and he has replied that it has come to the notice of the Government, however, delays in the repatriation of export earnings have been noticed. The prohibition already exists under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 for imposition of penalty upto the time of the amount involved. The law also provides for prosecution of the defaulters. But with all these things, now these export repatriations stand at Rs. 7 crore. That

*corrections have been allowed as per Direction 16(3) of the Directions by the Speaker.

is what the *The Economic Times* have reported on 7th February. Last year UNI backgrounder, according to the Report of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, the intelligence arm of the Finance Ministry, had quoted proceeds to the tune of more than two billion dollars were not repatriated in 1995. That means, year after year it is increasing and they say the present law is enough to deal with such a situation. Now, especially because of the fall in the value of the rupee, devaluation, naturally this will go up. What steps are actually immediately taken by the Finance Ministry in seeing the mammoth volume of amount not repatriated?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the report which the hon. Member refers to and which appeared in *The Economic Times* has been brought to our notice also. It quotes Government officials, but there is not Government official who says that he was the author of this report or gave material for this report. This report is not quite right.

I just want to take few seconds to make this point. If a country has \$ 100,000 crore worth of export and there are thousands of players in the export-import field, there would be a small amount which will be outstanding on any give date - some for good reasons and some for bad reasons. There are good reasons where an importer, for example, has gone bankrupt in the other country. The poor exporter cannot bring that money. That is a good reason. Obviously, there are bad reasons also where he exports to a non-existent importer there. That is a bad reason. Then, action has to be taken, but I do not think we should paint it as an alarming picture. We believe that the law is adequate, FERA Section 73 is adequate.

But since the hon. Member has made the point, I would certainly write to RBI and request them to take a second look at the law. If the law has to be tightened, I am sure, they will take steps to tighten the law.

[Translation]

Action Plan For Export

*125 DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has formulated any action plan to boost exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FICCI has requested the Government to adopt this action plan;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government is this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) have prepared a paper outlining a four-pronged export promotion strategy to the working Group on Exports constituted by planning commission under the chairmanship of commerce secretary. The export promotion strategy suggested by FICCI comprises (i) planning for global market, (ii) Improving India's competitiveness, (iii) Minimising cost disabilities, and (iv) Building Brand image.

Steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other concerned institutions. The Government is striving to make the environment of policy and procedures increasingly export-friendly. Among the measures taken for export promotion, mention may be made about simplification of export-import policy and procedures, increasing export production, improving efficiency and competitiveness, focusing on quality improvement and technological upgradation, improvement in infrastructure and actively involving state Governments in export promotion. In the current year an Annual Action Plan has been formulated which, inter alia, covers commodity-specific and country-specific measures for export promotions. Export promotion is a continues activity and the Government constantly interacts with the exporting community regarding steps required to accelerate export performance.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as improvement or export promotion is concerned, many steps have been taken by the Ministry of Commerce like improving the efficiency and effectiveness and the Ministry has taken various steps to improve the infrastructure also. In all the advanced States and the advanced cities, the infrastructure has been improved and a huge investment has been made for a long time in all these States and the cities for improving the infrastructure.

The backward States like Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal have a lot of mineral resources and they have a very high export potential. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he is going to take for

export promotion especially with reference to such backward States so that export promotion taken place, various items are exported to different countries and these States bring in sufficient amount of foreign exchange to our country.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, export is a function of increased industrial activity and agricultural activity. Exports have to come out of industrial production and agricultural production. Both these subjects are essentially State subjects. The Centre encourages States to increase industrial production as well as agricultural production. Primarily, it is the State Governments who must promote economic activities in their respective States and if the attention is turned to economic activities rather than some other wasteful activity. I think, surely they will be able to stimulate industrial production and agricultural production.

As far as we are concerned, I have held meetings with the Chief Ministers, with groups of Chief Ministers and impressed upon them the need to provide infrastructure. We have several schemes plan schemes and other schemes to help States to add to infrastructure. The most recent initiative is the offer to set up Export Promotion Industrial Parks. We have offered to every State to set up an Export Promotion Industrial Park. We are encouraging States to invite foreigners to set up specialised production centres. But it is really for the States to take the initiative. If they have a scheme, if they have a programme it will not fail for want of support from the Central Government.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Sir, as far as the garment producers, garment exporters and computer software exporters are concerned, they are the biggest exporters. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken to provide financial incentives and also to give training to all the textile workers, textile exporters and computer software exporters. I would also like to know as to what are the additional incentives that are going to be given to them by the Ministry.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, these incentives are rather well-known. They are across the board. The biggest incentive that we give is that all export profit arising out of export of goods is not taxed, and 80 HHC is the biggest incentive that is given to the exporters. Then, of course, we give the incentive of special import licences. We give incentives to those who acquire ISO 9000 certification. We give incentives to those who acquired the status of export house or trading house or star trading house or super star trading house. These incentives are, today, adequate and these incentives have brought us export growth in the last three years at the

rate of 20 per cent, 18.2 per cent and a little over 22 per cent so far. I do not think there is a case for additional incentives. There is of course, a case for providing infrastructure which is more efficient so that the exporters can meet their export obligations.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, quality improvement and technological upgradation is one of the steps that the Government has proposed to take to boost the exports. In view of fact that many of the countries have refused to take delivery of our goods due to the poor quality, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government has taken against those exporters who are deliberately doing this mischief.

I would like to know whether the Government also have decided to take stringent steps. If so, would the hon. Minister may kindly just take the House into confidence.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I do not think we should encourage the world to continue to regard Indian goods as of poor quality. This may have been so some years ago. But I do not think we should allow ourselves to be trapped into that kind of argument.

In 1991-92, there were five companies in India with ISO 9000 certification. Today, there are 1045 companies in India with ISO 9000 certification. India has made tremendous strides in quality. Indian goods small number of people who export sub-standard goods. I do not have the figures readily available. But I issued two press statement one about 3 months ago....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : But why should you abolish quality control mechanism ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We have not abolished it. There is a small number and I issued two statement - one about three months ago and another about six months ago -- saying that wherever people have exported sub-standard goods and complaints have come, we have cancelled their export code number and we have denied them advance licences. We have penalised them. So, we have taken action against a small number. But to generalise and say, 'Indian goods are of poor quality' - I would disagree.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, the point that I wanted to raise is that the Minister himself has said that there have been cases where we have received complaints....*(Interruptions)* about the quality of our exports and that our exports are very badly affected because of that. In spite of all this, the mechanism of quality control which was self-sustaining is in the process of almost dismantling. You are throwing people out of job as well as putting India into difficulty.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I am very sorry, I have to disagree. What was being done was a bureaucratic system of mandatory pre - shipment inspection that was dispensed with. In a large number of cases it breeds corruption and it breeds inefficiency. What we have put in place is an arrangement where the importer and exporter will stipulate the quality standards and they are completely free to do so.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Only quality control people are corrupt and what about those who are sitting here?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, they are completely free to stipulate quality standards. The importer abroad will not take Indian goods if it does not meet his quality standards. The fact that exporters are growing by over 20 per cent shows that Indian goods are of high quality and the quality is improving.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Commerce whether druggets and carpets made in our country are becoming more popular abroad and their export has registered an increasing? Whether distraught by its increasing popularity, America and some other countries are resorting to a malafide propaganda by appealing the countries not to buy Indian druggets and carpets as they are woven by child labourers? What efforts is the Ministry of Commerce making to counter their propaganda, boost the export of druggets and carpets and enhance their popularity abroad?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, our carpets are very good and our carpet exports are growing. In April-December 1994 and in April-December 1995, in US dollar terms, our carpet exports were 407 million and 421 million, respectively.

There is, of course, a campaign against Indian carpets on the alleged ground of abuse of child labour. The Ministry of Textiles has introduced a label **Kaleen**. The Ministry of Commerce on the same day expressed its full support to the label **Kaleen**. I saw the figures yesterday. So far, 1,41,000 labels have been issued for Indian carpets and as the **Kaleen** label hold and every carpet goes out with that label, you will find that this criticism against Indian carpets will come down sharply. The label **kaleen** is a guarantee that child labour is not being used in our carpet industry.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to the hon. Minister's reply saying that a label is attached to give boost to the export of carpets, whereas the former Minister of Commerce had dispensed with the system of label for the purpose of boosting exports. One Minister of the Government takes one decision and the other Minister reverses that decision. If a direct and concrete decision is not taken for removing the impediments in the way of carpet exports, then, I think these cannot be exported in a desired manner. Hence, I would like to know the measure the Government of India is taking to remove impediments in carpet exports so as to boost its exports.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I do not think, there is any variation. The **Kaleen** label was introduced only in July or August 1995. Therefore, nobody could have made a statement before that. I say here, the **Kaleen** label is a label which will assure the world that child labour is not used in the making of that carpet.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

White Paper of Foreign Debt

*122 SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued a 'white paper' on foreign debt recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. On December 22, 1995, the Government tabled a White paper in parliament entitled "Status Report on India's External Debt".

(b) The paper provides an overview of India's external debt including international comparisons. Some of the salient findings of the report are summarised below :

The external debt outstanding on 31.3.95 was US \$ 99.04 billion. Though the external debt was high in absolute terms, the share of concessional debt was 45% and the present value of external debt was considerably

lower. The debt service ratio has, on an average, improved over time from 35.85% in 1990-91 to 26.65% in 1994-95. The external debt declined to US Dollar 93.8 billion by end September 1995. A prudent debt management policy is being pursued to reduce it further to more manageable levels. As per World Bank classifications, India is a moderately indebted country.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export Houses Status to State Corporation

*124 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Corporations are being given the status of Export/Trading Houses;

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

(c) the percentage of increase in export, after changing the status of these corporations and the total foreign exchange earned by them, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Yes sir. Any exporter including State Corporations who achieve the prescribed levels of export performance for attaining status as Export House/Trading House, as detailed in Chapter 12 of the Exim Policy 92-97 and apply for the same is given the status of Export House/Trading House which is valid for a period of three years. Further as per Public Notice No. 152 (PN)/ 92-97 dated 18.8.93 Government provided a one time facility for granting the status of export House to any one State Corporation nominated by the concerned state Government for the purpose of export promotion without taking into account the prescribed export promotion without taking into account the prescribed eligibility criterion provided a similar state Corporation of that State had not already been recognised as an Export House.

State-wise details of State Corporations one holding Export House/ Trading House Certificates w.e.f. 1.4.93 and valid up to 31.3.96 are enclosed as per the enclosed Statement.

Government does not maintain information on percentage of increase in exports, after change of status of these corporations and total Foreign Exchange earned by them State-wise.

Name of the State Corporations State-wise/ Union Territory Wise		Status of State Corporation	
1	2	3	4
		valid from 1.4.93 to 31.3.96	
Nagaland			
1.	Nagaland Industrial Dev. Corp. Ltd., Dimapur (Nagaland)	Export House	-do-
2.	Pondicherry Industrial Promotion Dev. & Investment Corp. Pondicherry.	Export House	-do-
Tripura			
3.	Tripura Handloom & Handicrafts Dev. Ltd., Agartala.	Export House	-do-
Lakshdeep			
4.	Lakshdeep Dev. Corp. Ltd., Cochin.	Export House	-do-
Maharashtra			
5.	Maharashtra Small Scale Ind. Dev. Corp. Ltd., Bombay.	Export House	-do-
6.	The Maharstra State Coop. Cotton Grower's Marketing Federation Ltd., Nagpur	Trading House (Valid from 1.4.95 to 31.5.98).	
Haryana			
7.	Haryana State Small Ind. & Export Corp. Ltd., Chandigrah.	Export House (Valid from 1.4.93 to 31.3.96).	

1	2	3	4
<i>Punjab</i>			
8.	Punjab Small Industries & Export Corp. Ltd., Chandigarh.	Export House	-do-
<i>West Bengal</i>			
9.	West Bengal Industrial Dev. Corp. Ltd., Calcutta.	Export House	-do-
<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>			
10.	Himachal Pradesh State Small Industries & Export Corp. Ltd., Shimla.	Export House	-do-
<i>Delhi State</i>			
11.	Delhi State Ind. Dev. Corp. Ltd., New Delhi.	Export House	-do-
<i>Meghalaya</i>			
12.	Meghalaya Mineral Dev. Corp. Ltd., Shillong.	EHC	-do-
<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>			
13.	A. P. State Trading Corp. Ltd., Hyderabad.	EHC	-do-
<i>Orissa</i>			
14.	Orissa Small Industries Corp. Ltd., Cuttack.	EHC	-do-
<i>Rajasthan</i>			
15.	Rajasthan Small Industries Dev. Corp. Ltd., Jaipur.	EHC	-do-
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>			
16.	Tamil Nadu Small Industries Dev. Corp. Ltd., Madras.	EHC	-do-
<i>Assam</i>			
17.	Assam Indl. Dev. Corpn. Ltd, Guwahati.	EHC	-do-
<i>Sikkim</i>			
18.	Sikkim Jewels Ltd., Sikkim.	EHC	-do-
<i>Gujarat</i>			
19.	Gujarat State Export Corpn. Ahmedabad.	EHC (Valid from 1.4.94 to 31.3.97)	
<i>Kerala</i>			
20.	Kerala State indl. Enterprises Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram.	EHC (Valid from 1.4.93 to 31.3.96)	
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>			
21.	M. P. Export Corporation, Bhopal.	EHC (Valid from 1.4.93 to 31.3.97)	
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>			
22.	U. P. Export Corporation Ltd, Kanpur.	EHC (Valid from 1.4.95 to 31.3.99)	
<i>Bihar</i>			
23.	Bihar State Export Corporation Ltd, Patna.	EHC (Valid from 1.4.95 to 31.3.98)	

*[English]***Fund Mobilisation**

*126. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

DR. S. P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether mobilisation of funds has fallen short of the anticipated targets for the current financial year; and

(b) if so, its impact on various on going programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The total receipts of the Central Government as per Revised Estimates for 1995-96 are estimated to be Rs. 183004 crore compared to the Budget Estimates of Rs. 172151 crore.

(b) Various on going programmes have been adequately provided for.

Constructions of Aerodromes

*127. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to entrust the work of construction of aerodromes to private sector ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Private Parties can construct new airport on BOO (Build-Own-Operate) basis. State Governments and private parties can also enter into joint ventures for developing airports as is being done in the case of a new airports near Cochin and Bangalore. However, clearance from the aeronautical and environmental aspects would be necessary, before any new airport project could be taken up.

*[Translation]***Ardhanareeswaran Committee**

*128 Dr. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union Government had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.N. Ardhanareeswaran to carry out as comprehensive re-appraisal of the functioning of the office of the Textile Commissioner ;

(b) if so, the date on which this Committee was constituted alongwith its composition;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A one man Committee under Shri K.N. Ardhanareeswaran was constituted on 19.4.95 to carry out a comprehensive reappraisal of the functioning of the office of Textile Commissioner, a Subordinate Office under Ministry of Textiles.

(c) and (d). The Committee has submitted its report. However, no decision has yet been taken on the recommendations made in the report which are being studied by the Government.

*[English]***Polyester/Cotton Shirting**

*129. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total productions of textile by NTC mills during each of the last three years ;

(b) whether NTC has stopped production of polyester and cotton shirting;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revamp the production of such shirting?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The production of cloth and market yarn by NTC mills during

each of the last three years is as follows :

Period	Cloth Production (M. Mtrs.)	Market Yarn (M. Kgs.)
1993-94	190.47	81.86
1994-95	102.56	57.60
1995-96 (April-Dec. '95)	54.95	47.80

(b) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Arrest under FERA

* 130. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI LALL BABU RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons had been arrested under FERA on the charge of sending foreign exchange abroad during the last one year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Details of persons arrested by the Enforcement Directorate and Anti-smuggling wing, on the charge of sending foreign exchange abroad at the airports land foreign exchange seized from them during the last one year are as under:-

	No. of persons arrested	Amount/Value of foreign exchange seized
Enforcement Directorate (Calendar year 1995)	20	Foreign exchange worth Rs. 2.32 crores (approx.) plus US \$ 1,38,663.00 and Swiss Franc 800.
Anti-smuggling Wing (Financial year 1995-96 upto Feb., 1996)	97	Foreign exchange worth Rs. 36.20 crores.

[English]

Damage to Bhunter Airstrip

* 131. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the extensive damages to the Bhunter airstrip due to flood in river Beas in Kullu district during September, 1995;

(b) whether as a result, flights remained cancelled for several days;

(c) if so, whether there are any plans for repair of the damaged airstrip and also to check such recurrence;

(d) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(c) and (d). Airports Authority of India (AAI) has accorded an approval for an expenditure of Rs. 146 lakhs for recarpeting of the runway and apron at Bhunter in Kullu. In addition AAI has deposited Rs. 36.89 lakhs with the Public works Department of Himachal Pradesh Government for the construction of a safety wall around this airstrip. The work is likely to be completed by June, 1996.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Losses by NTC Mills

* 132. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the losses suffered by the each unit of National Textile Corporation during each of last three years, state-wise, particularly in Rajasthan;

(b) the reasons for losses; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make these units profitable?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKET SWAMY): (a) and (b). NTC mills have been incurring losses due to obsolete machinery, excess man-power, low capacity utilisation and acute shortage of working capital, etc. A statement indicating details of the losses suffered by each unit of the NTC during the last three years, state-wise including those mills in the state of Rajasthan is attached.

(c) Owing to erosion in their net worth, 8 out of the 9 subsidiary corporations of the NTC have been referred

to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies. Government have approved a revised Turn Around Strategy for modernisation of NTC mills. The Turn Around Plan approved by the Government and placed before the BIFR envisages modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units etc. The BIFR is currently examining the revival schemes for the eight subsidiaries of NTC finalised on the basis of the revised Turn Around Strategy. Government are also implementing a voluntary retirement scheme for rationalisation of surplus workforce. Once the BIFR approves the rehabilitation package and Government implements the same, the NTC is expected to become profitable.

STATEMENT

Mill-Wise-Year Wise Net Profit/Loss 1992-93 Onwards

(Rs. In Crores)

Name		1992-93 (Audited)	1993-94	1994-95 Prov.
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Punjab</i>				
1.	Dayalbagh Mills	-3.21	-2.78	-2.61
2.	Suraj Textile	-1.96	-0.83	-1.01
3.	Kharar Textile	-1.67	-0.30	-1.29
4.	Panipat Mills	-3.46	-3.96	-1.18
<i>Rajasthan</i>				
5.	Sri Bijay Mills	-2.89	-1.95	-1.52
6.	Udaipur Mills	-1.49	-0.64	-1.55
7.	Mahalaxmi Mills	-3.72	-4.20	-3.06
8.	Edward Mills	-4.98	-4.40	-2.83
<i>Delhi</i>				
9.	Ajudhia Mills	-8.92	-11.27	-4.69
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>				
10.	Hira Mills	11.20	-11.72	-5.21
11.	Swadeshi Mills	-9.68	-9.29	-4.39
12.	New Bhopal Mill	-8.29	-6.0	-5.02
13.	Burhanpur Mills	-4.40	-3.70	-4.42

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Bengal Nagpur	-9.12	-9.77	-7.98
15.	Indore Malwa	-15.25	-14.93	-7.55
16.	Kalyanmal Mills	-10.30	-12.06	-7.35
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>				
17.	Sri Vikram Mill	-4.07	-5.37	-1.78
18.	Bijli Mills	-3.09	-5.74	-0.99
19.	Swadeshi Mill	-0.91	-1.68	-1.08
20.	Raebareli Mills	-2.44	-2.64	-0.79
21.	Swadeshi Mills	-7.05	-7.30	-6.51
22.	Muir Mills	-14.21	-17.54	-7.86
23.	New Victoria	-17.81	-21.36	-7.81
24.	Krishna Mills	-9.30	-10.04	-4.41
25.	Swadeshi Mills	-18.86	-21.48	-8.99
26.	Laxmirattan	-20.29	-14.06	-7.40
27.	Atherton Mills	-15.55	-20.36	-4.91
<i>Maharashtra</i>				
28.	Barshi Mills	-0.18	+0.01	+0.45
29.	Apollo Mills	-7.66	-6.03	-4.12
30.	Bharat Textiles	-6.11	-6.29	-5.92
31.	Digvijay Mills	-6.43	-7.34	-9.01
32.	Jupiter Mills	-13.34	-13.72	-6.00
33.	New Hind Mills	-11.52	-13.48	-8.82
34.	Mumbai Mills	-12.37	-12.42	-7.17
35.	Aurangabad	-1.67	-0.94	-1.16
36.	Chalisagaon Text	-1.88	-0.21	-1.19
37.	Dhule Text	-4.01	-3.67	-3.71
38.	Nanded Text.	-3.58	-3.15	-3.51
39.	Elphinstone	-5.74	-11.81	-6.82
40.	Elphinstone	-6.30	-15.01	-7.44
41.	Gold Mohr	-6.59	-10.12	-5.04
42.	Jam Mfg	-11.69	-15.51	-5.96

1	2	3	4	5
43.	Kohinoor 1,2,3	-11.47	-66.00	-8.04
44. & 45				
46.	Sri Madhusudan	-10.79	-24.46	-4.80
47.	New City	-4.12	-2.04	-4.62
48.	Podar	-3.72	-2.93	-5.31
49.	Podar Processor	-1.91	-2.99	-3.79
50.	Shri Sitaram	-7.17	-23.33	-3.77
51.	Tata	-7.22	-12.79	-5.07
52.	Indu No. 1	-11.16	-14.29	-9.89
53.	Indu No. 2	-8.56	-12.12	-5.91
54.	Indu No. 3 & 4 and 55	-12.66	-15.71	-9.98
56.	Indu No. 5	-5.91	-6.66	-5.24
57.	Indu Dyes Works	-2.94	-4.98	-3.73
58.	Model Mills	-9.07	-12.39	-8.35
59.	R. S. R. G. Mills	-3.82	-4.71	-2.98
60.	R. B. B. A. Mills	-1.82	-3.05	-3.62
61.	Savatram Mills	-3.37	-3.65	-1.82
62.	Vidarbha Mills	-3.53	-5.07	-2.95
<i>Gujarat</i>				
63.	Rajkot Mills	-2.98	-3.35	-1.86
64.	Mahalaxmi Mills	-8.45	-8.26	-5.10
65.	Petlad Mills	-4.76	-5.33	-2.44
66.	Ahmedabad New	-10.69	-9.92	-5.89
67.	Ahmedabad Jupiter	-13.37	-13.51	-6.11
68.	Jahangir Mills	-9.38	-10.51	-8.49
69.	Rajnagar 1 & 2	-13.59	-12.53	-6.84
70.				
71.	Viramgam Tex	-6.06	-6.66	-3.95
72.	Newmaneck Chowk	-5.65	-6.59	-5.35
73.	Himadri Mills	-3.94	-4.99	-4.67
<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>				
74.	Natha	-0.79	-1.27	-0.95
75.	Natraj Mills	-1.95	-2.31	-1.42
76.	Ananpur Mills	-2.10	-1.03	-0.39

1	2	3	4	5	•
77.	Tirupathi Mills	-1.79	-0.99	-0.95	
78.	Adoni Mills	-1.02	-0.51	-0.34	
79.	Azamjahi Mills	-6.70	-6.24	-2.08	
<i>Karnataka</i>					
80.	Sree Yallama	-2.53	-1.52	-1.03	
81.	Mysore Mills	-9.71	-7.75	-3.89	
82.	Minerva Mills	-9.32	-10.85	-2.93	
83.	M.S.R. Mills	-6.95	-7.39	-3.55	
<i>Kerala</i>					
84.	Cannanore, Can.	-0.73	-0.56	+0.07	
85.	Kerala Luxmi	-0.33	+0.73	-0.51	
86.	Vijay Mohini	-0.72	-0.14	-0.53	
87.	Algappa Mills	-0.69	+0.72	-0.37	
88.	Parvati Mills	-4.75	-3.18	-1.49	
<i>Pondicherry</i>					
89.	Cannanore Mahe	-0.35	+0.88	+0.32	
90.	Sri Bharti Mill	-2.53	-2.54	-1.17	
91.	Swadeshi Cotton	-3.36	-3.29	-3.56	
<i>Tamilnadu</i>					
92.	Omparasakthi	-0.56	+1.26	+0.38	
93.	Combodia Mills	-0.53	+1.29	+0.03	
94.	Krishnaveni Mill	-0.42	+0.28	-0.72	
95.	Sri Rangavilas	-1.15	+0.94	-0.41	
96.	Pankaja	-0.06	+1.61	+0.81	
97.	Pioneer Mills	-0.31	-1.00	+0.08	
98.	Balaramverma	-0.18	+0.48	+0.50	
99.	Kaleshwarer B	+0.10	+0.76	-1.05	
100.	Coimb. Murgan	+0.04	-3.04	-3.91	
101.	Sonsundrum Mill	-1.24	-0.39	-1.23	
102.	Kaleswarar A	-2.53	-3.17	-3.56	
103.	Coimb S & W	-3.31	+0.27	-2.77	
104.	Sri Sarda Mills	-0.78	-0.31	-0.83	
<i>Assam</i>					
105.	Associated	-1.94	-2.20	-2.31	
<i>Bihar</i>					
106.	Bihar Co. Op.	-1.82	-1.52	-1.90	

1	2	3	4	5
107. Gaya Cotton		-2.84	-2.53	-2.72
<i>Orissa</i>				
108. Orissa Cotton		-1.35	-1.74	-2.31
<i>West Bengal</i>				
109. Bengal Textile		-3.04	-2.66	-2.71
110. Luxmi Narayan		-3.19	-2.21	-3.16
111. Arati Cotton		-2.08	-2.10	-1.78
112. Bengal Fine-11		-0.69	-1.25	-1.17
113. Sodepur		-1.28	-1.22	-1.15
114. Central Cotton		-4.66	-3.88	-4.14
115. Bengal Fine 1		-3.63	-2.38	-3.32
116. Bengal Luxmi		-4.76	-3.36	-3.17
117. Shree Mahalaxmi		-3.94	-3.65	-3.66
118. Rampooria		-5.21	-4.17	-4.54
119. Bangasri		-2.04	-1.78	-1.88
120. Jyoti Wvg. Fac.		-1.41	-1.33	-1.37

Export Earnings

*133. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have detected any parking of export earnings abroad by exporters due to the recent slide in the Indian rupee against U.S. dollar;

(b) if so, the measures taken to bring back such parked export earnings from abroad;

(c) whether the measures taken to prevent such practices is adequate to meet the situation and shown any positive result;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the stringent measures proposed to be taken to prevent such practices in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). No case of parking of export earning abroad due to recent slide in the value of the Indian rupee against U.S. dollar has come to the notice of the Government. However, delays in the repatriation of export earnings have been noticed.

(c) to (e). Provision already exist under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 for imposition of penalty upto five times, of the amount involved. The law also provides for prosecution of the defaulters.

[Translation]

International Air Services in States

*134. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister the CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently conducted any survey to assess the possibilities of introducing international air services in various states ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to start some international air services in the states in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the locations selected for the purpose; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). The existing five international airports are considered adequate to meet the present level of international traffic to and from India. National carriers are also permitted to operate international services on a limited scale from other airports depending on traffic requirements subject to availability of customs and immigration facilities. Such international services are presently operated from Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calicut, Hyderabad, Varanasi, Goa and Amritsar.

[English]

External Commercial Borrowings

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

(a) whether the Government have made changes in guidelines relating to external commercial borrowings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Yes Sir,

(b) During 1995-96, the following modifications in External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) guidelines have been made :-

(i) Reduction in the average tenor requirement for 100% EOUs in respect of ECB exceeding US \$15 million from seven years to three years;

(ii) Permitting the Indian Financial Institutions to raise ECB at an average tenor of 5 years instead of 7 years for borrowings in excess of US \$15 million, and to onlend for project-related rupee expenditure at different maturities;

(iii) Extending the US \$ one million scheme to all corporates and institutions; and

(iv) Restoring the exemption from withholding tax on interest payable on external commercial borrowings.

ECB guidelines are reviewed periodically and necessary modifications made, taking into account several factors like changing international financial market conditions, the changing sectoral needs, as well as maintaining the external debt within prudent limits.

[Translation]

Trade With Japan

*136 DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive plan to increase export to Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of percentage of the trade transacted during each of the last three years with Japan out of the total trade at present; and

(d) the percentage of the trade likely to be achieved during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Commerce have identified Japan as one of the thrust countries for promoting India's exports. Japan has been and continues to be one of India's major trading partners and an important destination for Indian exports. All steps being taken by the Government to promote Indian exports also apply to Japan, including *inter-alia* :-

Exchange of trade delegations.

Participation in and holding of exhibitions and fairs.

Organisation of symposia and seminars.

Dissemination of business information.

Holding of official discussions and bilateral trade talks (eleventh annual bilateral talks were held in New Delhi in October 1995).

Strengthening of institutional contacts between apex business organisations of Japan and India etc.

Holding of an Indian Exposition in Tokyo in May this year, and Japan's participation as the 'partner country' in Indian Engineering Trade Fair (February, 1997) to be held in New Delhi would be an important milestone in our endeavors to promote trade with Japan.

(c) and (d). Percentage share of India's trade with Japan to India's overall global trade during the last three years has been follows:-

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
7.03%	7.16%	7.40%

The growth in our bilateral trade is likely to continue as Japanese interest in India is rising steadily in view of the economic reforms and liberalisation being implemented by Government of India.

[English]

Decline in Export of Tea to European Countries

*137. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of tea to European countries like U.K., Germany including United States of America has declined during 1995-96 in comparison to 1994-95;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the total quantity of tea exported to these countries during the above period, country-wise;

(c) whether the decline in export has caused hardship to the exporters; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of tea to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Our exports of tea to U.K., Germany and USA has been lower for the period between April-December, 1995-96 as compared to the corresponding figure in 1994-95. The details are given below :-

Year	U.K.		Germany		U.S.A.	
	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
1995-96	18.64	111.85	3.44	57.52	2.67	20.71
(April-Dec.)						
1994-95	26.23	148.09	4.95	52.93	4.82	34.74
(April-December)						

Source : DGCI&S

The decline in exports of Indian tea of UK and USA during 1995-96 are mainly attributable to the lower intake of tea by these two countries. In case of Germany, although the volume of exports of tea has declined, the unit price realisation for 1995-96 has improved considerably.

(c) Although there is a decline in tea exports to some of the European countries yet the overall exports of Indian tea during the Current year have shown considerable improvement benefitting the exporters and has been estimated for the period between April-December, 1995 at 124.00 million kgs valued at Rs.909.13 crores as compared to 112.16 million kgs valued at Rs.701.38 crores for the corresponding period in 1994.

(d) In order to boost our exports and improve our market share in various countries including Europe and USA, promotional campaigns have been launched by Tea Board in these countries apart from participating in Trade

Fairs, Exhibitions etc. A new media campaign has been introduced in Russia and a logo campaign has been continuing in U.K.

ODA from Japan

*138. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANJURU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of official development assistance which the Government of Japan has agreed to extend to the Government of India during 1995-96;

(b) the extent of increase therein as compared to the assistance given during 1994-95; and

(c) the projects on which the amount of assistance is proposed to be spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Government of Japan have agreed to extend official development assistance to the Government of India of an amount of Yen 128.774 billion during 1995-96.

(b) As compared to the assistance given during 1994-95 the increase is 4.5% in Yen terms.

(c) The above loan assistance would be utilized for the following projects :

(i) Attappady Wasteland Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project

(ii) Gujarat Afforestation and Development Project.

(iii) Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Project

(iv) Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal Modernization Project

(v) Pipavav Port ship breaking Project

(vi) Anpara Power Transmission System Project (II)

(vii) Dhauliganga Hydroelectric Power Plant: Construction Project

(viii) Small Scale Industries Development Programme (V)

(ix) Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Programme.

Export to USA

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

(a) whether the exports of USA have increased during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase registered as compared to previous year;

(c) whether any study report has been prepared in this regard;

(d) if so, the main features of the report;

(e) the details of major item of Indian exports to USA;

(f) the foreign exchange earned as a result thereof during each of the last three years; and

(g) the further steps taken by the Government to boost the export to USA?

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

(b) As per DGCI & S, Calcutta, the exports of USA have increased by 16.66% in rupee terms and 11.82% in US dollar terms during the first three quarters of the current financial year (i.e. April-December'95) as compared to the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

(c) & (d). No specific study report has been prepared by the Government. However, the progress in the Indo-US bilateral trade is monitored regularly.

(e) The major items of Indian exports of USA are Gems & Jewellery; Textiles & Readymade garments; Carpets & Handicrafts; Cashew; Coffee; Spices; Marine products; Drugs, Pharmaceuticals & Fine chemicals; Dyes & Intermediates; Rubber manufactured products; Plastic & Linoleum products; Manufactures of Metals; Machinery and Instruments; Transport Equipment; Electronic goods & Computer Software etc.

(f) The foreign exchange earned is as under :

Year	Rs. in Crores	US \$ in Millions
1992-93	10183.28	3516.01
1993-94	12543.88	3999.26
1994-95	15747.82	5015.45
April-Dec.'94	11315.92	3606.64
April-Dec.'95	13201.43	4032.99

(Source : DGCI & S Calcutta)

(g) There have been increased bilateral interactions, both by the Governments and the Private sectors. These include the visit by the Indian Prime Minister to USA in May '94; US Commerce Secretary's visit to India in January'95; Indian Commerce Minister's visit to USA in June 1995; the meetings of the Indo-US Joint Business Council in October'94 in Washington and in December '95 in New Delhi. In January'95, the Indo-US Commercial Alliance was launched which provides a framework for increased interaction between the private enterprises in both the countries for expanding trade and commercial ties. The Government also encourages Chambers of Commerce, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards and the exporters to mount trade delegations, organise buyerseller meets, participate in trade fairs in India and abroad, etc.

Trade with Australia

*140. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of trade transacted between India and Australia at present;

(b) whether the trade between both the countries is likely to be increased considerably in the next two-three years;

(c) whether the efforts are being made to add more value added products in this bilateral trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total amount of bilateral trade transacted between India and Australia from April to December, 1995 was about Rs. 3,308 crores (exports were about Rs. 909 crores and imports were about Rs. 2,399 crores).

(b) Yes Sir. It is expected that the trade between both countries will increase considerably in the next 2 or 3 years.

(c) and (d). Efforts are being made to expand and diversify our export basket to Australia, as also to trade, in more value added products. In this connection, software, computer and office machines, textiles and garments, engineering products especially automotive components, electrical machinery, leather goods, gems and jewellery and cattle feed have been identified to have good prospects for our exports. The trade promotion efforts include exchange of visits of businessmen between the two countries, participation in fairs and exhibitions etc.

Sale of N.T.C Cloth

976. **SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of cloth of NTC is being sold on reduced prices have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Loan to State Governments

977. **DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loans owed by the States to the Centre as on December, 1995 State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government for additional loan during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The amount of loans owed by the State to the Ministry of Finance as on December, 1995 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c). The State Government requested for an additional plan assistance/advance plan assistance of Rs. 636 crores, 70% of which is in the shape of loan and remaining 30% as grant. The request of the State Government has not been agreed to. The State Government has also requested the Central Govt. for an additional loan assistance of Rs. 100 crores so that the State Government could invest the same in the equity of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL). The said request of the State Government has also not been agreed to by the Government of India so far. Another request received from the State Government is for additional financial assistance of Rs. 39.70 crores for modernisation of State police. The request of the State Government is under consideration.

STATEMENT

State-wise figures of loans owned by the State Governments to the Ministry of Finance as on December, 1995.

State		Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	
1. Andhra Pradesh		9222.54
2. Arunachal Pradesh		184.58
3. Assam		3475.74
4. Bihar		8368.02
5. Goa		752.96
6. Gujarat		8368.86
7. Haryana		3117.98
8. Himachal Pradesh		1350.82
9. Jammu & Kashmir		2534.95
10. Karnataka		5849.10
11. Kerala		4078.64
12. Madhya Pradesh		5550.26
13. Maharashtra		13191.06
14. Manipur		175.92

1	2
15. Meghalaya	214.98
16. Mizoram	118.23
17. Nagaland	223.12
18. Orissa	4021.99
19. Punjab	9853.68
20. Rajasthan	5923.50
21. Sikkim	114.55
22. Tamil Nadu	7352.24
23. Tripura	311.83
24. Uttar Pradesh	18202.42
25. West Bengal	10647.98
Total	123205.95

Regional Rubber Board Offices

978. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any Regional Rubber Board Office working at Kottarakkara in Kerala at present;

(b) if so, the details of its main function of this office;

(c) the details of benefit being provided to rubber farmers from this office; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The Regional Office of the Rubber Board at Kottarakkara set up under the World Bank Assisted Projects during May 1994 undertakes developmental activities in 27 villages in Kottarakkara Taluk and 11 villages in Killam Taluk. The Office also implements various schemes for development of rubber cultivation in the area.

(c) One of the main schemes implemented by this office is Rubber Plantation Development Scheme. Under this scheme, during 1994-95 permits for availing planting grant were issued to 6,936 holdings and an amount of Rs. 28.26 lakhs was paid as subsidy. Other schemes such as subsidy for hand operated rollers, construction of smokehouse and labour welfare scheme for workers in the unorganised sector are also being implemented. The office has conducted 353 seminars 1994-95 for the benefit of growers.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

ESI Scheme

979. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether some employees are not contributing towards the Employees' State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make it a cognizable offence with a view to check this tendency;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). Under the ESI Act, 1948 the responsibility for payment of contributions even in respect of employees' share, vests in the employer. There are some employers who have defaulted in payment of the ESI contributions. Recently the Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for Ministry of Labour has recommended for making non-payment of ESI Contributions a cognizable offence. This recommendation involves amendment of the Act as such has been referred to other Ministries for comments.

[English]

Civil Aviation in Rajasthan

980. SHRI KUNJEE LAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes implemented for the development of Civil Aviation in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five year plan;

(b) the amount allocated by the Union Government for this purpose till date during the Eighth Five year Plan, scheme-wise; and

(c) the details of the development works started/ being started in this sector in the State during the current five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). The Airports Authority of India has undertaken at a cost of Rs. 36.44 crores approximately, the following schemes for the development of Civil aviation in Rajasthan:-

Expansion & Modification of Terminal Building at Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Udaipur airports.

- Construction of Technical Block cum Control Tower and Boundary wall at Jaipur and Kota airports.

Extension of runway at Jaipur and Udaipur.

Acquisition of land for extension of runway at Udaipur airport.

- Installation of Low Power Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at Jaipur and Udaipur airports; High Power DME at Jodhpur and Udaipur airports; Multi voice Logging Recorder (MVL R) at Jaipur; Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Udaipur.

No specific allocation of funds has been done in the 8th Plan by the Union Government to the Airports Authority of India for these works.

[English]

Development in Madhya Pradesh

981. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the details of the schemes implemented for the development of Civil Aviation in Madhya Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : During the Seventh Five Year plan period, the Airports Authority of India has implemented the following schemes in the airports of Madhya Pradesh:

- extension and strengthening of runway and associated pavements at Bhopal, Indore, Khajuraho and Satna.
- installation of Non Directional Beacon (NDB) at Bhopal, Jabalpur, Indore, Rajpur and Sihora; High Frequency Single Side Band Trans Receiver (HF SSB Tx/RX) at Bhopal and Jabalpur; Very High Frequency Omni Range (VOR) at Indore; Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Bhopal; Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range At Khajuraho.

Construction of Terminal Building, residential quarters at Gwalior; Apron and Taxiway at Gwalior and Khajuraho.

[English]

Refinancing by N.A.B.A.R.D.

982. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount distributed by NABARD for refinancing the cooperatives in the country during 1994 and 1995 separately, state-wise;

(b) the total amount of NABARD outstanding as principal and interest, separately against the cooperatives during the above period; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Workers

983. DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers rendered jobless from the closed industries and undertakings of Government in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last three years and upto January, 1996, industry-wise and undertaking-wise; and

(b) the undertaking-wise details of the workers rehabilitated, so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES

(SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[English]

Soil Testing Laboratory Facility of Rubber Board

984. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Soil Testing Laboratory and other facilities are planned by the Rubber Board in different areas;

(b) whether the Rubber Board has started any unit at Kanjirappally and Kottayam in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, area-wise?

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

(b) and (c). Proposal for establishment of Soil Testing Laboratory at Kanjirappally region has not been finalised. The Central Soil Testing laboratory is already located at Kottayam. Besides a mobile soil testing Laboratory is operating from there.

Non-Performing Assets of Banks

985. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the figures of non-performing assets of each of the nationalised banks and also of the SBI during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of budgetary assistance provided to each of these banks during the above period; and

(c) the overall recovery percentage of the loans given under the rural poverty eradication programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the amount of non-performing assets of nationalised banks and SBI, during the last three years, is given in the enclosed Statement - I.

(b) The quantum of budgetary support provided to each of the nationalised banks is given in the enclosed Statement -II. No budgetary support has been given to SBI.

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

STATEMENT - I

Statement showing the non-performing assets of Nationalised Banks and State Bank of India for the years ended 31st March 93, 94 and 95

Name of the Bank	31 March, 93 Amount	31 March, 94 Amount	31 March, 95 Amount
1	2	3	4
1. Allahabad Bank	1207.00	1025.03	1235.11
2. Andhra Bank	398.00	520.78	377.65
3. Bank of Baroda	2409.27	2630.16	2689.68
4. Bank of India	4262.00	3772.00	2961.00
5. Bank of Maharashtra	753.99	847.67	734.59
6. Canara Bank	1947.09	1653.00	1523.00
7. Central Bank of India	2173.00	2443.00	2154.78
8. Corporation Bank	176.00	259.01	260.01
9. Dena Bank	620.00	564.00	557.00
10. Indian Bank	1881.00	2040.51	2102.41
11. Indian Overseas Bank	2272.00	2175.18	2001.41
12. Oriental Bank of Commerce	293.00	210.95	221.94
13. Punjab & Sind Bank	648.00	637.28	619.32
14. Punjab National Bank	1634.47	2179.03	2033.00
15. Syndicate Bank	1558.00	1409.60	1452.97

1	2	3	4
16. Uco Bank	1625.00	1961.81	1745.60
17. United Bank of India	949.00	1509.00	1309.68
18. Union Bank of India	780.00	693.49	695.95
19. Vijaya Bank	451.00	532.88	439.40
20. State Bank of India	11171.38	11604.80	10926.15

STATEMENT - II*Capital contributed by Government of India*

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Bank	Cap. alloc. 1992-93	Cap. alloc. 1993-94	Cap. alloc. 1994-95
1. Allahabad Bank	65.00	90.00	457.81
2. Andhra Bank	30.00	150.00	184.32
3. Bank of Baroda	50.00	400.00	0.00
4. Bank of India	0.00	635.00	1196.60
5. Bank of Maharashtra	35.00	150.00	334.19
6. Canara Bank	75.00	365.00	0.00
7. Central Bank of India	0.00	490.00	632.46
8. Corporation Bank	30.00	45.00	0.00
9. Dena Bank	50.00	130.00	78.39
10. Indian Bank	35.00	220.00	411.90
11. Indian Overseas Bank	0.00	705.00	391.34
12. Oriental Bank of Commerce	30.00	50.00	0.00
13. Punjab & Sind Bank	85.00	160.00	116.03
14. Punjab National Bank	75.00	415.00	0.00
15. Syndicate Bank	0.00	600.00	367.38
16. UCO Bank	0.00	535.00	515.52
17. United Bank of India	0.00	215.00	538.87
18. Union Bank of India	30.00	200.00	0.00
19. Vijya Bank	50.00	65.00	62.31
20. New Bank of India	60.00	-(x)	-(x)

(x) Since merged with Punjab National Bank with effect from 4.9.1993

[Translation]

Supply of Narcotics

986. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the smuggling of narcotics between India and Nepal is on increase;

(b) if so, the details of the places of smuggling between both the country. and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check its smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Drug smuggling is a clandestine activity and therefore it cannot be said definitely whether smuggling of narcotics between India and Nepal is on increase or otherwise. However by virtue of proximity, the areas along Indo-Nepal border are vulnerable to smuggling of narcotics.

(b) Lakhimpur, Siddharthnagar in Uttar Pradesh and Raxaul, East and West Champaran in Bihar are some of the places noticed to be sensitive for smuggling.

(c) Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringnet provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. BSF, who are deployed on land borders have been vested with the powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to other Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDPS Act.

[English]

Export of Textiles

987. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether quota system in the export of cloth has been abolished under the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, whether the Government are preparing any action plan to face the challenges in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The quota system for the export of textiles and clothing has not been abolished under the World Trade Organisation

with immediate effect. However, the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) included in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, envisages complete integration of the textile sector into the multilateral framework of GATT/WTO at the end of a 10 year transition period, after which all quotas on textiles and clothing are to come to an end.

In order to step up the exports of textiles, Government have been taking a number of steps, which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc.

Small Denomination Coins

988. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 1, 2, 5 and 10 paise coins are being minted and circulated through designated banks ;

(b) if not, the year from which their minting or circulation discontinued and the methodology to be employed by consumers to make each payments of odd fractions of rupee; and

(c) if so, details of these coins minted and circulated by designated banks during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL) : (a) and (b). 5 paise and 10 paise coins are being minted and circulated through designated banks. 1 paise & 2 paise coins are no longer being minted as all transactions are rounded off to the nearest of 5 paise. The decision of the Government of India to discontinue minting of 1 paise, 2 paise & 3 paise coins was announced in the Lok Sabha on 20.3.81.

(c) The details of 5 & 10 paise coins minted and supplied by Government Mints during last two years are as indicated below :-

(Pieces in millions)

Denominations	1993-94		1994-95	
	Minted	Supplied	Minted	Supplied*
5 p.	59	71	30	31
10 p.	82	88	11	13

* Supplies include supplies out of stocks of coins minted in previous year.

Bank Loan Defaulters

989. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL** : Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Central Bank Officers Federation has been demanding publication of lists of bank loan defaulters for a long time;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to make the banking system transparent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). Attention of the Government 'Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was invited to the news item published in the Indian Express dated 4th September, 1995 under the caption "Bank Officers' Union demand s publication of defaulters list". However, RBI has reported that it has not received any representation from them. It did receive a request from All India Bank officers' Confederation, Calcutta, asking for disclosure of information relating to defaulting borrowers etc. RBI had advised the association that since the information asked for by it was of a confidential nature, the request of the Confederation could not be acceded to.

RBI put in place a scheme to collect and disseminate information (both funded and nonfunded facilities) aggregating Rs. 1 crore and above and whose accounts have been classified as 'doubtful' or 'loss' as also borrowers against whom suits have been filled. The information so collected is circulated to banks and financial institutions for their use. The list of defaulters circulated to banks and financial institutions cannot be published under the existing provisions relating to confidentiality of customers' accounts as available in various pieces of legislation. However, the list of suit filled accounts has been published already by RBI.

Appointments in AI & IA

990. **SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI** : Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prescribed procedures for selection to various posts in AI & IA have been followed during last three years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

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

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

Trade with Hungary

991. **SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to revive the tradeties with Hungary;

(b) if so, the details of new areas identified, if any, for revival and expansion of trade ties with Hungry; and

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

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

(b) The details which have been offered for export to Hungary from India, in addition to the existing items of trade, are computer software, iron-ore, Indian whisky, carpets, precious stones, jewellery, traditional carved Indian wooden furniture, rugs and tapestries, machine tools, tractor assembly, processed foods and food processing machinery, earth moving machinery, casting & forging, project & consultancy exports, cooperation in non-conventional energy sources.

The items offered by the Hungarian side for exports to India *inter-alia*, are peas and other agricultural products, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, basic materials for pharmaceuticals, metallurgical products, machineries, electronics & cables.

(c) The steps and measures taken by the Government in this regard include exchange of delegations, participation in trade fairs in each other's countries and promotion of high level contacts, exchange of trade statistics and tender documents, exploring the potential for warehousing and consignment exports, possibility of third country exports, in Hungary, conclusion and protection Agreement and Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement respectively, encouragement of the business entities to participate in buyer-seller meetings and holding of Joint Commission meetings etc.

MFN Status for India by Pakistan

992. **SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has already granted Most-Favoured-Nations(MFN) status to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan has been dilly dallying the issue of granting MFN status to India for the reason or the other and that Pakistan has raising controversial issue over the matter;

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

(e) steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get Pakistan agree to the grant of MFN status to India;

(f) whether the Government have any proposal to withdraw the MFN status to Pakistan; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). India is a member of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and in compliance with its obligations under Article 1 of this Agreement to extend Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment to other members, India has been according MFN treatment to Pakistan, except for the period between 1965 and 1974, when trade between the two countries was disrupted due to hostilities.

(c) to (g). In 1978, Pakistan unilaterally barred its private sector from trade with India, as a result of which benefits accruing to India under GATT have been impaired. With effect from 1982, however, private sector trade with India was resumed selectively and in stages by Pakistan. Presently, Pakistan restricts items of import from India, by means of a list of 571 permissible items.

The matter of denial of MFN rights to India by Pakistan has been taken up by India for resolution through bilateral consultations, in the first instance. There is no proposal under consideration of Government of India to withdraw the MFN rights granted by India to Pakistan.

Requests for Transfers in Bank of India

993. **SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the transfer requests of clerks for Gurgaon/Delhi pending with the Bank of India, Nariman Point, Bombay since May, 1987 and 1989 separately;

(b) the details of applications cleared since June 1989, so far; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to expedite all the remaining requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) As reported by the Bank of India, the Number of Pending applications for transfer to Gurgaon/Delhi as on May 1987/May 1989 were as under :

		May 1987	May 1989
(i)	Gurgaon	12	15
(ii)	Delhi	53	68

(b) Six.

(c) The requests for transfers are considered by the bank as and when vacancy arises in desired places as per ranking in the waiting list.

Export Organic Food and Fibres

994. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any possibility to tap the foreign market in the field of organic foods and fibres;

(b) whether the Government have received any request in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard and the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items?

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

(b) to (d). Some of the steps taken to boost the exports of organic foods, *inter-alia*, include :-

(i) Setting up of a Standing-cum-Accreditation Committee to evolve policies and procedure for Accreditation, Inspection and Certification agencies.

(ii) Appointment of an International Consultant to develop an Indian National Organic Certification Scheme and its accreditation with European Economic Commission and International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement.

(iii) Participation in International trade fairs/exhibitions.

(iv) Providing financial assistance for development of production and export of organic foods to organic farmers/exporters.

Export of Marine Products

995. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of marine products exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during 1995-96, country-wise and item-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) During the period (April-January) 1995-96, India exported 216681 MT of marine products valued at Rs. 2506.64 crores, (Source-DGCI&S). The country-wise details are available in the Foreign Trade Statistics of India (annual/monthly number) published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) Steps taken to enhance export of marine products, *inter-alia*, include :-

(i) Providing financial assistance for modernisation of seafood industry stepping up production of culture fisheries and establishment of shrimp hatcheries; acquiring quality control equipment, individual quick freezing machinery and generator sets; and modification of mechanised vessels.

(ii) Equity contribution to projects set up in the areas of culture and capture fisheries.

(iii) Encouraging product development to meet international needs.

(iv) Identification of new markets for export of marine products.

(v) Participation in International Trade Fairs, arranging buyer seller meets and sponsoring trade delegations.

MODVAT Scheme

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the modified value Added Tax (Modvat) scheme following detection of several cases of misuse of the provision which permits dealers to issue invoices for making credit claims ;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the particulars of the false claims and amount involved therein ; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to prevent the misuse of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Government is continuously studying and monitoring the working of Modvat Scheme and taking necessary steps so that the scheme is not misused.

(c) The data in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after compilation.

(d) Stringent action is initiated against offenders of Modvat Scheme as per Law. Show Cause Notices are issued and cases are adjudicated confirming the demands. Penal action is also initiated wherever deemed fit. Lacunae, if any, which come to notice, will be removed in the light of the experience of the working of the scheme.

Excise Duty Dues Against New Tobacco Co.

997. **SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Excise Duty outstanding against the New Tobacco Company as on date ;

(b) the break-up of the period for which it is due; and

(c) the steps being taken for the recovery of the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Central Excise duty amounting to Rs. 59.40 crore (Confirmed demands) excluding penalty is outstanding against M/s New Tobacco Company Limited as on date.

(b) Various claims were made against the Company in various periods from 1987 to date.

(c) Necessary administrative, legal and other measures under the relevant laws/Acts are continuously taken to recover the outstanding dues.

Liberalisation of Textile and Clothing Trade

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

(a) whether though Uruguay Round negotiations agreed to liberalise World textiles and clothings trade, yet it will do almost nothing to open markets in developed countries to Third World textile exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Geneva based International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB) has also conceded that the major importers had hardly liberalised any significant MFA restrictions on any developing countries; and

(d) if so, the action Government have taken to meet such situation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). The agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) included in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round, envisages complete integration of the textile sector into the multilateral framework of GATT/WTO at the end of a 10 year transition period. The 10 years transition period is divided into 2 stages of 3 years, 4 years and 3 years respectively. At the commencement of each of these 3 stages, products accounting for 16% 17% and 18% respectively will stand integrated into the GATT. The remaining 49% will be integrated at the end of the 10 year transition period. Existing growth rates for products subject to quota restriction would be increased by 16%, 25% and 27% respectively at the beginning of the first, second and third stages respectively.

According to the ATC, the importing countries are free to integrate any product from the textile universe (as annexed to the ATC) in the three stages. However, the products to be integrated should encompass products from each of the four groups, namely tops and yarns, fabrics, made-up textile products, and clothing. The integration of products announced by the major importing countries in the first phase, though not providing significantly greater access in actual terms, are in conformity with the provisions of the ATC.

World Bank Funds for ODS Phase Project

999. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (Deepa) :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge amount has accrued as interest on the funds received by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) against Ozone Depleting Substances phase out project under Montreal protocol which has not so far been disbursed to the approved units;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay in disbursement of funds by IDBI;

(c) whether the Government propose to give benefit to the approved units of the accumulated interest on the OTF Grant amount laying with IDBI for the past one year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL) : (a) to (b). No, Sir. However, only a token amount of interest has accrued in the 'special account' held by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) at State Bank of India, New York, on funds remitted from the World Bank from time to time against ozone depleting substances (ODS) phase out projects. IDBI has reported that the beneficiary enterprises have delayed the implementation of ODS phase out projects for their own reasons, and have not approached IDBI for disbursements. IDBI has, in some cases, based on merits, disbursed the funds against the undertakings obtained from the enterprises to comply with the conditions.

(c) and (d). IDBI has reported that since the amount of interest accrued has been allowed to be retained by IDBI, the question of giving benefit to the approved units out of accumulated interest does not arise.

Benami Transactions

1000. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Benami Transactions (Prohibitions) Act, 1988 is not being enforced in spite of its constitutional validity;

(b) whether the Government have by now decided to implement the Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make the law operational and time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Benami Transactions (Prohibitions) Act, 1988, could not be brought under operation in view of certain problems envisaged in implementing the Act;

(b) to (d). The issue of effective implementation of the Act is under the active consideration of the Government. Though a specific time-frame cannot be stated, the details are being worked out.

Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana

1001. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of self employment under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana are pending since 1993 due to communication gap between Directorate of Industries, Delhi and the banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the working of both the agencies to provide financial assistance to the applicants under PMRY in a stipulated period;

(d) the number of applications returned by the banks to the Directorate of Industries, Delhi stating reasons for rejection during the above period bank-wise ; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure that the loan applications are not rejected on flimsy grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). As per the reports received from the Office of the Commissioner of Industries, Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi, they have no such applications pending with them under Prime Minister's Rozgar yojana (PMRY). All the applications under PMRY received by the Office of the Commissioner of Industries have been screened and eligible applications sponsored to the banks for sanctioning/disbursement of loans. Some of the applications sent to the banks are however being returned from time to time for diverting to other banks or for some clarification. Such applications are sent back after reallocation of the banks and giving clarification where required. This is a continuous process.

(c) The State Govts. were asked to sponsor all the eligible applications to the banks equal to their target by the end of September and equal to double their target by December, 1995. RBI guidelines on time periods for disposal of cases depending upon their amount exists.

(d) and (e). As per the reports received from the Office of the Commissioner of Industries, NCT of Delhi, banks have rejected 3,303 applications during 1995-96 upto 31.1.1996. No information has been furnished for the year 1993-94 and 1994-95. The main reasons for rejection of applications as reported by that office, among others, are applicant not turning up for availing loan, applicant being ineligible and the projects not being viable/bankable etc.

Preservation of Taj Mahal

1002. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank propose to render \$ 500 million assistance for preservation of the Taj Mahal and other important historical monuments in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn out plans for utilisation of the ADB's assistance for the said purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). The Asian Development Bank have approved a technical assistance to provide a comprehensive assessment of the current environmental situation in the Agra, Mathura, and Ferozabad districts recommend appropriate mitigation measures for improvement, and formulate a Project for sustainable development of Agra, Mathura and Ferozabad district with particular reference to environmental protection, energy conservation and economic and social impact.

Further course of action with respect to ADB related loan assistance will depend on the reports arising out of the above technical assistance.

[Translation]

Telephone Facilities

1003. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Government employees belonging to certain categories are provided with residential telephone facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officers of the Under Secretary Grade are not provided with such facilities;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether such officers are entitled for reimbursement of private telephone bills;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (g). Residential telephones are allowed to officers having regard to the functional requirements. In terms of the existing orders, residential telephone is generally restricted to the officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above. Below the rank of Deputy Secretary, not more than 25% of Group 'A' officers can be provided with residential telephones. The officers of the level of Under Secretary, thus, belong to non-entitled category for the purpose of residential telephones, unless allowed under 25% quota, keeping in view the specific functional need.

[English]

Smuggling of Arms

1004. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether vast quantities of sophisticated arms are being smuggled in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any investigation regarding the cases of smuggling of arms during 1995 and 1996;

(c) if so, the details of such cases including details of smugglers, arms seized, their financiers and their recipients; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds from the NRF for Gujarat

1005. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SMT. BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal for restructuring the mills of Gujarat State Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance under the National Renewal Fund has been given to the State Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of assistance given during the last three years; and

(e) the assistance proposed to be provided during the year 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (e). According to the Ministry of Industry, the State Govt. of Gujarat have submitted a proposal for assistance of Rs. 96.83 crores from National Renewal Fund for restructuring and rehabilitation of Gujarat State Textile Corporation. Ministry of Industry will take up the proposal after operational modalities for grant of assistance from National Renewal Fund have been finalised.

[Translation]

Passes for journalists in AI

1006. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :

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

(a) whether Air India have decided to issue 250 free tickets to the journalists every year;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down for the selection of such journalists and the number of free tickets likely to be issued to each journalists; and

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Issue of passes by airlines for the purpose of Public relations is a normal industry practice. Air India has been issuing such passes for the last 30 years or more keeping in view its commercial and business interests and no new system has recently been evolved.

The passes are issued on the basis of perceived advantage/benefit to Air India, on the merit of each case and no cost is incurred by the Company as the pass holders are generally accommodated only after accommodating the revenue paying passengers.

[English]

National Institute of Fashion Technology

1007. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a centre of National Institute of Fashion Technology in Bangalore ;

(b) if so, the amount of Assistance to be provided by the Union Government;

(c) whether the State Government have agreed to provide land and other infrastructural facilities for this Institute;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time schedule fixed for completion of this?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Government of India has received a proposal from the Government of Karnataka regarding setting up of a centre of National Institute of Fashion Technology at Bangalore.

(b) The amount of assistance to be provided by the Union Government as per the pattern approved by the Planning Commission for the purpose is Rs. 260 lakh non-recurring portion out of a total expenditure of Rs. 490 lakh.

(c) and (d). Government of Karnataka has agreed to provide land and other infrastructural facilities for the Institute as per the Project Report.

(e) The Ministry is engaged in setting up of five branches of National Institute of Fashion Technology at Calcutta, Gandhinagar, Hyderabad, Madras and Mumbai. Planning Commission and Ministry of Textiles are of the view that till these five institutes become fully operational and are recognised as Centres of Excellence, it would not be desirable to open any more institutes and spread the resources thinly. Therefore, no final decision can be taken at this stage and the time schedule cannot be predicted.

Income Tax Return

1008. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the political parties (National and Regional) recognised by the Election Commission are required to file their accounts of 'Receipts and Expenditures' to the Income Tax Authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the political parties which have not filed their tax return regularly; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). As per enclosed Statement -I

(c) As per enclosed Statement -II

(d) Part information in respect of the political parties which have not filed their tax returns regularly is being collected. All steps in accordance with law are being taken/will be taken to ensure that the statutory obligations are fulfilled by the political parties.

STATEMENT - I

According to Section 139(48) of the Income tax Act, 1961, the Chief Executive or every political party is, if the total income in respect of which the political party is assessable (the total income for this purpose being computed without giving effect to the provisions of Section 13 A of the Income-tax Act), exceeds the maximum amount which is not chargeable to income-tax required to furnish a return of such income of the previous year.

The provisions of Section 13A of Income-tax Act provide for exemption of income assessable under the head 'Income from house property' or 'Income from other sources' or income by way of voluntary contribution received provided the political party fulfils the following conditions :

(a) such political party keeps and maintains such books of account and other documents as would enable the Assessing Officer to properly deduce its income therefrom;

(b) in respect of each such voluntary contribution in excess of ten thousand rupees, such political party keeps and maintains a record to such contribution and the name and address of the person who has made such contribution; and

(c) the accounts of such political party are audited by an accountant as defined in the Explanation below sub-section (2) of Section 288.

STATEMENT - II

For the previous year ending March 1995, relevant to the Assessment Year 1995-96, the under-mentioned parties have filed their income-tax returns :

Name of the Political Party	Date on which Return Filed
1. All India Congress Committee (Socialist)	5.2.96
2. All India Forward Block	13.2.96
3. Bharatiya Janta Party	28.12.95
4. Communist Party of India	18.9.95
5. Communist Party of India (Marxist)	5.12.95
6. Indian National Congress	14.2.96
7. Jantal Dal	19.2.96
8. Janta Party (JP)	19.2.96
9. Revolutionary Socialist Party	27.12.95
10. Hill People Union	30.1.96
11. Hill State peoples Democratic	7.2.96
12. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	9.11.95

The above information is as on 20.2.96. The information in respect of the remaining National and Regional Parties is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Income Tax Collection

1009. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of income tax collected during

1995-96 as till date as compared to 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the total number of persons arrested on the change of tax evasion in 1995-96 till date and the action taken against them;

(c) whether any new policy has been formulated by the Government in order to check tax evasion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :

(Rupees in Crores)

(a) :	Corporation Tax	Income-tax
1995-96		
(upto 15.2.96)	12099.75	11322.70
1994-95		
(upto 15.2.96)	9840.87	8315.79
1994-95	13821	12830
1993-94	10060	9122

(b) Income-tax Authorities do not have power to arrest for tax evasion. However, under Chapter XXII of the Income-tax Act, 1961, prosecutions may be launched for various offences. During the year 1995-96 (till 31st January 1996) 20 persons were awarded sentences of imprisonment by the courts for substantive offences under the Income-tax Act..

(c) and (d). Combating tax evasion is a continuing effort. Government have been adopting necessary legislative fiscal and administrative measures from time to time to check tax evasion. Over the years rates of taxation have been progressively rationalised. Income-tax act contains a number of provisions aimed at curbing tax evasion. These include *inter alia*, provisions, regarding compulsory maintenance and audit of accounts in appropriate cases u/s 44AA and 44 AB, restrictions on cash transactions u/s 40A(3), 269SS and 269T presumptive purchase of property under chapter XXC, presumptive taxation scheme for small/retail trade u/s 155 K and provisions regarding penalties and prosecutions for punishing tax defaulters. The Act also contains provisions regarding summons, surveys and searches etc to detect tax evasion. These provisions are resorted to in appropriate cases. The increasing tax revenues year after year are indication of the success of these measures. Recently a new chapter XIVB has been introduced to expedite completion of search assessments.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism

1010. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY:

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

(a) the total number of tourist arrival in the country against target for the year 1995-96 with break up for northern States;

(b) the details of the schemes/strategies being contemplated/implemented by the Government to promote tourism in the country;

(c) the likely foreign exchange earnings as result thereof;

(d) whether the State Governments are being associated in the process of implementation of the schemes;

(e) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto; and

(f) The extent of Government assistance proposed for the States therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The foreign tourist arrivals during 1995 were 21,23,683. The growth achieved during the year was 12.6 percent as compared to a projected target of about 9 to 10 percent. The number of tourists who disarmed in Delhi Air port during 1995 were 7,17,120.

(b) Tourism development and promotion is a process and is proposed to be achieved by facilitating private investment and by extending financial assistance to State/UT Governments for infrastructure development.

(c) the foreign exchange earnings from tourism in their during 1995 is estimated to be about Rs.8640.02 crores.

(d) to (f). It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to develop tourism in their respective States. The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to State/UT Governments on the basis of specific project proposals received from them and their *inter-se* priorities. During the year 1994-95, a sum of Rs. 16.86 crores was released to various State/UT Governments for the development of tourism. The plan outlay for the Department of Tourism for year 1995-96 is of the same order.

Complaint against Gold Jewellery Exporters

1011. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against the firms who are engaged the export of gold jewellery and received gold from the

Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited, have committed fraud by tampering airway bills and collecting money in foreign countries direct and not making payment to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount M.M.T.C. Limited due from each of these firms as on December 31, 1995,

(c) whether the M.M.T.C. limited has taken any action against any of these firms;

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

(e) whether his Ministry propose to refer these cases of fraud to the Ministry of Finance under FERA;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. however irregularities committed by certain firms engaged in export of gold jewellery by way of tampering of airways bills and collection of parcels by exporters from the overseas consignees without remitting the proceeds to MMTC were brought to the notice of MMTC who in turn have informed Government.

(b) Five firms are alleged to have tampered airways bills. The names of the firms and the amount outstanding from these firms as on 31.12.95 are given below :-

(Value in US \$)

1. Corcorde Overseas private Limited	1,95,672
2. Glitter Overseas	4,62,584
3. Pretty Woman	2,60,571
4. Himansu Jewellers	27,879
5. Maharaja Den	1,64,664

Two firms have taken delivery of their parcels from the overseas consignees and have not remitted the proceeds to MMTC. Their names and outstanding amounts as on 31.12.95 are given below :-

(Value in US \$)

1. Spic N Span Export Private Limited	89,460
2. Delco Precitone Jewellers Private Limited.	5,12,463
3. Yes, Sir.	

(c) to (g). MMTC has taken action against the firms mentioned above by referring to appropriate agencies such as Directorate of Enforcement (DDE), CBI and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) and Customs. MMTC has also launched legal action for recovery of dues.

Gold Bar

1012. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of private gold refineries are engaged in the manufacture of primary gold (Bar) under the Gold Control Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the gold bars in primary form are exempted from duty and other levies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Since the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 was repealed in June, 1990 by the Gold (Control) Repeal Act, 1990 (No.18 of 1990), the Government do not maintain any data on the subject.

(b) to (e). In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Flying/Gliding Clubs

1013. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details is of flying/gliding clubs operating in the country with dates of establishment, number of aircraft owned and other details, State-wise, till date;

(b) the amount of subsidy/assistance provided to each of these clubs during each of the last three years; and

(c) the rating given by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to each of these clubs?

THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) There is no system of rating by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

STATEMENT

Name of flying /Gliding Clubs, State to which belong and Date of establishment	No. of Aircraft/ Gliders	Amount of subsidy given by D.G.C.A. (Rs. in lakhs) (approximately)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Till date)
1	2	3	4	5
FLYING CLUBS				
Govt. Flying training Centre, Lucknow, U.P. 1.8.1980 with 3 branches at Kanpur Faizabad and Varanasi	6	11.80	8.17	5.34
Bombay Flying Club Juhu airport, Bombay (Maharashtra) 9.5.1928	8	4.58	4.27	1.18
Madras Flying Club (Tamil Nadu) 4.3.1930	7	8.02	6.48	3.88
Govt. Flying Training instt., Behala Calcutta, (West Bengal) 7.8.1963	3	1.17	8.25	Nil
Delhi Flying Club (Delhi) 28.5.1928	9	11.40	9.26	Nil
Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur, (Rajasthan) 1954	3	5.98	6.44	3.40
Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore with one branch at Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) 1951	9	12.96	19.90	18.43
Govt. Flying Training School, Bangalore, (Karnataka) 1948	6	10.06	Nil	Nil
A.P. Flying Club, Hyderabad (A.P.) 8.9.1958	7	11.21	5.79	7.49
Kerala Aviation Training Centre Trivandrum, (Kerala) 14.7.1959	3	3.45	3.32	1.06

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat Flying Club, Baroda, Gujarat. 20.12.1958	7	11.60	11.37	14.02
Coimbatore Flying Club Ltd. (Tamil Nadu)1960	3	0.20	Nil	Nil
Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala Punjab October, 1962	5	8089	7.35	Nil
Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar Punjab 1962	4	4.13	4.92	3.54
Pinjore Aviation Club, Pinjore Haryana 1.4.1991	2	4.17	1.50	1.24
Jamshedpur Co-op. Flying Club Ltd. Jamshedpur (Bihar) 1966	3	2.73	1.09	3.65
Hissar Aviation Club, Hissar Haryana 1965	5	5.05	5.17	3.63
Karnal Aviation Club, Karnal Haryana March 3, 1967	5	6.13	3.37	5.33
Ludhiana Aviation Club Punjab 1.1.1968	5	11.29	12.35	6.44
Bihar Flying Instt. Patna (Bihar) 1940	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Govt. Aviation Training Institute, Bhubaneshwar (Orissa) 1946	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Andaman & Nicobar Flying Training Instt., Port Blair Oct., 1988	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Banasthali Vidyapith Flying Club Rajasthan 11.8.1961	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nagpur Flying Club (Maharashtra) 1948	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Northern India Flying Club, Jalandhar Cantt. (Punjab)	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Assam Flying Club, Guwahati Assam May, 1958	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
UDAN Research & Flying Instt., Indore (M.P.) 1.10.1990	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bangalore Aeronautics and Tech. Services (Karnataka) 12.1.1994	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil 3
Ahmedabad Aviation Akademi Gujarat 1.5.1994	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
orient Flight School, Madras 26.12.1994	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
GLIDING CLUBS				
Ahmedabad Gliding & Flying Club Gujarat 19.12.1961	3	0.93	0.85	1.08
Birla Gliding Club, Pilani Rajasthan 1957	3	1.02	1.03	0.33
Delhi Gliding Club, Delhi	Nil	2.99	3.06	2.66
Gliding & Soaring Centre, Ill Kanpur, U.P. 27.11.1968	4	1.27	1.06	0.51
Deolali Gliding Club, Nasik (Maharashtra) 10.08.1962	5	2.78	3.12	3.22
Pinjore Aviation Club (Haryana) February, 1982	4	5.50	6.73	3.49
Hissar Aviation Club (Har.) 1968	4	6.63	6.10	3.46
Jamshedpur Gliding Club (Bihar) 1988.	3	0.74	1.88	1.70
Bihar Flying Instt., Gliding wing, Ranchi 1996	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Govt. Gliding Centre, Pune Maharashtra	13	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ludhiāna Aviation Club Gliding wing (Punjab) 1.3.1977	2	2.15	1.04	1.34

Writing off of loans to State Govts.

1014. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of State Governments have asked to write off loans given to them by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise details of loan written off during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be furnished.

Inspection of UTI

1015. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India ordered the inspection of the workings of the Unit Trust of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the inspection report has been submitted by the Haribhakti and Company to the Government;

(d) if so, the details of the inspection report; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. At the instance of SEBI, an inspection of six schemes of UTI was carried by M/s Haribhakti & Co., a Chartered Accountant Firm.

(b) UTI has been brought under the regulatory purview of SEBI since July 1, 1994. The inspection was ordered by SEBI under the regulatory provisions which specifies that UTI's schemes would be subject to inspection by SEBI.

(c) The inspection report of M/s. Haribhakti & Co. has been submitted to SEBI.

(d) The inspection report, among other things, has pointed out the lack of adequate segregation between the asset management functions and the trust functions, violations of certain SEBI norms for mutual funds, inter scheme transfer of funds and delays in despatch of unit certificates and dividend warrants by UTI.

(e) The findings of the report are under discussion between SEBI and UTI.

Amount Raised by Mutual Funds

1016. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount raised by various Mutual Funds in the capital market since the initiation of the liberalisation of economy in 1991;

(b) the details of the amount raised by each Mutual Fund and the total number of investors in each case;

(c) whether savings invested in these Mutual Fund are being discounted between 10 to 55 percentage resulting in huge losses to the small investors;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the Net Asset Value (NAV) for each Mutual Fund as on December 31, 1995; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of investors in mutual funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) As per information furnished by SEBI the amount raised by various Mutual Funds (including UTI) since liberalisation of the economy in 1991 till date is approximately Rs. 55,960 crores.

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

(c) and (d). Close ended funds are listed on the Stock Exchanges and often these schemes are quoted at discounts to their net asset values. The average discount of 48 listed schemes, according to SEBI, ranges between 20-25%. The discounts among other factors arise on account of imperfections in the stock market, investors' expectations and the liquidity needs of investors.

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

(f) The Mutual Funds are regulated by SEBI under SEBI (Mutual Funds) regulations 1993. SEBI has been

carrying out inspections of Mutual Funds periodically and has been taking corrective actions for violations, if any. With a view to insuring that Mutual Funds develop on healthy lines and exploit their full potential, SEBI has also undertaken a comprehensive review of the existing regulations.

Foreign Debt

1017. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign debt outstanding as on April 1, 1995 and estimated for March 31, 1996 in dollars and rupees;

(b) the estimated service charges, including repayment of principal, payable on the foreign debt, during 1995-96;

(c) the proportion it forms of the revenue budget for 1995-96, the estimated GDP, the estimated net export earnings during the year, including invisibles, and estimated gross inflow of foreign loan;

(d) whether some international agencies as well as leading economists have cautioned the Government against India falling into a debt trap; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The external debt outstanding on 31.3.95 was Rs. 311792 crores. In US Dollar terms, it was 99.04 billion. As per the latest estimates, external debt on 30.09.95 was Rs. 318319 crores in US Dollar terms, it was 93.84 billion.

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

Deposit growth in Private Sector Banks

1018. SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the private sector banks have been able to muster deposit growth of more than 30% during the last two years;

(b) whether the public sector banks have not been able to muster deposit to the expected level during the same period;

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

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Public sector banks deposits have grown by 13% during 1993-94 and 15% during 1994-95.

(c) in absolute terms, the growth in the deposits of public sector banks has been much higher as compared to the growth of deposits of private banks. For various reasons like geographical spread, operational base, social obligations etc., the performance of public sector banks is not strictly comparable with that of private sector banks.

(d) The performance of public sector banks is being monitored closely by the Reserve Bank of India/Government of India and various measures, including MOUs regarding annual performance obligations have already been introduced.

Functions of Rubber Research Institute of India

1019. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Biotechnology Division of the Rubber Research Institute of India came into existence;

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon till-date for this Division;

(c) whether the Division is producing and distributing the elite planting material to the rubber growers;

(d) if so, the achievements made by the said Division; and

(e) the number of planting materials have so far been distributed to the farmers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The first laboratory for biotechnology research was established in 1985 and a modern laboratory with modern facilities was set up in 1992.

(b) The total expenditure incurred till date for setting up of these biotechnology laboratories is Rs. 176.24 lakhs which also includes construction of laboratory building.

(c) to (e). This Division has perfected a protocol for generation of plants from shoot tip culture and the field experiments have been started with tissue culture generated plants. Since the performance of the tissue cultures generated is under study, planting material of this type has not been distributed to the farmers.

Textile Mills in Orissa

1020. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textiles/spinning mills under working condition in Orissa;

(b) the number of textiles/spinning mills established with Central Government's finance assistance out of it;

(c) the number of sick textiles in the State; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive these mill?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As on 31.1.96, there were 14 Cotton/man-made/Fibre Textile Mills in Orissa (Spg. Mills 13, Composite Mills 1). Out of these only one spinning mill is reported to be closed as on 31.12.95.

(b) Central Govt. does not provide financial assistance for establishment of Textile/ Spg. Mills. However, entrepreneurs do obtain loans from Financial Institutions/ Banks.

(c) As on 30.6.95, there were 4 mills registered with BIFR.

(d) Govt. has set up Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction, as appropriate, schemes for their revival.

Old/new Foreign Promoter Capital

1021. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up distinctions between the old foreign promoter capital and new foreign promoter capital;

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

(c) the cut-off year taken into consideration for application of the new distinction on the vintage of foreign promoter capital; and

(d) the steps being taken to publicise this new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c). Question does not arise.

Tourists in J&K and North East

1022. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the various measures taken to develop the Tourism industry in the country particularly in Terrorist Prone Areas like J&K and North-East to provide employment opportunities to the youth;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for this purpose; and

(c) The number of foreign tourists likely to visit during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The measures taken to develop tourism in the country include facilitation of private investment in tourist facilities and assistance to State/U.T. Governments for the development of tourism infrastructure. It is, however, primarily the responsibility of the State/U.T. Governments to develop tourism industry within their respective States. The Governments of J&K provides incentives for the construction of hotels and guest houses in areas with high tourism potential. The local youths are also given training in adventure sports activities like skiing, paragliding, water sports etc. to make them self employed to earn their livelihood. In addition, Ladakh and Jammu regions have been promoted as tourist destinations. In the case of North Eastern States, the restricted area permit regime has been withdrawn from Tripura, Meghalaya and Assam to encourage tourist traffic to the area. Central Financial Assistance is provided on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments.

(c) A growth target of 8% in foreign tourist arrivals is set for the year 1996-97. Targets are, however, not fixed for specific states or regions.

Stock Invest Abused by Promoters

1023. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bankers have accepted photocopies of the stockinvests from the promoters instead of original stockinvests and whether the financier of the stockinvests have also supplied the same photocopies of the stockinvests bearing the same numbers to other various promoters;

(b) if so, the details of the banks that accepted the photocopies of the stockinvests and the financiers who issued the same copies of the stockinvests to more than one promoters; and

(c) the number of equity public issues floated during 1995-96 so far and how many of them were subscribed fully and how does that tally with the shares floated during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan by Asian Development Bank to Gujarat

1024. **SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has offered to provide loan for restructuring of Gujarat Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the loan is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). The Asian Development Bank have agreed in principle to extend technical assistance to the Government of Gujarat for undertaking studies relating to the restructuring of state's power sector.

Further course of action with respect of ADB related loan assistance will depend on the reports arising out of the above technical assistance.

[Translation]

Delay of IA Flights

1025. **SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :**

SHRI K.M. MATHEW :

SHRI RAM NAIK :

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

(a) the details of Indian Airlines flights delayed during January-February, 1996 alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to avoid delay of flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) 2693 flights were delayed or cancelled out of a total 6390 flights during

January, 1996 due to adverse weather, airport restrictions, technical snags etc. Statistics for the month of February, 1996, is being compiled.

(b) All delays are investigated and remedial action, as necessary, is taken.

Loss of Manpower

1026. **SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding employment opportunities available per day and annual for all the workers and citizens capable of doing work in the country as also to collect the same data regarding the workers and citizens who are deprived of employment opportunities;

(b) whether any assessment regarding the total loss of daily and annual manpower has been made due to unemployment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). Comprehensive surveys on employment and unemployment are conducted once in five years using concepts namely (1) Usual Principal Status (2) Current Weekly Status and (3) Current Daily Status. A person is considered unemployed on Usual Status basis, if he/she was not working but was either seeking or was available for work a relatively longer time during the reference period of one year. On the basis of a week as reference period, a person is considered unemployed by Current Weekly Status, if he/she had not worked even for one hour during the week but was seeking or available for work. There is an estimate of Current daily of Status unemployment, in terms of the total persons days of unemployment, that is, the aggregate of all the unemployment days all persons in the labour force during the week.

The usual Status unemployment rate could be regarded as a measure of chronic unemployment during the reference year. The Current Daily Status is a comprehensive measure of unemployment including both chronic unemployment as well as underemployment on a daily basis.

The unemployment rates estimated on the basis of the comprehensive survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1987-88 (43rd Round) the latest for which results are available are 3.77%, according to usual Principal Status, and 6.09%, according to the Current Daily Status.

*[English]***Export of Garments**

1027. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether garments export from India has fallen sharply during 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether countries like China, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Sri Lanka have emerged victorious at the cost of India on the price barometer;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Garment exports during 1995 are more both in volume and value terms as compared to 1994 exports.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Pending Cases of Central Excise and Customs**

1028. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with Central Excise, Customs and Income Tax Tribunals as on January 1, 1996;

(b) the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps taken for quick disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The number of cases pending with these Tribunals as on January 1, 1996 are as under:

(i) Cases pending with Customs, Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT).....50,256

(ii) Cases pending with Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT).....2,94,543

(b) The major reasons for the delay in disposal of cases is high institution of cases and vacancies in the posts of Members.

(c) Steps have been taken to fill up vacancies of judicial members and Technical members in CEGAT.

As regards ITAT, apart from steps for filling up vacant posts in the Tribunal, Members are sent on tour to stations where there is greater pendency or the regular Benches are not functioning. Grouping of appeals involving common issues for hearing, scrutiny of cases covered by earlier judgements for quick disposal and arranging camp courts at various places are some of the other steps for quick disposal of pending cases.

*[English]***Central Depositing System**

1029. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have evolved any mechanism to exercise control over the utilization of funds collected by each private limited company through issue of shares;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme is working smoothly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial action taken in regard thereto;

(e) whether a proposal to introduce Central Depositing System is under the consideration of the Government; and

(f) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) requires disclosures by companies when they come up with a public/rights issue. Disclosure guidelines require that the project for which the funds are being raised should be mentioned in the offer document. In case an amount exceeding Rs. 500 crores is being raised the issuer has to disclose the name of one of the financial institutions who will monitor the use of proceeds.

On the advice of SEBI, the stock exchanges have added a new clause 43 in their listing agreements according to which the companies are required to furnish on yearly basis a statement to the exchange showing the variations between projected utilisation of funds and /or projected profitability statement made by them in their prospectus or letter of offer and the actual utilisation of funds and/or actual profitability.

On the advice of SEBI, the stock exchanges have also amended their listing agreements according to which companies are required to give cash flow statements in their annual reports which would indicate the utilisation of funds from the public.

(c) and (d). The present system is working smoothly and is under observation by SEBI. The revision in the guidelines is a continuous process and SEBI takes appropriate action when required.

(e) and (f). The Government promulgated the Depositories Ordinance to provide for legal framework for establishment of depositories to enable record as well as transfer ownership of securities through a book entry form. The Depositories Bill, 1995 in replacement of the Ordinance was passed by the Lok Sabha in the last winter session of Parliament. Currently, the Depositories Bill is pending consideration in Rajya Sabha.

Recession in Economy

1030. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

SHRI K.M. MATHEW :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Economy is showing signs of recession;

(b) if so, whether the causes for such recession have been identified and corrective measures taken to improve the economy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Foreign Loan

1031. DR.K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 721 dated May 26, 1995 and state:

(a) the total foreign loans borrowed by the Union Government, State Governments and all Public Sector Undertakings thereunder from all foreign agencies and countries as on March 31, 1995; and

(b) how much amount of these foreign loans remained unutilised as on March 31, 1995, giving break

up between the Union Government and each State Government and each Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) All the foreign loans under Government Account are borrowed by Government of India for projects implemented by Central Government, State Governments, Central Public Sector Undertakings, Central Financial Institutions etc. in addition some loans are also given for import support. The total amount outstanding on Government Account as on 31.3.95 was Rs. 135188 crores. This does not include borrowings by Public Sector and Financial Institutions outside Government Account. The undisbursed balance on Government Account on 31.3.95 was Rs. 50086 crores.

Export of Sub-Standard items

1032. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some exporters have been found exporting sub-standard goods during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which their goods would be checked before export;

(d) whether the Government have decided to take action against all those exporters who are involved in exporting poor quality of their products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) a statement is attached.

(c) Goods are checked prior to exports under the provisions of the Customs Act and the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act. Physical examination of goods is feasible only on selective basis, in view of the large number of export consignments which have to be cleared without any hold up.

(d) and (e). Action against exporters of substandard goods is an on-going process. Deterrent penalties will be imposed in those cases where it is established that substandard goods have been exported.

STATEMENT

Year in which reported	Cases in which enforcement action was found warranted.		nature of action taken in respect of cases covered under Col. 1		
	(1)		(2)		
		(a) Debarred from Exporting/ receiving export licences	(b) Fiscal penalty imposed	(c) Action in respect of I & E Code No.	(d) Acquitted
1992-93	11	6		-	3
1993-94	16	4	3	1	5
1994-95	22	2	3	4	2
1995-96 (upto Feb., '96)	6	-	1	1	1

Export of Sugar

1033. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have included sugarcane in the recent 15 products 15 destinations "initiative";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote the export of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Commerce Ministry has identified the existing top 15 products/groups and 15 countries as also 10 emerging markets and products and has decided to focus export efforts on them for medium term export strategy. Sugarcane is not one of the items in this group of products.

(d) It is the policy of the Government to allow export of any item of mass consumption only after careful consideration of domestic requirements. Sugar has how-

ever been identified as one of 34 extreme focus items for promotion of export. During the current sugar year (1995-96 Oct-Sept) Govt. has authorised export of 5 lac tonnes of sugar, in addition to a similar quantity which has been authorised during the 1994-95 sugar year ending on 30.9.1995.

[Translation]

Industrial Training to Women

1034. SHRIMATI. BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the institution-wise details of assistance provided to Gujarat for imparting Industrial training to the women during the last three years and as on date; and

(b) the details of the achievements made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). A World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project is be-

ing implemented by the Ministry of Labour in which 28 State Governments/UT . Administrations Including Gujarat are participating. In order to improve the opportunities for training of women, two schemes, namely ;Establishment of new ITIs/Wings for Women' and 'Introduction of new trades in existing Women ITIs Wings" are being implemented in the country.

The Institute-wise details of the assistance provided to Gujarat for imparting industrial training to women

during the last three years are given in enclosed Statement -I

The Scheme for "Establishment of new ITIs/Wings for Women" is designed to set up 100 new Women ITIs in 15 States and so far 89 new ITIs have been operationalised. The scheme for "Introduction of new trades in the existing Women ITIs" is proposed to be introduced in 64 ITIs in 17 States and so far the scheme has been operationalised in 60 ITIs. The State-Wise position is given in the enclosed Statement -II

STATEMENT -I

(a) Name of the Scheme: Establishment of New Women ITIs/Wings

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the ITI	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1. ITI Uttarsanda (Distt. Kheda)	4.732	0.353	1.700
2. ITI Bhavnagar (Distt. Bhavnagar)	3.095	3.002	1.800
3. ITI Bhilimora (Distt. Valsad)	5.045	0.540	2.050
ITI Visnager	2.414	0.770	1.390
TOTAL	15.286	4.665	6.940

(b) Name of the Scheme : Introduction of New Trades in Existing Women ITIs/Wings.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the ITI	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1. ITI Rajkot (Distt. Rajkot)	3.076	0.386	0.320
2. ITI Gandhinagar (Distt. Gandhinagar)	3.258	0.517	0.310
TOTAL	6.334	0.903	0.630

STATEMENT - II

S. No.	State/Ut	New Women ITIs		New Trades in Women ITIs	
		Target	Operationalised	Target	Operationalised
1.	2.	3	4	5	6
1.	A.P.	13	13	8	8
2.	Assam	3	2	2	2
3.	Bihar	8	4	2	2
4.	Gujarat	4	4	2	2
5.	Haryana	5	2	8	6
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	4	3
7.	Karnataka	10	10	4	4
8.	Kerala	5	5	3	3
9.	M.P.	10	10	5	5
10.	Maharashtra	9	9	6	6
11.	Orissa	6	3	2	2
12.	Punjab	5	5	5	5
13.	Rajasthan	4	4	1	1
14.	Tamil Nadu	5	5	-	-
15.	Tripura	-	-	1	1
16.	U.P.	9	9	8	7
17.	West Bengal	4	4	2	2
18.	Delhi	-	-	1	1
TOTAL		100	89	64	60

Status of Kashinath Seth Bank

1035. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kashinath Seth Bank Ltd., Shahjahanpur, has since started working;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the directions issued for checking the recurrence of irregularities;

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken for improving financial position of the Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that Kashinath Seth Bank Ltd., has since been amalgamated with the State Bank of India w.e.f. 1.1.1996. However for payment to creditors and depositors, the effective date was 1.2.1996. Reserve Bank of India has reported that the matter had been referred to the CID.

(c) The report of CID is awaited.

[English]

Fraud by the Financial Companies

1036. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the companies advertise for fixed deposits with them at higher rate of interest than the banks and many people invest their hard earned money with them;

(b) whether some of the companies have failed to return the interest amounts and the capital amount to the investors; and

(c) if so, how many such cases have come to the light of the Government and the action taken thereon to safeguard the interests of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a few complaints were received from depositors/investors against some NBFCs and Residuary Non-Banking companies (RNBCs) regarding non-payment of principal and interest on deposits. RBI has further reported that as per the present regulatory framework only the deposit acceptance activities of NBFCs, MNBCs and RNBCs are regulated by three sets of Directions issued

by it, in accordance with the provisions of the RBI Act, 1934. These directions stipulate ceiling on deposits, rate of interest on deposits, maintenance of liquid assets, etc. The RBI is empowered to take action against delinquent companies for contraventions of its direction by prohibiting the concerned companies from accepting further deposits and launching prosecution proceedings against them in courts of law. It, however, cannot enforce repayment of deposits and payment of interest thereon and the remedy left to the depositor is to enforce the contract in a court of law, acceptance of deposits being a civil contract.

[Translation]

Prices of Silver

1037. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

DR. P.R. GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the prices of silver are going up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the rise in the prices of silver in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The monthly average price of silver in Bombay, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, recorded an increase of 13.3% during 1995 when it rose from Rs. 6361.04 per kg. in January 1995 to Rs. 7205.25 per kg in December 1995. The prices of silver shot up again in January 1996. This upward rally of silver prices in the domestic market continued till February 1996 when it reached its all time high of Rs. 8486 per kg. Thereafter, silver prices have declined almost continuously for the rest of the month.

(b) According to market sources, the rise in international prices of silver both in the New York and London markets as also depreciation of the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar have constituted to the silver price rise in India.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to keep a check on the silver prices include permission to import given upto 100 kilograms under the liberalised import scheme and also permitting silver import under Special Import Licences.

[English]

Smuggling of Mobile Phones

1038. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the seizures by the customs authorities, the smuggling of mobile phones at the international airports in the country has shown a rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Mobile phones have started coming only after the recent introduction of Mobile phone services. Therefore seizure figures can not show any trend towards rise in smuggling.

(b) The details of seizure during the year 1995-96 upto 31.1.96 are given below :

No. of Telephones	No. of Cases	Value of Seized Mobile Telephones (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of persons arrested
1418	45	293.36	13

(c) Anti-smuggling agencies are alert to detect and prevent smuggling including smuggling of mobile phones. Sophisticated equipments such as baggage X-Ray machines and metal detectors are being used, in addition to developing specific intelligence in this regard.

Use of Hindi

1039. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the undertakings under his Ministry from where the latest quarterly reports in respect of the use of Hindi have been received and also the names of those whose reports have not been received.

(b) the names of the undertakings which have fulfilled the annual programmes in toto and also those which have not fulfilled the same partially alongwith the names of such undertakings which are still in the initial stage of fulfilling these programmes; and

(c) the position with regard to the creation of Hindi

cadre availability of mechanical devices, compliance of section 3(3), issue of notifications under Section 10(4) and 8 (4) and purchase of Hindi books, newspapers and magazines for the libraries separately in accordance with the targets set out in the annual programmes in all of these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) (i) The names of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Textiles from which the reports regarding progressive use of Hindi for the quarter ending on 31.12.1995 have been received by the Ministry of Textiles, are given below :-

1. National Textile Corporation Ltd.
2. British India Corporation.
3. Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.
4. Jute Corporation of India Ltd.
5. Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation.
6. Central Cottage Industries Corporation.
7. North-Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation.
8. National Handloom Development Corporation.

(ii) National Jute Manufactures Corporation has not sent the quarterly report to the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) All the nine Public Sector Undertakings mentioned in part (a) above have partially implemented the annual programme.

(c) The targets set out in the Annual Programme for all the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Textiles have been partially fulfilled.

[Translation]

Over Drafts by States

1040. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry or Reserve Bank of India keep track about the over-drafts made by the States;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the over-draft made till January 31, 1996;

(c) whether the concerned States have been asked to mobilise their own resources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d). Translation between a State and the RBI is conducted as per an agreement between the two. Since it is a matter of relationship between the banker and the client (between the RBI and a State Government), such information is not published by the Government of India.

The position of cash balance and overdraft, if any, of State Government may vary from day-to-day and State to State. The Overdraft Regulation Scheme of States has been formulated by the RBI in consultation with Government of India. When a State lapses into overdraft, the RBI as well as this Ministry ask the concerned State Government to set right its account with RBI and clear its overdraft. The States are financially autonomous. The responsibility for financial management lies with State Government for which they are accountable to their respective legislature. In case States face overdraft problem, they do mobilise their resources to tide over their financial difficulties.

[English]

National Institute of Fashion Technology

1041. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Northern India Institute of Fashion Technology Mohali, Punjab is using the logo of National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi;

(b) whether this institutional is affiliated to NIFT, New Delhi;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute a Committee to look into the working and admission policy of NIFT, Mohali; and

(d) if not, the action the Government propose to take against the officers with whose connivance Fashion Technology Institute of Mohali using the logo of NIFT?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The logo used by Northern India Institute of Fashion Technology is not identical but different in detail.

(b) and (c). The Institute is being run in collaboration with NIFT, New Delhi, on the Condition that the NIFT

will be the final authority in academic matters including admission of students strictly on merits.

(d) Does not arise.

Hank Yarn Producing NTC Mills

1042. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of N.T.C. mills producing hank yarn;

(b) whether the Government propose to take a few mills of NTC for exclusive production of hank yarn; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) 23 N.T.C. Mills are producing hank yarn.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

Income Tax on Exports

1043. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a difference between the Income Tax charge on the earning by exporting goods and by exporting goods and by exporting turn key projects; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) 'Yes'. Deduction for exporting goods is available as per the provisions of Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act whereas for the project outside India deduction is available under section 80 HHB of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) In the case of commodity exports, 100% deduction of the export profit is allowed. However, in the case of the profits derived from project export only 50 per cent deduction is admissible. The different percentage of deduction is provided because of the low profitability on commodity exports as compared to higher profits from project exports.

Disinvestment of Share of P.S.U.s. to N.R.Is.

1044. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of disinvestment of shares of Public Sector Undertakings planned for the current financial year and disinvestment made so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to open disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings to N.R.I. ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The Budget for 1995-96 estimated a receipt of Rs. 7,000 crores by way of disinvestment of Government shares in Public Sector Undertakings. However, due to depressed market conditions, an amount of Rs. 356 crores (approx.) could only be raised through disinvestment so far in the current year.

(b) & (c). Non Resident Indians (NRIs) are permitted to purchase shares of PSUs offered from Government holdings subject, *inter alia*, to the following conditions:-

(i) the holding of shares by a NRI or by an OCB at any time does not exceed one percent of the paid up capital of the Public Sector Enterprise concerned;

(ii) the purchase consideration/bid money is received by way of remittance from abroad through normal banking channels or by transfer of funds held in investor's NRE/FCNR account maintained with banks authorised to deal in foreign exchange in India or with authorised cooperative/commercial banks in India.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Natural Rubber

1045. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the Rubber Monitory Group has approved the import of 40,000 tonnes of natural rubber in principal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have given the permission for importing the natural rubber during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Kerala against the import of rubber;

(f) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to safeguard the interest of the rubber growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (g). The Rubber Group (RMG), at its meeting held on 31.1.96 assessed the gap between demand and supply of natural rubber in the domestic market in 1996-97 at 40,000 MTs after considering the estimates provided by the Rubber Board and the view of all concerned including the Government of Kerala which had earlier represented to the Union Government against import of rubber and was also represented at the meeting. It was also decided that this assessment would be reviewed towards the end of March, 1996. A final recommendation regarding the total quantum of import required during the year 1996-97 would be made by the RMG after the review in March, 1996.

During the current year, Government had permitted duty free import of 38,450 MTs of Natural Rubber by 31.8.95 in view of the reported excess demand for rubber over indigenous supply to ensure adequate availability and to stabilize the domestic market. No further permits have been issued in 1995-96.

Decisions regarding import of Natural Rubber are taken by the Government after considering the demand-supply gap, domestic availability, international and domestic prices and the interests of growers and consumers.

Bonded Child Labour

1046. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of children below the age of 14 years are working as bonded labour in the country especially in Gujarat ;

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to free and rehabilitate these bonded child labour; and

(c) the details and number of bonded child labour freed and rehabilitated during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Preventing of Sale of Indian Drugs In Gulf Countries by Multinational Companies

1047. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some multinational companies are preventing sale of Indian manufactured drugs in the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Working of APEDA

1048. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is being reviewed every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total value of exports made by 'APEDA' during each of the last two years;

(d) whether any new products has been developed and exported during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) . The work of APEDA is periodically reviewed by the members of the Authority and the Ministry. Its workload has also been assessed by the Internal Work Study Unit of this Ministry.

(c) APEDA is a promotional body entrusted with the development and promotion of export of products coming under its schedule. It does not undertake direct marketing of any products. The total value of exports of products coming under the Schedule to the APEDA Act, 1985 during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95 were Rs. 1753 crores and Rs. 2037 crores respectively.

(d) and (e). Cut flowers, lychees, strawberries, gherkins and non-alphonso variety of mangoes viz. Banganpalli, Totapuri, Chausa, and others are some of the products being developed for exports during the current year.

Disposal of Aircrafts

1049. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to dispose of some of Boeing Aircraft of the Indian Airlines/ Air India;

(b) if so, whether any advertisement in this regard has been given in the news papers;

(c) if so, whether any proposals have been received from the prospective buyers; and

(d) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). The Government have approved sale of two B737-200 aircraft of Indian Airlines. On the basis of bids received against global tenders, Indian Airlines had sold two aircraft to M/s Blue Dart Express Ltd. Sale of further two aircraft is under finalisation for which global tender was issued in November, 1995. Indian Airlines have issued another global tender in January, 1996 calling for bids for sale of 2 more aircraft, the closing date is 7.3.96.

With the approval of its Board of Directors, Air India has invited bids through advertisements for selling two B747-200 aircraft. Two bids have been received so far.

Small Denomination Currency Notes

1050. SHRI R.SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of small denomination soiled currency note of Rs. 1/-, Rs. 2/- and Rs. 5/- are in circulation;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw all such notes and instead issue new series of such currency notes;

(c) whether the commercial banks are not supplying small denomination currency notes to customers and direct them to approach the Reserve Bank of India for the purpose;

(d) whether the Government are also aware that there is also shortage of small denomination coins of 0.50 p. ; Rs. 1/- and Rs. 2/- in the cities; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to make it obligatory for the nationalised banks of supply small denomination currency notes and coins on demand to customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c) . While the average life of rupee one note is six months, that of rupees two and five is about one year. As against this, the life span of coins is about 15-20 years. The above denominations have been coined and the capacity so released has been diverted for printing of higher denomination notes. In view of this position, the quality of notes already in circulation might have deteriorated. There is no specific proposal to withdraw Rs. 1/-, Rs. 2/- and Rs. 5/- notes except when these notes become soiled. Under the RBI Note Refund Rules 1975, all branches of public sector banks maintaining currency chests have been authorised to exchange soiled and mutilated currency notes from the general public.

(d) and (e). There has been a temporary setback in the production of 50p. and Rs. 1/- coins. The supplies of Rs. 2/- and Rs. 5/- coins have not, however, been affected. The work of supply of currency is carried out by RBI through its 17 issue offices and a net work of 4108 currency chest branches of nationalised banks and 3313 small coin depots which are authorised and are also obliged to supply notes and coins to their customers.

Custom Duty on Drugs

1051. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for classification of various drugs and drugs intermediate under various rates of custom duty;

(b) whether any concession to all drug intermediate used for manufacturing bulk drugs classified under the National Health Programmed bulk has been given ; and

(c) the reasons for discrimination of custom, duties on various independent drugs intermediate used for production in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Customs duty structure and rates (including concessional rates) on drugs and drug intermediates have been prescribed, taking into account all relevant considerations including, their essential nature, domestic availability, prices and the interest of the domestic industry. Separate concessional rate of customs duty has not been prescribed for all drug intermediates used for manufacturing bulk drugs, for use in the National Health Programme.

National Institute of Fashion Technology

1052. SHRI MULLAPPALY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala have sent any request to set up a branch of the National Institute of Fashion Technology in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) No final decision has been taken in this regard.

Employment to Marble and Granite Workers

1053. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers affected due to closure of marble and granite mines in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide alternative employment to those workers elsewhere;

(c) whether any tripartite discussion is proposed to be held for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) According to available information 2500 workers were affected due to closure of Granite mines in Karnataka and 220 workers were affected due to closure of Marble mines in Rajsamand Distt. of Rajasthan.

(b) In both cases the matter is pending in the High Courts. In case of Marble mines of Rajasthan, the employers have appealed in the High Court against the cancellation of mining lease by the State Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Bank Loans to Tribals in Andhra Pradesh

1054. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the nationalised banks are not giving due attention in the matter of loan to tribals in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the latest guidelines issued to nationalised banks to finance the tribals adequately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Andhra Bank, the Convenor bank, for Andhra Pradesh has reported that during a year 1994-95, 30, 305 beneficiaries were covered by nationalised banks with a total financial assistance of Rs. 2063 lakhs.

(b) With a view to ensuring that banks made available adequate credit to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines to banks as enumerated below:-

(i) Credit planning should take into account needs of SCs/STs;

(ii) Loan applications of SCs/STs should be considered sympathetically and expeditiously;

(iii) While adopting villages for intensive lending, villages with sizeable population of SCs/STs communities may be specially chosen. Alternatively, adopting specific localities in the concerned villages which have concentration of these communities may also be considered;

(iv) Special efforts should be made to evolve suitable bankable schemes for these communities;

(v) Banks should participate in the specific programmes drawn up by the State agencies for the upliftment of SCs/STs;

(vi) Bank staff may help poor borrowers in filling up the forms and completing other formalities so that they are able to get credit facility without delay;

(vii) The bank staff may contact illiterate borrowers and explain to them the salient features of the schemes as also the advantages that will accrue;

(viii) The member of SCs/STs form part of the weaker sections under priority sector. Banks have to raise the proportions of their advances to priority sector to 40% and the advances to weaker sections should reach a level of 10% of total bank credit.

(ix) 40% of the DRI advances should be extended to SCs/STs;

(x) Under IRDP not less than 50 per cent of the families assisted should belong to SCs/STs;

(xi) Under PMRY reservation of 22.5% has been provided for SCs/STs;

(xii) Loans upto Rs. 5000/- are granted by banks to members of SCs/STs for construction of houses at a concessional rate of interest at 4% per annum under DRI

Scheme provided they satisfy the income criteria of DRI Scheme;

(xiii) Banks have been advised to take effective action to ensure monitoring of the priority sector lending not only from the quantitative aspect but also qualitative aspect including support from Government agencies for the various schemes;

(xiv) In order to ensure that loan proposals from SC/ST applicants are not rejected without valid reasons, banks have been advised that in the case of such proposals, rejections should be at a higher level than that of a branch manager;

(xv) Periodical review has to be made by the head offices of banks of the credit extended to SCs/STs on the basis of returns and other data received from the branches;

(xvi) Banks submit quarterly return on priority sector advances which also indicate separately data relating to advances granted to SC/ST Borrowers

(xvii) Banks have been advised to set up a special cell at the Head Offices for monitoring the flow of credit to SC/ST beneficiaries.

[Translation]

Revival of H.E.C.

1055. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the case of Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi, is still pending with the BIFR for its final recommendation; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for exporting the revival scheme of this Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b) . The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd (HEC) was referred to it on 30.06.1992 and was declared sick by the BIFR on 21.10.1992 . The case was last heard on 02.02.1996 when the BIFR directed HEC and Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) , the Operating Agency, to prepare a rehabilitation scheme in the light of deliberations made in the hearing and submit its report to enable BIFR to consider the draft scheme for publication.

Curtailment of Loan Amount Sanctioned Under PMRY

1056 SHRI MANJAY LAL :

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the guidelines issued to banks for disbursement of loan under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana;

(b) whether any mechanism has been evolved to monitor and ensure smooth implementation of the Yojana;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether cases of deduction from the sanctioned amount by bank officials have come to the notice of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that full sanctioned amount is given to the beneficiaries under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The Government introduced the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for educated unemployed youth from 2nd October, 1993 with the objective to provide sustained employment to about 10 lakh educated unemployed youths in micro enterprises. These enterprises will cover manufacturing, service and business ventures. The details of the PMRY Scheme are as under:

(i) All educated unemployed youth between the age of 18 and 35 years belonging to families having total family income of less than Rs. 24,000/- per annum from all sources would be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

(ii) These educated unemployed entrepreneurs would be given a subsidy of 15% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7,500/- each for starting the micro-enterprises.

(iii) They would be required to bring in 5% of the project cost as margin money.

(iv) Each entrepreneur will be eligible for a loan upto a ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh and this loan would be require a collateral guarantee.

(v) The entrepreneur selected under the scheme would be provided training, before the loan is disbursed.

(vi) Matric (passed or failed) students, ITI passed youth and all person who have undergone Government sponsored technical courses for a minimum duration of 6 months will be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

(vii) Reputed Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) would also be associated in the implementation of the scheme.

(viii) A reservation of 22.5% for SC/ST and 27% for other backward classes (OBCs) has been provided.

(ix) The beneficiary should have been a permanent resident of the area for 3 years.

(x) Repayment schedule would range from 3 to 7 years after an initial moratorium of 6 to 18 months as decided by the Bank.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. To monitor and ensure smooth implementation of the Yojana, Committees have been constituted at District, State and Central level. There is a District PMRY Committee at District level, State PMRY Committee at State level and a High Powered Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (SSI & ARI) at Central level.

A special monitoring Cell has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to review the progress on an ongoing basis, in the implementation of PMRY. The Cell in its periodical meetings considers the problems/constraints in the implementation of the scheme. Periodical studies on the implementation of PMRY are conducted by Reserve Bank of India through its Regional Offices whose findings are placed before the Cell for discussion. Banks have been advised to review and monitor the progress under PMRY every month and forward to Reserve Bank of India a copy of Review note put up to their Boards of Directors.

Review meetings are also held in the Ministry of Finance Department of Economic Affairs to monitor the progress of implementation of PMRY by the public sector banks in which the representatives of the Reserve Bank of India, concerned General Managers of the public sector banks and representatives of Office of the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries), Ministry of Industry also participate

(d) to (f). Reserve Bank of India has reported that they have not come across such cases of deduction from the sanctioned amount by bank officials. As per the extant guidelines of RBI the banks are expected to disburse the sanctioned amount to the borrowers. However, specific complaints of any nature as and when received are referred to the concerned authorities for taking suitable remedial measures.

*[English]***Utilisation of Aid**

1057. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign economic aid has not been utilised due to not completing the under construction projects on time under various Ministries;

(b) if so, the names of the projects whose construction has been affected as a result thereof alongwith the names of the Ministries to which these projects are related;

(c) the amount of unutilized in these projects separately; and

(d) the amount of unutilized allocated economic aid in each project separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL) : (a) to (d). The information will be collected and laid on the table of the House.

*[Translation]***Minimum Wages**

1058. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted the Central Industrial Relation Machinery for the poorer implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948;

(b) if so, when it was constituted;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon till-date;

(d) the number of cases investigated by the machinery and the number of cases in which irregularities noticed; and

(e) the details of such cases, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) has been set-up for prevention and settlement of various labour laws including Minimum Wages Act in industries/employments for which appropriate Government is the Central Government. It also carries out certain functions relation to verifications of membership of trade unions in the country.

(b) CIRM was set up in April, 1945.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 6.77 crore was made on the function of CIRM during 1994-95. For the financial year 1995-95, an expenditure of Rs. 4.21 crore has been made so far till September 1995.

(d) and (e) CIRM has been divided into 18 regions for functional purposes. A statement indicating the region wise details of number of inspections, irregularities detected etc. during the year 1994, is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Region	inspection	Irregularities Detected	Irregularities Rectified	Prosecution Launched	Convictions Secured	Acquittals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Ahmedabad	265	2247	787	270	32	-
2.	Ajmer	662	8159	15466	556	1582	-
3.	Asansol	328	3236	2940	237	204	-
4.	Bangalore	1213	13592	17780	259	413	7
5.	Bhubaneshwar	657	9085	7194	79	20	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Bombay	664	8877	3707	102	36	-
7.	Calcutta	417	4853	4202	161	191	-
8.	Chandigarh	473	1508	1108	454	220	-
9.	Cochin	391	4339	2777	164	134	-
10.	Delhi	214	2935	1882	303	151	-
11.	Dhanbad	937	6873	5891	526	599	-
12.	Guwahati	270	3520	3562	82	32	-
13.	Hyderabad	1127	11784	12174	2973	917	12
14.	Jabalpur	945	11875	11575	546	407	-
15.	Kanpur	578	10384	10951	104	80	-
16.	Madras	847	9812	7911	259	160	-
17.	Nagpur	552	6955	6345	186	93	-
18.	Patna	306	2958	2521	184	178	-
TOTAL		10846	122992	118773	7463	5549	19

*[English]***Foreign Exchange Rate of Custom**

1059. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs authorities are not aligning their exchange rate with daily fluctuations in the forex markets to earn higher revenue from imports;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). For the purpose of determination of assessable value, exchange rates are notified at the levels prevailing in the Forex market, the same are monitored on a daily basis and if there is a substantial variation which persists continuously for more than seven working days, the rates are accordingly re-adjusted.

It is not practicable to notify the changes in the currency rates on daily basis. The present system is considered satisfactory and pragmatic.

*[Translation]***Handloom Development Centres**

1060. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched any Scheme to set up Handloom Development Centres;

(b) if so, the details of the works being undertaken in these centres; and

(c) the total funds spent by the Union Government for implementation of this project so far and the number of weavers benefited therefrom?

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

(b) The Handloom Development Centres which have become functional are providing a package of assistance to handloom weavers in an integrated and coordinated manner by way of supply of essential inputs e. g. Yarn, Dyes & Chemicals ; marketing assistance ; and assistance for Setting up of retail sales outlets.

(c) A sum of Rs. 66.16 crores have been sanctioned since inception of the Scheme to various States. Each centre is expected to cover at least 250 looms and about 1000 weavers when it becomes fully operational.

[English]

Committee for Air Security

1061. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

SHRI TARA SINGH :

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

(a) whether considering the seriousness of the recent trespassing of the Indian airspace by AN 26 aircraft for dropping arms and ammunition over Purulia, Government have reviewed the existing airspace security system at the airports;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up any committee for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details and composition thereof and the guidelines on which the Committee is likely to function; and

(d) the other steps the Government propose to take to prevent intrusion in airspace?

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

(b) to (d). Government have appointed a Committee headed by Shri V.K. Jain, Special Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs to suggest measures for preventing misutilisation of the permits for chartered flights. The recommendations of the Committee, as approved by the Government, are being strictly followed. In pursuance of the recommendations an Inter-Ministerial Apex Committee headed by Chairman, Airports Authority of India has been set up to coordinate among different organisations. Similar committees have been formed at the airports level.

Import of Textile Machinery

1062. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution of indigeneous textile machinery in the production of textiles during the last three years;

(b) whether second hand textile machinery was imported at a large scale during the past several years and several concessions were announced from time to time for the said import;

(c) if so, the total value of textile machinery imported during the last three years and the concessions announced therefor from time to time during the said period;

(d) whether the Govt. propose to review the present policy regarding import of second hand textile machinery from developed countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The production of indigeneous textile machinery during the last three years is given below :

Year	Production (RS. CRS.)
1992-93	1014.00
1993-94	1142.55
1994-95	1285.57

(b) and (c). Import data of old machine is not maintained, as 'old machines' are not separately classified under 'Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System' on the basis of which Foreign Trade Statistics of India are compiled.

(d) There is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Promotion of Tourism in Saurashtra**

1063. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any comprehensive plan from Government of Gujarat for promotion of tourism in the Central areas of Saurashtra and Kutch;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approved the plan and also sanctioned financial assistance for implementing it;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***NTC Mills in Maharashtra**

1064. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several departments in NTC-run textile mills in Maharashtra and particularly in Mumbai have been closed down due to non-availability of working

capital, raw-material (cotton) and spare parts and the workers are being paid idle wages;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether some traders and industrialists supply their owns cotton to nationalised and taken-over mills in Mumbai and get yarn and cloth manufactured there and earn profit;

(d) if so, the reasons for which the Government do not provide working capital and cotton to these mills and get its own cloth manufactured; and

(e) the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) The NTC as a whole has either partially or totally curtailed its activities in some of the mills due to acute shortage of working capital. This is equally true with the mills in Maharashtra including Mumbai. A **statement** giving during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. NTC is doing job work with a view to generating contribution to meet the wages to some extent.

(d) and (e). Government have placed before the BIFR a revised Turn Around Plan for modernisation of NTC Mills. Pending approval of the revised Turn Around Plan by the BIFR, Government is paying wages and salaries and bonus to the workers of NTC. Once the Turn Around Plan is approved by the BIFR and the same is implemented, the NTC Mills are expected to have adequate working capital for their operation. The modernisation plan is expected to be financed out of sale proceeds of surplus land and assets of NTC Mills.

STATEMENT

Statement Giving Millwise Details of Idle Wages Paid to the Workers of NTC Mills in Mumbai During 1994-95 & April-December, 95.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Mills	1994-95	April-December, 95
1	2	3	4
1.	Apollo Mills	474.46	374.78
2.	Bharat Mills	472.75	374.16
3.	Digvijay Mills	641.06	513.40
4.	Jupiter Mills	432.59	343.02
5.	Mumbai Mills	453.28	358.13
6.	New Hind Mills	515.74	411.95

1	2	3	4
7.	Elphinstone Mills	477.21	357.68
8.	Finlay Mills	869.31	648.01
9.	Gold Mohur Mills	602.58	457.56
10.	Jam Manufacturing Mills	402.97	323.52
11., 12&13	Kohinoor Mills 1,2&3	491.83	348.81
14.	Madhusudan Mills	367.31	292.19
15.	New City Mills	711.25	576.19
16.	Podar Mills	560.33	460.69
17.	Sitaram Mills	266.53	603.18
18.	Tata Mills	798.85	644.74
19.	Podar Processors	312.63	254.05
20.	India United Mills No.1	834.08	687.70
21.	India United Mills No.2	492.37	363.60
22. &23.	India United Mills No.3&4	717.57	653.76
24.	India United Mills No.5	436.46	349.06
25.	India United Mills (Dye works)	326.38	263.09

Child Labour in Looms

1065. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered against loom-owners for the illegal employment of child weavers in the country;

(b) the number of raids conducted in the carpet-belt against the exporters of carpet for employing child labour; and

(c) the details of the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-official Directors on Boards of Banks

*1066. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister

of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-official Directors on the Boards of the Reserve Bank of India and other public sector banks, bank-wise;

(b) the details of vacancies of the non-official Directors on the above boards;

(c) the number of non-official Directors on the above Boards who are still in position even after completing their term of office together with the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the above Directors by making fresh appointments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b) The number of non-official directors appointed on the Boards of Reserve Bank of India, State Bank of India and 19 nationalised banks and the vacancies therein are given below :-

Name of the Bank	No. of non-official directors in position	No. of vacancies
1	2	3
Reserve Bank of India (Central Board)	10	-
State Bank of India (Central Board)	5	1
Allahabad Bank	7	-
Andhra Bank	7	-
Bank of India	7	-
Bank of Maharashtra	7	-
Bank of Baroda	7	-
Canara Bank	7	-
Corporation Bank	7	-
Dena Bank	7	-
Indian Bank	7	-
Indian Overseas Bank	7	-
Oriental Bank of Commerce	7	-
Punjab National Bank	7	-
Syndicate Bank	7	-
Union Bank Of India	7	-
United Bank of India	7	-
UCO Bank	7	-
Vijaya Bank	7	-
Central Bank of India	6	1

Appointment of non-official directors on the boards of subsidiary banks of State Bank of India (SBI) are made by SBI itself.

(c) None, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

Powerloom Centres

1067. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have identified places for setting of Powerloom Centres in Kerala during the current year;

(b) if so, the time by when the Government propose to set up these Centres in Kerala; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The locations of Powerloom Service Centres are decided on request of the State Government and on the basis of areas of Powerloom concentration. The State Government have identified two places for setting up of Powerloom Services Centres in Kerala at Kannur and Thiruvananthapuram. The State Government has to respond to certain clarifications before a decision could be taken.

Water Resorts in Gujarat

1068. SHRI N.J.RATHVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat have submitted any scheme to develop facility for water resorts till-date ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon and the financial assistance provided for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir. However the Government of India. Department of Tourism, has sanctioned funds for the purchase of water sports equipment and yachts to the State Government.

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

Import of Readymade Garments

1069. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries from which India is importing readymade garments;

(b) the details of the radymade garments imported during each of the last three years ; and

(c) the foreign exchange spent thereon during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) India is importing readymade garments from a number of countries. Germany, Hong Kong, Philippines, Singapore and Taiwan are the major exporters of readymade garments to India.

(b) and (c). The details of total quantity of readymade garments imported and foreign exchange spent thereon during the last three years were as follows :

	Quantity (Thousand Pcs)	Value (Rs. Crore)
1992-93	651.22	6.22
1993-94	1217.20	5.31
1994-95	1608.31	5.35

Source : DGCI & S

Cancellation/Diversion of Pvt. Airlines Flights

1070. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI :

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

(a) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding last minute cancellation/diversion of flights from their scheduled routes by private airlines under some pretext, causing great inconvenience to the passengers;

(b) is so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action/remedial measures being taken/proposed by the Government to avoid such complaints in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Some complaints had been received in this regard and therefore instructions have recently been issued that operators shall report all cancellations along with reasons thereof to the Director General of Civil Aviation. Strict action including grounding of the airline would be taken in accordance with the Aircraft Rules and Regulations in cases, where on verification, it is found that reasons for cancellation were not genuine/correct and the aircraft had been re-routed on other sectors.

Fiscal Deficit

1071 MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the reported observations of the World Bank that the heavy fiscal deficit is likely to adversely affect the tariff reform; and

(b) is so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). Fiscal deficit is a function of both tax and expenditure policies. There is no direct one to one correspondence between the fiscal deficit and tariff reforms. Fiscal deficit as a percentage of gross domestic product at market prices declined from 8.3 per cent in 1990-91 to 5.9 per cent (revised estimate) in 1995-96. Over the same period peak tariff rates have come down from over 300 per cent to 50 per cent.

Budget Deficit

1072. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the revenue budget deficit in absolute figures

and as percentage of the total revenue budget during the corresponding financial years, since 1991-92 year-wise;

(b) the estimated corresponding figures for 1995-96;

(c) the total money in circulation as on April 1 of each year wise since 1991;

(d) the level of money in circulation as on December 31, 1995 and as estimated for March 31, 1996; and

(e) the measures the Government propose to take to reduce the revenue budget deficit during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b) The details are as under :

(Rs. Crore)

Year	Revenue Expenditure	Revenue Deficit	% age of (3) to (2)
1991-92	82292	16261	19.8
1992-93	92702	18574	20.0
1993-94	108169	32716	30.2
1994-95	122112	31029	23.4
1995-96	143522	33331	23.2

(c) and (d). Date on the level of money in circulation as reflected in the broad money (M3) at the end of March (March, 31) are as under :

As on March 31	Broad money (M3) outstanding (Rs. In Crore)
1990-91	2,65,828
1991-92	3,17,049
1992-93	3,66,825
1993-94	4,34,407
1994-95*	5,30,802
End-December, 1995* (22-12-1995)	5,64,778

*Provisional.

The monetary and credit policy for the financial year 1995-96 envisaged an estimated growth rate of 15.5 per cent in broad money supply for the full fiscal year 1995-96 :

(e) Government would endeavour to restrict the revenue deficit in the current year at the level of Rs. 33331 crore as envisaged in RE 1995-96.

Hotel Accommodation

1073. SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of hotel accommodation in Delhi and New Delhi due to which foreign tourists inflow is not increasing as expected ;

(b) whether most of foreign tourists want to go to Rajasthan and visit the historical places there;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to augment the hotel accommodation in New Delhi and other places in Rajasthan as well as in other cities like Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, etc; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The construction in hotels is mainly a private sector activity. The Department has a scheme whereby hotel projects/functioning hotels are approved in the one to five star five deluxe category. To augment/supplement accommodation in New Delhi, Rajasthan and the Metros, Paying Guest Scheme and Heritage Hotel Schemes have been introduced and fiscal benefits are also provided.

Test Research by Scientists of Rubber Research Institute of India

1074. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the scientists working in Rubber Research Institute of India for testing cowdung, traditionally used in Indian houses to purify premises and household utensils against pink disease, the most destructive disease of the rubber tree as a biofungicide in the field;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have granted the permission to those scientists;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to grant the permission for the development of biofungicide which is already a proven powerful biofertilizer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Rubber Research Institute of India, under the Rubber Board has received a request from Smt. L.T. Thankamma, a scientist working in the Pathology Division of the RRII for including cowdung as one of the treatments for the control of pink disease.

(c) to (e) Smt. L. Thankamma in her proposal has not assessed the potential of cowdung inhibiting the pathogen causing pink disease in rubber and therefore was directed to confirm the fungicidal effect of cowdung in the laboratory using standard methods before taking up field trials. However, permission has been granted to her to conduct preliminary laboratory bio-efficiency test for cowdung as a fungicide.

Rubber Cultivation

1075. SHRI P.C. THOMAS.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country's share in the production of natural rubber and its productivity per hectare in comparison to the other major foreign countries producing rubber;

(b) whether the Government propose the increase the production of Rubber;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the States in which rubber is cultivated with its share of production and the total area covered under cultivation of rubber at present;

(e) whether any incentive are also being provided to the farmers to increase the production;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of rubber in traditional and non-traditional areas, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) India's share in the Total production of Natural Rubber in the world is 8.17% as of 1994. In terms of productivity, India ranks first among the major Natural Rubber producing countries in the world. The production and productivity of the major Natural Rubber producing countries are as follows :

	Production (000 Tons) (1994)	Yield/Ha (KG)
India	472.0	1265
Malaysia	1100.6	1220*
Thailand	1722.4	1080
Sri Lanka	105.3	862
Indonesia	1360.8	746

(*Refers to 1991)

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Government proposes to increase production of natural rubber by :

(i) Expanding the area under rubber by undertaking new planting.

(ii) Replanting old and uneconomic plantations with high yielding clones.

(iii) Increasing productivity of rubber plantations.

(iv) Statewise details of area and production are (1994-95) are as under :-

	Area (in hectares)	Production (in tonnes)
Kerala	443,300 (85.98)*	442,830 (93.86)**
Tamil Nadu	17,430 (3.38)	15,065 (3.19)
Karnataka	14,955 (2.90)	9,700 (2.06)
Tripura	19,252 (4.08)	2,966 (0.60)
Assam	10,122 (1.96)	315
Meghalaya	4,550 (0.88)	167
Nagaland	1,450 (0.28)	11
Mizoram	979	57
Manipur	1,253 (0.24)	96
A&N Islands	960	462
Goa	936	120
Maharashtra	91	11
Orissa	219	Nil
Arunachal Pradesh	75	15
Total	515,572	471,815

* Percentage of the total area in the brackets.

** Percentage of the total production in brackets.

(e) and (f). Yes Sir. The details of incentives provided to the farmers as under :

(i) Making available financial and technical assistance for newplanting and replanting with improved varieties under rubber plantation development scheme.

(ii) Production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers.

(iii) Rendering advisory, extension and training services.

(g) A world Bank Assisted Rubber Project is now under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and upgrade quality of rubber both in traditional and non-traditional areas. For the non-traditional areas, the following specific schemes are being undertaken by the Rubber Board.

1) Special Scheme for economic settlement of tribals.

2.) Block Plantation Project for tribal at Tripura, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

3) Scheme of setting up of Nucleus Rubber Estates and Training Centre (NRETC), District Development Centres, Tappers, Training Schools and Regional Nurseries.

Rubber Cultivation in Tribal Area of Kerala

1076. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board has started any scheme for the development of rubber cultivation in tribal areas of Kerala;

(b) if so, the total area of land covered and the total fund spent under this scheme in the State so far;

(c) the actual benefit will be getting to tribal community ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rubber Board has started implementing a separate economic settlement project for tribal beneficiaries in Kerala from 1988 onwards. The total area covered under this scheme is 703.30 ha. in Thiruvananthapuram, Kellam and Idukki districts. The total amount spent is Rs. 1.1. crores.

(c) The Rubber Plantation Projects for tribals are being taken up in settlement colonies of tribal areas and these schemes have proved to be extremely successful in providing a meaningful economic resettlement to the tribals for almost a life time. Rubber being a crop with a long economic life span this offers a permanent economic rehabilitation. The Board is implementing the scheme directly availing various sources of finance apart from utilising its own source of funds under Tribal Sub Plan/ Special Component Plan.

(d) Another scheme has been formulated for Rubber Plantation Development in tribal areas of Kerala to cover 1200 ha. in five years. This Scheme with a total outlay of Rs. 9.24 crores is implemented by the Rubber Board in collaboration with the Government of Kerala. The Project was started in 1995.

ITDC Hotels in Orissa

1077 DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of ITDC hotels in Orissa;
- (b) the name of the profit making hotels, out of them;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up more ITDC hotels at the tourist places in Orissa; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) There are two hotels namely :- Hotel Kalinga Ashok Bhubaneswar, owned by ITDC and Hotel Nilachal, Ashok, Puri - Joint venture of ITDC and Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation. Neither of these hotels is presently making profits.

(c) and (d). ITDC's Annual Plan, 1996-97 does not envisage any plan scheme outlay to set up any new hotel in Orissa.

Private Manning of Airports

1078. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow private companies to man and operate the airports on experimental basis; and

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation for O.B.Cs

1079. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether public sector banks and Central Financial Institutions are complying with the directions issued by the Government with regard to reservation for other Backward Classes ; and

(b) if so, the details of the vacancies, category-wise filled up during the last two years therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The policies with regard to reservation for other backward classes are applicable to Public Sector Banks and Central Financial institutions.

(b) As per the information received from the public sector banks and financial institutions, the position about recruitment of OBCs in different categories during the period from 8.9.93 (i.e. when reservation for OBCs in recruitment came into effect in banks) upto 30.11.95 has been as under :-

Officer	Clerks	Sub-staff (including sweepers)
213	556	624
		(Data provisional)

[Translation]

Gem Testing Offices/Centres

1080. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several gem testing offices/centres are functioning in the country;

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

(c) whether training is also imparted in these centres for testing of gems;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievement made by these centres so far

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

(b) According to the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council there are 10 Gem Testing Centres, functioning in the country. They are as follows :-

1. Indian Gemmological Institute, Delhi.
2. Gem Testing Laboratory, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
3. Gemmological Institute of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra.
4. Gem Testing Laboratory, Mumbai, Maharashtra.
5. Pangem Enterprises, Pune, Maharashtra.
6. Gem Testing Laboratory CPL, GSI, Calcutta, West Bengal.
7. Gem Testing Laboratory, Madras, Tamil Nadu.
8. Sri Ramkrishna Gem Testing Laboratory, Salem, Tamil Nadu.
9. Gem Testing Laboratory, Trivandrum Kerala.
10. Gem Testing Laboratory, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Some of these centres are providing training in testing of gems. Names of these training centres are as follows :-

1. Indian Gemmological Institute, Delhi.
2. Gem Testing Laboratory, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
3. Gemmological Institute of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra.
4. Indian Diamond Institute, Surat, Gujarat.

In addition to these training Centres, training, is also provided by St. Xaviers College, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

(e) Gem Testing Centres, have helped in providing technically trained manpower to the gem & jewellery trade and industry. Technical services of gem testing and certification work is provided to the general public, gem and jewellery trade and overseas buyers.

[English]

Indo-Nepal Bilateral Trade Agreement

1081. DR. K.D. JESWANI :

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Nepal has signed any agreement with India during his recent visit to New Delhi for the expansion of Indo-Nepal bilateral trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Revival of Sick PSUs

1082. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has directed Industrial Financial Corporation of India to prepare revival package for Public Sector Undertaking;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by IFCI thereon;

(c) whether IFCI has not prepared packages for revival of PSUs so far; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Tourist Inflow

1083. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been decline in tourist inflow in Jammu & Kashmir and increase in other parts like UP Hills and Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, percentage thereof; and

(c) steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide better tourists facilities in the States where inflow has increased?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). According to the information available from the State Government, there has been an increase of 9.4% and 30.5% in 1994 and 9.3% and 15.0% in 1995 in tourist visits in the case of Jammu and Kashmir and U.P. Hills respectively as compared to the previous years. In the case of Himachal Pradesh there has been increase of 20.8% in 1994 as compared to 1993 and a decline of about 9.9% in 1995 as compared to 1994.

(c) The development of tourist facilities in any State is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government and the Central Department of Tourism provide financial assistance on the basis of specific proposals received from them. The Central financial assistance sanctioned to these States during the last three years as follows :

Year	Central Financial Assistance Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)		
	Jammu & Kashmir	Uttar Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh
1992-93	152.75	97.34	111.94
1993-94	236.19	166.04	369.25
1994-95	217.91	223.80	368.85

Seizure of Goods

1084. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of gold and other goods seized by the department of customs during the year 1995-96, so far;

(b) the number of persons arrested in the regard; and

(c) the action being taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The position as on 31.1.1996 is as follows :-

Description of goods seized	Value (in Rs. Lakhs)
Gold (879 Kgs.)	4189.00
Silver (476.Kgs.)	32.00
Other goods	53218.00

(such as electronic goods, Computer & Computer parts, Watches, & watch movements Drugs, Indian & Foreign currencies, Synthetic fabrics and other misc. goods)

(b) A total of 809 persons were arrested between 1.4.95 and 31.1.1996.

(c) Prosecution under Customs/FERA/NDPS Acts and preventive detention under COFEPOSA/PITNDPS Act is considered against the guilty persons. Simultaneous adjudication proceeding under these Acts are also initiated.

Trade with European Union

1085. SHRI TARA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study entitled "India Meeting the challenges of the European Union" has been conducted by a joint team of economists from the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and Utrecht University, Netherlands;

(b) whether it has been pointed out by the study that the Indian Embassies in European countries are creating hurdles in trade;

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

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

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

(b) No, Sir.

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

Trade Agreements

1086. SHRI K.M.MATHEW : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the countries who have shown interest to boost trade with India during the last six months;

(b) whether any trade agreement has been signed between India and these foreign countries during the above period;

(c) if so, the details of areas identified therefor; separately, country-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). A large number of countries including U.K., Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, Ireland, Norway, Finland, Italy, Hungary, Croatia, Poland, Romania, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in Europe, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan of the SAARC countries, Bahrain, Vietnam Thailand etc., have shown interest in boosting trade with India during the last six months. The operationalisation of the SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA) in December, 1995 has opened up new vistas for trade and economic cooperation with our immediate South Asian neighbouring countries. Formal trade agreements were also signed with Burkina Faso and Namibia in November, 1995.

(c) and (d). Government is acting as a promotor, facilitator and coordinator through its various institutional mechanism like Joint Commissions, Joint Trade Committees, etc. for boosting trade and ironing out hurdles in trade also *inter alia* providing and developing direct business level contacts. Trade promotion is a continuous effort and steps are taken to promote and diversify exports through country-specific measures. As a result, India's Exports have shown an increase of 22% in dollar terms during April 1995-January 1996 compared with the corresponding period in the preceeding year.

[Translation]

High Airfare in Himachal Sector

1087. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether air fares in New Delhi-Kangra (Gagal) and New Delhi-Kullu (Bhuntar) sectors are the maximum in India for corresponding distances;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is likely to have an adverse effect on Tourism in Himachal Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Air Transport Operators are free to charge any fare in their best commercial judgement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Child Labour

1088. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the International Labour Organisation Conventions regarding child labour adopted in our country;

(b) the number of the conventions which have not yet been accepted in our country ; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be adopted?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) India has ratified six International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions concerning Employment of Children and Young Persons. These Conventions are Conventions No. 5 concerning Minimum Age (Industry), Convention No. 6 concerning Night Work of Young Persons (Industry), Convention No. 15 concerning Minimum Age (Trimmers & Stocks), convention No. 16 concerning Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea), Convention No. 90 concerning Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) (Revised) and Convention No. 123 concerning Minimum Age (Underground Work).

(b) and (c). India has yet to ratify Convention Nos. 10, 33, 59, 60 & 138 concerning Minimum age for Employment. There is no omnibus provision stipulation minimum age for employment in Indian Labour Laws. The socio-economic conditions obtaining in the country at this stage, do not make it practicable for enactment and implementation of such a provision.

Joint Ventures in South Africa

1089. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian companies have sought permission to set up joint ventures in South Africa ;

(b) if so, the details of the joint venture proposed to be set up by these companies, company-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). All applications for setting up joint ventures/wholly owned subsidiaries abroad are to be made to and processed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Accounting to information furnished by the RBI, an application of M/s. United Breweries Ltd. to invest South African Rand 52.50 Million (US \$ 14.58 Million approximately) for acquiring of 30% share in an existing beer manufacturing company in South Africa has been received by them. As the proposal is complex, entailing huge requirement of funds of US \$ 14.58 million, besides future obligation for US \$ 11.11 Million, the RBI have referred the case of Ministry of Finance for further consideration. It may not therefore, be possible to indicate any definite time limit.

Similar Sized Coins

1090. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether similar sized coins of different denominations are in circulation in the market;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw these coins;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) the loss likely to be suffered by the Government on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Re. 1 CN and Rs. 2 CN coin sized 26 mm dia. are in circulation. The shape of the coins is however different. Re. 1 coin is round in shape whereas Rs. 2 coin is 11 sided.

(b) There is no move to withdraw these coins at present.

(c) and (d). Does not apply.

EPF Employees Under Fifth Pay Commission

1091. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation come under the purview of the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the machinery available for entertaining the grievances of the employees of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation in case these employees are not covered by the Fifth Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The Fifth pay Commission has been constituted to look into the emoluments structure and other service conditions of the Central Government employees only. As such, the employees of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation which is an autonomous statutory body set up under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 do not fall within the purview of the Fifth Pay Commission. Under section 5D(7) (a) of the EPF & MP Act, the salary, allowances and other conditions of service of the EPF employees are required to be specified by the Central Board in accordance with the rules and orders applicable to the employees of the Central Government drawing corresponding scales of pay. Wherever necessary, the Central Board with prior approval of the Central Govt. is also competent to make departures in respect of these administrative matters.

Foreign Trips by CMs

1092. KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Chief Ministers State-wise/Union Territory-wise who went on foreign trips during the each of the last three years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on each of such trip?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Car CKD Import and Import Duty

1093. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a lot of controversy between various Ministries/Departments over treating CKD kit as a car component *vis-a-vis* the import duty to be paid on import of CKD by the car manufacturers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the non-settlement of the issue has been causing impediments in signing memoranda of understanding between the Government and the car manufacturers in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the memoranda of understanding that are presently pending on this account;

(e) whether the Government propose to sort out the matter with the Ministries/Departments concerned and arrive at a conclusive settlement in this regard which may help in laying down a clear-cut policy on the issue; and

(f) if so, the details of the measures taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (f). Determination of import duty on CKD kits imported by car manufacturers is governed by the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, including Rules for Interpretation as well as the relevant Chapter Notes. There is no controversy within the Government in this regard.

However, for the purpose of importing such kits, the car manufacturers are required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Director-General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), in accordance with the policy relating thereto. It has been reported that so far, five MOU's have been signed with the car manufacturers and no case is pending with the DGFT.

National Savings Certificate

1094. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether money is doubled in 51/2 years in Kisaan Vikas Patra and Indira Vikas Patra;

(b) if so, the reasons for the money not becoming double in National Savings Certificate; and

(c) the steps taken to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Investment in National Savings Certificates (VIII-Issue) is eligible for tax relief under Sections 88 and 80-L of Income Tax Act. No tax Concession is available for investment in Indira Vikas Patra and Kisaan Vikas Patra. Hence, the variation in the interest yield

(c) As the schemes are not indetical, there is no question of equating the rate of interest of National Savings Certificates with that allowed on Kisaan Vikas Patra/ Indira Vikas Patra.

Jute Policy

1095. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether jute workers of West Bengal Plan to agitate against the alleged violation of tripartite agreement made during last December;

(b) whether even in case of public sector jute mills under the National Jute Manufacturers' Corporation, the authorities were yet to get clearance from the Union Government to implement the tripartite agreement;

(c) whether All India Jute Workers' Federation and the Workers' Union have urged the Central Government to adopt an integrated jute policy for the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) There is no apparent indication.

(b) The NDMC is also a party to the industry-wide agreement. The matter is under consideration in the Ministry of Textiles.

(c) to (e). Government takes into account all relevant factors when deciding policy issues, from time to time.

Scholarships to the Children of Beedi Workers

1096. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes for payment of scholarships to children of Beedi Workers;

(b) which are the States/Union Territories that implemented the scholarship schemes so far; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take

against those State/Union Territories which have not implemented the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) The scheme of granting scholarship to the children of Beedi Workers is being implemented in all the beedi producing States/Unions Territories.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Details of scheme for payment of Scholarship to Children of Beedi Workers are given below:

1. (i) *Scheme for Award of scholarships under Beedi/Iron ore, Manganese Ore, Chrome Ore Mines/Limestone and Dolomite Mines/Cine Workers Welfare Fund.*

Rates of scholarships are awarded at the following rates per student per year

Group I	Class V & VI	Rs. 250/-p.a.
Group II	Class. VII, VIII. IX and X	Rs. 450/-p.a.
Group III	Class XI, XII, I.A. I.Sc (All pre-graduation courses where admission is open for students who qualified in Xth Std.)	Rs. 700/-p.a.
Group IV	Graduation and post Graduation, Degree courses in Arts, Science and commerce in Lower Technical Courses Professional Courses like B.ED., B.T., M.ED., L.T., LLB.	Rs. 1000-p.a.
Group V	M.B.B.S., B.E., B.Sc., (Agri.) and other Degree level technical courses, Research and Doctorate studies	Rs. 3000/-p.a.

(ii) Eligibility :

(a) Either of the parents of the students should be Beedi Worker or a mine Worker in Iron Ore/Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore Mines, Limestone and Dolomite or Mica Mines or a Cine Worker for six months at least. This would also includes contract labourers.

(b) Total income of both the parents of the students from all sources should not exceed Rs. 3500/-p.m. including all allowances.

(c) The applicant must have passed at last qualifying examination securing at least 45% of marks in aggregate. However, in case of children belonging of SC or ST, the minimum marks to be obtained will be 35%.

(iii) Reservation

For the students belonging to SC and ST there shall be a reservation on the basis of percentage of SC/ST population in the district concerned, subject to the condition that it would not be less than 15% for SC and 7.5% for ST. Coverage for female students should be enlarged and efforts should be made to ensure 50% coverage overall, for female students and to cover all children belonging to SC/ST who have passed the last qualifying examination.

2. Scheme to purchase a dress, Slates, Text Books for children of Beedi Workers, Mine Workers of Limestone and Dolomite Mines, Iron ore/manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines and Mica Mines.

A sum of Rs.125/- is paid to each school going child of Mine/Beedi Workers studying in class 1st to IVth. A reservation for SC/ST students on the basis of percentage of SC/ST population in the district concerned subject to the condition that it would not be less than 15% for SC and & 7.5% for ST. A 50% reservation overall has been accepted for female students.

3. Scheme to pay incentive to the wards of Beedi/ Mine/Cine Workers on the basis of percentage of marks obtained by them on passing final examination conducted by the on passing final examination conducted by the Board/University from class-X onwards for implementation w.e.f. 01.04.1995

Rates of Incentives sanctioned from class X onwards :

	Ist Div. (60% above)	IInd Div. (50% above)	Pass (below 50%)
(a) High School	500/-	350/-	250/-
(b) Plus 2/Industrial Trade Certificate (ITI)	750/-	500/-	350/-
(c) Graduation/3-years Prof. Diploma.	1000/-	750/-	500/-
(d) Prof. Degree (BE/MBBS/B. Arch. etc.)	2000/-	1500/-	1000/-

4. Scheme to provide incentive/Financial Assistance on the basis of attendance in Schools/Colleges etc. to the female students studying in classes V and onwards in any field of education being daughters of Iron Ore/ Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore/Limestone and Dolomite Mine/Beedi/Cine Workers (including children of contract labourers) out of Iron Ore/Manganese Ore/ Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund, Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund, Beedi Workers Welfare Fund and Cine Workers Welfare Fund-Applicable from the financial year 1995-96.

(a) Female students being daughters of Iron Ore/ Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore/Limestone and Dolomite Mine/Cine/Beedi Workers including contract labourers) studying in Government recognised schools/colleges/ universities shall be covered under the scheme.

(b) Either of the parents of the student should be Iron Ore/Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore/Limestone and Dolomite Mine/Cine/Beedi Worker for at least six months.

(c) The average income of family of female student from all sources should not exceed Rs. 3500/-p.m. The 'family income' includes income of father, mother, unmarried brothers/sisters from all sources.

(d) The incentive amount under the scheme shall be available to the students only once in a particular class i.e. if the student fails to pass in a class, she shall not be entitled to the assistance again while in the same class.

(e) The student who receives incentives from any other sources under a similar scheme operated by any of the State Government or other authorities will be granted an incentive to the extent the Welfare Fund's incentive exceeds the other incentive scheme.

(f) The incentives mentioned above shall be in addition to the existing scholarship provided under different Welfare Funds administered by the Ministry of Labour/State Government/any other authority.

AMOUNT OF INCENTIVE

The female students covered under the scheme shall be entitled to payment of Rs. 1/-per day of attendance in any Government/Recognised School/College/University, subject to maximum ceiling of Rs. 220/-per annum per child.

Income Tax Collection

1097. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income Tax collection has been very high in some of the States during the current financial year especially during the last six months;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof in descending order as compared to the previous financial year;

(c) the reasons for high collection this year;

(d) whether the Government had fixed any targets therefor, circle-wise;

(e) if so, the details thereof and whether those targets have been achieved;

(f) whether the Government have or propose to provide for incentives/awards to be given to the concerned income tax staff circle/sub circle-wise for the high income tax collection; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir, There has been increase in the collection both of Corporation Tax and Income Tax in all the charges of the Chief Commissioners during the last six months except in one charge in the case of Corporation Tax.

(b) Since the details of collections are available charge-wise and not state-wise, the figures of collections in descending order, as available upto 15th February, 1996, are given in the enclosed **statement I** and II. The figures for the previous financial year for the corresponding period and the annual growth in percentages are also furnished.

(c) The increase in the collection may be attributed to *inter-alia*, buoyancy in economy in general and the

improved industrial production in particular, effective tax administration and better tax compliance.

(d) Yes, Sir, The Government had fixed targets for each of the Chief Commissioners' charges.

(e) The details of the targets are given in the Annexures. These targets are fixed on annual basis and looking to the trend of collection upto 15.2.1996. It is hoped that the annual targets will be achieved.

(f) Yes, Sir, The Government have formulated a scheme for the reward for highest collection and recovery work for the officials of the Income Tax Department.

(g) The Scheme envisages rewards to be given at two levels - Regional and All India. There are three rewards at the regional level - (i) for the best Tax Recovery Officer's Unit; (ii) for the best Assessing Officer's Unit; and (iii) for the best Range of Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax/Additional Commissioner of Income Tax. At the All-India level for the highest percentage increases in the combined collection of Corporation Tax and Income Tax over the target fixed by the Board one running shield is awarded to the best Region of the Chief Commissioner of Income-Tax, three Silver Salvers are given to the Chief Commissioners of Income-tax and three Silver Salvers are given to the Commissioners of Income-tax. Three Silver Salvers are also given to the Chief Commissioners of Income-tax reporting the highest number of persons under the Presumptive Tax Scheme

STATEMENT-I

Corporation Tax

Chief Commissioner's Regions	Targets allocated by CBDT	Collection 1995-96	Collection 1994-95 (upto 15th February)	% age change
1	2	3	4	5
Bombay	8080.00	5038.27	4557.97	10.54
Delhi	2400.00	1839.54	1255.52	46.52
West Bengal	1530.00	795.26	885.83	-10.22
Ahmedabad	410.00	577.43	193.99	197.66
Madras	720.00	493.04	356.66	38.24
Pune	415.00	290.88	231.13	25.85
Kanpur	300.00	214.07	199.78	7.15
Bangalore	480.00	207.99	196.88	5.64

1	2	3	4	5
Patna	240.00	202.20	107.20	88.62
Hyderabad	350.00	193.24	143.92	34.27
Chandigarh	300.00	164.70	147.31	11.81
Cochin	120.00	102.88	65.60	56.83
Jaipur	70.00	85.46	17.94	376.37
Bhopal	75.00	50.62	34.63	46.17
Lucknow	5.00	38.63	-13.17	393.32
Central TDS	2200.00	1805.54	1459.69	23.69
Total	17695.00	12099.75	9840.87	22.95

STATEMENT-II*Income Tax*

Chief Commissioner's Regions	Targets allocated by CDBT	Collection- tion 1995-96 (upto 15th February)	Collec- tion 1994-95	%age change
Bombay	3655.00	2920.63	2206.48	32.37
Delhi	1900.00	1553.52	1126.62	37.89
Madras	1275.00	928.95	722.79	28.52
Ahmedabad	1200.00	904.36	641.36	41.02
Pune	950.00	770.36	553.08	39.29
Bangalore	790.00	678.71	446.16	52.12
Calcutta	805.00	587.68	453.10	29.70
Chandigarh	710.00	474.91	343.98	38.06
Patna	520.00	471.08	327.16	43.99
Hyderabad	600.00	406.67	337.82	20.38
Bhopal	385.00	311.08	216.31	43.81
Lucknow	390.00	253.19	182.38	38.83
Kanpur	345.00	245.02	192.38	27.36
Cochin	360.00	243.95	190.05	28.36
Jaipur	280.00	212.49	153.42	38.50
Central TDS	340.00	360.10	222.75	61.66
Total	14505.00	11322.70	8315.79	36.16

[Translation]

Exhibition on Textile Designing

1098. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Exhibition on Textile Designing was organised in Delhi recently ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of export orders received through this exhibition?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The India International Garment Fair for Autumn/ Winter collections was organised by the Apparel Export Promotion Council from 27th to 29th January '96 in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

(b) A total number of 693 buyers and 257 buying agents from about 62 countries viz. the U.K., the U.S.A., Canada, Germany, Spain, Australia, Italy etc., visited the fair.

(c) The total export orders of about Rs. 2.5 Crores were booked during the fair.

[English]

M/s. Reliance Industries

1099. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report submitted to the Ministry by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has revealed numerous acts of omission and commissions by the major players in the Reliance Share switch and duplication controversies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). The Interim Reports submitted by SEBI on inspection of Reliance Consultancy Services Limited (RCS), the Registrar and Share Transfer Agents for Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), on issue of duplicate shares, and on the inspection of the Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited, Citibank N.A., and other custodians on the "switching" of shares of RIL held by the custodians have *inter alia*, revealed certain lapses and irregularities. Some of the main findings as contained in the Interim Reports are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Department of Company Affairs and Securities and Exchange Board of India have initiated appropriate follow-up action for dealing with the lapses and irregularities as contained in the Interim Reports under the provisions of Companies Act., 1956, SEBI Act, 1992 and Rules and Regulations under the SEBI Act. The inspections are still continuing and accordingly the final Reports are awaited.

STATEMENT

(i) The interim inspection report has revealed that some duplicate share certificates had been issued while the original share certificates were in existence which in fact was very much in the knowledge of RCS.

(ii) The inspection report also reveals that the provisions of Section 113 of the Companies Act may have been violated.

(iii) The interim inspection report also reveals that the company has carried out reversal of the entries whereby there has been rectification of the register of members. It appears that the provisions of Section 111 (4) (a) of the Companies Act have been violated.

(iv) It is seen from the submissions of custodians that 67.30 lakh shares of RIL were switched. In respect of the above shares, it was noted that when the shares were lodged for transfer by the Custodians on behalf of their clients with RCS, the shares received back after transfer from RCS were different, with different distinctive numbers (DNRs) and or transferers, names. However, from the submission of RCS, the total number of switched shares stood at 70.30 lakhs.

(v) Unit Trust of India purchased a lot of 24 lakh shares of RIL through M/s. L.K. Pandey on December 2, 1991. UTI also purchased another lot of 30 lakh shares of RIL through him on May 22, 1992. Out of the first lot of 24 lakh shares, 16.90 lakh shares were switched. As regards the second lot of 30 lakh shares, all the shares were switched.

(vi) For the lot of 22 lakh shares that were lodged for transfer by SHCIL there were inordinate delays at every stage of processing of these shares by SHCIL from the date of receipt of these shares from the broker their lodgement with RCS, and their processing after receipt from RCS.

(vii) There are also an inordinate delay in transfer by RCS. There was also a significant delay between the stated date of transfer by RCS of RIL shares and the date of despatch by RCS of the transferred shares to SHCIL.

*[Translation]***Employment to Repatriated from Myanmar**

1100. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to provide employment in Group 'C' and 'D' on priority basis to Indians repatriated from Myanmar (Burma);

(b) whether any directions to this effect have been issued to the employment exchanges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the said facility is still in existence; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (e). Repatriates from Burma who have migrated to India on or after 1.6.1963 are allowed overriding priority in priority-III in their home State and priority-III in other States for the purpose of employment through employment exchanges. Necessary instructions to this effect have been included in the National Employment Services Manual to be followed by the employment exchanges.

*[English]***Non Payment of Dues to Workers**

1101. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether workers of NTC run Mills, Mumbai have not been paid their terminal dues (gratuity) after their superannuation;

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

(c) the amount of gratuity due to these workers;

(d) whether these workers have also made a representation to the Union Minister of Labour in this regard;

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

(f) by when these workers are likely to be paid their legitimate terminal dues (gratuity) due to them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). An amount of Rs. 80.29 lakhs is due to the 201 superannuated employees towards terminal dues (gratuity), in 14 mills in Mumbai under NTC (MN) and (NTC (SM). NTC has been unable to pay these dues on account of acute shortage of working capital.

(d) and (e). The issue of non-payment of terminal dues (gratuity) to the employees of NTC has been raised by several Members of Parliament and trade union representatives in different fora. The matter has been taken up with the concerned Ministries for provision of funds.

(f) 8 out of 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC, including NTC (MN) and NTC (SM), have been referred to BIFR due to net worth erosion. The BIFR has declared them to be sick industrial companies. Government have finalised a revised Turn Around Plan for modernisation of NTC mills and placed the same before the BIFR for its approval. Once the BIFR approves the package and the same is implemented, NTC will be able to mobilise funds for implementation of the modernisation plan and also payment of dues to its workers/employees.

*[Translation]***Accident Prone Mines**

1102. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the accident prone mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has since been taken against such coal-mines where devastating accidents took place during the least three years;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the inquiry tribunal constituted by the Government to inquire into the reasons behind the accidents is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the accident prone mines is attached.

(c) to (e). During the last three years (1993-95), one devastating accident each in New Kenda colliery of M/s Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Gaslitand Colliery of M/s Bharat Coking Coal Ltd occurred on 25.1.94 and 26.9.95 respectively. In both the cases, Government in exercise of powers under Section 24 (2) of the Mines Act, 1952 have set up two separate Courts of Inquiry to inquire into the causes and circumstances attending these accidents. The reports of the Courts of Inquiry are awaited.

STATEMENT*Bharat Coking Coal Limited*

1. Laikdih Deep
2. Balihari
3. Burragarh
4. Bhowrah South
5. Dobari
6. Bansdeopur
7. South Tisra
8. Block II OCP
9. Ramkanali

Eastern Coalfields

1. New Kenda
2. Methani
3. Bejdih
4. Chinakuri No. II
5. Chinakuri 1,2
6. Jhanjra M.I.C.
7. Pure Searsole
8. Tirath
9. Kendra

Central Coalfields

1. Sayal D No. 7
2. Piparwar Project
3. Bhurkunda -A O/C
4. Tarmi
5. Rohini

South Eastern Coalfields

1. Kotma West
2. Churcha West
3. Surakachar No. 5 & 6
4. Rajgamar 6 & 7

5. Surakachar No. 3 & 4

6. Rajendra

7. Dhanpuri U/G

8. Bhadra

Western Coalfields

1. Damua
2. Mohan
3. Sukri
4. Hindustan Lalpeth
5. Vishnupuri Opencast
6. Kamptee Opencast
7. Ballarpur
8. Rajpur.

[English]

Fare Hike in AI

1103. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage increase in air fares of the Air India since January, 1993 and revenue earned as a result thereof;

(b) whether the hikes in air fares have resulted in decrease in number of passenger travelling by the Air India; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure more traffic on AI flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The published fares of Air India to overseas destinations have increased by 8.5% w.e.f. 01.01.93, 15% w.e.f. 16.01.93 and 6% w.e.f. 01.04.94. The increase of 6% from 01.04.94 is applicable on all fares except for Area TC 31 via North/Central Pacific where the increase was 20%.

(b) The number of passengers travelling by Air India have not reduced. However, the percentage share of Air India in international traffic has reduced due to other carriers mounting proportionately more capacity.

(c) Measures such as introduction of frequent flier programme, Maharaja and Executive clubs, induction of latest 747-400 aircraft on US/UK sectors, improvement of inflight services, wetleasing of aircraft for additional capacity, connecting new destinations such as Amsterdam, Entebbe, Manchester and Tel Aviv, improvement in computerised reservation system etc. have been taken by Air India to improve its market share.

Duty Free Shops

1104. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the location-wise number of notified duty free custom shops in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have received information regarding operation of such unauthorised shops in the State; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to close down such shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) There is no notified duty free customs shop in Uttar Pradesh

(b) Government has no information regarding operation of such unauthorised shops in U.P.

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

Foreign Exchange to Students

1105. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken notice of the tremendous financial hardship being faced by Indian students studying in USA, U.K., and other foreign countries due to sharp depreciation of 'Rupee' during the last nine months;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the feasibility of providing foreign exchange to such students at the reasonable rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (d) We have not received any representation from any student so far, studying in USA, UK and other foreign countries about the hardship, if any, faced by them. There is no change in extant regulations applicable for release of exchange to the students going for higher studies and the exchange is required to be released at the prevailing market rate.

Opening of a Local Head Office of SBI in Trivandrum

1106. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a Local Head Office of State Bank of India in Trivandrum has been pending for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons for its delay; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be materialised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the circle re-design, as suggested by the consultants engaged by it for undertaking a detailed study of the organisational structure of the bank, has been introduced in November, 1995 in Bombay and Madras Circles (the branches located in the state of Kerala fall under the administrative control of Madras Circle). It does not envisage creation of a new local head office.

IDBI Assistance to Entrepreneur of Orissa and Gujarat

1107. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :

DR. K.D. JESWANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received from entrepreneurs of Gujarat and Orissa by the IDBI during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications sanctioned out of them during the aforesaid period State-wise; and

(c) the unit-wise and year-wise details of the financial assistance provided during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

IDBI Assistance to Dabhol Power Company

1108. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial Development Bank of India has offered finances to the multi-national Dabhol power company;

(b) if so, the extent of its commitment;

(c) the funds released so far;

(d) whether IDBI has any clear cut policy on financing power projects and multi-national companies in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it has sanctioned a rupee loan of Rs. 150 crore and guarantee assistance of Rs. 540 crores to the Dabhol Power Company.

(c) IDBI has not release any funds so far to the

Dabhol Power Company.

(d) and (e). IDBI has reported that power projects are financed by it keeping in view the guidelines issued by the Government as well as IDBI's own norms applicable for other projects. As regards multi-national companies, IDBI does not have any specific guidelines and the projects are considered on merits by IDBI.

Imbalance of Trade with Nepal

1109. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a great imbalance with Indo-Nepal trade;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expand trade between both the countries to minimise the imbalance of trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) The flow of bilateral trade between India and Nepal from 1992-93 onwards has been as below :

(Value in Rs. Crores)

(April - December)

1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1994-95		1995-96	
Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
210.48	71.75	304.87	85.62	308.59	97.79	271.39	71.09	401.80	120.30

(Source : DGCI&S)

Exports from Nepal to India and exports from India to Nepal are both on the increase as a result of preferential arrangement made by two Governments. India supplies raw materials at economical cost to Nepal which they use for manufacture of products for export mainly to third countries. It is perhaps also economical for Nepal to source their essential requirements from India at a lower freight cost. The facilities provided by Government of India for expansion of Nepalese exports to India include duty free access for Nepalese products to the Indian market without any quantitative restrictions and without any licencing formalities.

Land for International Airport at Jaipur

1110. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will

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

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government have transferred 248 bighas land to the Union Government to develop the present airport into an International airport at Jaipur ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan has stayed the land acquisition proceedings.

Production of Rubber

1111. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for the production of rubber during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the achievements made thereon so far;

(c) the production of rubber expected by the end of 1996-97 ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target fixed for the self-sufficiency in production of rubber ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) The production targets and achievements in respect of Natural Rubber during the 8th Five Year Plan period are as follows :

(Qty. in Tonnes)		
Year	Production Target	Achievement
1992-93	4,05,000	393,490
1993-94	4,40,000	435,160
1994-95	4,75,000	471,815
1995-96	5,00,000	507,000*
1996-97	5,46,000 (Projects)	

* Provisional Estimate

(d) The Rubber Board is implementing various schemes to increase production and productivity of rubber, which include;

(i) Making available financial and technical assistance for newplanting and replanting with improved varieties;

(ii) production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers;

(iii) rendering advisory, extension and training services;

(iv) encouraging group processing and marketing among small holders;

(v) undertaking research on cultivation production and processing of rubber;

(vi) Special schemes for propagation of rubber cultivation in non-traditional areas; and

(viii) A World Bank Assisted project is under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and improve quality of natural rubber.

Production of Cotton

1112. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of cotton produced in Maharashtra during last three years;

(b) whether the proposed new plan of Cotton Corporation of India to increase productivity of cotton has been implemented;

(c) if so, the details of the enhanced production in comparison to the corresponding last years; and

(d) the estimated further increase in cotton production in next two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The total quantity of cotton produced in Maharashtra, as estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board during last three years was the following :

Year	Quantity
1992-93	20.50
1993-94	14.00
1994-95	16.00

(in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each)

(b) and (c). The Cotton Corporation of India, under its extension activities, has been aiming to improve productivity of cotton over the last few years. The contribution of CCI's projects towards increasing production of cotton has not been separately assessed. The production of cotton in the country during last five years, as per Cotton Advisory Board estimates, is as under :

(in lakh bales)

Year	Production
1990-91	117.00
1991-92	119.00
1992-93	138.00
1993-94	121.50
1994-95	138.50

(d) Production of cotton depends upon a variety of factors, including area sown, climatic conditions etc.

Reappointment of Lead District Officers

1113. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1991, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) withdrew its Lead District Officers appointed by the bank following the introduction of the Lead Bank Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the R.B.I. has been for sometime past, reviewing the utility of LDOs;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some of the States have also been urging the RBI for reappointment of LDOs; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it was decided in the year 1991 to withdraw Lead District Officers of RBI from the Districts in which NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (NABARD) has opened its district level offices.

(c) to (f) Since July, 1993, RBI has been considering the question of reinducting Lead District Officers. For examining the matter further, RBI have sought opinion from bankers, Government officials, Non-Governmental Organisation etc. The response of the bankers and Government officials was in favour of reviving the institution of Lead District Officers. RBI has since decided to reinduct the Lead District Officers to the district from which they had been withdrawn.

[Translation]

Flights in Gujarat

1114. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to invite private airlines to operate in such areas of Gujarat where the national airlines do not operate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Private Airlines provide air services on routes/sectors depending upon traffic demand and commercial viability. Government is encouraging private airlines to add more stations in their network, including places in Gujarat. At present M/s. Gujarat Airways and NEPC Airlines are operating to Keshod, Porbandar and Kandla. M/s. Gujarat Airways is also operating to Surat and Bhuj.

[English]

Nationalisation of Textile Mills

1115. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the objective behind nationalising textile mills in the country;

(b) the extent to which the said objectives have been achieved;

(c) the number of textile mills in Mumbai (Maharashtra) which have been nationalised and taken-over;

(d) the number of workers in each nationalised textile mill in Mumbai (Maharashtra) who have been paid their back wages;

(e) the number of workers in these nationalised textile mills who are yet to get their back wages; and

(f) the time by when these workers are likely to be paid their back wages?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) NTC was incorporated in April 1968 with the object of running the sick textile mills taken over from time to time, rehabilitating them, modernising them etc. An investment of Rs. 510 crores has been made for modernisation, expansion etc. of the mills under NTC. While the production of market yarn, average sale realisation and exports have gone up, NTC has been incurring losses due to obsolete machinery, inadequate modernisation, shortage of working capital, excess man-power, low capacity utilisation, etc.

(c) In Bombay, there are 25 nationalised mills including the 13 mills whose management was taken over and which were nationalised by the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1955.

(d) NTC have paid back wages to 217 workers of the taken over mills, (since nationalised) as follows :

Name of the Mills	No. of Workers
Kohinoor Mills	184
Finlay Mills	23
Tata Mills	2
Madhusudan Mills	8
Total	217

(e) and (f) Pursuant to the judgement of the Supreme Court regarding reinstatement and payment of back wages to the unabsorbed workers, the Labour Court is identifying the workers. As and when workers are identified their reinstatement and payment of back wages are being done by the NTC.

Promotion of Tourism

1116. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the State Government regarding promotion of new tourist spots during the year 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(c) the allocations made to each State by the Union Government for promotion of tourism in each State during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Proposals received from the State Governments, for promotion of tourism are considered for Central financial assistance based on their suitability and on being complete in all respects. Funds for promotion of tourism are released to the States for celebration of fairs and festivals and for printing of publicity materials, making of films, etc. During 1995-96, based on proposals received the following funds have been sanctioned to different States so far :

State	Fairs and Festivals	Printing of Publicity material
	Rs.	Rs.
Himachal Pradesh	18,92,000	5,00,000
Delhi	4,77,475	
Goa	17,20,540	2,52,000
Rajasthan	4,80,000	
Tamil Nadu	19,29,300	
Assam	10,00,000	
Maharashtra	7,49,000	
Manipur	1,28,642	
Andhra Pradesh	9,46,000	
Sikkim	5,00,000	5,72,000
Chandigarh	9,50,000	
Pondicherry	2,00,000	
West Bengal	5,00,000	
Haryana	42,07,000	
Total	1,56,79,957	13,24,000

Misuse of Funds by Companies

1117. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of misuse of funds from financial institutions by companies has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the steps Governments propose to take to prevent misuse of funds by companies;

(c) the action taken against the erring companies; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such recurrence of incidents in future;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the rules.

Income Tax Defaulters

1118. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the top fifty defaulters in the payment of income tax as on March 31, 1995;

(b) the total amount of income tax due in each case together with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for the recovery of these dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The desired information is in the statement attached.

(b) Amount of outstanding demand as on 31.3.1995 is indicated against each defaulter in the statement at Annexure.

The cases mentioned at serial Nos. 1 to 4, 6, 7, 10, 16, 21, 27, 29, 32, 37 and 42 of the list are attached as statement are notified persons. These cases are also pending in the Special Court. In the case of Smt. R. S. Mehta also (Sl. No. 47) the matter is pending before the Special Court.

In the cases of Harshad Mehta Group (Harshad Mehta, Smt. Jyoti H. Mehta, Ashwin S. Mehta, Growmore

Research & Assets Management Ltd.), the Custodian has moved application before the Supreme Court stating that as per the interpretation of Section 11 of the Special Court Act, the income Tax department is entitled to its dues in terms of tax demands raised upto the date of notification under the Special Court Act.

Some of the assessments are also pending at the appellate level i.e. CIT(A)/Tribunal. In some cases, demand had not fallen due, demand had been stayed and dispute was pending before the Committee of Secretaries.

(c) Various measures as provided under the Income-Tax Act, are being taken e.g. launching of prosecution, filing of recovery petition before the Special Court. In some cases the amount paid is under verification. In the case of SBI, the whole demand has since been collected.

STATEMENT

Top 50 Income Tax Defaulters as on 31.3.1995

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the assessee	Demand Outstanding
1	2	3
1.	Shri Harshad S. Mehta	3647.93
2.	Shri Hiten P. Dalal	1271.33
3.	Shri Bhupendra C. Dalal	729.71
4.	Shri Ashwin S. Mehta	608.17
5.	M/s. State Bank of India	604.56
6.	Smt. Jyoti H. Mehta	525.14
7.	Shri A. D. Narottam	485.39
8.	M/s. Peerless General Finance & Investment Co. Ltd.	439.42
9.	M/s. Growmore Research & Assets Management Ltd.	290.89
10.	M/s. Dhanraj Mills (P) Ltd.	267.46
11.	M/s. B.H.E.L.	250.31
12.	M/s. Bank of India	203.06

1	2	3
13.	M/s. Central Coalfield Ltd.	196.91
14.	M/s. Banque National De Paris	166.71
15.	M/s. G.T.C. Industries Ltd.	158.77
16.	M/s. Cascade Holdings (P) Ltd.	155.00
17.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	145.62
18.	M/s. Citi Bank N.A.	139.61
19.	M/s. United Bank of India	138.61
20.	M/s. B.S. Gandhi	125.81
21.	M/s. Growmore Leasing & investment (P) Ltd.	120.75
22.	M/s. American Express Bank Ltd.	111.08
23.	M/s. Central Bank	110.91
24.	M/s. R.C.F. Ltd.	109.38
25.	Shri Niranjan J. Shah	99.06
26.	M/s. Punjab National Bank	94.19
27.	Shri J.P. Gandhi	83.41
28.	Shri S.M. Khandhar	83.00
29.	Shri Sudhir S. Mehta	81.53
30.	Shri S.S. Aggarwal	78.44
31.	Shri K.N. Shaikh	73.79
32.	Shri P.S. Sheth	72.73
33.	M/s. I.D.B.I.	67.83
34.	M/s. New India Assurance	59.91
35.	M/s. Visvesaraya Industrial R & D Centre	58.77
36.	M/s. I.C.I.C.I. Ltd.	58.76
37.	Smt. Pratima H. Mehta	56.96
38.	M/s. Punjab State Co-op. Marketing Federation Ltd.	56.03
39.	Shri W.N. Chadha	53.18
40.	M/s. Canbank Financial Services Ltd.	53.04
41.	M/s. Larsen & Tubro Ltd.	50.99

1	2	3
42.	Smt. Deepika A. Mehta	47.50
43.	M/s. Indian Bank	44.07
44.	M/s. Bank of Baroda	44.00
45.	M/s. Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corpn. Ltd.	43.81
46.	M/s. Oman International Bank Saoyg	43.02
47.	Smt. Rasila S. Mehta	39.38
48.	M/s. Oriental Bank of Commerce	38.46
49.	M/s. Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	38.32
50.	M/s. Parle Beverages Ltd.	37.72

Mine Workers

1119. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mine workers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of the mine workers suffering from T.B. and other fatal diseases, State-wise and mine-wise;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any action plan for the welfare of various workers in Rajasthan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there has been improvement in the health of the mine workers during the last three years; and

(f) the details of the mine worker died due to the fatal diseases during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan Waiver Schemes

1120. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the loan waiver schemes and the States where these schemes are under implementation;

(b) whether the Government have examined the implication of those schemes in the State exchequers. and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of House.

Loan Recovery Cells

1121. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector banks since have set up loan recovery cells at their head offices and fixed the

target for recovery of loans;

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

(c) the results achieved therefrom and the extent of loan recovery improved as a result thereof as on June 30, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that all the nationalised banks have set up loan recovery cell at their Head offices. The targets fixed and the outstanding Non-Performing assets (NPAs) as at 31 March 1995 are given below :-

Recovery of NPAs for the year ended 31 March, 1995

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the bank		Target fixed for 31.3.95	Level of NPAs Outstanding as at 31.3.1995
1	2	3	
1. Allahabad Bank	845.00	1235.11	
2. Andhra Bank	357.00	377.65	
3. Bank of Baroda	1800.00	2689.68	
4. Bank of India	2350.00	2689.68	
5. Bank of Maharashtra	725.00	734.59	
6. Canara Bank	1518.00	1523.00	
7. Central Bank of India	2153.00	2154.78	
8. Corporation Bank	94.00	260.01	
9. Dena Bank	505.00	557.00	
10. Indian Bank	1498.00	2102.41	
11. Indian Overseas Bank	788.00	2001.41	
12. Oriental Bank of Commerce	185.00	221.94	
13. Punjab National Bank	1450.00	2033.00	
14. Punjab & Sind Bank	577.28	619.32	
15. Syndicate Bank	1108.00	1452.97	
16. Union Bank of India	488.00	695.95	
17. United Bank of India	977.00	1309.68	
18. UCO Bank	1145.00	1745.60	
19. Vijaya Bank	330.00	439.40	

NTC Mills in Maharashtra

1122. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from workers of NTC-run textile mills in Maharashtra that these mills are being supplied inferior quality duplicate spare parts for their machines;

(b) whether the Government have also received complaints to the effect that first quality goods are being sold by these mills marking them as second quality goods at cheaper rates so as mobilise funds to pay wages of workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these complaints have since been enquired into;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Illegal Entries By Airlines

1123. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some airline are illegally entering/have entered the Indian Sky under the cover of Benami NRI equity;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to issue guidelines for the private airlines with such equity participation of Foreign Airlines keeping in view the security of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (c) According to the extant guidelines, private sector airline companies can be permitted upto 40% foreign equity participation subject to approval of the Government, on a case to case basis.

Gold Jewellery

1124. SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN :

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gold jewellery sold in the Indian market are of less create that the standard purity of gold; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to assure purity of gold or its ornaments marketed in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No such instance has come to the notice of Government.

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

Employees in Public Sector

1125. Dr. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number if civilian employees in Public Sector has continuously decreased during the last few years;

(b) if so, the number of these employees in 1991 and at the end of March, 1995, separately;

(c) whether the annual amount of pay, Allowances, Travelling allowances and the other related expenses for these employees has been increasing continuously inspite of the continuous decrease in their number;

(d) if not, the amount spent under the said head during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether the Government had also taken measures to curtail the said expenditure during the above mentioned years; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SH.M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). Although the estimated number of Central Government (Civilian) employees including employees of the union Territories (as on 1st March) has decreased from 40.82 lakhs in 1991 to 38.48 lakhs in 1995, the expenditure in their Pay, Allowances Travelling Allowances,

etc. has increased on account of increase in Dearness Allowance, interim Relief and annual increment in basic pay, etc. Information in respect of State Government employees and employees of public sector undertakings is not being maintained by the Ministry.

(e) and (f). Keeping the Government expenditure under control is a continuous exercise and instructions relating to various economy measures such as reduction in posts, reduction in consumption/expenditure on petrol, restriction on OTA, entertainment, decorative lighting and electricity, restriction on purchase of vehicles etc. have been issued from time to time.

ST. Kitts Episode

1126. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government/CBI completed investigations into the ST. Kitts episode of 1989;

(b) if so, the particulars of persons found guilty in the case and the action taken against them; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to expedite the investigations ?

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

(b) The case is still under investigation of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

(c) As per the CBI it has not been possible to secure certain original records through the Letter Rogatory sent to St. Kitts' authorities or through the visit thereto of an officer of the Central Bureau of investigation.

Re-Employment and Promotion in IA

1127. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

DR. S. P. YADAV :

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :

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

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have re-employed retired Directors and Senior managers and even those who opted for voluntary retirement besides promoting senior officials indicated by Vigilance Committee;

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

(c) whether such appointments are in consonance with the laid down policy of the airlines; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) In the last two years, Indian Airlines have appointed one pilot of the level of Director and four pilots of the level of Senior Manager on contract basis after their retirement. No officer found guilty of misconduct has been promoted.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Concession to the Government Sector by Airlines

1128. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international airlines have offered any concessions to the Government Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Subject to a minimum level of business being assured and on point to point tickets, some airlines have offered discount ranging from 10% to 20% in the case of First/Club tickets and 15% in Economy class tickets.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tax Arrears of Private Airlines

1129. SHRI ASTBUHA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the private airlines operators are not paying the tax collected from the passengers so far;

(b) whether recently several flights of the airlines operators have been grounded on the above account; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have initiated to recover the tax collected by the private airline operators from the passengers in time ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Some of private airline operators have defaulted in paying the inland air travel tax. Aircraft of some of these airline were recently detained.

(c) Stringent action such as imposition of penalty, detention of aircraft etc. is taken under the provision of the Inland Air Travel Tax Rules, 1989.

Upgradation of ITDC Hotels

1130. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade most of the ITDC Hotels, especially those in Delhi, to the International level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). ITDC has drawn a comprehensive programme for upgradation/renovation of 27 of its hotels including seven hotels in New Delhi during 1996-97 at a cost of Rs. 17.74 crores.

Foreign Investment

1131. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to permit foreign equity investment in Indian Aviation Companies upto 40% ; and

(b) if so, the details of aviation companies incorporated in india indicating the equity components of each?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) According to extent guidelines, 40% foreign equity participation is permitted in private airline companies subject to approval of the Government on a case to case basis.

(b) The details are as follows :-

(i) M/s. Jet Airways India Ltd. (a scheduled private operator) : 40% foreign equity (20% of M/s Gulf Air and 20% of M/s. Kuwait Airways).

(ii) Bengal Air Services Ltd. (NOC holder for operating scheduled service) : 5% of M/s. Necon Air Ltd., Nepal.

Disparity Committee

1132. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a disparity committee was appointed to look into the disparity between employees of the Employees Provident Fund and Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) the action taken by the Government to implement the report; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the delay in submission of the report ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Leather Goods to Russia

1133. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Customs authorities have detected a number of export houses in Delhi for misrepresentation of facts in claiming excessive export duty drawback incentives defrauding in the process the Government exchequer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such bogus exports of leather goods to Russia and exporters that have come to light and the number of consignments that had been impounded during the last three years;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against them; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) & (b). Yes, Sir. Delhi Customs have detected 66 cases involving *inter alia*, misdeclaration of export goods, their over-involvement in misclassifications, or export of prohibited items or export of sub-standard goods, with a view to claim higher amounts of drawback during the period 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 (upto February, 1996).

(c) Two firm exporting leather goods to Russia have been noticed indulging in mis-declaration and over-invoicing of export goods.

One of the consignments was classified and allowed to be redeemed on redemption fine of rupees thirty lacs. In the other case value of goods drawback purpose has been reduced and their drawback claim also proportionately denied.

(d) Adjudication under the Customs Act, where of necessary is being done.

(e) field formations have been suitably alerted to be vigilant against attempts at misdeclaration and exports of sub-standard goods.

Custom Duty Evasion by Politicians and Bureaucrats

1134. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been cases of misuse of protocol system and evasion of duty while clearing goods without payments of customs duty, resulting in revenue loss worth crores of rupee;

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

(c) the number and details of such cases which came to Government's notice each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps the Government have so far taken to check this misuse and abuse of protocol system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Some cases, in which misuse of protocol system is suspected, have come to the notice of the Government. A statement, giving details of the cases where extension of protocol facilities simultaneously occasioned payment of customs duty and any other penal action, is attached herewith.

(d) Protocol connotes extension of countries for expeditious clearance of baggage after securing compliance with customs procedures and payment of

customs duty wherever required. For this purpose, the protocol units are manned by experienced officers.

Besides, Intelligence units have been set up at each airports and officers posted to these Units provide inputs for purpose of customs checks if incoming and outgoing passengers and their baggage. Passenger profiles are also used for this purpose. In addition, X-ray machines have been installed in all major international airports which are used for screening passenger baggages on the basis of intelligence as well as random selection. Officers of Intelligence also maintain general surveillance on passengers and visitors.

STATEMENT

Except in international airport at Delhi, on other airport has reported any misuse of protocol facilities during the last three years. Details of the cases wherein passengers' baggage was subjected to customs duty and penal action after due examination, even while protocol a facilities were extended, are given below :

(i) On 18.10.1994, Dr. R. Sridharan, M.P. requested for protocol facilities for receiving two passengers by name Shri M.M Hameem and Shri M. Ravichandran. They were, however, intercepted on their arrival from Hong Kong carrying 552 pieces of Computer hard Discs valued at Rs. 44.81 lakhs. In addition, they carried 363 gms. of gold jewellery valued at Rs. 1.07 lakhs. During interrogation, the passengers stated that Dr. R. Sridharan, MP had known about their attempt to smuggle the goods and on arrival he received them and ensured clearance. On further investigation, it was revealed that Dr. Sridharan had been aiding and abetting in smuggling activities. Apart from the adjudication proceedings, Dr. Sridharan and the two passengers were detained under COFEPOSA.

(ii) On 7.11.1995, Shri Kamal Nath, former Minister of Textiles, arrived from abroad. His PS. who was present to collect the baggage, reported, with the baggage in the dutiable channel (red channel) for payment of duty and cleared the contents as crockery and cut glasses. The baggage was examined and a duty of Rs. 1,11,217 was collected. In addition, Redemption Fine of Rs. 25,000 and penalty of Rs. 10,000 was also imposed thereof.

Export of Silk

1135. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of silk exported during the each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of silk ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) the quantum of silk goods exported during the last 3 year (1992-93 to 1994-95) was under :-

Year	Quantity (in lakh sq. meter)
1992-93	*
1993-94	466.32
1994-95	610.33

* Compulsory pre-shipment inspection by the Central Silk Board had been dispensed with and hence data is not available.

(b) The foreign exchange earnings from export of silk products was Rs. 734.22 crores in 1992-93, Rs. 789.10 crores in 1993-94 and Rs. 937.54 crores in 1994-95.

(c) In order to increase the exports of silk products, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organising generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, publicity in foreign trade magazines, sponsoring of sales-cum-study tours and

buyer-seller meets, dissemination of overseas trade measures to boost silk exports, etc. Besides, the Government has taken several material under the Advance licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export production, etc.

Loans by Cooperative Banks

1136. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Cooperative Banks functioning in the country. State-wise; and

(b) the amount of loans disbursed by these banks in each of the States particularly in Rajasthan during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) The details of the number of Co-operative Banks functioning in the country (State-wise) in the enclosed **statement-I**

(b) The details of loans disbursed by the District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and State Land Development Banks (SLDBs) in each of the States including Rajasthan during the last three years given in **Statement-II** and **III** respectively. In so far as the urban cooperative banks are concerned, they have disbursed an amount of Rs.10132, Rs.12172 and Rs.14795 crores during the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 of which the urban banks in Rajasthan have disbursed Rs. 50, Rs.104 crores respectively.

STATEMENT-I

The number of urban, State Cooperative, District Central Cooperative and Primary Land Development Banks (State-wise) in the country

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Urban Coop. Banks (UCB)	No. of State Coop. Banks (SCB)	No. of Dist. Central Banks (DCCB)	No. of State Land Dev. Banks (SLDB)	No. of Primary Land Dev. Banks (PLDB)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63	1	22	*	-
2.	Assam	8	1	1	1	21
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	1	-	-	-
5.	Bihar	5	1	35	1	-
6.	Chandigarh	-	1	-	-	-
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-
9.	National Capital Territory Region Delhi	15	1	-	-	-
10.	Goa	6	1	-	-	-
11.	Gujarat	291	1	18	1	-
12.	Haryana	8	1	16	1	79
13.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	2	1	1
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	3	1	-
15.	Karnataka	214	1	19	1	177
16.	Kerala	57	1	14	1	44
17.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	51	1	45	1	45
19.	Maharashtra	414	1	30	1	-
20.	Manipur	5	1	-	1	-
21.	Meghalaya	2	1	-	-	-
22.	Mizoram	1	1	-	-	-
23.	Nagaland	1	1	-	-	-
24.	Orissa	14	1	17	1	57
25.	Pondicherry	1	1	-	1	-
26.	Punjab	6	1	17	1	72
27.	Rajasthan	28	1	26	1	34
28.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Tamil Nadu	133	1	22	1	181
30.	Tripura	1	1	-	1	-
31.	Uttar Pradesh	49	1	60	1	-
32.	West Bengal	47	1	17	1	24
Total :		1427	28	364	19	135

* Merged with State Cooperative Bank

STATEMENT - II

State-wise position of loans and advances issued by District Central Cooperative Banks during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	102254	98609	121229
2.	Assam	NA	NA	NA
3.	Bihar	8164	6059	2684
4.	Gujarat	136518	142931	179996
5.	Haryana	105087	112016	137237
6.	Himachal Pradesh	21831	31115	41883
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	9305	9794	9814
8.	Karnataka	71874	101368	132063
9.	Kerala	73717	122732	167331
10.	Madhya Pradesh	123049	132842	140306
11.	Maharashtra	145872	290160	537367
12.	Orissa	16039	20522	32888
13.	Punjab	116895	125421	150191
14.	Rajasthan	52518	65627	77577
15.	Tamil Nadu	335271	370512	493789
16.	Uttar Pradesh	149574	160950	160950*
17.	West Bengal	28399	24933	32331
Total :		1496367	1815591	2417636

*Relates to 1993-94

STATEMENT - III

State-wise loans issued by State Land Development Banks during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (provisional)

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	224.57	222.57	196.57
2.	Assam*	0.84	1.15	0.67
3.	Bihar	7.76	8.42	8.06
4.	Gujarat	80.41	95.59	93.27
5.	Haryana	73.24	111.11	136.16
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4.13	5.10	9.73
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	4.62	4.26
8.	Manipur	-	0.23	-
9.	Madhya Pradesh	52.87	49.74	65.96
10.	Maharashtra	129.12	143.41	135.19
11.	Orissa	15.70	18.58	14.25
12.	Punjab	78.39	101.82	172.91
13.	Pondicherry	0.82	1.05	0.77
14.	Rajasthan*	31.93	77.63	103.63
15.	Karnataka	119.37	135.54	104.29
16.	Kerala	69.47	83.30	86.99
17.	Tamil Nadu	39.37	112.85	150.02
18.	Uttar Pradesh	198.95	211.53	257.06
19.	West Bengal**	102.88	22.75	30.27
20.	Tripura	0.85	0.70	1.54
Total		1230.68	1407.33	1571.60

*Data relates to 1990-91

**Data relates to 1991-92

IDBI Assistance to Industries

1137. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has provided assistance to large and joint industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith assistance provided during each of the last three years, company-wise;

(c) whether this amount has been released for various new projects of such companies in an unequitable manner;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the terms and conditions laid by the IDBI in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and possible under the rules.

12.00 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, we went to raise women's issue today.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Speaker Sir, a cricket match is being held in Bangalore and the Pakistan Cricket team is arriving to participate in it...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : First, let me speak on International Women's Year.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Thousands of people are being killed in bomb explosions in India now a days...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may speak on it later please.

[English]

SHRI SOM* NATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, we totally repudiate what he has been saying.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me first regulate the business. Well, please take your seats. Yesterday, I was asked by the lady Members of the House for a time to say certain things on this important day. I think, the House would be interested in hearing the hon. Prime Minister, and then we continue with the business.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, the lady members have been encouraged by some male Members.

MR. SPEAKER : They are fully supported by all the Members.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL (Amravati) : Sir, today, 8th March, is historic day which is observed as 'International Women's Day' all over the world. On this occasion, to further augment the status and well-being of women, as our commitment in spirit of our Constitution, we propose the following Resolution in this august House.

"Incentives be given to girls for education so as to prepare them to exercise their equal rights and perform their responsibilities in the society. Proper and comprehensive education be given right from the primary stage so as to inculcate in the minds of boys and girls, proper attitude of equality respect and responsibility towards each other. Media be impressed upon not to project women in any form which is derogatory, obscene and vulgar. Adequate reservation of seats for women's representation in the State legislatures and Sir, I thank you because you were responsible and you have helped us in putting this suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : You should not telling to the house that I was instigating you.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Sir, I am not telling anything. I am just thanking you. Excuse me Sir, I have not yet completed.

MR. SPEAKER : The other hon. Members are also of the same view.

SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL : Yes Sir, I thank everybody for that.

"To achieve the above objectives and to monitor the progress and also to suggest ways and means to implement the policies and projects meant for improving the status of women, a Standing Committee of both the Houses of Parliament be constituted." This is my resolutions. May I say something?

MR. SPEAKER : You may say very briefly please because one or two other members may say and we go other item.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL : This day is being observed as International Women's Day all over the world. Right from archaic and Vedic ages we have strived for Right to the glory and dignity of women in the country. When freedom movement launched at the call of Mahatma Gandhi, our women folk also endured all sort of hardships and stood shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts in the fight against the foreign yoke. The women were imprisoned, baton-charged and crushed under the boots of the British police, yet they remained undaunted. A volley of bullets was showered at a thirteen year old girl marching ahead with the tricolour in her hand who fell down on the ground, yet holding her tricolour aloft. This speaks volumes for our history of struggle for independence.

We will be doing great injustice to the women who were equally instrumental in freeing their country if somebody denies them their right to partake of the fruits of independence and progress. Therefore, I say that as a household is run by a man and a woman, likewise the chariot of our society, composed of 50 per cent women, cannot be run if one of its wheels--the women is weak, illiterate, ignorant and incompetent; our country cannot progress and we cannot claim to have achieved all round development.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that two hon. Members of U.K. Parliament had visited our country some days ago. They delivered very good speeches in the Parliament House Annexe and we cross-questioned them. When asked whether they would like to follow our suit of giving 30 per cent reservation to women in the Panchayati Raj System, they said that no such system prevailed in their country. It gave us a feeling of pride to think that we are the pioneers in championing our menfolk. All the social reformers right from Mahatma Gandhi have given priority to glorifying the status of the women as their first step in social reforms. But it gives me immense pain to note that the way woman is projected on the silver screen is derogatory to their dignity and self respect. It may be said that it is an art....

MR. SPEAKER : Yours is an all encompassing and very positive resolution.

SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the shortage of time I would only like to say that the producers of such indecent films aim solely at filling their coffers caring least for the adverse impact their pornography leaves on the minds of the youth of our society. Therefore, a Committee of the Members of both Houses of Parliament should be constituted to look into the matter. At a time when the term of the present Lok Sabha is going to expire how any Joint Committee can be constituted? We should rise above

our day to day political inclinations in discussing this issue related to the glory of our nation, dignity of women and the development of the country. The Eleventh Lok Sabha, when constituted, will also consider it. Some of us may be re-elected whereas some others may not be but there will be this Parliament, its dignity and our ideals will be upheld. Let the 10th Lok Sabha take the credit of taking a historical decision on this historic day.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important day today. Shrimati Pratibha has put forth all the aspects before the House. Through you, I would like to impress upon the hon. Members of all political hues present in the House that the right and responsibility of amending the laws and initiating social reforms are vested with the Members of Parliament themselves. Despite making all endeavours for social reform even after 49 years of independence, women not getting the facilities that they should have got. There should be a campaign not only for ensuring them 'Equal Rights' but 'Equal Respect' as well. This necessitates provision of educational opportunities to women and more than that the economic independence. Despite being educated, women have to gulp down the venom of contempt if they are not economically independent. Hence, there is need for making a provision of economic independence of women so that they can earn 'Equal Respect'.

Mr. Speaker, sir, my second submission is that many times a person accused of outraging a woman's chastity lives a respectful life after undergoing the punishment whereas the woman-victim of the incident is relegated to a living corpse. Therefore, through you, I demand that a provision should be made to directly award death sentence to a person accused of rape in certain specific circumstances so as to check such incidents.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, 'Tandoor' incidents are taking place in this country. On the one hand our country is known for maxims like 'Yatra Narayastu' Pujayante Ramante Tatra Devata'. i.e. the angels dwell in the place where women are worshipped and on the other the limbs of a woman are amputated and toasted in a tandoor. This does not portray a rosy picture of our country abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, similarly dowry deaths are taking place in our country. Women are scared of dowry demands and this fact maligns the country's image abroad. Therefore, stringent measures should be taken to check dowry practice and award punishment to the rapists. Shrimati Pratibha has rightly said that perverted images of women are projected in the films as well as in the small screen advertisements. A woman model is used for every ad-be it a cigarette ad, a blanket ad. or a shoes' ad. On the one hand we are talking of women's self-respect and on the other projecting their derogatory image. This tendency should be checked in both films and television.

Lastly, I would like to request the hon. Members, through you, that the House should consider the issues of economic independence, equal respect and equal educational opportunities to women and the provision for awarding death sentence to the rapists.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj) : I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my sisters Pratibha Tai and Uma Jee. I have recently returned from Beijing after attending the Women Conference and today for the first time on this international day I am feeling that women form such a part of the society which just cannot be ignored. We need your support for implementing the decisions taken in the conference as they are the means to ensure women's participation at all levels. A female child like a male child is born in the similar conditions but it is a fact woman who is considered as an embodiment of knowledge, virtue, peace and prosperity in this country is oppressed. She is not treated as an individual she is always seen as mother, daughter or daughter-in-law of someone. Women constitute 50 per cent of the total population and if they are given 50 per cent share in the property and right to education I am sure most of our problems will disappear. Laws are there for us but inspite of that atrocities on women are increasing in our country and the figures stand testimony to it. There has been four times increase in the number of cases of dowry deaths from 1991 to 1993. 837 cases were registered in 1991 and this number shot upto 5817 in 1993. It proves that the increase is rather five times not four times. This is all due to discriminatory laws. Women constitute 50 per cent of the total population. We do not need alms. We want political participation. We do not want 33 per cent reservation of seat as alms give us 50 per cent participation. Let this 33 percent reservation go to the oppressed section of women. I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me opportunity. First of all, I would like to extend our greetings to women all over the world who are fighting for their equality, social and political justice in their countries. I also extend my heartfelt greeting to our male colleagues, who I hope really not only in words, but in deeds, through their election candidature will show how far they support the 30 per cent reservation.

Lastly, because the time is very short, I would like to say one thing. Due to the big fight outside the Parliament and inside, we have a number of good laws.

But unfortunately the implementing machinery still remains very weak. That is why while fully supporting Pratibha Tai's Resolution as well as some other contentions which have been made, I demand that the implementation machinery be strengthened, women's commission be given more power and at lower levels also women's commissions be formed.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Thank you Sir. While fully supporting Pratibha Tai's Resolution, I would like to add one or two words to it. Let us not forget that 8th March is observed as international Women's Day initially because in 1857 it was the women textile workers of America who, fighting for a better wage and better working hours, started their struggle. Therefore, this is the day on which we should remember the large number of women in our country and in other countries who are working in factories, who are working in the unorganised sector, who are working in the agricultural sector, who are working in the various ways, being exploited by the system that there is

Sir, in this regard I think while we support the proposal for reservation of seats at the level of State Legislature and Lok Sabha, I would like to say that unless we can diminish the injustice that is being meted out to women, unless we can strengthen the political participation of women at the grassroots and reverse the deleterious effects that the structural adjustment programme is having on women's lives, without land reforms with equal rights, without land for women reservation by itself cannot serve the purpose that we are trying to serve. Therefore we should say that it should be supplemented by empowerment of women by encouraging the equal participation of women at the economic level, at the political level from the very grassroots.

The last point that I would like to make is that we do not think that in a country where we find that communal violence is on the increase, in a country where political violence is on the increase, women can be made immune to violence whether they stay at home or whether they go out.

But we would like the law implementing machinery to be strengthened so that exemplary punishments are meted out to those culprits who are found to be violating women, and particularly, laws should be strengthened with regard to abuse against children, particularly girl children.

MR. SPEAKER : Very briefly, please.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is International Women's day and our elder sister Smt. Pratibha Patil has spoken a lot about it. The other women members have also expressed their views. I have also been given an opportunity to speak. I am very happy for the same.

I want that women should get their rights and not reservation. Women have made more sacrifices by displaying their heroic deeds than their male counterparts to save the country. When needed they have given a befitting reply to enemies with sword in their hands. It is possible only for women to discharge the dual responsibilities of maintaining their household and looking after the national affairs. Therefore, they do not require reservation, they have not come for alms with a begging bowl, rather they should be given their rightful due and 50 per cent participation.

I would like to say again through you that when girls are born, they are made slaves in their houses no matter whether they are with their parents or brothers. They do not get full rights in the house of their husbands after their marriage unless they become widows. Therefore, I want that they should be given full right in their in-laws' houses before they become widows and during the life time of their husbands.

With these words I conclude.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice. I should also be given an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, if you all agree to the Resolution which has been moved, you can say that you endorse it and that would be okay.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI : They should also be asked to speak something about women. Please, ask Atal jee also to speak on it. The Prime Minister should also be asked to speak on it. Our male colleagues should also be asked to speak on it.

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Sir, on behalf of the Government I would like to assure the House that we are entirely in agreement with the spirit of the Resolution. Steps have been taken for years and years. And every year, we are taking new steps in order to empower women, starting with education, going into property relations. And now starting with the Panchayats and other bodies, wherein politically their rights have been recognized by giving reservation and I hope that this reservation will extend to other bodies in course of time. I cannot say just now, but I think it could happen. So, I would like to say that we are entirely in agreement with the Resolution. And whatever the lady Members and other Members, those who are thinking on the subject deeply for years and years, whatever, they suggest, those suggestions will receive very earnest consideration by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if Devdasi system is not discussed today, then it will be a matter of shame. Date of interview had been announced for the recruitment of Devdasis in Orissa in the month of September and Orissa's.....(Interruptions)*

If we go through the history of Devadasi system, it is full of tears....(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Women were called for interview for working as Devdasis. Mr. Prime Minister, I urge upon you to take steps to root out the Devdasi system and make women self-reliant. More powers should be given to Women Commission. Women Commission should instil fear among men folk it should work as a helpful institution only then its purpose will be served. More constitution of Women Commission and holding meetings in camera will not yield results. The reservation issue is now over due, it should be announced so that 30 per cent women could be seen here in coming days.

*Not Recorded

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I would like to congratulate all the lady Members who have supported this Resolution by making the speeches as well as by endorsing the spirit in the speeches. I should be allowed to say that all of them agree with the spirit and the principle of the Resolution. Not only that, but it is not disclosing anything to the House which should not be disclosed. All the leaders of all the parties have in principle explained to me that they agree to the principles which are contained in the Resolution. Over and above, the hon. Prime Minister has made it very explicit what is the stand of the Government. I am sure this House unanimously agrees to accept in principle what has been stated in the Resolution by thumping the desks.

The Resolution was adopted by thumping the desks.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (South Central Bombay) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, bomb blasts are taking place at various place in the country.....(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : At least one day allow us to conduct the business in a proper manner.

.....(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : It should not be recorded....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria) : Sir, we oppose this. This should not go on record.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The poisonous allegations should not be recorded.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I am walking out in protest .

Shri Mohan Rawale then left the house.

* Not Recorded.

12.28 hrs.

MOTION RE : EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE 'HAWALA CASE' AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY-OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT -CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will request the hon. Prime Minister to say a few words.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a detailed factual reply will be given by my colleague Mrs. Alva. Meanwhile in a very brief intervention, I would like to say that the Government has never sought to interfere in any manner with the investigation. The hon. Supreme court has been over-seeing the various stages of the investigations and CBI has been acting under the directions only of the Supreme Court.

AN HON. MEMBER : From when?

SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO : Right from the beginning. In its order dated 1.3.1996 the Supreme Court observed and I quote,

"To eliminate any impression of bias and avoid erosion of credibility of the investigations being made by the CBI and any reasonable impression of lack of fairness and objectivity therein, it is directed that the CBI would not take any instructions from or report to or furnish any particulars thereof to any authority personally interested in or likely to be affected by the outcome of the investigation into any accusations.....(Interruptions)

Sir, I would like to be heard. Now that there has been so much insistence on my speaking here, I would like to be heard.

This direction applies even in relation to any authority which exercises administrative control over the CBI by virtue of the office he holds without any exception.

We may add that this also accords with what the learned Solicitor-General has very fairly submitted before us about the mode of functioning of the CBI in this matter.

We also place on record, the further statement made by the learned Solicitor-General on instructions from the CBI Director that neither the CBI Director nor any of his officers has been reporting to any authority about any particulars relating to these investigations.

Sir, the earlier sentence is from the Solicitor-General himself. The next para is again from the Solicitor-General, on advice from the CBI Director who was present there in the Court.

The order of the Supreme Court accords fully with the Government's view as to how the CBI should act in this case. The Supreme Court has asked the CBI not to do something which the CBI has not done, is not doing and will not do. The law of the land should be allowed to take its course; there will be no departure from this under any circumstances.

Since the case is pending in the Supreme Court, it may not be advisable for me to add anything more at this stage.....(Interruptions)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Sir, the Supreme Court's Order is a censure against the Prime Minister.....(Interruptions) The Prime Minister should say something about this.....(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, without saying this, they can say, what provoked the Supreme Court to pass that Order.....(Interruptions) The Supreme Court has made certain observation; there must be some reason for that....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, It should not be taken as a mere routine matter. We have been insisting on hearing from the Head of the Government. Hon. Prime Minister is further in charge of the Department which is dealing with this and which has the administrative control over the CBI. What is the consequence of the direction given by the hon. Supreme Court on the 1st of March? If the hon. Supreme Court was accepting the position of the assessment of the CBI Director, as expressed through the Solicitor-General, then such a drastic Order need not have been made by the Supreme Court at all. This is one point.

The second aspect is very important. What we have been wanting to know is, what is the effect of this Order. So far as the CBI is concerned, it has become, today, *sui juris*, there is nobody to control it in the Government. It has no political authority over it. No Minister is any longer responsible for what is happening from the 1st of March, regarding the Hawala transactions entirely. Therefore, we would like to know this. Is the Prime Minister in a position to answer anything about the CBI's functioning on and from the 1st of March, even with regard to the earlier happenings, after the Order of the Supreme Court? Does the Prime Minister think that he retains the political authority over the CBI or the administrative authority of the CBI and is it not a reflection on the Prime Minister's handling of the CBI?.....(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBER : No.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is why, the Supreme Court has interdicted the Prime Minister or any other authority without exception from looking into this matter or even learning about it. The CBI cannot even report to them. This is the position....(Interruptions) I would like to know, does the hon. Prime Minister, as the Head of the Government and as the Leader of the House feel disturbed or does he not feel disturbed about it?

Can the Parliament of India today take up the question of the Prime Minister's responsibility in the matter of investigation? Sir, therefore, very important work of the Parliament cannot be discharged today because I cannot hold anybody responsible (Interruptions)....Let us not treat these matters always on a partisan basis. There is a constitutional question involved in it; propriety is involved in it. The question is whether Parliament of India can face a situation where it cannot hold the Government accountable on certain executive function also. Is this the concept of the Constitution of our country or the accountability of Ministers to Parliament of India? These are basic questions. The hon. Prime Minister does not choose to answer it. We have also read what he has read out. It is not for this only. Therefore, please do not treat it so casually. It is being treated casually; you do not mind your authority being taken away but, as a Member of Parliament, I do mind my authority being taken away. This cannot happen in this country....(Interruptions) Therefore, Sir, I earnestly request the hon. Prime Minister to respond as he is the custodian.....(Interruptions)..

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : May I just say a few words to elaborate it?

The Supreme Court and the High Courts of different State have been entrusting several cases to the CBI for investigation. The cases include a wide variety such as alleged failure of local agencies, violation of human rights, disappearance of persons, murder, custodial deaths, atrocities against women, etc. Some of the cases are those relating to the incidents of Allahabad High Court, Uttarakhand, Muzaffarnagar, Shri J.S. Kalra, Pilibhit, illegal detention by two IPS officers of some individuals at Hissar, forgery and false affidavit submitted to an IPS officer, disappearance of persons near Gurdaspur, etc. In all these cases, the Supreme Court and the High Courts concerned have ordered CBI to submit reports to them. The CBI have accordingly been reporting to the concerned court directly....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, that is not the point.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear him first.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO : No reports are sent to the Government or any other authority in these cases, only when a prosecution is needed or information is to be provided to Parliament, is information supplied for that specific purpose. There is nothing unusual in the CBI reporting to the Supreme Court or a High Court directly in compliance with the direction of the concerned court. The Government have not called for reports from the CBI nor otherwise interfered in such cases. The whole exercise, in such cases, has been as per the due process of law....(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : The House has been awaiting with great interest and great impatience for the last few days to get the response of the Government and particularly of the Prime Minister, his reaction to, I should say, unprecedented order of the Supreme Court dated the 1st of March.

Sir, whether I am correct in doing so or not, I wish to place on record on the floor of the House our deep appreciation of the role which is being played in this *Havala* affair by these three justices of the Supreme Court, M/s. Verma Bharucha and Sen and also four petitioners of the Public Interest litigation case, Mr. Vineet Narain, Mr. Rajinder Puri and two others. But for that, but for their vigilance, but for their persistence, these matters would never have come to light. They would have been suppressed and who would have suppressed them, Sir, is anybody's guess.

This list of names which have been disclosed from the so-called Jain diary is dating for the last four years. They were revealed four years ago. But nothing was happening about it. Despite the fact that these reports about these people and about this money, the sources of this money, where these funds were coming from - apart from the question of who has been receiving them - where the funds were coming from; for what purposes these funds were being spent here in the country, has distinct tones of subversion, of links with foreign subversive forces which would like to destabilize the system in our country. Apart from that the linking with some militants, at least who have been operating in Kashmir, the people who are now talking very loudly about morals and about their cleanliness in this matter and all that are people also who know very well that these funds were also being used in order to finance terrorist outfits who were working openly against the integrity of our country. And also, Sir, as I had mentioned earlier during the Question Hour, these *Havala* funds have been responsible for a large scale destabilization, I should say, of our whole economic system. The loss to the country which runs into millions and millions of dollars, which is a direct result of malpractices and illegal practices

being carried out by various people in this country, whether it is through evasion of taxes, or stashing away funds illegally in foreign banks, or through under-invoicing and over-invoicing all is connected this massive operation of the *havala*. In spite of all these, are we to take it that none of these reports were available to the CBI when these names were divulged through the famous diary? Did they know nothing about it? Are we now to assume as the Prime Minister said, that none of these reports were made available to the Government? The Government did not know anything about what was happening! If so, then the CBI has also failed in its duty. Certainly, the CBI which enjoyed a reputation at one time of being perhaps the only independent investigative agency in this country at the highest level has failed in its duty if it did not keep the Government apprised of this very dangerous angle to this whole operation which was going on.

It is not a question only of morals and immorality. I do not want to discuss this thing only on this plane - who is clean and who is not clean. I could talk about it of course. I have nothing to fear about. But it is not the only question that you can go into. This was an operation being carried out by certain foreign forces-- foreign powers, I would say -- who through these various conduits are financing people in this country in order to destabilize the whole system:

Sir, We are living in a parliamentary democracy whether we like it or not, some people do not like it. Some people do not like it, occasionally they talk about their preference for military rule and all that kind of a thing. What I am saying is, Sir, in a parliamentary democratic system, unless you decide to change it, the Executive is responsible and is accountable to the Parliament.

Over the last three-four years we have been having numerous examples of how accountability is being completely denigrated and destroyed. Nobody is held to be accountable for major scams which are taking place for thousands of crores of rupees of public money which is being embezzled and lost; nobody is made accountable for it. This is system we are now working under. As I have said on a previous occasion, if accountability is given a burial, then you might as well say goodbye to this parliamentary democracy. It has not meaning without the principle of accountability which is the bedrock on which it rests.

Here we find from what the hon. Prime Minister has said just now, if I understand anything from what he has said, that the Government has never been accountable for what the CBI is unearthing and discovering or for not taking action on that. This is an astounding thing, Sir, which I am not able to follow at all. If all these things

have been happening and nobody is accountable for it in the Government, in the Cabinet, then what role is the Parliament to play? Nothing! I cannot now ask questions about the progress of investigations as far as *hawala* is concerned because nobody is there to reply; nobody has the authority or the right to reply after the Supreme Court's latest order. Even the documents have all been ordered to be kept under lock and key in the vaults of the Reserve Bank. Nobody is to have access to that. This is unprecedented thing.

I want to know, Sir, in the view of the hon. Prime Minister what was the sudden provocation for the hon. Judges of the Supreme Court to come out with an order like this? If nothing was required, if everything was proceeding all right before, this if there was not interference what so ever by them, why has it become necessary for this Bench of the Supreme Court to express its apprehension about the idea which may get around that it is not being done impartially, that there is a lack of credibility, that there may be a bias? They used the word bias. If there was no bias, why did these Judges go out of their way to make this kind of an order? It does not make any sense. It does not make any sense why these Judges suddenly... without any provocation, without any reason, without any evidence, without anything, have come out with this order and virtually taken away the control of this whole Department -- if you like to call it -- or this agency, taken it away from the Government, from the Prime Minister, from the other Ministers? Why have they done it?

Obviously, there was some *prima facie* evidence before the hon. Judges that there was interference going on, that instructions were being given to the CBI thereby hampering the independent nature of its functioning, and that, Sir, they were also having to report, of course. In the recent days in the press and everywhere there have been so many suspicions expressed about one aspect, let me say, about selectivity. Who is deciding that some people are to be proceeded against and some may not be proceed against; some may have to be charge-sheeted and others may not be charge-sheeted? There is a clear case of selectivity. Was this selectivity entirely only at the independent initiative of the CBI or were there any guidelines or instructions or anything being given to them from above? I do not know. But we should know about it because something or other has aroused this suspicion or misgivings in the minds of the hon. Judges which has led them to make these remarks and which has led them to make this order saying that you should have nothing further to do. If they had nothing to do with them before, why should they come out of their way to make such an order that you should have nothing to do

* (Expunged as ordered by the Chair).

with it, to absolutely remove it from their control, their authority and everything? Therefore, Sir, as any man can understand - anybody who has got any common sense, who does not want to hide the facts - it is quite obvious that this agency was not being allowed to function independently.

It is quite obvious. Therefore, if we are discussing now only about the implications of this order..... (Interruptions).

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : If we, at the moment, are discussing or making our observations only on the political and other implications of this order of the Supreme Court...

MR. SPEAKER : No, we are taking into consideration the Motion itself.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : Probably you are concentrating on one point. But if you want to dilate and go to the other areas, I think, it is better if you do it at one go..... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : There may not be 'later on'. This 'later on' has landed me..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The time constraint is there.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You will please permit me. I do not want to take time. I will take only a few minutes. What I wish to say, Sir.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, of course.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : He wanted to say something on the Prime Minister. The Deputy Leader wanted to say something. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He will be allowed. Certainly Vajpayee ji will be allowed to say something.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if it is being discussed, then I will have to respond. The Prime Minister has intervened just now and only the issue concerning CBI has been taken up. Several other issues had also come in the discussion. Has the Prime Minister thrust the responsibility on Margaret Alva to reply to all these issues? Mr. Speaker, Sir, some issues are of such a nature that these could only be replied by the Prime Minister and none else.

MR. SPEAKER : He has given me in writing

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : You are well aware that when I moved the motion I had raised two issues. One was the Hawala scandal and the other related to the purchase of some hon. Members in the wake of the 2nd No confidence Motion. The Prime Minister did not say anything about the second issue and all those hon. Members who rebutted that they had taken money have also admitted that they were taken to meet the Prime Minister.... (Interruptions) Shri Mandal's statement is recorded in the proceedings, in which it was said that Shri Buta Singh took them to Prime Minister's House. Mr. Speaker, Sir, who will reply whether they went there or not and what happened there so as the question of CBI is concerned, my friends have raised some issues. They are very serious issues and this House as well as the country would like to know as to what prompted the Supreme Court to issue this kind of directive? Such a directive cannot be issued without any reason. The Supreme Court has referred to the fact that it should not be biased, it wants to leave no room for this at all. This was not sound that the Supreme Court had a doubt that some foul play there?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): Atal jee, this is wrong.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please also give an opportunity to reply all these things..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I may be allowed to complete. Please allow me to complete my submission... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is only Mr. Gupta's statement will go on record nothing else..... (Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : So far, I was dealing with the implication of the Supreme Court's order of the 1st of March, which is concerned only with the investigations into what is known as the *hawala* case, and nothing else. The second point--which Vajpayeeji has again reminded us just now-- is that there are serious allegations which may be true or may be false. I do not know..

But very serious allegations were made publicly by no less a person than the Leader of the Opposition, who is after all a responsible person.... (Interruptions). I know at other times, you consider him very responsible. Now you do not.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : That allegation has been accepted by the Government.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : No, it has not been accepted by the Government. He has made very serious allegations. On 18th January, Mr. S.K. Jain had told the police in a statement that on 11th March, 1195 an amount of Rs. 2.50 crore or Rs. 3 crore was paid to the Prime Minister.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No. That is false.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is a question of Parliamentary propriety and Parliamentary tradition. The Court has told the CBI also that any allegation which comes- maybe true or maybe false - has got to be investigated to the end by you, even if they involve some persons of very high status and high standards.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us be very clear on one point. The Motion has been allowed to be discussed. But at the time we granted the permission for the discussion on this Motion, all hon. Members were aware of the fact that this matter is pending before the court and in spite of the fact that the matter is before the court, we did allow this discussion. The understanding of all us should be that we should discuss it in such a fashion that principle of *sub judice* is not violated and the principle of *sub judice* will be violated when we say certain things on the floor of the house which are likely to affect the judgement. That nicety, that subtlety has to be borne in mind. I leave it to the judgement of the Members.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I fully agree with you, Sir that just as the principle of *sub judice* has to be respected, I am arguing that the principle of accountability can also be respected.

MR. SPEAKER : That is why we have allowed the discussion.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Yes, exactly. Now, if the Government says or anybody on behalf of the Government says that these allegations which were made, according to the Leader of Opposition, by Mr. S. K. Jain in a statement to the police, these allegations were not under interrogation. They were not under inquiry. If they make that statement categorically, than I can understand. But as far I understand from the documents available, this particular matter has not been excluded from the scope of inquiry by the Supreme Court. They have said all these things. It was because Mr. S.K. Jain is the main figure in this *hawala*. Who is he? He is the main figure

* Not recorded

involved in the *hawala*. Therefore, what I wish to say is that so long as an inquiry is going on or is proceeding against these allegations which have been levelled against the Prime Minister about his having been given money by S.K. Jain -- I do not know for what purpose; it may be connected or not connected with the question of getting some hon. Members to vote one way or the other or whatever it is - is it proper, is it in conformity with the propriety that person so accused, especially, when he has an administrative control over the CBI that he should remain in Office? Why should he remain in Office? I am not even going so far to say that he should resign. I am saying that during the pendency of that inquiry, he should step out so that an impression is not created that this inquiry will prejudice in any way by the fact of his remaining in office.

13.00 hrs.

If the same sort of apprehension of bias and lack of credibility is there, can he rise above this? ...*(Interruptions)* I am not yielding to you...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You will have a chance to say what you want to say.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you.

...*(Interruptions)* .

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My second point is that in our view, so long as investigations are going on into this very serious allegations made by no less person publicly than the Leader of Opposition and so long the propriety demands that in the interest of objectivity and lack of bias and independence of that inquiry the accused person should voluntarily step down from his office and allow the inquiry to go on without any fear or favour...*(Interruptions)* That he is not doing and he is not saying anything about it ...*(Interruptions)*

There are many aspects to this whole *Hawala* affair which will take a long time to digress on. Some other hon. colleagues have spoken at a great length already in the security aspect and on the economic aspect. All these are very important aspects of this whole affair. It is not a question of who is moral and who is immoral. This is a question that the whole system is facing the danger of destabilisation and we should try to identify the forces not only in the country but outside the country, who are working to see that India as a power, India as a country ceases to count in this world.

I think, you know very well who are those forces. They may spend money like water. They have got no lack of money to see that some people in this country are

completely discredited and the whole thing is destabilised. Therefore, this security aspect and the economic aspect are very important sides of question. About morals and so on, we can go on discussing. We will have to work out some other norms, codes and things for that. That is a different matter. I am very keen of that, We, of course, the Left Parties, could have taken a very high and mighty stand because none of us figured in those lists...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : So what, there are so many diaries.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The point is, something much more serious is going on. She is only interested in discrediting some Ministers in West Bengal...*(Interruptions)* But the much more important and serious matter is that the whole system is facing destabilisation and some people here wittingly or unwittingly, I do not know, have fallen into this trap. They may not know about it and by taking this money they have played the game of these destabilisers. They should be very careful about that. This is what I am advising them to do...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) :*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, he is using filthy language in Bengali....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I expect the Member to maintain the dignity of the House in the use of language also.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Finally, Sir, I am saying that it is all very well for somebody to say, " yes, I took this money, it was given as a donation for some political work or for my party work, that is all I have spent it and it is not being used for any other purpose". Somebody may claim like that.

Though there are people here who really baffle me and these people who have got vast amounts of private wealth -- anyhow it is not a crime, they may have private wealth, family wealth running into crores and crores -- how such people are tempted to take this money of Rs. 30 lakh or Rs. 40 lakh, I do not know. Anyway the point is if it is somebody's mere allegations mere do not constitute truth. *(Interruptions)*.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : You presume that they are correct. They are only allegations. Unless they are proved, you cannot say like this....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Shri Kurien, mere allegations do not amount to proof; mere denials also do not amount to innocence. You see, that is the point.

You can say, "I have not taken it. This is all false. I never took any money." Well, it is up to the CBI or somebody else to prove that he actually took the money. If I say, "I took the money as a donation for my party work," then I must be able to show some accounts; I must have a record somewhere. If I do not, then the income-tax people will be on my neck. I must show that these accounts are there, this is how the money has been disposed of and this is how it is being cleared... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA MAYAK (Phulbani) : Sir, he only wanted two minutes... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed him to speak on this motion and you will please not interfere

MR. INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, they can speak afterwards.

So, the point is that who are not able to clear themselves in accordance with the law, I hope that they will be made to pay for their sins that they have committed. That is the purpose of the Law. The hon. Prime Minister has said that the law will take its own course. but the law never took its course during the last four years; the law was sleeping; the Government allowed it to sleep and the CBI was too scared to do anything.

Therefore, Sir, I wish to conclude by saying that this whole affair, a murky affair, which, I think, has not increased our stature in the International comity of nations also; the foreigners are writing, talking and saying, "Oh India! India is one of the most corrupt countries in the world." This is not the kind of reputation we like to have. Therefore, I would say that those who are guilty, who cannot get themselves cleared according to the law, they will have to pay the price; they should be made to pay the price. And it is not simply enough to resign from some posts and then come and sit here again.

I agree that by mere hurling of allegations do not amount to proof; simply denying a thing does not amount to innocence also. If they have taken this money, they must account for it. Do the big parties, the major parties in this country, maintain any register for donations received? There is nothing wrong in receiving donations. They may have received political donations for their party work but that must be entered somewhere; it must be accounted for somewhere; it cannot just disappear into the thin air. And then people say, "Yes, I took it for this work but I did not maintain any accounts." That would not do. I hope that the Finance Minister agrees with that. Otherwise, so much money will be just siphoned off and disappeared.

Therefore, Sir, ultimately I would say after all, the Head of this Government is the Head of this administration also. I do not know whether any administration now exists at all. The administration is in a shambles because of what has happened with the resignation of Ministers and all that. So the hon. Prime Minister is looking after so many portfolios now. They are all concentrated in his hand. But anyway we, on this side of the house, all feel, in view of what has happened and with a view to vindicating the reputation and the honesty of this country also, the standards for which we have worked all these years, the hon. Prime Minister should voluntarily step down from his office and allow the investigation to proceed without any kind of hindrance and without any kind of suspicion of bias and all that.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Mr. Speaker Sir, please allow me to speak... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Salve, I will allow you after Shri Chandra Shekharji speaks.

... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, I only said in Bengali *Na bujhe boina*, that means, 'without knowing do not talk'. This is not unparliamentary at all. This is not a filthy language... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If it is not, then you are not responsible. If it is, you are. Now, I call Shri Chandra Shekhar to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by Shri Somnath Chatterjee was in my view, more important. The basic question after the judgement of the Supreme Court is whether we are wholly independent in discharging our responsibility in regard to the dignity of the House, its rights and its duty towards the people? If we are unable to answer this basic question, then by accusing one another and indulging in high moral talks we would neither be enhancing the dignity of the House nor the nation.

I agree to majority of views of my friend Shri Indrajit Gupta. I am not prepared to believe that a person becomes corrupt merely on the basis of an accusation... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I did not say so... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Did not you say that it was surprising as to how a person who is immensely rich and has ancestral property, can accept money? It means that such a person has accepted money. If we

go into the records of money transactions, most of us would not dare talk of dignity. Therefore, I do not want to say anything about it. The only regret I have is about the Prime Minister's statement that surprised me. After the Supreme Court judgement, I was under the impression that the Prime Minister would request the Supreme Court to spell out the reasons for this kind of an observation. But from the statement made by him today, it seems the Solicitor General too has admitted this fact. As long as the Supreme Court did not point out to the Solicitor General that the Government was interfering or there is something fishy about it, there was not need to make such a statement. If the Solicitor General has given an assurance to the Supreme Court that the Prime Minister would not issue any directive or orders to the CBI nor supervise its working, then he is neither aware of his duty nor the legal system and the Parliamentary system. As has been said by Shri Somanth Chatterjee, we may agree that the Prime minister has no authority in this matter either to give instructions to the CBI or interfere in its working, but when an apprehension that a charge can be levelled against anyone is expressed and for this reason the CBI has been directed not to seek any instruction nor give any information to any authority, this is an ominous portent. Mr. Prime Minister, you are not mindful of your dignity. But in the Parliamentary democracy, you are the leader of Lok Sabha. If you come under cloud, even indirectly, it is a blow to the dignity of the House.

I do not plead for anyone's resignation. To resign from a high post is not that easy. I know it requires a lot of will power. But, the hon. Prime Minister is adorning an exalted post. I have never commented on the judgment of the Supreme Court. It is within their jurisdiction. Whatever they do for justice is binding on all. But the Supreme Court has no right to interfere with the powers of the Prime Minister in a Parliamentary democracy. If that right by the Prime Minister. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Sir, I am on a point of order *...(Interruptions)* How are you challenging the Supreme Court's authority.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of view?

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Under Article 141 of the Constitution of India, the law laid down by the Supreme Court is binding on all... *...(Interruptions)* It is binding on all which include the Parliament. It has been laid down in the Bharti's case that even the Parliament has got no authority to amend the basic structure of the Constitution which includes the supremacy of the judiciary.

Therefore, the hon. Member is not entitled to challenge the authority of the Supreme Court to give a direction to the Prime Minister or the executive authority or all authorities concerned. Sir, what the Supreme Court has said, is this is one line only :

'To eliminate any impression of bias and erosion of credibility of the investigation being made by the CBI and any reasonable amount of lack of fairness and objectivity therein. It is directed that the CBI would not take any instructions from, report to or furnish any particulars thereof to any authority personally interested in or likely to be affected by the outcome of the investigation into any acquisition.'

Sir, what I want to raise by way of this point of order is that the hon. Member is within his rights to say anything in Parliament except to challenge the supremacy of the Supreme Court under Article 141 of the Constitution. If the authority of the Supreme Court is challenged under Article 141 of the Constitution, Your Honour is the custodian and, therefore, Your Honour should stop him from challenging the authority of the Supreme Court and the Prime Minister should go before it. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not confuse me. Now, please, I have heard what you have said very carefully and I am sure that all members have heard what you have said carefully. Article 141 reads like this :

"The law declared by the Supreme Court shall be binding on all courts within the territory of India."

The decisions given by the Supreme Court will be respected by the High Courts and lower courts. This article says nothing more than that and I do not think that your point of order is relevant.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : Not like this please; not like this. Do not disturb, please, let us understand what Shri Lodha has said.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : Please; not like this.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : If you carry on discussions like this, the discussions is derailed.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not stop at least now? What Shri Lodha said is not without substance on facts, but on 141, I think, he had quoted wrongly.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of your directive I have nothing to say. But I fail to understand what caused the hon. Member to think that I am challenging the authority of the Supreme Court. I had said that the Supreme Court has full authority in legal matters. I have never held the office of a judge but I have certainly studied the constitution.

The Constitution has explicitly defined the powers of various States and Institutions and they enjoy autonomy in their fields. Similarly, the Parliament and the Executive enjoy independent status. If the Supreme Court gives an inkling that it has doubts on the role of the Executive head in certain matter then it would become difficult to implement the Constitution provisions. What I mean to say is that the Government on that very day should have asked the Supreme Court to spell out the reasons that necessitated this observation.

I was surprised when the hon. Prime Minister said in his statement the Solicitor General agreed to the observation of the Supreme Court. If it is so, the situation then becomes ominous. In such a situation any discussion here becomes meaningless. Because when the Supreme Court casts a doubt on the Leader of the House and he does not rebutt, I fail to understand how a leaderless Parliament can have a discussion on this issue.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not want to go into the issue of allegation and counter-allegation. I neither seek anybody's resignation nor make an appeal in the name of morality. But those people who are making a hue and cry should remember the fact that the foreign forces are bent upon creating a situation of instability in the country. It should be always kept in mind that instability can be created by levelling charges on one another. India is not a corrupt country. Here 80 percent population earn their livelihood by dint of their hard labour. The remaining 20 per cent populace which comprise Government servants, army jawans and others, lead a respectable life. I would like to request that we should not speak irrelevant things about India in our speeches. Sir, through you, I would like to urge the hon. Prime Minister that he could have served the country and the House better had he not read the statements prepared by his officers.

[English]

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Sir, I do not have the benefit of listening to the entire debate. Therefore, very respectfully I am craving your indulgence and the indulgence of hon. Members Shri Vajpayeeji and Shri Chandra Shekharji to mention a very limited issue.

An inference is sought to be drawn by the order of the Supreme Court that the Supreme Court expressed distrust in the Prime Minister. I asked a senior advocate of the Supreme Court; where was the warrant for Supreme Court to make this kind of a statement or this kind of an order where, as it is the Prime Minister cannot interfere in the criminal investigation of the case?

Sir, I know very well, in tax matters the Finance Minister has no business to interfere with the matter of an assessment in the case of an assessee. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is a quasi-judicial matter.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Shri Somnath Chatterjee will appreciate what I am telling him. Why was this order made? I am told-- I was not there personally -- If I am wrong I would like to be corrected. ... (Interruptions).

AN HON. MEMBER : You are not a judge. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Sir, I am craving your indulgence because whatever I say may throw some light on the issue both for ... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : I welcome your statement and request the Members to understand what he is saying.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : What I have been told by Senior Counsel is that *amicus curiae* made a statement today before the Bench that persistently it is appearing in the newspapers that Prime Minister is interfering in the investigation of this case since he himself is involved. When that statement was made by an *amicus curiae* they said : 'will the statement come' ? Then he said that it has not been refuted by the Government. I am told, then the Solicitor General got up and said that there is absolutely no intervention whatsoever and he cannot intervene and there has been factually no intervention. It is on that this sort of an order was made. ... (Interruptions). What does not suit to their convenience they are not willing to listen. ... (Interruptions). I have said that this is what I have been told. It is under these circumstances that this order has been made.

The newspapers were carrying out that the Prime Minister was interfering, and when that was brought to the notice of the court by an *amicus curiae* story, the Supreme Court thought it proper to make it express that the matter will be reported directly to them. Therefore, I submit respectfully that if what I have stated is factually correct, then there is absolutely no warrant to draw an interference that by its order, the Supreme Court has cast any aspersion on the integrity of the Prime Minister ... (Interruptions).

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Mr. Speaker Sir, what Mr. Salve has said, is coming from a third person. Why can't an official version of that be given?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOMANTH CHATTERJEE : Sir, is this the way of interpreting an order?...*(Interruptions)*. You are giving the background of an order. Is an order to be interpreted in its background? If there is no ambiguity in the order, then do not mislead the House*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : As I have said that a senior lawyer has told me like this.*(Interruptions)*. Were you there in the court?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You are misleading the house. No order is interpreted unless there is ambiguity on the basis of the background.*(Interruptions)*.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, in favour of the Motion, the Leaders of the Opposition have told everything. But sometimes there are some puzzles in their mind. The House should appreciate that earlier also similar cases have been brought in this House. Harshad Mehta has said that he given Rs. one crore in a suitcase. The *Hawala* matter was brought to the court when the Jain brothers' farm house was raised and a diary was found. It is evident that some names have found their place in that diary. We are bringing in the name of our hon. Prime Minister into this matter but the CBI has clarified the matter. When S.K. Jain was in custody at that time he had stated that he had given money to ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Patra, I am not allowing you to go into the details. That is exactly what I said to Mr. Indrajit Ji.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : I am coming to the point. They are telling why the Supreme Court is making this sort of remarks and why this power has been withdrawn from the hon. Prime Minister. The hon. Prime Minister has categorically stated in Calcutta to the reporters on 17th January that law will take its own course. Perhaps he has given his mind that even if he is found to be culprit, the law will take action against him also. This is a very clear and stark image of our Prime Minister. That is why the remarks of the Supreme Court will not vitiate any sort of investigation. The CBI, on January 23, 1996, had said that there was no corroborative material to substantiate the oral statement of S.K. Jain....*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Patra, please hear me first. This is a matter in which, on one hand, you should have

the freedom to speak and, on the other, you should not trespass into the area which is before the court. So, there is a lot of tight rope walking. I think you have made your point and it should be sufficient now.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, I will submit two points here. The hon. Opposition leaders are puzzled that whether the Prime Minister has to step down on the basis of the allegation of Shri S.K. Jain. That is totally denied by the court of law. If the court of law recognises a *prima facie* then that can be considered*(Interruption)*. Secondly, they are saying that this supreme House has been degraded. No, this is not the case because the hon. Prime Minister voluntarily has stated that law will take its own course and the Lordship of Supreme Court will give verdict and the Lordship of Supreme Court directed the C.B.I. to investigate into the matter if there is any *prima facie* issue. If there is no *prima facie* issue nothing could be done. So, we should not be afraid of any sort of constitutional problem that our Supreme Court is giving any sort of indication, ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good. Shri Arjun Singh to speak now.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH (Satna) : MR. Speaker, Sir, I will confine myself very precisely to the issue that had to be addressed this morning which was addressed by the hon. Prime Minister in this house and which, I think, was what all the Members of the Opposition wanted to happen this morning. I am conscious of the fact that for whatever reason it may be, I am one of those accused of having taken some money. I would like to state what I have stated outside that I bow before the majesty of the law. The laws of the land are large enough, powerful enough to decide what is right and what is wrong. I submit to it and I am confident that through the legal processes my innocence will be established.

Having said that, I will not go in that aspect at all, I will confine myself, Sir, entirely to what hon. Prime Minister has said here in his statement. If I can recollect and relate properly, the burden of his statement was that this is a matter which is being investigated by the C.B.I. under the direction of the Supreme Court. Everything flows out of that. The ultimate order of the Supreme Court on 1st March, 1996 follows almost as a natural corollary to what was happening for the last years. Therefore, there is no need to be alarmed about it and certainly not to feel that anything has been done to influence the investigation. This is, in essence, what his entire statement meant to say, according to me.

With your kind permission, because this issue is not confined to individuals, it is not the subject matter of a debate only for the purpose of scoring a point, in my humble opinion, this Parliament which represents the sovereign will of the people of this country, is passing through a very trying phase of its history.

What we do and what we do not do will ultimately, could ultimately affect the credibility of the institutions of this Republic and at some point of time could even affect this Republic itself. We should be conscious that we will, one day, stand at the Bar of history, may be physically not. But at that bar of history, this generation will have to answer whether at a point where all the values, beliefs and ideals that we cherish -- I do not count anybody out of it, we all do it -- when they came under attack, how this Parliament, how did we rise up to the occasion to protect these ideals, those principles, the republican character and the basic characteristics of the edifice of this Republic?

• Having said that, Sir, now I would kindly request you to give 4-5 minutes to delineate and then to seek certain specific clarification from the hon. Prime Minister. according to reports which have not been denied, it is in July, 1991 that this entire matter came to the notice of the Government after a raid was carried out and certain seizures were made.

The first clarification I want to seek from the hon. Prime Minister is at what point of time did he personally come to know about this entire issue? The second point is that from 1991 to 1993, a certain procedure was being adopted. Whatever was being done, I am sure, it must have been done under the laws of this land. None of us is privy to it. But the fact has emerged that in 1993 a public interest litigation was filed in the Supreme Court that perhaps what needs to be done is not being done. Therefore, the hon. Supreme Court should intervene and ensure that what is desirable and what is necessary according to the law, by which the CBI itself is also governed, should be done. The Supreme Court became seized of the matter. We are not aware of the day-to-day progress and the orders that were given. The newspaper gave us the impression that the Supreme Court was not initially satisfied about what needed to be done was being done expeditiously. So, it was asked to do everything. The second point which the Prime Minister has attempted to make here is that the entire exercise in this matter, is being done under the direction of Supreme Court. In all humility, Sir, I would like to say that perhaps that is not the fact as it exists. The Supreme Court came into this matter late in the day and even when it did come into it, it took notice, it did not direct day-to-day action of the CBI. They did not monitor the investigation. They only wanted the CBI to do its duty. According to the press reports, we have been told that in November and December the day-to-day monitoring was being done by the Prime Minister himself or the PMO. None has contradicted that. By that as it may, the order of the Supreme Court on 30th January 1996, perhaps for the first time, has brought this whole issue in bold relief, in proper perspective and actually the word has been used that we are passing this order so that is

placed in the record of this file to keep everything in proper perspective. In that order, Sir, for the first time, the Supreme Court said that all allegations against whomsoever they may have been made have to be investigated and if at any point of time the CBI comes to the conclusion that on the basis of an investigation, no case is made out against anyone, before that case is closed, it will be done only after the satisfaction of the Supreme Court and not otherwise. This is the order the Supreme Court passed on 30th January, 1996. On 22nd February, when this matter again came up before the Supreme Court to be reported to, according to the press reports, the CBI did suggest that they did not have any specific information on which they could conclude that a case can be made out against two people.

They did not name anyone. Subsequently, I do not know why the Supreme Court did not say 'yes' or 'no' to that and the CBI itself said that they will continue that investigation, which means that either they did not place the facts to the satisfaction of, the hon. Supreme Court or did not choose to do so for whatever reason it may be.

Now, Sir, it is only on the 1st of March the specific order which is not the subject matter of debate here was passed. I do not want to repeat the wordings of that order. The hon. senior Member Shri Chandra Shekharji has summed it up correctly. But it is a matter which deserves very close scrutiny. If that is the case or if it is the case that was done at the prompting of the Government, that the Solicitor-General prompted the Court to pass the order, then we would like to know about it. ... (Interruptions). It is not uncorroborated. The Prime Minister's statement in this House says that.

Sir, the point is this, There are a number of petitions in the Supreme Court and in some of those petitions through the *amicus curiae* Shri Anil Deewan, very specific indications have been made, specific allegations also have been made where it has been alleged that the charge-sheets have been tailored.

MR. SPEAKER : It is this thin line, anything need not be said which can affect or influence the judgement.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, I am very small person.

MR. SPEAKER : No; you are a very senior person.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I do not think the hon. Supreme Court is going to be influenced by whatever I say. If that be the case, then, I think, nobody should say anything. Then, let us close the debate, if accountability is of no value..

MR. SPEAKER: Arjun Singhji, we have allowed the discussion on it. We have allowed you to make a statement on this. I am very responsibly making a statement

that when we have not disallowed the discussion on this important matter which can help us to make a policy or reform the system, when we are entitled to make the laws, there is the other institution which is entitled to enforce interpret the law and there is third institutions which is entitled to enforce the law. We shall have to keep all these things in view while making the statement. This is what I am saying.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, I bow to your superior wisdom and I have no intention to transgress any line, much less the line that you draw, because I know that as the Speaker of this House you will draw a line only where it is a necessary. Therefore, I am not going to cross that line.

MR. SPEAKER : Generally I do not draw any line.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I am not going to cross that line. But the point still remains as to what prompted the hon. Supreme Court to pass this order. My contention is not voluntarily because I have also not imagined it, it has appeared in the press the proceedings of the Supreme Court have appeared in the Press, all of us know it, it has been quoted here -- that perhaps the investigation was not going on the correct and proper lines. Therefore, I presume -- unless there is something contrary to rebut this presumption, whether it comes from the hon. Prime Minister or from another order of the Court, I am entitled to make that presumption and I would very much like this presumption of mine to be rebutted by something which Prime Minister himself says, because I do not consider him an individual alone.

As the Leader of the House and as the Prime Minister of this country he is in a position, a very important position. He represents the people of this country. He is the highest executive of this country and therefore it has to come from him whether my presumption is wrong or not.

In the end there is one simple question which I would like to ask because it is only he who can enlighten this House. I will not say the thing that follows therefrom. I would like that he informs this House, by his own mouth, whether in the Jain Hawala case, he, as Prime Minister, is under investigation or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you later. Now, today is Friday and at 3.30 p.m. we have to take up the Private Members' Business and in the wisdom of the leaders of the parties it is decided that this discussion should continue up to 3.30 p.m. Then, tomorrow on the next day, i.e., Monday, we will take up essential business so that it can be transmitted to the other House and later on the reply will be given...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : After one or two Members have spoken, if you want to break for the lunch, we will do that and if you want to continue, we can continue. But in that case I will allow the Members to go, if they want to go.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, after the Private Members's Business, i.e., at 6.00 p.m., would the discussion be resumed?

MR. SPEAKER : If it is necessary, we will do that.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we were...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : Sir, I was on my legs.

MR. SPEAKER : You will be called.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : I think, you may be please. The matter is being recorded and it will be handed over to you and the Ministers also.

...*(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the hectic activities going on in the ruling party today...

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please adjourn the House for the lunch hour. ...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Sir, our party is not being allowed and all others have spoken.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not correct. I will allow Mr. Vajpayee to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : Jaswant Singhji, I would like to know whether you want to speak now or at 6 o'clock.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, we would also like to know whether the clarifications asked for on the floor of the House are going to be answered by the Prime Minister or not.

MR. SPEAKER : My reply to that is that this discussion is going on and Mrs. Margret Alva is to reply. You have said that the Prime Minister should reply...

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, you will recollect that this issue was brought up before you that whether the Prime Minister is under investigation or not. It is only the Prime Minister who can reply. So, before he leaves for Hyderabad, let him come before the House and say what exactly the position is, whether he is under investigation or not. That is precisely we want to know.

MR. SPEAKER : Neither I can compel him to make the statement nor I can stop you from speaking. If he wants to reply, he can and if he does not want to, I cannot compel him. ... (Interruptions)...

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, I was stating that with the arrival of the hon. Prime Minister to the House, hustle and bustle is witnessed and when he leaves the House, it often happens that.....

[English]

I understand the personal difficulties that the hon. Prime Minister has in finding it convenient to be present in the House. But that is precisely the point, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister intervening just now chose to explain that he has come to the House upon our insistence on speaking. That, Sir, is an injustice to the House and an injustice to the concerns of this House. Our insistence upon his coming here and clarifying the situation was not an inconvenience that was being caused to him by this House.

[Translation]

We hoped that when the hon. Prime Minister comes to the House next time, he will throw light on the prevailing situation which will guide the treasury benches and opposition as well as the country to the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of request that the hon. Prime Minister read out a written statement in the House, in which he did avoid a reference to Hawala or a person. He did not make it clear that the subject of his statement was a charge born out of S.K. Jain's diary.

[English]

I find it revealing and telling that the hon. Prime Minister, in fact, fought shy to even mention the name of Hawala or even mention the fact that this whole issue that is currently seizing the Parliament, in fact, arises from a testimony given by S.K. Jain to the Central Bureau of investigation, an official testimony. Now, Sir, I do find it necessary to refer to the other point that the hon. Prime Minister made. He stood up and, in subsequent interventions, read out another written statement which, presumably, somebody in his office had give to him

saying that it is not unusual either for the High Courts of the land or for the Supreme Court to, every now and then, direct the Police or the investigative agencies or the Central Bureau of Investigation to take specific actions. He cited the examples of Muzaffarnagar and, if I recollect right, the Dabwali and other such cases. But that again, Sir, is exactly the point. If the Courts of the land, whether the High Court or the Supreme Court, have found it necessary... (Interruptions)

Sir, I am not finding fault, but I really wish to appeal to you about this disturbance.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb the Member.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : We were informed, Sir, when the hon. Prime Minister left from here, that somebody, some diligent junior member of his Ministry of this vastly depleted and a further fast depleting Ministry, would make notes so that he is apprised when it comes to replying.

MR. SPEAKER : Every thing is recorded. They take the copies and not a word spoken is deleted.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am touched by that, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : By now, we all know that it is in writing, it is in audio and it is in video.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : Sir, I apologise, I am taking notes here. The Prime Minister has asked me to see him for a minute, so I had to go out.

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not sit down in the front row?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I have no doubt about the diligence of my charming friend, Mrs. Margaret Alva. But her diligence does not. Sir,...

MR. SPEAKER : She is quite disarming.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : She is charming too, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : That is correct.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Thank you for that, at least.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : The other point that the hon. Prime Minister read out from his prepared statement was about these cases that have been referred by

the Supreme Court relating to Muzaffarpur or Dabwal or Kalra or Pilbhit, all these, But that really begs the question because in each of these instances wherever the court has intervened and directed the inquiry to be focused in a particular manner, it is only when the court has had a reason to believe the *prima facie* there was sufficient ground.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is regretting on these matters.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Exactly. I am amazed at the Prime Minister's own admission that all these cases that have been referred by the Supreme Court or the High Court are, therefore, sufficient ground now for the Supreme Court in the case of S.K. Jain's diary, to also refer this and say what they have said. But this is an embarrassing admission by the Head of the executive, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Government, the Prime Minister to make because in each of these cases there existed (a) a crime, (b) sufficient grounds to believe that the crime was not being investigated well enough and (c) that not only was the crime not being investigated, in fact, the investigation was being perverted by executive action, and it is on that account that those courts whether it was the Supreme Court or the High Court directed that you will now not report to the executive and you will do what we direct. I am astounded that the Prime Minister has found it fit to cite precisely this to say that what the Supreme Court has now said is perfectly in order. Let me remind the hon. Prime Minister that it is not, simply not, in order. This statement by the Supreme Court is a direct expression of lack of confidence in this Government. After all, the Supreme Court, as has been pointed out, did not arrive at his conclusion only on the 1st March. The Supreme Court has persistently been cautioning you. The Supreme Court has been slowly moving towards removing this responsibility from you because whenever you have gone to the Supreme Court, gradually the Supreme Court has been telling you that you are exercising selectivity, that you are not approaching this issue as you ought to, and on every hearing that the Supreme Court has had, it has on one occasion after another, cautioned the Government, it has cautioned the Central Bureau of Investigation, it has used words from the bench like you are selectively investigating. The Supreme Court is not convinced that what you are doing is correct and it is out of that, that finally, on the 1st of March, this observation from the Supreme Court comes. What are the three major components of this observation?

To my mind, the first component is that the Supreme Court finds that *prima facie* there exists a case, and there exist grounds for investigating the Prime Minister in the statement given by S.K. Jain to the Central Bureau of investigation. If the Supreme Court had come to the

conclusion that *prima facie* there has nothing to investigate, which after all is what the CBI itself had enclosed to, because the CBI had gone to the Court and said "Here are these two about whom we do not find sufficient grounds to investigate." The Supreme Court, by saying what it has -- I do not repeat by reading out what the Supreme Court said -- it used words like 'biased' and it is because the Supreme Court after hearing the CBI, after hearing the Solicitor-General, came to the conclusion that *prima facie* there exists a case against the Prime Minister and because *prima facie* it is not in agreement with the CBI, that that case does not warrant investigation, that it said "You will no more investigate. We will investigate because there are grounds for bias." After all, against whom could this bias be? Can the bias be spoken of as bias of the Central Bureau of Investigation itself? Is it an apprehension of bias about what the CBI might be doing?

14.00 hrs

Or that the bias might be the bias of the CBI itself? Then, certainly, Sir, what the Supreme Court would have said is: "we are not convinced that you, the Central Bureau of Investigation, are conducting this investigation without bias. Therefore, we direct the CBI to give up this investigation and we will direct some other agency to do so". It has said it wishes to remove bias. If the apprehension of bias are not against the CBI, then, is it an apprehension of bias against the political executive to which the CBI reports? Obviously enough, Sir, the Supreme Court has clearly expressed apprehension about the political authority against the Executive. *(Interruptions)* I will not sit down now. Because simply by shaking your head, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Personnel cannot negate the point. You will certainly dissent. That is obvious. But I am astounded at the casualness of the Prime Minister when he simply reads out a prepared statement and says that Shrimati Margaret Alva, the Minister of State in the Ministry of State yearning to become a full-fledged Minister, who is a Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Personnel, she will reply to the factual matters. How can the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs or Personnel reply to this wholesale massacre of the Prime Minister's Cabinet colleagues by this case? Is Shrimati Margaret Alva going to answer for all the ministerial berths that are empty today? Is it Shrimati Margaret Alva who forwarded those resignations? Or, is it Shrimati Margaret Alva who forwarded those resignations? Or, is it Shrimati Margaret Alva who forwarded those resignations to the President? I am amazed at the casualness.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Did she take over those portfolios?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : (Chittorgarh) : Has she taken over all those portfolios?...*(Interruptions)*. I am amazed. I am astounded at the casualness. It is truly casualness. I can recognise that the Treasury Benches are filled with the...* of the worst kind, that... which persuades them to be present here when the Prime Minister is here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, That word will not go on record.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : You can certainly object to it. But how is an unparliamentary word?*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am declaring that words which can offend the other Members will not go on record. They will go. There are the categories; words which are unparliamentary; words which are offensive.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But how has ... become an offensive word?

MR. SPEAKER : This word, In this context, is offensive. So, I am deleting it from the record.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am amazed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Today when the hon. Prime Minister is present in the House, all the Members of the ruling party are also present. When the hon. Prime Minister does not come here, they also absent themselves from the House. We are discussing about the presence of the hon. Prime Minister. In what words his casualness of brief presence be termed? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : (Bombay North) : Sir, should we not speak if they resort to such act. The truth must come out.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am amazed that the Prime Minister chooses to transfer everything. What factual information can the hon. Minister give me about the conduct of the leader of the party and the leader of the Government?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : (Chandigarh) : Is it part of the Motion that is under discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : It is a part of the Motion. Let me repeat what I have started by saying.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Please persuade the hon. Members not to interrupt the speech.

MR. SPEAKER : All the Members are requested to keep this thing in mind.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I started saying that I have reason to believe that this observation from the Bench, of first March, confirms that the Court believes that *prima facie* there is ground to investigate the charge against the Prime Minister, that allegation against the Prime Minister further. Secondly, this charge about the possibility of bias is directly against the Prime Minister and not so much against the CBI. Thirdly, about this expression of the Supreme Court, which it has made in all responsibility, we can have and we do have views about the recent case of judicial activism through which the country is now going. But notwithstanding this aspect of judicial activism, I must recognise what the Supreme Court has observed from the Bench. If this is not a direct expression of non-confidence in the Prime Minister and the Government that what the Supreme Court has actually observed from the Bench is actually a vote of confidence in the Prime Minister?

AN. HON. MEMBER : This is what they think.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : After all this, all that the Government can say and this is an interpretation that I would make of what the hon. the Prime Minister has said, that notwithstanding what the Supreme Court has said, this is not a vote of no-confidence, this is not actually an expression of no-confidence in the Prime Minister. Then are we to interpret that all that is happening is actually an expression of confidence in the Government ? What an amazing attitude for the Government it is to take that even this is covered, turned around and put across by you, and simply for the remaining few weeks that remain of this Government, simply to stick to office! The whole question then boils down to one thing and that is that under the weight of such observations which are direct and unambiguous, what ought to be the response of the Prime Minister or the Government? Either it is for the Prime Minister to recognise the enormity of the responsibility that he carries even ordinary by the virtue of the fact that he is the head of the Government but to recognise now that in the wake of what the Supreme Court has observed, the responsibility is multiple, is manifold more and to recognise that responsibility to act accordingly. The hon. Prime Minister chose to use a phrase to suggest that the Central Bureau of Investigation has not done, is not doing and is not going to do anything that it has not done

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

earlier etc. etc. It is simply because we make appeals to the hon. the Prime Minister to recognise the enormity of the situation that confronts us today, in the Parliament I have no hope, however that the response from the Government or the Prime Minister will in fact be in accordance with the challenge of the situation. I have no doubt your response will be grey, that your response will be circumambulatory, that you will avoid confronting the issues. You will not face the facts. In fact, not only will you not face the facts, you will take every opportunity not to face the Parliament either. And if that happens then certainly we will have casualties, We will have casualties which are not merely in the ministerial ranks, the casualties will be of public morality, a casualty will certainly be accountability of the executive to the legislature and a casualty will definitely be the aspect of probity in public life. All this has been happening and this has been happening from the 16th of January. Since the 16th of January, if I were to describe how the Prime Minister has responded to all the challenge, then I would say he has been idling along in neutral gear. You put the car in a neutral gear, it is neither going forward nor going in reverse, nor moving. If it is pushed by events it will get pushed. This attitude of neutral gear of governance will bring great harm. It has already brought great harm to us. It will bring much greater harm... *(Interruptions)* You do not even need breaks on neutral gear. This neutrality to issues of high importance of the day and this neutral gear style of governance is precisely why we have today a situation in which we, daily increasingly, go through a paralysed legislature and a debased consequence of this is a paralysis of the legislature. Consequence of this is also the debasing of the political and public leadership of the country and its one of the consequences is also the leadership of the country and its one of the consequence is also the imbalance that we today confront in the constitutional arrangement of things.

There are some clarifications that I would want from the hon. the Prime Minister, and if he has transferred the responsibility wholesale to his junior colleague in the Cabinet. Well I hope it from her or some body. There is the question of Hawala and the question of Hawala allegations of pay-offs to Members of Parliament. This is amongst the issues that we are seized of, and if we charge that the Government's response to it is of prejudice, that it is partisan, then there are grounds for it.

Now I would like to know if so many Ministers have resigned and have been charged with illegal receipts of money, does this Government or does the hon. Finance Minister have any knowledge whether the Income Tax Department has issued notices of income tax to any of these Ministers? And, if you have issued to the Members of Parliament against whom there are allegations? And, if notices have been issued simply on the basis of

these diary entries and charges, then I would like to know, Sir, on what authority and on what grounds have notices not been issued to some others that have been named in these diaries, like...^{*} and some other Ministers against whom there are allegations of either paying or having being paid off? Why have notices not been issued, for example to...^{*} I read in item in the newspapers to say that the Finance Ministry of its own have taken a decision that income tax notices will not be issued to some, for example, the estate of...^{*} There are charges that ...received funds. On what basis or on what law, under what law...

MR. SPEAKER : Before raising issues should we not keep the Minister informed that you are raising this issue...

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Why is it not fair, because you have not issued. When it comes to...you have also, Sir, simultaneously ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Supposing some Member gets up and says something against any Member...

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No, Sir, these are reports. This is precisely what is contained... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Rule requires that we should *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Does he have anything authentic information against him? Unless something is proved anybody, why should we talk of that...

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : This is a part of the Hawala case.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, these names should not go on record.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will just go through it.... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER : Let us restrict it to the Motion.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But this is a Motion dealing with hawalas... *(Interruptions)* This is what has been given by the Reference Section of the Parliament itself. There are names.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not necessary for me to tell Mr. Jaswant Singhji. You knew very well. You do not have to depend on this.

^{*}Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No, Sir. This is precisely the point.

MR. SPEAKER : You should have asked and the question...

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But I am asking the question.

MR. SPEAKER : You should asked the question in a proper manner by giving a notice.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Mr. Speaker Sir, these names have not been mentioned for the first time. It would be better if the hon. Minister refutes the charge, otherwise concealing the facts will create more suspicion.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Even in the middle of the debate if I cannot refer to ...

MR. SPEAKER : This is exactly why I say instead of thinking about reforming the system, bringing about a better policy, we are interested in saying things against each other. Others are also interested in saying things against each other.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : By all means, because unless we accept what the reality is...

MR. SPEAKER : You please follow the rules and do anything, I am not going to obstruct you.. But you will follow the rules.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : If I have violated the rules at any stage...

MR. SPEAKER : May I quote the rule?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Certainly Sir, in the middle of the debate, If I have violated the rules by saying ...

MR. SPEAKER : I will quote the rule and you will follow it, please.

"No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person unless the member has given previous intimation to the Speaker and also to the Minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make an investigation into the matter for the purpose of a reply."

This is Rule No. 353

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Right Sir, I fully accept the rule. I am not making any allegation of a defamatory nature. I am referring to a decision taken by this Government that in certain cases this Government has chosen *ab initio* not to move in income tax matter against the estate of some persons. I simply want to know on what basis has that decision been taken? That decision has been taken ; the Government can stand up and say that decision has not been taken. Have you served notices on various ministers? That is an income Tax requirement. If that is not served...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It was done after certain evidence was available to the department on the basis of regular investigation.

MR. SPEAKER : Now he is following the rules.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : You are not getting into that.

MR. SPEAKER : if you want to explain, you can explain. If you do not want to explain, then you can sit down. Now he is within his right.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not interested in it. If mere mention of the names makes him so restless ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : You mention the name to defame the person. (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Shri Ram Niwas who hails from my home state, Rajasthan is sitting here..." has left for his heavenly abode. Name ofalso figures in it ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record. I am not allowing it to go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Then whose name are there, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You continue your speech. Who is obstructing you? No names go on record..

... (Interruptions)

There is an alternative way. You may follow that.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

[English]

When we do not do it, we lose our authority. I am repeating. When we do not do things in a proper manner, we lose our authority.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : One of the charges and one of the reasons why the Supreme Court has had to move as it has moved, is precisely because of this -- this apprehension in the mind of the Supreme Court. A point that has been made by all of us here earlier, and even now I repeat, is the selectivity of the approach of the executive and the Government. The Government is moving in this whole matter with an inbuilt selectivity, a selectivity about which there are no criteria. We do not know on what ground that selectivity is determined. If that selectivity continues to be the guiding principle on which you approach this major issue that has confronted us today, then certainly by all means have the remaining few weeks that you have in office, be by all means partisan and selective, but then you will certainly not have moved even an inch towards correcting a great wrong that has already taken place.

You have been very kind to permit me. I wish to point out just one more aspect. I would appeal to my friends to please hear this. I am truly worried about corruption and selectivity and prejudice and partisan approach. We are all prejudiced. As we are subjective political animals. This is a political assembly. We gather here. I cannot claim that when I speak from here, I speak with total objectivity. But I have not in the last five years witnessed what I am witnessing today, particularly as tendency in the Treasury Benches. I refer to those of you who have earlier been victims, I refer to those of you who have earlier been victims. I refer to an incipient authoritarianism.

[Translation]

The attitude of the Government now a days clearly reflects authoritarianism.

[English]

I sense fear in the Treasury Benches. They are fearful of their own shadows. They are fearful that tomorrow a piece of paper might not be handed over against them. Because a piece of paper is handed over by the head of their Government, head of their party, they will then have to end up by answering all kinds of charges.

I caution you. I am very glad that my friends in the Treasury Benches can still smile. But smile in the comfort of the office that you hold but this office has been snatched from your very colleagues without notice, without as much as the courtesy of a prior consultation. And this has, believe me, in your ranks bred a kind of fear psychosis, which fear psychosis, is the beginning of

authoritarianism. You have a Head of Government that does not have a Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, and a head of party which does not have a Parliamentary Board and a head of party, which does not have a Parliamentary Board and head of party, who does not bother to consult any of you on any important decision. And then, if, still, you can smile and if, still, you are not worried about the possibilities of authoritarianism, and if after you have lost in a wholesale manner.

[Translation]

A number of Ministers of your Cabinet have left one by one in a wholesale manner,...

[English]

There is not a single one of you that had the sense of loyalty and continuity and courtesy to the colleagues with whom you had worked to stand up and say, 'How can you do this to your Cabinet colleagues and you alone be the saviour or the sole paragon of virtue and yet continue to keep with yourselves all authority and yet not answer to Parliament?' In this are the seeds of incipient authoritarianism and if I do not caution you about this -- whether you take us to the polls towards the end of April or you take us in July, you have to go to the polls--the seed that you have sown will cause irreparable damage yet again to your political organization.

Look back on the five years that you have sat on those Treasury Benches and look at the catalogue of what you did in those five years starting from the infamous Bofors-Solanki to banking and security ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Jaswant Singhji, one minute.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I think, you want me to conclude.

MR. SPEAKER : You can continue, but I think, we may not break for lunch. Those who want to go for lunch can have their lunch. I have invited some MPs for lunch and I am handing over the Chair to him. The Members who want to speak after the Private Members' Business is over may also speak, but they will have to wait.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete please. Yes, Jaswant Singhji.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, I am constrained...(Interruptions)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, what is your point of order?

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : I wanted to know that. After this, the Members continue the discussion and the Private Members' Business start. So, what about Matters under Rule 377 and the other items listed on the agenda?

MR. SPEAKER : We will take a decision on that. That is not a point of order.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I am not allowed. You are not allowing me.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You will be allowed.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : When, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : But then, where is the time? We do not have the time. How and what I can do?

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : Sir, they are discussing all these things...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed all.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I will be concluding. I will conclude in a couple of minutes.

I have said, you look back on the catalogue of your five years and I have spoken of the infamous Bofors and Solanki and St. Kitts and Banking and Securities and Sugar and Disinvestment and Oil because none of these ... (Interruptions)

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) : Sir, we are not given a single minute and you see, he is being given this much time.(Interruptions) it has nothing to do with today's issue. (Interruptions) it was only with respect to Supreme Court judgement. You cannot have the whole time of the House. After all, we have a right to be heard.(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am concluding. It is my belief if this had not been your approach, if this kind of responsiveness and sensitivity to probity in public life had not been there, then we certainly would not have had the culmination that we presently have in this question of *hawala* and that, Sir, brings me to my concluding thought. It is my belief that the curative aspect really starts from the beginning. Curing the wrong that is afflicting the entire political body is really to make a distinction between the moral and only legal. If you think that the present problem fits into an answer simply

by changing laws, or by fine tuning a law here or fine tuning a law there or improving this legislation or bringing about another legislation and to yet keep the moral dimension of it all outside of our consciousness, then, no matter what laws we have, we would have failed in the very initiative, in the very beginning, because in the ultimate, the question is not legal but moral. In the ultimate what you are failing to answer is the enormity of that moral question. The absence of the Prime Minister today, whatever personal obligations that he has, is really exemplifying the vacuum that exists in your rank on the moral question.(Interruptions)

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : Sir, please give me a chance.(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you can speak after Shrimati Alva.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, I am sorry to come in at this stage. Mr. Jaswant Singh seems to have directed all his agony and anger against me. I do not know why. But I am not going into that.

Sir, I am rather dismayed at the report which has appeared in one of the newspaper today. It is about a meeting which you had with the Opposition leaders of which I am not a member. There is a report that the Opposition leaders of this house have objected to my replying on the ground that my name appears in the diaries. This is the front page news item today. To say the least I am very upset.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No one has objected.

MR. SPEAKER : That is not a fact. Nobody has said that. If it is reported it is not a correct report. No Member has said that.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, that is all I wanted. (Interruptions).

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : Sir, the reason behind the Supreme Court's judgement is not the reason which has been alleged. All the Opposition leaders, including Mr. Advani and Mr. Arjun Singh and others have alleged that partial investigation had been made. They have openly alleged in the House and outside also that the CBI has been very partial against them. It was alleged that the Prime Minister was giving instructions to the Director, CBI. It is because of the fair investigation that so many people are involved. It is because of the fair investigation that the Supreme Court has given its order that the CBI should report to Supreme Court only and it is for the safeguarding the interests of Advaniji and Arjun Singhji whose names are involved and not for any political reason. I think the whole House should appreciate it because now you will have a very fair investigation. ... (Interruptions).

14.27 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, what about Adjournment Motion? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

14.27 1/4 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review of the Working of International Airport Authority of India for 1994-95 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Airports Authority of India for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (4) of section 24 and sub-section (2) of section 25 of the International Airports Authority Act, 1971.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the International Airports Authority of India, for the year 1994-95.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. Lt 9160/96]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Urban Akademi, Raebareli, for the year of 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Urban Akademi, Raebareli for the year 1994-95.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9161/96]

Notifications under Emigration Act, 1983 etc.

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, on behalf of Shri G. Venkat Swamy, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 44 of the Emigration Act, 1983:--

(i) The Emigration (Second Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in notification No. S.O. 159(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 28th February, 1996

(ii) The Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 1996 published notification No. S.O. 111 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1996.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 9162/96]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English Versions) by the Government of the working of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, for the year 1994-95

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9163/96]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year of 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year of 1994-95.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 9164/96]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi for the year 1994-95.

(7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 9165/96]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay for the year 1994-95.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 9166/96]

(10)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Handloom Export Promotion Council, Madras, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Handloom Export Promotion Council, Madras, for the year 1994-95.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9167/96]

(12)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay, for the year 1994-95.

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9168/96]

(14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Textiles Committee, Bombay, for year 1994-95.

(15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9169/96]

Review of the Working Annual Report of Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi for year 1994-95 etc.

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, on behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) Annual Report of the Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9170/96]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Overseas Construction Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Overseas Construction Council of India, New Delhi for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9171/96]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board, Cochin for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board Cochin for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Spices Board, Cochin for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9172/96]

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 1994-95 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 1994-95.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9173/96]

(7) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rubber Board, Kottayam for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9174/96]

Notification under Central Excise and Salt Act, 1994 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg lay on the Table:--

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act. 1994:--

(i) G.S.R. 772(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 116/85 CE dated the 8th May, 1985.

(ii) The Adhoc Exemption order No. 35/16/95;CX dated the 28th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt paper and paperboard manufactured in the Jogighopa factory of Ashok Paper Mill (Assam) Limited from excise duty.

(iii) The Central Excise (Amendment) Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 2(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iv) G.S.R 3(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 64/95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.

(v) G.S.R. 12(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notifications No. 75/94CE, dated the 29th March, 1994.

(vi) G.S.R. 36(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 8/95-CE, dated the 9th February, 1995.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9175/96]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act. 1962:--

(i) G.S.R. 766(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th November, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 17/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995.

(ii) G.S.R. 786(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 236/89-Cus, dated the 1st September, 1989.

(iii) The Customs Traiff (Determination of Origin of Goods under the Agreement of SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement) Rules, 1995 published in notification Nos. 787 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iv) G.S.R. 797(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 1313/94-Cus., and 132/94-Cus., dated the 20th June, 1994.

(v) G.S.R. 802(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 65/88-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1988.

(vi) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 342 dated the 22nd December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt viscose staple fibre from Customs duty.

(vii) G.S.R. 819(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 257/92-Cus., dated the 12 August, 1992 upto the 31st December, 1999.

(viii) G.S.R. 4(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to machinery, equipments etc. when imported by any authorised work centre or government agency or public undertaking from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.

(ix) G.S.R. 5(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 110/86-Cus., dated the 17th February, 1996.

(x) G.S.R. 30(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notifications mentioned therein.

(xi) G.S.R. 31(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the Notification No. 84/95-Cus., dated the 1st April, 1995.

(xii) G.S.R. 37(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification Nos. 13/95-Cus., and 16/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995.

(xiii) G.S.R. 807(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in two Notifications mentioned therein.

(xiv) G.S.R. 808(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend the duty schemes for hundred percent Export Oriented Units and the Export Processing Zone Units so as to permit such units to avail of the benefit of the concessional rate of customs duty at the rate of fifteen percent *ad valorem*.

(xv) Adhoc Exemption Order No. 4/96 dated the 8th January, 1996 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption of 105 used computer system from the whole of the customs duty on their clearance into the domestic tariff area in the form of donation in Charity free of cost, to the Educational institutions, by a hundred percent Export Oriented Unit.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9176/96]

(3) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, Bombay, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9177/96]

(4) A copy of the Twenty-Fifth Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on the 31st March, 1995, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9178/96]

(5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon; under sub section (4) of section 15 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed Library, See No. LT 9179/96]

(7) A copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 :-

(i) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Second Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 93(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1996.

(ii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class I Officers (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Second Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 94(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1996.

(iii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Development Officers (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Second Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 95(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1996.

(iv) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Second Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 96(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1996.

(v) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1996 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 102(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9180/96]

(8) A copy of the General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff (Amendment) Scheme, 1996 published in Notification No. S.O. 139 (E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd February, 1996 under sub-section (5) of section 17A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9181/96]

(9) A copy of each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English version) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year 1994-95, together with Auditors Report thereon :-

(i) Nimar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Khargoon	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9182/96]
(ii) Champran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Motihari	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9183/96]
(iii) Rani Laxmibai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhansi	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9184/96]
(iv) Bikaner Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bikaner	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9185/96]
(v) Himachal Gramin Bank, Mandi	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9186/96]
(vi) Surrendranagar Bhavanagar Gramin Bank, Surrendranagar	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9187/96]
(vii) Bundi Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9188/96]
(viii) Mithila Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Laherasarai	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9189/96]
(ix) Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kanpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9190/96]
(x) Nanital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Nanital	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9191/96]
(xi) Faridkot Bhatinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhatinda	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9192/96]
(xii) Shivalik Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshiarpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9193/96]
(xiii) Bhilwara Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhilwara	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9194/96]
(xiv) Hindon Gramin Bank, Ghaziabad	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9195/96]
(xv) Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9196/96]
(xvi) Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Tikamgarh	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9197/96]
(xvii) Banaskantha Mehsana Gramin Bank, Patan	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9198/96]
(xviii) Mahakausal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Narsingpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9199/96]
(xix) Nagaland Rural Bank, Kohima	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9200/96]
(xx) Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhiwani	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9201/96]
(xxi) Etah Gramin Bank, Etah	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9202/96]
(xxii) Sree Anantha Grameena Bank, Anantpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9203/96]
(xxiii) Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9204/96]
(xxiv) Yavatmal Grameena Bank, Yavatmal	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9205/96]
(xxv) Malwa Gramin Bank, Sangrur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9206/96]
(xxvi) Koraput Panchabati Gramin Bank, Jaypore	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9207/96]

(xxvii) Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bareilly	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9208/96]
(xxviii) Sravasthi Gramin Bank, Bahraich	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9209/96]
(xxix) Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bilaspur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9210/96]
(xxx) Kapurthala Ferozpur Gramin Bank, Kapurthala	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9211/96]
(xxxi) Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Gorakhpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9212/96]
(xxxii) Avadh Gramin Bank, Lucknow	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9213/96]
(xxxiii) Kashi Gramin Bank, Varanasi	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9214/96]
(xxxiv) Kalahandi Anchalika Gramya Bank, Bhawanipatna	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9215/96]
(xxxv) Mallabhum Gramin Bank, Bankura	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9216/96]
(xxxvi) Lakhimi Gaonlia Bank, Golghat	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9217/96]
(xxxvii) Palamu Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Daulatganj	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9218/96]
(xxxviii) Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Mainpuri	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9219/96]
(xxxix) Ellaquai Dehati Bank, Srinagar	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9220/96]
(xl) Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank, Bharuch	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9221/96]
(xli) Mayurakshi Gramin Bank, Birbhum	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9222/96]
(xlii) Bhagalpur Banka Gramin Bank, Bhagalpur	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9223/96]
(xlii) Viveshvarya Gramin Bank, Mandya	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9224/96]
(xliv) Bolangir Achalik Gramin Bank, Bolangir	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9235/96]
(xlv) Ratnagiri Sindhadurg Gramin Bank, Ratnagiri	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9226/96]

(10) A copy of each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year 1993-94, together with Auditors' report thereon :

(i) Ka Bank Nongkyandong Ri Kahasi Jaintia, Shillong	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9227/96]
(ii) Giridih Kschtriya Gramin Bank, Giridih	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9228/96]
(iii) Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Monghyr	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9229/96]
(iv) Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ratnagiri	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9230/96]

(11) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Trend and Progress of Housing in India June, 1993 under section 42 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9231/96]

(12) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India -- Union Government (No. 4 of 1996) -- for the year ended the 31st March, 1995 -- (Revenue Receipts - indirect Taxes).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9232/96]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India -- Union Government (No. 8 of 1996) -- for the year ended the 31st March, 1995 -- Defence services (Army and Ordnance Factories).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9233/96]

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Union Government (No. 9 of 1996) -- Defence Services (Air Force and Navy).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9234/96]

(13) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts (Union Government) of the Defence Services for the year 1994-95 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9235/96]

Annual Accounts and Review of the Working of Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi for the

year 1994-95 and the Statement, for delay in laying these papers.

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, on behalf of Shri Mallikarjun, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institut of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English Versions) by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9236/96]

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing, reason for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

Statement regarding action taken by the Government on assurances etc. given by Ministers during various Sessions of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha.

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 beg to lay on the Table :-

A copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on the assurance, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha:

1.	Statement No. XLI	Eleventh Session, 1988	Eighth Lok Sabha	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9237/96]
2.	Statement No. XXXI	Twelfth Session, 1988		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9238/96]
3.	Statement No. XXXIX	Thirteenth Session, 1989		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9239/96]
4.	Statement No. XXXVIII	Second Session, 1990	Ninth Lok Sabha	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9240/96]
5.	Statement No. XXVIII	Sixth Session, 1990		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9241/96]
6.	Statement No. XXVII	Seventh Session, 1991		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9242/96]
7.	Statement No. X XXII	First Session, 1991	Tenth Lok Sabha	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9243/96]
8.	Statement No. XXVII	Second Session, 1991		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9244/96]
9.	Statement No. XXVII	Third Session, 1992		[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9245/96]

10.	Statement No. XXV	Fourth Session, 1992	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9246/96]
11.	Statement No. XXIII	Fifth Session, 1992	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9247/96]
12.	Statement No. XXII	Sixth Session, 1993	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9248/96]
13.	Statement No. XVIII	Seventh Session, 1993	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9249/96]
14.	Statement No. XVII	Eighth Session, 1993	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9250/96]
15.	Statement No. XV	Ninth Session, 1994	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9251/96]
16.	Statement No. X	Eleventh Session, 1994	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9252/96]
17.	Statement No. VIII	Twelfth Session, 1994	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9253/96]
18.	Statement No. VI	Thirteenth Session, 1995	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9254/96]
19.	Statement No. III	Fourteenth Session, 1995	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9255/96]
20.	Statement No. I	Fifteenth Session, 1995	[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9256/96]

Tenth Lok
Sabha

14.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA (Patiala) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Forty-eighth sitting of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the current Session.

14.30 1/2 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

One hundred and Seventeenth, one hundred and eighteenth and one hundred and nineteenth reports

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : (Bomaby North) I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) :

(1) Hundred and Seventeenth Report on Action Taken on 85th Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Induction of an aircraft.

(2) Hundred and Eighteenth Report on Action Taken on 89th Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Tube Making Plant at Jabalpur.

(3) Hundred and Nineteenth Report on Action taken on 91st Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Customs Receipts--Drawback of duties--fraudulent drawback.

14.31 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Statement showing action taken by the Governments on the Committee's recommendations contained in the following reports of the Committee.

[Translation]

11. SHRI RAM NAIK : I beg to lay on the Table (Hindi and English versions) of the Statements showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies in respect of Chapter-V of the following Reports:-

(1) 69th Report (7th Lok Sabha) on Packing charges, under assessment of paper & paper boards, non-receipt of proof of export & aerated waters.

(2) 71st Report (7th Lok Sabha) on Union Excise Duties Fortuitous Benefits and Rubber Products.

(3) 109th Report (7th Lok Sabha) on Central Social Welfare Board.

(4) 132nd Report (7th Lok Sabha) on National Highways.

(5) 3rd Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Expensions of Vijayawada Trunk Automatic Exchange, Arrears of Telephone revenue and Excess billing STD--barring and Telephone complaints.

(6) 9th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Union Excise Duties.

(7) 30th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Central Railway Construction of Broad Gauge Railway line between Diva and Bassein road station and North Eastern Railway Gauge conversion from Samasthipur to Darbhanga.

(8) 58th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Incorrect deduction in respect of inter corporate dividends.

(9) 62nd Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Performance of suburban services of the Central Railway.

(10) 109th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on union Excise Duties irregular grant of exemption on production in small scale units for and on behalf of large scale units.

(11) 118th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Compensation claims arising from movement of foodgrain wagons.

(12) 126th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Procurement and Utilisation of Tank Wagons.

(13) 172nd Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Licensing of Land at Wadi Bunder to a firm.

(14) 174th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Tea Board.

(15) 185th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Five Star Hotel at Indira Gandhi Stadium Complex.

(16) 1st Report (9th Lok Sabha) on BOXN Wagons.

(17) 7th Report (9th Lok Sabha) on Customs Receipts--Working of inland customs bonded warehouses.

(18) 21st Report (9th Lok Sabha) on import and distribution of Fertilisers.

(19) 12th Report ((10th Lok Sabha) on Research Reactor Dhruva.

(20) 21st Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Impact of the central excise duty concessions in respect of man-made fibres and yarn in the Budget 1988 on prices.

(21) 59th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Procurement of defective imported parachutes.

(22) 63rd Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Export Processing Zones.

(23) 64th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Postal Services in Rural Areas.

(24) 69th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Union Excise Duties Non Levy/Short Levy of duty to incorrect grant of exemption Motor-Vehicles.

(25) 86th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Production of an armoured vehicle "Z", its gun and ammunition.

14.31½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

(i) Fifty-Second and Fifty-Third Reports

[English]

SQN. LDR. KAMAL CHAUDHARY (Hoshiarpur) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings :

(1) Fifty-Second Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-Seventh Report on Steel Authority of India Limited, -Bokaro Steel Plant.

(2) Fifty-Third Report on Steel Authority of India Limited -- Bhilai Steel Plant and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

[English]

(ii) Minutes

SQN. LDR KAMAL CHAUDHARY (Hoshiarpur) ; Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee the Public Undertakings relating to Procedural and Miscellaneous matters.

14.32¼ hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARMANGALAM (Salem) : Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee of Privileges.

14.32½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Twelfth Report

[English]

SHRI SATYENDRA NATH BROHMO CHAUDHURY (Kokrajhar) : Sir, I beg to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

14.32 ¾ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Sixth Report

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence on Defence Policy, Planning and Management.

14.33 hrs.

PETITION RE : PAYMENT OF SALARY AND ALLOWANCES TO DTC EMPLOYEES AND ENQUIRY INTO HUGE LOSSES INCURRED BY DTC MANAGEMENT DUE TO ALLEGED MASS COMPETITION.

[Translation]

SHRI N.K. BALIYAN (Muzaffarnagar) : Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Raj Pal Singh Rana, Vice President, DTC Karamachari Morcha and others, for payment of salary and allowances to DTC employees and inquiry into the huge loss incurred by DTC due to alleged mass Corruption by the management.

14.33 ½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) : *Need to Run The 'Bombay-Nagercoil Expresss'
Daily*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : In the last Budget Session, the then Railway Minister announced introduction of a new train known as 'Mumbai-Nagercoil Express' from Mumbai once a week.

Accordingly, the train was flagged off from Mumbai. It was relief to the persons hailing from Tirunelveli and staying at Mumbai particularly in the Dharavi Constituency which is a part of my Parliamentary Constituency. The experience, however, shows that this train is very much in demand and it is not sufficient to run the train once a week only.

I urge upon the Railway Ministry to run this train daily instead of once a week. It will give great relief to the persons staying at Mumbai and hailing from South.

(ii) *Need to provide licences for setting up of food processing industry in Saharsa district*

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra) : The number of unemployed youth is increasing day by day in Saharasa district of North Bihar in absence of any industry. A large number of people of Saharasa, Supaul and Madhepura are migrating to Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Bombay to earn their livelihood, thus their families are left here without any support. A variety of agricultural items are produced in my constituency which are transported in other parts of the country and also exported abroad but so far the Government have not set up any Food Processing Industry here. As a result of it farmers are compelled to sell their produce at throw away prices in Patna and other states and as a result thereof the people of this area who are not getting any incentive for their agricultural produce, are being compelled to migrate to other States for earning their livelihood.

I, therefore demand the central Government that licences should be issued for setting up food processing industries at Saharasa and Supaul districts for all-round development of this area, so that employment could be provided to unemployed local youth and farmers could get remunerative prices for their produce.

(iii) *Need to convert Jaipur airport into an international airport.*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the State Government of Rajasthan has transferred 248 bighas of land to the Airport Authority for extension of run-way of Jaipur airport so that it could be converted into an international airport. But so far the Airport authority has not taken any concrete step to convert it into an international airport.

I, therefore, request the central Government that Jaipur Airport should be converted into an international one at the earliest.

(iv) Need to provide financial assistance to Himachal Pradesh for canalization of swain and other small rivulets

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Swain river and its 73 tributaries in Una district of Himachal Pradesh cause heavy loss every year. During rainy season, Swain and its tributaries take a very dangerous turn and become the main cause of destruction in this district. People of this district have been demanding for the last several years for canalization of Swain and its tributaries but unfortunately, neither the Union Government nor the State Government has paid attention to this demand. As a result thereof, life and property worth crores of rupees is lost every year.

If swain river and its 73 tributaries are canalized, 28 thousand acres of land can be made fertile. Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government that sufficient funds may be made available for canalization of Swain river and its 73 tributaries so that this river could help in the development of the region instead of causing destruction.

(v) Need to increase the pension upto Rs. 200/- per month under oldmen's pension scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has implemented old-age Pension scheme for the old persons living below poverty line. But with this meagre amount of pension they are not able to make both ends meet.

I request the Union Government that the amount of pension may be increased at least up to rupees two hundred per month.

(vi) Need to maintain the status-quo of the Bhavani Cutcherry post office as delivery office.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Communications to the proposed merger of Bhavani Cutcherry Delivery Sub-office with delivery jurisdiction of Bhavani Head Post Office and conversion of Bhavani Cutcherry Sub-office into a 'No Delivery Sub-office' by the Postal authorities and put forth the following few lines for consideration.

Bhavani is in my parliamentary constituency of Gobichettipalayam in Tamil Nadu. There are two delivery post offices which were functioning till 18.10.1995. The decision of sudden merger of Bhavani Cutcherry Delivery sub-office has been taken on flimsy grounds by the Postal authorities. The Bhavani Cutcherry Delivery Sub-office is situated in an important locality. This merger will definitely create great hardship and inconvenience to the general public and business community. If this is implemented, the present accommodation at Bhavani Head Post Office will not be sufficient to cope up with the additional workload. The delivery office as a whole may be located at the central place and the proposed acquisition of land may be taken up speedily for construction of Mail Delivery Office.

It is learnt that there is a move to close down several Post Offices in Tamil Nadu circle especially in my parliamentary constituency. The handloom carpet weavers are also facing difficulty in sending their carpets due to non-availability of canvas bags.

I urge upon the Government to maintain the *status quo* until a separate Main Delivery Office at Bhavani Town is opened.

14.40 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first Reports

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, I bet to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce :

(1) Eighteenth Report of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Repeal) Bill, 1995;

(2) Nineteenth Report on Indo-SriLankan Trade Relations;

(3) Twentieth Report on Indo-Nepal Trade Relations; and

(4) Twenty-first Report on Leather Industry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kumari Mamta Banerjee was on her legs to speak. Now, may I request her to start the speech?

14.41 hrs.

MOTION RE: EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION AT GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE 'HAWALA CASE' AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you. At least you have allowed me to speak. I do not know whether it comes under the purview of breach of privilege of Members of Parliament to not to have allowed me while I was on my legs to say something on this motion. So many other hon. Members were allowed to take part on this motion. I do not know if such a thing had happened earlier also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kumari Mamata Banerjee, it is a matter of accommodation.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am not saying about seeking of clarifications on what the Prime Minister had said. I am saying about when they discussed about the motion and when I was on my legs to say something on that motion. The Chair allowed so many other Members, but I was not allowed. I am sorry to say that. I am grateful to you for having allowed me to speak.

First, I would like to say something about what I heard in so many speeches made by important leaders from the Opposition Parties as well as from our Party also. Somebody has said that the prestige of the country has gone down because of corruption. The message has gone to the world that India is a corrupt country. Corruption had been there everywhere. On earlier occasions also I have said that corruption is there everywhere. But it is within our country. We should not send a message to the outside world that India is a corrupt country. I register my protest at such things.

Sir, I would like to submit to you and through you to the House what Mr. Abraham Lincoln said. He said, "if you once forget the confidence of our fellow citizens you can never regain their respect and esteem. It is true that you can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time but you cannot fool all the people all the time." So, as a junior Member of this House I must remind my elders - who are respected persons -- that instead of saying 'thumbs up' they should not say 'thumbs up' -- that means, they should not bring down the prestige of the country. If there is an issue of corruption, the Government has to take action but it does not mean that India's prestige would go down in the eyes of the world for some political purpose. I strongly object

to such views because some politicians are trying to bring these issues before the elections. Everytime before the elections - history repeats itself - this type of issues have come. When late Rajivji was the Prime Minister then something came; and when Shri Narasimha Raoji is the Prime Minister, this *hawala* issue has come. Whoever is found guilty, the law will take action against them. We are not objecting to that but it is also a fact that India is our country and we are proud of our country. In this context, I would like to quote the words of the eminent American Philosopher, Willy Durnat, who has well said, "India was the Mother of our Philosophy". Then wrote the Zen Scholar, Dr. Suzuki in Japan, "the study of Japanese thought is the study of Indian thought." The famous Chinese author Lim Yufang wrote, "India was the China's Teacher in religion and imaginative literature."

Sir, we shall, therefore, neither fail nor falter. We will fight with all our sincerity and all our moral right and we shall not give up or give in. And we shall overcome. We would fight it out whatever may come. I have quoted these because we can say whatever we want to say, we have the right to say but again to condemn a particular individual means condemning a particular country.

That is why I have quoted all these things.

Sir, earlier also I spoke on the Vohra Committee Report, the Lokpal Bill State-funding of elections, and that the corrupt must go. The Vohra Committee Report is a very serious report. The Directors of CBI and the other enforcement branches, and others have said that one portion of politicians and one portion of industrialists are working together with the underground mafia and that is why the country's security is at stake. I am also of the same view. But we have got a small report from the Vohra Committee and we are yet to receive a detailed report. I do not know what is there is that, but it is a fact.

Somebody has stated that because of the Supreme Court verdict it has become clear that there is no confidence in the Prime Minister. I do not think so. The CBI, of course, is an impartial body. If a High Court or the Supreme Court asks the CBI to investigate into a matter, the CBI can do so without asking the Government. It is an independent agency and this is their power. Even if a State Government asks the CBI to go into the details or to investigate into a matter, the CBI can investigate into that matter. But they cannot always submit their report to the Prime Minister.

Sir, I quote one case. In the verdict given in the case of Inder Singh versus the State of Punjab of 1995, on page 312 paragraphs 18, the Supreme Court has stated that the report should not be submitted to any other person except the court. Sir, there are many verdicts that we have in the Supreme Court. What is this verdict that

the Supreme Court has given? Yes, I endorse Chandra Shekharji's view regarding the role of the Solicitor-General. Yes, we are in doubt. We have a doubt in our mind as to whether he is playing his role in a proper manner or there are some politics or some conspiracy behind it. I do not know but I think this.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem) : Let us not go into those things. If I may submit with the permission of the Deputy-Speaker, -- not that I am defending or not defending any individual -- he is a person belonging to my profession and he cannot come here and defend himself. As far as possible we should restrain from going into it.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am also a lawyer, Sir. I always plead the public interest cases, but not any other case.....(Interruptions)....I have not mentioned the name.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Constitutionally there is only one Solicitor-General.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I have not mentioned the name. Chandra Shekharji has said this in this very House. You will find it, if you go through the record. I am saying what Shri Chandrashekharji has said.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If it is objectionable, we will remove it from the record.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not at all objectionable, Sir, I endorse the view of Chandra Shekharji. We have to see and if there is anything wrong we have to correct it. We should not allow our country's prestige to go down. That is why I have said this. I have no intention to condemn any person. This man belongs to Bengal and I know him personally very well, but individual relation and country relation are different. That is why I have said so.

It is a fact that we need four reforms and I think Kumaramangalamji will endorse my views. Do not you think that you want these four reforms, the judicial reforms, the administrative reforms, the electoral reforms and the Lokpal? Without these reforms and without passing the Lokpal Bill, you cannot go for elections. If you go, you have to ask money from the people and from the industrialists.

The *hawala* person has a Madhay Pradesh based company and that is why somebody's name is there. If you go to any State, you will find diaries. Sir, you will be surprised to know that now a days everyday is purchasing diaries. They are writing the names of whoever they like because the one diary that has been found has high-

lighted that anybody can write the names of anybody he likes. I am a public representative. Suppose a common man comes to me and asks me, "Mamatji, you forward my letter for petrol pump." I do not do it and then he may be annoyed.

He can write or put my name in that diary. But there must be some proof; there must be some authenticity. It may happen to each and every person. We are not supporting corruption. But if you want to stop corruption, then you have to change the system because the system is getting collapsed now. Everybody has to appreciate that if you do not go for State funding of elections, then for fighting the elections you have to take money from some person or industrialists; you have to take money from the foreign countries. I want to know specifically from the Finance Minister or from the person who will give the reply as to which are the parties that are taking money from the foreign countries. Sir, this is a very serious allegation. I know there are some parties which are taking money from the foreign agencies and from the foreign countries. Sir, this is a very serious allegation. I know there are some parties which are taking money from the foreign agencies and from the foreign countries for their party expenditure. I do not discriminate whether it is Congress or BJP or CPM or Janata or Samata or any other party. I want to know in detail whether that it has to collect the report and submit it on the Table of the House for the sake of the knowledge of our countrymen.

In the Lokpal Bill, State funding should be included so that the people who can collect money, will just contest the elections and poor people cannot come because they do not have the money power and the muscle power. It should not be the definition of democracy. It cannot be the definition of democracy. So if we want proper democracy, proper democratic rights, then we have to pass this Lokpal Bill. I appeal and request all the hon. Members of this House to please pass the Lokpal Bill and please ask for State funding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I have taken just five minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are right. There are also others to participate. Please do not mistake the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I will just take a few minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Very good, okay.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : May I request the Government and at the same time, all the political leaders before passing this Lokpal Bill that they all sit together and just prepare a formula or a policy that through State funding the next election will be held? The message should go to the people that it is not out of the industrialists money, or out of the mafias' money that people are going to the Parliament. They are going to become Members otherwise also. Then only this corruption will stop. May I request all the party members including our Government that before passing this Lokpal Bill if they sit together and decide these things it will be proper for the country? The elder people are here, some junior members are also here; but if you do not accept the new generation, it will be very difficult in the near future for the people who will come to the Assembly or the Parliament, who will be the future of the country. That is why, the people are losing their confidence in the leaders.

Sir, I now want to raise a very important issue. The Finance Minister -- though he is not here now -- knows that recently at the inauguration of PILCOM Cricket World Cup took place in Calcutta. I want to know specifically whether PILCOM account has been in London with the concurrence of the Finance Ministry. A huge amount of Rs. 11 crore was paid to one Lunnetta. How was this money transferred? How was it done without tender? What was the deal behind it? I heard that to start a hotel in London this has been done as a joint venture. I want that investigation should be done regarding this.

My next point is whether it is a fact that -- because of the eye problem, I cannot see the Television -- they have shown India's map to the world, excluding the Kashmir portion. If it is a fact, then this is a serious violation of the Constitution. So, I want that punishment be given to these people and the Government must investigate the matter because those people do not have any authority to exclude Kashmir as Kashmir is very much with us.

So, I want a correct report from the Ministry.

Sir, there are some politicians who go on foreign tours every year. For what purpose are they going? They stay in private hotels, specifically, in Switzerland. A norm is followed for going to foreign countries. If any Government agency or any private agency invite anybody, they can stay there for six days. The RBI has specifically fixed this norm. But, there are important Leaders who stay there for 100 or 200 days. For what purpose? How many Leaders have gone to Switzerland on such private tours? They have stayed for quite a number of days. The blacklisted industrialists borne for their boarding, lodging and every other thing.

As far as *hawala* case is concerned, strong action should be taken against those people who are involved in this. We also want that wherever corruption is their, strict action should be taken.

Lastly, I am sorry to say that a hungry man has no sense of beauty and a greedy politician who has no credibility and who has no sense of duty should talk about morals, should talk about values. You find out whether they maintain their values or not. I would like to say that when Iqbal -- the famous Urdu Poet -- died, his mother was very poor.

[Translation]

She had done a lot for her son. When Iqbal was in a position to look after his mother, she died. Iqbal felt pained and then he wrote :

"Umrabhar Teri Mohabbat Meri Khidmat Karti Rahi,
Par Jab Teri Khidmat Karne Ke Kabil Hua To Tu Chal Basi."

[English]

This means, you have done everything for me but when I have to pay back something for you, you died. So, I want to say that you can speak whatever you want to speak but do not forget that our country's prestige should be thumbs down instead of thumbs up.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the subject under discussion is a very serious one. I would like to say that there are some conventions of our Parliament.

15.00 hrs.

The Prime Minister is held in high esteem in the country. At the same time, he is the leader of the House. I would like to remind you of the glorious tradition of this House that when a question of misdemeanour or misconduct about any member comes up, the history of this House reveals that Parliament comes to grip with the situation. In this regard, I also want to remind this House and the citizens of the country that in 1951, the only fault of Shri Mudgal, a member of Congress Party, was that he had used Parliament to help a business house of Mumbai. The then Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru had called him to his office. When the Prime Minister was not satisfied with his clarification, the matter came up in the Parliament. That dealing involved less than ten thousand rupees. I want to tell the House, how Shri Mavalankar had dealt with that issue. Shri Mavalankar had constituted a special committee to assess the extent to which the conduct of Shri Mudgal, had damaged the reputation of Parliament. I would like to read out the observation of Shri Mavalankar before this House and countrymen.

[English]

Mavalankar has observed:

"Even though there is a Committee on Privileges constituted under the rules, yet it is within the powers of the special circumstances and inquires to be made. There is nothing inconsiderate in that. Moreover, it is a moot question to be considered whether any such conduct as alleged is really the sense of breach of privilege of the House or is something different. A Member behaved in a manner in which the House would not like him to behave and yet it may be argued that it is not a breach of privilege.

In all such circumstances, the practice in the House of Commons has been to constitute a special Committee and the procedure of making a motion is a procedure that is usually adopted in the House of Commons, even though there is a Committee on Privileges."

[Translation]

An allegation was levelled on the conduct of Shri Mudgal that he had used Parliament for an amount less than ten thousand rupees. He was a member of the Congress Party. This is not a question of a particular party, it has become a question of Parliament. I thank the first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru for he was not satisfied with the clarification given by Shri Mudgal and the issue came up in Parliament. Shri Mavalankar had constituted a Committee which found Shri Mudgal guilty. However, Shri Mudgal had resigned before he could be censured. Later, he was censured for giving resignation. All this happened in 1951 in the Provisional Parliament. Today, allegation has been levelled against the Prime Minister. The Leader of the Opposition Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee first raised this issue outside the Parliament and later, in the Parliament also. There are allegations about bribing of Members also. Now the question is, as to how this Parliament would deal with such an allegation. This aspect is yet to be debated upon. I would like to say that the Provisional Parliament had taken right step about the conduct of Shri Mudgal. It does not augur well for the country that allegations are being levelled against the Prime Minister outside as well as inside the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when Shri Atal spoke on this issue, I was in my constituency. There, the people asked for my comments on the allegations levelled against the Prime Minister, involving an amount of rupees three crore. I told them that I would not say anything in this regard there because I would be going to Parliament. Today, I am speaking on the allegation but the Prime Minister is keeping mum. Is it

good for a Parliamentary democracy? Our Parliament keeps the country united. It is our supreme institution. We feel proud in saying before the world that in India, Parliamentary democracy has strengthened its roots and it would continue to prosper ahead. Therefore, my submission is that --

[English]

This Parliament must come to grips and this House must come to grips with the misconduct of a Member.

[Translation]

The allegation levelled against the Prime Minister are much more serious than the allegation made against Shri Mudgal. Why the Prime Minister is keeping mum? Shri Mavalankar had then quoted the practice in vogue in the House of Commons. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now want to touch upon Profumo issue.

[English]

Mr. Profumo was the Defence Minister of England.

[Translation]

What was his fault. His fault was that he had lied before the Parliament. A meeting of the Conservative Party was called and he was asked to seek an apology before the House of Commons. Thereafter, he was divested of his Defence portfolio as well as the membership of the House of Commons. Then he resigned from both the positions. Later, it was revealed that he had illicit relations with a woman named, Christeen Keelas, who was an agent of K.G.B. When this issue was raised in the House of Commons, a Committee under the Chairmanship of a world famous judge, Lord Denning was constituted. It also looked into the loopholes in the security system. I am not saying that allegations of corruption against the Prime Minister have been proved. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, I would like to read out before this House the views of a constitutional jurist of world fame, Lord Iverjenings, who said :

[English]

"The most elementary qualification demanded of a Minister is honesty and incorruptibility. It is, however, necessary not only that he should possess this qualification but also appear to possess it".

[Translation]

Besides we are proud of late Hidaytullah who was the Chief Justice of India. When an issue of allegations against several Ministers of Bihar came up, he had observed :

[English]

"It cannot be stated sufficiently that the public life of persons in authority must never admit of such charges being framed against them. If they can be made, then an inquiry whether to establish this or clear the name of persons charged is called for justice."

[Translation]

Hidaytulla stated that :

[English]

An enquiry must be made.

[English]

I think, I will not be wrong, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if Mr. Prime Minister, according to these norms, subjects himself for an inquiry by an independent authority, by a judicial authority.

[Translation]

Why did not he do so? The way Parliamentary traditions were upheld in the Mudgal case is indicative of the glorious tradition of this House. The countrymen should not get the impression that this House is composed of all crooks. The Prime Minister of India represents 90 crore people. Will it add to the glory of India if such charges are published in "The New York Times of America or "The Times" of London? Our Cabinet Minister Shri Venkat Swamy is present here. Was it not imperative on the part of the Prime Minister, in the capacity of the Leader of the House to subject himself to the inquiry of a special Committee, like the then Prime Minister Nehru ji who had moved a motion with regard to Mudgal case upholding the glorious traditions of the House. We expect from the Prime Minister :-

[English]

He should rise to the occasion and subject himself to judicial enquiry since allegations have been levelled against him by no less a person than the Leader of the Opposition.

[Translation]

I would like to ask why it was not done? How shall this country be run? For we, Indians--

[English]

Parliamentary democracy is a way of life.

[Translation]

It is not a question of votes alone. It is a way of life for us. A German based organisation called 'Transparency International' has included India, Pakistan, Philippines and United States in the list of corrupt countries. Is it good for our country and Parliament? Is C.I.A. wrong in forecasting that India will disintegrate? I do not believe in the credibility of C.I.A. because--

[English]

Cynics and prophets of doom all over the world are conspiring against India. Should we fall in the trap?

[Translation]

The countrymen are today confronted with a question of.

[English]

to be or not to be.

[Translation]

Shall the country's Parliamentary democracy move ahead successfully or shall we allow the country to disintegrate for the sake of a handful of Ministers?

I would like Venkat Swamy ji to request the Prime Minister - who is conspicuous by his absence-on my behalf to go through the ruling given by Mavalankar ji in Mudgal case and the speech delivered by Nehru ji at that time and let his conscience to decide the direction.

[English]

Let his conscience be his guide.

[Translation]

The Prime Minister is not ordinary person but he is Prime Minister of a country whose civilization is 5000 years old.

[English]

He should step down till a judicial authority clears him. He should step down as the Prime Minister. This is the minimum thing that he should do in service of parliamentary democracy. He should step down. There is no other go for him. Let him behave as an elderly statesman and Leader of the House which has a name in the world for its parliamentary democracy.

[Translation]

Therefore I have hope and I would only like to say that :-

[English]

In the interest of Parliamentary democracy and in the interest of probity in public life, I would request the Prime Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, to step down till a judicial authority or competent authority of the House clears him of the charges that have been levelled against him by the Leader of the Opposition, both outside the House and inside the House.

[Translation]

Why did not he file a defamation suit against Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee for having commented against him outside the House? Therefore, I say that we should take inspiration from the precedents set in the Parliament.

The Prime Minister should step down, at least to uphold democratic values and maintain Parliamentary democracy.

[English]

He should step down till an independent judicial authority or an independent Committee as has been envisaged by Shri Mavalankar in Mudgal case clears him of his charges.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now hon. Rabi Ray said that though we adopted British pattern of democracy but did not imbibe their spirit. The Prime Minister says that in Hawala case merely filing of chargesheets does not establish conviction of a person. It is for the Supreme Court to decide whether one is guilty or not, yet it remains a fact that there has been a scandal of Rs. 5000 crores.

15.16 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the country, is plagued with scandals today. We procured sugar from the international market when its price was too high, though there was enough stock of sugar in the country. A scandal of thousands of crores of rupees was involved in it. Where did the money that came through Hawala in this deal go? The same is the case of urea deal wherein we did not procure urea when its price was \$ 202 per tonne but procured it at the rate of \$ 246 per tonne. All the Hawala transactions will be unfolded once Chandraswamy is arrested.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would cite a recent C.B.I. case. One smuggler brother of the ex-Chief Minister of Goa was chased by a Customs official named Fernandes

while the former was smuggling gold worth Rs. eight crore but some people fired at the smuggler and killed him. The C.B.I. framed a concocted case against the Customs official. In this regard, the Supreme Court in its decision passed strictures against the C.B.I. The C.B.I. was asked to file a false case because the then Government of Goa needed Congress support for remaining in power. Justice Ansaria of the Apex Court, while, raising the curtain over this case said that this case has shown that the C.B.I. can frame false cases and do injustice. All these proofs are before the Supreme Court.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not take much time. I do not want to misuse the time allotted to me. This is for the first time in the country that people have become despondent and they are repenting their decision of not electing the right person to rule the country. Therefore, Sir, through you, I would like to urge in the House that there should be no pressure on the C.B.I. and it should be allowed to function free from any pressure. The entire House should support this view.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while concluding my speech, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue has baffled the entire nation. The names are well-known and I will not mention those names. Some of them are no more in this world. This *hawala* issue has got very large ramifications. It has brought disrepute of our nation in the comity of world nations. This has also made people to have a very low opinion about the politicians including those at higher positions and equally important is one of the premier investigating agencies, the C.B.I., created through an Act of Parliament, has lost its credibility among the people. The people are unable to understand the ineffectiveness that has overtaken the C.B.I. which, though during emergency has exceeded its limits, yet during the subsequent periods, by and large, was having the reputation among the people. But it was really surprising why it kept quiet for so long a period. This has given rise to very serious questions also because it is proved beyond any doubt. These are not allegations by the Opposition. We are not accusing that so and so have taken so many crores or so many lakhs. This has come out of some search and it is now clear that this *hawala* money is going to finance the terrorists and the anti-national elements working in Jammu and Kashmir and in other parts of the country. And the same persons are able to give money to politicians in high positions.

Sir, it is really a perturbing thing to find that some senior Secretaries have taken money and a former C.B.I. Director also has received money. This is really

alarming. These *hawala* revelations have also proved that foreign companies are able to influence the decisions of our big public sector undertakings through some politicians and bureaucrats. That is also established beyond any doubt and close on the heels has come the Supreme Court judgement of 1st March.

Sir, I have carefully heard when the Prime Minister was intervening in the debate. I cannot really understand and I am surprised with what face, with what sense, this Government is still continuing in the position and more so the Prime Minister. You will excuse me if, I say that the careful reading of the judgment of the Supreme Court indicts the Prime Minister who is having the administrative control over the C.B.I. For lack of time, I do not wish to repeat, but he has said; "to eliminate any impression of bias and avoid erosion of credibility."

That means the court, in its wisdom, has come to some opinion that because the CBI is not acting impartially or is acting with some bias, with some selectivity and has lost credibility among the people, and, at the behest of some high official or some high politician, it is acting like that, that made it to give this judgement. Has the Supreme Court ever given such a judgement in the past? Is it not really shameful? I am unable to understand this. It has also said that these records should be kept in safe custody, under lock and key. That means it has felt that there may be some possibility of tampering with these vital documents. That means the CBI's ineffectiveness is proved beyond any doubt. The hon. Prime Minister is in charge of the CBI. The CBI is directly under his control. So, the Supreme Court judgement is a reflection on the functioning of the Prime Minister. That is what I want to say.

He has read the Supreme Court judgement but he evaded to give his version as to what are the circumstances that led the Supreme Court to give such a judgement. If I am permitted to say so, it has clearly censured the CBI and the Prime Minister, though in very soft words.

He has also read out: "We also place on record the further statement made by the learned Solicitor General on instructions from the CBI Director that neither the CBI Director nor any of his officers has been reporting to any authority." I want to know whether the CBI and its Director not reporting to the Prime Minister till 1.3.1996. How can we accept such an argument? That means he was failing in his duty. And how is the Prime Minister keeping quiet? How can he allow the CBI not to inform the administrative head of that department, that is, the Prime Minister? This a *modus operandi* which enables the Prime Minister to directly reply to this House.

To avoid the charge or the allegation that the Leader of the Opposition has levelled here, that is that on 11th March, 1995 Mr. S.K. Jain while he was deposing before the CBI had stated that he paid moneys to the Prime Minister of this country and on his advice, to some

X and Y, the Prime Minister has taken this opportunity to mention this. This is most unfortunate.

Just now Shri Rabi Ray, the former Speaker, said about Mudgal and that incident. Here I would appeal to the Prime Minister that the prestige of the whole nation is at stake. If they do not rise to the occasion. .. (Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : He rose and went away.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Yes, unfortunately he has gone away. What I suggest is that he must step down voluntarily, at least after this judgement given by the Supreme Court of India on 1st March, 1996. He should not wait for a minute to continue in that position.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the quorum bell be rung.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now there is a quorum in the House. Shri V.S. Rao may please resume his seat. He will continue his speech after the Private Member Business.

.....(Interruptions)

15.30½ hrs

[English]

MOTION RE : FORTY - EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th February, 1996"

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Committee of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th February, 1996.

The motion was adopted.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I have a request to make. The discussion on the Resolution on sick industries is going on from last July. We should close it, finish it off today and come on to the next subject.

15.35 hrs.

**RESOLUTION RE : REVIVAL OF SICK PUBLIC
SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS -- CONTD.**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before further discussion is resumed on the Resolution by Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri regarding revival of sick public sector undertakings, I would like to mention that 6 hours and 55 minutes have already been taken on this Resolution and the time allotted was 6 hours and 30 minutes. On the previous occasion hon. Minister of Industry, Shri K. Karunakaran intervened in the debate on the Resolution. The Mover of the Resolution, Shri Raychaudhuri will now reply to the debate.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Let us go to the next subject.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South)
Sir, we have already given notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are requesting you.

....(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, we want to speak something. Why are you not allowing?

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are requesting you.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, if we want to speak something, it is because we are facing this trouble. Why do you not allow five to ten minutes? We will speak only for 10 minutes.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : It is the practice of the House if some Members want to speak on any Resolution, they are allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : The House does not curtail the right of the Members....(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : The ruling party wants to avoid the next Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please understand. Please take your seats. Shri Raychaudhuri, please take your seat.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mamata Banerjee has made a very valid point. Many requests are before me that this

being a very important subject many Members want to participate.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to me. I have not given my ruling finally. The point is that the practice of the House is that after the intervention of the Minister, then it is only the Mover of the Resolution who can reply. Please understand. The hon. Minister was also raising this question. I cannot agree on further discussion on this matter. The Minister's interventions is over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What I want is Mr. Raychaudhuri to continue and conclude this. For This, we may extent the time of discussion on this resolution at least by 30 minutes, if the House agrees.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, that is enough, we cannot waste our time like this. So, with the consent of the House, I have extended the time for another 30 minutes. Now Mr. Raychaudhuri may reply.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): At the outset, let me express my gratitude and thanks to those of my hon. colleagues and hon. Minister also who took part in this debate, on this very important Resolution and made some useful comments and gave some important suggestions which only reflect genuine concerns of all of us present in this House over the state of affairs in our public sector units. I would have been happier if the hon. Minister had come forward with some concrete proposals on how to revive the public sector units. One may wax eloquently on the plight of lakhs of workers involved in these sick public sector undertakings whose fate and future is totally bleak and uncertain. But unless one takes some concrete steps, some concrete policy for revitalising these industries and have some sense of gratitude towards these industries who built this modern India, then it is a matter of shame. This Government's policy appears to liquidate public sector in the name of reforms and what is dangerous, Sir, our foreign *gurus* like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund are not satisfied even with these pace of reforms.

In the latest report of the World Bank they are advising us to move faster on this so-called reforms. I can recall what Mr. Roland Brown, the US Commerce Secretary who came to this country last year said. He suggested that unless we first reform our public sector industries, we will not be able to achieve the goal of

globalisation and liberalisation. Anyway, under the present circumstances I do not want to repeat what I have said earlier in my opening statement. At this stage, I would like to have some clarifications, particularly, in the light of what the hon. Minister had said in his reply on 8th December 1995. The hon. Industry Minister, in his reply on that day, said :

"The interest of public sector workers is of utmost concern to the Government. National Renewal Fund deals with the immediate requirements of labour in sick units arising from the revival or closure of such units. Assistance is provided for schemes, for workers, counselling retraining and redeployment."

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many of the workers have been retrained and redeployed during these years. I want to know this because without such coarse statistics, we cannot simply go on eulogizing this National Renewal Fund.

Sir, then the hon. Minister again stated:

"The revival plans approved by the BIFR in regard to some of the PSUs are not being implemented because the banks and the financial institutions are not willing to provide financial assistance."

What is the real picture? In the BIFR, as all of us know, the Government, the banks, the financial institutions, the workers, the management, all of them are represented in various capacities. After a series of hearings the revival plan is made where the Bench receives approval from all the representatives, including the promoters, that is, the Government of India. After that how can the banks and the financial institutions refuse to offer money?

Then, the Government also is providing counter guarantee not in all cases, but only in selected cases. Now, the Government is an indivisible whole. One arm of the Government is accepting the revival plan and the other arm, in the form of the banks and the financial institutions, is refusing to offer money. The same Government is not offering counter guarantees to all cases. Moreover, what is the business of the Group of Ministers? It appears that even after the receipt of the revival plan from the BIFR, the Group of Ministers is having a case-to-case study in order to decide whether the money will be provided or not. The banks are also playing the same game. So, I would like to ask the hon. Industry Minister whether these banks and the financial institutional are super-BIFR or we are treating the BIFR as a *charade* and nothing else. The Industry Minister stated that the revival plans approved by the BIFR in regard to some of the PSUs are not being implemented because the banks and the financial institutions are not willing to provide financial assistance.

He further said :

"The hon. Member, Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri, while moving the Resolution has said that the Government is not performing its role as promoter for revival of sick PSUs. This assertion is not correct and is emphatically denied."

Then he went on

"The Government have already agreed for the revival of nine PSUs, namely Braithwaite, Bharat Brakes and Valves, Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd., and others with infusion of fresh capital besides write off of past losses, etc."

Sir, what is the real fact. Is the Government of India really performing the role of a promoter? I would give you just one example. Only the other day on 6th March, there was a hearing in BIFR on Bharat Process Mechanical. Here, there was an earlier notice of winding up. But the BIFR is now reconsidering the case and finding out whether a fresh revival plan can be made. The Bench in its hearing asked the promoter -- the Government of India that is such revival scheme can be formulated whether it would offer some money to implement it. The promoter - the Government of India -- neither said, 'yes' nor said, 'no'. It seems that the *moni baba* syndrome has caught the entire Government of India in its web.

Then what is the case of Reyrolle Burn? This is a case where the Government's indecisions has escalated the revival cost from Rs. 4 crore to Rs. 7 crore. After 10 months of indecision, the performing promoter, the Government finally refused to act as a promoter and the unit is facing the fate of receiving winding up notice from the BIFR. The Minister stated that the Government has accepted the revival plan for nine PSUs. But what is the real position? In the cases of Braithwaite and Bharat Brakers, the performance sanctioned schemes of BIFR are not being implemented as per schedule which is likely to effect the prospects of the scheme.

Sir, all of us know the case of NTC. It is a classic case of Government's indecision. The BIFR in its last hearing stated.

"In order to make a worthwhile rehabilitation scheme so as to ensure the long term viability of all the units of NTC, WBABO the waiver of outstanding NTC headquarter Government loans is imperative."

Now this came on November 27, 1995. During the last four to five months what was the Government doing on this? It has been reported that the Government and the trade unions have requested the BIFR to reconsider

this decision. Even the Consultative Committee took an unprecedented step of going to the Bench to move a resolution so that the BIFR may change its earlier decision. But what is the real fact. The accumulated interest Sir, if you are interested to know -- is Rs. 115.58 crore. Since the incorporation of this subsidiary in 1974, the Government of India was charging interest on unsecured loans at the rate of .25 per cent. Suddenly in 1992-93, these are the years when the entire NTC is in the midst of unprecedented crisis -- what did the Government do? It increased the interest rate from .25 per cent to 18 per cent. This an interest burden totalling Rs. 115.58 crore has been accumulate. I must offer thanks to the Government - the then Textile Minister -- that from 1994-95 they have allowed total interest holiday.

But what about the earlier accumulated interest? Now, the Government is not doing what the BIFR has asked the Government to do. It is just passing a resolution asking the BIFR to change its old decision. How can it be possible? Regarding the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, it is awful that the Minister stated :--

"Government have already agreed for the revival of PSUs, namely Braithwaite, Bharat Brakes and Valves and Bharat Ophthalmic Glass."

Sir, I must say that I have the highest regard and sympathy for our hon. Industry Minister. But while he was replying either he was ignorant of the fact or he made some incorrect submission euphemistically. Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited has gone for Liquidation on 14.02.96. Why? The liquidation order has been issued, though the Government has been assuring that a revival plan is under consideration. Then, Sir, in the case of Bharat Brakes and Valves, the latest sanction scheme is there. But the Government is not offering money. Under the circumstances, how can we claim that the Government has done whatever is to be done for revitalising the sick PSUs?

Sir, I want to refer to the case of MAMC. Only two or three days earlier, we have seen a Press report that our hon. Industry Minister has written to the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal that since the BIFR has issued a closer notice, the Government is helplessly winding up MAMC. What is the fact? In the last hearing of BIFR on 1.1.95, what did the Bench observe?

"In the light of the submission made in today's hearing and after perusing the record of the case, the Bench noted that the Promoter-Ministry has taken a decision not to induct further funds for the revival of the company and for operating agencies "

All the efforts made by the operating agency to locate an alternate management to take over the company have also not yielded any result. There is, therefore, no proposal for rehabilitation of the Government. So, why do you blame BIFR for no faults from theirs? BIFR made this observation that this Government has taken no decision. Sir, in other cases also, I can refer to that, the Government has not taken the right decision at the right moment or, I am afraid, the Government has taken the right decision at the right moment or, I am afraid, the Government has taken the right decision to liquidate these units.

Sir, then, what about the statutory dues? The Minister, in his reply, observed that for National Renewal Fund etc., assistance is provided for :--

'Workers' compensation payments including VRS and statutory dues in cases of closer or revival.'

But the fact which remains is that workers of Jessop MAMC., Burn Standard National Textile Corporation etc. are not getting their gratuity and P.F. retirement. There an attempt is being made to link up the payment of those retirement benefits with revival schemes in BIFR. As you know, this is a gross violation of the statute, that is, Payment of Gratuity Act. You are violating this. There is also chronic non-payment of wages and dues etc., there is irregular payment and non-payment.

Employees of affected units of Burn Standard, National Instruments, Rurolle Burn, CCIL and NTC are not getting their monthly wages in time. This is the fact. About NTC, I have my direct experience. For months together they are not receiving any sort of wage.

Under the circumstances, I would like to have some clarification on two or three points. It has always been said that the Government would be treating PUCs and private sector on par. But what is funny is that certain industries like Fertiliser or Coal are being referred to BIFR. Now, you know, that pricing in these industries is administered. So, when these units are being referred to BIFR, we are ignoring the fact that the pricing of the products of these units is made not as per commercial profitability. They cannot compete. Their pricing is administered pricing. Because of some social reasons, we also share that logic. But how come that these particular public sector units are being referred to BIFR and they are being asked this question "Why are you not profitable?" Then, what would be the Government's policy on holding on operations? These days, as you know that any unit, when referred to BIFR is a sort of stigma as if it is ostracised in the family of industries. Banks and financial institutions refuse to offer money. They do not offer money. It is a credit on the part of the

public sector undertakings that even in the midst of this crisis, they are getting orders. They had with them orders for about Rs. 4 crores. They have their orders. Jessop have their orders. But to execute such orders, they need some working capital. But they are ostracised. They are stigmatised. Nationalised banks and national financial institutions are not going to offer money to them. So, how about the holding on operation for these? They are not getting bridge finance. Suppose a day on which that particular revival plan is sanctioned and they day on which that particular revival plan starts being implemented, there is wide gap between these two days. During this whole period, when the particular unit has been sanctioned revival plan, even after that, the factory is under a virtual closure. After six months, or eight months, one year or two years, when the chips are down, when the revival plan actually starts operating or implementing, you find the machines are being dilapidated, bushes all around and nothing can be done. Cost has escalated. This is the positions.

One thing more. Have you ever calculated the social cost of replacement of these public sector undertakings? If 'X' public sector which has been producing certain essential items which we require for our economic uplift and economic self-sufficiency, is being closed, we are not offering money for its revivatisation. You require its products. But these would be produced by some private sector undertakings. What is the social cost involved?

16.00 hrs.

When you are liquidating such important Central Public Sector Undertakings, fundamental Public Sector Undertakings, you are not considering, you are not computing the social cost of replacing this institution by some other Private Sector Undertakings. So, these are the problems. Under the circumstances, Sir, through you, I would like to have some concrete clarifications on my concrete suggestions, on my concrete questions. So, this is all at this moment that I want to say. I require concrete reply from the hon. Minister.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Thank you, Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri. I think the hon. Minister has already intervened. If any specific point is there, if he wants to clarify he may do so.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : He has raised some points just now. Certain clarifications are required from the Minister.....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : About the Braithwaite Company, there is a revival package to the extent of Rs. 26.68 crore. Has that revival package been approved? Not a pie has been paid. Therefore, we want clarifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri has raised certain points. If the hon. Minister wants to reply, I can permit him.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He should.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these points were already covered. If the hon. Minister wants to reply, he can.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore) : I raised the points on the basis of his reply. These are all *ex post facto* questions....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister is on his legs. Please take your seats.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, last time, I had made our positions very very clear. The Government's intention is..

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You would wind up all these industries?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Minister.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I had made it very clear. Consequent on that, I had an occasion to convene the trade union leaders' meeting wherein the representatives of the Public Sector Undertakings like the Chairman and the Managing Directors etc. were present. As you all know, this is a problem which has to be carefully looked into. With the cooperation of all, we should try our best as far as possible, I am saying not to close an Undertaking. Unfortunately, as on 31.03.1994, the number of loss-making Public Sector Undertakings was 117. I hope the hon. Member will agree with me that some Public Sector Undertakings from his own State were in a very bad condition, which were about to be liquidated. But still through the Government intervention, we have revived them and to push through.

The hon. Member has mentioned certain Undertakings which have certain problems. Basically, I may say one thing. When the revival scheme was submitted before the BIFR, they accepted the scheme. But unfortunately even though representatives of the banks were present there, when they went back and processed the proposal which they also accepted, unfortunately, this has not been implemented; it is not possible to implement in *toto*. So, we want certain clarifications.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Why? The banks were represented in the BIFR.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Please hear me. You are asking me: "Why?"...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow the Minister to complete. If you go on asking questions like this, he cannot complete. Please do not interrupt like this.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : You are asking. "Why?" I am repeating that. Some of the representatives who were present in the BIFR, though they agreed, after some time, going through the project, raised certain doubts.

They want certain clarifications.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Do you mean to say that without going through the project they agree?
.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : One at a time please. What is this? What is going on here?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : I admire the candidness of the hon. Minister. But how come the representatives representation a particular bank, the highest body like the BIFR, speak in such a casual manner? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : You please hear me...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Minister speak.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : I admire your candidness. I am sorry for your helplessness.
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Raychaudhuri, please take your seat. Please do not interrupt him like this. Please listen to him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : I think, this is not a forum for cross-examining...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I am telling you certain facts that the BIFR is an organisation with certain quasi-judicial powers. It is not a part of the Government. The BIFR, after going through the project, primarily accepts the report. Then, of course, the scheme is referred to certain agencies including the banks. They asked for certain clarifications. I did not say that they refused it. I am explaining why the delay is taking place. It is not purely because of delay. inordinate delay. I can place before you a number of undertakings which we have already revived.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How many?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The extended time is also coming to a close. Please understand that. I think, the hon. Minister has replied to most of the points made.

(Interruptions)..

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Out of 91 central undertakings, how many have you revived?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Fourteen undertakings have already been revived.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How many are there in West Bengal?

MR. CHAIRMAN : This question is not allowed. What kind of a question are you putting? This is a general question about all the PSUs.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Most of the undertakings are from West Bengal.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : How many?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : You please tell me, which are the undertakings in which we did not implement the scheme.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : you yourself have replied about the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited. Why is it liquidated? Why are you offering them?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may not be satisfied with it.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. This is very unfortunate. Your colleague has moved the Resolution. He has got a right to ask certain questions. Please do not interrupt him like this.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We also have got right to ask questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Unless the Chair allows you, you do not have right.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Regarding the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, the BIFR has recommended for its closure. But the Government did not agree with it.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Why?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : The Government did not agree because the Government is very keen that the workers should be employed and the public sector undertakings should not be closed. That is the reason for it. The BIFR has taken its stand. But we did not agree with Ministers?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about the group of Ministers?

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : That is all right. That means, you have not agreed with the liquidation notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to listen to this, otherwise, you will not understand. You allow the Minister to complete this. He is reading out the list.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Now two days back, representatives were there. We had a detailed discussions day before yesterday and certain suggestions were made to revive that factory. We have decided to go before the Committee and also for appeal.

I assure you, whatever is possible - humanly possible, I may say - we will revive it at any point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Very good.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I want to have one clarifications ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I am very sorry, I am not expected to reply in kind... *(Interruptions)*.. All the trade union representatives were there. They agreed with me. All the officers - Chairmen and Managing Directors - were there. We had a detailed discussion and all of us agreed that at any cost we should revive it. There are procedures to be adopted which we will be doing ... *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I want only one clarification.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the hon. Minister has completed.

... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, we have made our position very clear that we will not be a party to close the factory. Last time I put certain conditions. But finally, if nobody is coming forward, even workers are not prepared to go for it, then the only solution left with us is to give sufficient compensation and close it. But that will be our last resort. So, we are trying to run the factory.

Sir, I am glad to say that some of the factories are coming up -- not only coming up but coming up very well. So, I request the workers that they should cooperate. After giving some undertakings, some of the undertakings' production has gone down but I have not taken it seriously. The representatives promised me that they would make it and certainly increase the production.

If you want any information regarding any undertakings...

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : we want all information about all the undertakings.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, one question please ... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please. Please take your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. You are not allowed to raise any question now, please. The Minister may complete.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, I may tell you that we have taken action. Action is progressing. It is in different stages. We hope we will be more able to finish it within a short time and I may also assure regarding what the hon. Member was mentioning about arrears and wages... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing else other than what the hon. Minister says is going on record.

... *(Interruptions)**

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : About the arrears also, we have given instructions two days before, and the money is made available to be paid. So, do not bother about it. We assure you that we will do the maximum to protect the interests of the workers and also will avoid closure. Whatever is possible, is being done and in future also, stage by stage, we will be doing it...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, fortunately, from West Bengal - I am happy to say all the trade union representative came together and sat with us. We had detailed discussion together and all of them agreed that the action by the Government will be satisfactory. They have assured me that their cooperation would be there. So, with their full cooperation, I assure the hon. Members and the House that we will fulfil the promise which we have given to you...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, one thing, we do not know...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seats?

Hon. Members, we have far exceeded the time.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Suseelaji, please take your seat. We have to go by the rules. We have far exceeded time allotted for this Motion. We cannot continue now.

...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Listen Mr. Raychaudhuri. Without extending further time for this, which the House has not agreed, the House has agreed to extend it by 30 minutes. We have exceeded by 10 minutes, please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : you can reply to one question, i.e., whether you are prepared to withdraw in view of the reply. That is all.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : One more request I have to make...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Unless you give a firm assurance that the Government would not wind up any of the public sector undertakings, how can he withdraw? he cannot withdraw.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, okay, you take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He has not given any firm assurance...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I cannot say about all undertakings. I have suggested a certain method which should be followed. Finally I think except four undertakings, all the others can be revived straightway. Regarding the four ones some technical problems are there. I have told this to the trade union representatives. There were complaints from the trade union representatives that they were not properly heard, their grievances were not discussed by certain officers-not all- and by and large they are accepted. Immediately I instructed officers that whatever be the circumstances, when the trade union representatives want to say something on behalf of the workers, no Managing Director or any other officer should deny it, he should hear them. That instruction is also there. What I may tell you is, I am at your disposal, you can come and tell me whenever you find an occasion.(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think that is already covered.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have finished....

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the hon. Minister has completed the speech.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : The only thing I tell the hon. Minister is, we have done our best, we are doing it, further if anything is to be said, please come before us, we will sort it out. My request is, on the assurance given by me, on the basis of the assurance given by the Government, the hon. Member may withdraw Resolution. I assure the Member, whatever his intention is, that is fulfilled. So, please withdraw the Resolution.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is over. The discussion is over now, please.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mamataji, please understand one thing. The time allotted for this Resolution is over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seat? No questions. I may inform the hon. mover of the motion that in view of the explanations given by the Minister, if he wants to withdraw the motion, this is the time for him to do so.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): On some central points. I raised this discussion. I have explained whatever my view was immediately after the Minister's reply as reaction. Now I want some pointed clarifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please. Please take your seat. Hon. Members, please understand that the duty of the Chair is not to scold anybody. It is with your cooperation that the Chair runs the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not expect any comments. We have extended the time up to 4.05 p.m. now it is 4.20 p.m.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do not you understand? Without formally extending the time of House...

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not take the freedom like this. Without extending the time of the House we cannot carry on with this. I have allowed only Shri Raychaudhuri to speak and that too not for seeking any further clarifications. The Minister has completed his explanation. If the mover of the motion wants to withdraw it, this is the time for him to do so.

...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seats? I am not allowing it.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Finally, he was asking about the guarantee. I may inform him that the Government has also taken a decision to extend counter-guarantee through the State Bank of India to enable the process.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): The Minister has given a somewhat categorical statement like Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Liquidation order will not be accepted by the Government. But there are other units also like MMC, JESSOP, Bharat Bricks and Valves, NTC, everything.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am putting the Resolution to the vote of the House. Are you withdrawing the Resolution?

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Sir, the Minister has not come out with any categorical assurance, not to speak of payment of statutory dues or regular payment of wages.

Sir, I know, the convention of the House is that the Private Members are required not to move for Division.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why not?

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : That is a convention. But I am pressing for acceptance of this Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please take your seats. Nobody can run the house like this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Nobody will oppose this Resolution.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please understand. Will you please take your seat?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : They will also support it.(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Sir, considering your observation that the time is too limited, I do not want to drag the situation. But because of Government's total reluctance and apathy, pathological apathy towards the state of affairs in public sector undertakings, we are hereby walking out.

16.22 hrs.

(SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*)

At the stage, Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri and some other hon. Members left the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is :

"That this House express its grave concern over the increasing number of sick public sector undertakings under the control of the Central Government and non-payment of dues of workers in those units and urges upon the Government to take steps for the revival of the units and for the payment of dues of their employees in the interest of the country".

(The motion was negatived)

16.22 1/2 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up the next item Resolution regarding 'Repatriation of illegal immigrants' by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat. Before we take up discussion on this Resolution, we have to fix the time. I will make a suggestion. Shall we fix two hours for discussion on this Resolution?

If it is not completed in two hours, then, we will think of extending it further. Now, it is fixed as two hours. Pro. Rasa Singh Rawat.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :--

"That this House expresses its grave concern over the large-scale illegal immigration of people from Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Pakistan borders during the last 25 years or more and resolves and urgent steps be taken to identify and repatriate all those illegal immigrants."

Sir, our country became independent on August 15, 1947 after waging a long struggle, undergoing tortures in death cells, sacrifices made by revolutionaries, and launching of Satyagrah by our national leaders. The constitution of India came into force on January 26, 1950 and India was declared a Sovereign, Democratic Republic. After that, it was but natural for us to pay attention towards stability, freedom, security, unity, integrity, development and reconstruction of our country and efforts continued in this direction. However, the hands holding the reins of Government in this country proved so weak fragile and unworthy that our neighbouring countries from whom we had expected brotherly and friendly behaviour gradually stated taking hostile stance.

Sir, a war was fought between India and Pakistan in 1971, in which Pakistan had suffered a humiliating defeat and it broke into two parts viz. West Pakistan and East Pakistan. East Pakistan came to be known as Bangladesh. We thought Pakistan would take its lesson, and would no longer pick up quarrel with us, would desist from, interfering in our internal affairs and would come round in accepting our position regarding Kashmir. Likewise, we regarded Bangladesh also as our younger brother as we were responsible for its coming into being. Our soldiers too shed their blood in emergence of this nation. So, we had hoped that by virtue of the help rendered by our soldiers to that country, it would prove to be our real neighbour, our younger brother and a real companion. But alas, our dream was shattered before long.

"Har Samajh Baithe The Jisse Gala Apna Sajne Ko,
Vey Hi Naag Ban Baithe Hamein Das Jane Ko."

Afterwards, when the power in Bangladesh, gradually came into the hands of the fundamentalist, minorities were subjected to atrocities there. Though, their exodus had started earlier, it has increased even more now. They started pushing these people towards India and as a result, the population swelled abruptly in North-Eastern States and it posed a great danger to the existence of the nation.

I have to say with heavy heart that those who are holding power either at the centre or in Assam or in any other State, are not concerned about the country or the society. They are only concerned about protecting their chairs and enlarging their vote banks. It has resulted in intruders from Pakistan and Bangladesh intruding and settling in India. They have managed ration cards for themselves. Greedy voters seekers have got them declared citizens of India and their names registered in the voters' lists. It has posed a serious problem to the country.

Bangladesh is a small country with an area of 1.44 lakh sq. k.m. Today, its population is 12 crore, which is likely to increase upto 25 crore in the next 25 years. It means that the density of population in Bangladesh is only 776 per square k.m. Bangladesh is also one of the poorest countries of the world and it is in the grip of Fundamentalists. Therefore, I shall present a picture of uninterrupted infiltration taking place in different States of North-Eastern region. I am sure the House shares my concern. The time has come when the Government of India as well as the people of India should become alert and take the things seriously. It will be a treason if we started taking important issues of national interest on party lines.

I beg the forgiveness of my colleagues sitting in this House -- be they members of the Congress(I), the Communist Party or the Janta Dal -- while saying that instead of attaching paramount importance to the national interests, they follow appeasement to the national strengthen their vote banks and that's why whenever the issue of foreign infiltrators is raised here, they start cursing BJP in the name of secularism and term it as a Communal party. We talk of national interest and say that foreign national should be extruded from India. Some of them have infiltrated into India from Pakistan. Pakistan is also hatching such conspiracy through ISI, Pakistani and Afghan nationals, inhabitants of Pakistan occupied Kashmir, Sudanese and nationals of other countries, who join groups of Kashmiri terrorists in the name of religion and at times of Quazis for getting Kashmir separated from India. Apart that Pakistani infiltrators cross

700 kilometre long border line along Rajasthan through the boarder along Gujrat as a thief, smugglers and robbers. At times infiltration is facilitated under the pretext of pushing out Bangladeshi nationals or the secret agents across the border reigning of deaf, dumb or mentally retarded persons. The agents of ISI and Pakistan are using Nepal as the conduct for infiltration and hatching various conspiracies. But the most dangerous threat is from North-East region.

The ex-Chief Minister of Delhi had also said that there are 2-3 lakhs Bangladeshis in Delhi only. When the investigation and identification campaign started, approximately one lakh Bangladeshis were identified in Mumbai and operation push back was started. At that stage the people who boasted of being secularists said that it was aimed against the Bengalies which was not the case. The Indian citizens belonging to West Bengal or Bengal could live anywhere. No action could be taken up against the citizens of India.

There are two types of people among the Bangala-desh from infiltrators whose names figure in voters' lists also. First category includes those whose religion was in danger following the partition of India and who believed in India as their mother, and were the progenies of Ram and Krishna and chanted Vande matram. They took part in the struggle for indpendence. They were driven out from their homeland when East or West Pakistan was born. It was our moral responsibility to get them rehabilitated here. They were called as Hindu refugees. They settled here. They were given all sorts of assistance. when the leaders accepted the partition of the country, the mass exodus took place from both the sides resulting in population exchange on the large scale. But those who came into India after 1971 belong to a particular community only, that is Muslims community. And their strength is multiplying by leaps and bounds.

I want to put forth here the data of the census of 1991, whereby becomes evident the extent to which situation has become explosive in the North - East. The average growth rate of population was 36.83 percent from 1981 to 1991 but the increase in the population of Muslim was 135.01 percent in Arunachal. The average growth rate in Bihar during 1981-1991 was 23.54 percent, but the overall growth rate of the Muslim population was 29.5 percent inside Manipur. *(Interruptions)* I want to prove that the population swelled up there largely because of the infiltration of Bangladeshis. Mr. Prime Minister had recently given a reply in Lok Sabha....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I am on a point of order. How can he say that about a particular community?*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Menjeri) : Sir, I am on a point of order.*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED : I have no objection if the hon. Member is bringing out and presenting some figures. But while presenting the figure, he is pointing an accusing figures against a particular community. Why does he communalise it? I would like to ask him, what is the percentage of the minority community in Kerala? What is this? Can he go on saying like this in this country? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, I am not talking on a political lines but what I mean to say is that the increase in population and growth rate of their population is so much higher.*(Interruptions)* Those who were instrumental in getting Ration Cards issued to Bangladeshi infiltrators and enlisting their names in voters list with a view to strengthen their vote banks are talking like this.*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rawat, please restrict your speech only to the Resolution.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I am sticking to that only, Sir.

[Translation]

These are the figures in this regard. The average growth rate of population in Bihar is 23.54 percent, whereas the population of Muslims has increased at the rate of 29.5 percent. In Manipur the average growth rate was 29.29 percent., but the population of Muslims there has increased by 34.44 percent. The average growth rate of population was 32.86 percent in Meghalaya, whereas the Muslim population there has gone up by 48.34 percent.*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, again I would say that it is not the question of Muslim population or non-Muslim population.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, they are also citizens of this country.*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think in the context of the Resolution, you may give the figures relating to the Bangladeshis-not in general terms, but about the Bangladeshis who are coming here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Population increased so much due to Bangladesh infiltrators and the composition of population underwent such a change. ... (Interruptions)

Only due to this demographic assault by these infiltrators, population there has registered this much high percentage of increase. This is what I want to say. It will be a matter of pride for us if our Muslims, Hindu and Christian Citizens, register growth. The entire country is one from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari and Gujarat to Nagaland we all 92 crore people constitute one country. But influx of Pakistani and Bangladeshi infiltrators causes rift and tension and demographic problem crops up. The activities of I.S.I. have increased. This gives impetus to separatist and anti-national tendencies and fillip to economic discontent. Even otherwise, the population of India has been increasing by leaps and bounds. Our country is an independent, and self estimate nation if any foreign national comes as a tourist on Visa, then they are welcome here. There goes a saying here in India.

'MEHAMAAN JO HAMARA HOTA HAI, VOH JAAN SE PYARA HOTA HAI' (Guests are dearer than life to us)

But such national who get mixed, into our population and create troubles later, should be extruded, irrespective of whether they are from Bangladesh or Pakistan. There should be a register for the identification of foreign nationals in which it should be recorded as to when they came to India and where they went and when they have to go back. This practice should be strictly complied with. The population has increased upto 32.86 percent in Meghalaya due to the influx of these Bangladeshi nationals.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order?

SHRI SHAHABUDDIN : The census figures that are being quoted do not refer to the categories of Bangladeshi or Pakistanis or Tibetans or Nepalese. They refer to Muslims, Hindus and Christians of this country and therefore, to quote these figures is moral to communalise the entire situation and to create hatred against certain communities and therefore, that should be ruled out of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can controvert those figures in your speech. Mr. Rawat, please stick up to the subject.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : If he has any figures about Pakistanis or Bangladeshis, let him quote and not about Hindus, Christians and Muslims... (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I have taken these figures from authentic documents.

[Translation]

These figures are based on the 1990-91 census. In 1981, no census was held in Assam. Hence, I can not make comparison with the 1991 figures. However, it is presumed that one-third increase in the population in Assam has been due to infiltration of these Bangladeshis and Pakistanis.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Sir, again there is an allegation that one-third of the Muslims living in Assam are Bangladeshis. This is an allegation and that should not be permitted on the Floor of the house.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can contradict these allegations. He has the right to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Who is he to champion the cause of Bangladeshis ? We should think of our national interest. With due respect to the honourable Members, I would request that all the foreign nationals should be repatriated. The infiltrators who are later identified as I.S.I. agents are posing a threat to the nation.....

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jharkhand) : I am on point of order. This matter does not relate to any community. It concerns Indians and foreign nationals. It is not in the national interest to target a particular community.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore I have already said that he should refer to immigrants from Bangladesh and quote figures accordingly.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : But he is not doing so, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can then contradict them in your speech. What else can we do?

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : In Mizoram, the average increase in the population was 49.7 percent. But due to infiltration this stands at 105.08 per cent. In Nagaland, the average increase in population was 56.08

per cent., but due to infiltration from Bangladesh, it rose to 74.84 per cent. Similarly in Orissa, the average increase in population was 20.06 per cent, but due to infiltration from Bangladesh it becomes 36.03 per cent.

Sir, in Tripura...*(Interruptions)* I am talking of Eastern States, where Bangladeshis have been infiltrating*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, these are his figures. If you want to contradict them, you could do that when you speak on this subject. I have no ways of checking the figures here.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, please listen to me and then give your views. In our census report there is no figure available on the basis of communities as to who are from Bangladesh and who are from Pakistan. Those figures are not available. The figures of the foreign immigrations may be available from the report of the Illegal Migrants Determination Tribunal (IMDT).

MR CHAIRMAN : He is giving figures according to his information. Whatever you have, you could also give them when you speak on the subject.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, the average increase in population in Tripura is 34.3 per cent. But due to infiltration, the population of a particular community has risen upto 41.84 per cent. The average rise in population in West Bengal is 24.73 per cent. But, due to infiltration, this has increased upto 36.79 per cent in the border districts. This shows the fast changing demographic profile of the eastern States due to infiltration. I would request my friends to rise above party lines in matters concerning important national issues. After a day or two Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary will be celebrated. Once Netaji had said :

*Kadam Kadam Badhaye Ja, Khushi Ke Geet Gaye Ja,

Zindagi Hai Kaum Ki, Tu Kaum Par Lootaye Ja*.

It is our duty to add to the glory of India. Due to infiltration, the countrymen should not feel disconcerted, nor develop any feeling of tension, enmity or treason. In the House, on several occasions, questions on this issue have been raised. My colleague has said that in this regard the Bhartiya Janata Yuva Morcha, a wing of our party, has submitted a memorandum signed by about fifty lakh people on 21st October, 1995. A delegation consisting of representatives of yuva Morcha has met the hon. President with a memorandum and apprised him of the increasing infiltration of the foreigners, particularly

of Bangladeshis and influx of the Chakmas of Chatgaon ranges to India from across the border. India has a dialogue with Bangladesh on this issue. Bangladesh agreed to take back the Chakma refugees. One group was repatriated. Still there are lakhs of refugees in Tripura. They are living in misery in the refugee camp in Arunachal Pradesh. That secularism and policy of appeasement is not applied uniformly is evident from the conditions prevailing in Bangladesh, Tripura, Assam, West Bengal and other eastern States. We should adopt a policy of, 'Justice to all and appeasement to none'. There are some people -- whom I do not want to name who helped the infiltrators to settle, gave them ration cards and their names were included in the voters' list. In Assam, the Assam Gana Parishad had come to power after a prolonged movement against the foreign nationals. The Central Government had consequently entered into an agreement and given an assurance that after identification, all the foreigners will be repatriated be they Pakistanis or Bangladeshis. But this assurance was not fulfilled because of vote bank politics.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to name certain districts where this problem has assumed menacing proportions. As of now, there are 1.07 crore infiltrators in the country. I will not reveal my source. The figures supplied by the Home Ministry tell a different story. An ex-I.P.S. officer, Shri Baljeet Rai wrote a book, "Demographic Aggression Against India". He had served in Punjab, Delhi, Tripura, Nagaland and Bihar, before retiring as Director-General of police in Rajasthan. In the book he has sounded a warning to the people of the country, the Government, political leaders and the press, about the need to take effective steps to step the tide of infiltration immediately. He has mentioned that 1.5 crore Bangladeshi Muslims have settled in various parts of the country. I will name the districts. These are South 24 parganas, North 24 parganas, Nadia, Murshidabad, Malda and West Dinajpore in West Bengal and Purnea, Katihar, Kishanganj and Araria in Bihar. Shri Shahabuddin is present here. This problem still exists in his constituency. In the past few days, several persons had demanded that these infiltrators be deported. Similarly, there are ten such districts in Assam i.e. Dhubri, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, nanari, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Nowgaon, Darang and Kamrup. Bodos and others are demanding that the infiltrators should be sent back. There is tension due to infiltrations in Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura -- all eastern States. Hence, there is a persistent demand in these areas to identify all the post-1971 infiltrations and push them back across the border, without harassing the innocents. The Indo-Bangladesh border should be sealed.

Sir, the incidents of terrorism and infiltrations have declined in Punjab after the erection of barbed wire fencing and installation of electric flood-lights on Indo-

Pakistan border in Punjab. In view of this through you, I demand that arrangements should also be made for barbed wiring on the border in Poonch-Rajouri area in Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and Gujarat to check infiltrations of Pakistanis and ISI agents. At the time of partition of the country, Bihari Muslims had gone to Pakistan in the name of religion. They are compelled to live in Bangladesh in camps. Earlier Pakistan was divided in two parts i.e. West Pakistan and East Pakistan. Atrocities are being committed on Muhajirs in Karachi. Pakistan has been refusing to rehabilitate Bihari Muslims and pushing them towards Indian border.

Sir, there are some mafia gangs operating in Assam, West Bengal and other eastern States who are giving shelter to those Bangladeshi and Pakistani infiltrators under a contract. These mafia gangs are giving them shelter by greasing the palms of the police and other people who have access to politicians. This is the reason that every now and then we read in newspapers that a number of Bangladeshi infiltrators have been caught on Attari border or on Barmer border in Rajasthan. I would like to know who helps them to reach there. It is a treachery against the country. The Government should take action against the people involved in such activities. Sir, a large number of infiltrators have settled here secretly. There are other infiltrators who are being settled here by exerting pressure. Sir, through you, I would like to say that the Commissioner of Census and the department responsible for checking illegal entry of foreigners, have not done anything in the regard. Therefore, I would like to say that infiltration from Bangladesh and Pakistan should be stopped.

Sir, through you, I would also like to draw the attention of the Government towards another problem. The population of Hindus in Bangladesh has declined from 28 percent to 10 percent. Ms. Taslima has described their plight in her novel 'Lajja'. As a result of this novel, she was forced to leave Bangladesh and now she has taken shelter in foreign countries. Mamataji, you would come to know about the atrocities being committed on the people belonging to minority communities in Bangladesh, once you read this novel. Their population has declined to ten percent and they are being driven out. Buddhists and other tribal people living in the hills of Chhota Nagpur are also being driven out from there. Atrocities are being committed against these people to push them towards the north-eastern part of our country. I am distressed to say that the Government is not paying attention towards it. In the words of an Urdu poet, I would like to put a question to the hon. Minister :-

"Tu idhar-udhar ki na baat kar.
Yeh bata ki kafilah kyon luta;
Mujhe rahjani ka gam nahin,
Teri rehbari ka sawal hai."

Sir, what is the responsibility of the Border Security Force and other enforcement departments constituted for this purpose? We have been hearing for a long time that barbed wiring is being put up on the Indo-Bangladesh border. I would like to know the detailed progress of this work so far. This Matter should be inquired into as it is related to the security, unity and integrity of the nation. Stern action should be taken against the Bangladeshi and Pakistani infiltrators and they should be repatriated from the country, otherwise seven sisters of the country which are parts of 'Poorvanchal' would become vulnerable for the nation and it will create a feeling of secession and give rise to many other problems. Sir, I would like to say that a survey should be conducted in this regard and standing instructions issued for prohibiting illegal stay of any immigrant. The instructions should be implemented because in spite of these instructions, thousands of such persons are still living here. I would like to quote the reply given by Shri P.M. Sayeed, who is the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, about the number of illegal immigrants in Delhi. He has replied that the exact number of illegal immigrants in Delhi is not known because no survey has been conducted in this regard. When this survey will be conducted and by when this situation will be clear? There are standing instructions of the Government of India that the illegal immigrants or infiltrators should be sent back to their countries. But who will activate the machinery to implement the instructions? Who will take pain to know about the report regarding implementation of these instructions. We all know that as per our law, deportation of illegal immigrants is a continuous process but it should be followed.

"Kathni tothi jagat mein, karni uttam saar,
Keh Kabir karni Sabal, Utre bhav jal paar".

Therefore, through you, I would like to say :-

"Jo bhara nahi hai bhavon se,
bahati jisme resdhaar nahin,
Vah hridya nahi hai, Patthar hai,
jisme Swadesh ka pyar nahin."

These feelings of love, pride and dignity of the country motivate our conscience to unitedly find out the infiltrators living in our country. They all should be sent back to their respective countries. Proper arrangements should be made on the borders so that these infiltrators do not sneak into our territory again.

Sir, the figures given are totally misleading. For example, it has been stated that in 1990, there was only one infiltrator. In 1991, their number was 118. Similarly, the number of infiltrators was 1518 in 1992, 2136 in 1993 and 1663 in 1994. The latest figures are available till 22nd

November, 1994. It has been started in reply to another question dated 17th August 1995 the number of infiltrators in West Bengal during 1993 was 1713. It increased to 1954 during 1994 and in 1995, 863 cases of infiltration have been reported. I think that the latest figure is very low. In a temptation for their vote bank, the greedy people connive with these infiltrators and create hurdles in the process of inquiry and their deportation. The Government claimed that distance between two chowkis on the border would be reduced, the strength of Border Security Force would be increased, patrolling would be intensified on coastal borders. Roads would be constructed, barbed wire would be erected, arrangement for proper flood lights would be made and surveillance outposts would be constructed. I would like to know about the progress in this regard. The number of infiltrators deported the number of infiltrators whose whereabouts are not known, the number of those illegal immigrants who possess passport and visa but are involved in anti-India activities and hatching conspiracy against the country in connivance with anti-social elements should be found out. You will be surprised to know that the figures given by the Government keep on changing. On 30.5.95, while replying to a question raised by Shri Chitta Basu about the tendency of infiltration into India-Bangladesh border the hon. Minister of Home Affairs had told that their number was 37891 in 1992, 23559 in 1993, 16991 in 1994. As regards the number of infiltrators from Pakistan, it was 10994 in 1992, 4538 in 1993 and 4738 in 1994. The Late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi had said that only 15 paise trickles down to the poor out of Rs. 1 sent for them. We easily surmise the genuineness of these facts. This indication is enough for a wise person.

There is one more ridiculous point. The ISI of Pakistan has infiltrated the mentally retarded, deaf and dumb people into the country to test our security forces. A large number of them have been caught. Information about anti-national infiltrators has also been given. However, in reply to another question in Rajya Sabha the hon. Minister of Home Affairs had stated:--

17.00 hrs.

"The Government is very much aware of this fact that some Bangladeshi's have succeeded in infiltrating in some parts of India including Bihar. It is very difficult to ascertain the number of Bangladeshi nationals because they infiltrate surreptitiously and mingle among local inhabitants. Standing directive has been given to all the State Governments and the administrations of Union Territories for identifying such illegal Bangladeshi immigrants and ensuring their repatriation as well. Beside this, other remedial measures are being taken up such as intensifying patrolling by BSF strengthening its water wings, checking the infiltration of foreign nationals and making all the schemes effective".

17.01 hrs.

(SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG in the Chair)

This is self-evident from it that the Government itself admits that foreign nationals from across Bangladesh and Pakistan are constantly infiltrating into India.

Just Now, our friend was saying that those figures are wrong. I want to tell him this fact appears as headlines of new-papers. All these things are categorically written therein. The time is short. I do not want to spell out all the things but definitely one thing I could tell you that vote are opening the gate of the country for these infiltrators. I want that it should be acknowledged as national problem, and national crisis and with this approach the Government should cooperate with the people and the nation is order to cope up. With this situation giving it utmost importance.

"Agar Nav Dubegi to Dubenge Sare;

Na Tum hi Bachoge, Na Sathi Tumhare."

Minety two crore people are sitting aboard this boat named as nation. This is the crisis likely to loom large over all of us and over our nation as well. If a thorn pinches our foot-thumb, then our mind never finds to say that the body is very long and wide one, it has got crores of components, so what to do with what happens to our thumb. When the thorn pinches you, then it sends sensation throughout the body and pain is felt. your brain asks you to see as to what has happened. The thorn is removed and thrown away and then ointment is applied. This tranquillizes your body. These infiltrator should be checked irrespective of whether they are in border state of Eastern India or Western India or whichever part thereof. *...(Interruptions)* Now the election is round the corner. Only the people like you says that the infiltrators do not figure in the voter's list. I am not referring you, while saying so. This House should maintain its propriety and cooperate with the Government in this identification drive of. Foreign nationals, we too will cooperate with the Government in this drive since they are threat to the security to our nation, they are threat for the security of our nation and therefore, efforts should be directed towards driving them out of our country.

I will like to speak about the strategy to flight this challenge in just two minutes. My proposal was :--

"This House expresses about deep concern over the way the immigrants from across the Indo-Pakistan and indo-Bangladesh Border have settles illegally in India the last more than 25 years and resolves its commitment that prompt steps be taken up for the identification and repatriation of three illegal immigrants".

My suggestion is that the enforcement agencies

should be activated. The distance between various border check-posts should be reduced. Approval should be given for the creation of additional number of battalions under the expansion scheme for BSF because the border is very large and the number of BSF personnel is not sufficient. Roads be provided across the border and fencing work should be completed expeditiously.

Flood light should be provided in the sensitive areas and Tower after every small distances should be erected on the line of Punjab border. Our security personnel with stand all difficulties whatever it is cold or hot storm or tempest. That is why we say "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan." We salute them. They are our sentinels and protect our border from the Watch Tower and that is why useful equipments like night vision devices, which are coming in the market should be made available to them. A national register should be maintained for Indian national citizens. We should talk to Bangladesh about their nationals and they should be given warning that Bangladeshi infiltrators would not be tolerated and all those Muhazzirs or Bihari who were pushed into India by Bangladesh and Pakistan will have to go back. They should be pressurised and asked that the law relating to foreign national would be strictly complied with. The Government should raise the issues of infiltrators who have come from Bangladesh and Pakistan, and anti national activities of ISI at UNO and other international fora so that the world could come to know of the threat looming large on Indian horizon.

Finally, I am grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak on my resolution. I hope and believe that the Government will act strictly to check the menace of foreign infiltrators keeping the national interest above all.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak. Since Rawat jee has spoken in Hindi, I would also like to speak in Hindi.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the subject that has been raised by Rawat jee for discussion here is very serious one but the confrontation that he has given rise to in the name of a particular community is not a good thing. The reason is that people from all religions and all walk of life had participated in the freedom struggle. You should understand the practical problems. Earlier India was a united country and Pakistan and Bangladesh seceded it later on. The language of those who come in from Bangladesh is the same as ours, their culture and tradition are the same. The language of those who are coming from Pakistan is the same as the people of Bihar, U.P., Punjab and Rajasthan. They have relations with

one another. You have mentioned about north-east region that Bangladeshi people are there in large number. In this regard I would say that it is not right. Those who stay in hilly areas do not have to pay income tax, whereas those from plain areas have to pay the same. Hindu and Muslim people live here. Therefore, the people of hilly areas have got relative advantage but those who come from outside, do not get the same. You should have a practical approach towards it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has mentioned about politics of vote. This is not right. We should say something about it in a polite manner. To make allegations against any country like this is not a good thing. Pakistan is our immediate neighbour. But I do not differ from you when you say that infiltration is taking place. It is a fact that infiltration and immigration are indeed taking place but who is responsible for this. First, Hindustan was one, then it got divided. Even now so many people are there, who do breakfast in West Bengal and take lunch in Bangladesh. When flood created havoc, there so many people took shelter in Bangladesh. During the flood situation in South Dinazpur, the residents of this area were not getting a place to live in. They did not have food-stuffs. At that time they went to live with their relatives in Bangladesh. Such are our cultural relations. Some people stay in Bangladesh and some others live in Western Bengal. Relations and terrorist activities are two different things. So far as terrorist activities are concerned, Government should take a rigid stand to check them but in case of relations nobody can break them. We have Banka sub-division in our State from where we can see Bangladesh. Only one boat is being plied there. From our side we ply our own boat and from the other side Bangladesh is playing their own boat. No one can interfere in this arrangement we have INDOT rules so why do not they identify foreigners under these rules. They say that the number of minorities and Muslims has increased to a great extent in Assam, and the politics of vote is being followed there. Are you not aware of the fact that a large number of Muslims were burnt by them in Calcutta? Perhaps you have forgotten that. Have you forgotten the behaviour they have done with Bengalis in Mumbai? I do not want to narrate that. Thousands of persons were killed in communal riot there in a single day. I do not want to say all these things but since Rawatji has raised this issue, therefore, I want to say something on this subject. You should think over it from emotional point of view also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we can comment on foreigners but cannot say anything about a particular community. The Members of Opposition say as to why a person belonging to West Bengal lives in Benaras? In Maharashtra minority communities have been tortured a lot after the new Government came to power there.

Labourers had been beaten and forced to leave Mumbai and even entire Maharashtra. They had no cloth to wear. I have seen them. They have also written letters to me. They ask as to what is their fault if they speak in Bengali? They say that they cannot even put on Bengali saree out of the fear of Shiv Sena and B.J.P.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Nothing has been said as such. I have said only about foreign people.....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Say with responsibility, whatever you say.....(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Whatever I am stating, I am stating it with authentic city....(Interruptions) When you have said so, then please listen to me also.

[English]

I have received so many letters from Maharashtra. Ladies have written letters to me. Ten thousand Bengalis are staying in a place. I do not know whether they are Hindus or Muslims or Christians or Sikhs. But they are Bengali-speaking people. They are not even able to wear sarees.

[Translation]

If they put on sarees, people will come to know that they are Bengalis. I want to say that I also live in Bengal but in our cosmopolitan such things are not seen.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : I have not mentioned about Bengalis. I have only mentioned about the Bangladeshi and Pakistani intruders....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will get your chance.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Please, listen to me. You do not want to listen. This Resolution has been moved by the Member of your Party and if you do not want us to speak on this Resolution then you should withdraw it. Nobody will speak on it. Sir, I would like to say that they should see as to how many persons from Bihar, U.P. Rajasthan and Mumbai live in our State.

[English]

You are from the North-Eastern Region. You know that there is no medical university and there are no facilities for medical treatment. You have to go from Bengal. Siliguri is the gateway. You know how we behave with the people who come from different States. That is our system, that is our culture.

According to Indira Gandhi-Mujibur Rahman Agreement who ever had come up to March 1971 is eligible for Indian citizenship. That is according to the Agreement.

[Translation]

This agreement was signed for this purpose only. Whatever they say on the issue of foreigners, I would say that they do not know that an agreement was signed between the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shri Liyakat. According to that agreement, people could come in our country who desired so. Later, another agreement was signed between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in March 1971 whereby the people who had come in our country by that time were Indian citizens not Bangladeshi or Pakistani citizens.

[English]

According to Indira Gandhi--Mujibur Rahman Agreement who ever had come up to March 1971 is eligible for Indian citizenship. That is according to the Agreement.

[Translation]

I say it with pride that Indiraji made sacrifices for the country and 25 years have passed by since the Bangladeshi liberation war was fought. Neither Indiraji nor Sheikh Mujibur-Rahman is alive today. Those who talk of treason today do not talk about the people who laid their lives and said:

"Pyasi Zamin Thi Lahu Sara Diya, Mujh Par Vatan Ka Karz Tha Maine Chuka Diya."

They are not talking about the people who sacrificed their lives at the altar of country's independence in recompense for the debt they owed to their motherland. They are only talking about the politics of vote and the politics of religion. I could have agreed with them if their resolution spoke of foreigners alone. But in the garb of foreigners, they are playing the politics of religion by earmarking Muslims -- Bengali Muslims. While referring to the Indian citizen you claim "Saare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara." and say 'Jhanda Uncha Rahe Hamara'. At that time you cannot express your aversion to a Muslim or a Bengali. We should uphold the dignity of our country. Therefore it is our duty to pay respect to a every community Equal opportunity for every citizen and special opportunity for the minorities is guaranteed in our Constitution under Article 21. For this.

[English]

The Government has decided this about the minorities. There is a Minorities Commission. This is what the Government have decided.

[Translation]

Looking from human point of view, does it behave us to chase away with batons in hand the immigrants who have fled their country in distress and repatriate them without providing food, clothing and shelter. It happened in Delhi also in contravention to humane attitude. Such incidents involving India, Bangladesh, Pakistan.

[English]

You know that Shri Rajiv Gandhi formed the SAARC. India is a Member of the SAARC, Pakistan is a Member and Bangladesh is a Member. They can sit together and decide. They can set up a comprehensive plan for action so that this problem can be solved.

[Translation]

This problem cannot be solved by beating or killing people or setting property afire. There is the problem of transborder smuggling. Some portions of border in Punjab have been sealed but at many places the border is not sealed. The Government cannot seal every part of border because it involves a huge amount of money to do so. The B.S.F. is doing a good job there by the force along with the local anti-social elements and the mafia gangs operating there is involved in transborder smuggling. Therefore, we are duty bound to check smuggling. Salt, a trivial commodity is abundantly available in Bengal. Gandhiji had launched Salt Movement. The same salt and other commodities like rice, potatoes etc. are being smuggled into Bangladesh whereas these commodities are in short supply in our State. Thus, the problem is of a different nature here. This gives rise to unemployment in our country. It is the responsibility of the State Government to implement Immigration and Repatriation Act passed by the Central Government. A dangerous situation can arise at any stage if the Central Government does not monitor these developments.

For example, the I.S.I. agents are spread throughout Kashmir but what can we do if they are living there in somebody's house as his relatives. This aspect should be deliberated upon....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The hon. Member from the treasury benches is saying it very seriously as to what can we do if the terrorists, the I.S.I. agents are living in Kashmir as the relatives of the local residents? It is being said by the Member of the party?...*(Interruptions)* then, why are you people in the Government.....*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Please try to understand first what I am saying. I am saying that the Government should take strict action against ISI but how can the Government get information about the ISI agents residing in someone's house in the garb of relatives and

speaking our own language. Therefore, the Government should have strict vigilance and besides sealing the border, we should always be on the alert since infiltration on a large scale has taken place there. A person has his name included in the electoral rolls of Bangladesh as well as of our State. There are some persons who are in the possessions of ration cards in Bangladesh as well as in our State also. Some have ration cards in Pakistan and in our border area also. It is so at many places but attention should be paid towards these facts. We should not play politics in it.

I, therefore, have expressed a practical view. If I do not remain MP tomorrow and visit your house and request for a cup of tea, would you then turn down my request saying that you are a Bengali and I am a Rajasthani? It is not possible because on the basis of tradition, culture and language we have an affinity with each other. Therefore, we should adopt a different attitude to solve this problem. I would like to request the Government that.

[English]

They should set up a High Powered Committee so that they can go into the details. These illegal immigrants should not come out because our population is very high and our unemployment is increasing day-by-day. It should not destroy our security and our integrity also. But, at the same time, we should see that we should not divide our country that we are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians. We are all the same. We are all on the same boat. That is why I would like to request the hon. Member, through you, Sir, to withdraw this Resolution.

As far as the text of this Resolution about illegal immigrants is concerned, the Government has to take some action. But I do not think that in the name of illegal migrants, they should beat the people in Assam and in Meghalaya.

Sir, I know you are from Meghalaya. I know a story. One aged man went to Meghalaya. Then I got a ring from there. They said : Mamata, I am a Bengali. That is why I have been beaten severely'. Then I took up the matter with the Meghalaya Government and they took the action.

What is the condition of the minorities of Dimapur in Nagaland? I went there so many times. I know what is the situation there; what behaviour they are getting. However, I convey my thanks to Shri Hiteswar Saikia because it is due to him the minorities are safe in Assam. Assamese people are safe and minorities are also safe because we want to see that all people should stay together, sit together, eat together and live together so that we can be proud of our country, but we should not divide our country.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj)
Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I thank the hon. Member for bringing up this subject in the form of a Resolution. I would like to assure him that we all share his concern. I would also like to add that I support all the measures that he has suggested for sealing the borders because I personally believe that no country can keep its doors open for all times and, therefore, there is a limit. We cannot accept infiltration as a matter of principle. However, I would like to add here that considering the nature of the terrain, considering the artificial division of our sub-continent, it is practically impossible for any Government, with all the power at its command, to completely seal the border against any possibility of infiltration. Therefore, I would request him not to exaggerate the situation, not to present a picture before the country as if the country is absolutely doomed because of this influx on infiltration, as if there is a conspiracy at large to set at naught our nationhood.

I would also like to request him not to say that he alone or his party alone possesses the monopoly of patriotism, that all those who function in the Government, all those who guard our borders, all those who work in the political system and all of us are impervious to this problem. No, we are not. We are alive to this problem and, as I said, we share his concern. But I would request him not to communalise the situation, not to present a picture as if he suspects the nationality of every single person who does not share his religion. This is the problem.

I would first like to deal with this question by saying that there are three types of foreign immigrants. There are, of course, the people who come on visas and passports and overstay for some reason or the other. Again this is a very limited problem because if you consider the total number of people who have entered the country since the passport and visa system came into force, the total up-to-date cumulative figure, if my memory is right, is of the order of about 30,000 or 40,000 over a period of nearly forty years. Considering a person who was twenty years old when he came in, he might have died in between. Therefore while I am against overstay, I am for fretting out these overstay cases, let us not magnify the problems. The problem may be of a few thousand people and surely it should be possible for the police to find out what has happened to them. Let us not present it as if this overstay was a major problem for our country.

The second category is of the refugees. I fully endorse the view given by Mamataji that our country has a tradition of providing refuge to all those who seek

refuge and asylum in our country out of a either political or religious persecution. Therefore, we cannot categorise them exactly in the same manner. But again the law must apply. They must be regularised. We cannot leave them as they are. I shall come later to how to regularise them in a moment.

The third category is of those people whom our friend calls infiltrators -- people who do not possess passports, people who have not entered on visas. Perhaps they have entered our country in search of livelihood. I have seen in Assam, for example, road gangs working during one season in Assam and everybody knows that they are working. The next season they go back and again they come in and again they go back. There is a certain pattern of intercourse wherever you create an artificial border. There are people across the border who have the same kinship, who have the same culture who have social relationship, who have economic relationship. If I am not wrong, the West Bengal--Bangladesh border sometimes passes through the same village. Sometimes the houses are on one side and the fields are on the other. Sometimes the same house is divided, one door is on the Indian side and one door is on the other side. Therefore, there is one suggestion I have to make here at this point that on any such border, you can create a certain regulated regime for interaction within a certain limited zone, just as we have created on the Burma border, that people living on both sides, people who belong to the same tribe, who are kins to each other, can, just on an identity card, travel across the border, but, of course सुबह आये, शाम को गये. They come in the morning and try go in the afternoon. There is a heat. They participate in the bazaar activities; sell their wares and buy things and go away. This sort of human treatment must also be considered.

Now, for the level of infiltration my friend has been quoting the census figures. It has been said that there are lies, bigger lies and statistics. Sometime you can prove anything by statistics. You take a basic population of 10,000. Now, because of some economic development the population grows by another 10,000. 'Look, there is 100 per cent increase in the population'. This is absurd. You have to take the whole region; you have to take a big enough denominator a big enough sample in order to establish whether there has been a unusual level of rise in the population. Therefore, these population data alone are not enough.

You mentioned Kishanganj. I come from Kishanganj. I represent Kishanganj. For ten years I have represented Kishanganj constituency in this Parliament. During those ten years, to my knowledge, the local administration caught hold of two youths on the suspicion of being Bangladeshi infiltrators. I investigated that problem. I went to their village and I found an old man with a long, white beard who has been Nana, Dada, Chacha and

Mama of everybody living in that village. He was weeping. He said : 'The police have taken away my grandsons'. How can the grandfather who has been in that area for ages, for 50 long years, be considered a citizen and his grandsons become foreigners? It is a stupid situation.

There was one honest Collector in my area who, when the Government asked him to find out how many foreigners are there, asked for a report from the Revenue Department, from the Forest Department, from the Police Department, from the B.S.F.-- because they have a base in my constituency. What was their report? They got a zero report. He sent a zero report to the Government.

And, of course, I must say that some people raised their eyebrows on Kishanganj. There are friends who say that in Kishanganj alone seventeen lakh infiltrators have entered. Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, the then President of the B.J.P. came to my constituency and made a public speech and alleged that seventeen lakh foreigners had infiltrated into Kishanganj district.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, the names of those who cannot be the members of the House should not be mentioned.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am speaking of the President of the B.J.P.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : But you took the name of a person who cannot contradict and who is not a Member of this House.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am quoting. I am telling you what I wrote to him. I wrote to him next and I said : 'The entire population of my district is less than 17 lakhs. How can that population conceal an infiltration of 17 lakhs and if you have some special information, will you please give it to me, block by block, Panchayat by Panchayat, so that I can caution the administration, and get them to ferret them out and throw them out.' I received no reply. I sent a reminder. Therefore, this problem tends to be exaggerated.

The population data which tell something. There is an overall average rate of increase of population. It varies from State to State. In the same State it varies from District to District. Several conclusions can be drawn from it. I will not be shying away from drawing those conclusions.

But I would like the hon. Mover to consider that if the unusual rise of population in Bihar or in Bengal can

be attributed to infiltration, what can it be attributed to in the case of Karnataka or what can it be attributed to in the case of Kerala? Is it by infiltration? Therefore, one has to go into the deeper reasons.

Mamataji will bear me out. I remember the report of census of 1911. In 1911 itself it was said so. I am saying this because my learned colleague has raised this issue of a higher rate of growth of the Muslims and he has attributed the higher rate of growth of infiltration. That is his logic. All I am trying to point out is, Mr. Chairman, that right back in 1911, the then Census Superintendent said that the Muslim rate of growth of population in the then Bengal Presidency was higher than that of the Hindus and the reason he attributed to was the Hindu widows do not get remarried and the Hindu divorcees do not remarried.

Therefore the period of fertilisation is reduced and therefore the rate of growth of population is less. There are many other reasons that we know. The differential rate of growth of population among different communities is attributable to educational reasons to economic reasons, to social reasons. For example, we now know about the phenomenon of foeticide, selective foeticide when they kill off female foetus. We know about the phenomenon of female infanticide when you kill away or do not nourish or allow female infants to die young. There is a phenomenon in some communities of early marriage which adds to the rate of growth. It is a positive factor. But there is the question of bride burning. It is a negative factor. You reduce the number of available females in a given social sample. You have the question, as I said, of widow remarriage, of divorcee remarriage. You have the question of, I am sorry that I have to point it out, the institution of devdasis. So, in a social system in which you take away the number of available females, it will reduce the rate of growth and to that extent, a differential will be created. This is a social phenomenon. Let us try to understand it in sociological term. There is also the question of polygamy. Now polygamy, Mr. Chairman, cannot lead to higher rate of growth if the number of females in a given sample remain constant. But there is another aspect of the matter that sometimes in societies which practice polygamy, you have a situation of early marriage, as I pointed out earlier. Then, in the case of early marriage, of course, it can lead to a higher rate of growth.

Sir, I would like my hon. friend to answer a simple question Infiltration is said to be rampant in Assam. Let us take the census of 1921, 1931, 1951, 1961, 1971. How is it that the proportion of Muslim in Assam has remained at about 23 to 25 per cent? Mathematically there can be only two things. Either there is no infiltration at all and it is all natural growth and therefore the relevant proportion of different communities remain the

same or it is a situation in which four people are entering, of whom one is Muslim and three are non-Muslims. It is possible. Then, alone the proportion of different communities will remain constant. But in Assam, the finger is always pointed at the Muslim, at the Bengali, at any person who speaks Bengali, any person who is dressed in a *lungi* any person who wears a *ganji*, a *banian*, any person who chews a *paan*. They say they all are Bangladeshi. In actual practice those who allege this phenomenon, those who exaggerate this phenomenon always communalise it. They do not make a distinction between the Bengali speaking population of India and the supposed Bangladeshi. This is my grievance.

I agree with you if there is a Bangladeshi, ferret him out, throw him out. I am not saying make him your *mehman*. We do not run a dharamshala, a guest house, a sarai. Now I give you the example of the Indo-Burma border. I have been requesting, Mr. Chairman, this Government, the successive Governments, for the last 10 years that in the border districts immediately introduce an identity card system so that at least we know who are the present residents of this area today, so that tomorrow if somebody else comes, the police can immediately ask him, alright, where is your identity card? If he cannot produce the identity card, they would then have a reason to suspect that he has come from outside. I do not know why this is not done. It can be done easily. Within a certain zone, any district which falls within a certain distance of the border or all border districts should be subjected to immediate system of introduction of identity cards.

Now, I would like to make an interesting point. I concede that there are some infiltrators because no border can be sealed. Once I saw, Sir, quite amusing to recall a long line of camel passing thought Kishanganj on national highway number 31.

I was surprised and I said : "What is going to happen to these camels? Where are they going? There is no use for these camels coming all the way from Rajasthan. They quietly told me: "We are going into Bangladesh" It is a reverse traffic. Why? It is because the elite of Bangladesh, at the time of *Id-e-Qurban*, make it a show of slaughtering camels. All right. I mentioned this to the hon. Minister at a meeting. I asked : How do these camels pass through our border outposts? If camels can pass through border outposts, what about human beings? So, surely some infiltration is taking place both ways. My question is : "How are we going to detect it? That is where my difference with the hon. mover of the Resolution arises.

Sir, I say that there is only one method. In our country which is wedded to a constitutional system, which is committed to the rule of law, it cannot be that my friend

will look at someone and say that so and so is a foreigner. Only because particular political party points its finger to me and says that this is a foreigner, he cannot become so only and because the police or the executive point a finger at somebody, it cannot be that he is a foreigner. No, I will not accept that. I will only accept the rule of law which means it must be done by the due process of law.

Sir, I will have to remind the hon. mover of the Resolution that there was time when we all belonged to the same political party, the Janata Party. Back, in 1979, the first Resolution was passed on the question of infiltration by the National Executive of the Janata Party. I wrote that Resolution and it was approved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who is now the leader of his party and the Leader of the Opposition. In that Resolution, it was said that identification must be made in accordance with the law, with the due process of law. At that time, he believed in the rule of law. Now he believes that if you says so, a political party says so, a political activist says so, a citizen can turn into a foreigner. How can that be? If you suspect an individual, if you have got a *prime facie* case, bring it before an appropriate judicial authority and prove the case. Once you prove the case, his name can be struck off the electoral rolls if he is already in the rolls or if it is possible to deport him to his country of origin -- it may not always be possible -- then he can be deported.

The trouble is, we have no Deportation Treaty either with Bangladesh or with Pakistan. What we have is an informal system called 'push back.' I have asked a question in this House practically every quarter asking as to what is the level of people whom you have apprehended at the border and thrown them back and the answer has been that it was in terms of thousands. 10,000 or 20,000 in this sector or that sector. Now, I say that maybe, you detect one man and apprehend one man, but you are not label to detect 10 persons, assuming that it can be a ratio of 1:10. But even then, the figure will run into so many lakhs. It cannot, possibly, run into crores as my friend is trying to point out. Therefore, I would beg of him, please do not make it a political issue, please do not make it a party issue, please do not make it a communal issue. It is a national issue. Let us deal with it in accordance with our national legal system.

What is our national legal system? We have got an Act for the detection of migrants by tribunals. That applied to Assam. In fact, the law that we pass applies to the whole country. I would say that whenever you suspect that there is a large concentration of foreign nationals who have illegally entered our country, then ask the Government to establish a tribunal there so that all the cases, of suspects can go before that tribunal and

can be decided fairly, equitably and justly in accordance with the law and if the law finds someone to be a foreign national, at least I am sure Shri Chitta Basu or myself will not object to his or her being thrown out away. I am sure Mamataji also will not object to his or her being thrown out.

Sir, there is also another very interesting ruling. My friend spoke about Bombay. The Bombay case came before the Supreme Court, in connection with the deletion of names of foreigners from the electoral roll. You cannot delete the name of a person unless you prove him to be a foreigner. That is what the Supreme Court has said. The Supreme Court made a very clear ruling. The Supreme Court said that basically there are two types of cases. One is, the people, whose names are already there in the electoral roll.

Unless the State proves after a show cause and after giving the evidence before the authority and after giving the accused a chance to prove the evidence his name cannot be deleted. So, the onus lies on the State. In the other case when a stranger appear and says, include my name in the rolls, then the responsibility for proving his citizenship lies on that applicant. For example, if I go from Gaya to Bombay, set up a new household and apply for inclusion of my name in the rolls, then according to the Supreme Court ruling it is for me to prove that I am an Indian national. I could say that I was enrolled earlier in Gaya and that I was born there. Therefore, I have a right to be enrolled anywhere else. So, this is a very clear ruling and if things are done according to this ruling, there shall be no complaint no grievance. I think, this is one of the landmark judgments of the present Supreme Court which should be utilised in detecting and identifying the foreigners throughout the country.

Sir, there is also one law which says, 'any person who has born in India has a claim to Indian citizenship'. Even if the parents have come illegally and the child has born on the soil of India, he has a right to Indian citizenship. Please try to remember this. This is our law. This is our Constitutional principle. Therefore, how can we ignore that right of somebody who has born on the soil of India but he was born of parents who had earlier entered our country illegally.

I said that I cannot give this right to decide to the police or National Status to the Magistracy or to the Executive, in general, because I have a fear that in many places they act in an arbitrary manner. They are affected by the political climate and by the social environment. They are sometimes pestered and pressurised by the local political activists. For example, the AASU has no right to say that so and so is a foreigner. However that if

the local people, if the neighbourhood complain that he is a newcomer in the locality please check him and find out whether there is a *prima facie* reason. A local resident may complain but not as a member of political group, as a member of a political campaign.

Sir, I just mentioned that deportation is not always possible for the simple reason that we do not have deportation treaties. Then, the system of push block cannot really work very effectively. I would, therefore, suggest to the Government that there should be formal talks with Bangladesh on this question. As far as Pakistan is concerned, I think, the problem is of much lesser dimension. In any case, we have sealed that border.

Towards the end I would make one small point and I hope my friends will take that argument in the spirit in which I am making it. Despite the partition of our subcontinent, I believe in the unity of the subcontinent. I believe in the Akhanda Bharat which has been created by God between the icy peaks of the Himalayas and the blue waters of the Indian Ocean. Man has drawn lines across it many times in the history but those lines have not stood the test of time. They have not survived through the ages. Therefore, it behoves us as the biggest State in this area to share the joys and the sorrows of the entire subcontinent. Act as the Karta of the great family of the South Asia and remember assuming that this area was not divided what shall we do with the extra population of Bangladesh? Shall we kill them? Shall we say that every second Bengali child shall be put to death? Can we say that? That would be inhuman. Let us not forget that one day we may again be the citizen of a country. Of course, I am not pleading for the doors to be opened. I am only common, speaking for a humane treatment. I am speaking for friendly treatment. For the sake of the future don't treat them as enemies.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Sir, I am on a point of order. Firstly, the hon. Member is a very Senior Member and time and again he is raising his finger towards this side which is not fair on his part. The entire country is viewing this thing on TV. It is not good to harass some one time and again. You bring it to the notice of Mr. Chairman.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country knows who is the mover and to which party he belongs to.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

Therefore, my conclusion is there are certain differentials in the rate of growth of different

communities. They should be analysed in a scientific manner State by State and district by district. Let us have a special regime for the border districts in terms of identity cards, in terms of a small zone of free movement across the border. Let us seal the border wherever it is possible and, at the same time, let us remember that the long-term destiny of this sub-continent is the unity of the sub-continent, the creation of one country. In this entire area to which all of us belong, we have got a common culture and a common history.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) :

Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat. The spirit of the Resolution is repatriation of illegal immigrants. The Resolution is very simple. The purpose of the Resolution is to repatriate or in the words of other Members, throw out or push out any illegal immigrants who have entered the territory of India through illegal means, irregular routes, particularly from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

I need not go in length about those arguments as regards the terms and population of those immigrants. I have no authority of citing the number of persons or population or the standard of the people who crossed over to our territory from Bangladesh or Pakistan. I leave this matter. Fortunately, for my State Manipur, we have our hon. Minister of State, who is looking after Home Affairs, Prof. M. Kamson. He knows very well the problems created in the State of Manipur by these immigrants.

Before speaking about Manipur. I would like to mention about other States also. It is a fact that problems are created in the State of Assam, particularly by these foreigners. The people there, mostly the student community in Assam belonging to All Assam Students Union, are very organised people. They have raised this issue of foreigners. Their Organisation launched a very strong agitation and it was a big problem, a national problem, for this country. Somehow, it was solved. But I cannot say that it is solved, It is still a burning problem for the State of Assam. I believe that the coming elections of State Assembly and Lok Sabha will be fought on this issue, the foreigners issue or immigrants issue in Assam.

It is my consideration that it will be favourable to the AGP because the Party is fighting in favour of deporting these foreigners. The question that arises is how to identify the foreigners there. It is a problem. I also agree with members about the difficulties of identifying the foreigners in Assam as well as in Manipur and in other places like Mizoram, Meghalaya etc. So, the problem is how to identify the foreigners, which year will be taken as cut-off year etc. So, problem are there. But the question is how to solve the problem. The problem

should not be allowed to continue for a long time because it effects the interests of the country. We have to find out a solution how to solve the problems created by these unauthorised persons who have crossed over to the territory of India. You may call it by any name. So, my concern is about Manipur. Manipur also has the problem of the foreigners' issue. The All Manipur Students Union has been taking up this issue. It has been a problem for the State Administration in taking up the issue and solving the problems. On this, I repeat again that the hon. Minister of State Prof. Kamson knows very well. So, he will deal with it properly. I shall leave it to him. But only what I would like to mention is that there is a problem in Manipur also. I may not agree with the members on the strength of the population of these immigrants cited by Prof. Rawat. But still I can say that there are foreigners who have come from Bangladesh. The hill tracts are very convenient for them to cross over to the territory of Manipur. It is also a fact that these immigrants have now settled in the area called Jiribam, an Assembly Constituency in Manipur. It has now been mentioned that it is flooded with immigrants from Bangladesh. So, it is a matter to be solved quickly. Otherwise, it will increase the problems in the State. So, Sir, I would like to propose that in respect of this area of Jiribam in Manipur, it will be easy to identify all those immigrants or what we call them as foreigners. So, I would like to urge the hon. Minister to take it up soon earnestly so that the problems in Manipur can be solved rather honestly.

Lastly, I shall leave it to the hon. Minister and also to the Government to find out the corrections of a current of rumour spreading in that area. It has spread throughout the southern sister States in the North-East.

18.00 hrs.

These include Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal and even Sikkim. The rumour is that the foreigners are proposing to have a sovereign country with these seven sister States plus Bangladesh. This rumour is current nowadays. It has to be found out. It becomes very difficult for the Government to tackle it. It is, therefore, placed before the House to find out how far it is correct. With these few words, I support this.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Time allowed for the Private Members' Business is over.

Now we shall take up the discussion on the Motion relating to 'Hawala case'.

18.03 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Sir, I want to get a point, covered in proceeding expunged.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED : This cannot be taken up now.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No discussion please.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Sir, please give me one second's time. I want to get the point, covered in the proceeding, expunged. Sir, no mention has been made of any special community. I had merely said that whether the infiltrators are Pakistani or Bangladeshi, how should they be deported? Prof. Rasa Singh ji did not mention any special community. The Government should try to implement the suggestions offered by him.....(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): The House is being misled...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Please listen, my friend. We have not mentioned any community. I have said that be it West Bengal, Tripura, Karnataka, Kerala or any other State of the country. I have not mentioned any community in particular....(Interruptions) I just want to say that I have not put allegation on any particular community. I want, the allegations made on me, get expunged.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The hon. Member should not mislead the House. When Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat was delivering his speech.....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : I did not speak about any particular community.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can verify the record and if anything unparliamentary or anything derogatory is found, it will be removed.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : That is what I wanted. Nothing like that should go on record.

18.04 hrs.

* MOTION RE : EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION AT GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE HAWALA CASE AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri V.S. Rao to speak.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a few questions to put forth. I request the Government that while giving the reply, they should give reply to the questions which I am putting forth.

Why were Jains not arrested or interrogated in May 1991 when their premises were raided and the CBI go hold of their diaries and note-books? In spite of the fact that the entries in the diaries and the note-books coincided, why have the CBI not arrested Jains? Why did the CBI not catch hold of or seized nearly Rs. 52 lakhs, Vikas Patras of worth Rs. 10 lakh and twenty thousand dollars of foreign exchange.

From the diaries, from the notings of the Jains it was amply clear that nearly Rs. 52 crore have come from abroad and the monies were paid to different persons and bureaucrats. Why the Economic Offences Department under the Ministry of Offences has not taken any action for FERA violation as well as under COFEPOSA? I want the answer from the hon. Minister.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister under whose control this CBI is there, was aware of the persons who have received this money as per these diaries. And, some of these persons whose names were there in the diary, were again inducted into the cabinet. Pretty, knowing well that some persons who have received funds, huge monies from the Jains, why these persons were inducted into the Cabinet? How the Hawala tainted persons were inducted into the Cabinet? I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister.

Sir, you are aware that under the Prevention of Corruption Act, both the persons -- who gives the money and who receives the money -- are liable for punishment. Well, the Jains themselves admitted that for getting the favours, for getting some contracts or getting some projects on behalf of some foreign companies, they have paid monies to some politicians in the higher echelon as well as the bureaucrats. They got the contracts, they got the award of the projects for that favour done. It is clearly bribing, trying to bribe the public servants. Under this Preventions of Corruptions Act, why action was not taken

on the Jains who tried to influence to bribe the public servants as well as these persons who certainly have received these payments? Both of them should be charged under Section 14 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Why the Department has not taken such an action, I would like to know.

After the diaries were seized by the CBI during the interrogation, Shri S.K. Jain has confessed that he paid a very huge amount of money to the Prime Minister and on his advice to some 'x' or 'y'. What is the latest stage of this inquiry?

I will not repeat. In the morning our Indrajitda has also said that the Supreme Court has categorically given the directions regarding the allegations about the persons, however high they may be the inquiry should be taken to its logical conclusion and the Court should be informed before closing it. Even if the CBI, for argument's sake want to close the file, the Court must be informed and after that only the CBI can take any decision. While that is the direction of the Supreme Court, what is the progress of the inquiries relating to the Prime Minister of this country?

Sir, I also want to know, which is the company who has given so huge amount through Amir Bhai to these Jains, to the politicians and bureaucrats? What is the name of that company? Is it still operating in our country to get some contracts in the National Thermal Power Corporation or National Hydro Power Corporation or some other public sector undertakings? If it is so, whether that firm has been blacklisted or not in getting the contracts through dubious means, through bribing politicians and corrupt officials and bureaucrats? Is that foreign company blacklisted or not, I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister.

Sir, I have a few suggestions also to make. It might have been the fact that the considerable amount of money that was received through these Jains might have been spent by the politicians in the elections.

Some may be leaders of some political parties. They might have spent this money in elections on their own behalf or on behalf of their friends. Whatever it is; some portion of it might have been spent on elections and some money might have been retained by them for their personal gain. But the point is that this money has been spent in the elections. At least after this Hawala episode has come to light, it is high time we had brought forward electoral reforms. At present, apart from the candidate's own expenses, if the money is spent by his friends relatives; or by his party, that is not counted along with the money spent by the candidate making the ceiling limit almost nonsensical and a big farce because that amount is not being taken into account. So, unless the amount

spent by the political parties, the friends and relatives of the candidates is also taken into account, we cannot accept that the rules are being observed while playing the game.

Apart from this, there is a definite need for the State funding of elections. With the huge election expenditure that is now-a-days taking place, the middle level people, the intelligent people and some public figures are not able to contest elections. They are hard-pressed. While other candidates are spending millions of rupees, really these people are finding it very difficult to contest elections. So, I feel that electoral reforms have to be brought forward curbing over-expenditure by the candidates or political parties.

You will wonder, during the 1991 elections and 1989 elections both the ruling party as well as the present main opposition party, the BJP, had given very big advertisements in national English and Hindi newspapers and also in regional language newspapers which amounted to crores and crores of rupees. From where were they able to spend so much of money? Whereas other political parties were not able to give even a small advertisement in a regional or a small newspaper. So, there should be some method evolved and proper electoral reforms brought forward.

Through CBI raids it has been found that the decisions of the NTPC, the NHPC, and other big public sector undertakings were influenced by these foreign companies through our big politicians and bureaucrats. I wanted to know what steps this Government has taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents. Because now with this new economic liberalisation several projects, each costing amounts like Rs. 7 crores, Rs. 5 crore and even more than Rs. 10 crore, are coming up. In such big projects if this type of Hawala transaction is not curbed you can imagine what will be the quantum of money that can change hands. You know the Enron Project. After the present Government has come to power in Maharashtra, some deliberations have taken place and the Enron Company has agreed to reduce the cost by a few hundreds of crores of rupees from the original estimate. What inference can we draw from this? Similarly in some other power projects also this is going on. My only point is about the public interest because ultimately it is the consumer who has to bear the burden. So this type of scope for corruption should be curbed and transparency should be made clear. Accordingly, proper procedures and norms should be evolved to prevent this type of underhand dealings and transactions.

I want to say that the CBI has come into existence through an Act of Parliament. Earlier, the Santhanam Committee had made some suggestions widening the scope of the functioning of the CBI, to make it more effective. But the recommendations were not

implemented. Similarly the National Police Commission which was appointed by the earlier Janata Government headed by Shri Dharmaveera also made some very beautiful recommendations.

But they are only gathering dust in the archives. I want to know from the Government whether the Government is serious about the implementing the recommendations that were made by the National Police Commission.

Finally, Sir, I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister, in spite of our regard for him, that it is high time he stepped down voluntarily. I want to recollect two or three points made in this House. One day, we were called by the former Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. One day, all the Leaders of political parties were called by him. And he said, we are going to get the names of the recipients in the Bofors scandal. We have not asked him. He himself has called us and told in his chamber that in another fortnight the names were going to come and he told that in this House also. What happened to that? Where are the names? It only shows that they want to put pressure on some persons so that they will not be in a position to take political advantage. They are not really interested in bringing out the fact. They are not interested in bringing out the names of the persons who received those Bofors kickbacks. Similar is the Solanki affair. This House was really taken aback when a responsible senior politician and a Minister, Solanki, was saying, 'I do not know who gave the slip, which asked them to go slow on the Bofors matter, but I gave it to so and so' and the Prime Minister said, 'No, we will find out that person.' but who is that person that gave the slip to Solanki? It has not come out.

Sir, in the Railway Convention Committee, members from all the political parties are there. They unanimously recommended that the electrical locomotive deal should not go to Asea Brown Boveri, but they should give it to BHEL, our public sector undertaking. For reasons best known to himself, he has put it into the dustbin and given the order to Asea Brown Boveri. For what reasons, only God Knows.

You are aware about this sugar scandal. The other day, the former Food Minister was fuming in anger. Of course, you know who are responsible for that sugar scandal of several crores of rupees. It was done by persons who are very close to persons in the highest positions.

Sir, this Government has been here during the last four years and ten months. It has happened never before. No Government, during such period, has seen so many scams. The public money was lost running into thousands of crores of rupees in the shares and securities scam. The Joint Parliamentary Committee's

recommendation was that the Government should find out who were ultimately the beneficiaries and where the money has gone. He did not care and most of those people were left scot free. This Government is fully involved in shielding corrupt persons. So, to make people fee, 'It is okay. In spite of several deficiencies, we can still have faith in this Parliamentary democracy, we can respect the political parties, we can have faith in them, faith in those parties, we can have some respect and regard for politicians, the MLAs and MPs', to restore that confidence, it is high time the hon. Prime Minister voluntarily stepped down because of the judgement given on the 1st March, which is a clear censure of the functioning of the CBI directly under his control.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal) : "Jamana Sajiyon se banda parwar hamko nafrat hai, Bhari mahfil mein munh par saf kuth dane ke adat hai."

[English]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been listening with rapt attention to the most eloquent and apparently powerful speeches from Members of the Opposition. Just as a lawyer not hitting out correct defence tries to fish in troubled waters cross-examining the witnesses for the prosecution in a haphazard manner, the leaders of the Opposition have tried to pin down the Prime Minister demanding that he should resign. I fail to understand as to why and as to what for. It is this Prime Minister who has given stability to the country for five years. The Opposition was given two opportunities in the country to rule for five years. Once they had three members out of 545 Members. Then, they had 250 and Congress had only 195. But could they complete their tenure of five years?.....(Interruptions) Kindly be patient and hear me. Could they complete their tenure? During 1977 they had majority but would continue for two and half years only. Again in 1989 they had ruled for eighteen months. But again the Congress had to be brought back to power by the people of the country. Now, not being in majority it is this Prime Minister who has completed his tenure. It is this Prime Minister who has given stability to the Government.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : How did he attain majority?

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : He has ruled with minority....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruption please

.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sharmaji you address to the Chair. No interruption please.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : In all humility I request my friends here not to interrupt.

[Translation]

I am reminded to a urdu couplet at this moment, which is now being addressed to the opposition --

"Aap ka kam to sholon ko hawan dena hai, Aap to aag bujhane ki jarurat kya hai." You are ready to set fire wherever you get a conducive situation which is an easy task but it is difficult to extinguish the fire.

[English]

You utterly failed to rule and to run the Government. You are jealous of this Prime Minister because he has ruled although he was in a minority. The credit goes to him. How shrewd he was! How wise he was to bring in a person as Finance Minister who has nothing to do with politics and who a bureaucrat and it was this Finance Minister who when unfettered discretion was given by the Prime Minister should resign. Mr. Chairman, sir, what is his fault? Is it because of the *hawala* scandal? This country has seen so many scandals. I begin from the days of Sardar Pratap Singh Khairon. He was the Chief Minister of Punjab. I was MLA in those days. Das Commission was appointed. Sardar Pratap Singh Khairon did not resign. He resigned only when guilt was proved against him. The Nagarwala scandal. Mr. A.R. Antulay was the Chief Minister but he had to go. But he was declared to be innocent after 12 years. Then, there were allegations against Kanti Bhai Desai when Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister. Then, there was Bofors Scandal. The Czech Pistol scandal. 55,000 Czech Pistols of the size of 9 mm were ordered by Mr. Arun Nehru. Then, there was St. Kitts scandal against V.P. Singh and his son Ajay Singh. (Interruptions) Then, there was Fair fax scandal.

Then, there was, Scheme Goldstar scandal. Now, this *hawala* scandal. They are asking the Prime Minister to resign. When did the allegations against the Prime Minister crop up? I have very high regards for Shri Advaniji. I have nothing to say. But when charge-sheet against him came, the entire BJP was upset what has happened? Heavens have not fallen. The BJP was thinking of forming the Government in the days to come, and that their dreams are not going to materialise.

[Translation]

There is a proverb in our rural area that -- 'One is willing to go blind in one eye, subject to the condition that his neighbour should go blind in both the eyes.'

[English]

Without any rhyme or reason, they said, For the hon. Leader of the Opposition, I have the highest regard. They said that the Prime Minister had taken Rs. 3 crores. Why? If he had taken that amount, why did his name not find a place in the diary maintained by the Jains?

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : That diary had been seized. That is a computerised diary. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : A new diary could be started.... (Interruptions) Then again, they said that the Prime Minister should resign because one of the accused makes a statement. Should it be done simply because as accused makes a statement? And that accused person S.K. Jain, as was rightly pointed out by my colleague the other day, made 117 statements before his arrest and five statements after his arrest. Throughout his 22 statements, he did not make even a passing mention of the Prime Minister, but one fine morning is dawned upon him. And they say that the Prime Minister's name should be there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I happen to be an advocate by profession. I wonder if such cases could stand scrutiny in judicial courts. Then again, two days of the House were wasted, as 13 days were wasted earlier during the previous Session. Their only demand was that the Prime Minister should come and explain his position. I fail to understand the psychology lying behind this argument. Where is it laid down that the Prime Minister must come here in the House every day? He has to attend other House also; he has to attend to other businesses also. The Prime Minister has explained his position. But because of the observations made by their Lordship of the Supreme Court - I am not going to comment upon it, I have the greatest regard for the highest judicial court in the country - does that observation of the Supreme Court or does the border of the Supreme Court, asking the CBI not to put up papers before anybody, lead you to the rebuttable conclusion that this throws a reflection on the Prime Minister? This is no argument.

The second point that was stressed by the Opposition and particularly by the legal luminary for who also I have very great regard, Shri Somnath Bhai Chatterjee, is that he said that the CBI Director had been given extension."

Then again, have not the Secretaries in the Home Ministry, have not the Secretaries in the Foreign Ministry been given extensions? I again put a simple question. Why was Shri K.P.S. Gill, the DGP of Punjab given three extensions?

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

Nobody raised hue and cry against them; nobody blamed anybody for that simply because he had restored normalcy in Punjab simply because he had brought law and order in Punjab, simply because he had created confidence in the minds of the people of Punjab and put Punjab on rails again and it is because of the good work done by him. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you must be reading the papers. Mr. K.P.S. Gill is being honoured from place to place, wherever he goes. Why? It is because at the risk of his own life, he saved Punjab. So, if the Director, CBI by diligent application to the work before him gives a good account of his performance, the Government has the right to give extension and to say or to smell a grain of salt on the bonafides of the Government simply because extension is being given to him is no argument.

Thirdly, another point that has been stressed by the Opposition Ministers in the Cabinet were being chargesheeted and therefore, the Prime Minister should resign. As soon as chargesheets were put in against those Ministers, the Ministers resigned. Did the Prime Minister come to their rescue, did the Prime Minister ask them not to resign, did the Prime Minister ask them not to worry as he was at the help of affairs did the Prime Minister tell them that he would see to the report of the CBI, did the Prime Minister in any way interfere or intervene into the investigations of the CBI? If not why should the Prime Minister resign? I say that the credit goes to the Prime Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER : For what?

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : For not shielding anybody, for categorically stating that the law must take its own course. Otherwise, he could have thought of coming to the rescue but he did not do anything against his conscience. He categorically stated: "Let the law take its own course." I do not think that the chargesheets that have been put in against some Ministers, in the course of law, are based on facts. However, facts are facts and they have to be squarely faced. But in the court, the CBI has to prove that there is plausible evidence against them and that two beyond reasonable doubt. Then and then alone, it will be accepted. As I told you just now, Mr. Chairman Sir, Mr. A.R. Antulay had to face a rough weather for 9-10 years and it was after full 12 years that he was declared to be innocent by the court of law. Then a point was raised about Ministers harbouring criminals with specific reference Shri Kalpnath Rai I do not mean to say that if this is an allegation against one of the Ministers, then one of the BJP Members also did it. I do not say that. But, Sir, I have one thing to say in this connection. We are politicians. So many persons come to us. I do not even know who is staying in one of the rooms which is used as the guest room in my house. I do not hold any brief for anybody. I do not say that they are innocent but when I say that he may be innocent I

say so on the basis of experience. I have been a practising advocate; clients come and stay. Criminals come to us and we defend them. We do not know who they are. This point was very much stressed upon by some of the Members of the Opposition that Members of this Government, Ministers of this Government were harbouring criminals, Dawood's supporters. This argument cannot hold good.

It is because we are politicians. We represent lakhs of people. Hundreds of people come to us. Some of them stays for the whole night. To put it like this that they were being shielded; they were being harboured is just like putting the cart before the horse. This argument does not hold water. There is no doubt that this *hawala kand* has shaken the whole nation. But this *hawala kand* is being used to throw the blame on the Government whereas the Prime Minister has strained every nerve to see that the law must prevail. He has given a positive proof of his intentions by his performance and making statements not once but at many stages.

[Translation]

I am reminded of a urdu couplet in this connection. It appears that the hon. Prime Minister thinks-

"Ata hai toofan aane do,

Kashti ka khuda khud muhafiz hai;

Mumkin hai in laharon mein,

Bahta hua sahil aa jaye."

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Mr. Chairman Sir, the issue being discussed for the last few days has two important aspects: One is the *Hawala Scandal*, including the Prime Minister's role in it and the other is regarding the bribing of the Members of Parliament. Honourable Atal Bihari Vajpayee discussed it in detail and thereafter other senior leaders put forth their views. I do not want to repeat what has already been said. But there are some points which necessitate a comment. After Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's speech, when the main Speaker of the ruling party, Shri Mani Shanker Aiyar rose to speak, we expected him to be factual and that he would try to rebut the charges through logic, as he is a competent and a good speaker. We were hoping that he would make use of logic and would in a systematic manner enlighten us on the Government's stand, its thinking and its accountability regarding the charges levelled, which have caused anxiety in the entire nation. But, I am pained to say that in his reply, on a serious issue, he was flippant. His reply was bereft of logic. By raising minor issues he tried to show that the issue was not serious, but of general nature.

I want to give an example or two. It was mentioned that the C.B.I official who recorded the statement, in which it was alleged that Shri Jain had given the money to the Prime Minister, was transferred immediately thereafter and was not given an extension. The reply harped on the Government's Posting Policy and his personal experience. A serious allegation was made that an official who was merely doing his duty was transferred by way of punishment.

This was the allegation. You should have been logical in your reply. But his only reply was that when Shri Atal ji was a Minister, he was transferred after two years. Should he view it as a punishment. He further said he was once posted at a place for three years. And was transferred after three years and sixteen days. What was it? He had a long stint in Government service. I too have served the Government far long time. Everyone knows about the posting policy and also the way the transfers are effected. He should have said as to why it was alleged that he was not impartial in his work. Instead of saying that, he said that he was transferred after sixteen days, therefore, (*Interruptions*) his reply should have been logical. To deal with such a serious matter in light vein, is saddening and a cause of concern. A serious matter should have been taken seriously by him. his reply that he was transferred after two years, when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Foreign Minister, shows lack of seriousness on his part. Why was he transferred and what was Shri Vajpayee's interest in it ? By doing so, you are only weakening your case. Instead of sticking to the topic under discussion you digressed and drew a red herring across the trail.

Similarly, regarding extension, he said that it was the Government's prerogative. It is correct. And one of our Congress member was saying that extension was given to several persons. There is nothing wrong in the extension policy. Extension is given, as per the needs of the country, the Government and the situation. But during all these years, the Government has made it a business. But it is dangled in front of an official like a carrot. The implicit message being that if the official bows to the wishes to the government, he would be given a favourable posting and he would continue in his powerful post. This was the allegation against the C.B.I. Director. Is it true that you are following such an extension policy? if you had said that CBI Director was doing a good work therefore, he was given extension as you had the same thing in the case of Shri KPS Gill, then it would have been understandable. But to say that it is the right of the Government and to give a similar example of giving extension as was given by Government to him, then similar allegation can be levelled against you. This will not solve the problem. No answer is forthcoming regarding the extension given to an official time and again, against whom the Supreme Court has remarked that the department under him is not doing its job properly. The restrictions put on the officials and the department is

unprecedented. There is no precedent of such restriction being imposed on any department. He had no reply in this regard.

Good officials are also given extension. But sycophancy has become an integral part of it. I would like to remind the ruling party members that the Prime Minister in the beginning had said the Government would not give extensions and that they had no such policy. The honourable Minister is present. It was her policy of not giving any extension. But what happened in the last two-three years, what happened to your policy? Every official who is pliable is being given extension. And those are not of your liking are being denied extension. Why are officials being given extension four times? Do you not have capable officials? If you have any reason, then explain, otherwise admit that this is not being done in the right spirit.

His next reply about defection. Allegations were levelled against the bribing of the MPs. He replied to it also in lighter vein that the member who had made the allegation outside the House contradicted his statement in the house. This was not the issue. The issue was whether you proved your majority that day, in a fair or foul manner? Did you bribe some members? Bribe can either be monetary or political. Much discussion took place regarding monetary bribery. The Prime Minister gave no reply to it. Perhaps the Minister would give some reply. But the conclusion is gradually being arrived at. As per your version no bribe was given. There is no need to repeat how the flats were purchased and how it all took place. it is evident that bribe was paid. And it is also clear, as to whom it was paid as also the reason and the time. if you want to lie, you can, but it will not serve any purpose.

But, I want to draw your attention to another thing. This will admit that, Shri Buta Singh had said here that he had talked to these members on Jharkhand issue. Whether is not a political bribery? When the Government was about to fall, you wanted to justify your promise to them by saying that their demand for Jharkhand or Council was would be accepted. How can you justify this? What kind of character do you want to build in the nation? You are against the formation of Jharkhand. But to save your Government, you accepted this demand. Is it in the national interest? If not, then why did you give the assurance., to save your Government? I would like to ask you that if it was not in the national interest, then why was it done and if it was in the national interest then why was it done earlier, by Shri Lal K. Advani that the Government is against holding talks to solve the Utrakhand imbroglio, as it has failed to bribe the four M.Ps, belonging to Utrakhand.

you should reply as to why you have accepted this. Do you want to say that the Congress culture permits this kind of bribes to save the Government from falling, though you do not consider it to be proper?

Apart from this, another issue that was extensively discussed here today was the impact of the Supreme Court's remarks. I feel very sad, pained and surprised when in response to the Supreme Court's remarks, the Prime Minister, instead of saying that the Supreme Court had made an off the cut remark, says that what the Supreme Court had said in its ruling was being followed earlier also.

[English]

'CBI has never done, is not doing and will not do'. If it is not doing, has never done and will not do, then why has the Supreme Court come out with such a strict stricture, you may call it, or such a strict restriction.

[Translation]

They have taken a momentous decision. This needs to be explained. Your reply, that Supreme Court's ruling is being followed, as it was also being done earlier does not solve the problem. So much so that it does not even contradict the allegation. Action is being taken in the Hawala case on selective basis and in instalments. It betrays ulterior motive. Several Members spoke on it and I do not want to repeat it. I want to say something different on it.

How our culture and values have changed in the country? Except for two and-a-half to three years the Congress has ruled the nation for fifty years. Things became worse under your rule.

Shri George Fernandes was saying here that suit length costs Rs. 72,000. Who is responsible for creating such a culture in India. Today in this country some persons pay Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 for sleeping on a bed for one night whereas some others sleep on footpath.

[English]

To sleep on one bed for one night, a man pays Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. I am saying it in English so that you can understand it easily. Outside the same hotel, a man sleeps on the floor and dies because of cold because he has not got a blanket. A man pays Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,500 or Rs. 2,000 for a plate.

[Translation]

On the one hand some people pay Rs. 1500 to 2000 for one plate of food and on the other hand a child and a

puppy, both pounce upon the left over food thrown out the puppy manages to devour it because the child is weaker than it. You have not made any arrangements to check corruptions and use of black money during elections. This Government proclaims in its speeches that it has done this and that and has not committed any mistakes. Then who is responsible for these mistakes? Is this a part of ethos of our society or inherited characteristic of Indians? You take the issue of electoral reforms only when such issues are raised and when you intend to create election stunt. These issues have been raised here time and again, you should have implemented the report on electoral reforms which has already been submitted to you. Now a days it is published in various news papers that Congress party intends to reduce the election campaign days from 21 to 14 days. Where were you so far? Why you have not implemented any electoral reforms during the tenure of your Government which is in power for the last five years? Your party is not fit to rule the country if it intends to gain political mileage and get votes only. You should understand that public of this country would not elect you in future if you hope for it with these intentions.

The issue of corruption is being debated here. Sometimes back I came to Lok Sabha after seeking retirement from army. In army also instead of saying that one is being bribed we used to say that.

[English]

He is being boforised.

[Translation]

Now the name of Jain brothers is being mentioned in Hawala case. What you have done for eliminating corruption during your rule. You may be knowing that Public Relation Officers of big companies in Delhi influence the functioning of various ministries. What have you done in this regard? Why these officers are appointed. They spend lakhs of rupees every month.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER : Is it so?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : you do not know about that because you are not a Minister. You would know about it when you would become a Minister. Have you ever inquired into a matter that from where a man has brought Rs. 20 crore for construction of his house. Today our culture ethos are in such a bad condition that corrupt persons are considered to be respectable in society and a honest person is called a foolish who does not know how to serve? During the last 50 years you have created such conditions in this country that honest and good persons are considered foolish. It is your contribution.

What justice Dhingra said about MPs has emerged us. I would like to say that we should introspect ourselves as have been said by some other Members also. I have raised some points in this House indicating that how erroneous deeds are being done. I do not want to repeat them, I have written letters to hon. Minister of Home Affairs and hon. Minister of Housing. But your Government has not made any improvement. I had given two examples in this very House regarding the compromises being made in security arrangements and asked to take some measures in this regard. Hon. Rajesh Pilot has given assurance in this House to take action on it. Hon. Minister of Housing replied that it was not his duty and advised to write to the Home Minister. You are not taking any action on the complaints registered even by an MP. It means that you are deliberately developing and encouraging this culture. I blame this Government for creating this culture of corruption in the Society as well as among MPs.

You give such facilities which indirectly encourage corruption. Your message to them is to make money and use it for wrong purposes, as this things and giving then the right facilities, the facilities provided by you are such which are misused. Who is responsible for this? Gas and telephone connections are sold. What steps have you taken to check this? Why don't you provide such facilities which cannot be misused?

[English]

But you never apply to these things. It is because you are not interested in that line of action. It is because you are interested in making people's living soft. You give them such facilities which they can misuse and they can remain happy.

[Translation]

These facilities have been provided so that you will not complain. Now you are not doing anything except selling gas and telephone connections. We have to think over this also. For this, the Government is responsible. Those, among us, who indulge in such wrong acts are certainly guilty. What is the problem in trying to create an atmosphere in which there is no need to do all this? Why do you not try this? And for this reason we were extremely unhappy and had said that we expected the Government to evolve such a system even the Members of Parliament are made to do self-introspection.

18.55 hrs.

(SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG in the Chair)

Sir, since charity begins at home, I would also like to say that the honourable Members should make a beginning by declaring their assets. Today, State funding

of elections is being talked about. When will this materialise? Anyway, the Government will not be able to do anything as it has only a few days more in the office. My suggestion is that all the leaders should be taken into confidence and we should make an attempt to do something, if possible, in the next election.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, lastly, I categorically want to charge the Government with selective political misuse of hawala scandal. National interest has been put at stake for personal benefit. Therefore, this Government is not fit for ruling the country. The Prime Minister should resign and elections be held immediately.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hawala scandal is being discussed in the House. At the outset, I want to say that I was surprised by the statement made prior to the discussion by the hon. Prime Minister regarding the hawala scandal. It is clear from the points raised by the Prime Minister, in his defence, that Parliamentary democracy is in peril. A question mark has been put on the Parliamentary democratic system. The entire nation expected the Prime Minister to take this matter seriously. But for full two days, there was impasse in this House. The Executive and the Judiciary have their limitations and ethical restrictions. It is evident from the ruling given by the Supreme Court on 1st March, that the Court no longer has trust in the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister has come under a cloud, lock, stock and barrel. It is for this reason that the CBI has been directed not to report to the Prime Minister nor to any other authority of the Government. Shrimati Margaret Alva is not able to give an update reply to the hawala discussion. With this directive, order and observation of the Supreme Court. ...

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House. The treasury benches are absolutely vacant.

[English]

19.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The bell is being rung.

19.06 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since there is no quorum in the House, the House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 11th March, 1996 at 11.00 a.m.

19.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 11, 1996/Phalguna 21, 1917 (Saka).

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