

LOKSABHA DEBATES
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TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 3, 1993/Agrahayana 12.

1915 (*Saka*)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Members, to seek your permission to follow a little different procedure today.

11.0½ hrs.

WELCOME TO THE KAZAKH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the honourable Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Serikbolsun Abdildaevich Abdildin, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Mrs. Laura Esengeldievana Abdildina and the honourable Members of the Kazakh Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other honourable Members of the delegation are :—

1. Mr. Bulat Bakhitzhanovich Dzhanasayev
2. Mr. Ideal Galievich Musalimov
3. Mr. Vladimir Alexandrovich Gulyaev
4. Mr. Kadyr Ginayatovich Myrzaliev
5. Ms. Lidia Vasilyevna Kochetova

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 1 December, 1993 afternoon. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty the President, Prime Minister, Parliament, Government and the friendly people of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

11.02½ hrs

RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that I had received a letter dated 3 September, 1993 from Shri Sharad Pawar, an elected Member from Baramati constituency of Maharashtra, resigning from membership of Lok Sabha.

I have accepted his resignation with effect from 3 September, 1993.

I have also to inform that I have received a letter dated 2 December, 1993 from Shri Madan Lal Khurana, an elected member from South Delhi constituency of the National Capital Territory of Delhi resigning from membership of Lok Sabha.

I have accepted his resignation with effect from 2 December, 1993.

11.03 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with a profound sense of sorrow of the passing away of our esteemed colleague Shri Frank Anthony.

Shri Anthony had a long and close association with this august House. He was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly, Constituent Assembly, Provisional Parliament, First to Fifth, Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabha. Thus he had to his credit a parliamentary career for over half a century with some break in between. He made valuable contribution to the debate in the House.

A lawyer by profession, Shri Anthony was a leading public figure. He was a constitutional expert of eminence. During his long and distinguished public life, he was actively involved in various capacities with organisations and institutions of varied hues, namely Viceroy's National Defence Council, National Integration Council, National Defence Council, to name a few.

An educationist he promoted several educational institutions including public schools known for high standard and excellence.

A man with a literary bent of mind, he authored the well acclaimed book entitled 'Britain's Betrayal in India—The Story of the Anglo-Indian Community'.

A leading representative of the Anglo-Indian Community, Shri Anthony furthered the cause of social upliftment.

A widely travelled person, he was principal delegate to the United Nations General Assembly in 1946 and was a member of Indian parliamentary Delegations to the commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences held in 1948 in London and in 1957 in New Delhi.

In his death, the country has lost an eminent public figure and an able parliamentarian. The void created by his death is hard to fill and his absence will be deeply felt by all of us.

Shri Anthony passed away in New Delhi on 2 December, 1993 at the age of 85 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 PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr Speaker Sir, we have lost yet another stalwart of India's public life. One of the founding members of the Constituent Assembly has left us and perhaps left a void which would be extremely difficult to fill. It is with deep sense of loss and grief that I stand here today to bid adieu to our longest serving colleague in this House.

Shri Frank Anthony was an outstanding Member of this august House. He had the unique distinction of being a Member of every Lok Sabha to date, except one. Shri Frank Anthony's association with national politics goes back to 1942, when he first became a Member of the Central Legislative Assembly. He contributed to the framing of our Constitution as a member of the Constituent Assembly. A lawyer by profession, his speeches in this House always bore the imprint of his knowledge and understanding of law and his commitment to the national welfare.

Shri Anthony devoted his life to one of the prime requirements for a strong and progressive nation, *viz.* education. He started several

schools and was associated with many educational institutions. He was ever willing to lend his support to charitable causes and philanthropic endeavours. I am sure, we all remember the way he crusaded for the rights of minority educational institutions. He spent a lot of his time and energy for vindicating their rights, fighting for them.

Shri Frank Anthony represented the Anglo-Indian community in this House. His espousal of their cause always kept in mind their genuine welfare. He wove the concerns of his community in the true secular spirit in the larger fabric of national interests. His erudite speeches will be long missed in this House. The void left behind him will be extremely difficult to fill.

May his soul rest in peace.

Thank you very much.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today again we are gathered here in connection with a sorrowful context. Yesterday only, we have paid homage to some honourable Members of the House.

Death of Frank Anthony has left a void in the polity of India. Shri Anthony was not only a senior educationist but also an eminent politician with clear-cut viewpoint. He always expressed, his views strongly and clearly in the Parliament. He was connected with several social institutions which denotes his multifarious personality. He made valuable contribution in the field of education. His absence will be felt deeply by us. On behalf of all the hon. members of my party, I pay my homage to him and I request the hon. Speaker to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on my own behalf and on behalf of my party, I pay my homage to Shri Frank Anthony. He had been associated with this Parliament for a long time. With his presence in the House it seemed that some elderly person was sitting with us in the House. His speeches had an imprint of his long experience that he had acquired from the Constituent Assembly to the present day, and have a moral inculcation for us. Today on his death

I pay tributes to him on behalf of my party. Since he was a very elderly person and as per our culture, we pay tributes to such an elderly person upon his death by playing bands etc. I feel that he was a very elderly person and he served the country throughout his entire life. So, on behalf of my party. I congratulate him for his deeds. I request you to convey the condolences of this House to the bereaved family.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Belpur)
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to mourn the passing away of Shri Anthony. His passing away is a personal loss to me. He was a friend of my father. We belong to the same profession and I had the privilege of enjoying his affection. He was a distinguished lawyer and belonged to a generation when successful and leading lawyers did not restrict themselves only to their professions but took active interest in the freedom movement and various nation building and public welfare activities. Shri Anthony did not only serve his own community but also the nation in full measure as a Member of the Constituent Assembly, Member of the Provisional Parliament and also of this House. Sir, his has been a lasting contribution and he will be remembered for his commitment to the rule of law and Constitutional norm. He was very close to the Nehru family. He always mentioned the fact that he appeared for Shrimati Gandhi when she had to face certain legal proceedings. An active Parliamentarian, an Educationist, a Philanthropist, a builder of institution, Shri Anthony's was a many-faceted life and we will always cherish his memory.

I convey my deep sympathies to the members of his family and we associate with what the hon. Prime Minister and Sharadji have said about Shri Anthony.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore)
Speaker Sir, we deeply mourn the loss of Shri Frank Anthony. He. I am told, died peacefully. Of course, he was 86 years old, which is a ripe old age. He had a long innings as a Parliamentarian and had really become a sort of institution in this House.

(d/1115/ks)

We were all accustomed and had become so accustomed to seeing him here. In his younger days, of course, he was much more sprightly and vigorous. In recent years, one could see that age was taking a toll of him. But he never failed to attend the sittings of the House very conscientiously and made several attempts, though, not always successfully, to catch your eye, or the eyes of previous hon. Speakers because he wanted always to have his say which occasionally, of course, he did with great felicity of expression and thought. Being a nominated Member, he was sometimes the but undeserved butt I should say of some derogatory remarks ridiculing his positions. But I think that it was wrong to ridicule a man of his stature for that.

As far as the Anglo-Indian community is concerned, I think, over the years, at the national level, they could not have hoped to have a better spokesman for their interests than Mr. Anthony. He was always reminding us, reminding this House of the fact that his community, although numerically small and dwindling, had played an outstanding role for our country in defence and particularly in the field of sports. He was always very courteous, very polite to everybody and an excellent speaker and an outstanding criminal lawyer who defended many lost causes I know.

So, Sir, the whole House, I think, will miss him sorely. I extend my sympathies, I believe to, his only surviving relative his sister. Mrs. Anthony had passed away some years ago. He had no children. I offer my sincere condolences to General Williams also, who is a surviving colleague from the Anglo-Indian community.

On behalf of my party, I would request you to convey our condolences to all concerned.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam)
Mr. Speaker, Mr. Frank Anthony at his 86th year suddenly passed away. He was one of the stalwarts of Anglo-Indian community. He was associated with the Indian Parliament for over 40 years since the First Lok Sabha. He was an active member of the Constituent Assembly as well. He was an able lawyer and a Parliamentarian. His contributions to the proceedings of this House

from time to time, from one Lok Sabha to another Lok Sabha are remarkable. The services rendered by him, as an educationist and a socialist, in various capacities are also valuable. His memory will live for ever.

On behalf of AIADMK, I convey my sympathies and condolences to the bereaved family of Mr. Anthony.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Anthony had passed away. We are all sad on the sad demise of Mr. Anthony. A distinguished personality and a great son of India, he had been a Member of this House continuously for ten Lok Sabhas, except one Lok Sabha and also his contribution in making this Constitution as a Member of the Constituent Assembly was great.

His passing away is an irreparable loss to the nation and particularly, I must say that he was a champion for the causes of his own minority community, the Anglo-Indian community.

In particular, he was always defending the rights of the minorities. We also feel that we have lost a fighter who always protected the rights of the minorities.

There are so many institutions which were established by him in Bangalore, a Frank Anthony School has been working very successfully.

I convey my deep feelings of sympathy to his family and pray that his soul may rest in peace.

MAJ. GEN. R.G. WILLIAMS (NOMINATED ANGLO-INDIAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir it is with deep emotion and profound grief that I rise to place on record the sad demise of Mr. Frank Anthony at the National Heart Institute New Delhi, on 2nd December, 1993, at 11.40 a.m. Mr. Frank Anthony was a Member of the Central Legislative Assembly from 1942 to 1946, a Member of the Constituent Assembly from 1946 to 1950 and a Member of the Provisional Parliament from 1950 to 1952. Thereafter, he was nominated repeatedly to represent the Anglo-Indian community from the First to the present Tenth Lok Sabha with the exception of the Sixth and Ninth Lok Sabhas—an almost unbroken spell of 40 years in the deliberations of this august and historic House in which he played a very active, constructive and spectacular part.

To recall Mr. Anthony's own words, he had the honour and the privilege of witnessing the unrolling of the scroll of India's parliamentary history.

Mr. Frank Anthony was a leader with a difference and of unusually high calibre. An exemplary leader who was always caring for the rights of the minorities; he was large hearted and generous and toiled indefatigably for the political and cultural survival of the Anglo-Indian community and the prosperity of its younger generations through the pursuit of higher academic and professional qualifications. Towards this end, he founded three Public Schools and two Junior Schools in Calcutta, Bangalore and Delhi and had disbursed lakhs of rupees annually in scholarships over the past quarter of a century.

Mr. Frank Anthony has had the proud privilege of being the undisputed, accredited and revered leader of the Anglo-Indian community over the past 51 years. He was a lighthouse of hope and courage, standing out serene and confident despite the political and communal storms that raged around him in unabated fury.

His selfless service, inspired and committed leadership has added yet another diadem of incomparable lustre to the rich heritage of this nation. This has been epitomised in his epic struggle to secure apiece of respect and recognition for the Anglo-Indian community in resurgent and independent India—a task he has pursued with unrelenting zeal and steadfast determination.

It is my fervent prayer that the aware of Mr. Anthony's good deeds, outstanding achievements and exemplary qualities of heart and mind will remain for some time to illumine his friends, contemporaries and well-wishers in this august House. May God rest his soul.

MR. SPEAKER : The House may now stand in silence for a short while.

11.25 hrs.

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

MR. SPEAKER : As a mark of respect to the deceased, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 O'clock on Monday, the 6th December, 1993.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS*[English]***Promotion of Tourism**

***21. SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN :**
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :

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

(a) whether there has been a marked decline in the growth of tourism in the country during the last two years and particularly in the first half of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expand and promote tourism in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) : No, Sir. Tourist arrivals in 1992 (18,67,651) was the highest ever. Tourist arrivals till September 1993 again are better than the comparable period of 1991. There has been a decline in 1993 as compared to the same period of 1992 due to Ayodhya incidents and its aftermath, law and order problems in some parts of the country, strikes by the staff of the national airlines, etc.

(c) The measures aimed at further increasing the flow of tourists to India include positive publicity in the overseas markets, strengthening of promotional efforts and development of tourist attractions and facilities.

Security Press, Nasik

***22. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :**

DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

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

(a) whether money worth crores was reported missing after being printed at the Security Press in Nasik in August, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered to look into the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken against those found responsible therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures taken to prevent such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) On the night of 13-14 August 1993, 12 bundles i.e. 12,000 pieces of Rs. 50 denomination notes, valuing Rs. 6.00 lakhs were stolen from a railway wagon placed at the Security Press siding for movement to Reserve Bank of India, Ahmedabad.

(c) and (d) Police have registered a case immediately thereafter on 14 August 1993 and investigations are going on. A Departmental Enquiry has also been conducted and specific instructions have been issued to the General Managers of the Mints and Presses for further tightening the security arrangements to avoid such incidents in future.

(e) The railway wagon for movement of currency was under the custody of Maharashtra Police. All the Police Escort party personnel have been suspended by the State Government for dereliction of duty with immediate effect from the date of incident. In addition to this, 3 departmental security personnel have also been placed under suspension by the General Manager of India Security Press, Nasik, pending outcome of the Police investigation.

(f) Strict instructions have been issued to the General Managers of the Mints and Presses to ensure strict security so that such lapses do not occur. These instructions include measures such as installation of close circuit TVs, specially designed wagons, and stepped up security guard arrangements.

Irrigation Bonds

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

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought permission to issue irrigation bonds to raise money from the public;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken any decision in this regard;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : DR. ABRAR AHMED : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra had requested the Central Government for approval to float special irrigation bonds for Rs. 100 crores during 1992-93 on an experimental basis.

(b) to (d) Government of India has not agreed to the proposal as the present scheme of public sector bonds is restricted to only those undertakings which are wholly or partly owned by the Central Government. State level undertakings are governed by SEBI guidelines. Borrowings by the State Governments are governed by the standard requirements of financing annual plans as approved by the Planning Commission.

Natural Rubber

***24. SHRI P. C. THOMAS :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board has submitted any report regarding the cost of production of natural rubber after January, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from various farmers' organisations regarding serious crisis due to steep fall in the price of natural rubber;

(d) whether the Government propose to procure rubber at Bench Mark Price;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether it is proposed to revise the Bench Mark Price of natural rubber; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) & (b) No, Sir. No report has been submitted by the Rubber Board regarding cost of production of Natural Rubber after January, 1993.

(c) to (h) Representations have been received from various quarters regarding fall in prices and revision of Bench Mark Price of Natural

Rubber. It is too early to indicate the position regarding procurement of rubber at present. As and when the need arises, the procurement will be made at lower limit of the price band i.e. Rs. 22,950 per MT on the basis of the existing Bench Mark Price.

[Translation]

Air Accidents

***25. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :**

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

(a) whether an airbus of the Indian Airlines had to make an emergency landing in a field near Tirupati recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a thorough pre-flight checking of the airbus was conducted and it was found fit for flight;

(d) whether a wheel of an Indian Airlines aircraft was found missing as reported in the Indian Express dated November 2, 1993;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of other such accidents that took place during the last six months;

(g) whether the Government have inquired into these cases;

(h) if so, the findings thereof; and

(i) the action taken by the Government to check negligence in maintenance of aircraft and also to safeguard the lives of the passengers ?

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

(b) and (c) The accident is under investigation by a Court of Inquiry.

(d) and (e) A wheel of the aircraft on flight IC-470 operated on 31-10-93 fell off during take-off from Nagpur. The aircraft, however, made a safe landing at Delhi. DGCA is conducting an investigation into the incident.

(f) No similar accident/incident involving aircraft of national carriers has taken place during the last six months.

(g) and (h) The aforesaid accident/incident are under investigation.

(i) A special inspection on flaps and slats system of A-300 aircraft with Indian Airlines and Air India and wheel assemblies of B-737 aircraft of Indian Airlines has been carried out and no defect has come to notice. The airlines have been directed to intensify air safety efforts and these are being monitored closely by DGCA.

Child Labour

*26. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : PROF. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has sponsored a programme for the eradication of the practice of child labour ;

(b) if so, the details of the projects being implemented and proposed to be implemented in our country under the above programme; and

(c) the financial allocation therefor, project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGAMA) : (a) Ye., Sir. The International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has been sponsored by the International Labour Organisation.

(b) and (c) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(i) **Particulars of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) with which ILO has entered into agreements for implementing Child Labour Elimination Projects**

No. Wing	S.L. No. Specific	Name of NGOs	No. of Child workers Benefited	Amount in US \$
1	2	3	4	5
1	1	Bandhuwa Mukti Samiti	200	23,800
2	2	Saghan Kshetra Vikas Samiti	250	35,800
3	3	CREDA	500	89,600
4	4	Society for Weaker Community	250	34,500
5	5	Basco Institute for Social Work, Tiruppatur	100	5,700
6	6	YWCA, Madurai	100	13,500
7	7	Rural Welfare Centre	260	13,900
8	8	Arunodhaya, Madras	500	9,100
9	9	ICCW	500	47,500
10	10	MV Foundation : 2 (Kattedan Biscuit Factory)	300	11,700
11	11	CCFCL	210	32,600
12	12	Harijan Sewak Sangh	120	13,600
13	13	Bihar Khet Parishad	120	13,600
14	14	Karnataka State Council for Child Welfare	120	27,000
15	15	Peace Trust, Dindugal, Tamil Nadu	200	13,600
16	16	BCT	400	81,000
17	17	Cheyutha	1,000	13,900
18	18	MV Foundation : (Agricultural Labour)	600	28,900
19	19	Ruchika	250	25,300
20	20	Focus	300	18,100
21	21	IPER	250	16,70
22	22	Vivekananda Educational Society	50	5,700
23	23	Child in Need Institute	500	69,900
24	24	NCRD, Nagpur	1,000	37,200
25	25	Snehanket	250	9,800
26	26	Amrit Child Labour Trust	600	6,700

STATEMENT—*contd.*

1	2	3	4	5
27	27	Katha	500	28,200
28	28	Jan Jagriti Educational Society	125	8,000
29	29	Don Bosco Anbuillam, Madras	100	13,500
30	30	Indore School of Social Work	500	14,700
31	31	NLI, Delhi, I (Trg. for Enforcement Officers)	N/A	153,012
32	32	Garib Nawaz Mahila Avam Bal Kalyan Society	250	12,400
33	33	Alarrippu	800	30,500
34	34	Bharat Childrens Siksha Samiti, Tonk	250	34,700
35	35	St. Francis Public School Society	250	13,800
36	36	Centre for Rural Edn. Research and Dev. Assn.	250	4,250
37	37	NLI, II (Workshop on IPEC for Trade Unions)	N/A	11,875
38	38	IPAR Jalpaiguri	525	61,245
39	39	Calcutta Social Project, Calcutta	260	2,200
40	40	Madurai Non-Formal Education Centre	100	8,817
41	41	SAIDA	1,500	26,533
42	42	CACL YUVA	N/A	54,885
43	43	District Council For Child Welfare Muzzafarnagar	240	20,730
44	44	Illaignar Narpani Manram	400	13,836
45	45	The Manipur Tribal Development Society	500	33,750
46	46	SEEDS	440	29,023
47	47	Chamtagara Adibasi Mahila Samajam	435	13,386
Total			16,355	1,289,042

(ii) **Particulars of NGOs the Child Labour Projects which have been selected by the National Steering Committee (NSC) for approval by IPEC Headquarters**

No. Wing	Sl. No. Specific	Name of NGOs	No. of Child Workers Benefited	Amount US\$
48	1	Ankuran	655	13,436
49	2	Integrated Rural Development Services	800	19,000
50	3	National Safety Council	N/A	41,000
51	4	National Institute of Community Health	300	25,900
52	5	Pranthik Jana Vikas Samiti	10,000	86,200
53	6	CINI II Awareness Generation	N/A	21,700
54	7	AWAG, Ahmedabad	100	9,000
55	8	SIWA, Jamnagar	100	11,000
56	9	Care of Widows	125	14,300
57	10	VES II Expansion Proposal	500	22,800
58	11	IPER II Awareness Generation	N/A	7,200
59	12	Central Board of Workers Education	N/A	400,000
60	13	Elimination of Child Labour in the Carpet Belt of UP	5,000	542,000
Total			17,580	1,213,536
Running Total of (i) & (ii)			33,935	2,501,578

[English]

Asian Development Bank Loans

***27. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :**
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has expressed its unhappiness over the slow utilisation of project aid given by it to India;

(b) if so, the total amount of assistance in the form of loan received from ADB and the amount out of such loan not utilised so far;

(c) the reasons for the slow utilisation of A.D.B. loan and its overall impact on the implementation of the projects;

(d) whether the A.D.B. has also suggested for allowing the Bank to deal directly with the State Governments to ensure speedy implementation of the assisted projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Asian Development Bank Mission on project quality had occasion to discuss the utilisation of project aid given to India. The total loan for which agreements have been signed amounts to US \$ 4179.6 million. Against this, utilisation till September, 1993 is US \$ 1358.9 million leaving a balance amount of US \$ 2820.7 million. The main reasons for inadequate utilisation are the delay in finalisation of contracts and procurement of goods, availability of counterpart funds and changes in the scope of some of the projects; this has affected the implementation schedules of some of the projects.

(d) and (e) Measures for improving the utilisation of assistance have been under discussion with the multilateral agencies including A.D.B. The Central Government is already providing additional central assistance to States for implementation of externally aided projects while bearing the foreign exchange risk, as it would be difficult for the States to implement all the projects with their own plan resources,

ITDC Hotels

***28. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the overall average percentage of room occupancy in the India Tourism Development Corporation hotels during the first ten months of 1993;

(b) whether the room occupancy in these hotels has declined during the above period as compared to 1992;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to compete with the private sector hotels for improving occupancy in the ITDC hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) During the first ten months of 1993, the overall average room occupancy of ITDC hotels is 51 per cent.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps being envisaged by ITDC to further improve the occupancy and performance of the hotels include aggressive marketing efforts, modernisation/renovation of hotels, introduction of special off-season packages, improvement of the product and quality of services leading to customer satisfaction, development of human resource by imparting training at all levels, operational cost reduction etc.

[Translation]

Tourism Projects in Uttar Pradesh

***29. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of projects for promotion or tourism in Uttar Pradesh approved during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the amount sanctioned therefor;

(b) the places where these projects were proposed to be implemented;

(c) the names of projects completed and the projects which are still pending; and

(d) the expenditure incurred on each projects so far and the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) 22 projects amounting to Rs. 442.63 lakhs were sanctioned during the 7th Plan period.

(b) These projects are at Mathura, Ayodhya, Sarnath, Khushinagar, Sravast, Fatehpur Sikri, Kosi, Allahabad, Dhangiri, Maharajpur, Fatehpur Roshnai, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Haridwar, Farukhabad, Agra, Lucknow, Corbett, Dudhwa and Chilhe National Parks.

(c) The projects at Haridwar, Corbett, Dudhwa and Chilha National Parks, Kosi Allahabad, Maharajpur, Fatehpur Roshnai have been completed and the others are being implemented.

(d) A statement is given below indicating the releases made for each of the projects. The implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Govt.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Year of sanction	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1	Tourism complex at Sravasti	1985-86	63.00	20.00
2	Mini buses and elephants for Corbett, Dudhwa and Chilha	Do.	5.15	5.14
3	Tourist Bungalow at Mathura	Do.	27.64	21.00
4	Water sports at River Gomti	Do.	3.16	2.80
5	Lucknow Mahotsav	Do.	2.05	2.05
6	Stage for open air theatre and wayside amenities at Ayodhya	Do.	26.80	13.40
7	Swiss cottages for Kumbh Mela at Haridwar	Do.	17.48	15.73
8	Toilet and drinking water facilities at Sarnath, Kushinagar, Sravasti and Fatehpur Sikri	Do.	6.00	4.00
9	Fibre-glass huts for Garhwal region	1986-87	33.75	32.00
10	Yatri niwas at Allahabad	Do.	29.42	28.00
11	Renovation of Kosi Restaurant	Do.	19.80	19.29
12	Residual payment to National Institute of Design for copies Master Plans	Do.	0.01	0.01
13	Forest Lodge at Dhangiri	1987-88	33.27	10.00
14	Tourist Complex at Kosi	1988-89	39.13	38.00
15	Fast Food counter at Kumbh Mela, Allahabad	Do.	3.18	3.18
16	Wayside amenities at Maharajpur in Kanpur District	1989 90	9.93	9.43
17	Wayside amenities at Ratnapur Roshnai in Kanpur District	Do.	9.93	9.43
18	Development of Nehru Ghats at Allahabad	Do.	37.18	34.95
19	Trekking equipment for Garhwal region	Do.	11.47	8.60
20	Public conveniences at nine places (Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Haridwar, Farukhabad, Agra, Mathura, Allahabad, Varanasi and Lucknow	Do.	60.56	72.00
21	Mango Festival	Do.	1.40	1.40
22	Yoga Festival	Do.	2.50	2.50
Total			442.63	307.91

[English]

Mica

*30. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any gap between the demand and supply of mica in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the consumption and export of mica in terms of tonnes alongwith the amount involved therein during each of the last three years;

(c) whether there is any improvement after canalisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the decline in export of mica ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (f) Reliable information regarding the actual consumption/demand during the last three years is not available. However, during the three years period ending 1990-91 the consumption was around 9,300 tonnes per annum in the organised sector alone. The export of mica and mica products during the last three years has been as follows :

Qty : in tonnes
Val : in Rs. lakhs

	Quantity	Value
1990-91	42,596	5,131.09
1991-92	34,880	5,547.88
1992-93	27,741	3,834.73

(Source : DGCI & S. Calcutta)

Export of processed mica was decanalised in October, 1990. Export of processed mica showed a decline after decanalisation. However, this is largely attributable to changes in the global market environment on account of technological obsolescence and product substitution of certain forms of mica, changes in the former Soviet Union and East European countries which were major consumers of sheet mica and general recessionary conditions in the global economy.

Keeping in view the natural competitive advantage enjoyed by mica products like mica paper, heater plate and insulating tape based on indigenous mica scrap, efforts are being made to increase the export of such value added products.

[Translation]

Air India Passengers

*31. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :

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

(a) whether there has been a decline in the number of passengers travelled by the Air India during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage passengers to travel by the Air India so that it can earn more profit ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) There has been no appreciable decline in the number of passengers carried by Air India during the last 3 years as can be seen from figures given below :—

Years	No. of passengers carried
1990-91	21,61,264
1991-92	20,04,487
1992-93	22,01,449

(c) Air India has taken several steps to attract more passengers to travel on their services, these are :—

1. Special facilities to attract high yield passengers.
2. Special offer of 24-hours stay in Centaur Hotels for in-bound passengers.
3. Acquisition of new Boeing 747-400 aircraft for product upgradation.
4. Improved check-in procedures.
5. Introduction of new services to Jakarta, Dhuban, Johannesburg, Dar-es-Salam etc.
6. Better food, cutlery, on-board wheel chairs etc.
7. Improvement of on-ground services including training of personnel.

*[English]***External Debt*****32. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :****SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of country's external debt as per the Status Report on India's External Debt brought out by his Ministry;

(b) the manner in which the Government propose to liquidate this debt;

(c) the Government's policy for going in for short-term debts especially for protecting reserves;

(d) the details of the productive purposes for which the borrowed funds have been or are being used;

(e) the present debt-servicing ratio in the context of the galloping debt and the estimated annual debt service payment; and

(f) the measures being taken to check Government's wasteful expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRES : (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) As per the Status Report on India's External Debt, the total non-defence external debt including NRI deposits and short-term debt is estimated to be U.S. \$ 74.53 billion as at the end of March, 1993.

(b) The external debt is being repaid on due dates according to the terms and conditions of each loan agreement mutually agreed to with the donors. Governments has already introduced a programme of economic reforms aimed at short term stabilisation combined with longer term restructuring. These reforms would improve the economic condition of the country and revitalise our growth process, including our export earning capacity, so as to enhance our capacity to repay the loans and to ensure that this debt servicing burden does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans.

(c) Government does not regard short term borrowings as a desirable instrument for protecting reserves.

(d) External borrowings are being used for various developmental purposes mainly in the fields of Agriculture, Irrigation, Fertilizer

Energy, Industry, Infra-structure, Environment Social Sector and for Import of capital goods.

(e) The debt service payment as percentage of current receipts is estimated to be 25.7 percent during 1992-93. The debt service payment is estimated to be U.S. \$6.83 billion during 1992-93.

(f) Government has taken a number of steps to bring about improvements in revenue receipts and domestic savings, eliminate inessential and low priority expenditure, closely monitor administrative expenditure and exercise careful scrutiny of all ongoing programmes so as to ensure that it does not exceed budgetary targets. Details of other important measures taken in this regard are contained in the Finance Minister's Budget Speech, 1993-94.

*[Translation]***Dry Fruits*****33. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the countries to which dry fruits, particularly cashew nuts, have been exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise and year-wise, and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of dry fruit ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Cashew Kernels and walnuts are two major dry fruits exported from India. The details of country-wise exports of cashew kernels and walnuts during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below in statement I and Statement II respectively.

(c) Introduction of a unified exchange rate and simplification of compulsory pre-shipment inspection on export of agricultural commodities, including cashew kernels and walnuts, are some of the steps taken by the Government to increase export of cashew kernels and walnuts. Apart from the above, Cashew Export Promoton Council and the

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) participate in exhibitions abroad and arrange buyer-seller meets to have inter-action with importers in other countries. The Cashew

Export Promotion Council and APEDA also sponsor delegations to countries which have potential for improving exports of agricultural commodities.

STATEMENT-I
Export of Cashew Kernels

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Australia	1,297.69	3,599.82	2,734.71
Austria	—	—	65.52
Bahrain IS	95.18	134.88	128.41
Belgium	—	14.52	—
Brunei	1.70	1.88	1.95
Canada	176.91	447.04	747.01
Chile	—	—	22.19
Chinese Taipei	136.62	644.14	615.09
China PRP	34.88	58.51	—
Cyprus	7.36	48.29	19.80
Czechoslovakia	726.38	2,385.05	227.15
Ethiopia	—	—	0.25
France	2.44	75.38	131.51
German F Rep.	1,416.57	1,458.62	1,399.24
Egypt A RP	—	27.34	9.45
Greece	—	70.85	10.79
Honduras	—	—	23.46
Hong Kong	1,158.61	2,081.45	1,710.00
Israel	49.09	280.94	760.52
Italy	33.16	80.27	96.30
Japan	3,587.16	6,428.38	5,639.94
Korea DP RP	—	2.29	6.47
Korea RP	54.97	166.27	126.57
Kuwait	84.00	216.66	255.91
Labanon	—	200.21	54.53
Malaysia	42.16	43.29	51.34
Mali	—	11.28	—
Mauritius	—	—	0.51
Mexico	—	—	25.30
Nepal	9.77	3.71	0.40
Netherland	6,565.65	16,969.91	16,959.25
New Zealand	109.68	252.39	252.98
Norfolk IS	—	26.80	24.85
Norway	—	24.98	—
Oman	3.28	36.57	6.83
Poland	1,587.76	—	—
Portugal	2.26	22.23	101.19
Qatar	—	11.50	3.67
Saudi Arabia	24.20	362.98	269.50
Singapore	1,278.22	2,370.42	1,955.48

STATEMENT—I—contd.

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Spain	3.77	100.41	171.65
Sri Lanka	23.36	121.66	—
Sweden	3.20	6.12	3.98
Switzerland	15.85	47.12	24.15
Syria	—	0.01	—
Thailand	40.36	20.77	—
Turkey	34.09	123.35	—
U. Arab Emirates	538.68	2,098.55	1,623.09
U.K.	480.42	2,370.45	5,598.20
U.S.A.	5,691.96	20,134.98	32,346.11
USSR/CIS	18,901.55	3,576.29	62.47
Yugoslavia	10.72	—	2.27
	46,139.79	67,150.53	76,485.16

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta.

STATEMENT-II

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1 Australia	15.15	53.56	23.87
2 Austria	13.44	—	11.26
3 Bahrain	5.73	8.09	3.18
4 Belgium	—	—	29.40
5 Brazil	—	—	3.45
6 Canada	4.82	40.94	59.73
7 Denmark	67.18	196.27	125.98
8 Egypt	73.43	198.68	211.54
9 France	415.03	978.46	783.84
10 Germany	213.86	339.64	489.25
11 Greece	64.22	94.81	212.29
12 Ireland	12.22	3.94	7.24
13 Israel	8.16	32.92	11.82
14 Italy	12.09	121.98	124.57
15 Japan	—	14.74	—
16 Jordan	66.50	116.20	237.34
17 Kuwait	—	21.92	70.21
18 Nepal	—	0.29	—

STATEMENT—II—contd.

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
19 Netherlands	211.63	342.72	443.33
20 New Zealand	28.02	37.70	1.49
21 Norway	20.17	31.60	32.42
22 Oman	—	0.25	0.45
23 Saudi Arabia	48.63	14.42	69.67
24 Spain	55.28	91.36	321.29
25 Syria	10.27	5.61	—
26 Sweden	—	1.62	12.13
27 United Arab Emirates	34.55	43.66	55.74
28 United Kingdom	557.63	782.85	798.39
29 U.S.A.	—	38.42	202.92
30 Portugal	0.46	—	—
	1,938.47	3,612.65	4,343.20

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta.

[English]

Uruguay Round Tables of Gatt

*34. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken any final view about its stand at the final round of Uruguay Talks of GATT which are likely to be concluded during this month;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to India particularly in the reduction of poverty in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) . The Uruguay Round negotiations are continuing. India is pursuing its interests in the areas of Textiles, Agriculture, TRIPs, Services, Tariffs and Rules. According to the work plan negotiations are expected to conclude by 13 December and the results of the negotiations will become available thereafter.

By enlarging world wide market access for goods and services and strengthening the multi-lateral trading system, the Uruguay Round is expected to considerably enlarge the volume of world trade thereby creating employment, increasing incomes and raising the standards of living generally.

94-L/S259LSS -

Mine and Agriculture Labourers

*35. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mine and agricultural labourers, separately, in Maharashtra;

(b) the minimum wages fixed for both categories of labourers, separately;

(c) the criteria fixed in this regard;

(d) the date on which these wages had been last revised;

(e) whether there is any proposal to further revise these wages; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR : SHRI P. N. SANGMA) : (a) to (f) According to the Population Census, 1991 the number of mine and agricultural labour in Maharashtra are estimated at 1,15,075 and 8313,223 respectively

Under the Minimum Wage Act, 1948 the Central Government as well as the State Governments are the appropriate Governments for the fixation/revision of minimum rate of wages in their respective spheres of

scheduled employment. The scheduled employment of Mine is mainly under the Central jurisdiction while the employment in agriculture is mainly in the State jurisdiction. The minimum rate of wages for the unskilled category of workers employed in Mines as fixed by the Central Government and for the employment in agriculture as fixed by the Government of Maharashtra are as under :

Mines	Basic Wage	Spl. Allowance.	Total
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
For work above ground	15.30	9.06	24.36
For work below ground	18.45	11.35	29.80
<i>Agriculture</i>			
Zone-I	20.00	p.d.	
Zone-II	16.00	p.d.	
Zone-III	14.00	p.d.	
Zone-IV	12.00	p.d.	

For the fixation of minimum wages, the five norms recommended by the Indian Labour Conference in its Session held in 1957 are generally adopted for the fixation/revision of minimum rate of wages. These are three consumption units for one earner; minimum food requirement of 2700 calories per person, clothing requirements of 72 yards per annum per family; rent corresponding to the minimum area provided for under Government's Industrial Housing Scheme and 20 percent extra expenditure towards fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items. Besides, the appropriate Government also takes into account various factors such as socio-economic conditions, market forces, etc. while fixing the minimum rates of wages.

The Minimum rate of wages for the workers employed in Mines were last revised by the Central Government on 25th October, 1988 and the dearness allowance was last revised on 1st October 1993. The minimum wages for the scheduled employment of agriculture in the State of Maharashtra were last revised by the Government of Maharashtra on 1-5-1988.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides that the minimum rate of wages may be revised in a period not exceeding 5 years. The Central

Government have issued a preliminary notification on 11-6-93 proposing to revise minimum rates of wages for the employment in mines.

[English]

Nationalised Banks

*36. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased

to state :

(a) whether the financial position of several nationalised banks is very poor;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ease its financial control on these banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. AHRAR AHMED) : (a) : During the year ended 31st March 1993, thirteen nationalised banks incurred losses aggregating Rs. 3,763.61 crores.

(b) to (d) : With a view to improve the viability and financial health of the nationalised banks a provision of Rs. 5,700 crores has been made in the Budget for the current year (1993-94). The nationalised banks will be required to enter into agreements with the Reserve Bank of India covering areas such as staff productivity, asset management and reduction of non-performing assets as a prerequisite for the release of this additional share capital.

Foreign Investment Policy.

*37. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to further liberalise the foreign investment policy to make the Indian market more attractive ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals made in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the quick disbursement of foreign funds for the foreign investment proposals already approved.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Although Government have not recently decided to further liberalise policy for foreign investment, it must be recognised that such liberalisation is a continual and ongoing process.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) : Actual inflow of foreign investment against approvals granted would depend on the gestation period of the project and the decision of the foreign investor on when to commence implementation.

[Translation]

Wage Boards for Journalists

***38 SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY :**
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wage Boards for journalists and other newspaper and news-agency employees have been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be constituted "

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) : The matter regarding constitution of Wage Boards for Journalists and other Newspaper and News-agency employees is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Revenue Collection

***39. SHRI GURDUAS KAMAT :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a fall in Central revenue collection during the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to achieve the collection target during the remaining period of the current financial year

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The shortfall in central revenue collection from central excise customs, income tax and corporation tax, taken together during April—September, 1993 over April—September, 1992 is 6.76%.

(b) The shortfall in revenue from central excise and customs can mainly be attributed to sluggish growth in manufacturing sector and imports while the shortfall in income tax & corporation tax is due to issue of higher refunds.

(c) Government is constantly monitoring the revenue position with a view to maximize the revenue collection during the remaining part of the financial year.

Fifth Pay Commission

***40. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up the Fifth Pay Commission to look into the salary structure of the Central Government Employees ;

(b) if so, whether the composition of the Commission and the terms of reference have been finalised;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the time by which the Commission is likely to commence its work and the time-frame for submission of its report ?

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

(b) to (d) Composition of the Commission and its terms of reference are under consideration.

Registration of Unemployed Persons in Chandigarh

***168 : SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :**
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with Employment Exchanges in Chandigarh categorywise during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of such applicants who are domicile of Chandigarh;

(c) the number of team called for interview and provided with employment during the above period;

(d) the norms fixed for selecting the interviewees for each vacancy; and

(e) total number of applicants presently on the register under different categories.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR P. A. SANGMA: (a) to (e) The number of job seekers not all of whom were necessarily unemployed who got themselves registered with the Employment Exchange in the Union Territory of Chandigarh, submissions made and the

placements effected by the Employment Exchange, Chandigarh, categorywise, during the last three year and the number of job-seekers on the Live Register of the Exchange at the end of June 1992 are given below in the statement.

According to the instructions issued, job-seekers are registered at the employment exchanges in whose jurisdiction they normally reside.

The employment exchanges are required to submit candidates in order of seniority in the ratio of 1 : 20 in case of the public sector vacancies. The establishments in the private sector are free to screen the entire live register for making selection.

STATEMENT

(In Thousands)

Category	Registrations during			Placements			Submissions			Live Register at the end of June, 1992
	1990	1991	1992 (Jan.-June)	1990	1991	1992 (Jan.-June)	1990	1991	1992 (Jan.-June)	
Total	28.5	27.3	10.3	1.3	1.3	0.6	32.4	32.9	15.7	160.9
Women	7.3	6.5	3.7	0.3	0.4	0.1	7.2	8.0	4.2	32.6
Scheduled Caste	4.6	4.5	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	6.4	10.3	6.0	42.2
Scheduled Tribes	@	@	@	@	@	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

@Figure less than fifty.

— Nil.

Ban on Strikes

169. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to ban strikes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Suggestions made by Prime Minister of Netherlands

170. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Netherlands during his recent visit, has desired further liberalisation in capital market and new incentives for more investments from his country ;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by him in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) The Prime Minister of Netherlands, while addressing the confederation of Indian Industries, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and associated Chambers of Commerce during his recent visit to India has made certain observations particularly in the context of improving Indo-Dutch trade relations..

(b) The Prime Minister of Netherlands has observed inter alia, that import tariffs in India are still relatively high as compared to developed and several other developing countries. He felt that the full convertibility of the Rupee would be conducive to further development of economic relations between India and the Netherlands and that liberalisation of consumer imports could be improved.

His other important observations include deregulation and market orientation as key instruments to prosperity and the role of protection of intellectual property rights in encouraging foreign investment.

He has expressed the view that the signing of an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement would help to promote joint ventures between India and Netherlands.

(c) The observations made by the Prime Minister of the Netherlands have been noted.

Loan to Handloom Weavers

171. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

- (a) whether the Union Government have agreed to extend any financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing loans to handloom weavers in the State; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) During the current financial year the sum of Rs. 7.625 lakhs has been sanctioned as

financial assistance to Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing loans to handloom weavers in the State under Project Package Scheme besides grant of Rs. 12.375 lakhs. The total outlay of these projects to be implemented in Ananthapur and Guntur district is Rs. 77.10 lakhs.

Export to China

172. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the percentage of the export trade to China as compared to our total export trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : During April-August 1993 (latest period for which data is readily available) exports to China constituted only 1.7% of India's total exports.

Translation

Trade Agreements with Foreign Countries

173. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of countries with which the Government have signed trade agreements during the last one year and the conditions laid down thereof;

(b) the details of items exported and imported with the value in foreign exchange as per the trade agreements with these countries, country wise;

(c) the latest position of the trade relations with those countries with which agreements have been signed recently; and

(d) the specific efforts being made by the Government to boost the country's export with these countries ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Government has signed Agreements on Economic,

trade and Technical Cooperation with 14
Countries as shown below :

Country	Date
1. Govt. of Sultanate of Oman	June, 1993
2. China-Trade Protocol	Jan. 1993.
3. Ivory Coast	17-2-1993.
4. Tejikistan	15-2-1993.
5. Armenia	11-3-1993.
6. Maldeve	19-3-1993.
7. Lithuania	2-7-1993.
8. Latvia	10-9-1993.
9. Estonia	15-10-1993
10. Balarus	14-5-1993
11. Uzbekistan	24-5-1993
12. Czech Republic	15-3-1993
13. Slovak Republic	14-5-1993
14. Romania	23-2-1993

These Agreements envisage setting up of Joint Commission, Joint Ventures and make provision for both parties to accord to each other the Most Favoured Nation Treatment with regard to their economic, commercial & technical relation Payment for goods traded shall be in freely convertible currencies.

(b) & (c) : A detailed statement is given below.

(d) Discussions at Govt. to Govt. level, participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, encouragement to Indian companies to establish direct contact with their counterparts in those countries etc. are some of the measures being taken to boost our exports.

Statement

India's Exports to other country, April, 1993 & 1992

COUNTRY/COMMODITY	April-Aug. 1993	April-Aug. 1992
1. OMAN		
Rice, Tea, Spices, Fresh fruits, Cotton fabrics and some machinery equipments	82 crores (April—July)	216.5
2. CHINA		
Iron Ore	1.3—1.5 million tones	
Chrome ore	85,000—1,20,000 tons	
Tea	US\$ 0.5—1 million	
(Note : Actual figures about the export of the above items is not known as there are only indicative quantities).		
3. IVORY COAST		
The Agreements does not identify any items for trade.	2.04 (April—Aug)	7.71 (1992-93)
4. ARMENIA		
Man-made yarn and made ups	1.16	—
Total	1.16	
5. TEJIKISTAN		
Tea	25.33	
Total	25.33	
6. LITHUANIA		
Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals	20.49	
Machinery and instruments	14.79	
Total	41.82	

7. *LATVIA*

Tea	8.64
Spices	4.53
Drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals	9.59
Machinery and instruments	3.42
Total	27.85

8. *LITHUANIA*

Tobacco	121.21
Total	134.12

9. *BELARUS*

Drugs, Pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals	119.25
Total	126.84

CZECH REPUBLIC

Tea	181.66	15.53
Coffee	1,930.50	196.85
Rice (other than Basmati)	00.00	714.00
Tobacco un-manufactured	326.37	499.24
Cashew	318.14	157.48
Oil meals	2,266.27	4,710.60
Castor Oil	516.98	..
Sugar and molasses	177.76	..
Marine products	0.00	321.64
Leather & Manufactures	915.75	1,019.47
Footwear of leather	356.16	448.61
Manufactures of metal	0.60	200.87
Cotton yarn, fabrics made-up	1,508.77	1,743.17
Man-made yarn, fabrics made-up	309.55	586.57
RMG cotton including accessories	852.71	1,158.34
Jute manufactures incl. floor coverings	221.65	514.29
RMG man-made fibres	39.48	132.72
Carpet (Excl'd Silk) Hand-made	43.27	389.83
Handicrafts (excluding handmade carpets)	85.07	259.67
Total	10,300.36	13,203.40

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Coffee	18.10
Ferro Alloys	950.31
Cotton yarn, incl. accessories	40.54
Total	1,030.62

UZBEKISTAN

Leather and manufactures	42.40
Footwear of leather	40.03
RMG cotton incl. accessories	65.28
RMG wool	24.77
Total	221.90

Romania

Oilmeals	952.76	—
Cotton raw incl. waste	1,539.50	—
Drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals	187.66	42.44
Dyes/intermediates and coal Tar chemicals	104.85	—
Cosmetics/Toiletries etc.	205.91	—
Manmade staple fibre	0.00	59.26
Total	3,400.08	143.75

*Moldova***India's Imports from other country, April 1993 & 1992**

Country/Commodities	April-Aug. 1993	April-Aug. 1992
<i>Oman</i>		
Crude oil, oil products, non-ferrous metals scrap etc.	17 crores	59 crores
<i>China</i>		
Raw silk and silk yarn	25,000 tons	
Resine	US\$ 5-6 million	
Cooking coal	1,00,000 tons	
Petroleum and petro chemicals products	US\$ 4-5 million	
Fresh cultivable pearls	US\$ 4 million	
Pig Iron	10,000 tons	

Note :—Actual figures about the import of the above items is not known as there are only indicative quantities.

Ivory Coast

The Agreement does not identify any items for trade.	4.19 (April-Aug.)	28.60 (1992-93)
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Lithuania

Transport equipment	193.79
Total	193.79

Latvia

Total	0.01
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Belarus

Machinery except electrical and mechanical tools	47.43
Total	56.49

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

India's Imports from other Countries, April-August 1992 & 1992

Source : DGCI & S

Country/Commodity	April-Aug 1992	April-Aug. 1992
<i>Czech Republic</i>		
Metalifero Ores & Metals Scrap	0.00	1,381.55
Iron and Steel	1,080.46	1,637.36
Machine Tools	111.29	718.64
Machinery except elect. & mechanical tools	1,473.18	1,811.21
Electrical machinery	30.86	270.00
Transport equipment	479.43	519.32
Project goods	59.59	444.30
Total	3,960.97	1,970.33
<i>Slovak Republic</i>		
Iron and Steel	112.87	
Artificial resins, plastic matr.	221.24	
Transport equipments	142.56	
Project goods	68.79	
Total	602.70	
<i>Uzbekistan</i>		
Organic chemicals	80.80	
Project goods	91.79	
Total	293.71	
<i>China</i>		
Metalifero, Ores & Metal scraps	0.00	255.35
Artificial resins, plastic matr	0.00	437.72
Iron and Steel	293.75	1,598.19
Machinery except elec. and mechanical tools	263.37	71.66
Transport equipments	1,686.93	804.12
Project goods	76.57	358.40
	2,437.50	5,487.10

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OF PLATEAU OF GUJARAT

174. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the development project of the plateau of Gujarat particularly in the tribal dominated districts of the State with the World Bank assistance ;

(b) if so, the extent of amount of the total World Bank assistance likely to be spent in each district; and

(c) the targets fixed for the implementation of the project ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

CONSTRAINTS OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY

175. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) The details of the major constraints being faced by the textile industry; and

(b) The steps taken to remove those constraints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) There are at present no major constraints in the Textile Industry. However requirement of funds for modernisation etc. has been taken up with the concerned authorities at the appropriate level.

WEAPONS TO ARMED GUARDS IN NATIONALISED BANKS

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

(a) the kind of weapons allowed to armed guards of nationalised banks ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide revolver/pistol which is more effective than the traditional arms provided at present; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) At present, bank Armed Guards are provided with DBBL guns and Police Armed Guards deployed for bank security are provided with 303 rifles.

(b) and (c) : It has been decided to replace existing weapons supplied to bank guards with 12 Bore Pump Action Shot Guns.

TRADE-CUM-DISTRIBUTION CENTRES FOR INDIAN EXPORTERS

177. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have permitted Indian exporters for opening of their Trade-cum-Distribution Centres at Rotterdam in Netherlands from where Indian goods could be offered to the European buyers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these centres are likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) : Government of India have approved the proposal of M/s India International Marketing Centre Pvt. Ltd. for setting up (a) wholly owned subsidiary in Netherlands in the field of warehousing and trading in August, 1993. The approval to implement the project is valid for two years.

The objectives of the project are :—

(i) To access the highly competitive European Market for Indian Goods ;

(ii) To promote Indian export in Europe and beyond;

(iii) To create marketing stronghold for India in Europe by its physical presence; and

(iv) To provide a range of marketing and distribution services to Indian Exporters.

[Translation]**CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SCHEME**

178. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Co-operative Insurance Scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

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

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

[English]**REVAMPING OF FOREIGN BRANCHES OF UCO BANK**

179. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether United Commercial Bank has a number of its branches in foreign countries ;

(b) If so, the details indicating their location, date of opening and assets and liabilities ;

(c) whether performance of some of these foreign branches of UCO bank has not been satisfactory and are suffering losses ;

(d) if so, the details of the losses suffered by these branches during the last two years ;

(e) whether the UCO Bank has any concrete plans to revamp its foreign branches ; and

(f) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) : UCO Bank have 7 branches abroad. The details of their location, date of opening and assets and liabilities are given below :

(in US\$ Million)

Sl. No.	Name of Country	Location	Date of opening	Assets/Liabilities (as on 31-3-93)
1	Singapore	Singapore Main	16-4-1951	443.42
2	Singapore	Serangoon Road	7-3-1959	55.443
3	Singapore	Tanjong Pagar	30-10-1965	33.078
4	Hong Kong	Hong Kong Main	18-3-1952	488.0
5	Hong Kong	Kowloon	22-10-1959	114.38
6	UK	London	18-5-1953	141.7
7	UK	Leicester	18-12-1975	18.3

(c) and (d) : The performance of the bank's branches in Hong Kong and U. K. has not been satisfactory and these branches have suffered losses. It will not be in public interest to disclose the extent of such losses.

(e) and (f) : A package of corrective measures in the form of an Action Plan has been formulated by the bank for this purpose. The package emphasizes, among others, deposit mobilisation, generation of non-fund business and containment of establishment expenses. Closure of its Leicester branch in U.K. is also under consideration.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON BONDED LABOUR

180. SHRI BARE-LAL JATAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee of 11 States Labour Ministers under the Chairmanship of Labour Minister of Maharashtra has submitted its report on the proposal for setting up a National Commission on Bonded Labour ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) [The report of the Committee of 13 State Labour Ministers is still awaited.

Unemployed in Karnataka

181. SHRI RAMACHANDRA VIJAYA-PPA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post-graduates, graduates, under-graduates, medical and engineering graduates and ITI trained technicians registered with the employment exchanges in Karnataka as on March 31, 1993

(b) the number of them who are waiting for employment for the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to generate more employment opportunity in the State.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (P.A. SANGMA) :

(a) The number of post-graduates, graduates, under-graduates, medical and engineering graduates and ITI trained technicians on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in Karnataka, not all of whom were necessarily unemployed, as on 31st December, 1991 (latest available) is as follows :

Category	Number on the Live Register (in thousands)
(i) Under-graduates (Matric, Hr. Secondary & Diploma holders)	713.9
(ii) Graduates (including Medical & Engineering Graduates)	132.4
(iii) Post-graduates (including Medical and Engineering Post-graduates)	19.6
(iv) Medicine (Graduates and above)	0.8
(v) Engineering (Graduates and above)	5.2
(vi) I. Trainees	32.4

(b) Statistics on the length of stay of job-seekers on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges is not maintained

(c) Employment generation in any State will, in general, depend on the pace and pattern of development in that State. Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan in which emphasis has been laid on a high rate of economic growth combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas having relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation.

Investment By Unit Trust of India

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

(a) the total investments by the Unit Trust of India (UTI) as on March 31, 1993,

(b) the break-up thereof, Sector-wise and State-wise,

(c) whether the Government monitor the placement of investible resources by the UTI in order to ensure that it is equitably distributed among all States and in various economic sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The total investible resources at the disposal of Unit Trust of India (UTI) as on March 31, 1993 were Rs. 36,900 crores.

(b) UTI makes investments in various instruments such as equities, debentures, loans, deposits with companies, Government Securities and money markets instruments. These instruments are not State specific. The break up of sector-wise investments made by UTI is being collected.

(c) and (d) The Government do not monitor the placement of investible resources by the UTI. The investments are made on commercial considerations, keeping in view the investors' interests and in accordance with UTI General Regulations, 1964 framed under Section 43(1) of UTI Act, 1963 as also the investment objectives under various Schemes.

Idle Helicopters And Aircraft

183. PROF. (SMT.) SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of helicopters and aircraft lying idle for the last three years, airport-wise ;
- (b) the estimated annual loss being suffered by the Government as a result thereof ; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to make them operational ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Cane And Bamboo Training Centre

184. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cane and Bamboo Crafts Training Centre at the border of Darbhanga district has been functioning in Raiyam under the Madhubani district of Bihar for the last four years ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to shift the above centre ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the achievements made by the above centre so far and the details of the future plan of action of the above centre ?

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

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Cane and Bamboo Training Centres being peripatetic in nature are shifted from one place to another after 3 years of training during which the training needs of the particular area is normally met. The training centre at Raiyam has conducted 3 batches of training during 1989 to 1993 and 70 trainees have received training during the period. Instruction has already been issued to shift the centre to a new location

[English]

Indo-Nepal Trade

185. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made

any efforts to expand trade and set up joint ventures with Nepal ;

(b) if so, the details of areas in which joint venture have been established so far ;

(c) whether any new area has also been identified to expand trade between both these countries ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Possibilities of expanding trade and setting up joint ventures with Nepal are explored from time to time through official and business level inter-action.

(b) The areas in which joint ventures have been established so far between India and Nepal include :

- (i) Hotel Industries
- (ii) Dry Batteries
- (iii) Manufacture and bottling of beer
- (iv) Paints, enamels and varnishes
- (v) Travel, Tourism and Transportation
- (vi) Manufacture of Cigarettes

(c) and (d) The following major steps have been taken in the recent past to expand trade between India and Nepal

(i) Goods manufactured in Nepal that have at least 50% Nepalese content have been allowed access to India free of Customs duty and quantitative restrictions. For this purpose, Nepalese content would include not only Nepalese and Indian material content, but also Nepalese labour content. Earlier the minimum limit for Nepalese content was 65% and it did not include the value of Nepalese labour.

(ii) For certifying the Nepalese content of goods exported to India, the system of clearance by Government of India has been abolished and replaced by a system of Certificate of Origin to be issued by the Nepalese Government itself

(iii) Movement of Nepalese private commercial vehicles from Nepalese border to Calcutta/Haldia and back has been allowed on such vehicles being duly authorised by the Nepalese Government or by the specified Nepalese undertakings

- (iv) Nepal to Nepal movement of Nepalese vehicles and goods through India has been allowed without cash deposit or bond system upon the necessary undertaking given by the Nepalese customs authorities.
- (v) Nepal may import goods from India by payment in freely convertible currency, in addition to the existing system of payment in Indian rupees for the import of such goods as the Nepalese Government may choose. The Indian exporter will be entitled to all the export benefits made available by India for such exports in freely convertible currency.

Subsidy to State Financial Corporations

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

(a) The amount of grants/loans and the subsidy thereon given to different State Financial Corporations during the last three years :

(b) Whether the Government propose to discontinue the subsidy to these State Financial Corporations ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS [DR. ABRAR AHMED] : (a) to (c) : The State Financial Corporations (SFCs) were working as agents for disbursements of Central Out-right Grant under the scheme for Industrialisation of Backward Areas. The Central Investment subsidy Scheme has been discontinued since September, 1988. State Government also operate subsidy schemes as a measure of incentive for setting up new industrial units. SFCs now disburse under these schemes and receive reimbursement from the respective State Governments. The amount of subsidy reimbursed/received by the SFCs from the respective, State Governments during the last three years is given below in Statement

STATEMENT

State Subsidy received

	(Rs. Lakhs)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Andhra Pradesh State Financial Corpn.	0	269	1,060
Assam Financial Corporation	0	110	17
Bihar State Financial Corporation			
Delhi Financial Corporation	0	2	0
Gujarat State Financial Corporation	3,222	2,222	1,850
Haryana Financial Corporation	503	571	936
Himachal Pradesh Financial Corpn.	8	0	44
Jammu & Kashmir			
Karnataka State Financial Corpn.	0	749	0
Kerala Financial Corporation	177	162	893
Madhya Pradesh Financial Corpn.	17	79	86
Maharashtra State Financial Corpn.	0	82	330
Orissa State Financial Corpn.	0	309	200
Punjab Financial Corporation	130	60	305
Rajasthan Financial Corporation	936	625	1,726
Tamil Nadu Indus. & Investment Corpn.	400	806	950
Uttar Pradesh Financial Corporation	435	0	68
West Bengal Financial Corporation	85	131	315

Indo-Iran bilateral Trade

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

(a) whether India and Iran have decided to set up a Joint Chamber of Commerce to facilitate more bilateral trade between the two countries ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) During the recent meeting of Commerce Minister with the First Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, H.E. Mr. Alaeddin Broujerdi, both sides felt that the setting up of an Indo-Iran Joint Chamber of Commerce would strengthen bilateral trade and help to bridge the existing information gap between the two countries. The details of the proposal have to be worked out by the trade and industry of the two countries.

Silk Industry

188. **SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN** : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether silk industry in Assam is gradually fading away and in due course it may be extinct altogether ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote the silk industry in Assam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir. The production of raw silk in Assam, which was 422 metric tonnes in 1990-91, has increased to 469 metric tonnes in the year 1992-93.

(b) In order to increase raw silk production in the State of Assam, the Central Silk Board (CSB) is implementing a pilot sericulture project in the State under the World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project. Further, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, the CSB has established a network of its units for extending necessary research, extension, infrastructural and training support for development of sericulture industry in the State.

Interest Tax Collection

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

(a) Whether the interest tax is being levied on interest income received by credit institutions;

(b) If so, the rate thereof;

(c) whether currently the nationalised banks have surplus lendable funds;

(d) whether the Government propose to withdraw the interest tax or reduce the interest rate; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) with effect from asstt. year 1992-93 interest tax is charged @ 3% of the chargeable interest;

(c) Holdings of SLR eligible securities by nationalised banks are in excess of SLR requirements.

(d) and (e) at present there is no proposal to withdraw the interest tax or to revise the interest rate structure

Customs Duty Exemption to Companies

190. **DR. R. MALLU** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have granted complete customs duty exemption on import of machinery to Maruti Udyog Limited;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to provide such facility to other companies also;

(d) if so, the names thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) An adhoc exemption order under section 25(2) of the Customs Act has been issued granting exemption from Customs duty on capital goods, toolings and spares valued at approximately Rs. 333 crores to be imported

by M/s Maruti Udyog Limited. The exemption is subject to the condition that M/s Maruti Udyog Limited shall export 1,40,000 YE-2 Cars during the period of seven years commencing from 1st April, 1995. The approximate value of YE-2 Cars to be exported will be Rs. 2100 crores. In case of any short fall in the export obligation fixed for each year, M/s Maruti Udyog Limited shall pay duty foregone for that year which will be proportionate to the short fall in export obligation for that particular year. The exemption has been granted with a view to enable M/s Maruti Udyog Limited to enter the highly competitive automobile market in the developed countries.

(c) to (c) The Press Note issued by the Government provided that if similar proposals are received involving very high import of capital goods, for purpose of generating exports of value added items in international competitive environment, the Government will consider extension of similar facilities to such proposals. No request from any other Company for similar exemption has been received so far.

Tax Incentives for Setting up of Industrial Units

191 SHRI JEFWAN SHARMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government provide tax concessions for setting up industrial units and hotels in the eight hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to bring these 'No industry Districts' at par with other such districts of the country in terms of concessions by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY). (a) and (b) There is a deduction of 25 per cent, of the profit for all new industrial undertakings wherever they are set up, there is no extra deduction for industrial undertakings in the eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh. But in the case of hotels, the deduction is 30 per cent in general, but 50 per cent if it is set up in any hill area, including the eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) A deduction of 100 per cent of the profit is allowed if an industrial undertaking (but not a hotel) is located in a backward State (not backward district). A Committee has been appointed to go into the question of extending this concession to even to individual backward districts. The report is awaited.

[Translation]

Assistance to Gujarat for Tourism Facilities

192. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the amount of Central assistance allocated to the Government of Gujarat for providing accommodation and other enroute facilities at the tourist spots identified in Gujarat during 1991-92 and 1992-93, and

(b) the pending proposals in this regard for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD). (a) An amount of Rs. 85.28 lakhs was sanctioned as Central assistance to the State Government of Gujarat during 1991-92 for providing accommodation and wayside facilities at the tourist centres identified by the State Government. No proposal was received from the State Government of Gujarat during 1992-93, seeking Central assistance for this purpose.

(b) The Central Department of Tourism has received two proposals for Central assistance during 1993-94.

[English]

TOURIST PLACES

193. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether one of the major problems faced by tourists is lack of toilet and drinking water facilities at important places of tourist interest in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) It is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to provide basic amenities like toilet facilities and drinking water at places of tourist interest.

Financial assistance is extended by the Central Government for providing these facilities on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Government.

[Translation]

Trade between India and Israel

**194. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
PROF. PREM DHUMAL :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of increase registered in the trade between India and Israel after establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel;

(b) the total value of exports made by India to Israel during 1992-93; and

(c) the value of exports likely to be made by India to Israel during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) India's trade with Israel increased from Rs. 317.86 crores during 1991-92 to Rs. 660.24 crores during 1992-93.

(b) India's exports to Israel during 1992-93 amounted to Rs. 244.10 crores.

(c) During the first 5 months of 1993-94 (Apr—Aug '93), India's exports to Israel amounted to Rs. 159.48 crores.

[English]

Brahmaputra Riverside

195. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam has submitted any project for beautification of the riverside of the Brahmaputra at Guwahati city; and

(b) if so, the present status of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Government of Assam submitted a project proposal for upgradation of facilities on the riverside of the Brahmaputra at Guwahati city during 1991-92, which was sanctioned for Rs. 5.13 lakhs by the Central Government. The State Government has informed that the project has been completed.

[Translation]

Bank Branches in Maharashtra

196. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open some more branches of Commercial Banks in Maharashtra during the current year to promote trade and commerce in the State :

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

(c) the time by which these branches are likely to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Under the liberalised Branch Expansion Policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks have been allocated quota/centres for opening of branches during the period 1990—95. No year-wise targets have been fixed for opening of branches. Banks have, however, been advised to evolve a plan for opening of branches at allotted localities in a phased manner during the above period. Particulars of localities allotted to banks under Branch Expansion Programme 1990—95 in Maharashtra are indicated in the Statement I, II & III. Banks are expected to open the branches at the allotted centres after fixing the premises etc. up to 31-3-1995.

STATEMENT-I**Rural Centres**

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Centre	District
1	State Bank of India	Mehergaon	Dhule
2	Do.	@Salav	Raigad
3	Do.	@Kedalas	Solapur
4	Do.	Waluj Industrial Estate	Aurangabad
5	Central Bank of India	@Gowardhan	Nashik
6	Do.	Ambap	Kolhapur
7	Do.	@Usar	Raigad
8	Do.	@Sonand	Solapur
9	Bank of India	Punal	Kolhapur
10	Bank of Maharashtra	Bharam	Nasik
11	Do.	Shiroli Dumala	Kolhapur
12	Do.	Manjrewadi	Solapur
13	Do.	@Umarsara	Yavatmal
14	Do.	@Balewadi	Pune
15	Indian Bank	Rasa	Yavatmal
16	Union Bank of India	Kolthare	Ratnaagiri
17	Sangli Bank Ltd. . . .	@Ghotwade	Kolhapur
18	Do.	Ganeshwadi	Do.
19	Ratnakar Bank Ltd. . . .	@Bhadola	Do.
20	Do.	Sangwada	Do.
21	United Western Bank Ltd. . . .	Lohara (MIDC)	Yavatmal
22	Do.	@Godhany Railway	Nagpur

@Branches have been opened.

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Centre	District
1	Dena Bank	Wai	Satara
2	State Bank of India	@Baramati (MIDC Area)	Pune
3	Dena Bank	@Sinnar (Indust. Area)	Nasik
4	Central Bank of India	@Mukhed	Nanded
5	Dena Bank	@Sangamner	Ahmednagar
6	Yavatmal Gramin Bank	Pusad	Yavatmal
7	Bank of India	@Morshi	Amravati
8	Do.	@Mul	Chandrapur
9	United Western Bank Ltd. . . .	Pachora	Jalgaon
10	Sangli Bank Ltd. . . .	@Gandhinagar	Kolhapur
11	Bank of Maharashtra	@Umarga	Osmanabad

STATEMENT-II—contd.

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre	District
12	Bank of Maharashtra	Talegaon Dabhade (Upgradation of EC)	Pune
13	Union Bank of India	@Uran	Raigad
14	United Western Bank Ltd.	@Vita	Sangli
15	Bank of India	Wai	Satara
16	Central Bank of India	Pandharpur	Solapur
17	State Bank of Hyderabad	Barshi	Do.
18	Vijaya Bank	@Akkalkot	Do.
19	Do.	@Palghar (Mahim Road)	Thane
20	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Vasai (Ambadi Road)	Thane
21	Corporation Bank	Vasai	Do.
22	Bank of Baroda	@ Do.	Do.
23	Vysya Bank Ltd.	Do.	Do.
24	Vijaya Bank	Bhayander (East)	Thane
25	Corporation Bank	@ Do.	Do.
26	Do.	Do.	Do.
27	Vysya Bank Ltd.	Mira Road	Do.
28	Bank of Baroda	Bhayander (East)	Do.

@Branches have been opened.

STATEMENT-III

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
1	Corporation Bank	@New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market I	Thane
2	State Bank of India	@ Do.	Thane
3	State Bank of Mysore	@New Bombay—CIDCO Bhavan, Plot No. 6, Sector 1, Borapur	"
4	Canara Bank	New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market II	"
5	State Bank of Saurashtra	@New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market II Sector 19	"
6	Punjab National Bank	New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market I	"
7	Indian Overseas Bank	New Bombay—APMC RPMC Fruits and Vegetable Market	"

STATEMENT-III—contd.

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
8	Dena Bank	New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market II	Thane
9	Bank of Baroda	@New Bombay—APMC Phase II Market I	"
10	State Bank of India	New Bombay—Dev giri Complex, Phase II, Market II	"
11	Canara Bank	New Bombay, Nerul	"
12	Corporation Bank	New Bombay—Airoli	"
13	Dena Bank	@New Bombay, Kalamboli	Raigad
14	Central Bank of India	New Bombay—CBD Konkan Bhavan	Thane
15	Vijaya Bank	New Bombay—New Panval	Raigad
16	Dena Bank	New Bombay—Airoli	Thane
17	Indian Bank	New Bombay—Sector 29, 14, 11 and 12	Vashi
18	Bank of India	New Bombay—Kalamboli	Raigad
19	Syndicate Bank	New Bombay—Nerul (Juinagar)	Thane
20	Bank of Maharashtra	Ahmednagar Kalanagar, Gulmohar Road	"
21	State Bank of India	@Ahmednagar Burdgaon Road	"
22	Bank of Maharashtra	Akola—Dapki Road	Akola
23	State Bank of India	Akola—Alsi Plot Radha Kisan Layout	"
24	State Bank of India	Amravati Co-operative Industrial Estate	Amravati
25	Central Bank of India	@Amravati Shivajinagar	"
26	State Bank of India	Amravati MIDC, Ward 56	"
27	State Bank of Mysore	Aurangabad Institute of Technology	Aurangabad
28	State Bank of India	Aurangabad Dashmeshnagar	"
29	Bank of Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Sayajipur	"
30	Central Bank of India	@Aurangabad Bajaj Residential Area	"
31	State Bank of India	Gondia—MIDC	Bhandara
32	Canara Bank	Gondia, Jhulelal Colony	"
33	State Bank of India	Chandrapur, Shastri Nagar	Chandrapur
34	Bank of Maharashtra	Chandrapur, Shastri Nagar	"
35	Canara Bank	Chandrapur, Pathanpura	"
36	State Bank of India	Chandrapur, Ramnagar	"
37	Central Bank of India	Dhule, Badgujar Plot, Market Yard	Dhule

STATEMENT-III—contd.

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
38	State Bank of India	@Dhule-Deopur/Pramod Nagar	Dhule
39	State Bank of India	@Dhule (MIDC Mukundnagar)	"
40	Vijaya Bank	Bombay—Girila Hostel Bldg., Babubhai Chinoy Road	Greater Bombay
41	Syndicate Bank	Bombay—Worli Sea Face	"
42	Bank of Baroda	Bombay—Hiranandani Marg, Powai	"
43	Vijaya Bank	Bombay—Borivili (W), Govindnagar	"
44	Bank of Baroda	@Bombay, Jacob Circle	"
45	Vijaya Bank	Bombay—Borivili (W) Govindnagar	"
46	Bank of Baroda	Bombay, Jacob Circle	"
47	Syndicate Bank	Bombay, Kamathipura	"
48	Bank of Baroda	Bombay, Hiranandani Marg, Powai	"
49	Vijaya Bank	Bombay—Borivili (W), Govindnagar	"
50	Bank of Baroda	Bombay, Jacob Circle	"
51	Syndicate Bank	Bombay, Kamathipura	"
52	Central Bank of India	Bombay, Jogeshwari, Millat Road	"
53	Corporation Bank	Bombay—Dadar Maniah Market	"
54	State Bank of Indore	Bombay—Dadar Gokhale Road	"
55	United Bank of India	Bombay—Dadar, Bhavani Shankar Road	"
56	State Bank of Travancore	@Bombay—Dadar, N.C. Kelkar Road	"
57	Indian Bank	Bombay—Bandra Kala Nagar	"
58	Punjab National Bank	Bombay—Bandra Vidya Vihar	"
59	Union Bank of India	Bombay—Bandra Kurla Complex	"
60	Canara Bank	Bombay—Juhu, Ville Parle Development Scheme	"
61	Dena Bank	Bombay—Malad (E) Raheja Township	"
62	Bank of India	Bombay—Malad (W) Ever-shine Nagar	"
63	State Bank of Hyderabad	@Bombay—Marve Road	"
64	Oriental Bank of Commerce	@Bombay—Kandivli (E) Thakar Complex	"
65	Indian Overseas Bank	Bombay—Borivli (E) Shantivan	"
66	Andhra Bank	Bombay—Dahisar Avdhoot-nagar, Shivaji Road	"

STATEMENT-III—contd.

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
67	UCO Bank	@Bombay—Dahisar (E) Miskita Nagar	Greater Bombay
68	State Bank of Patiala	Bombay—Antop Hill	„
69	Bank of Maharashtra	Bombay—Ghatkopar Jagdeshnagar	„
70	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	@Bombay—Bhandup (E)	„
71	State Bank of India	Bombay—Mulund (E) Neelam Nagar, Gavanpada	„
72	Vijaya Bank	@Bombay—Mulund (E)	„
73	Punjab National Bank	Bhusaval—Tapinagar	Jalgaon
74	Canara Bank	Bhusaval, Shivajinagar	„
75	Dena Bank	@Bhusaval—Ordinance Factory	„
76	Union Bank of India	Jalgaon—Sindhi Colony	„
77	Central Bank of India	Jalgaon—Shivajinagar	„
78	Central Bank of India	@Jalna Industrial Area	Jalna
79	Bank of Maharashtra	Jalna Nutan Vasahat Jalna Ambad Road	„
80	Union Bank of India	Jalna New Mondha Area	„
81	State Bank of India	@Ichalkaranji Parvati Industrial Estate	Kolhapur
82	Bank of Maharashtra	Kolhapur Salokhenagar	„
83	State Bank of India	Kolhapur Baba Jarag Nagar	„
84	Bank of Maharashtra	Kolhapur, Rajendranagar	„
85	Bank of India	Kolhapur, Gokul Shirgaon	„
86	Bank of India	Latur MIDC	Latur
87	State Bank of India	@Latur Adarsha Colony Aush Road	„
88	Bank of Maharashtra	Latur, Vivekanandnagar Nanded Road	„
89	Canara Bank	Latur Yeshwantnagar	„
90	Punjab National Bank	@Nagpur, Across the Road of Electronic Zone	Nagpur
91	State Bank of Indore	@Nagpur, Timki North side of Central Avenue Road	„
92	Central Bank of India	@Nagpur—Lalganj Area	„
93	State Bank of India	Nagpur, Friends Colony Katol Road	„
94	Union Bank of India	Nagpur—APMC Kalmana	„
95	State Bank of India	Nagpur—Subhash Road Near Shivaji Litho Works	„
96	State Bank of Hyderabad	Pune—Sangvi	Pune
97	Allahabad Bank	@Pune—Nilakh Phata	„
98	Bank of India	Pune—Kalawadi	„
99	Canara Bank	@Pune—Hinjawadi	„

STATEMENT-III—contd.

S. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
100	Dena Bank	@Pune—Akurdi	Pune
101	Bank of Maharashtra	Pune—Yamunanagar	"
102	Central Bank of India	@Pune—Pradhikaran (New Township)	"
103	Punjab National Bank	Pune—Kudalwadi	"
104	State Bank of India	Pune—Tanjajinagar	"
105	Corporation Bank	Pune—Premlok Chowk	"
106	Union Bank of India	@Pune—Pauo Phata	"
107	Corporation Bank	Pune—Bopdi/Dapodi	"
108	State Bank of India	Pune—Premnagri	"
109	State Bank of India	Pune—Viman Nagar	"
110	Central Bank of India	@Pune—Koregaon Park Kapila Dairy	"
111	Bank of Baroda	Pune—Hadapsar Vaiduwadi	"
112	Union Bank of India	Pune—Hadapsar	"
113	UCO Bank	Pune—Sangamwadi	"
114	State Bank of India	Pune—Dhankawadi	"
115	Bank of India	@Pune—Dothrud Shastrinagar	"
116	Bank of Maharashtra	Pune—Warji, Malwadi	"
117	Dena Bank	Pune—Banur, National Insurance Academy	"
118	Punjab National Bank	Pune—Ambenagar, Dattanagar	"
119	State Bank of India	Pune—Yerwada, Kalyaninagar	"
120	Dena Bank	Pune—Parmar Nagar	"
121	State Bank of Hyderabad	@Pune—Kothrud, Gandhi Bhavan	"
122	Canara Bank	Pune—Salisbury Park	"
123	Syndicate Bank	Sangli—Sahyadri Nagar	Sangli
124	Bank of Maharashtra	Sangli—Abhaynagar	"
125	State Bank of India	@Sangli—MIDC	"
126	Central Bank of India	@Sangli—Kolhapur Road	"
127	Bank of Maharashtra	@Solapur—Twin Solapur area	Solapur
128	State Bank of India	Solapur (Modi Area)	"
129	Canara Bank	Bhiwandi—Vanjrapatti Nake, Agra Road	Thane
130	Punjab National Bank	Bhiwandi Temgha	"
131	State Bank of Indore	Dombivli (Gopalnagar)	"
132	State Bank of Travancore	Ambernath, Near Vandana Talkies	"
133	State Bank of India	@Dombivli Tilaknagar	"
134	State Bank of Indore	Thane—Kharigaon	"
135	Canara Bank	Ulhasnagar—Khemani	"
136	Oriental Bank of Commerce	@Ulhasnagar—Mulshi Mission	"

STATEMENT III—concl'd.

Sl. No.	Name of the bank	Centre & Locality	District
137	New Bank of India	@Ulhasnagar, Near Railway Station	Thane
138	Bank of India	CBD, Belapur, New Bombay	"
139	Bareilly Corporation Bank Ltd.	Fort, Bombay	Greater Bombay
140	Bank of India (Specialised branch for Diamond Business)	Bandra—Kurla Complex, Bombay	"
141	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Dr. Ambedkar Road, Nagpur	"
142	Bank of India (Specialised Agri Finance Branch)	Pune	Pune .
143	Bank of India	Jam Mills, Solapur	Solapur

@branches have been opened.

[English]

Debt Servicing Payments

197. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest calculations regarding debt servicing payments to be made this year;

(b) the likely effect on the Balance of Payments situation; and

(c) the measures being contemplated by the Government for reducing the gap between imports and exports performance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (a) and (b) : Latest indications are that while debt service payments for 1993-94 may be marginally higher than that of US \$ 8.1 billion during 1992-93, debt service as per cent of current receipts will be lower than the 1992-93 level of 30.4 per cent. The balance of payments situation in 1993-94 is expected to be substantially better than in 1992-93.

(c) The Government have taken several measures to narrow the trade gap which include the unification of the exchange rate and floating of the Rupee, modification of the EXIM policy to give a new thrust to exports of agricultural and allied sectors and services; pruning of the negative list of exports; specific incentives to banks to increase availability of

credit to the export sector, introduction of pre-shipment credit in foreign currency at globally comparable rates, and strengthening infra-structural facilities through greater involvement of State Governments. As a result, the trade gap in 1993-94 is expected to be lower than in the previous year.

Low Cost, No-Frills Flights

198. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines propose to offer low-cost, no-frills flights to attract passengers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Apart from the existing Economy Class, Business Class and Executive Class, no other class is proposed at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Payment of Salary to TTCI Employees

199. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DASS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the Tea Trading Corporation of India managing tea garden, Luksan are not getting their salaries regularly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) There have been marginal delays in disbursement of salary to the workers of Luksan Tea Garden in the recent Past on account of some problems of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. The Corporation is making all attempts for timely distribution of Salary to the garden workers.

State's Funding Corporation

200. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA : SHRI ATAL BIHARI BAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any initiative for the formation of "States' Funding Corporation" to raise funds for the States as per the proposal mooted by the Reserve Bank of India ;

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

(c) the response of the State Governments thereto ?

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

(a) There is a mention about the setting up of States Funding Corporation in para 7.62 (page 115) of the Annual Report 1992-93 of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Ministry of Finance however, have not received any formal proposal in this regard from the RBI so far. There is, therefore, no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Finance for the present.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

International Operations by Air Taxi Operators

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

(a) the air taxi operators operating domestic flights;

(b) whether some air taxi operators propose to operate international flights;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total revenue earned from the air taxi operators during the first three quarters of 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) As on 30-11-93, seventeen air taxi operators are authorised to provide domestic services.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. M/s East West Airlines had sought permission to start international operations. Under the existing air taxi guidelines, operation of only domestic services is allowed.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of Airports at Amreli and Surat

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

(a) whether the construction of airport terminal building, runway and taxi-track have been completed at Amreli and Surat in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to establish full-fledged civil airports there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (e) The airstrips at Amreli and Surat belong to the Government of Gujarat. National Airports Authority has no plan at present to upgrade facilities at these airstrips.

Drug Trafficking in Mizoram

203. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mizoram is emerging as one of the main centres for drug trafficking in the North-East part of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the drugs seized during the last six months; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the drug trafficking in the Mizoram ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : (a) & (b) Drug trafficking being a clandestine activity, it cannot be said definitely whether it is increasing in Mizoram or otherwise. However, available information about the quantity of drugs seized and number of cases in Mizoram during the last six months and the corresponding period of 1992 are given below :

		(Quantity in Kgs.)	
		1993 (June to Nov.)	1992 (June to Nov.)
(I) <i>Drug</i>			
Heroin . . .	0.45	0.461	
Ganja . . .	52.530	99.501	
Opium . . .	2.500	2.255	
Morphine . .	41 Ampoules	—	
(II) No. of cases			
	34	87	

(c) Besides, general legislative, enforcements administrative and other measures taken in this direction, the following particular steps have been taken in the North-Eastern Sector to check drug trafficking :—

- (i) Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provision, contained in the NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers. Vehicles and communication equipment have been provided.
- (ii) Under the chairmanship of State Home Secretary (Mizoram), a co-ordination Committee has been constituted for periodical meeting with local Senior-most officers of the Central and the State agencies for implementation of the NDPS Act.
- (iii) For the purpose of coordination, nodal officers have been identified in all North-Eastern States.
- (iv) Trafficking routes identified have been circulated to all agencies.
- (v) A bilateral agreement with Myanmar has been signed in March, 1993 to provide for exchange of intelligence, etc., to combat illicit trafficking in drugs.

[Translation]

Export of Spices

204. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the export of spices has increased during 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned there from during the above period, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI K KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The details of export of spices (quantity and value) for the year 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below :

(Quantity in MTs)

Value—Rs. Crs.

Year	Quantity	Value
1991-92(P) .	1,30,567	362.04
1992-93(E) .	1,23,265	382.06

(P) Provisional.

(E) Estimate.

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta/Shipping—Bills/Exporters' Returns.

NTC Mills in Madhya Pradesh

205. DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of those sick mills functioning under National Textile Corporation in Madhya Pradesh which are proposed to be closed by the Government;

(b) the number of the labourers working in each of the above mills and the loss suffered by each mill;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to revive any of the above mills, and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d) NTC(MP) Ltd., which has 7 mills under its fold, has been declared to be sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The Turn Around Strategy for NTC identified Hira Mills, Ujjain to be unviable whose officers, staff and workers were to be rationalised under the

Voluntary Retirement Scheme while three mills viz., Indore Malva, Kalyanmal and Swadeshi Textile at Indore were proposed to be merged into one resultant viable unit. The future disposition of the mills of NTC (MP) Ltd. shall be determined by BIFR in consultation with all parties concerned. A statement indicating the number of workers and net loss suffered by the mills of NTC(MP) in 1992-93 is given below.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Mill	No. of workers on roll as on 30-9-93	Net loss (Rs. Crores) 1992-93
1	Hira Mills, Ujjain	1,622	—11.20
2	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	887	—9.68
3	New Bhopal Textile Mills	965	—8.29
4	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	1,312	—4.40
5	Bengal Nagpur cotton Mills	1,924	—9.12
6	Indore Malwa Mills	2,450	—15.25
7	Kalyanmal Mills	1,929	—10.30

Modernisation of Powerloom in U.P.

206. **SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :**

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Uttar Pradesh Government for providing financial assistance to modernise powerlooms in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Air Services Agreements

207. **SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have signed air services agreements with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan with a view to promote closer bilateral exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these services are likely to operate ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Bilateral agreements provide for designation of one or more airlines by each of the Contracting Parties for operating air services on specified routes.

(c) No dates have been firmed up for actual operation of air services.

[Translation]

Poverty Alleviation Programme

208. **SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the total amount received by the Government from World Bank for Poverty Alleviation Programme during 1991-92 and 1992-93, respectively;

(b) the amount spent out of the total amount received by the Government on this account; and

(c) the reasons for not spending the remaining amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED) : (a) No specific amount has been received from World Bank for Poverty Alleviation Programme during last two years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Special Central Assistance to West Bengal

209. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a special Central assistance in terms of loan to the tune of Rs. 215 crores was promised by the Government in 1991-92 to the Government of West Bengal;

(b) whether the above fund has been released to the State;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) The State Government had requested for a medium term loan of Rs. 200 crores in 1991-92 for funding its annual plan for that year. As the Centre itself was passing through a serious, financial crisis during 1991-92, the request of the State Government could not be acceded to by the Centre.

(d) As the request of the State Government for a medium term loan of Rs. 200 crores was for funding the annual Plan of the State for 1991-92, there is no question of considering the same after the end of the financial year 1991-92.

[Translation]

Pending cases before branch of Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal, Delhi

210. SHRI LAL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of such cases before the

Delhi Branch of Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal upto October 30, 1993 in regard to which final hearing has been completed but are pending for decision for more than last three months;

(b) the reasons for delay in deciding such cases after, the completion of hearing; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure early decision in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The number of such cases is fifteen.

(b) and (c) The Tribunal, which is a quasi-judicial body, has to pass speaking orders after a study of the technical literature and the issues of law and fact raised by the parties in the cases coming up before it. Some delay in a few complicated cases is unavoidable.

[English]

Pigmy Deposit Collectors

211. DR. A.K. PATEL :

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Pigmy Deposit Collectors working in the various nationalised banks as on September 30, 1993 and the total deposits mobilised by them during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far;

(b) whether the Government have made any assessment regarding the financial viability of the deposit Collection Scheme;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether any modifications in the scheme is under consideration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

[*Translation*]

Violation of Inter-State Migrant Act

212. **SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHURY** : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the violation of Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last two years, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Secrecy Laws of Foreign Banks

213. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state.

(a) whether the Government have instructed/propose to instruct foreign banks to slack the secrecy rules for having a transparent global banking system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Foreign banks operating in India are governed by the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, Reserve Bank of India Act and other statutes. Their operations abroad are governed by the regulatory authorities of the country concerned. There is no scope for Government of India to interfere in the operations of foreign banks in other countries.

Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open more number of branches of Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the locations of such banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government do not have any proposal of establishing more Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the country including Madhya Pradesh. The proposals for opening of branches of RRBs will emanate from them according to the extent branch licensing policy of Reserve Bank of India. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that they have not received any proposal for opening of branches of RRBs in Madhya Pradesh.

[*English*]

Cultivation of Rubber in Assam

215. **SHRI PROBIN DEKA** : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme to cultivate rubber in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Rubber Plantation Development Scheme Phase IV being implemented in the 8th Plan period, the Board proposes to bring under cultivation 5650 hectares of land.

(b) The details are given below :

Year	Area in Hectare
1993-94	1,000
1994-95	1,100
1995-96	1,100
1996-97	1,200
1997-98	1,250
Total	5,650

(c) The Scheme is already under implementation.

[*Translation*]**Separate Board for Banks and Financial Institutions**

216. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a separate board to monitor the functioning of banks and financial institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposed board is likely to be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) It has been decided to set up a Supervisory Body under the aegis of Reserve Bank of India. The structure and functions of this body are under formulation.

[*English*]**Investment through Educational and Scientific Research Institutions**

217. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether the scheme worked out by the Government to attract investments through educational and scientific research institutions

has received a positive response from the industries;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to overcome the bureaucratic hurdles in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) : The information is being collected.

D.A. to Government Employees

218. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) details of Dearness Allowance instalments granted to the Central Government and Public Sector undertakings employees during the last three years, period-wise; and

(b) the extra burden on the Central Government including public sector undertaking as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The details of instalments of Dearness Allowance sanctioned to Central Government employees during the last three years and additional financial implications thereon are given below in the Statement.

The information in respect of Public Sector employees is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

STATEMENT

Date of sanction of additional instalment of DA	Quantum of additional instalment of DA			Additional financial implications (per annum in crores)
	Employees drawing pay upto Rs. 3,500 p.m.	Employees drawing pay above Rs. 3,500 and upto Rs. 6,000 p.m.	Employees drawing pay above Rs. 6,000 p.m.	
1	2	3	4	5
1-1-1991	8%	6%	5%	566
1-7-1991	9%	7%	6%	780
1-1-1992	11%	8%	7%	910
1-7-1992	12%	9%	8%	996
1-1-1993	9%	7%	5%	750
1-7-1993	5%	4%	4%	416

Air Taxi Operators

219. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the air taxi operators which are operating on all the major trunk routes in competition with the Indian Airlines;

(b) whether it is proposed to allow more air taxi operators to operate;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these private air taxi operators deploy vintage aircraft, which are not safe and which are fuel guzzlers;

(e) the extent to which India's fuel import bill is likely to be adversely affected on this account;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up an independent statutory authority, to regulate private air taxi operators, responsible for route licensing, aircraft maintenance and safety;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Labour Laws

220. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently there has been an evaluation of the implementation of labour laws in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) to (c) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Free Air Tickets to KVIC

221. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India has issued some free air tickets to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for exhibition in London

(b) if so, the number and the total value of these free air tickets and the criteria adopted for giving these tickets ;

(c) whether the Air India has received any complaints in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Air India has, however, signed a Transportation Service Contract with KVIC for a value of Rs. 10 lakhs to be utilised by the latter for transportation of passengers and cargo on Air India Services in return for publicity offered to Air India by KVIC as its official carrier.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise.

[*English*]

Performance of export of Industrial and Agricultural Products

222. SHRIMATI SUSHEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the export performance for the months of April-September, 1993, item-wise;

(b) whether the performance of the Industrial Sector has shown a decline during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken in this regard;

(d) whether the export performance has shown the increase in the export of agricultural products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The export performance in dollar terms of principal commodities for the period April—August 93, the latest period for which such data are available is given below.

(b) and (c) The index of Industrial Production for the period April-July 93, the latest period for which such data are available have shown an increase of 1.2% over the corresponding period last year. Exports of manufactured products have grown at 20% during April-August 93 over the corresponding period in the previous year.

(d) and (e) The export of agricultural and allied products during the period April-August, 93 have registered an increase of 38% in dollar terms over the corresponding period last year. The main agricultural products which have registered increases, in dollar terms, are Cereals (21%), Nuts and Seed (41%), Oil Meals (65%), Castor Oil (191%), Sugar and Mollases (180), Processed Foods (22%) etc.

STATEMENT

Export of Principal Commodities April—August, 1993-94

(US \$ Million)

Commodities	Apr-Aug 1992	Apr-Aug 1993	% Growth
1	2	3	4
I. Plantations	145.58	184.54	26.8
1. Tea	103.70	136.39	31.5
2. Coffee	41.87	48.15	15.0
II. Agri & Allied Prdts	727.40	1,002.92	37.9
1. Cereal	147.01	177.79	20.9
(a) Rice	142.70	176.39	23.6
(b) Wheat	2.05	—	—
(c) Others	2.26	1.40	-37.9
2. Pulses	7.23	5.94	-17.9
3. Tobacco	75.11	62.94	-16.2
(a) Unmanufactured	64.27	47.92	-25.4
(b) Manufactured	10.84	15.03	38.6
4. Spices	60.70	71.90	18.4
5. Nuts & Seeds	118.62	167.43	41.2
(a) Cashew incl. CNSL	106.72	138.40	29.7
(b) Sesame & Niger seed	11.71	7.24	-38.1
(c) Groundnut	0.19	21.79	11,647.6
6. Oil Meals	159.18	262.13	64.7
7. Guergam meal	13.40	19.05	42.2
8. Castor Oil	12.81	37.22	190.6
9. Shellac	3.94	11.29	186.3
10. Sugar & Mollases	16.18	45.32	180.0
11. Processed Foods	75.83	92.54	22.0
(a) Fruits & Vegetables	44.85	54.82	22.2
(b) Processed Fruits & Juices	17.39	20.16	15.9
(c) Misc. Processed items	13.59	17.56	29.2
12. Meat & Meat Products	30.73	42.12	37.1
13. Floriculture products	2.27	1.95	-14.1
14. Spirit & Beverages	4.39	5.29	20.5

STATEMENT—*contd.*

	2	3	4
III. Marine Products	203.28	244.77	20.4
IV. Ores Minerals	271.28	354.28	30.6
1. Iron ore	146.02	187.89	28.7
2. Mica	3.04	4.49	47.9
3. Processed Minerals	54.42	73.76	35.6
4. Other Ores & Minerals	66.05	84.42	27.8
5. Coal	1.76	3.71	10.9
V. Leather & Mtrs	504.41	520.62	3.2
1. Footwear	163.01	177.93	9.1
2. Leather & Mtrs.	331.39	342.69	0.4
VI. Gems & Jewellery	1,093.46	1,507.32	37.8
VII. Sports Goods	14.66	15.22	2.8
VIII. Chemicals & related products	708.68	913.79	28.9
1. Basic chems., Pharma. & cosmetics	458.31	531.43	15.9
2. Plastics & Linoleum	50.67	112.75	122.5
3. Rubber, glass & other products	164.24	232.38	41.5
4. Residual chems. & allied products	35.37	37.23	5.2
IX. Engineering Goods	845.37	1,035.37	22.5
1. Electronics Goods	95.49	112.70	18.0
XI. Project Goods	10.63	2.67	-74.9
XII. Textiles	1,785.63	1,972.62	10.5
1. Readymade garments	963.21	1,046.71	8.6
2. Cotton, yarn, fabrics, made-ups, etc.	522.59	603.09	15.4
3. Manmade textiles made-ups, etc.	165.83	192.82	16.3
4. Natural silk textiles	57.28	43.00	24.9
5. Wool & woollen mtrs.	12.39	19.14	54.5
6. Coir & coir mtrs.	12.48	16.76	34.3
7. Jute mtrs	51.15	51.10	-0.1
XIII. Handicrafts	105.20	126.65	20.4
XIV. Carpets	205.07	210.62	2.7
1. Hand-made excl. Silk	162.5	164.30	1.1
2. Mill-made excl. Silk	34.79	40.93	17.6
3. Silk Carpets	7.82	5.40	30.9
XV. Cotton Raw incl. waste	6.31	148.67	2,256.3
XVI. Petroleum Products	193.30	210.04	8.7
XVII. Unclassified Exports	167.40	130.26	93.3
GRAND TOTAL	6,983.08	8,693.03	24.5

Source : DGCI&S, Cuttack
94-1/S259LSS-7

Banking Regulation Act, 1949

223. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked the Government to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Housing Development Finance Corporation, the Unit Trust of India and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India have also petitioned the RBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) With a view to ensure that the banks being set up in the private sector in terms of the recent policy guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are well managed and also to enable RBI to exercise its regulating powers more effectively certain amendments have been suggested in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to the Government. These amendments have been proposed after taking into consideration the suggestions received from the Housing Development Finance Corporation; (HDFC), Unit Trust of India (UTI) and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI).

Income Tax Raids

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

(a) whether the Income tax department conducted a nationwide raids in October, 1993

(b) if so, the amount recovered during these raids, State-wise; and

(c) the action being contemplated against those found responsible during these raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) In the course of the searches conducted in October 1993, unaccounted assets worth Rs. 3,591.11 lakhs were seized. State-wise break up is given below in the Statement.

Necessary follow-up actions as called for under the Direct Taxes Acts have been taken up on the basis of the seized materials.

STATEMENT

S.No	State	Seizure (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Assam (NER)	16.48
2.	Andhra Pradesh	404.78
3.	Bihar	10.36
4.	Chandigarh	84.87
5.	Delhi	153.47
6.	Gujarat	523.83
7.	Karnataka	224.81
8.	Madhya Pradesh	38.65
9.	Maharashtra	1131.90
10.	Punjab	272.11
11.	Rajasthan	38.58
12.	Tamil Nadu	257.04
13.	Uttar Pradesh	82.05
14.	West Bengal	352.18
TOTAL		3591.11

Unused Airports

225. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether a number of airports/air strips in the country are lying unused for a long time;

(b) if so, the names of each of such airport or strip alongwith the period for which these are lying unused, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of these airports/air strips;

(d) whether there is any plan to use these airports/air strips; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) A statement indicating details of airports presently lying unused is annexed

(c) . For want of demand from operators the airports listed in the Annexure are lying unused

(d) and (e). There is no plan, at present, to use these airports.

STATEMENT

Name of Airport	Period since lying unused
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ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Cuddapah	September, 1989
2. Donakonda	Rarely used
3. Warrangal	February, 1988

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

4. Passighat	November, 1990
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ASSAM

5. Rupsi	Rarely used
6. Shella	Rarely used

BIHAR

7. Gaya	November, 1990
8. Jogbani	Rarely used
9. Mussafarpur	Rarely used
10. Chakulia	Rarely used
11. Raxaul	Rarely used

GUJARAT

12. Dasa	August, 1991
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KARNATAKA

13. Hassan	Rarely used
14. Mysore	September, 1989

MADHYA PRADESH

15. Bilaspur	November, 1990
16. Khandwa	August, 1991
17. Panna	August, 1991
18. Satna	November, 1990

MAHARASHTRA

19. Akola	December, 1988
20. Sholapur	July, 1991

ORISSA

21. Jharsuguda	Rarely used
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RAJASTHAN

22. Kota	November, 1990
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TAMIL NADU

23. Vellore	Rarely used
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TRIPURA

24. Kailashar	September, 1990
25. Kamalpur	September, 1990
26. Khawai	Rarely used

UTTAR PRADESH

27. Jhansi	Rarely used
28. Lalitpur	Rarely used

WEST BENGAL

29. Balurghat	Rarely used
30. Malda	Rarely used

[Translation]

Deficit of Regional Rural Banks

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

(a) whether a detailed inquiry of financial/administrative expenditure has been conducted by NABARD to narrow down the deficit of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government with regard to the irregularities found during the inquiry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED) (a) and (b) Under Section 35 of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 statutory inspections of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are conducted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and in regard to irregularities relating to administrative/ financial expenditure and other operational matters noticed, the banks are asked to rectify the situation immediately and the matter is followed up. In addition, the operations of the RRBs as well as their Financial and Administrative expenditure are monitored based on their annual accounts submitted every year as well as through the quarterly operational data which are completed for analysis at NABARD. Based on these data a number of performance parameters are worked out and banks are advised accordingly.

(c) In case the inspection Report of NABARD or the performance monitoring brings about any irregularities, action is initiated forthwith. Further, whenever complaints are received from members of public, loanes etc., the matter is got examined immediately for necessary action.

[English]

Cut in Lending Rates

227. **SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has lately cut the lending rates as also the rates on deposits, including small savings;

(b) if so, the extent to which the cut has been made;

(c) whether it has adversely affected the savings, especially small savings, through banks and financial institutions;

(d) the extent to which it has helped the industry, the small entrepreneurs, the farmers and other focus groups by way of credits; and

(e) the extent to which it has affected the common depositors of banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With effect from September 2, 1993 the interest rates on advances and deposits of the scheduled commercial banks as also on post office time and recurring deposits and 6 years monthly income scheme have been reduced by 1 to 1.5 percentage points. Investment in Indira Vikas Patra (IVP) and Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) will double now in 34 years instead of 5 years earlier.

(c) and (e) The reduction in interest rates on bank deposits was made in consonance with the deceleration in the annual inflation rate. Interest rates on post office deposits monthly income scheme, IVP and KVP were also reduced in line with the fall in the rate of inflation and downward adjustment in deposit rates of the banks. As bank deposits and small savings depend on nominal interest rates, inflation rate, income and other factors, there is unlikely to be any adverse effect on the flow of these deposits

and small savings. Depositors have also benefited from the fall in the rate of inflation compared to last year.

(d) The reduction in interest rate was primarily aimed at helping the industrialists, small entrepreneurs, farmers and other focus groups through lower cost of credit. Besides, special package of measures have also been initiated by the Reserve Bank of India to boost the flow of credit to farmers, small scale industries, artisans etc, such as, stipulation of 10 per cent net bank credit as target for credit to small scale industries by foreign banks operating in India annual credit plan to be drawn at bank branch level in consultation with SSI units, clubbing of direct and indirect advances for agriculture within the target of 18 per cent, increase in the limits under General Line of Credit I to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) from the Reserve Bank of India for short-term seasonal agricultural operations and 40 per cent of the credit sanctioned for SSI units to be earmarked for village, cottage, khadi and tiny industries as also artisans.

Cloth for Lower Income Group

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

(a) the percentage of total production of cloth in Indian textiles for income group of people;

(b) whether there is any machinery to ensure this percentage;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to enhance the percentage of production for lower income group people;

(d) whether any subsidy is being provided for the production of this type of cloths; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) The Handloom Sector produces Janata Cloth and

NTC produces Controlled Cloth for the weaker sections of society. 450 million Sq. Mtrs. of Janata Cloth and 50.4 million Sq. Mtrs. of Controlled Cloth were produced during 1992-93 which amount to 2.08% of the total cloth production. There is no proposal to enhance the production of Janata/Controlled cloth.

(d) and (e) Government provides subsidy on Janata/Controlled cloth as follows:

JANATA CLOTH

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Cotton cloth | Rs. 3.40 per sq. mtr. |
| 2. Woollen cloth | Rs. 13.60 per sq. mtr. |

CONTROLLED CLOTH

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cotton Dhobi | Rs. 2.00 per sq. mtr. |
| 2. Cotton Saree | Rs. 2.00 per sq. mtr. |
| 3. Cotton long cloth | Rs. 1.50 per sq. mtr. |
| 4. PC shirting | Rs. 2.50 per sq. mtr. |

Fringe Benefits into Tax Nets

229. SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for bringing the fringe benefits such as company cars, living accommodation and provision of travel, educational, medical and transport expenses into the tax nets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Fringe benefits such as perquisites

in respect of company cars, living accommodation and any other expenses which would otherwise have been met by the employee himself are taxed as perquisites under the head salary income in the hands of the employee. Expenses incurred by the employer in respect of medical facilities for employees to the extent laid down in section 17 of the Income-tax Act are also exempt.

Investment in Gujarat by LIC

230. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Life Insurance Corporation of India at present in Gujarat;

(b) the extent of annual average and actual transactions made and the amount invested by LIC in the State during each of the last two financial years and propose to invest during the current year; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to cover more persons under various insurance schemes and to increase investment of the Corporation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMAD): (a) As on 31-3-1993 there are 135 branches of Life Insurance Corporation of India in Gujarat.

(b) The actual and average business transacted by LIC in Gujarat is as follows:—

Year	Actual		Average for the two years	
	Policies	Sum Assured (Rs. in crores)	Policies	Sum Assured (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	7,20,881	2,516.10	7,33,739	2,639.44
1992-93	7,46,597	2,762.77		

The investments made by the LIC in Gujarat during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93; and proposed to be made in 1993-94; excluding investments in shares/debentures of the Companies, are Rs. 130.43 crores, Rs. 129.79 crores and Rs. 130.12 crores respectively. In addition 1991-92 and 1992-93, the LIC had invested Rs. 128.17 crores and Rs. 113.21 crores respectively in shares and debentures of the Companies in Gujarat. Such investment in shares/debentures for the year 1993-94 would depend upon the investment proposals forthcoming from the Companies in Gujarat during this period.

(c) LIC proposes to cover more persons under various insurance schemes through opening of more branches, publicity of its policies and extending Group Insurance Schemes in the State of Gujarat.

Free Sale Quota for Coffee

231. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coffee Board has made recommendation for introduction of free sale quota upto 50% of the Coffee produced giving right of sale to the growers directly;

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

(c) whether the Government are contemplating amendments to the Coffee Act, 1942 to incorporate this provision; and

(d) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) to (d) The Government is yet to take a final view on the proposal.

[Translation]

Sick Textile Mills

232. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick textile mills in the country;

(b) the reasons for the sickness of these mills;

(c) whether there is any proposal to merge the sick textile mills with profit making ones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As on 12-7-93, 247 mills were reported to be registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), as sick.

(b) The main reasons for sickness are competition from powerlooms in the decentralised sector on account of cost effectiveness, low productivity of both machine & Labour, lack of modernisations and excess labour compliment, increase in cost of inputs, excess capacity etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Vehicle at Main Runway in Bombay Airport

233. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUHDURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vehicle crossed the main runway at Bombay airport on October 11, 1993 when an Indian Airlines Trivandrum-bound flight was making off;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter and also to check recurrence of such incident in future?

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

(b) On 11-10-93, Indian Airlines flight No. IC-167 was taking off from Runway 27 at Bombay Airport. During the take-off roll, the commander sighted a Maruti Car crossing the runway from right to left. The commander reported the matter to ATC. On receipt of information Apron Security Supervisor of JAAI intercepted the vehicle and handed over the occupants to the Police.

(c) Occupants of the car were arrested by the Police and later released on bail. Cases have been registered against 3 persons.

Disciplinary action against the police personnel manning the perimeter has been initiated.

In order to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future, checking of vehicles has been made stricter and checks of operational area have been intensified.

Full Convertibility of Rupee

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

(a) whether the Government propose to make the rupee fully convertible on capital account, and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Machines for Tobacco Industry

235. **SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imported machines for the Tobacco industry during the last three years ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Government have permitted during the last three years import of "machinery for preparing or making up tobacco" as under :—

Value : Rs. lakh

Sl. No.	Type of Machinery	Years		1992-93
		1990-91	1991-92	
1	Cigarette making machinery (including machine equipped with auxiliary packaging device)	—	146.01 (1 No.)	1,561.05 (4 No.)
2	Others	1.64 (990 Kgs.)	—	346.45 (32 No)
3	Parts of Tobacco making machinery .	61.43 (14616 Kgs.)	107.77 (12308 Kgs.)	297.44 (350111 Kg.)

Passenger Capacity in Airbus A-300

236. **SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines propose

to reduce the passenger capacity in Airbus A-300 in both the classes ;

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

(c) the likely impact thereof on the earnings of the Indian Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has provided more leg space for the comfort of passengers in the Economy Class of Airbus A-300 aircraft by reducing the number of seats to 215 as against 238 earlier. There is no change in the number of seats in the Executive Class.

(c) As the seat factors on Airbus A-300 have been less than 70 per cent, no loss of passenger revenue is envisaged.

[Translation]

Closed Textile Mills in U.P.

237. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills/handloom units functioning in Uttar Pradesh at present and the number of textile mills which are lying closed;

(b) the reasons for their closure; and

(c) the steps taken to reopen these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The textile mills/handloom units in the State of Uttar Pradesh are as follows:

No. of Textile Mills	55
No. of Primary Handloom Weavers Co-operatives.	4470
No. of Apex-Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society.	1
No. of State Handloom Development corporation	

No mill is reported to be closed under Industrial Dispute Act, and under Sec. 56 of Companies Act in the State.

(c) Steps taken by Govt. to reopen these mills include creation of Nodal Agency/Board for Industrial and financial Reconstruction (BIFR), to evolve and manage rehabilitation package in respect of viable sick units. Textile Modernisation

Fund has set up to cater to modernisation requirements of the mill.

[English]

International Finance Corporation

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

(a) whether the International Finance Corporation intends to invest in an Indian Mutual Fund Unit "Taurus";

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have given their consent to such investment by the International Finance Corporation; and

(c) the details of benefits likely to be derived from such investment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The Government accorded its 'no objection' to the proposal of International Finance Corporation to invest Rs. 225 million in the first scheme of the Mutual Fund to be managed by Credit capital Asset Management Company (CAMC).

(c) Apart from increasing the liquidity in the market place, the launching of private sector mutual funds will help in the development of Indian capital market.

Loss Suffered by STC

239. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India Limited (STC) has lost Rupees Nine Crores in the edible oil deal with Malaysia;

(b) whether the Government have inquired into the reasons for such losses; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon,

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Our attention has been drawn to some news items which have appeared in the newspapers. The Central Vigilance Commission has also made a reference on this issue to the STC for an early enquiry and report. The enquiry is in progress.

[Translation]

Unemployed Persons in the Country

240. **DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with various employment exchanges in the country, category-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to generate more employment opportunities for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The number of job-seekers, not all of whom were necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in the country, category-wise and State-wise, as on 30th June, 1992 (latest available) is given in the Statement annexed.

(b) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for a high rate of economic growth, combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural growth, development of wastelands and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing, are the basic elements of the employment oriented growth strategy envisaged in the Plan.

STATEMENT

No. on the Live Register as on 30-6-92

(In Thousand)

State/Union Territory	Total (All Categories)	Women (Included in Total)	Scheduled Castes (included in Total)	Scheduled Tribes (included in Total)
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1. Andhra Pradesh	3,296.9	522.1	402.0	81.5
2. Arunachal Pradesh	5.4	1.5	—	—
3. Assam	1,347.3	280.6	74.5	140.3
4. Bihar	3,597.0	231.3	380.0	223.9
5. Goa	102.6	31.5	1.1	@
6. Gujarat	987.3	128.7	169.4	90.2
7. Haryana	632.6	101.1	104.9	—
8. Himachal Pradesh	470.9	106.7	83.9	14.3
9. Jammu & Kashmir	138.2	21.5	7.0	0.2
10. Karnataka	1,475.8	299.5	165.2	21.8
11. Kerala	3,898.3	1,928.3	320.0	17.5
12. Madhya Pradesh	1,996.7	283.4	263.2	171.6
13. Maharashtra	3,247.3	515.1	505.2	106.5

STATEMENT—contd.

1	2	3	4	5
14. Manipur	200.6	54.2	1.5	50.5
15. Meghalaya	24.7	9.2	0.2	16.1
16. Mizoram	36.4	8.9	—	36.4
17. Nagaland	22.9	6.5	1.2	20.3
18. Orissa	907.2	121.1	113.5	70.8
19. Punjab	739.2	161.5	205.1	@
20. Rajasthan	891.8	85.0	128.2	57.1
21. Sikkim*	—	—	—	—
22. Tamil Nadu	3,665.7	1,095.3	737.8	14.8
23. Tripura	175.3	58.0	10.8	12.4
24. Uttar Pradesh	2,682.5	211.0	504.4	10.7
25. West Bengal	5,169.3	1,081.8	429.7	80.5
<i>Union Territories</i>				
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	17.2	5.2	—	0.7
27. Chandigarh	160.9	32.6	42.2	0.1
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.5	0.7	0.2	0.9
29. Delhi	904.24	191.4	128.6	14.7
30. Daman & Diu	2.4	0.1	0.2	0.3
31. Lakshadweep	6.5	1.4	—	6.4
32. Pondicherry	125.1	37.6	9.5	0.1
Total	36,921.1	7,613.6	4,789.3	1,260.6

NOTE :—*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

@Figures less than 50.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

[English]

Advances to Small and Tiny Sectors

241. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount advanced to the industries during the first six months of the current financial year by the public sector and other commercial banks and financial institutions;

(b) the percentage of it advanced to small and tiny sectors ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to streamline the procedure for grant of the advances to small and tiny sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the assistance disbursed to the industries by All India Financial Institutions, during the first six months of the current year (April—September, 1993) is Rs. 8961.80 crores (provisional data). As per the latest data available with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the gross bank credit outstanding to industry as on March, 1993 was Rs. 78,654 crores.

(b) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)'s entire assistance goes for the small and tiny sector. The total assistance given by it during the first six months of the current year was Rs. 1073.49 crores. The gross bank credit outstanding to small scale industries as on March, 1993 was Rs. 20,027 crores which works out to 25.46% of the total outstanding to Industry.

(c) In the credit policy announced by the RBI in October, 1993, steps have been taken to improve the flow of bank credit to the Industry. As far as the small and tiny sector is concerned, based on the recommendations of the P. R. Nayak Committee, RBI has advised the commercial banks to give preference to village industries, tiny industries and other small scale units in meeting their credit requirements.

(A) *Lending Rates*

Size of credit limit	Existing Rates Percent per annum	New Rates (Effective September 2, 1993)
(i) Over Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0 (Fixed)	15.0 (Fixed)
(ii) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	16.0 (minimum)	15.0 (minimum)
(B) <i>Deposit Rate</i>		
46 days to 3 years and above	Not exceeding 11.0	Not exceeding 10.0

The changes in the lending and deposit rates prescribed for banks in the recent period have ensured a reasonable spread to banks between the interest earned on the deployment of their resources and the interest paid on the deposits. As such the changes in interest rates are not likely to have any major impact on the profitability of banks.

(b) to (d) In terms of the advice of Reserve Bank, All India Financial Institutions have also revised their term lending rates. Accordingly, the minimum term lending rate was reduced to 15.5% per annum from 16.5% per annum (both inclusive of interest tax). Similarly, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Reduction in Lending Rates

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

(a) the impact of reduction in the interest rate on the profitability of the public sector and the scheduled commercial banks;

(b) whether the financial institutions have also reduced their lending rates?

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has revised the lending and deposit rates of scheduled commercial banks with effect from September 2, 1993 as indicated below :

(NABARD) has also revised rate of interest chargeable by banks to ultimate borrowers effective from 2nd September 1993. According to the revised rate, in respect of term loans for agriculture, small scale industries, etc. supported by NABARD for thrust areas in the farm sector, the rate of interest to the ultimate borrower is retained at the existing rate of 15% per annum for loans exceeding Rs. 2 lakhs while for other farm sector loans in this category the rate of interest has been brought down to 16% per annum from 16.5% per annum. For non farm sector lendings a reduction of 2% has been effected over the earlier rate of 18% in respect of advances over Rs. 10 lakhs to the ultimate borrowers.

[Translation]

Production of Silk

243. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the silk production is decreasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to increase the production of raw silk; and

(d) the quantity of the raw silk produced during the last three years, Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production of raw silk in the country has increased from a level of

12560 metric tonnes in the year 1990-91 to 14169 metric tonnes in the year 1992-93.

(c) In order to increase the production of silk in the country, the Central Silk Board is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing necessary Research, Extension, Training & Infrastructure support through its country-wide network of units. Besides, a World Bank/ Swiss Development Cooperation assisted National Sericulture Project is being implemented in 5 traditional States (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir) and 12 non-traditional sericulture States (Bihar, Assam, Kerala, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana & Himachal Pradesh).

(d) A statement is given below :—

STATEMENT

Statewise Production of Raw Silk (In Metric Tonnes) during 1990-91 to 1992-93

State	Year		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93(Prov.)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3,195	2,847	3,140
Assam	422	465	469
Arunachal Pradesh	7	5	6
Bihar	370	289	339
Gujarat	Neg.	Neg.	1
Himachal Pradesh	5	4	9
Jammu & Kashmir	18	27	23
Karnataka	6,214	5,489	7,285
Kerala	1	1	Neg.
Madhya Pradesh	22	21	24
Maharashtra	9	6	4
Manipur	132	163	179
Mizoram	1	1	2
Meghalaya	116	128	138
Nagaland	22	35	19
Orissa	72	74	76
Punjab	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
Rajasthan	1	1	Neg.
Sikim	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	1,072	1,188	1,342
Tripura	2	3	2
Uttar Pradesh	23	21	21
West Bengal	856	995	1,090
Total	12,560	11,763	14,169

Credit-Deposit Ratio of Public Sector Banks in Uttar Pradesh

244. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Credit-Deposit ratio of public sector banks in Uttar Pradesh is declining constantly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a meeting was held with Union Government in this regard in September, 1993, and

(d) if so, the decision taken therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) The Credit deposit ratio of public sector banks in Uttar Pradesh and all India position as on the last Friday of June 1991, 1992 and 1993 were as follows :

	June 91	June 92	June 93
Uttar Pradesh	47.7	44.5	42.4
All India	65.2	62.2	61.8

Thus the C : D Ratio of public sector banks in U.P. as on the last Friday of June 1991, 1992 and 1993 show a declining trend. This trend, however, is consistent with that obtaining at the all-India level. In this connection, it may be stated that the Credit Deposit Ratio is not the sole indicator of role being played by banks in the economic development of a particular State/Region. The actual level of credit in relation to locally mobilised deposits in a particular state or region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the State/Region, which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities like irrigation, power, rail, road, transport, basic and technical education, entrepreneurship and availability of required inputs and marketing outlets for agricultural, industrial production, tourism, etc. In the case of U. P. the main reasons for low C : D Ratio

include lack of adequate infrastructural facilities leading to low credit absorptive capacity, poor recovery etc. A meeting of Regional Consultative Committee of the Nationalised Banks for Central Region comprising the states of U. P. and M. P. was held on 15th September 1993 at Lucknow under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister of Finance. It was inter alia, decided in the above meeting that efforts should be made to improve the C : D Ratio in the region under reference.

[English]

Loss Suffered by Indian Airlines

245. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has suffered loss during the first half of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) During the period April to September, 1993, Indian Airlines suffered a loss of Rs. 169.09 crores.

(c) To reduce losses, the following steps have been taken by Indian Airlines :--

(i) Improvement in customer services both on ground and on board the aircraft.

(ii) Introduction of schemes like Fly More and Fly Free, Point to Point Fares Domestic Tour Packages etc.

(iii) Close monitoring of 'On Time Performance'.

(iv) Changes in marketing strategy including productivity linked incentive for agents.

(v) Providing convenient schedules.

(vi) Stepping up utilisation of existing fleet.

- (vii) Increased international operations, and
 (viii) Control of unproductive expenditure.

[Translation]

NTC Units in Rajasthan

246. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
 DEY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile units operating under the National Textile Corporation in Rajasthan ;

(b) the number of labourers working therein and the capacity of each unit ;

(c) the details of the production of cloth by these textile units and the variety of cloth produced therein during the last three years ;

(d) the names of the units running in loss vis-a-vis and names of those which are earning profit and the units proposed to be closed ;

(e) the number of labourers who sought retirement on voluntary basis or who are found surplus and were relieved or retrenched during the last two years ;

(f) the efforts made to improve the working of units running in loss and the funds provided therefor ;

(g) whether Government have formulated any special scheme to bring the working of these units at suitable level ; and

(h) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) There are four textile units of NTC in Rajasthan.

(b) The number of workers and the capacity of each of these units is given in Statement attached.

(c) Two units viz., Mahalaxmi Mills and Edward Mills at Beawar are composite units and basically produce grey varieties of cloth. The other two units viz., Sri Bijay Cotton Mills, Bijaynagar and Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur are spinning units. The details of production of cloth during the last three years by these units are given in statement attached.

(d) All the four units are incurring losses. The Turn Around Strategy for NTC envisages merger of Mahalaxmi Mills and Edward Mills at Beawar into one viable unit.

(e) The Turn Around Strategy of NTC has identified 1504 workers of these mills as surplus, of whom 860 workers have availed of voluntary retirement during the last two years. No worker has been retrenched in these mills.

(f) to (h) Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC, including the mills of NTC in Rajasthan, involving selective modernisation, financial and managerial restructuring and rehabilitation of surplus workforce under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. An investment of Rs. 12.32 crores has been envisaged for the modernisation of the unit resulting on the merger of Mahalaxmi and Edward Mills in Beawar; Rs. 4.50 crores for the modernisation of Sri Bijay Cotton Mills and Rs. 10.42 crores for the modernisation of Udaipur Cotton Mills.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Mills	No. of workers on roll as on 30-9-93	Installed capacity as on 30-9-93		Production Cloth (Lac. Mtrs.)		
			Spindles	Looms	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1	Mahalaxmi Mills	802	11,160	56	89.73	26.09	3.91
2	Edward Mills	681	14,328	84	94.98	34.90	7.94
3	Sri Bijay Cotton Mill	600	22,172	—	—	—	—
4	Udaipur Cotton Mills	681	25,180	—	—	—	—

Bank Robberies in Gujarat

247. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance/employment provided to the dependents of the bank employees killed or injured during robberies in public sector banks in Gujarat during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that in one of the incidents of robberies/dacoities which took place in public sector banks in the State of Gujarat during the period 1-1-1991 to 30-6-1993, a Chowkidar of State Bank of Saurashtra, Mahuva Branch in District Bhavnagar was reportedly killed on 2-6-1991. State Bank of Saurashtra has reported that the son of the deceased Chowkidar has been given employment in the bank.

[English]

Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair

248. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether first Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair is proposed to be organised by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts under the auspices of his Ministry;

(b) if so, when and the objectives thereof;

(c) the number of exporters likely to participate; and

(d) the details of the handicrafts items likely to be displayed at the fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The first ever Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair is to be organised w.e.f 21st to 23rd January, 1994 at New Delhi. The main objective of the Fair is to benefit the small

exporters who do not have the means to participate in handicrafts exhibitions held abroad by providing them an opportunity to exhibit their entire range of handicrafts items before foreign buyers at one place.

(c) About 300 handicrafts exporters are likely to participate in this fair.

(d) The handicrafts items likely to be displayed at the fair include : Metalcrafts, Electroplated nickeling silver wares, Woodcrafts, Zari handicrafts, Laces and Embroidery, Fashion Jewellery, Marble, Alabaster and crafted stones, Papier machie, Iron craft Jute products etc.

Loan Disbursed by Scheduled Banks

249. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether loan disbursed by scheduled bank during the current financial year was lower in the first quarter as compared to the corresponding period of last year; and

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

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the first quarter of the financial year 1993-94 (April-June), the expansion of bank credit of scheduled commercial banks was lower at Rs. 3,534 crores (2.3%) than that of Rs. 8,179 crores (6.5%) of the previous corresponding period. The subdued growth in bank credit is attributable to the perceptible slowdown in the expansion of non-food credit during the period on account of the following factors.

(i) Banks have been exercising caution regard to lending in view of stricter provisioning norms and the introduction of a capital to risk-assets ratio.

(ii) Banks have undertaken a larger amount of write-offs in march 1993.

(iii) A number of large borrowers have increased their recourse to Commercial Paper.

(iv) A number of companies having raised large amounts from the capital market in 1992-93 are flush with funds and have reduced their borrowings from banks.

(v) Some of the large public sector units, particularly in trading activity, have reduced their borrowings from banks.

Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring

250. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VFER-APPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring are under consideration of Government.

Balance of Payments Position

251. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the position of the balance of payments has improved during the period April to October, 1993 as compared to the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, the factors responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve further the balance of payments position?

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

(b) The improvement has been largely contributed by a sharp reduction in the trade deficit, indications of increased invisible receipts, and substantial inflows in certain components of the capital account. Full Balance of Payments data are not available for the period April—October, 1993. However, provisional DGCI&S data on trade for the period April—September 1993 show that exports increased by 21.1 percent in US \$ terms over those during the corresponding period of the preceding year. Imports, on the other hand, declined by 3.4 percent from those during April—September, 1992. As a result, the trade deficit narrowed sharply to US \$ 440 million during April—September, 1993 from that of US \$ 2622 million during April—September, 1992. While firm data on the invisibles account are not yet available, there are indications of larger inflows of private transfers over those in the corresponding period last year. Under the capital account, there has been a substantial inflow of direct and portfolio foreign investments. All these and other transactions in the current account as well as the capital account have resulted in an increase in the foreign currency assets held by the Reserve Bank of India from US \$ 6.4 billion as on 31st March, 1993 to US \$ 7.9 billion as on 31st October, 1993.

(c) The balance of payments is kept under constant watch and measures are taken to ensure that the external payments position remain stable. Additional steps being taken by the Government to improve the balance of payments position include further fiscal consolidation to keep inflation down, maintenance of competitive exchange rate, improvement of export infrastructure, removal of export constraints especially for agro-products, further streamlining of trade policy and procedures, ensuring of an increase in domestic production of crude oil,

encouragement of non-debt creating capital inflows and also mobilisation of exceptional financing from multi-lateral and bi-lateral sources.

Production and Export of Tea

252. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the world production and export of tea by weight with break-up by major producers and exporters and latest estimates of production ;

(b) the position of India as the producer and exporter during the last three years for which statistics are available ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government and the tea industry to increase production and to secure a larger share of world market ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) A statement indicating world production and export of tea with break-up of major tea producing and exporting countries during 1992 is given below.

(b) During the last three years viz., 1990 to 1992 India's share in the world production has been around 28 to 30% and the share of Indian tea in the world exports during this period has been between 17 to 19%.

(c) Tea Board has prepared a perspective plan to increase the production of tea to 1000 million kgs by the year 2000 AD so as to secure a large share of world tea market. The plan includes short term measures such as optimisation of inputs and improved cultural practices, medium term measures such as irrigation, drainage, rejuvenation pruning and infilling as well as long term measures, such as replanting and extension planting. The plan also envisages modernisation of tea factories and setting up of new factories for processing the additional crop.

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STATEMENT

World production and export of tea during 1992

(Figures in M. Kgs.)
1992 (Estimated)

S. No.	Countries	Pro- duction	Exports
1	2	3	4
1. India . . .		703.93	170.82
2. Sri Lanka . . .		178.87	177.80
3. Indonesia . . .		136.43	121.24
4. Bangladesh . . .		48.27	27.16
5. China . . .		530.00	175.52
6. Russia & CIS . . .		55.00	—
7. Turkey . . .		135.00	5.05
8. Kenya . . .		188.07	166.52
9. Malawi . . .		28.14	37.98
10. Argentina . . .		44.00	38.91
11. Others . . .		341.39	66.00
World . . .		2,389.10	987.00

Settlement of Matured Insurance Policies

253. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Salary Saving Scheme Department of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Bombay has been withholding settlement of matured insurance policies for a long time ;

(b) if so, whether policies matured more than two years before have not yet been settled despite representations ; and

(c) if so, the details of such cases and the steps proposed to be taken for their expeditious settlement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Normally the discharge vouchers are sent to the policyholders two months in

advance so that the claims could be settled by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in time. However, as on 30th September, 1993, the LIC could not send the discharge vouchers to about 52 policyholders as their addresses were not readily available on account of their frequent transfers from place to place. In such cases, the concerned Branch Offices of the LIC are deputing the officials to contact the employers of the policyholders to get their latest addresses in order to enable the LIC to obtain all the relevant documents and settle these claims.

Gratuity Limit

254. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have enhanced the gratuity limit from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh for the Government employees and other workers ;

(b) if so, since when and its impact on financial exchequer ;

(c) whether the decision has been implemented ; and

(d) if so, the number of workers likely to be benefited therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) In respect of the workers covered/coverable under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Government has since decided to raise the ceiling on the maximum amount of gratuity from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. The Government employees under their service rules are already entitled to payment of gratuity upto the maximum of Rs. 1 lakh. Therefore, the decision to enhance the maximum amount of gratuity under the payment of Gratuity Act has no financial implications for the exchequer. The implementation of the decision about the proposed enhancement requires suitable amendments in the Payment of Gratuity Act. Necessary action to introduce an Amendment Bill in Parliament has since been initiated.

Setting up of Duty Free Ware-Houses

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to allow the private companies to set up duty free ware-houses to stock and sell raw materials as well as components to end users engaged in export-oriented production ;

(b) whether the modalities have been worked out in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the idea behind this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Development of Monuments

256. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to identify atleast one monument in their State which can be developed as a world class tourism attraction ; and

(b) if so, the response of each State Government thereto ?

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

(b) On the basis of information received from some of the States and in consultation with Archaeological Survey of India, a list of monuments has been drawn up.

ADB Loan for Population Control Programmes

257. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

SHRI N. K. BALIYAN :

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUDHARI :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank is providing loan to the poor and develop-

ing countries for implementing the population control programmes;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also applied for the loan from the Asian Development Bank for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the amount of the loan applied for;

(d) the time by which this loan is likely to be received; and

(e) the terms and conditions laid down by ADB to provide this loan?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Narcotic Drug Trafficking

258. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed to check illegal movement of narcotic drugs at the time of visit of Zambian President to India in October 1993; 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) The agreement provides for exchanging information and undertaking measures in order to identify, suppress and prevent the criminal activities of International drug syndicates.

[Translation]

Malnutrition and Diseases in Child Labourers

259. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre of Concern for Labour has recently conducted any survey

regarding malnutrition and increasing diseases in child labourers in unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, A Survey of child labourers in four different locations i.e. Delhi, Bhopal, Sonbhadra & Aligarh was done by Centre of Concern for Child Labour. The survey revealed that child labour as in general suffer from malnutrition, eye problems, fatigue and loss of appetite.

(c) A number of projects for the welfare and rehabilitation of working children are being implemented under the National Child Labour Policy as also under the Grant-in-Aid scheme of the Central Government. Besides, an International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour has been taken up with help from ILO, for welfare of children withdrawn from work. Realising that children are affected adversely both mentally and physically when they work, the provision of nutrition and health care to children, has been included as an important input, in all these projects.

[English]

Public Sector Banks

260. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of branches of public sector banks have become unviable;

(b) if so, the number of such branches, bank-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to make them viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Information received from Reserve Bank of India indicates that 9336 branches of public sector banks (as on 31-3-1992) had not made profits. Bank-wise details are given in the statement.

(c) To improve the viability of the public sector banks, the Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions allowing banks to swap their unremunerative Branches with other banks. Banks have also been advised that Reserve Bank of India would consider sympathetically proposals for closing down loss making branches in urban, metropolitan and rural centres which are also served by existing profit making banks.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	No. of Branches
1	2	3
1	State Bank of India .	2511
2	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur .	107
3	State Bank of Hyderabad .	45
4	State Bank of Indore .	56
5	State Bank of Mysore .	147
6	State Bank of Patiala .	29
7	State Bank of Saurashtra .	22
8	State Bank of Travencore .	38
9	Allahabad Bank .	159
10	Andhra Bank .	102
11	Bank of Baroda .	418
12	Bank of India .	276
13	Bank of Maharashtra .	587
14	Canara Bank .	99
15	Central Bank of India .	833
16	Corporation Bank .	106
17	Dena Bank .	92
18	Indian Bank .	171
19	Indian Overseas Bank .	309

STATEMENT—contd.

1	2	3
20	New Bank of India .	109
21	Oriental Bank of Commerce .	47
22	Punjab National Bank .	559
23	Punjab and Sind Bank .	116
24	Syndicate Bank .	939
25	Union Bank of India .	286
26	UCO Bank .	739
27	United Bank of India .	304
28	Vijaya Bank .	130
	Total .	9336

Indian Tea

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

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to participate in the International Tea Fair to be held in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any demand of Indian tea in Pakistan ;

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to tap the market in that country ; and

(e) the total quantity of tea exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Pakistan Tea Association have invited Chairman, Tea Board to participate in the International Tea Convention being organised in Pakistan during February, 1994. No decision has been taken so far on participation of the Indian delegation in the said convention..

(c) and (d) Pakistan is a major importer of tea and there is good potential for increasing exports of Indian tea to Pakistan. With a view to improve Indian tea exports

to Pakistan, Indian exporters have been requested to establish contacts with the importers of tea in Pakistan. A list of tea importers of Pakistan as received from the Consulate General of India, Karachi has

been circulated, amongst the Indian tea trade and industry.

(e) A statement indicating exports of Indian tea to major countries in the world during the last three years, is given below :—

STATEMENT
Export of Tea from India

(Provisional figures)
Quantity in Mn. Kgs.
Value—Rs. in crores

Countries	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
CIS countries	112.85	597.33	107.59	574.25	60.04	322.19
U.K.	21.85	113.42	24.16	135.51	27.39	156.47
Netherland	1.54	10.79	4.65	24.90	3.15	22.82
Ireland	1.97	10.21	2.64	15.85	2.37	14.76
Germany	4.23	41.18	5.15	60.09	5.67	60.87
Poland	9.08	40.79	11.62	46.17	15.97	71.04
U.S.A.	1.48	8.39	3.17	20.72	4.10	31.40
Canada	0.60	2.52	0.47	3.52	0.86	5.09
U.A.E.	5.56	30.24	6.94	46.32	5.30	39.28
Iran	11.05	62.89	17.56	105.66	17.91	94.27
Saudi Arabia	4.36	27.80	3.91	27.94	4.30	34.50
A.R.F.	7.78	31.99	8.12	36.62	12.54	54.14
Morocco	—	—	0.80	3.24	0.54	3.75
Afghanistan	0.74	2.13	1.93	9.28	0.67	2.74
Japan	2.65	22.15	1.82	19.43	2.74	28.10
Pakistan	0.25	0.97	0.40	1.63	1.83	7.10
Australia	0.45	2.12	0.82	3.84	0.68	3.55
Others	11.81	66.18	14.70	77.30	11.83	41.33
Grand Total	198.25	1,071.10	216.45	1,212.27	177.89	993.40

Air India

262. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL :

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

(a) whether the Air India had paid Rs. 80 lakhs to the Registrar of Companies, for forming a new company, namely the Air India Ltd.;

(b) whether a huge amount was lost by way of interest as a result of long delay in coming into being of the company as

reported in the Indian Express dated September 3, 1993 ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to expedite the setting up of the new company and also to fix responsibility for unwarranted blocking of the Air India funds ?

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

(b) to (d) The fee paid is in accordance with the scale of fees laid down by Government for registration of companies. Since

the purpose of the incorporation was to create a company to take over the under taking of Air India, on repeal of the Air Corporations Act, 1953, the loss is only notional.

[Translation]

Tourist Centres in Uttar Pradesh

263. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :

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

(a) Whether the Union Government had received some proposals from the Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93 for development of existing tourist centres and setting up some more centres in the State ;

(b) if so, the number of proposals cleared ;

(c) the names of the districts where these tourist centres are being set up; and

(d) the amount sanctioned for each of these tourist centres and the target date for their completion.

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent 8 complete proposals during 1992-93 which were sanctioned by the Central Department of Tourism.

(c) and (d) The following projects were cleared by the Union Government :

(a) Tourist facilities at Nandprayag, August Muni & Helang.

(b) Yatri shet at Haridwar.

(c) Public conveniences at Haridwar.

(d) Improvement of Keshighat at Vrindavan.

(e) Floodlighting at Fatehpur Sikri and financial assistance for celebrating Taj Mahotsav & Nodghat festival.

Rs. 97.34 lakhs was sanctioned to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for these projects. Completion of the projects

is the responsibility of the State Government.

Vaishno Devi Pilgrims

264. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to launch an insurance scheme for the pilgrims visiting Vaishno Devi ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Gujarat Development Bonds

265. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any scheme for introduction of Gujarat Development Bonds to the Union Government ;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat had in November, 1992 proposed the issue of bonds to finance the Sardar Sarovar Project, relying on Government of India to absorb the foreign

exchange risk. The proposal was, however, subsequently modified as a domestic public issue and the issue has recently been completed.

[*Translation*]

'Jyada Udo Muft Udo' Scheme

266. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines propose to introduce 'Jyada Udo Muft Udo' Schemes ;

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

(c) the date from which the scheme is likely to be implemented ; and

(d) the likely impact on the profit of the Airlines as a result of the introduction of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Indian Airlines has introduced a short term sales promotion scheme "Fly More and Fly Free".

(b) and (c) The scheme allows issuance of one free round-trip ticket on any domestic sector to an adult passenger who has travelled against full rupee/dollar fare on any 18 domestic sectors of Indian Airlines during the period 1-11-1993 to 31-1-1994.

(d) This is a scheme to retain traffic in the competitive market by promoting brand loyalty : no direct profit is envisaged from the scheme.

Refinance by NABARD

267. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of refinance disbursed by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under schematic lending during each of the last two years in Maharashtra ; and

(b) the rate of interest charged thereon ?

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

Trade with Myanmar

268. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any action plan for import and export trade with Myanmar ;

(b) if so, the details of items being imported from and exported to Myanmar and the names of commodities likely to be included in such trade during the current year ; and

(c) the volume of trade with Myanmar during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The Government of India have not formulated any specific Action Plan for the import and export with Myanmar. However, India has a Trade Agreement with Myanmar, signed in March 1970 which, inter-alia, provides for according the 'Most Favoured Nation' treatment to their mutual benefit subject to their rights and obligations under the GATT and UNCTAD.

(b) The major commodities exported to Myanmar are iron and steel bars and rods, primary and semi-finished iron and steel, jute manufactures and miscellaneous processed items. The major commodities imported from Myanmar are wood and wood products and pulses.

(c) The details of exports and imports with Myanmar in the last three years were as follows :—

Value in US\$ Million

Year	Ex-ports	Im-ports	Total
1989-90	0.80	50.36	51.16
1990-91	1.87	85.53	87.40
1991-92	3.81	50.92	54.73

[English]

Export of Cigarettes

269. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an increase in the demand for Indian-made cigarettes in the overseas market ;

(b) if so, the quantity of cigarettes exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during 1992-93 ; and

(c) the steps being taken to encourage exports of tobacco products including cigarettes ?

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

(a) Yes Sir. There was an increase in 1992-93 over 1991-92.

(b) Quantity—2644 tons

Value—Rs. 39.72 crores.

(c) Steps taken to boost exports include :

- Standing trade delegations to identified markets of FCV tobacco and its products.
- Participation in international exhibitions.
- Publicity in overseas markets.

— Pursuing with Governments through Joint Committee Meetings etc. to import Indian tobacco products.

— Promoting export oriented units for export of cigarettes and cut tobacco.

— Permitting foreign investment in cigarette industry mainly for export of cigarettes and value added products.

— Permitting cigarette manufacturers to import various items with a view to enable them to undertake product development.

— Undertaking packaging development for products like bidis, hookah tobacco paste with the help of Indian Institute of Packaging.

Aviation Sector

270. SHRI BAPU HARE CHAURE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited foreign investment in the aviation sector for developing its infrastructural facilities at the first Joint International Civil Aviation Organisation Airports Council International Facilitation Meeting for the Asia Pacific ;

(b) whether the Government have also offered attractive returns particularly due to vast tourism potential in the country and liberalisation measures initiated during the past two years ; and

(c) if so, the details regarding suggestions made in this regard alongwith the response of the delegates as well as the countries which attended the meeting on reducing the surface access to the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Condition of Luksan Tea Garden

271. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited managing Tea Garden Luksan is in a very deplorable condition ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the condition;

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Recovery of Excise Duty from Tobacco Companies

274. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central Excise duty collected from the Tobacco companies during the last three years;

(b) the defaulting companies and the amount outstanding against each such company;

(c) whether the Government propose to take stringent measures against the defaulting companies to recover outstanding amount; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time limit fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The amount of Central Excise duty collected from the tobacco companies, including manufacturers of biris, during the last three years is as under:—

1990-91	Rs. 2342.60 crores
1991-92	Rs. 2690.81 crores
1992-93	Rs. 3104.84 crores (provisional)

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

(c) and (d) Action is invariably taken against the defaulting companies, as provided for in the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944 and the Rules made thereunder. However, it is not practicable to fix a time limit for such purposes.

EPF of Bidi Workers in Madhya Pradesh

275. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inspection work undertaken by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation for covering all the Bidi workers of the Madhya Pradesh under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of workers likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The inspection of factories/establishments and enrolment of their workers as EPF subscribers is an ongoing process. From 1-4-93, about 260 inspections/surveys have been conducted and 8 new establishments and 16000 additional Bidi Workers have been brought under the purview of the EPF & MP Act.

[English]

Disinvestment in Hotel Sector

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision regarding disinvestment in hotel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be realised thereby?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

World Bank Suggestions Regarding Tax Sharing

277. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has suggested certain measures in regard to the

tax sharing by the Union Government with the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have agreed with these suggestions ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

National Rural Bank of India

278. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision to establish a National Rural Bank of India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ;

(d) whether views of some organisations/parties were also taken in this regard ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Government initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). A number of alternative models, including the

proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI), have been considered in consultation with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)/Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Members of Parliament and RRB employees' Association etc. have also expressed their views. Finance Minister held a meeting on 7-10-1993 in New Delhi with Members of Parliament from different political parties to solicit their opinion. The valuable suggestions made by them are under active examination by Government. No decision, however, has been taken in this regard so far.

Export of Flowers

279. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of flowers exported by the country during each of the last two years, country-wise ;

(b) whether any survey has been carried out regarding non-use of modern techniques in preservation of flowers ; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to preserve flowers during transit so that maximum foreign exchange can be earned ?

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

(a) The value of floriculture products exported during 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below :—

1991-92	1480 (Rs. lakh)
1992-93	1320 ..

Figures of the total quantity of floriculture products exported during 1991-92 and 1992-93, as well as country-wise exports during 1992-93 are not available. Country-wise export of flowers during

1991-92 are given in the (Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Annual Number 1991-92). The publication is available in the Parliament Library.

(b) In the 'Report on Infrastructure for Export of Agricultural Commodities and Processed Food', published by the Planning Commission in May, 1992, lack of adequate post harvest infrastructure covering the areas of refrigerated transport, storage and packing has been identified as one of the major constraints in the development of an export based floriculture industry.

(c) To ensure easy availability of capital goods and inputs required for post harvest infrastructure, exporters of flowers are now eligible to import them under concessional duty. Besides, Government is providing assistance to floriculture projects for setting up facilities for pre-cooling and cold storage, as well as for refrigerated/insulated vans. Walk-in-type cold storage have also been set up at international airports.

[English]

Working Conditions of Unorganised Sector

280. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Task Force appointed by his Ministry for improving the working conditions of the unorganised sector has submitted its report ; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Task Force and the steps taken by the Government to implement those recommendations particularly relating to Beedi workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A Task Force was appointed to study the existing welfare schemes under the Welfare Funds set up for Beedi, mines and cine workers and to recommend suitable changes. The Task Force has submitted its report.

(b) The main recommendations of the Task Force pertain to increase in the income ceiling of the workers covered under the welfare funds, raising the quantum of assistance under the housing schemes, scholarship assistance, health schemes and schemes on sports and recreation.

It has been decided to increase the income ceiling and the quantum of assistance under scholarship schemes, housing schemes and to enhance the ceiling of expenditure for medicines in the dispensaries run by the Labour Welfare Organisation.

Setting up of Beach Resort Complex/Luxury Hotels

281. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

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

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted a proposal to the Union Government regarding setting up of some beach resort complex/luxury hotels on the Puri-Konark coast line ;

(b) whether some other beaches in Orissa have also been identified for the purpose ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the present status of the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The State Government of Orissa have agreed in principle to declare Puri-Konark Beach Area as Special Tourism Area. The approval of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India for declaring Puri-Konark Area as Special Tourism Area was conveyed to the State Government on 14th December, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Implementation of Child Labour Act

282. **SHRI R. DHANUSKODI**
ATHITHAN :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some State Governments are not implementing the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 effectively ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of the said Act effectively in all the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) State Govts./UTs are responsible for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. Government are aware that there is scope for improving the quality of enforcement. State Govts./UTs are addressed from time to time to furnish information on enforcement on a quarterly basis. Review meetings are held with State Govts. regarding enforcement of laws relating to child labour. The matter was reviewed in the Labour Ministers' Conference on 8-7-93. For better enforcement, training of enforcement officers is taken up periodically.

Regional Rural Banks in Orissa

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

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks set up in Orissa and the location thereof ;

(b) the main objectives of those banks and the extent to which these objectives have been achieved during the last two years ;

(c) whether some of those banks are facing severe financial crisis ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) the steps taken to improve the performance of those banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) There are nine Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) operating in the State of Orissa having a network of 819 branches as at the end of March, 1993 with headquarters located at Pipli, Bolangir, Cuttack, Koraput, Bhawanipatna, Baripada, Balasore, Berhampur, and Dhenkanal.

(b) The main objectives of the RRBs are :—

- (i) to take the banking services to the door steps of rural masses particularly in hitherto unbanked areas ;
- (ii) to make available institutional credit to the weaker sections of the society ;
- (iii) to mobilise rural savings and channelise them for supporting productive activities in the rural areas ;
- (iv) to create supplementary channel for flow of credit from the central money market to the rural areas through refinance ;
- (v) to generate employment opportunities in rural areas ; and
- (vi) to bring down the cost of purveying credit in rural areas.

As of March, 1993, as much as Rs. 28522 lacs were mobilised by RRBs in 18.32 lac accounts in Orissa. The credit support provided by these banks amounted to Rs. 23928 lacs (outstanding) in 10.54 lacs accounts. They had disbursed Rs. 3258 lacs during the year ended March, 1993 to 75189 beneficiaries of the weaker sections. Thus over a period of time, the RRBs have achieved significant growth in taking banking services to the door steps

of the rural poor, providing them with institutional credit support and mopping up of hitherto untapped rural savings.

(c) In the process of reaching to the weaker sections and fulfilling the broad socio-economic objectives, these RRBs have suffered financially. All the banks put together in Orissa have incurred a loss of Rs. 2690 lakhs during 1992-93 and their accumulated losses stood at Rs. 8300 lakhs, as at the end of March, 1993. Out of the nine banks, eight have completely eroded their share capital and reserves, leading to problems of liquidity and consequent reduction in lending activities. Poor recovery performance of the RRBs in the State has compounded the problem of liquidity.

(d) The reasons for incurring losses by RRBs are attributable to several factors like restriction on the choice of clientele, limited area of operation, low interest margins, mounting establishment costs particularly after implementation of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal etc.

(e) The following steps have been taken to improve the performance of the RRBs:

- (i) with effect from September, 1992, RRBs have been allowed to finance non-target group borrowers to an extent not exceeding 40 per cent of their fresh loans;
- (ii) all sponsor banks have been instructed to pay a minimum of 13.5 per cent interest on SLR term deposits and short term deposits of RRBs kept with them;
- (iii) with effect from April, 1993, all commercial banks have been advised by Reserve Bank of India to revise upward the interest rates on current accounts balance maintained by RRBs from 6.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent;
- (iv) Regional Rural Banks have been allowed to draw cent per cent refinance upto Rs. 10 lakhs for

their loans to small and tiny industrial units with outlay not exceeding Rs. 15 lakhs.

- (v) Cent per cent refinance is also available to the RRBs for financing of small road transport operators.

[Translation]

Black Money

284. SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken some concrete steps to check black money in circulation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and achievements made in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to take more tough administrative, legal and fiscal measures to curb the generation of black money; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) Combating tax evasion and curbing the generation of black money are continuous processes. The Government takes necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures, as deemed appropriate, from time to time to curb the generation and growth of black money. The Income-tax Act, 1961 contains a number of provisions aimed at curbing the generation of black money. These include, inter-alia, provisions regarding compulsory maintenance and audit of accounts in appropriate cases under section 44AA and 44AB, prohibition of cash transactions u/s 40A(3), 269SS and 269T, pre-emptive purchase of properties under Chapter XXC and provisions regarding penalties and prosecutions for punishing tax defaulters. The Act also contains provisions regarding summons, surveys, searches and other investigations to detect tax evasion.

2. The results achieved in searches, surveys and prosecutions by the Income-tax Department during the last two financial year are detailed below :

Financial Year	SEARCHES			SURVEYS	
	No. of searches	Value of assets seized (Rs. in crores)	Amount of concealed income surrendered (Rs. in crores)	No. of premises surveyed	No. of new assesseees added
1991-92	3,468	179.85	188.35	9,98,176	4,75,487
1992-93	4,777	383.02	501.05	10,94,397	9,03,106

PROSECUTIONS

Financial year	No. of prosecutions launched	No. of cases decided	No. of cases resulting in conviction	No. of cases compounded	No. of cases of acquittal
1991-92	2,448	487	165	153	169
1992-93	675	949	94	176	679

[English]

Fiscal Deficit

285. DR. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI B. N. REDDY :
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the RBI annual report has pointed out towards the alarming rise in budgetary deficit of the Union Government and State Governments ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the position of fiscal deficit in the first six months of the current financial year ; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to narrow down the budgetary deficit as well as fiscal deficit during the remaining months of the current year ?

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

and (b) RBI's Annual Report for 1992-93 contains a chapter on "Assessment and Prospects" which inter alia deals with the increase in the deficits of Central and State Governments. Copies of the report have already been sent by RBI for use of Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

(c) and (d) BE 1993-94 assumed a fiscal deficit of Rs. 36959 crors. The figure at the end of September, 1993 was Rs. 29,832 cr. There is no synchronisation between the receipts and expenditure. The gap between expenditure and receipts tends to be higher in the initial months of the year. Towards the end of the financial year when receipts normally go up, the deficit shows a declining trend. Hence deficit at any particular point of time is not a definite indicator of the year-end deficit. Government however, is continuously monitoring the deficit position. The Revised Estimates for 1993-94 are under preparation and will be presented alongwith the budget estimates for 1994-95.

Non Payment of Taxes by Pilots

286 SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items published in the Indian Express on August 25, 1993 regarding non-payment of Income Tax by the pilots of Air India and Indian Airlines ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action for the recovery of the tax arrears in this regard ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (d) The Government have already communicated to the management of Air India and Indian Airlines regarding the taxability of allowances as per the existing provisions of laws and have requested them to deduct taxes and pay to the Government. The management has also been told to make good the tax due on the allowances for the earlier years. The concerned Commissioners of Income tax have also been suitably advised to take necessary follow-up action for the collection of tax.

Interest Payment Obligation

287. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stupendous rise in the interest payment obligation by the Union Government will alarm the plan budget ;

(b) if so, whether any task force under his ministry is proposed to be set up to study in depth ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The increase in interest payment obligation

is due to increase in borrowings which in turn had to be made to finance increasing expenditure over the years. Hence there is a nexus between plan expenditure and the interest burden.

(b) and (c) Government have accepted a recommendation to this effect made by the Standing Committee of Parliament on Finance and have entrusted the Reserve Bank of India to undertake the study and advise the Government in the matter.

Visit by L.G. of GATT to India

288. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI LOKANATH CHOU-
DHURY :

SHRI INDAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General of the GATT visited India recently ;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit ; and

(c) the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Director General (GATT) visited India in October 1993 at the invitation of Commerce Minister for an exchange of views on Uruguay Round Issues.

DG GATT clarified, inter-alia, that the draft agreement on agriculture did not oblige India to :

(a) undertake any reduction commitment on subsidies to agriculture as these were below the de-minimis level of 10 per cent ;

(b) provide minimum market access for agricultural produce as India was maintaining quantitative restrictions for balance of payments reasons ; and

(c) make any changes in the Public Distribution System in view of the fact that consumer subsidies are outside the purview of restrictions envisaged in the DFA.

DG GATT also clarified that an effective sui-generis system of plant variety protection would not affect the farmer's rights to use protected seed saved from one crop for plantation in future crops and for exchanging improved seed 'across the fence' with other farmers on a non-commercial basis.

Regarding India's concerns in other areas, he clarified that instruments of price control and compulsory licensing would be available for controlling the apprehended overpricing of medicines in the country. In textiles, he indicated that while it would be difficult to reopen the main text on the subject, India could improve its market access to the developed countries through the bilateral route.

It was conveyed to DG GATT that while India supported an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, a way had to be found of taking care of India's genuine concerns.

Port Council Meeting

289. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the third Port Council meeting was held for the first time at New Delhi on November 9, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the decision taken at the conference in view of the sweeping economic changes taking place in the aviation industry ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a to (c) The World Assembly and Conference of Airports Council International (ACI) was held on 9 and 10 November, 1993 at New Delhi. The theme of the conference was 'Airport Economics in the Turbulent 1990s and beyond'. Higher than world average growth in the Asia-Pacific Region, and consequent expansion programmes and airport financing were among the prominent issues discussed and debated at the conference.

ACI headquarters at Geneva are likely to publish the conclusions of the conference in due course.

Growth of Air Traffic

290. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee to conduct a study on growth of air traffic in the country ;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee alongwith the terms of reference thereto ; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) In order to make a realistic estimate of growth in domestic air passenger traffic upto the year 2000, a Committee has been constituted as under :—

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri V. A. Valiarampili,
Advisor (Transport),
Planning Commission. | Chairman |
| 2. Shri A. K. Gupta,
Joint Secretary,
Department of Tourism. | Member |
| 3. Shri P. K. Banerji,
Joint Secretary, Department
of Civil Aviation. | Member |
| 4. Shri Ashok Vaish,
Director (Planning),
Air India. | Member |
| 5. Shri G. K. Agarwal,
Director (Planning),
Indian Airlines. | Member/
Secy. |

The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of this year.

Export Promotion Zones

291. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided in free the Export Promotion Zones from procedural hurdles so that they can contribute their mite to the export efforts of the country ;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent the misuse of these freedoms in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) On the basis of suggestions received from time to time, procedures regarding Export Processing Zones are under constant review. Some changes made in this regard include grant for speedier approvals, delegation of powers to Development Commissioners of EPZs and simplification of export import, customs and excise procedures. As the EPZ units would function under customs bond, procedural simplification is not likely to lead to mis-use of imported capital good or raw materials.

Project and Service Exports

292. PROF (SMT.) SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports are not increasing as per expectations due to certain ambiguities in the provisions of the Income Tax Law;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to treat project exports and service exports at par with merchant exports and provide 100 per cent tax exemptions on the income earned therefrom; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Exports have registered an increase of over 20% during April—October, 1993 in US\$ terms as against the target growth rate of about 20% for the year 1993-94.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial Restructuring

293. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has expressed the need for drastic financial restructuring including the tax system;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been formulated;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Government is determined to carry on the process of financial, fiscal and other economic reforms to help full flowering of initiative and enterprise, raising productivity of capital, land and labour continuously and improving the living standards of the population.

(b) to (d) A good number of reform measures seeking restructuring of financial sector has already been initiated. Directions for further reforms in the financial sector over the next 3 years have been outlined in the Discussion Paper on Economic Reforms brought out by the Ministry of Finance. They include, inter alia, (a) institution of speedy and effective loan recovery process (b) a phased reduction in Statutory Liquidity Ratio to 25 per cent and in the Cash Reserve Ratio to 10 per cent, (c) phasing out of ceilings and floors on bank deposit and lending rates and (d) strengthening institutions and procedures for bank supervision.

Issues relating to various aspects of reforms in the insurance sector are being examined by a High Powered Committee headed by Shri R. N. Malhotra, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

Government have already accepted the broad thrust of the recommendations made by the Tax Reforms Committee with regard to reforms in the tax system of our country. Based on these recommendations the structure of personal income tax, excise and customs duties has been rationalised and simplified. Further reforms of the tax system will be undertaken keeping in view emerging situation.

[Translation]

Norms for Financial Institutions

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

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has finalised any norms for proper functioning of the financial institutions in the country recently ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations from the financial institutions against these norms ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The prudential accounting norms for financial institutions are under consideration of the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) No, Sir. However, the views of the Financial Institutions with regard to these norms will be taken into account while finalising these norms.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Relief under ARDRS in Orissa

295. **DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers and landless agricultural labourers benefited under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 in Orissa ; and

(b) the amount of relief provided under the above Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990, the Public Sector Commercial Banks, Cooperatives and Regional Rural Banks have provided debt relief to 18.37 lakh farmers and landless agricultural labourers in the State of Orissa to the extent of Rs. 338.75 crores.

Loan for Construction of Well

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

(a) the guidelines for the minimum and the maximum amount of loan being sanctioned by the NABARD for construction of a well ;

(b) whether the schedule of rates was approved during 1983-84 ;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the schedule on the recent level of cost ;

(d) whether the size of the well varies according to the areas irrigated by that well ; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to vary the amount of loan as per the size of the well and the area irrigated by it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has issued guidelines from time to time on the fixation/revision of unit costs for construction of wells. While fixing/revising the unit costs for Minor Irrigation (MI) investments, the latest available schedule of rates is to be taken into account. The State level unit cost committee constituted by NABARD in each State takes care of these aspects. The size of the wells and the unit costs vary according to the command area—proposed to be irrigated and the design of well approved.

Loan to Farmers in Gujarat

297. **SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan provided to the farmers by different nationalised banks in Gujarat during 1992-93 ;

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom ;

(c) whether the farmers have to face a lot of difficulties for getting the loan in time ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Information is being obtained from various banks and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

(c) and (d) A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase flow of credit to farmers particularly small and marginal farmers. The important ones are :

- (i) Banks have been instructed that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- are to be disposed of within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.
- (ii) To facilitate speedy disposal of applications the application forms are made available in regional languages. Terms and conditions regarding margin/security should be printed on the reverse of the application form itself.
- (iii) All branch managers of banks are to be vested with discretionary powers to sanction loan proposals received from weaker section without reference to any higher authority.
- (iv) If there are any complaints regarding delay in disbursement of loan the same are taken up with the concerned bank.

Public Sector Banks in Rural Areas

298. **DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS**

PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the branches of public sector banks opened in rural areas of the country during the last two years and proposed to be opened during the current financial year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : The State-wise details of branches of public sector banks opened in rural areas of the country during 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below in the statement. Under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95, Reserve Bank of India has not fixed any year-wise and State-wise target for opening of bank branches. The opening of bank branches is an on-going process and the banks are expected to open branches at centres allotted to them in a phased manner during 1990-95.

STATEMENT

Name of State	1991-92	1992-93
	April— March	April— March
1	2	3
Andaman Nicobar . . .	3	—
Andhra Pradesh . . .	2	17
Assam . . .	3	—
Gujarat . . .	1	49
Maharashtra . . .	5	8
Manipur . . .	1	3
Punjab . . .	1	3
Tamilnadu . . .	2	7
Uttar Pradesh . . .	8	1
Bihar . . .	3	6
Haryana . . .	1	0
Himachal Pradesh . . .	2	1
Jammu & Kashmir . . .	1	2
Karnataka . . .	5	2
Kerala . . .	2	2
Madhya Pradesh . . .	6	8
Meghalaya . . .	9	2
Mizoram . . .	2	1
Orissa . . .	7	8
Rajasthan . . .	2	9
Sikkim . . .	1	7
West Bengal . . .	1	8
Tripura . . .	1	—
Total . . .	69	149

ESI Dues

299. SHRI LOKANATH CHOU-DHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge amount is outstanding from various employers as ESI dues ;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the outstanding amount from the employers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) As on 31-3-1993, an amount of Rs. 178.16 crores was outstanding on account of ESI dues against various employers. The ESI dues have increased generally because of the Court's stay on their recovery, liquidation/closure of establishments, sickness of establishments and delay in collection of the dues through District Collectors.

(c) The ESI Act was amended in 1989 and for expediting the recovery of the ESI dues, a provision was made to set up the Corporation's own revenue recovery machinery which has since started functioning w.e.f. 1-1-1992. The legal and penal provisions in the Act were also made more stringent.

Visit of ILO Chief to India

300. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief of the International Labour Organisation visited India recently and had detailed meetings with the Government and other bodies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The DG ILO is scheduled to visit India from 6th to 12th Dec. 1993.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Tobacco

301. SHRI K. H. MUNTYAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is importing tobacco ; and

(b) if so, the total quantity of various types of tobacco imported during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The total quantity of various types of tobacco imported during each of the last three years are as under :

Year	Quantity
1990-91	1,07,850
1991-92	1,30,355
1992-93	1,23,189

Employment to Trained Pilots

302. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether, even after adoption of the open sky policy by the Government, the unemployment amongst the trained pilots is on the high side in recent years;

(b) if so, the assessment made by the Government in this regard during the last two years ; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to reduce unemployment in the field ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issues licences and ratings to pilots. During the last two years, 890 Commercial Licences have been issued to pilots. DGCA does not maintain record of their employment. Employment of pilots

is linked with demand for the services of pilots. 17 Air Taxi operators have been given permit to operate services in the country. They as well as the airlines need services of pilots to operate service.

Rubber Research Institute of India

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

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to improve the function of the Research Institute of India at Kottayam ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

Rubber Research Institute of India is a well recognised reputed institute with International standing. The International Rubber Research and Development Board has entrusted the RRII to coordinate an international Research programme on tapping panel dryness of rubber, an unresolved malady inspite of eight decades of international research. The institute is conducting various studies on this aspect, including Genetic Engineering for development of various clones. The proposals to improve the Research and Development Scheme of the RRII during the VIIIth Plan include :—

1. Strengthening the existing Research facilities and establishment of new research stations.
2. Establishment of a Germ Plasm Garden.
3. Improvement of bio-technology Research and tissue culture.
4. Strengthening the existing facilities in respect of supporting services of economic research.
5. Establishment of the Divisions for Soil and Agriculture Chemistry, on farm evaluation & demonstration for product development.

[*Translation*]

Loan to Educated Unemployed Youths

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

(a) whether the Government have issued certain instructions to the public sector and other banks to encourage self employment for the educated unemployed youths ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the educated unemployed youths have to face many difficulties in getting loan from the above banks ; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to ease the procedure in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Since 1983-84 the scheme for providing self employment to the educated unemployed youth (SEEUY) is being implemented by the scheduled commercial banks. Objective of the scheme is to encourage the educated unemployed youth to undertake self-employment ventures in industry, service and business through the provisions of a package of assistance. Further, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the Educated Unemployed Youth has been launched throughout the country on 2nd October, 1993. The objective of the scheme is to provide sustained employment to the educated unemployed urban youth in micro enterprises during VIII Five Year Plan in manufacturing, service and business ventures. The scheme will be implemented in urban areas during 1993-94 and from 1st April, 1994 throughout the country. The Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) will be subsumed with PMRY with effect from 1st April, 1994. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued instructions to the Indian scheduled commercial banks on the basis of the detailed schemes framed by the Government.

Salient features of both the SEEUY and PMRY schemes are as under :—

I. Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) :

SEEUY was introduced by Government in 1983-84 and is being continued on yearly basis. The scheme extends to the whole of India excluding cities having population of more than 1 million as per 1981 census. Educated unemployed youth (Matriculate and above) within the age group of 18—35 years and whose family income does not exceed Rs. 10,000 per annum are eligible for assistance under the scheme. Composite loan not exceeding Rs. 35,000 for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000 for service units and Rs. 15,000 for business enterprises are given. ITI passed youth in the prescribed age group are eligible for undertaking industrial and service ventures. Capital subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost is provided by the Government. 30% of the loans sanctioned are reserved for SC/STs.

II. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for Educated Unemployed Youth (PMRY)

Youth between the age of 18 & 35 belonging to families having incomes less than Rs. 24,000 per annum would be eligible for assistance under the scheme. The educated unemployed entrepreneurs would be given a subsidy of 15% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7500 each for starting the micro enterprises. They would be required to bring in 5% of the project cost as margin money. Each entrepreneur will be eligible for a loan upto a ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh. The entrepreneurs selected under the scheme would be provided training, before the loan is disbursed. Not more than 30% of the micro enterprises would be from the business sector. Besides matric passed or failed students and ITI passed youth, all the persons who have undergone Government sponsored technical courses for a minimum duration of 6 months will be eligible for assistance under the scheme. Reputed NGOs would also be associated in the implementation of the scheme especially in the selection, training of entrepre-

neurs and preparation of the project under the scheme. A reservation of 22.5% for SC/ST and 27% for other backward castes (OBCs) have been provided. Women should be given preference. The beneficiary should have been a permanent resident of the urban area for 3 years.

(c) & (d) Eligible applicants, whose applications are sponsored by the sponsoring agency and whose projects are found viable and bankable, are granted loans by the concerned bank branches. Complaints as and when received are referred to the banks for taking remedial action by the Government and RBI.

[English]

Tourism Promotion in Kerala

305. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the tourism schemes being implemented by the Union Government of Kerala ;

(b) the proposals from the Government of Kerala regarding tourism promotion in the State pending with the Union Government ; and

(c) the present status of each of these proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) No complete proposals have been received from the State Government of Kerala for sanction during the current financial year so far.

Import of Toners

306. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Toners are being imported as Carbon Black ;

(b) if so, the quantity of Toners imported during the current year so far and the amount of customs duty loss suffered by the Government on account of under-invoicing and clearing of Toners as Carbon Black ; and

(c) the steps taken to check such illegal import ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) As per the latest statistics available, the import of 'Toners, Photographic' during 1992-93 has been to the tune of 355 MT valued at Rs. 9.36 crores. The Government have no information on the alleged clearance of Toners as Carbon Black and under-invoicing in the matter of imports thereof.

[Translation]

Protection of Interests of Securities

307. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the SEBI has received a large number of complaints from investors;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to protect the interest of investors in share market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE

MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of complaints of investors against companies received by SEBI are given below in statement.

(c) and (d) SEBI has been established on 21st February, 1992 to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote the development of, and to regulate the securities market and for related matters, pursuant to the SEBI Ordinance of January 1992. SEBI has fully computerised the work relating to investor complaints with effect from 1st March, 1993 for ensuring more effective redressal of investor complaints. SEBI has also raised the minimum application amount for public issue of capital to Rs. 5000 with a view to reducing levels of oversubscription, and thereby increasing the chances of allotment to the applicants. Rules and Regulations under the SEBI Act for Merchant Bankers, and Registrar to an Issue and Share Transfer Agent have already been notified.

The Department of Company Affairs which is administering the Companies Act has in the recent past selected 58 companies for initiating penal action on the basis of investor complaints.

(e) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Year ending December	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV	Total
1990 (from Aug. 16)	1,579	1,456	1,436	562	5,033
1991	27,944 (9,572)	14,228 (3,608)	21,190 (5,768)	6,120 (1,421)	69,482 (20,369)
1992	2,18,838 (29,440)	21,502 (4,671)	67,443 (13,425)	17,332 (3,319)	3,25,115 (50,855)
1993 (Till Nov. 15)	3,10,800 (1,56,815)	32,114 (11,028)	1,05,161 (36,661)	18,518 (6,958)	4,66,593 (2,11,462)
Total	5,59,161 (1,95,827)	69,300 (19,307)	1,95,230 (55,854)	42,532 (11,698)	8,66,223 (2,87,686)

Type I Non-receipt of refund order/allotment advice/stock invest.

Type II Non-receipt of dividend/interest on shares/debentures/fixed deposits, non-receipt of redemption amount of debentures and maturity amount of fixed deposits.

Type III Non-receipt of shares/debentures certificates after transfer/transmission/conversion/endorsement/consolidation/splitting.

Type IV Non-receipt of annual reports/rights application form/bonus shares/interest for overdue period in case of delayed refund etc.

N. B. :—Figures in brackets indicate number of complaints resolved by the companies. Record of redressal of complaints for the year 1990 is not available with SEBI.

Refinance by Nabard for Purchase of Second Hand Tractors

308. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a suitable package and support for refinance facility for purchase of second hand tractors has been evolved by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The banks are free to finance purchase of old tractors out of their own resources. As regards availability of NABARD's refinance facility for such financing, NABARD is finalising a scheme in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India with a view to evolving a suitable package and support for introducing the scheme in some selected areas in the country.

[English]

Bank of Karad Ltd

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

(a) whether some public sector banks have shown their interest in purchasing the assets of Bank of Karad Ltd. and to absorb the employees of the bank as reported in "Deccan Chronicle" dated July 31, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the banks which have shown their interest in this regard;

(c) the terms and other aspects thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d) According to information received from Reserve Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India as also United Western Bank Ltd. had shown interest in purchasing the assets of the Bank of Karad Ltd. in absorbing its employees. The Reserve Bank of India recommended the name of Bank of Baroda to the Provisional Liquidator of the Bank of Karad Ltd. for approval by the High Court of Bombay. The recommendation was not however approved by the High Court. The Court ordered the provisional Liquidator to call for fresh offers from all public sector banks for purchasing the specified assets, taking over the liabilities of the Bank of Karad Ltd. and for absorption of its employees. So far, only one bank viz., Bank of India has submitted its offer. The provisional Liquidator has submitted this offer to the High Court for consideration. The case has been heard by the Bombay High Court on 9th November, 1993 and stands adjourned to 5th December, 1993.

Closing of Unviable Bank Branches

310. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has permitted public sector banks to close down its unviable branches; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Under the current liberalised policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks are permitted to swap their stray or unremunerative branches with other banks. The banks have also been advised that RBI would consider their proposal for closing of loss making branches at urban/metropolitan centres which are generally well-banked. Banks have also been allowed to rationalise their existing branch network in rural areas keeping in view their viability. At rural centres served by two commercial bank branches (excluding Regional Rural Banks),

the concerned banks may, by mutual consultation, take a decision for closure of one of the branches. Banks should, however, forward such proposals, duly approved by the concerned District Consultative Committee, to RBI through the State Government for their prior approval.

Funds to Priority Sectors by Foreign Banks

311. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have scrutinised the operation of foreign banks to ensure that they channel the targeted funding to the priority small sector ;

(b) if so, whether any lapse has been noticed by RBI on the part of any bank in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The performance of foreign banks in regard to their advances to the priority sector is monitored by Reserve Bank of India.

(b) and (c) Scrutiny work is in progress and final results of the scrutiny are not yet available. Action to be taken will be decided after completion of the scrutiny.

Jute Mills

312. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of jute mills in the country as on April 1, 1992 and April 1, 1993, State-wise and Sector-wise break-up ;

(b) the number of units included in (a) above which are closed or sick as on September 30, 1993, State-wise and sector-wise break-up ;

(c) the number of additional units which are under establishment as on September 30, 1993 sector-wise and State-wise break-up ; and

(d) the cumulative grants and advances to the jute industry from the Jute Modernisation Fund as on September 30, 1993, State-wise and sector wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) There are 73 jute mills in the country of which 59 are located in West Bengal, four in Andhra Pradesh, three each in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and one each in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Assam and Tripura, as on 1st April, 1993.

(b) 11 jute mills in the country were lying closed as on 30th September, 1993 of which 6 were in West Bengal, 2 in Andhra Pradesh and one each in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Tripura. 27 mill companies had been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 of which 3 are located in Andhra Pradesh, 1 each in Orissa and Bihar and 22 in West Bengal.

(c) No new jute mill has been set up after 1-4-1992.

(d) The jute industry had, till 30 September, 1993, been disbursed a sum of Rs. 35.51 crores under the Jute Modernisation Fund of which Rs. 33.76 crores was released to jute mills in West Bengal and Rs. 1.75 crores to jute mills in Andhra Pradesh.

Economic Reforms

313. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch the second phase of economic reforms ;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) With the improvement in the economic situation,

consequent upon a wide-ranging programme of macro-economic and structural reforms initiated since the middle of 1991, it is now considered necessary to consolidate, widen and deepen the economic reforms. The areas where further policy initiatives would need to be taken include the financial and banking sectors and reforms of the system of taxation. Further discussion of reforms necessary are contained in the document "Economic Reforms: Two Years After and the Task Ahead—A Discussion Paper" released by the Government in July, 1993.

Employment Generation

314. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employment generation has received a boost after the introduction of the New Industrial Policy in the country ;

(b) if so, the employment generation scenario prior to and after the introduction of the New Industrial Policy, State-wise ; and

(c) if not, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to generate more employment opportunities in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.

SANGMA): (a) to (c) According to the available information the total figure of employment in the organised sector in the country was 26.73 million in March, 1991, 26.85 million in March, 1992 and 26.94 million in December, 1992. A statement indicating state-wise total employment in the organised sector as on 31-3-91, 31-3-92 and 31-12-92 is given below.

Employment is the thrust area of the 8th Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for high rate of economic growth combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically crop-wise diversified agricultural development, wasteland development and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing are the basic elements of the employment-oriented growth strategy envisaged in the Plan.

The Government has established the National Renewal Fund with the objectives of providing assistance for retraining and redeployment of workers and making available funds for employment generation schemes both in the organised and unorganised sectors in order to provide a social safety net for labour needs arising from the consequences of modernisation, industries restructuring, etc.

STATEMENT

Total employment in the organised sectors by States/UTs for quarter ended March, 1991, March, 1992 and December, 1992

(in thousand)

State/U.T.		Total No. of employment*		
		(1) 31-3-91	(2) 31-3-92	(3) 31-12-92
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh		1,763.0	1,791.2	1,836.0
2. Assam		1,050.8	1,093.3	1,090.2
3. Bihar		1,663.0	1,662.4	1,665.0
4. Goa		98.5	99.5	102.0

STATEMENT—*contd.*

1	2	3	4	5
5. Gujarat		1,660.4	1,669.0	1,655.8
6. Haryana		601.8	607.5	631.4
7. Himachal Pradesh		266.3	276.4	284.9
8. Jammu & Kashmir		215.1	217.0	212.7
9. Karnataka		1,447.3	1,476.9	1,541.1
10. Kerala		1,143.2	1,181.1	1,197.1
11. Madhya Pradesh		1,669.2	1,670.7	1,679.8
12. Maharashtra		3,647.5	3,735.1	3,652.0
13. Manipur		55.6	57.7	61.7
14. Meghalaya		68.9	69.0	69.4
15. Mizoram		34.5	37.1	38.6
16. Nagaland		65.4	65.3	68.0
17. Orissa		773.7	815.5	808.8
18. Punjab		791.3	791.1	812.6
19. Rajasthan		1,183.9	1,197.4	1,170.5
20. Tamil Nadu		2,289.3	2,286.4	2,302.5
21. Tripura		98.4	97.5	111.4
22. Uttar Pradesh		2,676.9	2,469.9	2,552.0
23. West Bengal		2,465.3	2,469.3	2,388.4
24. A & Nicobar (UT)		36.3	36.6	36.5
25. Chandigarh (UT)		75.2	78.1	79.7
26. Delhi (UT)		839.2	851.8	839.9
27. Pondichery (UT)		53.1	53.1	53.1
		26,733.1	26,855.9	26,941.1

Source : DGE & T.

Import of Rubber

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

(a) whether the Union Government have allowed import of 10,000 MTs of natural rubber during the current year with a condition that the whole quantity should be consumed before August 31, 1993;

(b) if so, the total quantity of such rubber imported alongwith the particulars of the importers;

(c) whether the whole quantity has been utilised;

(d) whether the import of synthetic rubber has increased during the current year as compared to last year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. However, consumption before August, 31, 1993 was not one of the conditions of import.

(b) As per the information available, a total quantity of 4131 tonnes of NR have been imported against licenses issued with 25% import duty. The importers were JK industries Ltd., Modi Rubber Ltd., MRF Ltd., Birla Tyres, Ceat Ltd., and Dunlop India Ltd.

(c) As per information available the entire quantity has been utilised by the importers.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. As per the information available the quantity of synthetic rubber imported during April to August, 1993 was 28814 tonnes compared to 20164 tonnes during April to August, 1992.

Air Passengers

316. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of passengers travelling by the private air taxis has increased in comparison to the the Indian Airlines during July to October, 1993 ; and

(b) if so, the number of passengers travelled by the private air taxis and the Indian Airlines, separately, during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) During the period July—October, 1993, Air Taxi operators carried 7,84,388 passengers and Indian Airlines carried 22,40,866 passengers in the domestic sector.

[Translation]

Development of Handicrafts in U.P.

317. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop handicrafts in rural backward areas of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have accorded approval to some proposals in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Although Handicrafts is a state subject, however for the development of handicrafts in the country and in the state of Uttar Pradesh including the rural backward areas, the Government, through the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), is operating various schemes as per details annexed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The proposals approved during the current financial year i.e. 1993-94 are given below :—

	Amount Released (Rs. lakhs)
1. For holding exhibitions	Rs. 51.61
2. Training through other organisations	Rs. 13.41
3. For setting up craft Development Centres	Rs. 2.74

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Objective
1	2	3
1	Marketing Development Support	A modified scheme to assist in the form of a package of assistance to organisations engaged in marketing/development of handicrafts (Central/State Handicrafts Dev. Corps./Apex Societies/Voluntary Organisations).
2	Marketing and Service Extn. Centres and other Marketing Programmes	1. To provide marketing and other services to craftsmen specially in craft concentration areas. 2. To render assistance in marketing, credit, raw-materials and design development.
3	Craft Development Centres	1. A modified combined scheme of the earlier schemes of Common Facility Service Centres and Raw Material Depots. 2. To assist Central/State Handicrafts Corps. and other organisations in setting up of CDCs in identified craft pockets. 3. To extend production, market related and social services to the craftsmen.

STATEMENT—*contd.*

1	2	3
4 Design and Technical Development.	1. A modified scheme to assist craftsmen in development designs both by identifying traditional styles and innovating new ones for marketability. 2. To assist Corpn. Apex Societies, Voluntary organisations to engage designers/technical consultants developments/new range of products.	
5 National Handicrafts and Handlooms Museum.	1. To preserve and document traditional crafts. 2. To disseminate awareness on above crafts. 3. To revive languishing crafts.	
6 North Eastern Handicrafts & Handlooms Dev. Corporation.	1. To harness the vast resources in terms of skill and raw materials to the benefit of craftsmen of the North Eastern Region. 2. To act as a focal point and to provide necessary technical expertise to the artisans and craftsmen.	
7 Survey and Studies	To undertake craft specific and areas specific survey to have data base in Handicrafts.	
8 Exhibition and Publicity	1. To assist organisations engaged in Marketing/development of handicrafts (Corpn., Cooperatives, Apex Societies) in holding exhibitions. 2. To undertake and assist organisations in undertaking market related publicity campaigns including advertisements, brochures, catalogues, etc.	
9 Export Promotion	To promote export of handicrafts.	
10 Training	1. To develop upgradation of skill and impart training both in high demand/export oriented crafts and in languishing crafts. 2. To enhance the employment opportunities.	
11 Social Security and other activities, award and pension scheme.	1. To augment security/confidence of the craftsmen both in terms of recognising his merits and ensuring financial security in old age/infirmary. 2. To give National Awards to the craftsmen for recognising excellence in workmanship.	
12 Equity participation in Central/State Corpn. and Apex Societies.	To strengthen the equity base of organisations engaged in marketing of handicrafts.	
13 Construction of Handicraft Bhawan.	To utilise funds for the construction of Handicraft Bhawan building at Baba Kharak Singh Marg to accommodate sales outlet of such States/UTs which do not have any emporia in Delhi.	
14 Social programme for Revival of languishing crafts.	To launch special programmes for identification, survey and revival of languishing crafts through various measures like Design development, training, exhibition, etc.	

Confiscated Gold

318. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-
RAO GUNDEWAR :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of gold confiscated from the flights of Air India and Indian Airlines since January, 1993 till date ;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard ; and

(c) the details of the action being taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) 211.225 Kgs. of gold has been confiscated from the flights of Air India and Indian Airlines for the period from 1st January 1993 to 31st October, 1993.

(b) and (c) 15 persons have been arrested in this regard. Prosecutions and COFEPOSA proceedings have been initiated against persons found involved in smuggling of gold, wherever warranted.

[English]

Clearance of Cheques

319. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :
SHRI TARA CHAND KHAN-
DELWAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cheque clearance is invariably delayed by a day by the staff at the Reserve Bank of India's National Clearing Cell (NCC) as reported in the "Economic Times" dated October 31, 1993;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the general practice is to clear the cheques immediately. However, on 2nd and 9th September 1993, clearing operations were partially affected due to a strike observed by the staff of the member banks of the New Delhi Bankers' Clearing House including Reserve Bank of India.

(c) Norms for data entry by Data Terminal Operators have been specified recently. Supervision and monitoring have also been strengthened to improve efficiency.

All out efforts are being made to bring down the amount as well as number of outstanding entries by holding weekly and monthly meetings with banks.

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold Biscuits and Currency

320. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY :

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate have seized gold biscuits and foreign currency in large quantity by raiding premises of traders in Delhi during the last two months ;

(b) if so, the quantity and value thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against these traders so far ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The Directorate of Enforcement has seized foreign currency amounting to Rs. 27.50 lakhs and 83 gold biscuits worth Rs. 41.50 lakhs (approx.) on 3-11-93 from the premises of a trader in Delhi.

(c) and (d) The trader was arrested and subsequently detained under COFEPOSA on 16-11-93.

[English]**Customer Service in Banks**

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

(a) whether the quality of customer service in the public sector banks has deteriorated during the past few years and the non-recovery of advances of these banks has also increased ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) In spite of various measures taken by the Government/Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the past few years for improvement of customer service in banks, it has been revealed by surveys undertaken in this regard that the level of customer satisfaction is low. In view of this, a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri M. N. Goiporia, the then Chairman, state Bank of India was constituted in September, 1990 to study the current state of customer service in banks and to suggest measures to improve the same. The Committee had made wide ranging recommendations covering—(i) improvement of customer service by enlarging the scope of teller services, extending banking hours for non-cash transactions, devising appropriate procedures to render uninterrupted service during business hours ;

(ii) opening of specialised branches focusing on international banking, industrial finance, small scale industries ; (iii) technology upgradation and continuous review of systems and procedures in tune with the changing needs of customers ; and (iv) compensating costumers for delay in collection of cheques, payment by mail transfer, telegraphic transfer, etc. RBI have issued instructions to the banks for implementation of the accepted recommendations of the Committee.

As regards non-recovery of advances of banks, RBI have been exhorting banks to strengthen their appraisal machinery and exercise close supervision and control over advances. The need for guarding against advances turning sticky due to lapses on the part of officials has also been emphasised. Further, an Act has been passed by the Parliament for establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks.

Services at Airports

322. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

SHRI LAL BABU RAI :

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

(a) whether delays in clearing passengers and inefficient services by the officials at the airports are the major causes of flight delays and passenger dissatisfaction ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) No sir. However it is the endeavour of the Government to improve services at the airports.

[Translation]**Bonded and Child Labourers**

323. PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons/owners of industries penalised on account of illegal discrimination and oppression of the child and bonded labourers ;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any specific and time bound scheme to eradicate the problems of bonded and child labourers ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether the Government have identified such type of Industries wherein majority of child and bonded labourers are engaged ;

(e) if so, the steps taken to impose ban on such industries and to implement the appropriate welfare schemes; and

(f) the funds allocated for the welfare of child and bonded labourers, separately, for the financial year 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (f) A Statement is given below.

Statement

Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, no distinction has been made between adult and child bonded labour. According to the latest reports, a total number of 2,51,424 bonded labourers have been identified and released as on 31-3-1993 out of which 10,345 remain to be rehabilitated. A target for the rehabilitation of 2179 bonded labourers has been fixed for the current year (1993-94). To rehabilitate the bonded labourers within a time bound programme, targets are fixed for each State every year. To assist the State Governments in rehabilitation of bonded labourers, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been in operation since 1978-79, under which the State Governments are provided central financial assistance in matching grant (50:50) basis. So far a sum of Rs. 3561.86 lakhs has been released to State Governments for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers as Central share of assistance. The problem of bonded labour does not exist in the industrial sector. It essentially exists in the rural areas in the agricultural sector. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers, an amount of Rs. 349.00 lakhs has been allocated for the current year (1993-94) in the Central Sector.

Eradication of child labour in the near future being considered difficult to achieve, Government aim to eliminate child labour progressively. This is sought to be achieved through legislation, better enforcement of laws relating to child labour, welfare programmes, greater awareness amongst parents,

employers and society at large and extension of education to increasing number of children. Apart from this the Govt. have identified 10 States/UTs, namely, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Goa, Pondicherry and Chandigarh, which have relatively lesser incidence of child labour for making concerted efforts to eliminate child labour. Identification of areas/industries of concentration of child labour is a continuing exercise. Till date 11 areas have been identified and in 9 of these areas projects for welfare of working children have been taken up under the National Child Labour Policy formulated in 1987. Two of these project areas namely Jaggampet in Andhra Pradesh and Mandasaur in M.P. have been identified for total elimination of child labour. Child labour is prohibited in occupations/processes mentioned in the schedule under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. Addition to Schedule is made from time to time with other occupations/processes which are identified as hazardous by the Technical Advisory Committee on child labour. For the year 1993-94 a total of Rs. 350 lakhs have been allocated under various schemes for the welfare of child labour.

NRI Bonds for Sardar Sarovar Project

324. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from the Gujarat Government regarding NRI Bonds for 'Sardar Sarovar Project';

(b) If so, the details thereof;

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

(d) The time by which this proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d) A proposal was received during 1991-92 from the Government of Gujarat for the issue of

NRI Bonds to mobilise resources for the Sardar Sarovar Project. Government of Gujarat were informed in April, 1992 that proposal could not be agreed to as the proposal effectively constituted another form of Government guaranteed borrowing and would pre-empt resources from the Government's external borrowing programmes which are subject to a ceiling based on prudential considerations.

[English]

Indian Airlines Flights from Calicut Airport

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

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the number of Indian Airlines domestic and international flights to and from the Calicut Airport in Kerala ;

(b) if so, the details of flights introduced and proposed to be introduced this year :

(c) whether any improvements have been made at the Calicut Airport to cater to the increased flights ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines have introduced the following flights from Calicut :—

Sector	Effective from
1. Calicut-Fujairah-Sharjah-Calicut .	1-11-93
2. Calicut-Rasal Khaimeh-Sharjah-Calicut .	1-11-93
3. Calicut-Muscat	2-12-93 till 14-12-93

Indian Airlines proposes to operate the following joint venture flights in association with Air India :—

Sector	Effective from
Calicut-Abu Dhabi	15-12-93
Calicut-Dubai	15-12-93
Calicut-Muscat	15-12-93

(c) and (d) The National Airports Authority is providing a new block at the terminal building to cater to international passengers at an estimated cost of Rs. 6 crores. Instrument Landing System is also proposed to be installed shortly.

[Translation]

Air Accidents

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

(a) the number of aircraft which have met with the accident during the last three years alongwith the date on which each of these accidents took place :

(b) the number of persons killed and injured in each of such accidents ;

(c) the amount of compensation paid and the number of cases where compensation has not been paid so far, accident-wise ;

(d) whether the number of aircraft have reduced as a result of these accidents ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) the present fleet position of the Indian Airlines, the Air India and the Vayudoot Category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (e) Particulars of accidents to Indian Airlines aircraft in the last three years are annexed.

(f) The present fleet position of the 3 airlines are as follows :—

Indian Airline	Air India	Vayudoot
A 300-10,	B 747-400 : 2	HS-748 : 8
A 320-24	B 747-200 : 9	DO-228 : 8
B 737-18	A 310-300 : 8	
F 27-3	A 300-B4 : 3	
	B 747-300 : 2	
	Combi	

STATEMENT

Accidents to Indian Airlines Aircraft

Date	Aircraft Type	Regn.	Passengers killed	Persons seriously injured	Condition of aircraft after accident	Amount of compensation paid (In Rs lakh)	No. of cases where compensation yet paid
16-8-91	B-737	VT-EFL	62	—	Destroyed	302.19	2
4-9-92	B-737	VT-EGJ	—	—	Minor damage	—	—
26-4-93	B-737	VT-ECQ	54	10	Destroyed	148.88	26
15-11-93	A-300	VT-EDV	—	—	Severely damaged	—	—

Disposal of Shares of Nationalised Banks to Private Sector

327. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANSAL :

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to dispose of most of the shares of nationalised banks to private sector ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have formulated or propose to formulate any policy in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) While presenting the Union Budget for 1993-94, the Finance Minister had, *inter alia*, stated that Government have decided that nationalised banks which are in a position to do so will be allowed to access the capital market to raise fresh equity to meet their shortfall in capital requirements over the next three years. Finance Minister had also stated that Government will continue to retain majority ownership and, therefore, effective control in the public sector banks. Government and Reserve Bank of India are considering necessary amendments in the relevant statutes for the purpose.

Sub-committee on Problems of Textile Workers

328. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has constituted a sub-committee in connection with the problems of textile workers as decided in the meeting of the Tripartite Committee on Textile Industry held in June 26, 1993 ;

(b) if so, whether the sub-committee has submitted its report ;

(c) if so, the main recommendations of the sub-committee ; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) A Special Tripartite meeting of Consultation on NTC matters was held on 26-6-93. As decided in the meeting, a Sub-Committee was constituted to consider implementation of the turn around strategy for sick NTC mills. The Sub-Committee is yet to submit its report.

[English]

Printing of Currency Notes

329. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange being spent per annum on the printing of currency notes of rupee one and rupee two denominations ;

(b) the average life of such notes ;

(c) the cost incurred on coins of these denominations and their life span ; and

(d) the time span for phasing out such currency notes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) No foreign exchange is being spent on printing of currency notes of Re. 1 and Rs. 2 denominations.

(b) The average life of Re. 1 and Rs. 2 currency notes is about six months and one year respectively.

(c) The cost incurred on coins of these denominations and their life span is given below :

Denomination	Cost (per piece)	Life-span
Re. 1 (Cupro-Nickel)	Rs. 1.61	15-20 years
Re. 1 (Stainless Steel)	90 paise	20-30 years
Rs. 2 (Cupro-Nickel)	Rs. 1.95	15-20 years

(d) The expected time span for phasing out such currency notes is 1995-96.

New Labour Policy for Employment Generation

330. SHRI SHARVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a workshop on "new labour policy for employment generation" was held at Bombay on September 26, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the main observations and suggestions made at the workshop ;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ;

(d) whether the new labour policy has since been formulated ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (e) According to available information a workshop on "New Labour Policy and Thrust on Employment Generation" was organised by the All-India Manufacturers' Organisation in Bombay on 25-9-93. The recommendations of the workshop have not yet been sent to Government. Amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act and Trade Unions Act are still under formulation.

Streamlining Customs Procedure for Movement of Shipping Cargo

331. PROF. RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for streamlining customs procedure has been prepared by a Committee to speed up movements of shipping cargo in the context of doubling exports ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) No committee has been specifically set up by the Ministry of Finance to work out a scheme for streamlining customs procedures to speed up movement of shipping cargo in the context of increasing exports. However, a number of measures have been taken over the last two years for rationalisation of the tariff structure and simplification of Customs & Central Excise procedure. For this purpose the Government has taken into consideration the recommendation made by the Tax Reforms Committee headed by Dr. Raja J. Chelliah as also the interim reports of the High Powered Committee of experts on indirect taxation headed by Shri K.L. Rekhi.

The important changes introduced in the customs procedures are as follows :—

Relaxation of norms for examination of export consignment.

(i) The consignments which have been examined and sealed by Central Excise Officers or by export inspection agencies,

Textile Committee, etc. are not required to be examined at the point of export except for random/intelligence based checks. Likewise, for export consignments belonging to established exporters having unblemished track record, routine examination of each consignment has been dispensed with.

(ii) The marine product consignments are now being allowed shipment without customs examination. Such consignments are cleared on the basis of self certification of exporters who have been authorised by the export inspection agencies to issue such certificates.

(iii) The requirement of obtaining a pre-shipment inspection certificate by exporters has been dispensed with in the case of exporters when overseas buyers do not want pre-shipment inspection and in case of exports by Star Trading House, trading houses, export houses.

(iv) Powers of assessments of import/export goods have been delegated to speed up clearances.

[Translation]

Loan Recovery Position

332. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-DEYA :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI N. K. BALIYAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the loan recovery position of Indian Banks has become worst at present as reported in the Nav Bharat Times, New Delhi dated October 26, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have taken any step to enhance the capacity of these banks and to create competitive zeal among them ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The news report referred to in part (a) of the question refers to the position occupied by public sector banks among the 200 major Asian Banks as given in the magazine 'The Banker' of London. It has also been stated, inter alia, that recovery position of Indian banks is becoming worse.

(c) and (d) As per information available from Reserve Bank of India, the position of overdues of public sector banks as at the end of September 91 and September 92 was as under :

	No. of Accounts	(A/cs in lakhs) (Rs. in crores) Overdues Amount
September 91	177.34	17,967
September 92	119.20	14,805

From the above position, it may be observed that the overdue amount of Rs. 17,967 crores as at the end of Sept. 91 has come down to Rs. 14,805 crores at the end of Sept. 92. Similarly the number of accounts has also come down from 177.34 lakhs to 119.20 lakhs. Nevertheless, various steps have been taken by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to minimise the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important steps are as follows :

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand, and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks, on the other.
2. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.
3. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts.
4. Taking corrective action where advances are found to have become sticky.

5. Recently, the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993, has been enacted for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

Welfare Schemes for Handloom Weavers

333. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Chief Ministers Conference was held on September 24, 1993 in New Delhi to discuss the Welfare Schemes for the handloom weavers ;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed ; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken or propose to take to ensure speedy and effective implementation of Welfare Schemes for the handloom weavers ?

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

(b) Some of the important issues discussed pertained to the implementation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. Another issue that was discussed related to the active involvement of States in the implementation of schemes of Ministry of Rural Development for the benefit of handloom weavers. A proposal with regard to setting up of 3000 Handloom Development Centres and 500 Quality Dyeing Units was also discussed.

(c) The following welfare schemes for the benefit of handloom weavers are being implemented :

- (i) Health package Scheme ;
- (ii) Group Insurance Scheme ;
- (iii) Thrift Fund Scheme ; and
- (iv) Workshop-cum-Housing Scheme.

Regional Secretariat of Stock Exchange at Bhubaneswar

334. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for opening of a Regional Secretariat of Stock Exchange at Bhubaneswar ;

(b) if so, the details of the plan of the Government in that regard ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be opened ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

ILO Conventions

335. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the present members from India to the ILO ;

(b) the ILO conventions which are pending for ratification by the Government ;

(c) the number of conventions received by the Government for ratification during the last three years and number out of them which have been ratified so far ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the ratification of the remaining conventions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The Government of India, Shri Haribhau Naik (INTUC) and Shri I. P. Anand (CIE) are the Indian representatives on the Governing Body of the ILO.

(b) and (d) India has ratified 36 out of the 174 Conventions adopted by the ILO so far. The ILO Conventions encompass a vast span of subjects which includes basic human rights, employment, labour administration, conditions of work, social

security, safety and health, migrant workers etc. Some of the Conventions are not required to be ratified by India because they apply to Non-Metropolitan Territories or have been revised by subsequent Conventions.

The Government has been examining from time to time the law and practice prevalent in the country in relation to the subject matter of ILO Conventions and ratifying them wherever possible. In many cases, ratification of a Convention entails upgradation of technology, augmentation of enforcement machinery, changes in law financial obligations etc. which may not be feasible in the existing socio-economic conditions and this withholds its ratification.

(c) During 1991, 1992 and 1993 the following ILO Conventions were adopted:

- (i) Convention No. 172, concerning Working Conditions in Hotels, Restaurants and similar Establishments 1991.
- (ii) Convention No. 173, concerning the Protection of Workers' Claims in the event of the Insolvency of their Employer, 1992.
- (iii) Convention No. 174, concerning Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents, 1993.

None of the above Conventions have so far been ratified by the Government of India.

Bank Credit out-standing against Industrial Houses

336. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total bank credit outstanding against the big of the industrial house as on October 31, 1993 ;

(b) the details of the top twenty defaulters accounts in each of the public sector bank and the amount involved in each such account ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to recover the overdues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the total amount of outstanding against credit limits sanctioned to the top 20 large industrial houses as on the last Friday of March, 1993 (latest available) was Rs. 7,387 crores.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and practices and usages customary amongst bankers, the information relating to their individual constituents cannot be divulged.

Trade Between India and South Africa

337. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the trade relations between India and South Africa has started once again ;

(b) if so, the details of items proposed to be imported and exported between both these countries ; and

(c) the extent to which the trade between both these countries are likely to be improved during 1993-94 ?

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

(b) It is primarily for the industry and commerce of the two countries to select the items of export and import from each other, depending on requirements and competitiveness of the goods. However the probable items of export and import are as follow :—

Export from India

Tea, Coffee, Spices, Pickles, Cashew, Rice, Traditional Jewellery, Textiles Garments, Transport Equipments, Auto Parts,

Leather Goods, Computer Software, Engineering and Chemicals products etc.

Import from South Africa

Rock Phosphate, Phosphoric Acid, Asbestos, Metallic Ores and products, Pig Iron, Zinc, Newsprint, Rough Diamonds, Coal-mining technology and equipments and certain chemicals etc.

(c) Indian exports to South Africa are expected to gain substantially though it is difficult to estimate the exact value at this stage.

IMF Loan

338. SHRI SHANTARAM POIDUKHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's negotiations with the International Monetary Fund for a medium term loan of \$ 5 to 6 billion have been put off ;

(b) if so, the details thereof : and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) and (c) does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Cotton

339. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dalit Bunkar Morcha has requested the Government to reduce the export of cotton and provide it to the cotton weavers at cheaper rates ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) It has been the Government's endeavour to promote the export of value-added items.

In accordance with the long term policy, the export of raw cotton is allowed subject to the size of the cotton crop in the current season, carry forward etc. While releasing quota for exports, effort is made to strike a balance between domestic requirement of weavers in the decentralised sector, mill consumption etc. and interest of the cotton growers on the other.

NTC Mills in West Bengal

340. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the West Bengal NTC units were promised to allocate 14 crores to begin the renovation work ;

(b) if so, the amount released so far out of this ; and

(c) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) The working capital requirements of the mills of NTC (WBABO) Ltd. were estimated to be Rs. 15.5 crores in a meeting held on 10th June, 1993. Rs. 4.5 crores out of this sum was already available with NTC (WBABO) Ltd. and the balance requirement of Rs. 11.00 crores has already been released, Rs. 6.40 crores in cash & Rs. 4.60 crores in the form of cotton.

[English]

Suggestions Made by GATT

341. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether GATT has urged India's trading partners to provide more market access and stable trading conditions for the latter to persist with its ongoing autonomous trade reforms ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered these suggestions ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and how many of them have been accepted ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) India's first trade policy review under the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM) was held on 19-20 October, 1993. The report prepared by the GATT Secretariat for the review contained the following observations:

"44. India will continue to be vulnerable to external trade barriers and disturbances. The future pace and depth of India's autonomous trade reforms are contingent on the maintenance of an open, stable and predictable global trading regime that can successfully combat protectionist pressures in major export markets. It is therefore important that India's trading partners assume their responsibility for assisting India's autonomous liberalization process by ensuring market access and stable trading conditions for its developing export base. This can best be achieved through a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, including the integration of trade in textiles in the GATT."

2. In his concluding remarks, Chairman of the GATT Council, on his own responsibility, said that "...strong encouragement has been expressed for the determined continuation of these reforms. It is recognised that a most favourable external environment for India's trade will provide essential support for the reforms, and that, in this regard, the successful completion of the Uruguay Round will make a significant and lasting contribution".

3. India is negotiating for enhanced market access in textiles and other areas of interest in the Uruguay Round.

Aviation Related Environmental Constraints

342. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan to combat over the aviation related environmental constraints;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Action plans have been prepared for Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Hyderabad airports to prevent bird strikes to aircraft. These are being implemented under the supervision of the State Governments concerned. Air Field Environmental Management Committees have been established at all airports to identify sources of bird attraction around the airports and to take remedial measures. At the national level, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Civil Aviation) overseas functioning of the agencies concerned with birds hazard control measures.

(c) Does not arise.

Apex Hitech Institute at Bangalore

343 Prof. (Smt.) SAVITHRI LAKSHMAN Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to set up an Apex Hitech Institute at Bangalore for upgrading and modernising Vocational training in the country; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) : Yes Sir. The proposal is at the initial stage of Planning. The details are being worked out.

Payment of Insurance Claims By United India Insurance Company

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

¶(a) Whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report No. 3 of 1993 has pointed out the payment of claims by the United Insurance Company without valid insurance cover and without receiving full premium;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

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

Yes, Sir. The relevant extracts from the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India are enclosed in the statement. The General Insurance Corporation of India (GICI) issued suitable guidelines and clarifications in February '90 to enable its subsidiary companies to settle such cases of violations of Sections 64 VB of the Insurance Act as had occurred upto December 1989. Suitable action was taken against the erring officials. A system of monitoring of the compliance with the provisions of Section 64 VB of the Insurance Act by the Boards of the subsidiary Companies of the GICI has since been introduced to ensure that such violations do not recur.

STATEMENT

Details of cases as pointed out by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 3 of 1993 regarding payment of claim by the United India Insurance Company Limited without valid insurance cover and without receiving full premium :

(i) An insurance policy covering the transit from anywhere in India to anywhere in India for the period from 1.4.1986 to 31.3.1987 was issued to company covering all risks. The insured made a claim for damage and the claim was paid for Rs. 5,27,913 on 11.12.1987, though premium for Rs. 16,277 and Rs. 21,308 were received only on 5.2.1987 and 1.4.1987 respectively and insurer was not liable to pay the claim. The bank guarantee did not cover the premium, as many other dues against it exceeded the amount of bank guarantee.

(ii) A fire policy was issued in 1987 covering insured items of value Rs. 19,24,59,000 for a year from 31.12.1987 to 30.12.88. Premium of Rs. 7,71,202 was payable and Rs. 2,34,875 was received on 11.8.1988 and Rs. 4,00,000 on 30.8.1988. Refund of premium of Rs. 1,26,822 was made towards discount on 28.10.1988. There was an explosion on 24.5.1988 and loss was assessed at Rs. 1,13,612. The claim was paid for Rs. 1,11,112 on 24.2.1989 though insurer was legally not liable to pay the claim. Though

bank guarantee of the insured was received on 24.5.1988 for Rs. 7,90,000, but against it many other dues had already been set off in excess of Rs. 7,90,000.

(iii) Building, Plant and Machinery, stock and stock-in-process of a company were insured by unit of New India Assurance Company Limited (NIA), covering risk of Rs. 38.86 crores from 1.7.1988 to 30.6.1989 on co-insurance basis. The business was shared between NIA and United India Insurance Company Limited (UIIC) and National Insurance Company Limited (NIC), in the ratio of 60:20:20. The Insured, before placing the cover with NIA as the leader, informed them on 30th June, 1988 that their share of the premium would be paid to them directly. Tentative total premium (100%) payable, based on previous policy, was worked out at Rs. 9,50,000. NIA collected a sum of Rs. 5.50 lakhs (Rs. 4 lakhs on 1.7.1988 and Rs. 1.50 lakhs on 4.7.1988) towards company's 60% share of the tentative premium. Final premium to NIA was fixed on 29.8.88 Rs. 6.58 lakhs (60% share). Neither UIIC nor NIC were paid their share of 20% each of the premium.

The properties of the Insured were damaged by floods from 22.9.1988 to 26.9.1988 and loss was assessed at Rs. 30.41 lakhs (60%) The balance premium of Rs. 1.08 lakhs was received by only NIA on 27.9.1988 i.e. after floods. Still claim for Rs. 30.41 lakhs was paid to the Insured by NIA and the co-insurers were asked to pay their 20% share of the loss. UIIC also paid Rs. 10.14 lakhs.

According to Insurance Rule 59 (d), the additional premium was recoverable within 15 days from the date of its fixation failing which insurance cover was to be cancelled on the expiry of the 15 days. The additional premium should have been paid by the Insured latest by 13.9.1988, and as he failed to do so NIA should have cancelled the insurance cover. Failure to do so resulted in the payment of avoidable claim of Rs. 30.40 lakhs by NIA. As UIIC had received no premium payment of claim for Rs. 10.13 lakhs was wholly avoidable and no insurance contract existed in law.

The Ministry stated (December 1991) that there was misunderstanding in the minds of the field officers.

Loan Schemes For Weaker Sections

345. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the loan schemes introduced by the Government for weaker sections;

(b) the disbursement made by all the scheduled commercial banks under the above schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the checks exercised by the Government to ensure that the loan schemes are implemented properly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment. In addition to the above the banks also frame the schemes on their own to assist weaker sections of the society by way of providing loans to them for pro-

ductive ventures. It has been enjoined upon them that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections of the society. Amongst the Government programmes, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is the major one to assist selected families of target groups in rural areas to cross the poverty line by taking up self employment ventures. The programme, inter-alia, provides that not less than 50% of the families assisted should belong to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes communities and no less than 50% of assistance provided by Government should also go these categories. The state wise amount provided by the banks under IRDP during the year 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is given below in the statement.

(c) The performance of public sector banks in the matter of extending credit assistance to weaker sections is reviewed by the Board of Directors of the banks, the Government as well as Reserve Bank of India periodically and suitable steps are taken to make up the deficiencies noticed.

STATEMENT

Statement showing State-wise/U.T.-wise bank credit provided under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93

(Rs. in crores)

State/UT's	Amount of Bank Credit		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	9,839.48	6,755.60	7,248.44
Arunachal Pradesh	113.85	100.15	62.28
Assam	2,868.54	1,973.68	1,067.83
Bihar	14,953.23	12,633.66	10,812.63
Goa	163.64	156.66	169.13
Gujarat	2,793.47	2,925.55	2,738.28
Haryana	1,267.83	978.80	669.85
Himachal Pradesh	502.74	420.34	304.61
Jammu & Kashmir	471.32	468.58	196.35
Karnataka	4,784.79	4,217.71	4,274.85
Kerala	2,560.80	2,478.94	2,250.78
Madhya Pradesh	12,779.21	13,220.68	9,786.48

STATEMENT—contd.

	1	2	3	4
Maharashtra		8,789.35	8,880.01	8,711.95
Manipur		61.62	46.16	31.88
Meghalaya		161.87	162.69	95.41
Mizoram		20.92	16.95	16.94
Nagaland		126.10	161.80	126.58
Orissa		3,253.19	3,869.12	3,479.03
Punjab		1,567.57	1,320.64	1,521.05
Rajasthan		4,737.57	5,700.00	4,509.87
Sikkim		59.99	73.88	55.61
Tamil Nadu		5,990.88	5,866.71	6,067.71
Tripura		429.63	710.23	252.95
Uttar Pradesh		31,133.33	29,830.32	28,957.21
West Bengal		10,142.98	9,630.34	8,588.35
Andaman Nikobar Islands		62.95	59.96	28.15
Chandigarh		—	—	—
Daman & Diu		27.44	23.72	39.25
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		14.95	14.75	18.75
Delhi		61.84	28.35	—
Lakshadweep		7.31	5.43	6.38
Pondicherry		56.64	30.28	23.79
ALL INDIA		1,19,003.12	1,14,733.51	1,02,112.37

IMF Suggestions Regarding Subsidies

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

(a) Whether the Government have been advised by the IMF to cut all subsidies at one stroke; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) No Sir, there has been no suggestion from the I. M. F. to cut all subsidies at one stroke. However as a part of its process of fiscal consolidation, the Government is aiming at better targetting of subsidies.

347. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of cigarettes imported during each of the last three years.

(b) whether there is steady increase in the import of cigarettes during the above period;

(c) whether any efforts have been made by the Government to reduce the import of cigarettes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The data showing quantity of cigarettes imported during 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93 is as under :—

	Qty. in kgs.
1990-91	5,4852
1991-92	5,1301
1992-93	2,4547

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Cigarettes being a consumer item are included in the Negative List of Imports under the Export-Import Policy, 1992—97. However, some imports do take place at the instance of the Diplomatic corps stationed in the country and under the passenger Baggage rules.

Merger of Nationalised Banks

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

(a) the total number of banks which have been merged with other nationalised banks due to their running in loss during the last six months and the bank-wise details thereof ;

(b) whether there is any proposal for total merger of ancillary banks of State Bank of India group in near future; and

(c) if so, the time by which these banks are likely to be merged with other banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The erstwhile New Bank of India was merged with Punjab National Bank on 4th September, 1993.

(b) and (c) Government have received a proposal from State Bank of India for merger of its seven Associate Banks into a Single Associate Bank. Government have solicited the views of Reserve Bank of India on the proposal.

[English]

Cotton Export Policy

349. **SHRI RAMCHANDRAVEERAPPA** : **SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY** :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modify and liberalise cotton export policy ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) its likely effect on domestic market of cotton and cotton growers ; and

(d) the quantity of cotton exported and foreign exchange earned there from during the last three years ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The quantity of cotton exported and foreign exchange earned during the last

three years are as under :—

Sl. No.	Year	(Qty. in lakh bales of 170 Kgs each) (Value in Rs. crores)	
		Quantity shipped	Foreign exchange earned
1	1990-91	11.90	620.54
2	1991-92	0.77	38.75
3	1992-93	13.766	725.37

Import Duty On Steel Tyre Cord

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

(a) whether presently there is no indigenous production of steel tyre cord and the same is imported by the manufacturers for use in manufacture of Radial Tyres;

(b) whether a very high import duty is levied on the import of Steel Tyre Cord and the manufactured tyres are subjected to high tax, incidence resulting in high prices of tyres for cars, trucks, two or three wheeler vehicles in the market;

(c) if so, whether Government have received any representation in this regard; and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Basic customs duty on steel tyre cord is 85%. This rate is also applicable to a number of other items, and not confined to steel tyre cord alone. Tyres are subject to varying specific rates of excise duty. Their prices are determined by several factors, excise duty being one of them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of the ongoing Budget exercise for the financial year 1994-95, it is not possible to offer any comments at this stage.

Joint Ventures in Acqua-Mrine Project

351. **SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI** : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited has set up joint ventures in the field of aqua-marine projects with some foreign companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Indian company in the private sector was also interested to set up joint venture with the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. in the field of

acqua-marine culture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A statement is given below : —

STATEMENT

The names of Indian Companies in the private sector interested in setting up joint ventures with the MMTC Limited are as under :

1. King International Acqua Marine Exports Limited (KIAMEL)
Tuticorin, Tamilnadu
2. Suvarna Acqua Farms & Exports Limited (SAFE)
Hyderabad
3. Sudesh Sea Food Limited (SSFL)
Bombay
4. Oceanic Farms Limited
Secunderabad
5. Richfield Acqua tech Ltd
Vizag
6. Visakha Acqua Farm Ltd
Vizag
7. Ambson Nippon Foods Ltd
Cochin
8. Surya Foods & Industries Ltd
Bhubaneswar
9. Aquarius Fisheries Limited
Vasco-da-Gama, Goa

Interim Relief to Pensioners

352. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL**
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees and pensioners under the Central Government;

(b) whether the problems of pensioners are also being referred to the Fifth Pay Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(e) whether any interim relief is being granted to the pensioners keeping in view the steep rise in prices;

(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) The total number of Central Government (Civilian) regular employees is about 37.74 lakhs as on 31-3-90 and pensioners (including family pensioners) is 29.56 lakhs.

(b) to (d) The terms of reference of the Fifth Pay Commission are under consideration.

(e) to (g) There is no proposal with the Government to grant Interim Relief to pensioners. Dearness Relief is being paid to pensioners as recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission. As the dearness relief is revised at 6 monthly intervals to compensate pensioners for rise in the cost of living, beyond average CPI 608, in the manner recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission, there is no necessity to sanction interim relief for the same purpose.

Exports

353. **SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :**
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether exports have been affected due to stagnancy in industrial output ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to sustain increase in exports in the absence of sufficient surplus for exports ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Exports have registered an encouraging growth of over 20% in dollar terms during the first half of the current financial year, as against the slow growth in industrial production.

(b) Steps being taken to sustain this increase in exports include simplification and streamlining of policy and procedures, substantial reduction in import licensing, reduction of peak import tariff levels, greater availability of export credit at lower rates of interest, strengthening of infrastructural facilities and greater involvement of State Governments. Special export promotion measures have been introduced for encouraging export production in general, and for the agricultural sector in particular.

Foreign Banks

354. **SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the foreign banks and the places where the branches of these banks are functioning at present in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : At present there are 23 foreign banks [excluding BCCI(O) Limited] with 141 branches operating in India. The details of these banks and their branches are given below in the statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing position of Foreign Banks operating in India as on 25-11-1993

Sl. No.	Name of the Foreign Bank	Country of Incorporation	Places where the branches are at present functioning	Total No. of branches in India
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	American Express Bank Ltd.	USA	Bombay—1 Calcutta—1 New Delhi—1 Madras—1	4
2	Bank of America NI SA	Do.	Madras—1 Calcutta—1 New Delhi—1 Bombay—1	4
3	Citi Bank N.A.	Do.	Bombay—2 Calcutta—2 New Delhi—1 Madras—1	6
4	British Bank of the Middle East	UK	Bombay—1 Trivandrum—1	2
5	Standard Chartered Bank	UK	Amritsar—1 Bombay—6 Calcutta—8 Cochin—1 Kanpur—1 Madras—3 Delhi—2 Goa—1 Calicut—1	24
6	Barclays Bank PLC	UK	Bombay—1	1
7	Banque Nationale De Paris	France	Bombay—1 Calcutta—1 New Delhi—1	3
8	Banque Indosuez	Do.	Bombay—1	1
9	Societe Generale	Do.	Bombay—1	1
10	Credit Lyonnais	Do.	Bombay—1	1
11	Bank of Tokyo Ltd.	Japan	Bombay—1 Calcutta—1 New Delhi—1	3
12	The Sakura Bank Ltd.	Do.	Bombay—1	1
13	The Sanwa Bank Ltd.	Do.	New Delhi—1	1
14	Deutsche Bank	Germany	Bombay—1 Delhi—1	2

STATEMENT—contd.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
15	ANZ Crindlays Bank plc	Australia	Bombay—12 Amritsar—2 Bangalore—1 Calcutta—18 Cochin—1 Ernakulam—1 Darjeeling—1 New Delhi—10 Kanpur—1 Madras—4 Tuticorin—1 Shimla—1 Srinagar—1 Guwahati—1 Hyderabad—1	56
16	Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corporation	Hong Kong	Bombay—7 Calcutta—9 Madras—1 Visakhapatnam—1 New Delhi—2 Bangalore—1	21
17	Abhudhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	U.A.E.	Bombay—1	1
18	Mashreq Bank psc (Former Bank of Oman Ltd.)	Do.	Bombay—1	1
19	Oman Internation Bank S.A.Q.	Sultanate of Omar	Bombay—1	1
20	Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait B.S.C.	Bahrain	Bombay—1	1
21	Bank of Neva Scotia	Canada	Bombay—1	1
22	ABN Amro Bank N.V.	Netherlands	Bombay—2 Calcutta—1 New Delhi—1	4
23	Gonali Bank	Bangladesh	Calcutta—1	1
Grand Total				141

Restructuring of Nationalised Banks

355. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have shelved plans for further restructuring of the loss making nationalised banks in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) With a view to improve the viability and financial health of the nationalised banks, a provision of Rs. 5,700 crores has been made in the Budget for the current year (1993-94). The nationalised banks will be required to enter into agreements with the Reserve Bank of India for restructuring their operations including areas such as staff productivity, asset management and reduction of non-performing assets as a pre-requisite for the release of this additional share capital.

[Translation]**Buddhist Pilgrimage Centres**

356. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY :
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to airlink Buddhist Pilgrimage Centres in various parts of the country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the places in Gujarat proposed to be airlinked ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Buddhist Pilgrimage Centres in the country are served by flights to Patna, Lucknow, Varanasi, Ahmedabad and Baroda. No new centre is proposed to be airlinked in the immediate future.

[English]**Tourism Promotion by Northern States**

357. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have evaluated the performance of the Northern States in the development of the tourism industry ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Anti-Tobacco Restrictions

358. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry was represented in the Committee constituted by Ministry of Health to formulate various anti-tobacco restrictions in 1991 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The Ministry of Health and family welfare has not constituted any Committee to formulate various anti-tobacco restrictions in the year 1991.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]**Small Savings Collection in Gujarat**

359. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government have received some proposals from the Government of Gujarat regarding the decline in small savings collections in the state ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

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

(d) the time by which the proposals of the State Government are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The proposals from the Government of Gujarat include raising of rate of interest on small savings schemes, extension of tax benefits, deferment of recovery of small savings loans and for treating such loans as loans in perpetuity.

(c) and (d) The rates of interest on certain small savings schemes were increased in April, 1992. The limit of tax concession under Section 80L was raised from Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 10,000.

Small savings collections during the current year so far have shown a substantial increase over the collections during the corresponding period of last year.

In view of the Centre's budgetary constraints, it is not found possible to agree to deferment of recoveries or to treat small savings loans as loans in perpetuity.

Committee for Reforms in Insurance Sector

360. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government to suggest reforms in the insurance sector in India has submitted its report ;

(b) If so, the details of the recommendations of the Committee; and

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

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

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

[English]

New Aviation Rules/Policy

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce new aviation rules/policy for pilots and airlines companies so as to ensure passengers safety, proper aircraft maintenances and curbing of the heavy expenditure ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) There are no new proposals for changing aviation rules for pilots. However, in the recent past, an amendment to Schedule II of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, which deals with the standards to be met by the Pilots for the issue of the licences, has been carried out. Further, a new Rule laying down minimum educational qualifications for Pilots has also been introduced.

A new rule to provide for issuance of Air Operator's Certificate by DGCA to all Airlines air-taxi operators is under examination by DGCA.

(c) Does not arise.

Accumulated Losses of Indian Airlines

362. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has pointed out various reasons for the growing accumulated losses of the Indian Airlines ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to take the Indian Airlines out of the red ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) No such report has been received.

(c) To reduce losses, the following steps have been taken by Indian Airlines :

(i) Improvement in customer services; both on ground and on board the aircraft.
(ii) introduction of schemes like Fly More and Fly Free, Point-to-Point Fares, Domestic Tour Packages. etc.

(iii) Close monitoring of 'On Time Performance'.

(iv) Changes in marketing strategy, including productivity linked incentive for agents.

(v) Providing convenient schedules.

(vi) Stepping up utilisation of existing fleet.

(vii) Increased international operations, and

(viii) Control of unproductive expenditure.

Change in UTI Structure

363. SHRIRAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee to modify the structure of Unit Trust of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report ;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the recommendations of the Committee implemented/ proposed to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, the Unit Trust of India (UTI) had constituted a Committee in July, 1993 under

the Chairmanship of Shri N. Vaghul, Chairman, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India to consider, *inter alia*, whether UTI should be subjected to the regulations of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and if so, what special considerations would need to be built into the regulations to reflect UTI's special status.

(c) and (d) The Committee has submitted its report. The Committee has suggested that UTI should form one or more Asset Management Companies as its 100% subsidiaries to undertake the functions of management of mutual funds strictly in accordance with the requirements of SEBI. The Committee has recommended the transfer of the management of closed ended schemes to the proposed Asset Management Company (AMC).

(e) The Government has indicated to UTI that it should set up an AMC and, to start with transfer the management of closed ended Schemes to the AMC. SEBI will exercise full regulatory powers over the operation and business of the AMC and schemes managed by it.

Allahabad Bank Branches for NRIs

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

(a) whether the Allahabad Bank propose to open its branches for NRIs;

(b) If so, the objectives thereof and the number of such branches proposed to be opened during the current year; and

(c) the places identified for opening of such branches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Allahabad Bank has reported that it is considering opening of its branches for NRIs. The objectives of opening of such branches are to tap the vast potential of NRI deposits and NRI business at different areas where there are concentration of residents having regular connections with foreign countries. This particular service is to serve the NRI segments of citizens efficiently. During the current financial year, the Bank has decided to set up a NRI branch at Jalandhar in Punjab.

India's Economic Reforms

365. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether IMF have not accepted some of the reforms made by India in its economic policy.

(b) if so, the areas in which IMF has not endorsed India's reforms; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) No Sir. The reforms undertaken by the Government care of its own initiative and are not subject to acceptance by the IMF. However, the IMF has appreciated the efforts of India in stabilising the economy and undertaking structural reforms.

Foreign Tourists In-Flow

366. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any action plan to increase the foreign tourists in-flow ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the total amount involved in implementing this plan; and

(d) the extent to which the foreign tourists in-flow is likely to be increased after the implementation of the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) The National Action Plan for the development of tourism, presented in the parliament on 5th May, 1992, envisages an increase in the share of India, in the world tourism from the present level of 0.4 percent to 1% with the next five years. It is proposed to be achieved through diversification of tourism product, improvement of tourist facilities and infrastructure and integrated development of identified circuits and special tourism areas. The total investment requirement has not been indicated in the Action Plan.

Centre-State Financial Relation

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

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has since advised for reviewing and revising the Centre-State financial relation in order to tackle the problem of budgetary deficit effectively ;

(b) if so, the nature of the advice; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

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

Export of Textile Based Handicrafts

368. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Export Promotion's Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) has been able to increase significantly the export of textile based handicrafts to foreign countries particularly to Japan; and

(b) if so, details of the export orders received by the Council during the year 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The export of textile based handicraft to foreign countries particularly to Japan has increased significantly due to various export measures initiated by the Export Promotions Council for Handicrafts (EPCH). The total exports of textile based handicrafts including handknotted cotton carpets have increased from Rs. 291.08 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 345.48 crores in 1992-93. The total exports of these products to Japan have increased from Rs. 18.85 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 22.92 crores during 1992-93 registering a growth of about 22 percent.

(b) The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) do not receive any export order directly. It acts as an export promotion organisation by initiating various measures to promote exports of handicrafts from India.

[Translation]**Loan to Farmers in U.P.**

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

(a) the number of farmers given loan by each of the public sector banks in Uttar Pradesh during the current year for purchasing foodgrains/irrigation equipment;

(b) whether too much time is taken in giving these loans; and

(c) if so, the directives issued by the Government to the public sector banks for disbursing the loan without delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India does not generate information separately on the number of farmers who have been given loans by each of the public sector banks in the State of Uttar Pradesh for purchasing foodgrains/irrigation equipment. However, the number of accounts against which public-sector banks have disbursed loans for agriculture and allied activities in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the year ended June 1992 is 4,34,544.

(b) and (c) A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase flow of credit to the farmers particularly small and marginal farmers. The important ones are:

(i) Banks have been instructed that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000 are to be disposed of within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000 within 8 to 9 weeks;

(ii) To facilitate speedy disposal of applications the application forms are made available in regional languages. Terms and conditions regarding margin/security should be printed on the reverse of the application form itself.

(iii) All branch managers of banks are to be vested with discretionary powers of sanction loan proposals received from weaker section without reference to any higher authority.

- (iv) If there are any complaints regarding delay in disbursements of loan the same are taken up with the concerned bank.

Financial Condition of Weavers

370. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial condition of the weavers in different parts of the country has worsened; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide them cotton on cheaper rates and market facilities to sell the clothes manufactured by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Government has no information to this effect.

(b) In order to improve the economic condition of handloom weavers in the country, Government of India is implementing the following schemes in addition to various other ongoing schemes :—

- (i) Scheme of 'Margin Money for Destitute Weavers' which envisages capital support to the cooperative societies having weavers living below poverty line as members.
- (ii) 'Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme' envisaging package of facilities in terms of skill upgradation, productivity etc. to give concerted and special attention to handloom weavers in identified villages;
- (iii) 'Project Package Scheme' providing for benefit to specific need based target groups or to specific areas or developing of a specific product;
- (iv) Scheme for supply of hank yarn to handloom weavers at mill-gate prices through the National Handloom Development Corporation;
- (v) Silk Yarn Bank Scheme;
- (vi) 'Janata Cloth Scheme' to provide sustained employment to un-employed and under-employed handloom weavers; and
- (vii) Market Development Assistance Scheme.

A scheme for setting up of Handloom Development Centres in different parts of the country has recently been announced with a view to provide complete package of assistance including input and marketing support to handloom weavers.

[English]

Capital Market

371. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the US Agency for International Development (USAID) has signed an agreement with the Union Government for modernisation and expansion of the country's Capital Market; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (Dr. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) An Agreement for the Financial Institutions Reform and Expansion (FIRE) Project was signed with United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on 27th September, 1993 for a total grant assistance of US \$ 20 million over a five year period. This grant assistance is intended for development of India's Capital Market and will be utilised by relevant Indian Organisations for financing technical assistance and training.

In addition to above, US \$ 125 million as Housing Guarantee Funds will be provided to Indian Financial Institutions which will help them in financing urban infrastructure projects.

Inflation Rate

372. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of wholesale and consumer price indices of essential commodities during the last four months;

(b) the weekly rate of inflation on point to point basis during the above period;

(c) the reasons for increase in the rate of inflation;

(d) whether the prices of essential commodities are going up day-by-day; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring down the rate of inflation and to check the prices of essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The particulars of wholesale and consumer price indices of essential commodities during the last four months are listed in Statement I and II.

(b) The weekly rate of inflation on point to point basis during the above period is shown in Statement-III.

(c) to (e) : Increase in the Government fiscal deficit, prolonged dry spell, disruption in the movement of essential commodities and raw materials due to truckers strike are some of the reasons for price rise during the past four months. Also higher support/procurement prices for rice and wheat serve as a floor below which the wholesale prices cannot fall. Prices of some essential commodities have risen sharply, whereas some have shown only a modest increase. The Government has taken a number of steps to bring down the rate of inflation of essential commodities. These include : augmentation of food supplies through higher allocations to Public Distribution System, timely edible oil imports, strengthening of Public Distribution System and ensuring a policy framework for increased industrial production.

STATEMENT-I

Annual rate of inflation in WPI of essential commodities

Commodities	Weight	1993			
		Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
ALL COMMODITIES	100.00	7.3	8.0	7.4	7.5
Rice	3.69	5.0	6.4	8.2	10.6
Wheat	2.25	6.7	4.1	9.1	13.6
Jowar	0.42	-35.6	-36.4	-29.0	-28.6
Bajra	0.18	-37.4	-30.7	-16.3	-0.7
Gram	0.31	37.4	42.9	54.2	65.0
Arhar	0.27	-4.0	-1.7	4.0	9.5
Moong	0.20	-10.7	-7.8	-0.1	11.8
Masur	0.05	0.2	-6.4	-0.8	4.9
Urad	0.15	-14.3	-15.2	-11.0	-3.6
Potatoes	0.47	19.4	25.2	32.1	38.3
Onions	0.16	-12.7	5.8	59.3	116.0
Milk	1.96	10.7	11.7	5.2	3.3
Fish	0.51	12.6	34.3	27.1	26.4
Mutton	0.52	9.6	10.1	8.7	8.7
Chillies (Dry)	0.32	-61.4	-61.5	-62.0	-60.8
Tea	0.56	13.8	20.8	29.9	21.5
Coking coal	0.35	20.4	20.4	20.4	20.4
Kerosene	0.87	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Atta	0.76	-0.7	-0.9	4.2	5.1
Sugar	2.01	12.4	13.8	13.5	14.7
Gur	1.75	57.8	59.9	67.0	52.7
Salt	0.04	10.3	10.5	11.9	12.9
Hydrogenated vanaspati	0.52	-14.4	-12.3	-9.5	-8.8
Rare & Mustard Oil	0.28	-4.4	-5.4	-2.4	-0.8
Coconut Oil	0.17	-10.1	-16.3	-16.6	-20.3
Groundnut Oil	0.53	-12.7	-7.5	-7.9	-7.9
Long cloth/sheeting	0.36	6.6	8.3	9.0	9.0
Dhories, sarees & voils	1.19	5.0	10.7	10.5	14.1
Household laundry soap	0.59	-4.9	-4.9	-5.5	-6.2
Safety Matches	0.23	4.6	13.1	10.8	12.9
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES	21.77	6.3	8.2	10.8	12.0

STATEMENT-II
Annual rate of inflation of Essential Commodities Based on consumer Price Index

Commodity	Weight	1993			
		May	June	July	Aug.
1	2	3	4	5	6
CPI (IW)—General	100.00	5.1	5.9	4.5	5.8
Rice	12.45	3.7	3.5	3.8	4.2
Who'e wheat	4.43	—2.2	—1.3	—1.9	—1.3
Wheat atta	1.75	—5.5	—3.5	—1.9	—1.9
Jowar	0.46	—24.6	—25.3	—26.1	—29.2
Bajra	0.16	—40.3	—37.1	—37.3	—34.8
Moong	0.53	—0.9	—4.0	—3.3	—5.0
Gram	0.08	16.7	25.3	27.1	32.8
Masur	0.41	—7.2	—5.6	—5.9	—5.0
Arhar	1.69	—1.4	—9.8	—3.3	—3.3
Urad	0.35	—7.5	—6.4	—5.6	—6.4
Coconut oil	0.09	—6.9	—8.0	—13.3	—17.7
Groundnut oil	2.27	—21.4	—10.8	—10.3	—1.7
Mustard oil	1.44	—10.1	—3.7	—3.3	—6.0
Vanaspati	0.78	—15.7	—12.2	—11.0	.. 9.7
Goat meat	2.12	11.3	11.0	10.2	9.5
Fresh fish	1.31	20.6	20.5	17.7	22.0
Milk	5.52	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.8
Salt	0.15	5.9	6.1	5.4	6.1
Chillies	0.63	—53.2	—54.7	—55.0	—55.7
Onions	0.67	26.3	11.0	—7.3	6.5
Potatoes	1.23	19.5	10.7	5.6	21.5
Sugar	2.24	3.3	20.6	15.9	18.1
Gur	0.47	81.8	52.3	47.1	49.0
Tea leaves	0.82	40.5	24.2	24.4	24.3
Soft coke	0.80	14.3	5.8	8.1	7.5
Kerosene oil	1.82	—48.4	2.0	1.3	1.1
Matchboxes	0.23	20.3	9.4	8.1	—1.3
Washing soap	1.33	—1.7	1.8	2.1	3.1
Long cloth	0.20	88.0	12.7	12.9	10.7
Dhoties	0.35	21.6	11.1	11.5	11.7
Sarees	2.05	12.3	13.7	13.9	13.7
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES	48.83	—0.1	2.8	2.2	3.4

STATEMENT-III
Weekly rate of Inflation (WPI)

Month	Week ended	Annual rate inflation (%)
July	3-7-1993	6.9
	10-7-1993	7.1
	17-7-1993	7.1
	24-7-1993	7.4
	31-7-1993	7.5
August	7-8-1993	7.6
	14-8-1993	7.6
	21-8-1993	8.1
	28-8-1993	8.2
September	4-9-1993	9.2
	11-9-1993	9.1
	18-9-1993	8.2
	25-9-1993	7.3(P)
October	2-10-1993	7.4(P)
	9-10-1993	7.4(P)
	16-10-1993	7.1(P)
	23-10-1993	7.1(P)
	30-10-1993	7.9(P)
November	6-11-1993	8.4(P)
	13-11-1993	8.5(P)

P= Provisional

Waving of Lons of Weavers

373. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
 Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to
 state :

(a) whether the Government have issued
 direction to public sector banks for waiving
 of loans of weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount
 likely to be waived;

(c) the number of weavers likely to be
 benefitted;

(b) whether all the banks are following the
 directions of the Government in this regard;
 and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action
 taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
 MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE
 MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY
 OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (Dr.
 ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Government of
 India and Reserve Bank of India have not
 issued any direction to public sector banks for
 waiving of loans of weavers in the country.

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

Trade Deficit**374. SHRI SYAD SHAHABUDDIN :****SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO :****SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the trade deficit during the first six months of 1993-94 in rupees, dollars and SDRs, separately;

(b) the trade deficit as percentage of exports during the above period;

(c) the trade deficit as percentage of imports during that period;

(d) the trade deficit as percentage of trade during the period;

(e) the trade deficit as percentage of balance of payment during the period;

(f) the major items which have shown increase as compared to the corresponding period of 1992-93;

(g) the major export destinations which have shown increase as compared to the corresponding period of 1992-93; and

(h) the major trade partners whose exports to India have shown a rise as compared to the corresponding period of 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :

(a) to (d) A statement indicating trade deficit during April-September 93-94 in rupee, dollars & SDR and trade deficit as percentage of exports, imports and total trade during April-September 93-94 is given below.

(e) As balance of payment data for April-September, 93 are not available, trade deficit as percentage of balance of payment is not yet available.

(f) The major items of exports during April-August, 93 (latest period for which such data are available) which have shown increase as compared to the corresponding period of 92-93 are tea, coffee, tobacco, manufactured processed foods, iron ore, leather and manufactured, gems and jewellery, chemicals and allied products, engineering goods, electronics items etc. The major items of imports during April-August

93 which have shown increase over the corresponding period last year are newsprint, non-ferrous metals, pearls, precious and semi-precious stone, machine tools, transport equipment, manufactures of metals etc.

(g) The major export destinations during April-August, 93 which have shown increase as compared to the corresponding period of 92-93 are Belgium, France, Netherlands, U.K., Australia, Japan, Singapore, USA, Canada, Hongkong etc.

(h) The major trade partners whose exports to India during April-August, 93 have shown a rise as compared to the corresponding period of 92-93 are Belgium, Denmark, France, UK, Switzerland, USA, Bangladesh, etc.

STATEMENT**INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE DURING APRIL-SEPT. 1993**

Trade Deficit	Trade Deficit as % of exports	Trade Deficit as % of imports	Trade Deficit as % of total Trade
<i>Rupees Crores</i>			
1381.35	4.26	4.08	2.08
<i>US Dollar Million</i>			
440.48	4.26	4.08	2.08
<i>SDR's Million</i>			
312.91	4.26	4.08	2.08

Re-constitution of Central Board of Directors of RBI

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

(a) whether the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India has been reconstituted;

(b) if so, when and the details of the members of reconstituted Board;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the above Board is likely to be reconstituted?

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

(b) to (d) Government have initiated necessary steps for reconstitution of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India.

Agreement between IBA and Organisations of bank employees and officers

376. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : SHRI BARE LAL JATAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement on pay scales, bonus and pension to bank employees has been signed between the Indian Banks' Association and the organisations of Bank employees and officers recently ;

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

(c) its impact on the banking sector ?

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

(a) An agreement has been signed between IBA and the unions of Bank employees on 29-10-1993 in regard to the issue of pension. No agreement has been signed with regard to wage settlement and/or bonus. In respect of the officer employees in banks, joint notes were signed by IBA and the officers organisation on the issue of pension, bonus, CPF and wages and have been forwarded to the Govt. for its consideration.

(b) The salient features of the pension settlement are as under :—

The settlement provides for the existing bank employees to opt for pension as second retiral benefit in lieu of employer's contribution towards provident fund. However employees joining on or after 1-11-1993 will be eligible only to pension scheme in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund. The pension scheme will also be available to ex-employees of banks who retired on or

after 1-1-1986 provided they surrender the employee's contribution to provident fund together with interest and a further 6% interest on this amount from the date of drawal to the date of refund. However, pension will be payable to them with effect from 1-11-1993 only. The pension scheme also provides for commutation of 1/3 of the basic pension. The pension settlement is on the lines of the pension scheme already in operation for Central Government employees and employees of Reserve Bank of India. For the purpose of calculation of pension and not gratuity 'pay' would include basic pay and a part of the DA to the extent of 1150 points in the consumer price index with effect from 1-11-1993. A detailed scheme as per the provisions of the settlement would be drawn up before 31-12-1993.

(c) The pension scheme introduced in the banking sector is estimated to cost Rs. 400 crores per annum to the banking industry.

Overseas Operations of Public Sector Banks

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

(a) whether some public sector banks have defaulted in making provisions for their overseas operations during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details of such banks; and

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

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

(a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India have reported that all public sector banks having branches abroad make provisions as per host country requirements. Accordingly, all public sector banks except Bank of India have made full provisions. In the case of Bank of India Head Office funds are held abroad in lieu of provisions. The short-fall in the provisions will be made good during the current year.

Changes In Economic Reforms

378. SHRI BOLLA BALLI RAMAIAH :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the leading industrialists have met him to apprise of the problems and difficulties being faced by the Indian Industry as a result of the economic reforms;

(b) if so, the observations and suggestions made by them in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to make some policy changes for the Weal of Indian industry,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(a) and (b) A group of industrialists met the Finance Minister on 10th November, 1993. In their representation, the group has *inter-alia* pointed out that they are in full agreement with trade liberalisation policies of the Government and the Indian enterprises be strengthened to enable them to play their role in the industrial growth of the country. Suggestions made by the Group include :

(i) Restriction imposed by RBI on banks on lending against pledge of shares be removed;

(ii) Removal of constraints imposed by Sections 370 and 372 of the Companies Act;

(iii) Indian Companies be allowed to issue non-voting shares;

(iv) Reduction of share holdings of the financial institutions in the Indian Companies;

(v) Access to low-cost funds abroad for investment in Indian companies; and

(vi) Introduction of measures for speedier mergers and acquisitions.

(c) to (e) The suggestions made by the group and other Association and individuals are kept in view while formulating Government economic policies.

Consortium Lending

379. SHRI BOLLA BALLI RAMAIAH :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee to look into the system of consortium lending;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Committees; and

(e) the details of the recommendations accepted by the Government ?

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

(a) to (e) The Committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under the Chairmanship of Shri J.V. Shetty to review the system of lending under the consortium arrangement has submitted its report to them in August, 1993. It has, in its report, brought out certain shortcomings in the existing system of lending under consortium arrangement by banks and recommended various measures for their improvement. The summary of its major recommendations is contained on Chapter VIII of the report. Copies of the report will be placed in the Library of Parliament at the earliest as soon as printed copies are made available by RBI.

The RBI have issued revised guidelines on lending under Consortium arrangement to all scheduled commercial banks, after considering the Various recommendations made by the Committee. Vide their circular No. Ref. IECD. No. 20/08/13.08/93-94 dated October 28, 1993. The important changes in the existing guidelines are as under :

(i) The threshold limit for obligatory formation of a consortium in respect of borrowers financed under multiple banking arrangement has been revised upwards from Rs. 5 crores to Rs. 50 crores.

- (ii) Banks may, at their discretion, organise syndication of credit for highly rated corporate borrowers enjoying working capital facilities of Rs. 50 crores and above.
 - (iii) Borrowers will be free to induct new banks into consortium and banks will be free to leave consortium after two years, subject to compliance with certain conditions. However, once a consortium is formed, either because it is obligatory to do so or because banks choose to voluntarily finance a borrower under a consortium no credit facility, either fund-based or non-fund-based, should be extended by non-member banks without the formal approval of the consortium.
 - (iv) There will be no change in RBI's extant guidelines in the matter of lending under consortium to sick/weak units indentified as viable for rehabilitation.
 - (v) Banks are required to convey their decision on credit proposals within the prescribed time-frames.
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the erring firms in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) Under the Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy, entitlements under Past Performance Entitlement System and Non-Quota Exporters Entitlement System are transferable between registered garment exporters. Since in some categories the availability of entitlements is less than demand, it is possible that such transfers are effected subject to certain amount of premium payable by transferees.

A complaint has been received from a Member of Parliament alleging that one exporter was indulging in blackmarketing of quotas. The matter was investigated by the Office of the Textiles Commissioner and the Apparel Export Promotion Council. However, the charge could not be proved. Government have however decided to ask the CBI to conduct a preliminary enquiry in the matter.

11.27 hrs.

Garment Export Quota

380. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the garment export quota released by the Government is being sold in the black market;

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 6th December, 1993/Agrahayana 15, 1915 (Saka.)