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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Tenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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Corrigenda
to
Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Monday, June 13, 1994/ Jyaishtna 23, 1916 (Saka)

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(11)/9	Baliyan, Shri N.K.	Baliyan, Shri N.K.
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ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS

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Singh, Shri Rajveer (Aonla)	Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati (Gurdaspur)
Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Bikramganj)	Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt (Shimla)
Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad (Jahanabad)	Sundararaj, Shri N. (Pudukkottai)
Singh, Shri Ramnaresh (Aurangabad)	Sur, Shri Monoranjan (Basirhat)
	Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil (Adoor)

Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Badaun)

Swami, Shri Sureshanand (Jalesar)

Swamy, Shri G. Venkat (Pedapalli)

Syed Shahabuddin, Shri (Kishanganj)

T

Tandel, Shri D.J. (Daman & Diu)

Tara Singh, Shri (Kurukshetra)

Tej Narayan Singh, Shri (Buxar)

Thakore, Shri Gabhaji Mangaji
(Kapadwanj)

Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh
(Khandwa)

Thangka Balu, Shri K.V. (Dharmapuri)

Thite, Shri Bapusahib (Baramati)

Thomas, Prof. K.V. (Ernakulam)

Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)

Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan
(Pandharpur)

Thungon, Shri P.K. (Arunachal West)

Tindivanam, Shri K. Ramamurthee
(Tindivanam)

Tirya, Kumari Shushila (Mayurbhanj)

Tirkey, Shri Pius (Alipurduars)

Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)

Tope, Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb (Jalna)

Topiwala, Shrimati Dipika H. (Baroda)

Topno, Kumari Frida (Sundargarh)

Tripathi, Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani
(Kaiserganj)

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Narain (Banda)

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore (Puri)

Trivedi, Shri Arvind (Sabrarkantha)

Tytler, Shri Jagdish (Delhi Sadar)

U

Uma Bharti, Kumari (Khajuraho)

Umbrey, Shri Laeta (Arunachal East)

Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, Prof. (Tenali)

Umrao Singh, Shri (Jalandhar)

Unnikrishnan, Shri K.P. (Badagara)

Upadhyay, Shri Swarup (Tejpur)

Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha (Mysore)

V

Vadde, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao
(Vijayawada)

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh (Godhra)

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)

Vandayar, Shri K. T. (Thanjavur)

Varma, Shri Ratilal (Dhanduka)

Varma, Shri Sushil Chandra (Bhopal)

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)

Vekaria, Shri Shivlal Nagjibhai (Rajkot)

Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal (Janjgir)

Verma, Shri Phool Chand (Shajapur)

Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)

Verma, Shri Shiv Sharan (Machhlishahar)

Verma, Shri Upendra Nath (Chatra)

Verma, Kumari Vimla (Seoni)

Vijayaraghavan, Shri V.S. (Palghat)

Virendra Singh, Shri (Mirzapur)

Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

W

Wasnik, Shri Mukul (Buldana)

Williams, Maj. Gen. R.G. (Nominated
Anglo-Indian)

Y

Yadav, Shri Arjun Singh (Jaunpur)

Yadav, Shri Chandra Jeet (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Chotey Singh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad
(Bhagalpur)

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
(Jhunjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patna)

Yadav, Shri Ram Lakhan Singh (Arrah)

Yadav, Shri Ram Saran (Khagaria)

Yadav, Dr. S.P. (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Satya Pal Singh
(Shahjahanpur)

Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan (Sahasra)

Yadav, Shri Vijoy Kumar (Nalanda)

Yumnam, Shri Yaima Singh (Inner
Manipur)

Z

Zainal Abedin, Shri (Jangipur)

LOK SABHA

The Speaker

Shri Shivraj V. Patil

The Deputy Speaker

Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah

Panel of Chairmen

Shri Sharad Dighe

Shri Peter G. Marbaniang

Shri Nitish Kumar

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee

Shri Tara Singh

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya

Shri Ram Naik

Shri P.C. Chacko

Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary

Prof. Rita Verma

Secretary-General

Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Members of the Cabinet

Prime Minister and also incharge of the Ministries/Departments of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Science and Technology, Ocean Development, Electronics, Atomic Energy, Space, Rural Development, Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Law, Justice & Company Affairs and the additional charge of the Ministry of Industry and other subjects not allocated to any other Cabinet Minister or Minister of State (Independent Charge)	Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao
Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution	Shri A.K. Antony
Minister of Human Resource Development	Shri Arjun Singh
Minister of Health and Family Welfare	Shri. B. Shankaranand
Minister of Agriculture	Shri Balram Jakhar
Minister of Railways	Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief
Minister of External Affairs	Shri Dinesh Singh
Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism	Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad
Minister of Finance	Shri Manmohan Singh
Minister of Power	Shri N.K.P. Salve
Minister of Commerce	Shri Pranab Mukherjee
Minister of Home Affairs	Shri S.B. Chavan
Minister of Urban Development	Shrimati Sheila Kaul
Minister of Welfare	Shri Sitaram Kesri

**Minister of Water Resources and Minister
of Parliamentary Affairs**

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla

Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers

Shri Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav

Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

Minister of State of the Ministry of Coal

Shri Ajit Panja

Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines

Shri Balram Singh Yadav

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Textiles**

Shri G. Venkat Swamy

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Planning and Programme Implementation**

Shri Giridhar Gomango

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Surface Transport**

Shri Jagdish Tytler

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Information and Broadcasting**

Shri K.P. Singh Deo

Minister of State of the Ministry of Food

Shri Kalp Nath Rai

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Environment and Forests**

Shri Kamal Nath

Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour

Shri P.A. Sangma

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Petroleum and Natural Gas**

Capt. Satish Kumar Sharma

Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel

Shri Santosh Mohan Dev

**Minister of State of the Ministry of
Communications**

Shri Sukh Ram

**Minister of State of the Ministry of Food
Processing Industries**

Shri Tarun Gogoi

Ministers of State

**Minister of State in the Ministry of
Agriculture**

Shri Arvind Netam

Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development)	Shrimati Basva Rajeswari
Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology	Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi
Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development	Shri Eduardo Faleiro
Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs	Shri H.R. Bhardwaj
Minister of State in the Ministry of Welfare	Shri K.V. Thangka Balu
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
Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry)	Shrimati Krishna Sahi
Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries)	Shri M. Arunachalam
Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance	Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy
Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Mallikarjun
Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shrimati Margaret Alva

Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Mukul Wasnik
Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources	Shri P.K. Thungon
Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri P.M. Sayeed
Minister of State in the Ministry of Power	Shri P.V. Rangayya Naidu
Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri R.L. Bhatia
Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Rajesh Pilot
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Wasteland Development)	Col. Rao Ram Singh
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Rameshwar Thakur
Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture	Shri S. Krishna Kumar
Ministry of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Salman Khursheed
Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Department of Tourism)	Shrimati Sukhbans Kaur
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development)	Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel
Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Dr. C. Silvera

Deputy Ministers

Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar
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Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Ram Lal Rahi
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Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture)	Kumari Selja
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

[Vol. XXXII, First day of the Tenth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha No. 1]

LOK SABHA

[English]

Monday, June 13, 1994/
Jyaistha 23, 1916 (Saka)

11.10 hrs.

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played

[English]

11.02 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Kotla Jaya Surya Prakash
Reddy (Kumool)

Shri Lakshman Singh (Rajgarh)

Shri Shelke Maruti Deoram
(Ahmednagar)

Shri Bapusaheb Thite (Baramati)

Kumari Sushila Tiriya (Mayurbhanj)

Shri Amar Pal Singh (Meerut)

Shri Pramothas Mukherjee
(Berhampore).

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I have to inform the House with profound sorrow of the passing away of three of our former colleagues, namely, Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy, Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta and Shri S. Thangaraju.

Shri Brahmananda Reddy was a Member of Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabha during 1977-84 representing Narsaraopet Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh. He was also a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1974-77.

An able administrator, Shri Brahmananda Reddy served as Union Minister of Communications in 1974 and also as Minister of Home Affairs during 1974-77. He also held the portfolios of Industry, Company Affairs, Agriculture and Irrigation in 1977. He was the Minister of Industry in 1979. Later, he also served as the Governor of Maharashtra.

Shri Reddy was a veteran freedom fighter. He served a jail term in 1941 and was also fined for his participation in the freedom struggle. He was kept under detention during 1942-45 for his active participation in the 'Quit India' Movement.

Shri Reddy was a Member of Madras and Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assemblies during 1946-71 except between 1952-55. He served the State of Andhra Pradesh as a Minister from

1956 onwards holding various portfolios and rose to become its Chief Minister in 1964. From 1964 to 1971, he ably served as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. In 1972-73, he was the Chairman of Sixth Finance Commission of the Government of India.

A renowned parliamentarian, Shri Reddy made significant contributions to the proceedings of Lok Sabha.

Shri Brahmananda Reddy passed away on 20 May, 1994 at Hyderabad at the age of 85 years.

Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta was a Member of Fifth and Seventh Lok Sabha representing Kutch Parliamentary Constituency of Gujarat during 1971-77 and 1980-84 respectively. He was also a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1960-66.

Earlier he was a Member of Gujarat Legislative Assembly from 1967 to 1971.

A physician by profession, Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta was a Member of Health Boards of the State of Bombay in 1959 and of Gujarat in 1960.

An active social and political worker, he was involved in the youth movement.

As a Parliamentarian, Dr. Mehta made valuable contributions to the debates in the House.

Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta passed away on 27 May, 1994 at Ahmedabad at the age of 78 years.

Shri S. Thangaraju was a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha. He represented Perambalur Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu during 1984-89.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Thangaraju was a social and political worker. He was also a Member of the Senate of Bharathidasan University of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Thangaraju took keen interest in the proceedings of the House.

Shri Thangaraju died in an accident at Perambalur on 6 June, 1994 at the age of 45 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with a deep feeling of grief and bereavement that I rise today to pay homage to Shri Kasu Brahmananda Reddy. In his death the nation has lost a great freedom fighter, eminent lawyer, veteran parliamentarian and an elder statesman. For me it is a personal loss.

I had a long association with him, having been in his Cabinet for eight years in Andhra Pradesh. I looked to him often for his sagacious advice. He was always there with his wise counsel, his steadfast support and his warm affection.

Shri Kasu Brahmananda Reddy held various public offices. He was a Minister in Andhra Pradesh and later Chief Minister. He became a Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1974. He held important portfolios at the centre – Home, Agriculture, Irrigation, Communication, etc. In all these, he left the stamp of his administrative acumen. He will always be remembered for the welfare schemes he initiated as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. He was also an avid lover of

books and took keen interest in sports and music.

Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta was an eminent parliamentarian, who took special interest and worked for the development of his constituency, Kutch. He was a physician of repute and a respected social worker.

In the death of Shri S. Thangaraju, we have lost a young colleague who represented Perambalur constituency in Tamil Nadu. He worked for the cause of the downtrodden, especially for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes. He will be remembered for his contribution to education, as a senate Member of the Bharati Dasan University.

I offer my condolences to the families of these eminent Members, who contributed so much to Parliament and to the country. May their souls rest in peace?

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with the deep feeling of grief and bereavment I also associate myself with the tributes paid by the leader of the House at the sad demise of Shri Brahmanand Reddy, Dr. Mahipatray Mehta and Shri S. Thangaraju. I had the opportunity to work with all the three departed leaders. Shri Brahmanand Reddy took part in freedom struggle, and after attaining independence as an administrator he very efficiently and successfully accomplished his administrative responsibilities and proved his acumen for the same. I still remember that when he was the Union Minister of Home Affairs many complex and difficult situations surfaced before him but he made all the efforts

to settle those problems with great adeptness. He did full justice with every post he held and tried to eschew any controversy. It will be not an exaggeration, if I say that he was a towering political personality from Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Mahipatray Mehta was an extraordinary personality. He was not merely a politician. He was a doctor also, but in order to actively serve the people he contested elections and was elected as a member. He had great concern for the development of Kutch area. He was very much concerned about the problems of desert area of Kutch and used to express his concern in a very effective manner in the House. Recently I had an opportunity to visit Kutch and it seems to me that Kutch has immeasurable sufferings and there is no likelihood of their solution in near future. But whenever Kutch is referred Shri Mahipatray Mehta would ever be remembered. On behalf of myself and my party also, I express my rich tributes to the third departed leader.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Sir, I rise to convey deep condolences on behalf of our Telugu Desam Party on the death of Shri Kasu Brahmananda Reddy Garu, who was a veteran politician, who held different posts in the State Government as well as the Central Government. He was one of the few leaders from Andhra Pradesh who had left a deep mark on the minds of a very large number of people throughout the country. He was responsible for several development programmes that were implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the people will remember him for a long time to come. I once again convey our deep

sympathies to the member of the bereaved family.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself and my Party with the observations made by the hon. Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition about the passing away of three of our distinguished previous colleagues.

Sir, I had the fortune of being known to them as a colleague in this House. Of course, I remember Shri Brahmananda Reddy very well, because I was in the Consultative Committee of the Home Ministry when he was the Home Minister. A man of amiable disposition with an open mind, as a Minister I have found him trying to respond to all the reasonable suggestions made by Members and trying his best to solve the people's problems and that is why he endeared himself to all in the House and outside.

Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta was also a distinguished Member of this House and his commitment towards alleviating the sufferings of the common man was very obvious. We could understand, appreciate and feel how he had been trying to help the downtrodden people.

Shri S. Thangaraju was also a young Member. He was our colleague and the tragic circumstances in which he has passed away are extremely heart-rending.

We mourn the loss of all these distinguished sons of India and I request you, Sir, kindly to convey our feelings of deep sympathy and condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunneveli): I join the hon. leaders in conveying the condolences of my Party on the sad demise of our former colleagues. I must recall how our old political mentor the late Shri Annadurai was closely associated with hon. Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy and I recall those days as a student in Tamil Nadu, of his activities in the Congress and his services particularly in Shrimati Indira Gandhi's period. He was very dominant and his role was commendable.

I convey our condolences on the death of Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta.

Our young party M.P., Shri S. Thangaraju was a devoted and dedicated party worker and a Scheduled Caste leader. He was very young. It is really a very big loss to the country and our Party. He was coming up very well and set an example as a leader. I convey, on behalf of the AIADMK Party our condolences.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): On behalf of my Party I express our deep sorrow and grief at the loss of these three colleagues. Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy, who was one of the outstanding personalities in the political life, firstly of his own State, where he was the Chief Minister for a long time, contributed much to the development of Andhra Pradesh and later on here at Delhi actively as a Central Minister. I remember him very well. He played a leading part in the deliberations of this House and in performing his Ministerial duties. He was a very friendly and jovial person here, very popular with all the other Members, irrespective of the Party they belonged to.

I did not know Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta personally very well. But I remember that as a Member, he was constantly expressing his concern for the plight of poorer people in this country who are not able to avail themselves of sufficient medical care.

Mr. Thangaraju died under very tragic circumstances which make his demise all the more poignant. I am very much aggrieved the way that he lost his life.

I do hope that on behalf of our party, our condolences will also be conveyed to all the members of the families of the deceased.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I myself and my party associate with the condolences expressed by the hon. Prime Minister, the leader of the Opposition and the leaders of other parties. On some occasions I had an opportunity to talk with Late Brahmanand Reddiji. He was known as a man of moderate nature and a clear headed statesman. Today, he is no more with us. However, we all have to leave this world sooner or later. On behalf of this august House we all offer our condolences to the bereaved family.

Dr. Mahipatray M. Mehta is no more today and on behalf of our party we offer our condolences and express our deep feelings of sorrow on his sad demise. I had an opportunity to talk with Shri S. Thangaraju. He had great respect for the poor. On behalf of my party and myself I express deep condolences to the bereaved family.

[English]

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

11.28 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.30 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Prime Minister's Visit to USA

+

*1. SHRI PHOOL CHAND
VERMA:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister and his team visited USA recently;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives behind the visit and the details of the issues discussed with the President of USA and other US leaders/bodies; and

(c) the outcome of the discussions held there alongwith the details of the agreements/MOUs signed with the Government of USA during his visit?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Prime Minister visited USA from May 14-20, 1994. His itinerary included New York, Houston, Boston and Washington. At New York and Houston, PM met a wide cross-section of US business leaders and the Indian-American community who were enthusiastic about participating in India's economic growth. At Boston, he delivered the Jodidi Memorial Lecture where he explained India's developmental objectives. PM addressed a Joint Meeting of the US Congress at Washington, met leading American business leaders and academics, and also interacted with Congressional leaders. Vice-President Al Gore hosted a lunch for PM and his delegation. This was followed by discussions with President Clinton. There was a delegation level meeting with the principal advisers, followed by a private talk. Subsequently, President Clinton hosted a working lunch with broader participation. After the meeting, President Clinton and PM addressed a Joint Press Conference and a Joint Statement was issued. The Acting Secretary of State, the US Defence Secretary and Commerce Secretary called on PM individually for discussions.

2. The aim of Prime Minister's visit to the US was to establish personal contact with President Clinton and to lay the basis for durable improvement in Indo-US relations by setting aside the distortions in bilateral relations introduced by the Cold War and taking advantage of the new opportunities for expanded trade and investment created by India's economic reforms.

3. President Clinton and PM discussed a wide range of global issues of common concern, including those relating to national security, apart from bilateral relations. These discussions were extremely cordial, candid and useful. President Clinton's Administration and the US corporate world demonstrated great support and optimism about India's economic reforms and the new avenues this had opened up to intensify and broaden our bilateral cooperation, particularly in the area of trade and investment. Concrete steps, including exchange of several Cabinet-level visits were identified.

4. Discussions also took place on the contentious issues of nuclear and missile proliferation, on which the positions of the two countries are widely divergent. The two leaders agreed that India and the US would intensify their cooperation to achieve a global and non-discriminatory Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and a verifiable ban on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons. Support for non-proliferation and progressive reduction of weapons of mass destruction, with the goal of their elimination, was identified as a priority area. The US proposal to continue the bilateral dialogue on security issues was accepted.

5. PM took the opportunity to brief President Clinton on Indian concerns regarding cross-border support to terrorism in India and particularly in Jammu & Kashmir. President Clinton shared the concern on this issue and agreed that all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan must be resolved through bilateral negotiations, as envisaged in the Simla Agreement.

6. Two MOUs were signed during PM's visit, one on Cooperative Measures

to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production, Distribution and Use of Illegal drugs; and MOU on Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites, Negotiations have also advanced on an umbrella Science and Technology Agreement, an agreement on cooperation in renewable energy sources and an extradition treaty. A bilateral investment protection agreement is being explored.

7. The Joint Statement contains both the expression of the common desire of India and the US to work together in areas where our interests converge, as well as indication of the extent of common ground on matters on which the two countries have different perceptions. Both sides agreed to ensure that existing differences did not overshadow the potential for greater cooperation, especially in the trade and economic fields. The Joint Statement called for a new partnership between India and the US. The two leaders promised to cooperate in the search for solutions to global challenges posed by weapons of mass destruction. AIDS, environmental degradation, population growth, poverty, international terrorism and narcotics trafficking. Agreement was also reached to expand the pace and scope of high level exchanges on the full range of political, economic, commercial, scientific, technological and social issues. The two leaders agreed to seek ways to expand their cooperation at the UN.

8. The objective of Prime Minister's visit to the US was to generate goodwill and have a free and frank exchange of views with President Clinton and his Administration officials, Congressional leaders and leading American businessmen. PM's visit opened fresh possibilities for achieving greater

understanding for India's position on issues of national interest. Trade and economic cooperation between India and the US is expected to receive further fillip as a result of the visit.

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Prior to the Prime Minister's visit to America, India and America had serious differences regarding human rights situation in Kashmir and Nuclear non-proliferation. The President of America Shri Bill Clinton has also admitted it in a Press Conference. I would like to ask as to whether the differences have been removed after the Prime Minister's visit to America and whether any change has been noticed in the attitude of U.S.A.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This question is related to the hon. Prime Minister and he has left the House.
(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

The Prime Minister has returned from his visit to America. He was present in the House just now. A question relating to him has been raised here. He should have responded to the question. But the hon. State Minister is replying here. We can settle this issue to some extent with his reply also provided that it is at all a solution. But the hon. Prime Minister who is the leader of Home also, has left the House abruptly. It is not in consistent with the decorum of the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is against the dignity of this august House.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA

RAO VADDE: Sir, this shows scant

respect of the Prime Minister to this House and we take serious objection to this.

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: If the hon. Prime Minister does not attend the House and does not respond to my question. I would not like to ask this question. He should have been present here. (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important question and the Prime Minister has left the House. I seek your protection. He has shown disrespect to the House by leaving the House abruptly. Does the decorum of this august House has no importance at all? Through you, I would like to submit that the Prime Minister should be present here in person and express his regret. He should be present here till the discussion on this issue continues. (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister must be present here. I seek your protection. Hon. Prime Minister has left this House which is against the decorum of this august House. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, therefore, request you to give your ruling.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, did he seek your permission before leaving the House?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know where the Prime Minister is expected to go, may be in the other House or may not be. But I think the Parliamentary Affairs Minister would see that, if it is possible, he may come back to the House. The Minister may reply now.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, till that time we can take up Question No. 2.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the Prime Minister's visit to America, Pakistan and Pakistan sponsored terrorism in Kashmir was discussed. The American people were told in clear words that Pakistan is interfering in the internal matters of India and giving full assistance to the terrorists.

[English]

They are sponsoring terrorism in Kashmir.

[Translation]

The President Clinton had replied that India and Pakistan should settle their bilateral issues under the Shimla Agreement.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister for coming back to the House and showing respect to the feelings of the members.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister was on his visit to America from 14th May and he had the discussion there on several issues, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister of External Affairs as to whether the Prime Minister also held discussion regarding first consignment of Thirty eight F-16 fighter planes to Pakistan by America and succeeded in convincing American President that if these F-16 Fighter Planes are given to Pakistan then the peace cannot be restored in this region? Further

the House wants to know whether America has cancelled the proposal of giving F-16 fighter planes to Pakistan. Please clarify the position in this regard.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: During his dialogue with Shri Clinton, hon. Prime Minister emphasized on the point that supply of F-16 aircraft to Pakistan will create tension, imbalance of power and accelerate the pace of the arms race in the region. Therefore, he emphasized to cancel the supply of F-16 to Pakistan.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Sir, I would like to ask a question regarding Prime Minister's dialogue in USA. At press conference of Shri Clinton and the Prime Minister, when journalists asked about human rights violation in Kashmir, his simple answer 'No' has disappointed the people of the country. It was an opportunity when he would have expounded as to how terrorists are slaying the innocent people in Kashmir. I would like to know about the Memoranda of Understanding signed there. You have told about the subjects discussed there but you have not told about the Memoranda of Understanding signed between the two countries to check the production, distribution and use of illegal drugs and the secondly regarding the conservation maintenance, protection and management of natural and cultural heritage sites. I have read in newspapers that the Prime Minister has signed some agreement making Taj Mahal the nucleus of his agreement. I would like to get details regarding those Memoranda of Understanding and by when these will take place. Tourists visit Taj Mahal every year in a large number and some of them die for want of medical treatment. Two persons died during the last week. I would like to know as to what arrangement has been made for financial resources and whether any arrangement

has been made for providing medical facilities there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may reply to the question keeping in view that the hon. Member comes from Agra.

[Translation]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have signed two MOU with them. The first agreement is aimed at combatting production, distribution and use of illegal drugs and second is on conservation and management of beautiful natural resorts and cultural heritage sites. Apart from these, four agreements are in the process which have been discussed earlier. It has been decided that foreign office of both the countries will convene meetings regularly, secondly the meeting of Joint Commission should be convened. Thirdly, the agreement signed in 1984 regarding Science and Technology should be extended and more agreements should be signed in defence sector at services level. Apart from it, an agreement regarding the intellectual group of non-governmental level is also going to take place in which discussion will be held to strengthen the bilateral relation.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister on his highly successful United States visit under very difficult circumstances.

I would like to ask whether the Government of United States have given up or not given up their insistence on five-nation regional non-proliferation

conference, consisting of India, China, Pakistan, U.S.A. and Russia.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: The Prime Minister during his discussion has emphasised India's point of view that we believe in the comprehensive global verifiable and non-discriminatory nature of treaty. With regard to this, although the American point of view is there, we have a divergent view with the U.S.A.

They want to have bilateral, regional or multilateral tracks to reach the end, that is, the global treaty. But India's point of view is very clear that we want a global, comprehensive and non-discriminatory nature of this treaty.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank and congratulate the hon. Prime Minister on his successful U.S. visit. There would have been some more achievements if like Geneva visit leader of the opposition party would have gone with him. I do not know as to why he disappointed the leader of opposition at this juncture.

I would like to know from my learned friend Shri Bhatia that why our Government becomes dumb on the question regarding violation of human rights in Kashmir during the US visit. Whether it is due to lack of coordination or hurdles and confusion prevailing in the Home Ministry or the Government of India is being arm twisted by some foreign powers. Whenever someone refers to Kashmir it seems that we are guilty of violating human rights and they are meant to preach us on this issue. I would like to know as to whether the Ministry of External Affairs have adopted anytime such an attitude as this is our own

problem and no other person or country has a right to interfere. I would like to know whether the Prime Minister said something on it as has been published in various newspapers.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to come to the question. You have taken so much time without asking the question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Sir, I would like to know why only our country is blamed for human rights violation? Why efforts are being made to put our country in ignominy. I would like to know as to whether the Prime Minister emphasised on this point in his parleys with Shri Clinton during his US visit. You please tell me your opinion in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: I want to assure the hon. Member that this was a very high-level discussion between our Prime Minister and Mr. Clinton. Our Prime Minister emphasised fully on this point and explained to Mr. Clinton India's point of view that India is a big democracy, it is a free society; we have an independent judiciary; we have an independent Press and we have a Constitution in which rights of all the people are enshrined and so there is no question of the human rights violation in India. India is second to none in this regard. The Prime Minister also emphasised that this is a question, which, if it is referred to Kashmir, then it is a question related to the sponsoring of terrorism by Pakistan. So, the question of human rights violation in India does not arise. It was explained to the President

and the President offered that they will continue this discussion.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Sir, time and again in this House. I have raised a persistent demand for taking India as a permanent member of the Security Council of the United Nations. In this regard. I would like to say that the Prime Minister is not only the leader of our country but also one of the leaders of NAM. India happens to be the chief architect of NAM and the Third World, I would like to know whether the Prime Minister has interacted with the Clinton Administration and what is the outcome of that interaction.

MR. SPEAKER: It is on inclusion of India in the Security Council. I complete that.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: There was a general discussion with regard to restructuring of the United Nations because when the United Nations was formulated, there were only 54 members. Now there are more than 184 members. We have emphasised that the U.N. must be democratised, restructured so that all the regions get the benefit and its mandate can only be carried to all the regions if it is more democratised.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, in view of the prevailing international situation and also in view of our bilateral relationship with the United States of America, the Prime Minister's visit no doubt was a very important visit, as reported in the Press. We have only the Press as a source to know that many important issues were discussed. Before Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, there were also preparatory meetings so that some concrete results from that visit could be had. I would like

to know whether, during the Prime Minister's visit when he had a talk with President Clinton, President Clinton raised the issue of capping of our missiles research and development which was a major issue during the talk.

Secondly, I would like to know whether President Clinton was able to appreciate India's point of view on Human Rights and also India's point of view on Jammu and Kashmir and the issue of terrorism. But besides that, the Prime Minister also had several other meetings with intellectuals and industrialists. I would like to know whether the Prime Minister was convinced that he has been able to project India's point of view and whether he is hopeful that there is a possibility of development of relationship with the United States of America.

THE PRIME MINISTER SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: The answer to the first part of the question is 'No'. The question of capping was not raised by President Clinton. To the second part of the question, I can only say that I have done my best.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for his successful visit to the United States of America. There were apprehensions in the minds of the Leaders of different political parties that there will be capping of U.S.A. Government over the use and experiment of Prithvi and Agni warhead missiles in India. But after the return of hon. Prime Minister, the Prithvi was successfully launched and included in the Defence. I would like to know whether there was any discussion regarding capping of warhead missiles of India or there was any pressure not to go ahead with the experiment of such missiles.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the facts speak for themselves.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, in paragraph three of the answer it has been said that the talks included discussions on bilateral cooperation in the area of trade and development. Now, we know that a couple of months back, the United States had brought down the threat of certain retaliatory measures against India like Special 301. I would like to know whether this came up in the course of discussion and since we have been given temporary reprieve upto the month of June, whether in the course of discussion under the present professions of multilateralism there were efforts on our part to persuade the United States to eliminate these retaliatory measures from their statute book.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: The questions are discussed at other levels. As a matter of fact, such questions did not come between us. We were talking about something, a little more than specifics. Specific questions are taken up at the official level.

[*Translation*]

Electronic Telephone Exchanges

*2. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where electronic telephone exchanges with ten thousand lines are proposed to be set up, State-wise;

(b) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) A *Statement* is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Following are the places in the country where electronic telephone exchanges with ten thousand lines are proposed to be set up during 1994-95:

1. Tamilnadu

Madras	1,00,000 lines
Madurai	10,000 lines
Trichy	10,000 lines
Salem	10,000 lines
Coimbatore	20,000 lines

2. Kerala

Ernakulam	20,000 lines
Calicut	10,000 lines
Trivandrum	10,000 lines

3. Karnataka

Bangalore	90,000 lines
Mysore	10,000 lines

4. Andhra Pradesh

Hyderabad	60,000 lines
Vijayawada	10,000 lines
Vishakhapatnam	10,000 lines

5. Bihar

Patna	10,000 lines
Ranchi	10,000 lines

6. Gujarat

Ahmedabad	60,000 lines
Surat	30,000 lines
Vadodara	30,000 lines
Rajkot	10,000 lines

7. Haryana

Faridabad	10,000 lines
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8. Maharashtra

Bombay	4.53.000 lines
Nagpur	20,000 lines
Pune	30,000 lines
Nasik	10,000 lines

9. Madhya Pradesh

Indore	20,000 lines
Bhopal	10,000 lines
Indore	10,000 lines

10. Punjab

Amritsar	20,000 lines
Jalandhar	20,000 lines
Chandigarh	45,000 lines
Ludhiana	50,000 lines
Patiala	10,000 lines

11. Rajasthan

Jaipur	63,000 lines
Jodhpur	10,000 lines
Kota	10,000 lines
Udaipur	10,000 lines

12. Uttar Pradesh

Ghaziabad	10,000 lines
Allahabad	10,000 lines
Lucknow	10,000 lines
Meerut	10,000 lines

13. West Bengal

Calcutta	50,000 lines
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14. Delhi State

Delhi	4,02,000 lines
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The estimated expenditure to commission above lines will be about Rs. 4532.50 crores.

[Translation]

SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply reveals that electronic telephone exchanges with ten thousand lines are only a few in the country. Whether the hon. Minister would like to tell the objectives behind installation of electronic telephone exchanges in metropolises of every State and how much amount will be allocated for this purpose?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that six new technological system for large scale digital exchanges have been introduced in the country. Now new telephone exchanges with this technology will be installed in major cities, which have a population of five lakh and more. For the paucity of funds we are not able to set up telephone exchanges according to the demand. But as mentioned in the list attached, we are going to provide 18.13 lakh telephone lines in the metropolitan cities during the current year.

SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the waiting list for installation of OYT and non-OYT telephones have increased enormously in big cities throughout the country. In the meeting of State level advisory committee it was told that only in four big cities of Gujarat, telephone exchanges with ten thousand lines have

been set up, but I would like to say that number of people in the waiting list in other cities has increased. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to set up more telephone exchanges with ten thousand lines in other cities of Gujarat also.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my opinion Gujarat has been given more funds than any other State. But alongwith that I admit that we have to provide 25 lakh telephone lines more to exhaust the waiting list. A major portion of the demand will be fulfilled during the current year, if required funds are made available. According to our new national policy we have to liquidate the waiting list upto 1997, by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I appreciate the Minister for his very consistent approach with regard to West Bengal. As we have drawn his attention to, there has not been a directory for several years, for four to five years. And because there is no directory, the additional telephone connections are meaningless, nobody can have them. Therefore, from the information given, just to show how consistent it is, I say that there are only two States where only at one place, this telephone exchange is provided, that is, at Calcutta in West Bengal and in Haryana. And in every other State like Gujarat, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu etc., there are so many places where these are being offered to. In West Bengal, let me inform him. there are five municipal corporations. This is one aspect of consistency. Secondly, Calcutta has been

given 50000 lines from this exchange. Now just imagine, in Tamil Nadu, the number of lines given is one lakh, in Karnataka, it is 90000, in Hyderabad it is 60000, in Gujarat it is 60000... (Interruptions).

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am reading it from the reply.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to. You ask the question.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Everywhere else it is much more than 50000. I have appreciated his consistency in this. Now my question is: Would you please explain why are you so consistent about Calcutta, West Bengal?

SHRI SOMMATH CHATTERJEE: What are the guidelines?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What are your guidelines in allotting them?

SHRI SUKH RAM: We have to earn revenue also. Whether revenue we earn, we invest that in installing the lines. The States which give us the highest revenue are attracting our attention.

It is just to increase our revenue and to invest it elsewhere also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Are you sure about your argument?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Please listen to me. I assure the hon. Member that I have taken certain initiatives to raise funds and if I succeed in raising the

funds, I would be able to purchase the equipments on a lease basis. In Calcutta the waiting list is very small. And in case I succeed to raising the funds for purchasing the equipment on a lease basis certainly your waiting list is likely to be liquidated either during the current financial year or during the next year. I feel we need not wait even upto 1997. But now my problem is that there are some financial constraints.

As regards the telephone directory. I admit that there has been abnormal delay and you know the circumstances under which it was delayed. But now I have taken steps and sanctioned about Rs. 5.05 crore simply to publish the Calcutta telephone directory. I think tenders have been invited and as soon as it is finalised, out of our own revenue, the directories are going to be supplied to the subscribers of Calcutta.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: But why should financial constraints affect West Bengal in this manner? You should explain that.

SHRI SUKH RAM: There is no discrimination.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present, telephone sector is worse affected in the country. People, who have got the telephone connections as well as who have not yet got telephone connections are facing problems. I would like to know as to whether the Minister is aware of the discrimination being done against the MPs in this regard... (*Interruptions*)... Rajiv Gandhi had introduced electronic telephone exchanges in the country. Today, we have electronic telephone exchanges somewhere in every

village or district but Bengal, Bihar and Orissa are deprived of this facility. I would like to know about your action plan and the measures to be taken for improving the functioning and number of telephone exchanges in the country.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect of electronic telephone exchanges, I would like to say that we have 70 per cent electronic exchanges and 30 per cent non-electronic. We are trying our best to replace these but we are unable to do that for lack of funds. We will replace the non-electronic telephone exchanges within the next two years. In respect of Calcutta, I would like to say that there may be some complaints. We are receiving complaints from the places where expansion work is going on. People in Calcutta, who telephone to every part of the world from Calcutta will not make any complaint. The sufferers will definitely make complaints and it is also correct on their part. In a network of 85 lakh telephone lines, complaints are found to be there and they will also be raised in the House, and can be published by the Press as well. I appreciate it. Telephone Exchange of Calcutta is quite old and complaints are being received from there. We are trying to replace these. In respect of developmental work I would like to say that politics does influence it. Whether it is Calcutta or any other place, facilities and funds will be provided for each and every part of the country.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We do not grudge any State getting facilities for modern telephone connections. But the question is that the resource of this country has to be utilised in a balanced manner, so that there is

a balanced development of this country. In Eastern India I find for Orissa there is zero; for Bihar only twenty thousand; for a city like Calcutta only fifty thousand; when there is over four lakh fifty three thousand for Bombay alone. They have given five lakh thirteen thousand for Maharashtra. I do not grudge your State. You may have ten lakhs, we do not mind. But is this the way you are going to distribute the resources? The hon. Member from South Calcutta was absolutely right. It explains under what circumstances we are working. Let him answer this point. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SUKH RAM: Let me clarify one thing. These are the large digital switching systems. There are about seven lakh fifty thousand E 10 B lines which we have to instal in addition to these 18.20 lakh lines. Then apt from that, there are C.Dot technology small and medium exchanges also. Those lines also will be installed. E 10 B are also of ten thousand lines. Where there is a shortfall, they will get compensated in this.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Private Sector Investment in Telecom

*3 SHRIMATI SAROJ
DUBEY:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have framed new guidelines about the private sector investment in telecom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of the companies who have entered so far in telecom sector;

(c) the pattern of equity participation by foreign and multinational companies in the new telecom policy;

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the Indian telecom industry in the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Government of India had announced a New Industrial Policy in July 1991 in which private sector was permitted to invest in production of all types of telecommunication equipment. Private sector investment has also been allowed in the value added telecom services for which detailed guidelines have already been framed. Private sector investment of basic telecom services has also been permitted under the National Telecom Policy 1934 for which guidelines have not been finalised.

(b) A large number of Indian companies have entered in telecom production sector under the new industrial policy. No Industrial License is issued by the Government for manufacture of any type of Telecom equipment. Government has received 278 information Memoranda from August, 1991 to March 94 with total proposed investment of Rs. 1494 crores for setting up or expansion of production units in the Telecom sector as per *Statement I*. In the area of value added services, 46 companies have been given letters of intent as per *Statement II*.

(c) The question of equity participation by foreign and multinational companies will be decided and approved by the Government along with other guidelines for implementation of the National Telecom Policy recently announced by the Government.

(d) One of the objectives of the National Telecom Policy 1994 is to ensure that India emerges as a major manufacturing base and major exporter of Telecom equipment.

STATEMENT-I

List of IEM's Received from the industry during the period August 1991 to March 1994 for Investment in the Telecom Sector

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
1.	Indchem Communication Ltd.	RAX	0
2.	Teledata Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Subscriber Loop Carrier Systems	7100
3.	Larsen & Tubro Ltd.	Telephonic or Telegraphic Switch	198
4.	Indian Reprographic System (P) Ltd.	Electronic Digital Switching EQU	600
5.	Siemens Ltd.	Electrical Apparatus for Line TE	0
6.	Siemens Ltd.	Electrical Apparatus for Line TE	0
7.	National Telecom. India Ltd.	Digital Switching Systems	2180
8.	Indchem Electronics Ltd.	Electrical Apparatus for Line TEL	178
9.	Ericsson India Ltd.	Switching App. incl. Accessories	2450
10.	United Telecoms Ltd.	Main Automatic Exchanges 512 Por	0
11.	United Telecoms Ltd.	Max upto 10,000 lines	0
12.	Radiant Telesystems Ltd.	Switching Systems	183

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
13.	Amber Enterprises India Pvt. Ltd.	Cabinetary Components for Elec.	154
14.	Eider Telecom Ltd.	Wireless Pub. Add System	369
15.	Kanazia Digital Systems Pvt. Ltd.	EPAX, EPABX & Other Digital HYB.	6964
16.	Punjab Communications Ltd.	Max Large 2K to 10k	465
17.	Straw Products Ltd.	Electronic Switching Equipment	0
18.	Straw Products Ltd.	Electronic Switching Equipment	0
19.	J.K. Teletronix Ltd.	Electronic Switching Equipment	0
20.	Uptron India Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus	331
21.	Crompton Greaves Ltd.	Telephone Switching Apparatus	850
22.	Sanchar Antenas & Communication SY	Transmission Apparatus incorporating	80
23.	Siemens Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus for Line	0
24.	ELectronics Corporation of India Ltd.	Main Automatic Exchange	89
25.	A.I. Communications Ltd.	Digital Switching Equipment	0
26.	A.I. Communications Ltd.	Digital Electronic Exchanges	2590
27.	Semiconductor Complex Ltd.	Telephone Exchanges & Switching	165
28.	Northern Digital Exchanges Ltd.	Electronic Telephone Instruments	65
29.	AT&T	Digital Electronic Switching Equ.	4250
30.	WS Telesystems	Electronic Switching Equipment	282
31.	Intercity Cable System (P) Ltd.	Electronic PABX	0
32.	Straw Products Limited	EPABX	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
33.	J.K. Teletronix Ltd.	EPABX	0
34.	National Telecom India Ltd.	EPABX	0
35.	National Radio & Electronics Co. Ltd.	EPABX/RAX/0128/512 P upto 2000 L	792
36.	National Radio & Electronics Co. Ltd.	EPBAX/RAX 0128, 0526, 0512 P, Max L	244
37.	United Telecoms Ltd.	RAX 128 port 256 ports	0
38.	Rising Sun Engineers Ltd.	128 port RAX	132
39.	Escorts Ltd. (Telecommunication)	RAX 128 Port	103
40.	Priraraj Electronics Pvt. Ltd	128/256 Port RAX Mini Integrated	0
41.	Instrumentation Ltd.,	Rural Automatic Exchanges 128/25	220
42.	Hartron Communications Ltd.	512 P SBM RAX	199
43.	Kerala State Electronics Dev. Corporation Ltd.	512 port SBM RAX	222
44.	Siemens Ltd.	EPABX-EPAX-INTERCOM and Key Tele	80
45.	Deltel Systems Pvt. Ltd.	EPABX and Key Telephones	180
46.	Telesystems	EPABX/EPAX	10
47.	Novel Electronics & Communications	EPABX-EPAX INTERCOM	814
48.	Siemens Ltd.	EPABX-EPAX-INTERCOM and Key Tele	0
49.	Novel Electronics & Communications	EPABX/EPAX/INTERCOM	0
50.	Tele System	EPABX and Key Telephones	0
51.	Salora International	EPABX Systems	0
52.	United Telecoms Ltd.	EPABX of 640 ports 128 ports & 256	199

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed investment
53.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	EPABX/PABX/PBX	0
54.	Tata Telecom. Ltd.	EPABX/EPAX	0
55.	Hind Condensor Ltd.	Day Telephones Coin & or Card op	44
56.	Porta India Pvt. Ltd.	Main Distribution Frame	150
57.	XL Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Production Modules for MDF	90
58.	United Telecoms Ltd.	Main Distriubtion Frames for 128	0
59.	Ports Systems India Pvt. Ltd.	Main Distribution Frame	89
60.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Digtl. Distribution Frame for Multipal	0
61.	Tata Keltron Ltd.	Key Telephones	154
62.	Tata Keltron Ltd.	Key Telephones	130
63.	Tata Telecom	Key Telephone Sys. Accessories	47
64.	Salore International	Key Telephone System	0
65.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Key Telephone System	0
66.	Jayanthi Business Machines Ltd.	2 Line Telephone	352
67.	Straw Products Ltd.	Key Telephone Systems	0
68.	HCL Ltd. (Telecommunication Dn)	EPABX System KTS	290
69.	J.K. Teletrorix Ltd.	Key Telephone Systems	0
70.	National Telcom India Ltd.	Line Card for E 10B Exchange	0
71.	Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.	Large Electronic Exchanges	500
72.	Kanazia Digital Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Software for microprocessor base	0
73.	Andhra Electronic Pvt. Ltd.	Packet Switched public data network	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
74.	GVK Telecom Ltd.	Telecom Paging Service	25
75.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Instant Access Voice Communication	0
76.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Interactive Voice Response System	0
77.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Video Conferencing equipments/system	0
78.	Tata Telecom. Ltd.	Voice Processing Units & Allied	8
79.	New Canon Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	Photocopier	0
80.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Telephone (Feature Phone With/without)	0
81.	Larsen & Tubro Ltd.	Telephonic or Telegraphic Switch	50
82.	Straw Products Ltd.	Optical Line Terminal Equipment	0
83.	J.K. Teletronic Ltd.	Optical Line Terminal Equipment	0
84.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Subscriber Loop Carrier	535
85.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Optical Line Terminals Regener	635
86.	Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd.	Optical Fibre Line Terminal Equipment	710
87.	United Telecoms. Ltd.	MILT 64	348
88.	Siemens Ltd.	Electrical Apparatus for Line TE	2600
89.	Siemens Ltd.	Optical Line Termination Equip.	0
90.	Intercity Cable Systems (P) Ltd.	EPABX/EPBT/Transmission Equip.	0
91.	Salora International	Normal Push Button Telephone	0
92.	United Telecoms Ltd.	Electronic Push Button Telephone	0
93.	Elder Electronics Industries Ltd.	Telephone Sets Push Button Type	336

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
94.	Priyaraj Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Telephone Instruments	.229
95.	Intercity Cable Systems (P) Ltd.	Push Button Telephone	0
96.	Uptron India Limited	Push Button Telephone Set	25
97.	India Telecom Ltd.	Telephone Instruments	207
98.	Punjab Wireless System Ltd.	Telephone Instruments	15
99.	J.K. Teletronic Ltd.	Push Button Telephone	0
100.	Ellora Time Private Ltd.	Telephone set Push Button type	801
101.	MEK Video Private Ltd.	Line Jack Unit	0
102.	Silkee Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Silicone Rubber Key Pads Switch	110
103.	MEK Video Private Ltd.	Headphones	0
104.	Eider Telecom Ltd.	Bubglar/Fire Alarm Systems	0
105.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Multi Line Observation Equipment	0
106.	Keltron Electro Ceramics (P) Ltd.	Piezo Ceramic Buzzers	5
107.	Transmatic System Ltd.	Telephones Call Monitor	114
108.	BPL Systems & Products Ltd.	Multiuser Telex	0
109.	Dynavision Ltd.	Telephone Answering Machines	0
110.	Punjab Wireless System Ltd.	Telephone Answering Machines	0
111.	MEK Video Private Ltd.	Panwala Payphones	50
112.	San Electronics Ltd.	Payphones	149
113.	Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd.	Electronic Payphones Models Coin	2365

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
114.	Lakshmi Machine Works Ltd.	Electronic Payphones Models Coin	899
115.	Mekaster Telematics Ltd.	Payphones	275
116.	Modi Telematics Ltd.	Digital Facsimile Sys. & allied	330
117.	Makan Investments and Trading Co. Pv.	Facsimile Machine	77
118.	Network Ltd.	Facsimile Machine	12
119.	Global Telesystems	Facsimile Machine	90
120.	SV Electronics	Fax	100
121.	Michelle Impex Pvt. Ltd.	Fax	22
122.	Bestavision Electronics Ltd.	Fax	248
123.	TVS Electronics Ltd.	Fax	35
124.	Hemang N Budhed	Fax	154
125.	Kalyani Sharp India Ltd.	Fax	285
126.	Electronics Trade & Technology	Facsimile Machines	150
127.	Salora International	Facsimile Machine	950
128.	New Canon Marketing Pvt. Ltd.	Fax Machine	2130
129.	Semi Conductor Complex Ltd.	Facsimiles Machine	115
130.	New Video Ltd.	Facsimile Machine Fax	170
131.	HCL Ltd. (Telecommunication Division)	Facsimile Equipment	200
132.	HCL Ltd. (Telecommunication Division)	Facsimile Equipment	2000
133.	BPL Systems & Projects Ltd.	Fax Modem	487

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
134.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Facsimile Machine	110
135.	BPL Systems & Projects Ltd.	Facsimile Transreceiver Equipment	467
136.	Jayanti Business Machines Ltd.	Disc Top Facsimile Machine	352
137.	National Radio & Electronics Co. Ltd.	X. 25/Multi Protocol Converter/Co	276
138.	NELCO	Cordless Telephone	120
139.	NELCO	Cordless Telephone	120
140.	Skytel Communication Ltd.	Telephones Cordless, TAM, FEATU.	0
141.	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Cordless Phones	0
142.	Salora International	Cordless Telephones	0
143.	Hind Condensor Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	20
144.	Dynavision Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	188
145.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	0
146.	Jayanti Business Machines Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	352
147.	Straw Product Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	0
148.	Punjab Wireless Systems Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	16
149.	J.K. Telephonix Ltd.	Cordless Telephones	0
150.	Asean Brown Boeri Ltd.	Data Communication Equipment	0
151.	Kanazia Digital Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Telecom Equipment & Voice & Data Co.	1204
152.	Siemens Ltd.	Data Base Preparation and Software	129
153.	Megatec Advance Tech. Pvt. Ltd.	Optical Fibre Cable Joint Closer	5

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
154.	VXL Engineers Ltd.	Data Communication Equipment	1742
155.	Crompton Greaves Ltd.	Digital Multiplex System	75
156.	Omnitel Industries Ltd.	Multiport Multi Protocol Communication	50
157.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Packet Modems/Data Controllers	0
158.	Straw Products Ltd.	Multiplexers	2265
159.	J.K. Teletronix Ltd.	Multiplexers	2265
160.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Digital Multiplexer System	0
161.	Himachal Futuristic Communication Ltd.	Digital Multiplexer Equipment	0
162.	Himachal Futuristic Communication Ltd.	Integrated Equipment (of & Multi)	0
163.	Punjab Communications Ltd.	Pulse Code Modulation Multiplex-I	210
164.	Bharati Telecom. Ltd.	Cellular Telephone Terminals	10000
165.	Shyam Antenna Electronic Pvt. Ltd.	Cellular Phone System Duplexers	0
166.	Karnataka Telecables Ltd.	Cellular Telephones Conforming to	812
167.	J.K. Teletronix Ltd.	Cellular Phones	0
168.	Phillips India Ltd.	Parts Suitable for use with Appa.	4
169.	National Telecom. India Ltd.	Radio Pagers	0
170.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Radio Papers	0
171.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Radio Paging System	0
172.	Goa Telecommunications & Systems LI	VHF/UHF and Microwave Communication	2
173.	Creative Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Line Extender	4

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
174.	Supreme Telecommunication Pvt. Ltd.	Digital UHF Microwave Equipments	429
175.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Multi Access Rural Radio Commu.	8776
176.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Digital Microwave Radio Equip.	0
177.	Siemens Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus for Radio	2600
178.	Siemens Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus for Radio	0
179.	Shyam Antenna Electronic Pvt. Ltd.	1+10+30 Channel Radio +MUX 2/15+4	255
180.	Siemens Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus for Radio	0
181.	Siemens Ltd.	3CH, Open Wire System	5798
182.	Priyaraj Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	7.2 Met Dia Normal Extended C-Ban	103
183.	Priyaraj Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Coils and Transformers for Telecom.	4500
184.	Advanced Radio Masts Pvt. Ltd.	2/15 Shared Radio Systems	109
185.	Ericsson India Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus for Radio	0
186.	Amber Enterprises India Pvt. Ltd.	Cabinetary Components Electronic	159
187.	Mekaster Telematics Ltd.	Printed Wire Boards for Tele/Tel.	2590
188.	Straw Products Ltd.	Central Transmission Management	0
189.	Vikas Hybrid and Electronic Ltd.	Transmission Equipments	35
190.	Oildata Tech. Ltd.	Time Assignment Speech Interpol	192
191.	Vindhya Telelinks Ltd.	Insulated Cables Cords and Flexe.	0
192.	SM Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Radio Communication Receiver	151
193.	Vindhya Telelinks Ltd.	Insulated Cables Cords and Flexe	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
194.	Birla Ericsson Optical Ltd.	Insulated Cables Cords and Flexe	0
195.	Vindhya Telelinks Ltd.	Insulated Cable Cords and Flexe	0
196.	Precision Electronic (P) Ltd.	Transformers	384
197.	Advanced Radio Masts Pvt. Ltd.	Transmission Apparatus	220
198.	SSB Industries	UHF RRS upto 120 Voice/Data Chls.	20
199.	Hindustan Paging Ltd.	Analog & Digital Subscriber Carr.	10
200.	UMS Radio Factory Pvt. Ltd.	Wireless Paging System	10
201.	Hindustan Paging Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	4828
202.	SKY Telecommunication Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	4250
203.	Citywide Communication & Computers	Radio Paging Systems	4300
204.	Star Paging Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	3727
205.	City Wide Communication & Computers	Radio Paging Systems	0
206.	Star Paging Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	3727
207.	Karnataka Telecables Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	610
208.	Microwave Communications Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	536
209.	Wabel Communication Industries Ltd.	Radio Paging Systems	84
210.	Motorola Private Ltd.	Pagers and Paging System	2700
211.	Motorola Private Ltd.	Pagers	1015
212.	Punjab Wireless System Ltd.	Paging Receivers	1200
213.	Hindustan Paging Ltd.	Cellular Radio Including Base Co.	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
214.	Arya Communications & Electronics	Radio Communication Equipments	100
215.	WS Telesystems	Radio Relay Equipment-10 Channel	0
216.	J.K. Teletronix Ltd.	Microwave Communication Eq.	0
217.	A.P. International	Cordless/Business Telephones	65
218.	National Information Technologies	Microwave Radio Communication ED	680
219.	Mek Video Private Ltd.	Plan 104/103 (Digital)	0
220.	Rising Sun Engineers Ltd.	10 CHL Digital UHF BRU System	0
221.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	UHF/VHF Hand held Transreceiver	110
222.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	UHF/VHF Base/Mobile Transreceiver	0
223.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	UHF/VHF Digital Selcal Mobile/BA	0
224.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	UHF/VHF Repeaters Auto/Back TO B	0
225.	Wean Broadcomm. Cables Pvt. Ltd.	Coaxial Cables	149
226.	Rajasthan Communications Ltd.	Digital Microwave Radio	1100
227.	Punjab State Electronics Devt. & Pro.	Digital Electronics Switching System	1530
228.	Siemens Ltd.	Digital Electronics Switching System	1390
229.	National Telecom India Ltd.	Multi Channel per carrier Terminal	1220
230.	Gujarat Communication & Electronics	Time Division Multiple Access ED	0
231.	Ramaiya Electronics Ltd.	Two way Radio Communication & AL	25
232.	Eider Telecom Ltd.	Two way Radio Communication Equi. HF	0
233.	Adino Telecom Ltd.	Two way Radio Communication Equi.	52
234.	Pragati Computers Pvt. Ltd.	PC Based Telecommunication Equi.	92
235.	National Telecom India Ltd.	PCM Mux Equipment	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
236.	Honeycomb Telecom Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Radio Communication Equip. VHF UH	105
237.	Shyam Antenna Electronic Pvt. Ltd.	Antenna including VHF/UHF Yagi + M	0
238.	Siemens Ltd.	VHF UHF Micro Commn.	0
239.	Intercity Cable Systems Pvt. Ltd.	VHF/UHF Satellite Antenna	0
240.	UMS Radio Factory Pvt. Ltd.	Aerials & Aerial Reflectors of A	74
241.	Solidaire India Ltd.	Satellite Communication Receiver	5
242.	Solidaire India Ltd.	Satellite Communication Systems	5
243.	Karnataka Telecables Ltd.	Satellite Communication System	715
244.	Vintex RF Products Pvt. Ltd.	Microwave Satellite Terminals	138
245.	Parps Electronics	Satellite Commn. Equipment	3585
246.	Straw Products Ltd.	Microwave Communication Eqpt.	0
247.	Andhra Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Satellite Earth Station	610
248.	Communication Electronic	CB Wireless Transceivers VHF WIR	9
249.	Gujarat Communication & Electronics	High Power TV Transmitter	0
250.	Satkar Electronics Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	318
251.	Susee Spacetek Pvt. Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	56
252.	Himachal Telematics Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	47
253.	Instrumentation Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	645
254.	BPL System & Projects Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	35
255.	Elder Electronics Industries Ltd.	Satellite Communication Equipment	266
256.	National Information Technologies	Sattellite Communication Equipment	275
257.	Universal Cables Ltd.	Telecommunication Cables	0

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Investment
258.	Universal Cables Ltd.	Insulated Cables	0
259.	Crompton Greaves Ltd.	Analogue Carrier Systems	10
260.	Vintek RF Products Pvt. Ltd.	Microwave Up/Down Converted RS	0
261.	Videocon VCR Ltd.	Reception Appar. for Radio Tele. B	117
262.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	Micro/Master Earth Station Equip.	195
263.	Samarth Shipping and Marine Company	FAX	125
264.	Escorts Ltd. (Telecommunication D)	Vast Networks Satellite Commns. E	0
265.	Andhra Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSA)	0
266.	National Radio & Electronics Co. Ltd.	Small Aperture Terminals	75
267.	Global Wireless Technology Ltd.	HF-SSB Transreceivers	0
268.	Intercity Cable System (P) Ltd.	Mast for Communication Antennas	195
269.	B.R. Cables Ltd.	Jelly Filled Telecom Cables	1545
270.	B.R. Cables Ltd.	Jelly Filled Telecom Cables	1600
271.	Gujarat Telephone Cables Ltd.	Jelly Filled Telecom Cables	3594
272.	M.P. Telelinks Ltd.	Polyethylene Insulated JFC	975
273.	Kanazia Digital Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Printed Circuit Board Assembly	0
274.	Kanazia Digital Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Software for Testing PCBS	0
275.	Prasha Electronics Ltd.	Precision Sheet Metal Components	160
276.	Crystal Cable Industries Ltd.	PVC Power Mining & Control Cable	60
277.	Crystal Cable Industries Ltd.	XPLB Insulated Power Cables	0
278.	Philips India Ltd.	Metal Piece Parts for Elec. Indu.	450
Total Proposed investment for all items			149454.58

STATEMENT - II*Radio Paging Service (27 cities)*

List of provisionally shortlisted bidders to whom letters of intent have been issued. The matter is sub-judice in the High Court of Delhi but there is no Stay

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Cities	Foreign Collaborator	Remarks
1.	M/s. Arya Communications and Electronics, 105, Maker Chambers, VI, 220, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021.	Bombay, Bangalore.	Motorola Intl. Paging Int. USA.	
2.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd., Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri-Kurla Road, Sakimaka, Bombay-400072.	Pune, Vadodara, Rajkot, Surat.	Matrix Telecom, Ltd. Australia.	
3.	M/s. Telesistem (India) Pvt. Ltd., 23/1, XIth Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052.	Madras, Bangalore, Ernakulam, Coimbatore, Trivandrum, Madurai.	Telesistem SDN BHD, Malaysia.	
4.	M/s. Essjay Telecom Services Pvt. Ltd., 13, Masjid Moth, DDA, Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110048.	Delhi, Bombay.	Telecom Intl. Newzealand.	
5.	M/s. India Telecom, Telecom, House, L-12, South Extension-II, New Delhi-110049.	Bombay Ahmedabad Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras.	1. Steamers Telecom Pvt. Ltd. Singapore 2. Electcoms SDN BHD, Malaysia	

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Cities	Foreign Collaborator	Remarks
6.	M/s. Mobile Communications Ltd., 505, New Delhi House, 27, Bara Khamba Road, New Delhi-110001.	Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Pune.	1. NITTI, Japan. 2. C-ITOH, Japan.	
7.	M/s. Hutchison Max. Telecom, 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6 Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Pune, Vadodara, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Ludhiana,	Hutchinson Telecom Hongkong.	
8.	M/s. Modi Telecommunications, Ltd., 12, Friends Colony, New Delhi-110065.	Madras, Bhopal, Kanpur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Indore, Varanasi.	Nynex Network Systems, USA.	
9.	M/s. Easy Call Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., LB/5, Ansal Bhawan, 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg New Delhi-110001.	Calcutta, Hyderabad, Nagpur, Indore, Bhopal, Visakapatnam, Patna.	Easycall Comm, Philippines.	
10.	M/s. Microwave Communications, Ltd., 1202, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay, Calcutta, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot.	Fodes West, US.	
11.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., 44B, Nariman Bhawan, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021.	Delhi, Kanpur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Varanasi, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	ABC Communications Ltd. Hongkong.	

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Cities	Foreign Collaborator	Remarks
12.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 16, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017.	Nagpur, Rajkot, Ernakulam, Indore, Coimbatore, Bhopal, Varanasi, Patna, Madurai, Visakhapatnam,	Telecom Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia	Licence agreement signed 17.5.94
13.	M/s. Weston Pagers Pvt. Ltd., Weston House, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020.	Kanpur, Nagpur, Surat, Jaipur, Vadodara, Chandigarh, Rajkot, Lucknow, Vishakapatnam, Trivandrum.	1. Champion Technology Ltd. Hongkong, 2. Harilela Kanton Telecom Ltd., Hongkong.	
14.	M/s. BPL System and Projects Ltd., 64 Chruch Street, Bangalore-560001.	Ernakulam, Trivandrum.	1. France Telecom Mobiles International 2. LCC Inc. USA.	
15.	M/s. Beltron Telecommunications Ltd., J-189, Peoples Co- operatives, Lohianagar, Patna-800020.	Surat, Nagpur, Patna, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	IMS, USA.	

Cellular Mobile Telephone Service

Provisionally shortlisted bidders. The matter is Sub-Judice in the Supreme Court. The hearings in the case are over and Judgement is awaited

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Name of the Foreign Partner	Cities
1.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom., Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	M/s. Hutchison, Whampapa	Bombay
2.	M/s. Bhartri Cellular Ltd., 15th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	(i) M/s. General Mobile, U.K. (ii) S.F.R. France	Bombay
3.	M/s. BPL Systems & Projects Ltd., 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore-560001.	M/s. France Telecom.	Delhi
4.	M/s. Sterling Cellular Ltd., 19, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Madras-600034	M/s. Cellular Communi- cation International Inc. U.S.A.	Delhi
5.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 503, Hemkunt Chambers, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	M/s. Telecom., Malaysia.	Calcutta
6.	M/s. Indian Telecom. Pvt. Ltd., 13th Floor, Hemkunt Tower, 98, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	M/s. OTC International, Australia.	Calcutta
7.	M/s. Skycell Communication Pvt. Ltd., Sardar Mohan Singh Building, Connaught Lane, New Delhi-110001.	M/s. Bell South, U.S.A.	Madras
8.	M/s. Mobile Telecom Service Ltd., M/s. Vodofine, U.K. N-83, Partap Building, 1st Floor, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	M/s. Vodofine, U.K.	Madras

Electronic Mail Service

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Status
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1.	ICNET Pvt. Ltd. Sorrento 6 Lattice Bridge Road, Adyar, Madras-600020.	Licence Agreement signed on 7.1.94
2.	Datapro Information Technology Pvt. Ltd., EL-21, Elec. Zone MIDC Bhosari, Pune-411026.	Licence Agreement signed on 3.6.94.
3.	Dynamic Tele Services (I) Pvt. Ltd., 156A, Lenin Sarani, Room 302 D, Calcutta-700013.	Revised letter of intent issued on 15/3/94.
4.	M/s. CMC Ltd., 1 Ring Road, Kilokari, Opp. Maharani Bagh, New Delhi-110014.	-do-
5.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd. TM Pratap Bhawan, First Floor, N-83, Connought Circus, New Delhi-110001.	-do- (i) Sprint International inc. U.S.A. (ii) RPG International Communications Corporation, U.S.A.
6.	M/s. WIPRO Infotech Ltd., 88, MG Road, Bangalore-560001.	-do-
7.	M/s. Dataline Research Technology, 31, Noble Chamber, 4th Floor, Janambhoomi Marg Fort, Bombay - 400001.	Licence Agreement signed on 11.5.94
8.	M/s. Business India Information B-3/86 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110029.	Revised letter of intent issued on 15.3.94
9.	M/s Sterling Computers, Plot No. 16 & 17 Developed Plot Industrial Estate, Prungudi, Madras-600096.	-do-

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Status
10.	M/s. VSNL, Videsh Sanchar Bhawan, MG Fort, Bombay-400001.	Revised letter of intent issued on 15.3.94
11.	M/s. Archana Telecom Service Pvt. Ltd., Grandlay Cinema Community Complex, New Delhi-110065.	-do-
12.	M/s. Global Telecom, Service Ltd., 412, Janambhoomi Chambers, 29 Walchand Wileera Chand Marg, Bombay-400030.	-do-
13.	M/s. Crompton Greaves, Vandhana, II-Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001.	Letter of Intent issued on 6.5.94.

Voice Mail

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Status	Cities
1.	Indian Telecom, Pvt. Ltd., 13th Floor, Hemkunt Tower, 98, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Revised Letter of Intent issued on 22.4.94	New Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta
2.	M/s. TCIL, Devika Tower 5th Floor, 6-Nehru Place, New delhi-110019	-do-	New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta
3.	M/s. Darcon Systems Pvt. Ltd., 18, Shankuntala Park, Manjalpur, Vadodara-390004.	-do-	Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara

64 KBPS Data Service Via Satellite

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Status	Foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. Hughes Escorts Communication 2nd Floor, International Trade Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Letter of Intent issued on 22.9.93.	Hughes Network System, USA.
2.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd., First Floor, Pratap Building; N-83, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-10019.	Letter of Intent issued on 17.11.93.	Comstream Corporation, USA.
3.	M/s. MAX India Ltd. Devika Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	-do-	Cosmat Corporation, USA.
4.	M/s. HCL-Hewlett Packard Ltd., 508-504, Sidharath, 96, Nehru Place, New Delhi-19	Letter of Intent issued on 21.2.94.	GTE Spacenet Corporation, U.S.A.
5.	M/s. Wipro Infotech 88, MG Road, Bangalore-56001.	Letter of Intent issued on 17.12.93.	
6.	M/s. Amadeus Investments & Finance Lentin Chambers, Dalal Street, Bombay-400023.	Letter of Intent issued on 21.2.94.	Telstra Holdings Proprietary Ltd., Australia.
7.	M/s. Vintek RF Products Pvt. Ltd., No. 600/677/2, Vile Kahalli, VIII. Opp., IIM Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560076.	Letter of Intent, issued on 3.5.94.	

New Telecom Policy

*4. DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have finalised the new telecom policy recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been formulated for its implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) The objectives of the New Telecom Policy are as follows:

(a) telecommunication for all and telecommunication within the reach of all;

(b) to achieve universal service covering all villages as early as possible;

(c) the quality of telecom services should be of world standard;

(d) to ensure that India emerges as a major manufacturing base and major exporter of telecom equipment;

(e) protection of defence and security interests of the country.

Under the Policy, companies registered in India will be allowed to participate in the expansion of the telecommunication network in the area of basic telephone services also with a view to supplementing the effort of the Department of Telecommunications in providing telecommunication services to the people. The policy also envisages making of suitable arrangements to protect and promote the interest of the consumers and ensure fair competition.

(c) and (d). A Committee within the department has been constituted for the purpose and its report is awaited.

(e) It will be implemented immediately after the guidelines are finalised and approved by the Government.

Food Processing Units

*5. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Government from Non-Resident Indians and other multinationals for setting up of Food Processing Units in India during the last two years;

(b) the number of these proposals cleared by the Government;

(c) the quantum of foreign exchange involved therein;

(d) whether these units have started production;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the time by which these units are likely to start production;

(g) whether the Government have received such proposals during the current financial year also, particularly for Maharashtra, Rajasthan and other industrial, backward areas; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Out of 148 proposals received during 1992-93 and 93-94, from Non-Resident Indians, foreigners and other multinationals and others, in respect of various sectors of food processing industries, 135 have been cleared involving a foreign investment of Rs. 1368.38 crores.

(d) to (f). While 10 units have already started production others are in the various stages of implementation. Such units normally take a period of about 2-3 years for implementation.

(g) and (h). 12 proposals have been received during the current financial year for Foreign Collaboration in the Fruit & Vegetable processing, Meat & Meat Products Sector and Consumer Industries out of which, 3 are proposed to be set up in Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Indians in Foreign Jails

*6. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian soldiers and civilians languishing in jails in foreign countries;

(b) the efforts made/being made by the Government for their early release;

(c) the number of Indians released as a result of the efforts made by the Government during the last three years; and

(d) the number of Indian fugitives abroad and the steps being taken by the Government for their extradition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) According to data collated by Government, approx. 9000 Indian soldiers and civilians were in jails in foreign countries as on December 1993. Information for the years 1992 and 1993 is as per the *Statement*. Of this number, according to information available, 54 Indian defence personnel are believed to be in Pakistani jails. Government of Pakistan, however maintains that there are no Indian defence personnel in its custody.

(b) Indian Missions follow up all cases vigorously with the local authorities for review and expeditious release. Apart from regular meetings with the jail authorities, matters are taken up as and when necessary with the respective Foreign Offices. However, a number of Governments do not entertain requests for review of the term of imprisonment decided by a court of law and release prisoners on completion of their term of imprisonment. Indian Missions make all efforts to ensure that effective legal defence is available to the prisoners.

(c) The number of prisoners released during 1992 and 1993 is as per column 4 of the *Statement*. These include persons released due to efforts made by the Indian Missions abroad and those released from time to time on completion of their sentences.

(d) Government of India have sought the return of 89 fugitives, including persons whose national identity is being ascertained. Requests have been made through Interpol and bilaterally for the arrest of these fugitives and their return.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Country	No. of Indians in Jail	No. of Indians during 1992 & 93	Released
1.	Arab Republic of EGYPT	14	Nil	
2.	Australia	3	Nil	
3.	Austria	3	Nil	
4.	Bangladesh	310	157	
5.	Bhutan	52	Nil	
6.	Burma	12	Nil	
7.	Canada	10	Nil	
8.	Denmark	2	Nil	
9.	Federal Republic of Germany	27	6	
10.	Ghana	1	Nil	
11.	Greece	9	185	
12.	Guyana	1	Nil	
13.	Hongkong	16	Nil	
14.	Hungary	9	24	
15.	Indonesia	2	2	
16.	Iran	26	14	
17.	Iraq	3	1	

Sl. No.	Name of Country	No. of Indians in Jail	No. of Indians during 1992 & 93	Released
18.	Ireland	1	1	
19.	Italy	122	6	
20.	Japan	4	1	
21.	Jordan	2	11	
22.	Kenya	3	Nil	
23.	Kuwait	52	Nil	
24.	Lebanon	4	5	
25.	Malaysia	99	361	
26.	Maldives	2	Nil	
27.	Mauritius	19	Nil	
28.	Mexico	23	95	
29.	Nepal	186	Nil	
30.	Netherlands	9	Nil	
31.	Newzealand	1	Nil	
32.	Nigeria	1	Nil	
33.	Sultanate of Oman	66	Nil	
34.	Pakistan	960 (Including 54 Soldiers)	184	
35.	Panama	18	Nil	
36.	Portugal	1	Nil	

Sl. No.	Name of Country	No. of Indians in Jail	No. of Indians Released during 1992 & 93
37.	Qatar	56	445
38.	Russia	2	1
39.	Saudi Arabia	5555 #	9558 #
40.	Singapore	251	702
41.	Spain	11	Nil
42.	Sri Lanka	20	28
43.	Syrian Arab Republic	6	21
44.	Thailand	6	13
45.	U.A.E.	500 #	4377 #
46.	Uganda	Nil	2
47.	United Kingdom	354	1201
48.	U.S.A.	34	Nil
49.	Uzbekistan	1	1
50.	Yemen	6	Nil
51.	Yugoslavia	48	24
52.	Zimbabwe	2	Nil
Grand Total :-		8,925	17,427

#The figures include those arrested for violation of immigration laws and subsequently deported.
All figures are provisional.

Power plants in Private Sector

*7. SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHARY:
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to entrust the work of setting up of power plants to private sector;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals approved so far;

(e) the number of plants out of them to be set up in North India;

(d) whether the Government have invited the multinational companies for making investments in this field; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) *Inter-alia*, in the context of paucity of resources with Central/State PSUs and SEBs and to bridge the gap between the rapidly growing demand for electricity and supply, a policy to encourage greater investments by private enterprises in the power sector with the objective of mobilising additional resources for capacity addition in power generation and distribution, had been formulated in 1991. Necessary changes were made in the Legal frame work and the policy is currently under implementation.

(b) As on date, proposals have been received for setting up of 75 power projects in the private sector for a capacity addition of 32661 MW costing ap-

proximately Rs. 1,04,151.00 crores. Out of these, 7 power projects have been accorded techno-economic clearance by CEA.

(c) As on date, proposals have been received for setting up of 16 power projects in the private sector with a capacity addition of 6033.50 MW, costing approximately Rs. 17,242 crores in the Northern Region and out of these one has been accorded techno-economic clearance of CEA.

(d) and (e). The policy permits upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation for projects set up by foreign private investors. The details of the policy are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Details of the policy to encourage greater private investments in power generation and distribution to tap additionality of resources

The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generation, supply and distribution:

- * The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.
- * Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.

- * Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.
- * Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
- * All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
- * Minimum of 20% of the total outlay should be the equity.
- * Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
- * Not more than 40% of the total outlay can come from Indian Public Financial Institutions.
- * To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.
- * Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.
- * The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.
- * The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- * With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency(ies) extend concessional; credit.
- * The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 30% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
- * A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.
- * The excise duty on a large number of capital and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a lower rate.
- * The 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
- * Fixed costs can be recovered at 68.5% PLF. Attractive incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF.
- * Flexibility has been allowed in including insurance in the project cost.

For generating companies the following incentives are offered:—

- * Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate have been notified which *inter alia* provide for 16% rate of return on the paid up and subscribed equity.
- * Generating companies operating coal based, gas based and hydro projects can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.
- * Government of India may consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Government.

The specific incentives for Licences are:—

- * Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.
- * Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the previous 2% above the RBI rate.
- * Capitalisation of Interest During Construction (IDC) at actual cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.
- * Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligation.

Foreign-aided power projects

*8. SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some power projects were under construction with foreign financial assistance during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the total number of such projects alongwith the total power generation capacity thereof;

(c) the total construction cost of these projects and the total amount to be received from foreign financial companies;

(d) whether some of these power projects could not be completed as per schedule;

(e) if so, the names of such projects; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (c). Details of power projects under construction with foreign financial assistance during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in the *Statement-I*.

(d) to (f). Details of power projects under construction with foreign financial assistance during 1992-93 and 1993-94 which could not be completed as per schedule are given in the *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I*Foreign Aided Power Projects*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated cost of Construction (Rs. in Crores)	Funding Agency	Amount of foreign financial assistance (In donor currency)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Projects					
1.	Anpara 'B'	2x500	3825.00	OECD/EXIM Bank	17638.00 Million Yen
2.	Raichur Unit-4	210	651.20	OECD	23142.00 Million Yen
3.	Basin Bridge GT	4x30	376.13	OECD	11450.00 Million Yen
4.	Rathaguri CCGT	6x33.5 (GT)+ 3x30 (ST)	895.00	OECD	30000.00 Million Yen
5.	Gandhar CCGT	3x131 (GT)+ 1x255 (ST)	2291.27	OECD	13046.00 Million Yen
6.	Vran WHR	2x120	845.00	Germany	310.00 Million DM
7.	Yalahanka DG Sets	6x21.32	287.70	France	304.740 Million FF
8.	Dadri CCGT	4x31 (GT)+ 2 x 146.5 (ST)	979.20	Germany	484.900 Million DM

9. Kahalgaon	4x210	1928.45	USSR (Now Russia)	224.000 Million Roubles
10. Rayalseema	2x210	795.00	ADB	230.00 Million US Dollar
11. North Madras	3x210	1192.93	ADB	350.00 Million US Dollars
12. Bidge-Bidge	2x250	1638.00	ADB/IFC/CDC	Private Sector
13. Chandrapur Unit 7	500	963.00	World Bank	280.000 Million US Dollars
14. Dehanu	2x250	1472.00	IBRD/World Bank	Private Sector
15. Trombay CCGT	180	510.00	IBRD/IFC/CHF (Swiss Credit), Foreign Currency Loan	134.409 Million US Dollars
16. National Capital TPP	4x210	1579.17	World Bank	373.000 Million US Dollars
17. Farakka Stage-II	2x500	2136.87	World Bank	278.000 Million US Dollars
18. Talcher Stage-I	2x500	2634.01	World Bank	367.00 Million US Dollars
2. Hydro Projects				
19. Nathpa-Jhakri	6x250	4337.95	World Bank	465.000 Million US Dollars

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Koyna Stage-IV	4x250	1118.05	World Bank	354.000 Million US Dollars
21.	Loyar Pariyar	3x60	260.00	World Bank	156.000 Million US Dollars
22.	Western Yamuna Canal	2x0	52.00	OECD	4000.00 Million Yen
23.	Ujjaini	1x12	43.76	OECD	1500.00 Million Yen
24.	Ghatghar PSS	2x125	554.26	OECD	11414 Million Yen
25.	Srisallam LBPH	6x150	1466.42	OECD	26101 Million Yen
26.	Eastern Gandak Canal	3x5	58.45	OECD	1630 Million Yen
27.	Teesta Canal Falls	3x7.5	366.27	OECD	8025 Million Yen
28.	Lower Borpani	2x50	284.30	OECD	1700 Million Yen
29.	Chamera Stage-I	3x180	2400.00	CIDA/EDC	378.25 Million Canadian Dollars
30.	Dulhasti	3x130	2362.04	French Consortium	2582.61 Million FF
31.	Uri	4x120	3424.29	Swedish Consortium	Grant-715 Million SEK Loan-765 Million SEK Grant-17.160 Million Pound

3. Hydro Products (for which external assistance has been cancelled)

32. Srinagar	6x55	592.45	World Bank	24.374 Million US Dollars
33. Kalinadi Stage-II	3x40+3x50	393.40	World Bank	260.000 Million US Dollars
34. Sharavati	4x60	282.00	World Bank	220.00 Million US Dollars
35. Upper Indravati	4x150	991.40	World Bank	170.00 Million US Dollars

STATEMENT-II
Foreign Aided Power Projects

Commissioning schedule and Reasons of delay for Externally aided Hydro Electric Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Commissioning Original	Schedule latest	Reasons for delay
World Bank Aided Projects				
1.	Nathpa Jhakri (HP) 1500 MW	1995-97	1989-99	Delay in award of Civil and Electrical works.
2.	Koyna St. IV (Maharashtra) - 1000 MW	1992-93	1996-98	Delay in placement of orders for TG Sets.
3.	Lower Periyar (Kerala) - 180 MW	1990-91	1995-97	Termination of contracts for dam, Power House works and re-award of these works.
4.	Srinagar (UP) - 330 MW	1991-92	1996-98	Cancellation of loan, funds constraints, Non-acquisition of Private land.
5.	Sardar Sarovar (Gujarat) - 1450 MW	1994-97	1995-2000	Non availability of finances development of distrasa zone in RBPH cavern.
6.	Kalinadi St. II (Karnataka) - 270 MW	1987-88	1996-97	Cancellation of W.B. loan poor progress of civil works.
7.	Sharavathy Tail Race (Karnataka) - 240 MW	1993-94	1997-99	Court stay order and cancellation of World Bank Loan.
8.	Upper Indravati (Orissa) - 600 MW	1986-88	1997-98	Cancellation of World Bank loan, poor performance of contract and termination and re-award of contracts.

OECD Funded Projects

	9th Plan	Inter State dispute & non issue of investment decision.
1. Western Yamuna Canal St. II (Haryana) 16 MW		
2. Ujjani PSS (Maharashtra) 12 MW	Unit commissioned on 2.6.94	
3. Ghatghar PSS (Maharashtra) 250 MW	1989-90	
4. Srisaillam LBPH (A.P) 900 MW	9th Plan	No delay
5. Eastern Gandak Canal (Bihar) 15 MW	1993-95	Show progress of HRT and TRT due to geological problems.
6. Tasta Canal Falls (West Bengal) 67.5 MW	1987-88	Delay in erection of TB units and supply of cooling water system.
7. Lower Borpani (Assam) 100 MW	1990-92	Slow progress of Civil works.
8. Sardar Sarovar (Gujarat) 1450 MW	1985-86	Delay in dam completion project handed over for execution in joint venture.
	1994-97	Same as at Sr. No. 5 under World Bank aided projects.

Bilateral Aided Projects

	Unit	
1. Chamera St. I (HP) 540 MW	commissioned on 28.4.94, 25.4.94, 22.4.94	Delay in execution of agreement with Canadians. Forest clearance, civil construction works, HRT and damage caused due to flood in Sep., 88 and bad geological conditions.

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Commissioning Original	Schedule latest	Reasons for delay
2.	Dulhasti (J&K) 390 MW	1990-91	1996-97 (likely to slip to 9th plan)	Stoppage of project works since 24.8.92 due to law and order problems.
3.	Uri (J&K) 480 MW	1995-96	1996-97	Delay due to suspension of works from April 91 to Jan. 92 due to law and order problem.
Thermal Power Projects				
1.	Anpara B Unit-4 (500 MW)	1986-87	7/96	Delay in finalisation of order for main plant and equipment. Order was placed in 9/88.
	Unit-5 (500 MW)	1987-88	7/94	Paucity of funds.
2.	Raichur Unit-4 (210 MW)	1991-92	10/94	Paucity of funds. Delay in placement of order for main plant and equipment due to delay in tying up of bilateral assistance.
3.	Basin Bridge GT Unit-1 (30 MW) Unit-2 (30 MW) Unit-3 (30 MW) Unit-4 (30 MW)	1/92 2/92 5/92 7/92	2/95 4/95 5/95 6/95	Delay in CECF funding and delay in placement of order for main equipment.

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Commissioning Original	Schedule latest	Reasons for delay
4.	Kathalguri CCGT			
	GT-1(33.5) MW	8/90	2/95	Delay in acquisition on land. Delay in opening of latter of Credit for main plant. Paucity of funds.
	GT-2 (33.5) MW	9/90	2/95	
	GT-3 (33.5) MW	10/90	9/95	
	GT-4 (33.5) MW	11/90	5/95	
	GT-5 (33.5) MW	12/90	6/95	
	GT-6 (33.5) MW	1/91	7/95	
	ST-1 (30 MW)	9/91	11/95	
	ST-2 (30 MW)	11/91	1/96	
	ST-3 (30 MW)	1/92	3/96	
5.	Uran WHRP			
	Unit-1 (120 MW)	91-92	3/94	Delay in completion of civil works. Delay in shipment of turbine material. Delay in supply of cabling material and aux. equipment such as A/C plant etc. Delay in readiness of GT-5&6 for running Unit-1 and GT-7&8 for running Unit-2. Disturbed law and order situation in Bombay.
	Unit-2 (120 MW)	91-92	9/94	
6.	Yelahanka DG Sets			
	Unit-6 (21.32 MW)	6/90	3/93 (A)	Delay in financial assistance from PFC.
	Unit-5 (21.32 MW)	7/90	5/93 (A)	Delay in making initial payment to main equipment supplier. Delay in erection of equipment due to Cauveri dispute problem.
	Unit-4 (21.32)	8/90	7/93 (A)	Delay in completion of civil works.
	Unit-3 (21.32)	9/90	10/93 (A)	
	Unit-2 (21.32)	10/90	11/93 (A)	
	Unit-1 (21.32)	11/90	1/94 (A)	

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Commissioning Original	Schedule latest	Reasons for delay
7.	Dadri CCGT			
	GT-1 (131 MW)	9/91	1/92 (A)	Delay in opening of letter of Credit for foreign exchange for imported C&I/electrical equipment.
	GT-2 (131 MW)	11/91	3/92 (A)	
	GT-3 (131 MW)	1/92	6/92 (A)	
	GT-4 (131 MW)	3/92	10/92 (A)	
	ST-1 (146.5 MW)	9/92	2/94 (A)	Delay in supply of equipment for WHRB by BHEL.
	ST-2 (146.5 MW)	1/93	3/94 (A)	
8.	Kehalgaon			
	Unit-1 (210 MW)	1/91	3/92 (A)	Delay in finalisation of contract with earst-while USSR. Delayed as well as non sequential supply of equipment by M/s TPE, USSR. Serious IR problem at site. Delay due to re-ordering of HP piping erection contract.
	Unit-2 (210 MW)	7/91	3/94 (A)	
	Unit-3 (210 MW)	1/92	3/95	
	Unit-4 (210 MW)	7/92	3/96	
9.	Rayalseema			
	Unit-1 (210 MW)	93-94	3/94 (Rolled)	Delay in placement of orders.
	Unit-2 (210 MW)	93-94	9/94	
10.	North Madras			
	Unit-1 (210 MW)	3/91	10/94	Delay in acquisition of land due to special leave petition filed in Supreme Court.
	Unit-2 (210 MW)	12/91	3/95	Delay in ADB loan agreement for Unit-3.
	Unit-3 (210 MW)	12/92	9/95	

Delay in placement of orders for major equipment and auxiliary equipments. Delay due to defective casting of TG Deck (Unit-1).

Delay in placement of order for main plant & equipment.

Delay in supply of equipment by BHEL.

U-2 Slow rate of TG erection.

U-3 Delay in commencement of TG erection.

U-4 Delay in commencement of Str. Steel erection/readiness of TG hall to commence erection.

Delay in finalisation of order for main plant and equipment. Industrial relation problems which seriously affected the piling work in plant area. Delay in readiness of TG desk/ TG hall and stack. Erection of x-20 piping work and completion of critical piping work by BHEL/NTPC.

11. Chandrapur Unit-7 (500 MW)

96-97

97-98

12. Trombay CCGT

GT (120 MW)

ST (60 MW)

10/93

5/94

7/93 (A)

10/94

13. National Capital: TPP St. I

Unit-1 (210 MW)

Unit-2 (210 MW)

Unit-3 (210 MW)

Unit-1 (210 MW)

11/91

5/92

11/92

5/93

10/91 (A)

12/92 (A)

3/93 (A)

3/94 (A)

14. Farakka St. II

Unit-4 (500 MW)

Unit-5 (500 MW)

7/90

7/91

9/90 (A)

2/94 (A)

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Commissioning Original	Schedule latest	Reasons for delay
15.	Talcher			Supply of Generator T/former by Rode Koncor, Yugoslavia & delay in receipt of same at site. Slow progress of St. Steel work by M/s Briathwaite. Delay in readiness of C-H-P by M/s MAMC. Delay in readiness of DM Plant. Delay in supply of DDCMIS by M/s Keltron.
	Unit-1 (500 MW)	2/94	10/94	
	Unit-2 (500 MW)	2/95	5/95	

Note : A - Actual

Transportation Sector

*9. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have invited the industrialists of Norway to invest capital in our country recently;

(b) if so, the number of industrialists who have submitted their proposals in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have accepted those proposals;

(d) if so, the details of the areas in which the capital is to be invested; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which their requests are likely to be accepted?

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

(b) No proposal has been received so far.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

Relations with China

*10. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have made headway in devising further confi-

dence building measures to ensure peace and tranquility along the border and to bring about troop reduction;

(b) whether a broad agreement to this effect was reached at the second meeting of the India-China Expert Group held in Beijing in April, 1994;

(c) if so, whether the delegation had met and reviewed the progress made at its first meeting held in New Delhi in February, 1994;

(d) if so, whether all the outstanding issues relating to the Sino-Indian border have been fully reviewed; and

(e) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (e). The second meeting of the India-China Expert Group was held in Beijing on April 21-22, 1994. The Group reviewed progress made at its first meeting and continued deliberations on the tasks assigned to it under the Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas. The mandate of the Expert Group includes assisting the Joint Working Group in clarification of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China, re-deployment of military forces along the LAC, other confidence building measures and verification methods.

At the second meeting, the two sides reached agreement on the work regulations of the Expert Group. This document spelling out the mandate, future tasks and modalities of the Expert Group, was signed by the leaders of the two delegations on April 22, 1994.

Both sides also noted with satisfaction that the situation along the India-China Line of Actual Control (LAC) was peaceful. They also expressed satisfaction at the confidence building measures already in place between them and exchanged views on further such measures, as envisaged in the Agreement establishing the Expert Group.

Both sides adopted a constructive and forward-looking approach in these discussions, which were held in a friendly atmosphere. Discussions in the Expert Group will continue.

[English]

Power Finance Corporation Loans

*11. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether hitherto the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) had been extending loans only to the State and the Central Power agencies;

(b) if so, the details of the loans advanced to these agencies during the last three years, agency-wise;

(c) whether PFC has recently decided to extend the loan facility to private sector power companies also;

(d) if so, the reasons for deviation in the established policy;

(e) whether the loans will be provided to all the private power companies or the facility will be extended on selective basis;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any guidelines/conditionalities have been laid down by the Government/PFC in this regard; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has so far extended assistance to the State Electricity Boards (SEBs), State Generating Corporations (SGCs) and State Power Departments only.

(b) The details of the loans advanced by PFC to SEBs/SGCs/State Power Departments during the last three years are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

(c) Power Finance Corporation will consider funding existing power sector companies in the Private Sector provided the necessary resources for same are made available by multilateral agencies.

(d) The decision was based on the need for diversification of PFC's portfolio structure, bringing in additionality of resources to the power sector, opportunity for co-financing and enhancing PFC's exposure and expertise.

(e) and (f). To start with, the proposal was to restrict such lending to the existing private licencees operating in major cities.

(g) and (h). Details for such financing arrangements have not yet been worked out.

STATEMENT*Details of the loans advanced by PFC during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94**(Rs. in Crores)*

Sl. No.	Borrower	During 1991-92	During 1992-93	During 1993-94
<i>A. State Electricity Boards/State Governments</i>				
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	138.27	167.84	174.22
2.	Government of Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Bihar State Electricity Board	4.39	2.74	0.48
4.	Gujarat Electricity Board	89.78	19.22	13.29
5.	Haryana State Electricity Board	17.82	9.71	2.45
6.	Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board	10.75	17.17	10.88
7.	Jammu & Kashmir State Electricity Board	—	—	—
8.	Karnataka Electricity Board	102.04	4.07	61.78
9.	Kerala State Electricity Board	12.59	3.31	0.78
10.	Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board	116.83	79.53	92.73
11.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	24.99	59.34	36.63
12.	Govt. of Manipur	—	—	2.75
13.	Govt. of Mizoram	8.13	4.23	5.64
14.	Govt. of Nagaland	—	—	7.43
15.	Orissa State Electricity Board	13.96	13.96	15.35
16.	Punjab State Electricity Board	—	—	—
17.	Rajasthan State Electricity Board	3.36	19.43	81.97

Sl. No.	Borrower	During 1991-92	During 1992-93	During 1993-94
18.	Govt. of Sikkim	4.73	—	—
19.	Tamil Nadu Electricity Board	142.10	66.86	66.76
20.	Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	47.19	77.76	26.75
21.	West Bengal State Electricity Board	10.38	3.02	4.58
22.	Govt. of Rajasthan	—	3.08	1.48
23.	Govt. of Haryana	—	7.01	3.38
24.	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh	—	0.42	0.21

B. State Generating Corporations

1.	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	68.52	—	—
2.	Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd.	1.82	—	1.34
3.	Orissa Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	38.76	24.73	70.51
4.	Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.	—	—	—
5.	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd.	55.00	28.65	25.80
6.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	1.57	0.89	0.31
7.	Bihar State Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd.	7.07	—	—

Total		920.05	612.97	707.50
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Feasibility Studies for Power Projects

*12. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delay in the finalisation of feasibility studies on Power projects to be set up by State Governments has held up the formalisation of international competitive bidding procedure in the power sector;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have urged States to prepare feasibility reports on power projects;

(c) the number of States which have finalised the feasibility reports and the reasons for delay in the case of other States; and

(d) the time by which reports by other State Governments are likely to be received in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) No, Sir.

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

Advertisements on Doordarshan

*13. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations to ban adver-

tisements of some products on electronic media;

(b) if so, the details of those products;

(c) whether the Government propose to have tripartite discussion between his Ministry, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and concerned Industry Associations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Representations concerning advertisements on electronic media are received by Government from time to time.

(c) and (d). Interaction with different Ministries and/or Associations concerned with advertising on electronic media, is a continuous process, resorted to, as and when required.

[Translation]

Promotion of Indian Culture/ Literature abroad

*14. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to expand the library services in its Embassies abroad in order to publicise the Indian literature and to strengthen the literary and cultural relations with intellectuals there; and

(b) if so, the number of Indian Embassies where such library facility is

available at present and the status of these libraries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The improvement of library services in Indian Missions and Posts abroad is a continuous process. Books on various facets of India are regularly supplied to the Missions and Posts who maintain regular interaction with intellectual circles, as part of normal diplomatic work, to acquaint them with the latest developments on the Indian literary and cultural scene.

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

[English]

Power Conference

*15. DR. LAL BAHADUR
RAWAL:
SHRI SULTAN SALA-
HUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conference of power experts of SEBs, NTPC and NHPC was held at New Delhi during April, 1994;

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

(c) whether the aspect of bridging the gap in power availability and demand during the Eighth Plan period was also discussed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (d). Government have not organised any Conference of Power Experts of SEBs, NTPC and NHPC at New Delhi during April, 1994. Some Conferences may have been organised related to power sector during April, 1994. Government cannot and does not have information of all the power conferences that may have been held during 1994 April, by agencies wholly unconnected with the Government.

Conservation of Fuel

*16. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the advertisements for the conservation of fuel during each of the last three years;

(b) the funds allocated for this purpose during 1994-95;

(c) whether any evaluation has been made to assess the impact of these advertisements;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No expenditure was incurred on advertisements for conservation of fuel during the last three years by the Ministry of Surface Transport.

(b) A provision of Rs. 25.00 lakhs has been made for Energy Conservation including publicity and awareness programmes in the Transport Sector for the year 1994-95.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

World Bank Assistance to NTPC

*17. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has recently chalked out a strategy to reduce its outstandings from the SEBs;

(b) if so, the details of the strategy NTPC propose to adopt in this regard;

(c) whether the World Bank has extended any loan to NTPC; and

(d) if so, the terms of reference of the loan agreement?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The new commercial and investment policies of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) require implementation of certain measures to address the issue of outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) including the following:-

- (i) signing of Bulk Power Supply Agreements (BPSAs) with SEBs.
- (ii) regulating power supplies by NTPC from its power stations, wherever physically and technically feasible, in case of non-compliance with agreed financial and commercial terms including appropriate Letter of Credit (LC).
- (iii) delaying new investment in a State if it is not in compliance with

the terms of BPSA and undertaking projects in one region with substantial part of the output to be allocated in other region.

(c) and (d). The World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 400 million to the NTPC for the NTPC Power Generation Project. The loan is repayable in 20 years including a five year grace period at the Bank's standard variable interest rate. The major conditions of the loan are:-

- (a) The NTPC shall take all steps necessary to maintain its accounts receivable at a level not exceeding an amount equivalent to the proceeds of its sales of power for the two preceding months.
- (b) The NTPC shall take all such measures (including, without limitation, adjustments of the structure and levels of its tariffs) as shall be required to produce in the financial year beginning April 1, 1993, funds from internal sources equivalent to not less than fifteen per cent (15%) of the annual average of the NTPC's capital expenditures incurred or expected to be incurred during the previous, current and following financial year, and not less than twenty per cent (20%) in each financial year thereafter.
- (c) The NTPC shall implement a resettlement action plan as agreed upon between the Bank and the NTPC, in a timely manner.
- (d) The NTPC shall: (i) carry out socio-economic surveys not later than December 31, 1994, to ascertain the present socio-economic status of persons

affected by the Ongoing Projects of the NTPC; (ii) based upon such surveys, draw up wherever necessary, remedial action programmes in consultation with the Bank which have as their objective the phased restoration of the economic base of the persons so affected; and (iii) thereafter, implement such remedial action programmes.

- (e) The NTPC shall implement the Environmental Action Plan dated May 10, 1993 agreed upon between the Bank and the NTPC.
- (f) The NTPC shall enter into Bulk Power Supply Agreements with all the SEBs on regional basis, provided, however, that at least two such Agreements shall be signed not later than December 31, 1993.

The NTPC is in compliance of the covenants of the World Bank loan.

Radio Local Loop

*18. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Telephones has approached the Department of Telecommunications with a Rs. 510 crore project to introduce a new technology called 'Radio Local Loop (RLL)';

(b) if so, the salient features of this new technology;

(c) the reaction of the Government to the said proposal;

(d) whether this new 'RLL' technology is also proposed to be introduced in Bombay and Delhi.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) This new technology proposes to reduce or eliminate the necessity of laying underground copper cables.

(c) It is proposed to undertake field trial of Radio in Local Loops.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to undertake field trials of two different technologies of RLL at Calcutta, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), New Delhi, Bombay and Madurai (Tamil Nadu).

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

Indo-UK Relations

*19. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Britain are planning a new science and technology partnership and bold cultural initiatives to consolidate their relations;

(b) if so, whether the relations with U.K. after the Prime Minister's visit have provided a durable foundation for cooperation in the fields of trade, commerce, economy, technology and culture;

(c) if so, the extent to which the relations between the two countries have improved; and

(d) the details of the agreements reached with U.K. during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). While there is at present no specific proposal for a new Indo-UK Science and Technology Partnership, Government are desirous of establishing further linkages with the UK in areas of mutual interest in the field of Science and Technology, through appropriate modalities of interaction including support to joint programmes at interested institutions in the two countries. Government are also keen to impart more substance to Indo-UK relations in other fields, including culture. The Nehru Centre, which is an Indian cultural centre funded by ICCR, has been functioning in London since July 1992 as a forum for Indo-British dialogue at the cultural and academic levels.

PM's visit to the UK in March 1994 has ensured that the forward momentum generated over the last two years in Indo-UK relations will be further consolidated. The Indo-British Partnership Initiative (IBPI) launched by business and industry of the two countries in January 1993, which has already achieved significant results in promoting trade and investment, was extended for another year during PM's visit. The UK recognises that India's economic liberalisation programme offers prospects for the further enhancement of bilateral economic relations in the areas of trade, investment and technology transfer.

Indo-UK relations have developed significantly in a number of areas and are

characterised by mutual trust and confidence, reinforced by satisfactory cooperation in combating terrorism and by a generally positive and balanced British stance on J & K and Indo-Pak issues.

A revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement between India and the UK was signed on 25 January, 1993. A Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement was concluded with the UK on 14 March 1994. Together, the two Agreements will further enhance prospects for increased economic relations and investments from the UK.

Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Ltd.

*20. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision to close down the Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Limited has been taken by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken for the revival of Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Ltd.?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The question whether Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Ltd. could be revived by infusing more funds or whether

it should be closed, is still under consideration of the Government.

Seafarers' Welfare Fund Society

1. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sought the intervention of Reserve Bank of India in recovering the Seafarers's Welfare Fund Society's amount deposited with several cooperative banks; and

(b) if so, the amount involved and the reaction of the Reserve Bank of India thereto?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 9.78 crores has been invested by the Society in 10 Cooperative Banks. Three Cooperative Banks, wherein a sum of Rs. 1.90 crores has been invested, are regularly paying interest on deposits. However, in the case of three other Cooperative Banks wherein a sum of Rs. 2.14 crores has been invested, the Reserve Bank of India has precluded them from making payment in excess of the amount specified in the directive issued by them, as these Banks are facing liquidity crunch. Further, Reserve Bank of India has stated that in respect of the remaining four Cooperative Banks wherein a sum of Rs. 5.74 crores has been invested, which are also facing liquidity crunch, the Society is free to take legal action against them. On 17.5.94, the Society has already filed a suit in the Bombay High Court against two Cooperative Banks. For the remaining five defaulting Cooperative Banks, the

Society has been advised by the Advocate to first issue legal notices to them to recover the principal amount alongwith interest.

Import of Coal Gas for Power Sector

2. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the private sector power project proposals which are based on import of coal/gas;

(b) the names of such power projects for which import of coal/gas is being considered by Government; and

(c) the country from which the same are proposed to be imported and the likely foreign exchange outflow annually as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Dabhol Power Project (2015 MW), being set up in Maharashtra by Dabhol Power Company (promoted by Enron Development Corporation, USA), is based on import of liquified Natural Gas. Its first phase of 695 MW is based on imported distillate oil. The proposal has been cleared from the foreign investment angle and has also been cleared by CEA subject to certain conditions. The Mangalore Power Plant in Karnataka, to be put up by M/s Cogentrix, USA is proposed to be based on imported coal. The countries from which the fuel is to be imported will be known only when fuel contract is signed. Fuel contract for the projects has not been finalised so far. The likely foreign exchange outflow due to import of the fuel would be known after

finalisation of the fuel contract by the promoters of the projects.

[Translation]

Functioning of Film Societies

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

(a) the details of the film societies functioning in the country;

(b) the reasons for not increasing the limit of financial assistance being provided to these societies for the last three years;

(c) whether the financial assistance given to them are inadequate as against the requirement and having adverse effect on the activities of the film societies;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to increase grant-in-aid to these societies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (e). No request/proposal either regarding inadequacy of the grant-in-aid (Rs. 3.00 lakhs annually) presently being given or for the increase thereof has been received from the Central Body i.e. Federation of Film Societies of India. The Standing Committee on Communications while examining the demand for grants of the Ministry of Information and

Broadcasting for 1994-95 has, however, felt that the allocation being made to film Societies was inadequate. The seventh report of the Committee, therefore, recommended that the work being done by the film Societies should be evaluated afresh and budgetary allocations appropriately enhanced in future. Action is being initiated in this direction.

Condition of Culverts on National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

4. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the routes on National Highways in Madhya Pradesh where culverts are narrow and not in a good condition;

(b) the details in respect of the above including the measures being taken to make them traffic worthy as per the prescribed norms;

(c) the details of the roads which have been declared as National Highways in Madhya Pradesh during the last five years including 1994-95; and

(d) the details of the National Highways which are being repaired/improved during the above period in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The improvement activity including widening of narrow culverts on National Highways is a continuous process. These improvement works are undertaken in a phased manner depending upon availability of funds and *inter-se* priority etc.

(c) Nil.

(d) All National Highways are kept in traffic worthy condition through repair/improvement within the available funds.

Copper Galvanising Plant

5. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new copper galvanising plants in the country;

(b) whether the Government have sought Japanese assistance for setting up a copper galvanising plant in Malanjkhanda in Balaghat district (MP); and

(c) if so, the likely time of completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Government does not propose to set up a copper galvanising plant.

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

TV Transmitters and AIR Stations in Rajasthan

6. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of TV transmitters and Akashvani stations set up in Rajasthan during 1993-94 and the capacity thereof;

(b) the locations thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the number of TV transmitters and Akashvani stations likely to be set up in Rajasthan during 1994-95 along with the capacity and locations thereof;

(d) the amount earmarked for the said purpose;

(e) whether Rajasthan is comparatively backward in comparison with other States in respect of information and broadcasting media point of view; and

(f) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). During 1993-94, a high power TV (10 KW) transmitter at Bundi in the State of Rajasthan was set up at a capital cost of Rs. 368.19 lakhs. Beside, an LPT at Jaipur, for relay of metro services, LPTs at Gangapur, Sujargarh, Sridungargarh, Ratangarh, Bhadra and Basava and Very Low Power Transmitters at Chamohala, Deogarh and Kumbhalgarh were commissioned. Interim HPT set up (1 KW) at Barmer and 10 KW HPT at Jaisalmer were made technically ready. A total expenditure of Rs. 2005.54 lakhs was incurred.

During this period, one 2 x 5 KW FM Transmitter of AIR at Jaisalmer was commissioned at a cost of Rs. 389 lakhs.

(c) and (d). As given in the attached *Statement*.

(e) and (f). No, Sir. However, with a view to further improve the services in Rajasthan, Doordarshan has envisaged to set up 5 HPTs, 15 LPTs and 7 VLPTs in the State. Similarly, AIR has schemes to set up one New Radio Station at Mt. Abu, one 50 KW SW Transmitter at Jaipur, upgradation scheme at Udaipur

(from 10 KW MW to 2 x 10 KW MW) and replacement scheme at Jodhpur (from 1 KW MW to 2 x 3 KW FM Transmitter).

Further, Press Information Bureau has plan to set up its branch at Udaipur, during 8th Plan period.

STATEMENT

Details showing location, capacity and expenditure in respect of TV and AIR Transmitters to be set up during the year 1994-95

Location	Capacity	Amount Earmarked for 1994-95 (in Lakhs)
Doordarshan		
LPTs		
Baran	100 W	28.20
Barisadri	100 W	28.20
Hindaun	100 W	28.20
Rawatsar	100 W	28.20
Makrane	100 W	33.95
Karauli	100 W	33.95
Phalodi	100 W	33.95
Rajgarh (Churu)	100 W	33.95
Mt. Abu	100 W	33.95
Pratapgarh	100 W	33.95
Nohar	300 W	33.70
Nokha	100 W	33.70
Shahpura	100 W	33.70

Location	Capacity	Amount Earmarked for 1994-95 (in Lakhs)
Chirawa	100 W	NIL
VLPTS		
Amet	10 W	17.30
Fatehpur	10 W	17.30
Gangapur	10 W	17.30
Laxmangarh	10 W	2.50
Bhim	10 W	17.30
Rajgarh (Alwar)	10 W	17.30
Lalsot	10 W	17.30
All India Radio		
Mount Abu	2 x 3 KW FM	17.93

[English]

Steel Plant in Bastar

7. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to set up three steel plants in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh had been scrapped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider these proposals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). The Central Government do not propose to set up new iron and steel units. Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, '91 "iron and steel" has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector, and also exempted from the requirements of compulsory licensing except for certain locational restrictions. No industrial licence is, therefore, required for setting up iron and steel units, and it is upto individual entrepreneurs to pursue their projects. However, according to information available at present M/s. Mukand Limited and M/s. S.M. Iron and Steel Industries Limited have indicated interest in setting up a steel plant each in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh.

[Translation]

**Realignment of the Route of
National Highway No. 27**

8. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL:
Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal/demand for realignment of the route of National Highway No. 27 by diverting it from Shivmandir of Sohaga Pahari and for linking it to the Tayodhar in Riwa district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any study/survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted to assess the feasibility and cost of this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d). Perhaps Hon'ble member has in view the demand of Nagar Vyopar Mandal, Tyonthar, District Riwa in this regard. Comments of State Government thereon have been called, which have not yet been received. Further action can be initiated only after receipt of firm proposal from the State Government.

Out of Turn Telephone Connections

9. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA
MUNDA: Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state
the category-wise total number of out of

tum telephone connections sanctioned by his Ministry to M.Ps. during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM): Sir, the required information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House shortly.

[English]

Price Rise in Aluminium Industry

10. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the LME price of
aluminium has increased considerably
since January, 1994;

(b) whether increased exports by
domestic producers has created an acute
shortage of aluminium in the country; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken
by the Government to encourage
domestic aluminium producers to cater to
the needs of domestic industrial units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI
BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The
London Metal Exchange (LME) price of
Aluminium has risen to an average of
U.S. \$ 1350 in May, 1994 from an
average of U.S. \$ 1192 in January, 1994.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Domestic Industrial Units are
free to obtain their requirement of
Aluminium from Indigenous Producers or
by imports as Aluminium is on Open

General Licence (OGL) under the extant Import and Export Policy.

Telephones in South Delhi

11. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephones in South Delhi go dead and become operational on its own every now and then;

(b) whether numbers dialled from Barakhamba Road, Mayur Vihar etc. to South Delhi like R.K. Puram, it is difficult to get the number and always the message is coming that "the line of this route are busy";

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the deteriorating telephone services in Delhi;

(d) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Telephones";

"No treatment for this headache" and "M.T.N.L. of Bills.....and Bells" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated May 27 and 9, 1994 respectively; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). Sir, due to large scale expansions carried out in Delhi on account of heavy traffic generated during busy hours, difficulty could be experienced by customers in putting through their calls due to

congestion in the network. However, steps are being taken to increase the number of junctions between the exchanges. Also strict instructions have been issued to monitor the performance on a continuous basis and action is being taken to maintain the quality of telephone services.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Complaints received as well as performance of all telephone exchanges in Delhi is regularly being monitored and corrective action wherever required is being taken speedily.

Power Purchase Agreement

12. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the main clauses of the power purchase agreement between the Maharashtra State Electricity Board and the US based ENRON Development Corporation;

(b) whether this agreement has the approval of the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The main features of the agreement are as follows:—

- (i) Phase I comprises 695 MW of a two phase combined cycle power station. Phase II will comprise 1320 MW.

(ii) Phase I will be fuelled by No. 2 distillate fuel oil. After phase II, both Phase I and II will be fuelled by LNG.

(iii) Capital cost of Phase I is US dollars 910 Million which includes a port and fuel facility, the costs of associated infrastructure being constructed by Government of Maharashtra and MSEB such as roads, water etc. and Interest During Construction.

(iv) Construction of Phase I is estimated to start after financial closure which is targetted for July/August, 1994 and the plant is estimated to come on stream 33 months later in March, 1997. Bechtel will be the main civil contractors and GE (USA) the main equipment supplier.

(v) Planned debt equity ratio for Phase I is 70:30.

(vi) PPA, provides sufficient flexibility regarding the initiation of Phase-II, Phase-II is decoupled from Phase-I without any legal binding on either party.

(b) to (d). Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is under examination.

Indian Institute of Packaging

13. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has made any request to the Union Government to set up a unit of the Indian Institute of Packaging in Gujarat;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to accord approval to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The Indian Institute of Packaging has informed that no formal request has been received from the Government of Gujarat to open a branch.

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

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in DTC

14. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has started a Volunatry Retirement Scheme;

(b) if so, when it was introduced;

(c) the number of persons in each category who have applied for the above scheme and the number of persons given voluntary retirement on their request, year-wise during the last three years; and

(d) the number of persons in each category who have applied more than once for voluntary retirement but were denied the same year-wise; and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b).

The Voluntary Retirement Scheme was introduced in DTC in March, 1993.

(c) Details are at *Statement -I*

(d) Details of such persons are at *Statement-II*. In accordance with the

provisions of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, the D.T.C. management is empowered not to grant Voluntary Retirement to any of its employees in the interest of the functioning of the Corporation.

STATEMENT I

Category	1993		1994	
	No. of workers applied for VRS	Requests Accepted	No. of workers applied for VRS	Requests accepted
Conductors	1341	1111	42	27
Drivers	1613	883	-	-
W/Shop Class-IV	1146	923	163	110
Ministerial Staff	709	596	23	14
Traffic Suprv.	1248	788	-	-
Officers	80	37	23	4
Total	6137	4338	251	155

STATEMENT-II

Number of persons who have applied more than once for Voluntary Retirement but were denied the same, year wise

Category	1993-94	1994-95 (upto May, 1994)
Conductors	26	Nil
Drivers	435	Nil
W/Shop & Class-IV	83	Nil

Category	1993-94	1994-95
		(upto May, 1994)
Ministerial Staff	43	Nil
Traffic Suprv. Staff	51	Nil
Officers	16	Nil
	654	Nil

ISD/STD/PCOs in Andhra Pradesh

15. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for allotment of ISD/STD/PCO booths in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93 and 1993-94, district wise;

(b) the number of applications disposed of during the said period and the number of booths allotted so far; and

(c) the time by which the remaining applications are likely to be disposed of?

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

[Translation]

Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh

16. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh where new automatic telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during 1994-95 with capacity of each of the exchange;

(b) whether telephone, system in Varanasi and Gorakhpur divisions is functioning properly and if not, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephones in Paschim Vihar in Delhi during 1993 (till 30th December 1993) and the number of persons likely to remain in the waiting list during 1994-95 (on 30th December 1994) and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Places in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh where new automatic telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during 94-95, are indicated in the attached *Statement*.

(b) Yes Sir, telephone system in Varanasi and Gorakhpur are working satisfactorily except one old strowger exchange at Varanasi which is planned to be replaced.

(c) Persons in the waiting list for the telephone were 11,310 on 31.12.1993

and it is expected to wipe out the entire waiting list during 94-95.

STATEMENT

Uttar Pradesh

Meerut 10,000 lines

Ghaziabad 10,000 lines

Allahabad 10,000 lines

Lucknow 10,000 lines

Ganga Nagar (Meerut) 1,000 lines

Shatabdi Nagar (do) 1,000 lines

Shardhapuri (do) 1,000 lines

Shuklaganj (Unna) 1,000 lines

Ratan Lal Nagar (Kanpur) 2,000 lines

Cantt. (Varanasi) 2,000 lines

Manduadeeh (do) 1,000 lines

Sanjay Nagar (do) 1,000 lines

Brij Enclave (do) 1,000 lines

Allahpur (Allahabad) 2,000 lines

Bareilly 4,000 lines

Transport Nagar (Gorakhpur) 1,000 lines

Raebareli 2,048 lines

Delhi

Bhikaji Cama Place 30,000 lines

Vasant Vihar 15,000 lines

Vasant Kunj	10,000 lines
Nehru Place	20,000 lines
Haūzkhas	10,000 lines
Okhla (Axe-10)	10,000 lines
Sarita Vihar	20,000 lines
Tughlakabad	10,000 lines
Okhla (OCBE-283)	20,000 lines
Tekhand	8,000 lines
Idgah	27,000 lines
Tis Hazari	10,000 lines
Lothian Road	15,000 lines
Lakshmi Nagar	10,000 lines
Mayur Vihar Phase-II	20,000 lines
Shahadara	10,000 lines
Karkardooma	25,000 lines
Yamuna Vihar	22,000 lines
Jor Bagh	13,000 lines
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg	8,000 lines
Rajpath	10,000 lines
Janpath	8,000 lines
Najafgarh	5,000 lines
Paschim Vihar	13,000 lines
Janakpuri	15,000 lines
Nangloi	13,000 lines

Rajouri Garden	35,000 lines
Hari Nagar	16,000 lines
Keshav Puram	10,000 lines
Shakti Nagar	10,000 lines
Saraswati Vihar	25,000 lines
Rohini Sector VI	25,000 lines
Jaipur House (Agra)	2,000 lines
Sanjay Nagar (Agra)	5,000 lines
Transport Nagar (Agra)	2,000 lines
C.T.O. Compound (do)	2,000 lines
Modinagar (Gbd)	2,000 lines
Rajendra Nagar (Gbd)	2,000 lines
Pratap Nagar (Gbd)	1,000 lines
Faizabad	2,048 lines
Gomti Nagar (Lkw)	2,000 lines
Jankipuram (Lkw)	1,000 lines
Indra Nagar (Lkw)	5,000 lines

* In addition to these new exchanges about 60 (sixty) more small capacity new telephone exchanges are expected to be commissioned at different places in U.P. as per requirement.

[English]

Song and Drama Division Units in Assam

17. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Song and Drama Division units set up in Assam and their locations;

(b) the number of shows presented by each of these units during 1993-94;

(c) the annual expenditure being incurred on each of these units;

(d) whether any review has been made with regard to the response by the general public;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, whether the Government propose to make a review of the functioning of these units; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) There is one regional centre of Song and Drama Division in Assam which is located at Guwahati. Under this regional centre, there are two border centres at Guwahati and Imphal.

(b) Song and Drama Division units presented 322 shows during 1993-94 in Assam.

(c) The total expenditure incurred by the regional centre and its two border units during the year 1993-94 was Rs. 84.40 lakhs.

(d) and (e). While no formal review has been made, the public response is

always kept in view while preparing and presenting the programmes.

(f) and (g). There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

Power Stations

18. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of existing power stations is satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise details of the performance of these power stations for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). A *Statement* showing Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing power stations, station-wise, state-wise during last three years is enclosed. In the last 3 years the All India PLF has risen from 55.3% to 61%. This is considered satisfactory.

STATEMENT

Name of the State/ System/Station.	Plant Load Factor (%)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
DELHI			
Indraprastha	60.8	57.1	47.2
Rajghat	49.5	47.8	52.5
DESU	57.11	54.0	49.0
Badarpur	64.2	74.1	71.9
Delhi	61.5	66.7	63.4

Name of the State/ System/Station	Plant Load Factor (%)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
HARYANA			
Faridabad Extn.	56.6	61.9	51.1
Panipat	43.2	46.9	37.5
HSEB	45.9	49.9	40.3
Haryana	46.9	50.2	41.3
RAJASTHAN			
Kota	66.3	76.9	81.1
RSEB	66.3	76.9	81.1
PUNJAB			
Bhatinda	49.8	59.8	70.7
Ropar	54.5	57.9	60.6
Punjab	52.8	58.5	63.5
UTTAR PRADESH			
Obra	50.6	55.6	51.0
Panki	15.6	26.8	34.6
Harduaganj 'A'	-	-	-
Harduaganj 'B' and 'C'	21.3	26.9	29.7
Paricha	29.5	38.0	39.0
Anpara	72.0	74.5	75.8
Tanda	23.3	31.6	30.6
UPSEB	44.4	50.5	50.1
National Thermal Power Station (Singrauli)	77.9	75.2	81.5
Rihand	74.2	73.9	78.0
Dadri	-	-	73.1
NTPC Unchahar	-	55.0	68.8
Uttar Pradesh	59.1	61.9	65.4
GUJARAT			
Dhuvaran	63.6	58.4	50.6
Ukai	57.4	58.2	56.0
Gandhi Nagar	63.5	69.5	68.1
Wanakbori	52.7	63.0	64.8
Sikka	53.5	61.5	54.6
Kutch Lign.	47.5	45.5	54.5

Name of the State/ System/Station	Plant Load Factor (%)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
GEB	57.0	61.6	60.4
A.E. Company	49.7	35.0	38.4
Sabarmati	69.5	66.1	70.8
Gujarat Pvt.	67.2	62.5	67.0
Gujarat	58.0	61.7	61.0

MAHARASHTRA

Nasik	60.6	62.7	63.4
Koradi	63.7	64.2	66.1
Paras	61.9	50.9	51.4
Bhusawal	65.1	71.2	60.8
Parli	42.5	36.4	52.5
Chandrapur	68.9	62.4	67.3
K. Khada	68.0	63.1	77.3
MSEB	61.3	59.7	64.1
Trombay	53.8	54.3	48.8
Maharashtra	59.4	58.5	60.7

MADHYA PRADESH

Satpura	43.6	46.4	50.7
Korba	41.6	45.5	49.8
Amarkantak	40.6	48.7	53.6
Korba West	63.2	65.6	67.2
MPEB	49.4	52.5	56.0
NTPC Korba	70.8	70.3	77.8
NTPC Vindhyachal	69.5	57.1	75.2
Madhya Pradesh	60.7	59.7	67.7

ANDHRA PRADESH

Kothagudam	50.5	53.4	55.6
Vijayawada	72.5	77.0	80.3
Ramagundam B	56.5	39.8	65.9
Nellore	45.2	39.6	42.6
APSEB	62.1	65.0	68.7
NTPC Ramagundam	61.4	67.3	79.3
Andhra Pradesh	61.7	66.3	74.7

Name of the State/ System/Station	Plant Load Factor (%)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
KARNATAKA			
Raichur	59.1	49.4	66.9
TAMIL NADU			
Ennore	47.6	52.0	47.1
Tuticorin	70.1	76.0	73.8
Mettur	48.5	64.2	76.4
TNEB	55.4	65.2	69.1
Neyveli	66.8	56.5	55.5
Tamil Nadu	60.1	61.2	62.6
BIHAR			
Patratu	19.7	27.9	27.5
Barauni	19.6	21.3	18.4
Muzaffarpur	28.8	20.5	21.9
Bihar	21.3	25.2	24.4
ORISSA			
Talchar	30.2	34.5	35.6
IB Valley	-	-	-
WEST BENGAL			
Bandel	44.0	27.1	48.3
Santhaldih	15.9	35.5	31.8
WBSEB	30.7	31.1	40.5
Kolaghat (WBP. Dv.C)	61.1	58.1	68.2
Durgapur Project Limited	17.3	28.9	26.3
Calcutta Electric Supply Company	58.3	67.5	71.3
NTPC Farakka	60.6	67.0	64.6
West Bengal	46.0	49.0	55.0

Name of the State/ System/Station	Plant Load Factor (%)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION			
Chandrapur	29.7	29.5	34.4
Durgapur	34.1	27.7	53.6
Bokaro	40.5	38.5	46.0
Damodar Valley Corporation	33.6	-	42.3
ASSAM			
Chandrapur	45.5	26.1	20.0
Namrup	28.6	30.5	23.8
Bongaigaon	18.9	21.8	14.8
Gas Turbine	20.4	21.3	28.3
Assam	24.7	24.3	19.9
ALL INDIA	55.3	57.1	61.0

[English]

**Seminar on Traffic and
Transportation**

19. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of
SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to
state:

(a) whether a seminar was
organised on April 9, 1994 on Traffic and
Transportation in Delhi;

(b) if so, the main suggestions
made in the seminar; and

(c) the time by which these
suggestions are likely to be implemented?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important recommendations
are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

(c) Does not arise at this stage.

STATEMENT

1. Since the gestation period for
the MRTS is a lengthy on a simultaneous
development of the surface railway
network comprising the Ring Railway and
its radials be reenergised. Alongwith DTC
feeder bus services it would considerably
reduce pressure on the roads.

2. Master Plan for Delhi be updated
upto 2010 A.D.

3. Prioritisation of MRTS-underground and surface is essential.

4. Physical and financial planning of MRTS be studied in details by comparing it with other system of MRTS in different parts of the world.

5. Till MRTS and large projects are executed, short term measures like timely repair of roads, proper signs/sign boards, proper lighting at intersections, removal of small obstructions like light poles etc. should be applied.

6. Appropriate synchronisation of Delhi lights and lane discipline be enforced. Traffic control especially at busy intersections be managed by installation of close T.V. circuit system.

7. Removal of obstructions on the footpaths within a given time frame.

8. Battery powered bus can be useful for congested areas like walled city of Delhi, Karol Bagh and Old Shahdara etc.

9. Important prospects namely, IFDM at Gazipur, Narela, Dwarka, and Madanpur Khadar; Passenger railway terminals at Anand Vihar, Narela, Dwarka and Tughlakabad; ISBTs at Anand Vihar, Narela, Dwarka, Tughlakabad and Sarai Kale Khan; second entry to Delhi main junction and New Delhi Railway Station should be executed and for this, there should be high level coordination with officers of DDA, Delhi Govt., Ministry of Surface Transport, NGOs and DTTG etc.

10. Construction of outer to outer ring road/expressway should be started. The cost of the project being huge, involvement of private sector and providing them incentives be considered.

11. NGOs/private citizens involvement in traffic discipline is necessary.

12. Land use pattern and policies be reconsidered.

13. Besides, MRTS and integrated freight complexes, new terminals etc. short term measures be studied, finalised and action taken so that existing infrastructure is optimally utilised.

14. Studies may be conducted so that the road based existing infrastructure is optimally utilised by phasing out slow moving pollutant factor modes of transport.

Pending Hydel Projects of U.P.

20. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Hydel Projects of Uttar Pradesh are pending for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Vishnu Prayag Hydel Project has also been pending with the Union Government;

(d) whether MOU and DPR have been provided to the Union Government regarding this project;

(e) whether the selection of executing agency (ICS) has been carried out as per specified norms;

(f) whether these have been scrutinised and found satisfactory; and

(g) the time by which the work is likely to be started on this hydel project?

[Translation]

India's Membership to UNSC

21. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US have supported permanent membership to India in the Security Council of United Nations Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to get the membership and the number of countries in favour of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). India took the initiative in 1992 in sponsoring the resolution 47/62 entitled "Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of Security Council", which was adopted by consensus. Similarly, India played a key role in the adoption of a follow-up resolution 48/26 in 1993. In pursuance of this resolution an open-ended Working Group of the UNGA has been established to consider all aspects of the question of an increase in the membership of the Security Council, and other matters related to the Council. The question of membership of individual countries is not being discussed at this stage in the Working Group.

Telephone Exchanges on Commission Basis

22. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The following Hydro-electric schemes are being examined in Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the project authorities:

	Installed Capacity (MW)
1. Gori Ganga St. III	140
2. Bowala Nand Prayag	132
3. Tapovan Vishungad	360
4. Vishnu Prayag	400

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). Government of Uttar Pradesh took a policy decision to entrust some new generating projects already identified for private sector, Vishnu Prayag Hydro-electric Project was under the starting stage of construction but the construction work was stopped due to paucity of funds. Therefore, proposals were invited from private entrepreneurs for executing the project. The offers received were scrutinised and placed before a Committee formed under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Committee held discussions with the representatives of the entrepreneurs and selected the suitable firm for execution of the project.

(g) Work on Vishnu Prayag Hydro-electric Project will start after clearance from Central Electricity Authority and signing of power purchase agreement with M/s. Jaiprakash Industries Limited.

(a) whether the Government have introduced any scheme to allow setting up of Telephone Exchanges on commission basis; and

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have decided to allow group EPABXs to be run by Private companies/ individuals in multi storeyed buildings under franchise scheme on commission basis.

(b) The details of the scheme are furnished in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

It has been decided now to permit private operators to install, maintain and operate indialling EPABXs under franchise to supplement the efforts of the Department of Telecom in providing telecom facilities to the public.

The salient features of this scheme are as under:

1. Application for licence under this scheme can be registered with local telecom authority on payment of Rs. 1,000/- (non-refundable) accompanied with specifications of the service proposed to be provided to users.

2. Only Electronic PABXs with minimum capacity of 128 ports and maximum of 1024 ports and interface approved by DOT will be permitted under this scheme.

3. Extensions from such EPABXs will be allowed within a multistoreyed

building or in the adjoining multi-storeyed buildings within a distance of 500 metres. EPABXs for non-multi-storeyed buildings located within a private compound having well defined limits with a peripheral wall or fence will also be permitted.

4. Applicant can be any individual or a firm or company or cooperative society or group housing society or owner of the building itself.

5. Outgoing junctions from the EPABX will be provided on out-of-turn priority basis under N-OYT-General category security deposit of Rs. 5,000/- per junction line will be charged.

6. Rental charges for junction lines as per DOT rates will be levied with no free calls. Calls will be charged @ Rs. 1.25 per call unit registered in the exchanges meter.

7. Annual licence fee for privately owned PABXs prescribed by DOT from time to time will be charged from the licensee.

8. On every outgoing junction, a commission of 20 paise per call unit upto 10,000 calls, 15 paise per call unit between 10,000 to 20,000 calls and 10 paise per call unit beyond 20,000 calls made during the period of one month will be paid to the licensee.

9. Licensee will be authorised to charge from the extension users a monthly rental upto a maximum of Rs. 100/-.

10. Extension users are not entitled for any free calls against the monthly rental and will be charged @ Rs. 1.25 per call unit at flat rate without any slabs.

11. Licencee can collect as registration charges from the intending users upto a maximum of Rs. 1,000 (non-interest bearing) to be adjusted in security deposit at the time of provision of telephone.

12. Licencee can collect a security deposit upto a maximum of Rs. 2500/- initially subject to revision in the second and third month depending upon the previous month's bill. After three months, the security deposit will be twice the average monthly bill subject to a minimum of Rs. 2500/- or any lesser amount that the licensee may like to charge.

13. Licencee will be allowed to charge additional facilities like plug and socket, plan instruments etc. at DOT rates.

14. Extension users will be permitted to use attachments like Cordless Telephones, FAX, Modem etc. on payment of prescribed licensee fee for these attachments in the DOT network. 10% of the revenue of licensee fee shall be paid to the licensee of EPABX.

15. Installation charges will be upto a maximum of Rs. 800/- Extension user will be allowed a rebate in installation charges at DOT rates if he opts to use his own instrument and arrange his own internal wiring.

Baby Food Processing Plants

23. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the milk plants processing baby food in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the total investment proposed to be made by entrepreneurs in the setting up of baby food processing plants in Uttar Pradesh in 1994-95?

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

(a) While there are four plants in UP which are capable of manufacturing Baby Food, only two are manufacturing Baby Food.

(b) Since delicensing of milk products industry, 36 IEMs have been received from UP which contain intention to produce Baby Food besides other milk products. As per available information, one project with an investment of Rs. 9.95 crores has been implemented.

[English]

Athreya Committee

24. SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of Athreya Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). The

recommendations of the Athreya Committee were considered by the Government and the same stand disposed in the light of the new Telecom Policy.

[Translation]

Export of Prawn

25. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received annually by the Government for setting up prawn processing units during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals pending with the union Government; and

(c) the steps being taken for their early clearance?

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

(a) Approval of the Government is not needed for setting up of prawn processing units. However the units are required to be registered with the Marine Products Export Development Authority after establishment. During the year 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 16, 31 and 32 units were registered in various States.

(b) No proposal for registration is pending with the Marine Products Export Development Authority for according registration.

(c) Does not arise.

TV Transmitters in Nainital and Garhwal

26. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of low power and high power TV transmitters functioning at present in districts Nainital and Garhwal of Uttar Pradesh, separately;

(b) whether these transmitters are sufficient for the population of these districts;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to set up more TV transmitters in these districts; and

(d) if so, the locations and the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Four low power TV transmitter (LPT)/very low power transmitters (VLPTs) in Nainital district and one LPT and transposer in Garhwal district are presently in operation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An LPT at Kotdwar in Garhwal district has been made technically ready. Besides, two VLPTs one each at Lansdown and Kaljikhil in Garhwal district and a low power transmitter (in replacement of the existing VLPT) at Haldwani in Nainital district, are under implementation. They are expected to be commissioned during 1994-95 subject to the availability of infrastructural facilities required for the purpose.

[English]

(c) the time by which the said offices are likely to be commissioned?

Sub-post Offices in Orissa

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

(a) whether the Government have finally sanctioned the ED Branch Post Offices and Sub-Post offices in the State of Orissa during the 1993-94 by now;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof, district-wise; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). During 1993-94, the Government have sanctioned 42 extra-departmental branch post offices and 4 departmental sub post offices in the State of Orissa. The district-wise details with locations are given in the *Statement* enclosed. All these post offices have been opened by 31.3.1994.

STATEMENT

Details of post offices sanctioned during 1993-94 in the State of Orissa, district-wise and category-wise

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of extra departmental branch post office	Name of departmental sub-post office
1	2	3	4
1.	Angul	Arikili	Deepasikha (NTPC Kaniha)
2.	Bhadrak	Badanuagaon	
3.	Cuttak	Kalyanpur Nuagaon	
4.	Dhenkanal	Baligorada	
5.	Ganjam	Tahar Kumaripari	
6.	Jajpur	Chitalo	
7.	Kendrapara	Dera	Lemalo
8.	Kalahandi	Birikote Badabafal Malkandel Sirmaska Kanderi Ranidumer	Boden
9.	Khurda		Dumduma Housing Colony

1	2	3	4
10.	Koraput	Chipakhar Sodabari Aunli	
11.	Keonjhar	Raighati Purujoda Jadichatar Silitia	
12.	Mayurbhanj	Salgaon Raghibpur Barehipani Begunia	
13.	Nowrangpur	Kumuli Dolabeda Chatiguda Parchipada	
14.	Nayagarh	Similishahi	
15.	Phulbani	Lusing Pokari Tekangia Kajuri Marlanga Majhipada	
16.	Puri	Sirei	
17.	Sambalpur	Talsara Nuadihi	
18.	Sundargarh	Chikatmati Sankraposh	

Demands of Pay-Phone Operators

28. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any Memorandums from 'All India Pay-Phone Operators' Welfare Association (Regd.), Delhi recently as well as during 1-1-1993 to 30-4-1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether any Conference of Pay-Phone Operators was held on 30-4-1994 and 1-5-1994 at Mavalankar Hall Auditorium, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the decisions taken and Resolutions passed, and

(f) the action taken by the Government for their implementation and the outcome thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. During the month of Jan. 1994, a memorandum was received from 'All India Pay-Phone Operators' Welfare Association (Regd.), Delhi.

(b) The issues raised in the Memorandum are:—

- (i) The demand of the MTNL for additional security deposit from the STD PCO franchisees is unjust;
- (ii) Interest should be paid on the security deposit held by MTNL; and
- (iii) Supply of computerised bills/print-outs to franchisees.

These demands were considered. In so far as (i) and (ii) are concerned, they are under consideration of Govt. and in respect of (iii), instructions have already been issued to supply computerised bills/print-outs to franchisees on demand.

(c) Govt. is not aware of any such conference of Pay-Phone Operator.

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

Foreign Companies in Power Sector

29. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister, during his visit to USA, invited NRIs and foreign companies to make investments in the power sector in India;

(b) whether any offers for investments in power sector have been received from them in response to that invitation; and

(c) the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). As on date, proposals have been received from US based Private companies for setting up of 22 Power projects for a total capacity addition of 11589 MW costing approx. Rs. 38122 crores.

Steel Plant at Vijayanagar

30. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to raise resources for the setting up of a Steel Plant at Vijayanagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Central Government has no proposal to raise resources for the setting up of a Steel Plant at Vijayanagar. The Central Government shareholding in Vijayanagar Steel Limited alongwith assets, liabilities and land have been

transferred to the State Government of Karnataka to facilitate the efforts of the State Government to set up a Steel Plant at Vijayanagar.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in U.P.

31. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in Gorakhpur of Uttar Pradesh where telephone connections have been sanctioned and O.B. numbers issued but connections have not been given so far; and

(b) the reasons therefor and the time by which such cases are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, A total of 168 cases for which OBs have been issued are pending installation.

(b) These OBs are pending due to technical non-feasibilities of the areas for which cables are being laid to make the areas feasible. The connections are likely to be given by September, 1994.

[English]

New Doordarshan/AIR Stations

32. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new Doordarshan and AIR stations set up during the last six months; and

(b) the capacity of each of the Doordarshan/AIR stations set up and the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). As given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

List of Doordarshan and AIR stations set up during the last six months along with their capacity and amount spent thereon

Location		Scheme	Expenditure upto March, 1994. (Figures in Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	
DOORDARSHAN			
1.	William Nagar (Meghalaya)	LPT 100W	52.16
2.	Siddipet (A.P.)	LPT 100W	52.33

	1	2	3
3.	Kamakhya Nagar (Orissa)	LPT 100W	7.08
4.	Deogarh (Orissa)	LPT 100W	14.34
5.	Navrangpur (Orissa)	LPT 100W	9.77
6.	Padampur (Orissa)	LPT 100W	14.79
7.	Padampuram (Orissa)	LPT 100W	*
8.	Atmakur (A.P.)	LPT 300W	72.21
9.	Bhuj (interim) 1 KW (Guj.)	HPT 1 KW	24.49
10.	Jabalpur (10 KW) (M.P.)	HPT 10 KW	375.16
11.	Metro Hyderabad (A.P.)	LPT 100W	2.62
12.	Mandya (Karnataka)	LPT 300W	66.32
13.	Washim (Maharashtra)	LPT 100W	51.86
14.	Acot (Maharashtra)	LPT 100W	52.01
15.	1 KW Metro Cuttack (Orissa)	HPT 1 KW	*
16.	Malkangiri (Orissa)	LPT 100W	48.29
17.	Bhuvan (Orissa)	LPT 100W	18.41
18.	Jaora (M.P.)	LPT 100W	52.43
19.	Khambat (Gujarat)	LPT 300W	59.54
20.	Metro, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	LPT 100W	7.22
21.	Bhuvaneshwar (Metro) (Orissa)	LPT 100W	*
22.	Kavaratti (Lakshadeep)	LPT 100W	*
23.	Kavaratti (Metro Channel)	VLPT 10W	*

ALL INDIA RADIO

1.	Bolangir (Orissa)	LRS with 3 KW FM Tr.	230.00
2.	Bhavanipatna (")	NRS with 2x100 KW MW Tr.	557.85
3.	Karavaratti (Lakshadeep)	NRS with 1 KW MW Tr.	110.85
4.	Panaji (Goa)	2x3 KW FM Tr. Stereo transmission service (New Channel)	14.24

1	2	3
5. Karwar (Karnataka)	LRS with 3 KW FM Tr.	230.32
6. Hamirpur (H.P.)	LRS with 2x3 KW FM Tr.	256.31
7. Nowgong (Assam)	LRS with 3 KW FM Tr.	226.00
8. Dharamshala (H.P.)	LRS with 2x5 KW FM Tr.	272.26
9. Iddukki (Kerala)	LRS with 2x3 KW FM Tr.	293.52
10. Dhule (Maharashtra)	LRS with 2x3 KW FM Tr.	237.27
11. Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)	LRS with 2x5 KW FM Tr.	393.18
12. Ahwa (Gujarat)	NRS with 1 KW MW Tr.	217.16
13. Ootacamund (T.N.)	NRS with 1 KW MW Tr.	237.58
14. Tuticorin (T.N.)	NRS with 2x100 KW MW Tr.	825.90

* No expenditure was reported till March, 1994.

Legend: HPT — High Power Transmitter
 LPT — Low Power Transmitter
 Tr. — Transmitter
 LRS — Local Radio Station
 NRS — New Radio Station
 VLPT — Very Low Power Transmitter

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges

33. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges to be commissioned during 1993-94;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges actually commissioned out of them;

(c) the time likely to be taken in utilisation of % capacity of these exchanges;

(d) whether there is any provision for monitoring before and the commissioning of the exchanges; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). As given in the *Statement-I* enclosed.

(c) As per the policy of the Department of 6 capacity utilisation is achieved at the time of missioning of telephone exchanges of capacity 2000 lines and above. However, there is no such restriction for small and medium capacity exchanges.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Details are given in the *Statement-II* enclosed.**STATEMENT-I****1. Telephone Exchanges (2000 lines and above):**

Exchanges planned to be commissioned during 1993-94 = 246 Nos.

Exchanges actually commissioned during 1993-94 = 565 Nos.

2. Small and Medium Capacity Telephone Exchanges

Exchange units planned to be commissioned during 1993-94 = 2295 Nos.

Exchange units actually commissioned during 1993-94 = 6085 Nos.

The commissioned exchanges/exchange units indicated above also include exchanges/exchange units outside the planned programme.

STATEMENT-II

Details are given as under as per the policy of the Department:-

1. A new small size telephone exchange is planned to be set up when the number of paid registered applicants reaches 10 or more at a place.

2. 60% of capacity utilisation is achieved at the time of commissioning and 92% within six months of commissioning, in case of exchanges of capacity 2000 lines and above. However, for small and medium capacity exchanges, there is no such restriction.

**World Cup Cricket Tournament,
1996**

34. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has been authorised to telecast all the matches of World Cup Cricket tournament to be held in 1996;

(b) whether any agreement has been reached between Doordarshan and World Tele-link in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the terms of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Yes Sir, Doordarshan has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with World Tel Inc; USA for the coverage of 1996 Cricket World Cup matches. While Doordarshan will be a co-producer for the coverage of the matches to be played in India, Doordarshan will have the exclusive live broadcast rights within India with respect to all forms of television, and radio, in respect to all World Cup matches. The fee payable to World Tel will be US \$ 47,50,000/-.

[English]

Power Project in Gujarat

35. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmedabad Electricity Company Limited has submitted any proposal for setting up a power project in Gujarat;

(b) the total amount involved in setting up of this project;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to the proposal; and

(d) to what extent electricity is likely to be generated on the completion of the project?

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

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

[English]

Dredging of Tuticorin Port

36. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the improvement made in Transport Tonnage in Tuticorin Port during 1992-93;

(b) whether there is any proposal for further dredging of the port; and

(c) if so, the benefits likely to be derived as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The tonnage handled at Tuticorin Port has been steadily increasing and traffic handled in the last 3 years is as follows:

	('000 Tonnes)
1990-91:	5075
1991-92:	5868
1992-93:	6215

(b) Yes, Sir. The techno-economic feasibility of further dredging is under study by the port.

(c) With further dredging the presently available draft of 8.24 M can be increased.

[Translation]

Relations with Bulgaria

37. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Bulgaria have recently signed any agreement;

(b) if so, the details of areas in which both the countries have signed such agreements;

(c) the terms and other details of the agreement; and

(d) the time by which the agreement is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) (a) Yes, Sir. Six Agreements were signed with Bulgaria on May 26, 1994 during President's visit to Bulgaria (26-29 May, 1994), namely, Agreement on Combating Organised Crime, International Terrorism, Illegal Trafficking in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances; Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation; Agreement on Tourism Cooperation; Agreement on Quarantine and Plant Protection; Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement; and, a Protocol for Consultations and Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria.

(b) to (d) A *Statement* is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The main features of the Agreements signed with Bulgaria are as follows:—

(i) The Agreement for Cooperation in Combating Organized Crime, International Terrorism and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs of India and the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria. It provides for exchange of information, regulations, fruits of research, equipment and experts for the purpose of combating international terrorism, narcotics, organized crime including economic offences, forgery, illegal arms deals etc.

(ii) The Protocol for Consultations and Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria provides for consultations at the level of Ministers, senior officials, delegations to the UN

and other international fora, Embassies and Consulates in third countries, on bilateral, regional and global issues.

(iii) The Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement is to be implemented by the Agricultural Ministries of both countries. This agreement provides for cooperation to preserve their territories from epizootics in case of exports, imports and transit of live animals, materials for animal reproduction, infectious diseases. It envisages exchange of information, regulations, experts as well as joint efforts at research, development and prevention.

(iv) The Agreement on Plant Protection and Quarantine is to be implemented by the Ministries of Agriculture of both countries. This Agreement provides for cooperation to prevent the penetration of diseases, pests and weeds on plants and plant products. It envisages joint action in issuing phyto sanitary certificates; exchange of information; monitoring import, export and transit of live plants, seeds, plant products with a view to control infectious diseases.

(v) The Agreement on Tourism Cooperation is to be implemented by the Departments of Tourism of both countries. It provides for joint tourism promotion and publicity; simplification of travel formalities; encouraging investment in tourism; exchange of information and personnel. This Agreement is to be monitored by a joint working group.

(vi) The Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation is to be implemented by the Ministries of Finance of both countries. This Agreement provides for protection of citizens from double taxation on incomes earned in their country from business, employment, athletic or artistic

performances and prevention of tax evasion. This is a basic agreement facilitating greater interaction, particularly between the business and entrepreneurial communities of both countries.

Whereas the Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations and Cooperation entered into force on 26 May, 1994, the other Agreements will come into effect after requirements of domestic legislation have been met in both countries. This process is expected to be completed in the near future.

Post Offices in Bihar

38. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets were fixed by the Government for opening of new post offices in Bihar during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of post offices opened during the above period district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The targets for opening of post offices in Bihar Circle for 1993-94 were:

Extra Departmental	—	90
Branch Offices		

and

Departmental Sub	—	8
Offices		

(c) The information is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Details of Post Offices opened during 1993-94 in Bihar

Sl. No.	Name of District	Extra Departmental Branch Office	Departmental Sub-Office
1.	Araria	1	—
2.	Aurangabad	—	—
3.	Banka	1	—
4.	Begusarai	—	—
5.	Bhabhua	1	—
6.	Bhagalpur	1	—
7.	Bhojpur	2	—
8.	B.S. City	1	—
9.	Buxar	2	—

Sl. No.	Name of District	Extra Departmental Branch Office	Departmental Sub-Office
10.	Chatra	1	—
11.	Darbhanga	1	—
12.	Deoghar	1	—
13.	Dhanbad	—	—
14.	Dumka	3	—
15.	East Champaran	1	—
16.	Garhwa	1	—
17.	Gaya	4	—
18.	Giridih	1	—
19.	Godda	1	—
20.	Gopalganj	—	—
21.	Gumla	7	—
22.	Hazaribagh	1	—
23.	Jahanabad	1	—
24.	Jamui	1	—
25.	Katihar	1	—
26.	Khagaria	2	—
27.	Kishanganj	1	—
28.	Lohardaga	5	—
29.	Madhepura	2	1
30.	Madhubani	1	—
31.	Moghyr	2	—
32.	Muzaffarpur	5	1
33.	Nalanda	1	—
34.	Nawada	2	—
35.	Patna	2	2
36.	Plamu	2	—
37.	Purnea	1	—
38.	Ranchi	4	—

Sl. No.	Name of District	Extra Departmental Branch Office	Departmental Sub-Office
39.	Rohtas	1	—
40.	Saharsa	2	1
41.	Saran	3	—
42.	Samastipur	3	—
43.	Singhbhum (East)	3	—
44.	Singhbhum (West)	4	—
45.	Sitamarhi	2	—
46.	Siwan	2	—
47.	Shahebganj	2	—
48.	Supaul	1	—
49.	Vaishali	2	—
50.	West Champaran	1	—
		90	5

[English]

and not State-wise. A Statement is attached.

Funds for Telecom System

STATEMENT

39. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds for development of telecom system for the year 1994-95 have been allotted; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

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

(b) Funds for development of Telecom system are allotted Circle-wise

(in crores of Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Amount Allotted
1.	Andhra Pradesh	412.00
2.	Assam	38.20
3.	Bihar	137.48
4.	Gujarat	277.07
5.	Haryana	74.68
6.	Himachal Pradesh	45.96

Sl. Name of No. the Circle	Amount Allotted
7. Jammu & Kashmir	14.68
8. Karnataka	308.00
9. Kerala	227.84
10. Maharashtra	468.00
11. Madhya Pradesh	278.74
12. North East	33.53
13. Orissa	50.00
14. Punjab	148.77
15. Rajasthan	210.80
16. Tamil Nadu	288.00
17. Uttar Pradesh	342.64
18. West Bengal	75.35
19. Calcutta Phones	118.99
20. Madras Phones	100.00
21. Eastern Project, Calcutta	127.03
22. Western Project, Bombay	133.00
23. Southern Project, Madras	162.00
24. Northern Project, New Delhi	149.82
25. Other ancillary units	66.02
Total	4288.60

Sickness in Food Processing Industries

40. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the food processing industries that are not functioning profitably in the country;

(b) the reasons for the sickness; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to revive the sick of food processing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Since the food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the number of all food processing industries not functioning profitably in the country, State-wise is not maintained centrally. However, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several Plan Schemes for providing assistance for developing food processing Industries during the 8th Plan which *inter-alia* include assistance to State Government Organisations / Co-operative/ Voluntary agencies / Joint sectors etc. for setting up or enlarging food processing facilities, developing backward linkages with farmers, marketing support, pork, poultry and other meat processing facilities, tuna and other fish processing facilities, deep sea fishing and processing, setting up of cold chain, research and development in food processing and packaging and training of manpower in certain sectors.

Indian Maritime University

41. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an autonomous body designated as Indian Maritime University;

(b) if so, the role assigned in the Government in the management of this University; and

(c) the status of the existing Marine Engineering Training Institute after the establishment of the Indian Maritime University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to establish Indian Maritime University with status of "Deemed University" consisting of the three Government Maritime Training Institutes, viz., T.S. 'Chanakya', New Bombay, Marine Engineering & Research Institute, Calcutta/Bombay and LBS College of Advanced Maritime Studies and Research, Bombay. The University will be an autonomous body. However, it is proposed to have representatives of the Government on the various bodies of the proposed University like Board of Governors, Executive Council, Academic Council and Examination Board.

(c) The Marine Engineering Training Institutes will form part of the proposed Indian Maritime University.

NAM Meet in Cairo

42. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NAM Foreign Ministers held a Conference in Cairo to discuss the role of NAM after the end of cold war;

(b) if so, the views expressed in that Conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). The Foreign Ministers of NAM countries met at the 11th Ministerial Conference held at Cairo from 31 May to 3 June 1994 to review the current international situation in all its political, economic and social dimensions. A *Statement* containing a copy of the Declaration issued after the Conference is enclosed which synthesises the views expressed at the Conference. Since India was represented at Ministerial level in the Conference and the Declaration was adopted by consensus, India shares the views expressed in the Declaration.

STATEMENT*The Cairo Declaration***"Meeting the Challenge"**

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Countries, meeting at their Eleventh Ministerial Conference in Cairo, Egypt, May 31-June 3, 1994, having reviewed the current international situation in all its political, economic and social dimensions, agreed that responding to the changes in international relations, represents the most important challenge

before the Movement in the years to come.

The fundamental principles of the Movement have stood the test of time. Its commitment to its ideals remains firm. The Movement is determined to build upon its achievements to seek the full participation of all in shaping the common destiny of human kind.

They were convinced that the International Community at the threshold of the Twenty First Century, must find an appropriate balance between the need for continuity and the imperative of change. It must address the contradiction between the evolving momentum towards international cooperation and economic integration, on the one hand, and the crippling effects of domestic and regional conflicts, on the other. It must also promote national security in wider terms, encompassing economic and social dimensions, common interests and shared responsibilities.

The Ministers were determined to closely coordinate their countries' approaches towards the global issues of international peace and security, colonization and occupation, disarmament, development, trade, poverty, human rights and the environment. They were resolved to ensure that the international response to these issues took into account the interests of the members of the Movement.

The Ministers were also determined to further strengthen South-South cooperation and to pursue North-South dialogue for promoting international economic cooperation for development based on mutuality of interests and benefit, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and partnership.

The Ministers reaffirmed the importance they accord to international cooperation in the area of social development. To this end, the Ministers agreed to recommend that the Heads of State/or Government attend the World Summit for Social Development to be held in Copenhagen in March, 1995.

The Ministers also reaffirmed the importance they accord to the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in Cairo in September, 1994 and the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing in September 1995, and were resolved to coordinate their efforts with a view to ensuring their successful outcome.

The Ministers were determined to continue enhancing the Movement's ability to respond to the new realities in order to attain its objectives while abiding by the fundamental principles of the Movement whose validity has been fully vindicated by current international realities.

They reaffirmed their belief that the United Nations, as the embodiment of multilateralism, has a unique opportunity to play a catalytic role in developing a more just, equitable, prosperous and secure world order.

They reiterated their commitment to the process of democratization of the United Nations and to enhancing the role and participation of the Non-Aligned Countries in the world body.

The Ministers were resolved to impart a new dynamism to the Movement to enable its members to enter the Twenty First Century as a vibrant and constructive force on the World Scene. They decided to continue to aim at

stimulating fresh approaches to old problems and devising collective creative responses to the new challenges in pursuance of their joint efforts to contribute to the definition and realization of a new world order which must rest on the twin pillars of peace and development.

Telephone Connections in Delhi

43. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is imperative to install telephone connection within one month of issue of OB numbers;

(b) whether the Government have issued large number of OBs in February-March 1994 for Chanakyapuri and Kidwai Bhavan Exchanges in Delhi;

(c) whether all the telephone connections have been installed within the stipulated period of one month;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether telephones at the above exchanges have not been provided according to the seniority of date of booking; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, generally the telephones are provided within one month of issue of OB except where area is not technically feasible. Nearly 75% telephones are provided within the DOT norms after issue of OB.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Except where either the area is technically not feasible or due to subscriber reasons viz. Party not available or subscriber requesting for keeping the matter pending.

(d) About 1214 OBs are pending for execution due to areas being technically not feasible. These connections are being provided progressively after the areas become feasible.

(e) Seniority of booking is adhered for providing the telephone connections except for technically non-feasible cases.

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

T.V. Studio At Vijayawada

44. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been abnormal delay in the construction of TV Studio at Vijayawada;

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the steps taken to go ahead with the construction of TV Studio at Vijayawada;

(c) the likely date by which the work is likely to commence and completed; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

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

DEO): (a) to (d). The TV Studio at Vijayawada was included in a scheme of "setting up of TV centres at cultural centres" under the 7th Plan. However, due to constraint of resources, the scope of the scheme was reviewed, thereby delaying its implementation. The project has since been approved in principle by the competent authority, and the concerned authorities have been asked to contain the total cost of the project around Rs. 10 crores. Work is likely to commence for construction of TV Studio at Vijayawada during 1994-95 and the project is likely to be completed by 1996-97.

New Atomic Power Plant

45. SHRI RAJ NARAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated per megawatt expenditure involved in the generation of power at a fixed capacity in a new Atomic Power Plant in comparison to a old plant;

(b) the per megawatt estimated cost of power transmissions;

(c) the per megawatt investment of the consumption point in comparison to hydel power plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The capital cost of a nuclear power plant depends on several factors such as the technology adopted, year of commissioning, financing pattern, interest and inflation rates. Among the atomic power projects under construction, the capital cost of Kaiga Atomic Power Project with a capacity of 2x200 MW scheduled to be commissioned

during 1996 is estimated at about Rs. 3.61 crores per megawatt (MW) including escalation upto completion and excluding interest during construction (IDC). The IDC, based on a debt equity ratio of 2:1, is estimated at about Rs. 1.56 crores/MW for this project.

(b) Cost of Power transmission depends on various factors such as quantum of Power generated and rating of transmission voltage, total transmission length, type of terrain through which the transmission line passes, number of substations involved etc. and therefore, no specific cost of Power transmission can be estimated.

The cost of transmission varies from project to project depending on the factors stated above.

(c) and (d). Investment at the consumption point also varies considerably depending on the concentration and type of load and different distribution voltage supply systems. The cost of transmission of power and the additional investment to the point of consumption from an atomic power plant are, however, no different from a thermal or hydel station.

Ramagundam, Kalpakkam and Neyveli Power Units

46. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power produced by Ramagundam, Kalpakkam and Neyveli Power units during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) the criteria for distribution of power from these units;

(c) the quantum of power supplied to each State during this period from these units;

(d) whether any complaint of over drawing of power by any State has been received by the Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of major incidents of power breakdown in Southern region and the steps taken to improve the power grids in that region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The quantum of actual power produced by Ramagundam, Kalpakkam and Neyveli power stations during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given below:—

Name of TPS	Quantum of Power 1992-93	Generation during 1993-94 (MU)
Ramagundam S.T.P.S.	12384	14593
Kalpakkam (Nuclear)	1976	1389
Neyveli	8317	9397
Total	22677	25379

(b) The power generated at Central Sector stations in Southern Region viz. Ramagundam STPS, Kalpakkam APS and Neyveli-II TPS is distributed among beneficiaries as per the allocation made

by Government of India. Full output of Neyveli-I TPS is allocated in Tamil Nadu. The allocation for other stations is as under:—

State/U.T.	Ramagundam STPS (2100 MW) Share in MW (%)	Kalpakkam APS (470 MW) Share in MW (%)	Neyveli Second Mine cut	
			Stage-I (630 MW) Share (%)	Stage-II (840 MW) Share (%)
Andhra Pradesh	580 MW (27.6%)	40 MW (8.5%)	97 MW (15.4%)	180 MW (21.4%)
Karnataka	345 MW (16.4%)	30 MW (6.4%)	84 MW (13.3%)	115 MW (13.7%)
Kerala	245 MW (11.6%)	25 MW (5.3%)	63 MW (10.0%)	90 MW (10.7%)
Tamil Nadu	470 MW (22.4%)	350 MW (74.5%)	176 MW (28.0%)	265 MW (31.5%)
NLC	—	—	50 MW (7.9%)	50 MW (6.0%)

State/U.T.	Ramagundam STPS (2100 MW) Share in MW (%)	Kalpakkam APS (470 MW) Share in MW (%)	Neyveli Second Mine cut	
			Stage-I (630 MW) Share (%)	Stage-II (840 MW) Share (%)
Pondicherry	50 MW (2.4%)	5 MW (1.1%)	65 MW (10.3%)	15 MW (1.8%)
Goa	100 MW (4.8%)	—	—	—
Unallocated	310 MW (14.8%)	20 MW (4.2%)	95 MW (15.1%)	125 MW (14.9%)

(c) to (e). Details of entitlement *vis-a-vis* actual drawal of various States/UTs from Central sector stations in Southern Region, *viz.* Ramagundam STPS,

Kalpakkam APS and Neyveli 2nd mine cut (st. I & II) during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under:—

State/UT	April '92–March '93 (MU)		April '93–March '94 (MU)	
	Entitlement	Drawal	Entitlement	Drawal
Andhra Pradesh	5017	6783	6065	7752
Karnataka	3538	3609	4226	3509
Kerala	2334	1039	2843	2087
Tamil Nadu (including NLC and Pondicherry)	6579	5845	7255	7060
Goa	217	217	358	339

During 1992-93, 1993-94 as well as during April '94 Andhra Pradesh availed more than their entitlement from Central sector power stations in the Southern Region. Efforts have been made to reduce overdrawal.

(f) There were two partial breakdowns during 1992-93, they occurred on 3/1/1993 and 17/2/1993 in which Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

were affected. During 1993-94, a partial breakdown occurred on 7.9.1993 resulting in failure of supply in Karnataka and parts in Tamil Nadu. During this year there was operational breakdown on 2.6.1994 resulting in black out in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The grid disturbances of 1992-93 & 1993-94 were enquired into by Committees/SREB and special action were taken based on their recommendations.

Dabhol Power Project*[Translation]*

47. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ENRON Development Corporation had submitted representation for a counter guarantee sometime back;

(b) if so, whether the same has not been finalised so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether delay in giving counter guarantee for Dabhol Power Project in Maharashtra has affected adversely the ENRON financial plans; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to solve the issue?

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

(b) and (c). The matter is under finalisation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

T.V. Transmitters in Gujarat

48. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of T.V. Transmitters of various capacities sanctioned and installed in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the locations thereof and the cost of each project;

(c) whether any new proposal is lying pending for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether metro channel facility is to be provided to Gujarat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The requisite details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) and (d). The proposals for setting up of the high power transmitters (HPTs) at Vadodara, Surat and Palitana are pending the formal approval of the competent authority and availability of adequate resources.

(e) and (f). A low power transmitter (LPT) for relay of Metro channel programmes of Doordarshan is in operation at Ahmedabad.

STATEMENT*I. TV Transmitters (LPTs/VLPTs) sanctioned in Gujarat under Annual Plan 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94*

Sl. No.	Location	Transmitter and Power	Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Dharangadhara	LPT 100W	89.65
2.	Mahuva	LPT 300W (UHF)	101.34
3.	Nakhtharana	LPT 300W (UHF)	101.34
4.	Rapar	LPT 300W (UHF)	101.34
5.	Mongrol (Junagarh)	LPT 300W (UHF)	111.27
6.	Idar	LPT 100W	89.65
7.	Diesa	LPT 100W	100.70
8.	Palitana	LPT 100W	100.70
9.	Rajula	LPT 100W	100.70
10.	Sanjeli	LPT 100W	100.70
11.	Khambalia	LPT 100W	100.70
12.	Amod	LPT 300W (UHF)	111.27
13.	Mongrol (Surat)	LPT 300W (UHF)	111.27
14.	Jagadia	LPT 300W (UHF)	111.27
15.	Natrang	VLPT 10W	77.65
16.	Devgarh Baria	VLPT 10W	77.65
17.	Ahmedabad (for Metro Service)	LPT 100W	33.74

II. TV Transmitters Commissioned during the last three years in Gujarat

1.	Bhuj	HPT 1 KW (interim set-up)	331.60
2.	Khambhat	LPT 300W (UHF)	101.34
3.	Ahmedabad (for Metro Service)	LPT 100 W	33.74

Legend:

HPT – High Power Transmitter

LPT – Low Power Transmitter

VLPT – Very Low Power Transmitter

[English]

Inflated Bills of M.Ps.

49. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received from M.Ps. regarding inflated telephone bills in Delhi during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken thereon;

(d) whether there is any special cell in the department to detect the mischief played by the telecommunication staff where the telephone calls made by some other persons are included in the bills of the genuine telephone owners;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f). The required information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Ltd.

50. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total plan outlay for Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Limited (HDPEL) during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) the break-up, year-wise;

(c) whether the sanctioned allocation for 1993-94 has not been released so far;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reason for reduction in the non-plan support of HDPEL during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The total Plan outlay for Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers (HDPE) Limited during the Eighth Plan period is Rs. 15.00 crores.

(b) The break-up for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as follows:—

Rs. in Crores		
1992-93 Amount Approved	1993-94 Amount Approved	1994-95 Amount Approved
0.58	2.31	0.02

The break-up for 1995-96 and 1996-97 has not been decided.

(c) and (d). Out of Rs. 2.31 crores approved for 1993-94 for Plan schemes only a sum of Rs. 1.64 crores was released as the other schemes given by Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Limited were not found technically acceptable.

(e) As a decision on the future of this chronically sick Unit is under the consideration of the Government, only a sum of Rs. 1.00 crore was allocated.

Relief for Film Industry

51. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Relief for film industry" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated 13.5.94;

(b) if so, whether the film makers at a session on film censorship in the capital have urged greater reliefs for the film industry to enable them to make good and clean films; and

(c) if so, the details of the reliefs Government propose to render to film industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the newsitem captioned "Relief for film industry sought" which appeared in the Statesman dated 13.5.1994.

(b) Yes, Sir. The film makers asked for the following reliefs for the film industry in the meeting held by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting on 11.5.1994:

- (i) Grant of institutional finance;
- (ii) Relief in Entertainment Tax;
- (iii) Removal of countervailing duty on raw film stock;

(iv) Checking of video piracy; and

(v) Removal of Section 285-B of the Income Tax Act.

(c) Action taken/proposed to be taken in respect of each of the aforementioned demands is given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT*(i) Grant of Institutional Finance:*

The demand was earlier examined by the Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI). It was observed that while there was no restriction on the banks granting loans to the film related sector, this was not a priority sector for the banks. Moreover, due to uncertainty about the success of a film which depends on several factors, banks generally do not risk in pooling their resources in this sector. The same is the case with financial institutions at national and State levels. Besides, these institutions also do not have the expertise to evaluate a film project to assess its marketability and the returns. IDBI, however, provides financial assistance to film processing laboratories and for projects for cinema equipment. The units engaged in film related activities are also eligible for refinance and are, therefore, eligible for modernisation assistance also.

(ii) Relief in Entertainment tax:

The subject matter falls within the purview of the State Government and the Union Territory Administrations. However, the issue of keeping the Entertainment Tax rates low had been considered and accepted for adoption by the State Information Ministers' Conference held in

1990. The implementation of this resolution will be discussed in the next conference of State Ministers, scheduled to be held towards the end of June, 1994.

(iii) *Removal of countervailing duty on raw film stock:*

The issue had been earlier taken up with CBDT. However, this has not so far been acceded to by the Ministry of Finance.

(iv) *Checking of Video Piracy:*

The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, recently passed by the Parliament gives more teeth to the existing provisions of the law. It is hoped that with the amended Act, the incidence of video piracy will decline to a great extent.

(v) *Removal of Section 285-B of the Income Tax Act:*

The Ministry of Finance has been requested to do the needful to redress the grievance of the film industry.

Privatisation of Telegram Facility

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

(a) whether the Government propose to handover booking and delivery of telegrams to private individuals on commission basis in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether many postal employees would be rendered surplus as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the steps to be taken to avoid retrenchment of postal employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Franchising of the booking and delivery of telegrams has been ordered on experimental basis in Karnataka Telecom Circle.

(b) In order to have wider penetration of the telegraph service and provide easy accessibility to the customers, the franchising of telegraph services are being experimented.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Energy Management Centre

53. DR. K.D. JESWANJI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Energy Management Centre is working in Gujarat;

(b) if not, whether there is any plan to provide financial assistance to Gujarat for setting up of an Energy Management Centre; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). One organisation, viz., Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA), set up by the Government of Gujarat, is functioning in the State. There is no separate Energy Management Centre in that State.

UN Mediation on Kashmir Issue

54. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have seen press reports to the effect that Government of India may not averse to the mediation by U.N. authorities on Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the Union Government's stand in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). Government's consistent position remains unchanged, *i.e.*, that under the Simla Agreement all differences with Pakistan are to be resolved bilaterally and there can be no scope for any outside or third party involvement of any sort. This has been conveyed to the international community on several occasions and at various levels.

Manganese Ore India Limited

55. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL) has been requested by the Government of Maharashtra to take over its loss making Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Limited (MSMC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Manganese Ore (India) Limited has asked for certain clarifications regarding existing financial health, manpower etc. from Maharashtra State Mining Corporation.

Inland Water Transport in A.P.

56. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount provided to Andhra Pradesh by the Union Government for the development of Inland Water Transport during the Eighth Five Year Plan, so far; and

(b) the details of work carried out so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) In the Eighth Five Year Plan, no separate outlay has been made in the Central Budget for the development of Inland Water Transport in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Theft of Cables

57. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news

item captioned "Cable Chori Ke Karan Sai karon Telephone Bekar" appearing in Rastriya Sahara dated May 12, 1994; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

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

(b) The steps taken are as follows:—

- (i) Patrolling of Cable routes has been intensified.
- (ii) FIR has been lodged and close co-ordination with police authorities is maintained.

Distribution of Electricity

58. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation propose to curtail the supply of electricity to some of the States on the suggestion of the World Bank;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The covenants entered into by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) with the World Bank provide that the receivables from the beneficiary State

Electricity Boards do not exceed the equivalent of two months billing and to this end NTPC would have to regulate supplies to such States that persistently default in making full payments for electricity drawn.

(c) The Government of India has directed the Central Electricity Authority and the Regional Electricity Boards/Load Despatch Centres to devise a system for regulating supply of power to State commensurate with the payments made by them.

[English]

Telephone to Panchayats in U.P.

59. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for installing telephone connections in the Panchayats;

(b) the number of Panchayats where such telephones were installed in each district of Agra Zone during the last two years upto December 31, 1993;

(c) the number of such connections proposed to be provided during 1994-95;

(d) the number of complaints received by the Government regarding defect/malfunctioning of the telephones during the above period and the action taken on each complaint;

(e) whether there is any provision for repairing the defective telephones installed in the Panchayats;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The criterion laid down for installation of telephone connections in the Panchayats is to provide one Public Telephone in each Panchayat Village in the country by 31st March 1995. The actual location is in (i) Post Office, or (ii) Panchayat HQ, or Grocer's shop or any other suitable place, easily accessible to public.

(b) The details are as under:—

Name of District	92-93	93-94
Agra	246	333
Aligarh	262	115
Etah	92	22
Ferozabad	57	11
Mathura	92	10
Mainpuri	130	—
Total	879	491

(c) The details are as under:—

Name of District	Target
Agra	157
Aligarh	300
Etah	400
Ferozabad	300
Mathura	200
Mainpuri	200
Total	1557

(d) The details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. The Panchayat telephones functioning on open wire lines are attended by the maintenance staff and the routine faults are rectified as and when they come to notice. In case of heavy breakdown due to storms or theft of line material the repairs are undertaken after arranging the stores.

In the case of Panchayat telephones functioning on MARR, faults are generally due to development of fault in base station equipment and in the equipment located at Panchayat Village. As the maintenance staff are not fully trained to attend to such faults, very often help of suppliers is taken to rectify the defects.

(g) and (h). Question does not arise in view of (e) and (f) above.

[Translation]

Indian Missions/Embassies

60. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries in which Indian Embassies/Missions are not existing at present;

(b) the countries in which Indian Embassies are proposed to be opened in near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A list containing the names of the countries in which Indian Embassies/Missions are not existing is given in the *Statement*.

(b) and (c). The opening of a new Embassy/Mission in countries where presently there is no Indian diplomatic presence, is decided in the context of existing political, economic, commercial and other requirements. These factors are constantly and regularly reviewed and as and when found favourable, a decision is taken to open a new Mission. Presently, no formal decision has been taken to open a new Embassy in the near future.

STATEMENT

Names of the countries in which resident Indian Missions do not exist:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Benin | 18. Malawi |
| 2. Burkina Faso | 19. Mali |
| 3. Burundi | 20. Niger |
| 4. Cameroon | 21. Rwanda |
| 5. Cape Verde Islands | 22. Sao Tome & Principe |
| 6. Central African Republic | 23. Sierra Leone |
| 7. Chad | 24. Swaziland |
| 8. Comoros | 25. Togo |
| 9. Congo | 26. Zaire |
| 10. Equatorial Guinea | 27. The Bahamas |
| 11. Eritrea | 28. Cook Islands |
| 12. Gabon | 29. Marshall Islands |
| 13. Gambia | 30. Nauru |
| 14. Guinea | 31. New Caledonia |
| 15. Guinea Bissau | 32. Society Islands |
| 16. Lesotho | 33. Tonga |
| 17. Liberia | 34. Tuvalu |
| | 35. Fiji |
| | 36. Kiribati |
| | 37. Papua New Guinea |
| | 38. Solomon Islands |
| | 39. Vanuatu |
| | 40. Western Samoa |
| | 41. Azerbaijan |
| | 42. Albania |
| | 43. Armenia |
| | 44. Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| | 45. Croatia |
| | 46. Estonia |
| | 47. Georgia |
| | 48. Latvia |
| | 49. Lithuania |

50. Moldova
51. Slovak Republic
52. Slovenia
53. The Holy See
54. Iceland
55. Liechtenstein
56. Luxemburg
57. Monaco
58. San Marino
59. Antigua & Barbuda
60. Barbados
61. Belize
62. Bolivia
63. Cayman Islands
64. Colombia
65. Costa Rica
66. Commonwealth of Dominica
67. Dominican Republic
68. Ecuador
69. El Salvador
70. Grenada
71. Guatemala
72. Haiti
73. Honduras
74. Netherlands Antilles
75. Paraguay
76. St Christopher and Nevis
77. St Lucia
78. St Vincent and the Grenadines
79. Turks and Caicos Islands
80. Uruguay
81. Taiwan

82. Djibouti
83. Mauritania
84. Somalia
85. Gibraltar

Obscenity in Films

61. SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHARY:
SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI RAM VILAS
PASWAN:
SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
SHRI DHARMANNA MON-
DAYA SADUL:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA
DEVISINGH PATIL:
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

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

(a) whether a broad-based meeting was held in New Delhi on May 11, 1994 to consider the problems of growing vulgarity and obscenity in films;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the view-points expressed by the participants at the meeting; and

(c) the effective measures taken or proposed to be taken to implement the suggestions made at the meeting in this regard?

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

(b) The meeting was attended by lady Members of Parliament, members of the consultative Committee of MPs attached to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, members of the National Commission for Women, Chairman and Members of the Censor Board, representatives of the film industry and cable TV operators' associations and media critics.

The meeting discussed matters relating to film censorship against the background of the growing concern in Parliament about the adverse effects on society of the display of sex and violence in films and on Television. The unanimous opinion that emerged at the meeting was that the rising trend of sex and vulgarity in films, especially in film songs shown on Doordarshan, and excessive violence in films should be arrested forthwith. Most participants including Hon. MPs discussed the functioning and role played by the Central Board of Film Certification in this recent trend in Indian Cinema and called for stricter implementation of censor laws, greater vigilance, revamping of the Censor Board and its advisory panels. Views were expressed for and against having a man from the film industry as Chairman of the Censor Board. The Chairman of the Censor Board pointed out that in the past certain songs were shown on Doordarshan even before the concerned films were certified. This has now been stopped. The difficulties being faced by the film industry, namely, the rising challenge of the small screen that made theatres uneconomical, high incidence of entertainment tax and a lack of any institutional support for films that fail at the box office, were also expressed. A view was also expressed that the industry be freed from censorship laws and the producers/directors made directly responsible for controlling vulgarity in films through self-censorship.

(c) Steps have been taken to ensure that uncertified songs are not shown on the small screen. The Indian High Commission in Hongkong has been approached to impress on the Hongkong authorities to advise STAR TV to desist from telecasting towards India, songs and clips from Hindi films that have not been certified by the Censor Board. Instructions have also been issued to the Central Board of Film Certification to ensure that guidelines especially relating to sex and violence are strictly adhered to, so that certified films do not attract charges of obscenity and excessive violence. Efforts will also be made to increase the representation of women upto 50 per cent while reconstituting the Board and its advisory panels.

As regards Television, Doordarshan programmes are exempted from censorship. However, Doordarshan has decided not to accept any film based material for telecast unless it bears a certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification. In addition, the preview procedure for programmes to be telecast on Doordarshan-II and Doordarshan-I have been tightened. In non-film based programmes, scenes which offend public decency or those not produced in conformity with the broadcast code are deleted before telecast.

Chamera Power Project

62. SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first phase in the construction of Chamera project under the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation is on Schedule;

(b) whether the construction cost of this project has ascalated several times as compared to the original cost;

(c) if so, the extent of escalation in the cost;

(d) whether the Government have inquired into the causes for such escalation;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the per megawatt cost of power generation likely to be incurred under this project; and

(g) the extent by which the said cost is more than the general hydel power generation cost so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Construction of the first stage of Chamera Hydro-electric Project, comprising of three units of 180 MW each has been completed in March, 1994 as against the original commissioning schedule of March, 1990.

(b) and (c). The construction cost of the project, including its associated transmission system, has increased from Rs. 809.29 crores to Rs. 2400 crore.

(d) and (e). The escalation in the cost of the project has been due mainly to the additional time taken for completion of civil works on account of unforeseen geological problems leading to price escalation as well as increased liability on borrowed capital. Besides, the project having been executed with financial assistance from Canada, exchange rate variations have also contributed to the escalation in cost.

(f) The cost per MW of installed capacity at Chamera works out to Rs. 4.44 crore.

(g) The per MW cost of hydel power plant depends on a number of factors including the location and type of project, the magnitude of civil works involved and the pattern/source of financing.

[English]

Rajdhani Channel Service

63. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced a new postal service 'Rajdhani Channel' between Delhi and various State capitals;

(b) if so, the names of the State capitals which are linked with Delhi under the said postal service;

(c) the main features of the new postal service;

(d) whether any additional charge would be collected for the said postal service; and

(e) if so, the amount thereof?

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

(b) Lucknow, Ahmedabad, Shimla, Jaipur, Bhopal and Chandigarh.

(c) The scheme envisages expeditious transmission and delivery within 48 hours, of Pin-Coded first class letter mail posted in Delhi for above State Capitals and *vice-versa*. Such mails will be separated at the stage of initial handling and then exclusively sorted and despatched. The Department is exploring the feasibility of extending the scheme to other State Capitals also in the next phase.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Programmes

64. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan programmes in certain areas of Uttar Pradesh are not clearly visible;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether the Government propose to install high power TV Transmitters in these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). While the State of Uttar Pradesh is, at present, terrestrially covered to the extent of 79.0% by area and 92.4% by population, the TV reception at certain places of Uttar Pradesh may not be satisfactory mainly due to the local

terrain conditions and intervening distance from the TV transmitters.

(c) and (d). 41 TV transmitters of various power ratings, which *inter alia* includes high power transmitters at Banda, Mau, Lakhimpur, Balrampur and Sitapur; are under implementation/ envisaged to be set up in the State.

Doordarshan Transmission in Madhya Pradesh

65. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of district headquarters in Madhya Pradesh, which have not been covered under the Doordarshan transmission scheme so far and also those where Doordarshan programmes are not clearly visible;

(b) the details of the work-plan to make available Doordarshan transmissions in those areas and also to ensure clear transmission in the areas where these are not clearly visible;

(c) the time by which this work plan is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the time by which a T.V. transmitter is likely to be set up in Ujjain to provide clear transmission of Doordarshan programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Terrestrial transmission is, at present, available wholly or partially to all the districts of Madhya Pradesh. With a view to strengthen TV coverage, 3 more High Power Transmitters (HPTs)

and 19 Low Power/Very Low Power Transmitters (LPTs/VLPTs) are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State. These LPTs/VLPTs are expected to be ready in phases during 1994-95 and 1995-96 subject to timely supply of equipment and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose. The lead time involved in commissioning of HPTs is 3-4 years after commencement of civil work.

(d) Ujjain lies within the coverage of zone of the HPT at Indore. There is, therefore no scheme to set up a TV transmitter there.

Irregularities in M.T.N.L.

66. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Telephone Nigam Ka 119 crore doobkhate Mein" (119 crore rupees of Telephone Nigam in bad-debts) appearing in the Rashtriya Sahara dated May 11, 1994;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

Broadcasting/Telecasting Code

67. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the broadcasting/telecasting code for All India Radio and Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Not at present, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Power Projects

68. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects cleared during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan period so far, State-wise;

(b) the extent of power generated/proposed to be generated through the power projects cleared during the said period and the estimated and actual cost of these projects; and

(c) the total number of power projects pending for clearance with the Union Government for the last one year?

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

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

[English]

Power Crisis

69. SHRI LAL BAHADUR
RAWAL:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Power Crisis in northern States likely" appearing in the Statesman dated May 18, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the row between NTPC and UPSEB is going to create power crisis in the capital as well as in other northern States; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the row and to maintain power supply position in the northern States?

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

(b) and (c). The power supply to Delhi and other Northern States from NTPC Stations is expected to be affected as long as UPSEB limit the drawal of power commensurate with the payment. UPSEB has been persuaded to do so.

UPSEB has given a commitment to increase the limit of Letter of Credit to Rs. 84 crores from existing Rs. 72 crores and make cash payment for excess drawal.

With the SEBs agreeing to limit drawal commensurate with the payment, power supply from NTPC Stations to the Northern States will be adequately maintained.

Quality Control on Export

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

(a) the details of the processed foods that are exported, particularly from Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to monitor the quality of these processed food items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). The items of processed food that are normally exported comprised fruits and vegetable products (canned meat, frozen and chilled meat and cagings), poultry products, marine products etc. The State-wise data of exports are not maintained in the Ministry. The quality control is monitored under the Export (Quality and Inspection Control Act) 1963 (22 of 1963). The Act is monitored by Export Inspection Agency, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, State Governments etc. Self Certification has also been introduced for big export houses who possess facilities for testing and other requirements.

[Translation]

Policy to educate population growth on Electronic Media

71. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to educate people through electronic media to put a check to the rising population;

(b) whether steps have been taken to educate the people through electronic media about agrotechnology and cottage industries; and

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

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

(c) All the Stations and Kendras of AIR and Doordarshan regularly broadcast/telecast programmes on family welfare, agro-technology and cottage industries, in different formats, including putting out spots at prime time, to ensure widest coverage of these programmes among the people.

Offer of Russian Mediation on Kashmir Issue

72. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russian Government have offered to mediate to solve the Kashmir dispute under Shimla agreement; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Modernisation of Major Ports

73. SHRI TARA SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the modernisation programme of major ports;

(b) the allocations earmarked for the modernisation of ports during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) whether the assistance of any foreign firm is likely to be sought in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):
(a) The modernisation programme of Major Ports includes replacement of old and obsolete assets like cargo handling equipment, floating crafts, etc., modernisation of existing facilities like Jetties/Berths etc., where feasible, and creation/provision of additional handling facilities for bulk/break bulk cargos and containers.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 2984 crores has been provided for various development schemes included in the 8th Plan 1992-97 for Major Ports.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. In 8th Five Year Plan, it is envisaged to induct private sector participation, including by foreign firms, in Port Sector.

Ministers visit to Foreign countries

74. SHRI CHANDRESH
PATEL:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Union Ministers have visited some foreign countries during May, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the issue discussed with each country and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of the protocols and agreements signed, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The information is as per *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

- (1) Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister for Home Affairs
- (2) Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism
- (3) Shri Arvind Netam, Minister of State for Agriculture and Cooperation
- (4) Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of State for External Affairs.

They all accompanied President on his State visits to Bulgaria from May 26-29, 1994 and Romania from May 30 to June 2, 1994.

In addition to participating in the delegation level talks in the two countries, these Ministers also held talks on furthering cooperation in their respective spheres of competence with their Bulgarian and Romanian counterparts.

Six agreements were signed in Sofia with Bulgaria. These were as given below:

- (i) Agreement on Combating Organised Crime, International Terrorism, Illegal Trafficking in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances.
- (ii) Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation.
- (iii) Agreement on Tourism Cooperation.
- (iv) Agreement on Quarantine and Plant Protection.
- (v) Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement.
- (vi) Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations and Cooperation.

Three agreements were signed with Romania. These were as given below:

- (i) Agreement on Combating Organised Crime, International Terrorism, Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances and other Illegal Activities.

- (ii) Agreement on Cooperation on Tourism.
- (iii) Declaration of Principles and Directions on Cooperation.

The Cultural Exchange Programme for 1994-96 was also signed with Romania.

These visits contributed to better understanding and improvement of bilateral relations with Bulgaria and Romania.

- (5) Shri Arjun Singh, Minister for Human Resource Development.
- (6) Ms. Selja, Deputy Minister for Culture.

Shri Arjun Singh, Minister for Human Resource Development visited China from May 7 to 11, 1994 and Ms. Selja, Deputy Minister for Culture from May 14 to 21, 1994. Visit by these two Ministers was in connection with the Festival of India in China which was inaugurated on May 9, 1994 in Beijing. Human Resource Development Minister, Shri Arjun Singh, called on Chinese Premier Li Peng. The two sides discussed the improvement of India-China relations and specifics with regard to the Festival of India.

No agreements/protocols were signed during this visit.

The visit contributed to better understanding and improvement of bilateral relations with China.

- (7) Dr. Balram Jakhar, Minister for Agriculture and Cooperation.

He paid a visit to Japan as leader of the Indian delegation to attend the

World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction held in Yokohama, Japan, from May 23 to 27, 1994.

No agreements/protocols were signed during the visit.

- (8) Shri R.L. Bhatia, Minister of State for External Affairs.

Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri R.L. Bhatia, visited Cairo (Egypt) twice in May, 1994. The first visit on May 4, 1994 was to participate in the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Palestinian Agreement and the second visit was to lead India's delegation to NAM Foreign Minister's Meeting from May 30 to June 3, 1994. Minister of State for External Affairs held a brief meeting with President Mubarak on May 4, 1994 and also met his counterpart, Amre Moussa, with whom he raised the question of Pakistan based terrorism which is threatening several countries and impressed upon him the need to pressurise Pakistan to curtail these activities.

- (9) Shri E. Kamaluddin Ahmed, Minister of State for Commerce.

He accompanied the Vice-President on his visit to South Africa during May, 1994 for Presidential inauguration.

- (10) Shri Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister
- (11) Shri Manmohan Singh, Minister of Finance
- (12) Shri Salman Khursheed, Minister of State for External Affairs

- (13) Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi,
Minister of State in Prime
Minister's Office

The Three Ministers accompanied the Prime Minister on his official working visit to the United States during the month of May, 1994.

A wide range of issues of common concern, including those relating to national security, bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest were discussed. The US side demonstrated great support and optimism for India's economic reforms and the new avenues this had opened up to broaden bilateral cooperation particularly in the area of trade and investment. Both sides agreed to ensure that existing differences did not overshadow the potential for greater cooperation. It was decided to expand the pace and scope of high-level exchanges, to seek ways to extend cooperation at the UN and to cooperate in the search for solutions to global challenges.

Two MOUs were signed during the visit, one on Cooperative Measures to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production, Distribution and Use of Illegal drugs; and another on Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites. A Joint Statement was also issued calling for a new partnership between India and the US.

14. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for
Commerce

Shri Mukherjee visited Italy in May 30 - June 1, 1994 for a meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee. Commerce Minister led the Indian delegation to the Indo-Italian Joint Committee session held on 30th and 31st May, 1994. During the

session Commerce Minister had detailed discussions with his Italian counterpart, Dr. Giorgio Bernini. The topics covered included ways to improve bilateral trade, flow of Italian investments to India and Joint ventures. On 1st June, 1994 Commerce Minister delivered the key-note address at an Indo-Italian Trade and Economic co-operation seminar held in Milan which was attended by more than 300 Italian industrialists.

During his visit, Commerce Minister also called on the President of Italy and the President of the Italian Senate.

15. Shri Sukh Ram, Minister of State
for Communications.

Shri Sukh Ram visited Sweden from May 16 to 18, 1994 at the invitation of his Swedish counterpart. His visit was designed to impart momentum to Indo-Swedish cooperation in the field of communications.

16. Smt. Krishna Sahi, Minister of State
for Industry

Smt. Sahi visited Sweden from May 24 to 28, 1994. The Minister of State for Industry led the Indian delegation for 11th meeting of the Indo-Swedish Joint Commission. During the session, detailed discussions were held on expansion of economic and commercial co-operation between India and Sweden. The Minister of State for Industry held talks with the Swedish Ministers for Economic Affairs and Foreign Trade as well as Finance.

17. Shri Sukh Ram, Minister of State
for Communications.

Shri Sukh Ram visited Denmark on May 19-20, 1994 at the invitation of his

Danish counterpart. Bilateral cooperation in the field of communications was discussed during the visit.

18. Shri Jagdish Tytler, Minister of State for Surface Transport

Shri Tytler visited Norway from May 22 to 27, 1994 at the invitation of his Norwegian counterpart. He held talks with the Norwegian Ministers for Trade and Shipping as well as Transport. Subjects covered during the talks included bilateral cooperation in the fields of shipping, ship-building and ship-repair and road construction.

19. Shri Satish Sharma, Minister of State for Petroleum

Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Satish Sharma, visited Norway from May 29 to June 1, 1994 to attend the 14th World Petroleum Congress.

**World Cup Football Competition
1994**

75. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has decided to telecast the World Cup Football Competition 1994 to be held in USA;

(b) the amount paid by Doordarshan to get the rights of live telecast; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Swiss Francs 3,67,192 (equivalent to Rs. 51,19,438/-) have been paid to the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union, Kuala Lumpur towards Doordarshan's share of World Cup Football 1994 Rights Fee.

[Translation]

Power Shortage

76. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of power in the country;

(b) whether various measures are being taken to overcome this shortage which include generation of power by private sector;

(c) whether 'solar energy' is also a large source of power;

(d) whether any concrete scheme has been formulated for the exploitation of this energy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) During the year 1993-94, the overall shortage in availability of energy in the country was 7.3% while peak shortfall was 18.3%.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). Based on existing data from meteorological stations, solar energy

availability ranging from 4 to 7 KW hour per square meter per day has been estimated. While solar energy potential is considered to be large, practical utilisation will depend on availability of cost-effective technologies. Two basic routes for harnessing solar energy are being adopted, namely, solar thermal and solar photovoltaic. Several solar photovoltaic devices such as for lighting, water pumping, telecommunications, small power supply for villages etc. aggregating to about 3-4 MW have been deployed. In addition, installation of two nos. of grid interactive demonstration solar photovoltaic power plant of 100 KW capacity each has been taken at villages Kalyanpur and Saraisadai in Uttar Pradesh. A project for a 35 MW solar thermal power plant in Rajasthan has been proposed. Government has also invited private entrepreneurs for taking up installation of MW range solar Photovoltaic & solar thermal power plants largely through their own resources.

[English]

**Private Sector participation in
Multicore Road Projects**

77. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently thrown open a multi-crore worth road projects and bridges to the Indian private sector and global companies/foreign investors on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of projects in this regard across the country have been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof including their location, capital outlay, etc.;

(e) the details of the private companies including the multinational foreign companies and NRI companies which have shown their eagerness to participate in the Government's incentive package;

(f) the details of the incentives that will be available to them;

(g) whether any MOU has been signed in this regard with any firm; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has been contemplating to involve the Private Sector including NRIs in construction, maintenance and operation of fee-based facilities on National Highways in various States.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A *Statement* is enclosed.

(e) and (f). The domestic/overseas companies including entrepreneurs for Private Sector participation has been evincing interest and making enquiries. Notwithstanding this, the broad modalities of the proposal have not yet been finalised. It is, therefore, too early to specify the position at this point of time.

(g) and (h). Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed amongst the Government of India,

Government of Maharashtra and infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited in February, 1993 for taking up the construction of Panvel

bypass on National Highway No. 4 in Maharashtra State on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The project is likely to be commissioned by 1996.

STATEMENT

Private sector participation in multi crore road projects

Name of Project	State	Approximate Length (in kms.)	Approximate Cost (in Rs. million)
<i>A. Bypasses</i>			
1. Hapur	Uttar Pradesh	11	400
2. Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh	20	600
3. Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	27	400
4. Akola	Maharashtra	14	300
5. Amravati	Maharashtra	18	300
6. Hubli-Dharwad	Karnataka	30	400
7. Udaipur	Rajasthan	17	250
8. Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	18	250
9. Shillong	Meghalaya	27	650
<i>B. Bridges:</i>			
1. Bridges on Kullu bypass	Himachal Pradesh		202
2. Bridges across Talpona & Galgibagh	Goa		200
3. Varapuzha bridge across Periyar	Kerala		260
4. Sheonath bridge on Durg bypass	Madhya Pradesh (Including Durg bypass)		240
5. Second Vivekananda bridge	West Bengal		2200
6. Jiabhareli bridge	Assam		700
7. Nizamuddin bridge	Delhi		430
8. Sharavathi bridge	Krnatoka		300
9. Second Narmada bridge at Zadeshwar	Gujarat		450

Name of Project	State	Approximate Length (in kms.)	Approximate Cost (in Rs. million)
<i>C. Expressways:</i>			
1. Delhi-Karnal-Ambala	Delhi and Haryana	200	10,000
2. Delhi-Ghaziabad-Kanpur	Delhi & U.P.	414	25,000
3. Kanpur-Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	310	20,000
4. Bombay-Surat-Vadodara	Maharashtra & Gujarat	375	45,000
5. Bombay-Pune	Maharashtra	150	9,000
6. Faridabad-Noida-Ghaziabad	Haryana & U.P.	45	3,000
7. Bombay-Nashik	Maharashtra	145	8,700
8. Bangalore-Mysore	Karnataka	140	9,000
9. Ghaziabad-Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	49	3,000

ADB Assistance for Kakinada Port

78. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has assisted Kakinada Port and the manner in which the Government will facilitate the handling of cargo and the quantum thereof; and

(b) the time by which the port is likely to be completed and commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) The Asian Development Bank has granted a loan assistance of US \$ 77.9 million for the Kakinada Port Project. The Project envisages construction of three deepwater berths, extension of breakwater, dredging of the Port area and creation of related onshore and navigational facilities to facilitate handling of cargo. On completion of the Project, the Port is expected to handle about 3.00 million tonnes of additional cargo per year.

(b) The Project is expected to be completed by August, 1996.

Mining Leases in Gujarat

79. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals pending with the Union Government for grant of mining leases in Gujarat as on March 31, 1994;

(b) the time since when these proposals have been pending; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). Prior approval of the Central Government is required for grant the renewal of prospecting licences and mining leases of minerals listed in Schedule-I of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. The position of such pending proposals pertaining to the State of Gujarat is given below:—

	1991	1992	1993	1994
Proposals for approval of Grant of Mining Lease	—	1	—	4
Proposals for approval of Renewal of Mining Lease	—	1	1	2
Proposal for approval of grant of Prospecting Licence	—	8	13	3

Consultation with other concerned Ministries and organisations, clarifications from the State Government due to incomplete and inadequate information sent with the proposals and unavoidable administrative delays are some of the reasons for the above pendency.

Post and Telegraph Offices in Rajasthan

80. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages and towns in Rajasthan where new post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during 1994-95;

(b) the places where departmental buildings for these offices are proposed to be constructed during 1994-95; and

(c) the amount to be spent by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Allocation of targets for opening of post offices during 1994-95 has not been finalised as yet.

The number of telephone exchanges proposed to be installed in Rajasthan during 1994-95 is about 100 subject to availability of equipment, resources and minimum demand of 10 applicants. The number of Telecom Centres having telegraph facility proposed to be set up are 45. In addition, for combined posts and telegraph offices, it is proposed to provide telegraph facility in 5 post offices.

(b) and (c). Construction of new departmental buildings for post offices will depend on the availability of resources. The building plan for 1994-95 is yet to be finalised.

For Telecom Centres/combined post and telegraph offices, no new buildings are proposed to be constructed.

Construction of new departmental buildings for telephone exchanges in Rajasthan, which are in progress, in various places, is given in the *Statement* enclosed.

Only the building at Alwar is expected to be fully constructed by 1994-95. However, these buildings are required for exchanges to be commissioned beyond 1994-95.

The details regarding amount to be spent by the Government for these buildings is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

1. Kota Vigyan Nagar
2. Balotra
3. Ajmer
4. Alwar
5. Jaipur Bajaj Nagar
6. Palimarwar
7. Banswara

[Translation]

Publication of Magazine for Doordarshan Programmes

81. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan propose to publish a magazine containing information about its programmes;

(b) if so, the objectives therefor; and

(c) the time by which the magazine is likely to be published and the details of price thereof?

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

(b) To keep the public informed of forthcoming programmes.

(c) The details are being worked out.

[English]

Rubberised Roads

82. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rubberised roads are proposed to be promoted in the country;

(b) whether such a road had been made in Trivandrum district by the Rubber Board;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether rubberised roads ensure savings in terms of maintenance and safety; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The promotion of rubberised roads in the country can be considered only after findings of the Research Schemes already taken up become available.

(b) and (c). Resurfacing in one kilometre length on the State Highway in the Kerala State is understood to have been done in 1973 by the State Public Works Department in collaboration with the Rubber Board.

(d) and (e). It is too early to comment on the over-all likely savings in terms of maintenance and safety in respect of rubberised roads.

P.M.G. Offices

83. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of P.M.G. Offices opened so far during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the number of such offices to be opened during the remaining period the said plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No PMG office has been opened so far during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(b) There is no proposal at present for opening of PMG offices during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Verification of Antecedents for Passport

84. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Deputy Secretary of the Government of India can verify the antecedents of a person applying for an Indian passport;

(b) whether the Passport Office takes no cognisance of a verification certificate issued by an officer holding similar or even high position with a different nomenclature of post in the Government of India;

(c) if so, the reasons for discrimination among officers of the same rank but with different nomenclatures;

(d) whether the Passport Office takes no cognisance of a verification certificate issued by an officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary and other officers of similar rank with different nomenclatures of their posts in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats; and

(e) if so, the reasons for discrimination between an officer of similar rank in the Government of India *vis-a-vis* Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (e). A Verification Certificate for the purpose of passport application may be got signed by any of the following:

(i) A Deputy Secretary/Director/Joint Secretary/ Additional Secretary/

Special Secretary/Secretary/
Cabinet Secretary to the Govern-
ment of India.

- (ii) A Joint Secretary/Additional Secretary/Special Secretary/ Secretary/ Chief Secretary to a State Government.
- (iii) A sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Additional District Magistrate/ District Magistrate of the district of residence of applicant.
- (iv) A district Superintendent of Police/Range Deputy Inspector General of Police/Inspector General of Police/Director General of Police of district of residence of applicant.

Officers have been specified for the purpose on the basis of their jurisdictional responsibilities and functional designations. The questions of discrimination, therefore, does not arise.

[Translation]

Power Projects of Gujarat

85. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power plants set up in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up thermal power plants in Gujarat during 1994-95 also;

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

(d) the details of stages in which these plants are lying pending;

(e) the time by which the projects likely to be completed; and

(f) the steps taken to speed up the completion work of these plants within the stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of thermal power units commissioned during the last three years in the State of Gujarat, is given below:

Year	No. of Units	Capacity (MW)
1991-92	6	448
1992-93	7	691
1993-94	3	307

(b) to (f). Only the Gas Turbine Unit-3 (131 MW) of Gandhar Combined Cycle Gas Station of N.T.P.C. was programmed to be commissioned during 1994-95. This unit has since been synchronised in May, 1994.

[English]

Iron ore dust in Bastar

86. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether iron ore dust has accumulated in Bailadila in Bastar district; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to utilise the iron ore dust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) However, the demand for fines from Bailadila increased considerably with the commissioning of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, which is based on Bailadila fines. Some quantity of fines is being exported also. There is likely demand of fines for new steel plants/pellet plants expected to come up based on Bailadila fines. It is anticipated that the demand may exceed the expected production of fines which may necessitate reclamation from dumps which in turn will liquidate the dumps.

Foreign companies participation in Power Sector

87. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Union Government for acceptance of offer from foreign companies to set up power plants in Gujarat;

(b) the total investment offered by the foreign companies in this regard during 1993-94 and the amount of investment out of it accepted by the Union Government;

(c) the location and time frame for this power plant; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The details of the policy to encourage private sector investment in Indian power sector including Gujarat are given in the *Statement* enclosed. Acceptance of offers from foreign private companies is within the competence of the State Govt.

(b) As on date, the following power projects are proposed to be set up by the foreign investors (including NRI and joint venture proposals) in Gujarat:

1. Paguthan GBPP (654.70 MW) of Gujarat Torrent Energy Corporation Ltd/Siemens, Germany (Prov. cost Rs. 2178.14 crores).
2. Lignite based TPS (250 MW) of Eisenberg Group of Companies, Israel (Prov. cost Rs. 875 crores).

(c) and (d). The Paguthan GBPP located at village Paguthan, Distt. Bharuch, has been cleared by CEA and is likely to be commissioned by 7/96. The commissioning of second project would be known after the project has been accorded techno-economic clearance.

STATEMENT

Details of the policy to encourage greater private investments in power generation and distribution to tap additionality of resources

The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generation, supply and distribution:

- * The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.
- * Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.

- * Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.
- * Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
- * All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
- * A premium of 20% of the total outlay should be equity.
- * Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
- * Not more than 40% of the total outlay can come from Indian Public Financial Institutions.
- * To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.

Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.

The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be

applicable to foreign investment in the power sector.

- * The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- * With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency(ies) extend concessional credit.
- * The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
- * A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.
- * The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a lower rates.
- * The 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
- * Fixed costs can be recovered at 68.5% PLF. Attractive

incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF.

- * Flexibility has been allowed in including insurance in the project cost.

For generating companies the following incentives are offered:-

- * Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate have been notified which *inter alia* provide for 16% rate of return on the paid up and subscribed equity.
- * Generating companies operating coal based, gas based and hydro projects can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.
- * Government of India may consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Government.

The specific incentives for Licensees are:

- * Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.
- * Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the previous 2% above the RBI rate.
- * Capitalisation of Interest During Construction (IDC) at actual

cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.

- * Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligations.

Agreement between NTPC and Oustees of NCPP

88. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oustees of villages in district Ghaziabad of Uttar Pradesh whose land was taken over by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the construction of the National Capital Power Project (NCPP) have been agitating for the last several weeks for fulfilment of their demands;

(b) if so, the details of the land taken over for the project by the NTPC, the details of the project to be constructed and the main demands of the oustees;

(c) whether any agreement has recently been arrived at between the oustees and the NTPC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The total land taken over by the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) in district Ghaziabad is 2463 acres, comprising 1514 acres of private land and 949 acres of government

land. The details of the projects built on this land are as follows:

1. National Capital Thermal Power Project (4x210 MW) (Coal based).
2. Dadri Combined Cycle gas based power project (4x131 MW GT + 2x146.5 MW ST).

The main demands of the land oustees with respect to NTPC are:

- (i) Job for one member of each family or compensation of Rs. 1000/- per month in lieu thereof.
- (ii) Additional compensation for land.
- (iii) Vacating portion of the land acquired used for graveyards, cremation grounds, fertilizer pits, religious places.
- (iv) Development of affected villages by providing various civic amenities and facilities.

(c) and (d). An understanding was reached with the representatives of the agitating villagers on 26.5.1994. The understanding covered the entire gamut of demands like reservations of jobs for land oustees in the skilled category, assistance in education/training of land oustees and their family members in skilled trades, methodology for resolution of the demand concerning additional compensation, provision of infrastructural facilities for alternative land to be identified by the village representatives for graveyards, cremation grounds etc., reduction in hospital charges for land oustees, provision of a 11 KV or 33 KV feeder sub-station for the villagers subject

to approval of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB), development activities in the villages, increase in reservation for land oustees for shops in the township etc. In turn, the land oustees will allow uninterrupted work for completion of the balance work like ash handling etc.

Transport Projects of Andhra Pradesh

89. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several proposals are pending for clearance with the Union Government regarding construction of National Highways and bridges;

(b) if so, the total number of such proposals received by the Union Government from Andhra Pradesh;

(c) since when these proposals are pending for clearance;

(d) whether a substantial amount has been sanctioned by the Union Government for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Six estimates are pending.

(c) Less than six months.

(d) and (e). No estimate for development of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned so far during 1994-95.

**Departmental canteen in
Broadcasting House**

[Translation]

Haj Pilgrims

90. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Departmental Canteen functioning in Broadcasting House, New Delhi under the Administrative Control of News Services Division, AIR, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Canteen has been allowed to make purchases of raw material from Private Contractor by ignoring the Government Cooperative Stores, Super Bazar and Mother Dairy; and

(c) if not, the action Government propose to take against the concerned officials for doing irregularities of making purchases from private contractors and ignoring Government Stores?

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

(b) and (c). The raw materials viz. vegetable oil, Ghee, Sugar, Flour, Besan, Rice, Pulses, etc. are purchased from Government Cooperative Stores/Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar only. However, owing to acute shortage of staff, arrangements have been made with a Private Contractor for supplying certain daily consumables/perishable items like eggs, sliced bread, butter and vegetables on the same rates (even cheaper in certain cases) as are prevailing in Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar/Mother Dairy etc. As such there has been no case of any financial irregularity.

91. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of the Indian Haj Pilgrims died and injured in the stampede in 'Mina' (Saudi Arabia) recently;

(b) whether the Union Government or the Government of Saudi Arabia propose to provide any financial assistance to the family members of the victims; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Identification of the nationality of those killed in the stampede in Mina is being done by Saudi authorities with Consulate General of India-Jeddah making all efforts and independent enquiries to ascertain the facts in the case of Indian pilgrims. As of now, it has been confirmed that 29 Indian pilgrims died as a result of the stampede in Mina, including 13 who had gone for Haj under the arrangement made through Haj Committee, 6 who had gone from India on their own on international passport and 10 Indians residing in Saudi Arabia on work permit. In two other cases efforts are still continuing to establish the identity of the deceased. While a number of pilgrims have been injured and discharged after treatment, Saudi authorities are not

maintaining nationality-wise records of those injured.

(b) and (c). Breaved families in India have been contacted through the Central Haj Committee in order to ascerttain the need for assistance that may be required. Consulate General of India, Jeddah has also contacted relatives of the deceased in Saudi Arabia to offer any help they may need. Such assistance includes arrangements for their return journey to India, transportation to Mandinah and facilities to contact their families in India. Members of the Indian Haj Medical Mission have been asked to pay special attention to those who sustained injuries in the stampede.

[English]

Post and Telegraph Services

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to improve the telephone, post and telegraph services in Maharashtra;

(b) the extent to which these services have improved during 1993-94;

(c) whether all the villages are likely to be provided with the said services; and

(d) if so, the time which all villages will be covered?

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

(b) There has been progressive improvement in telephone, posts and telegraph services during 1993-94 as per *Statement* enclosed.

(c) and (d). *Telephone*: Govt. have adopted a policy to provide telephone facility to all the villages of the country progressively by March, 1997 subject to availability of resources.

Telegraph: Telegraph services are provided wherever there is a demand and traffic justification.

Postal: Post Offices are opened in the villages which fulfil departmental norms subject to availability of resources. In view of this, no time frame can be given.

STATEMENT

Extent to which Telephone, Telegraph and Post Services have improved during 1993-94 in Maharashtra

(a) *Telephone*

Name of Service Parameters	During the Year	
	92-93	93-94
1. Telephone Fault Rate %	14.8	14.9
2. Telex Fault Rate %	17.8	16.1
3. Local Call Success Rate %	96.8	97.9

Name of Service Parameters	During the Year	
	92-93	93-94
4. Junction Call Success Rate %	95.3	96.8
5. STD Call Success Rate %	90.1	92.0
6. Trunk Call Efficiency %	82.4	82.2
(b) <i>Telegraph Services</i> (% of Telegrams delivered)	94.4	94.6

(c) *Postal Services*

During 1993-94, 80 extra departmental branch post offices and 19 departmental sub-post offices have been sanctioned for Maharashtra Circle.

[Translation]

New Postal Services

93. SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHARY:
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH
BRAR:
SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently started new postal services in the country for the delivery of post at some places on the very next day as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 16, 1994 captioned "Postal Department goes hi-tech"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Government has taken steps to expedite the transmis-

sion of mails between the metro cities in the country. This finds a brief mention in the news item referred to in the question.

(b) The scheme called the Metro Channel Service envisages expeditious transmission and delivery within 48 hours, of pin-coded first class letter mails posted in any of the six metro cities (listed in the *Statement*) which is meant for addressees in these six metro cities.

A similar scheme called the Rajdhani Channel Service envisages expeditious transmission of Pin-coded letter mails posted in Delhi and meant for six State Capitals (list given in a *Statement* and *vice-versa*).

The Department is exploring the feasibility of extending the Rajdhani Channel Service to other State Capitals also in the next phase.

No additional charge would be collected for the said services and these systems have been designed by optimum utilisation of existing resources.

STATEMENT

METRO CHANNEL SERVICE: Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras Hyderabad and Bangalore.

RAJDHANI CHANNEL SERVICE: Between Delhi and Chandigarh, Shimla, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Lucknow & Bhopal.

[English]

Closure of Newspapers and Periodicals

Godavari River

96. DR. BAHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

94. SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA
RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal
to declare Godavari river as national
waterway;

(a) whether the Press Council of
India has set up a committee to study
the phenomenon of closure of newspapers
and periodicals during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the newspapers
and periodicals closed down during the
last three years; and

(c) the extent to which It is likely
to help in the transportation of minerals
and materials; and

(c) the factors responsible for their
closure?

(d) the time by which a final deci-
sion is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-
PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a)
and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for declaring
the river Godavari from Cherla to Rajah-
mundry alongwith its delta canals as
National Waterway is under consideration.

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

(b) As per information available
with Registrar of Newspapers for India,
the details of the newspapers/periodicals
closed during 1990, 1991 and 1992 are
given in the *Statement-I*.

(c) Development of the river Go-
davari as National Waterway is likely to
help in transportation of coal from Cherla/
Manuguru coal mines to the users in and
around Rajahmundry area, to the extent
of 2,00,000 tonnes p.a. by 2000 A.D.

(c) Press Council of India's Com-
mittee has in its preliminary meeting
identified some basic factors *prima-facie*
responsible for possible closure of
newspapers and periodicals, which are
given in the *Statement-II*.

(d) Most likely during the current
year.

STATEMENT-I*Number of newspapers/periodicals ceased (periodicity-wise)*

Year	Weeklies	Fortnightlies	Monthlies	Quarterlies	Total
1990	3	3	3	3	12
1991	2	3	7	1	13
1992	3	—	1	—	4

STATEMENT-II

- (a) Competition from well established papers/new entrants.
- (b) Competition from electronic media leading to loss of advertisement revenue.
- (c) Lack of advertisement support.
- (d) Inadequate allocation of newsprint.
- (e) Unfavourable Government economic policies.
- (f) Intimidation by the police.
- (g) Political Interference affecting the freedom of the Press.
- (h) Labour problems accentuated by Trade Unions.
- (i) Too many legal cases on the charges of defamation.
- (j) Difficulty in getting competent journalists.
- (k) Family disputes.

Fish Processing Industries in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Government for setting up of fish processing industries in the State during 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). No proposal to set up fish processing industries was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this Ministry during the years

1992-93, and 1993-94. However, during the financial year 1992-93, this Ministry had received a proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, seeking financial assistance for setting up of cold chain facilities in the State. An amount of Rs. 39.50 lakhs was released to them for this purpose.

[Translation]

Postal Services in Hilly Areas

98. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Postal services are quite unsatisfactory in hilly areas;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal regarding launching a special scheme for speedy delivery and smooth functioning of postal services in hilly areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). Considering the terrain and comparatively under developed transportation network in hilly areas of the country, the postal services are not as satisfactory as they are in normal areas of the country. However, the services in these areas are constantly monitored and reviewed for improvements wherever necessary and feasible. There are, however, no proposals at present to have a special scheme for speedy delivery and smooth functioning of postal services in hilly areas.

[English]

Demand by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries

99. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA
NAIK:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries has demanded further liberalisation in the National Mineral Policy;

(b) if so, the details of the demands made thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to examine these demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). No, Sir. However, the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries has suggested some amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. This Act was reviewed recently by enactment of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Act, 1994. No further amendments to it are contemplated for the time being.

Sponsorship Money

100. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of top ten firms that have paid maximum sponsorship money to Doordarshan during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) whether there is any restriction on the number of serials which can be sponsored at a time by any firm; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The details for the period 1992 to 1994 are as follows:—

1. Hindustan Level Limited,
2. Proctor and Gamble India Limited,
3. Colgate Palmolive,
4. Glaxo,
5. Tata Tea and Soaps,
6. Brooke Bond India Limited,
7. Nirma Chemical Works,
8. Nestle India Limited,
9. MRF,
10. Dabur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Direct call from Bombay

101. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MTNL Bombay plans to extend the direct call facility to important industrial and strategic townships beyond Kalyan (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Interdialling between non-adjacent exchange systems falling under different-short-distance charging areas is not permissible under the existing rules.

[Translation]

Private Companies in Power Sector

102. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain private power companies have been invited by the Government for investment in power sector of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the extent to which the production of power likely to be increased in both the States as a result thereof; and

(c) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) In the context of paucity of resources with Central/State PSUs and SEBs and to bridge the gap between the rapidly growing demand for

electricity and supply, a policy to encourage greater investments by private enterprises in the power sector with the objective of mobilising additional resources for capacity addition in power generation and distribution in the country, including Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, had

been formulated in 1991 and is currently under implementation.

(b) and (c). The details of proposals received from private sector companies for setting up of power projects in MP and Rajasthan are as follows:-

S. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Provisional estimated cost (in Rs. Crs.)	Name of Company
<i>I. Madhya Pradesh:</i>				
1.	Pench TPS	420.00	1272.23	Century Power
2.	Maheshwar HEP	400.00	1073.00	S. Kumars
3.	Korba West Ext. Unit-5 & 6 TPS	420.00	977.57	Mukand Ltd.
4.	Bhillai Captive TPS	500.00	1200.00	Steel Authority of India Ltd.
5.	Tawa HEP	12.00	20.00	HEG Ltd.
<i>II. Rajasthan:</i>				
6.	Chittorgarh TPS	500.00	1036.20	Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.

[English]

Fabrication losses at Rourkela

103. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to a newsitem published in the "Economic Times" dated May 16, 1994 captioned 'Catalyst firms duping fert, firms, RSP';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for giving an additional 1.5 per cent allowance by the Rourkela Steel Plant to certain companies on account of fabrication loss;

(d) losses suffered by the Rourkela Steel Plant as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gist of the news item as appeared in the Economic Times dated 16.5.1994 is reproduced below:—

M/s. Arora Mathey Limited and Hindustan Platinum Limited which refined rhodium platinum alloy used in the manufacture of nitric acid charged all companies certain fee in addition to claiming 1% refining loss as per international practice. In November, 1981 an additional 1.5% allowance was also given by RSP on account of fabrication loss. At current prices this loss works out to Rs. 6.5 lakhs per kg. These two companies cream off Rs. 50 lakh annually in foreign exchange in guise of fabrication loss from National Fertilizer Limited Nangal, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers—Trombay and Rourkela Steel Plant. As per Engelhard Industries Limited U.K. a maximum fabrication loss of 0.4% could be allowed but in well run plants the fabrication loss is only 0.2%. As per Dutch Consultancy Organisation no fabrication loss occurs. In either case maximum limit of 0.4% could be taken as international standard. In April, 1981 certain excise duties were levied on the refined alloy but were withdrawn in June, 1981. In the annual negotiations for revision of rates in November, 1981, these companies represented to RSP that new excise duties meant higher costs and therefore compensation was required. They also indicated that similar allowance had already been given by National Fertilizers Limited, Nangal. In this background these companies have been duping fertilizer companies as also Rourkela Steel Plant.

(c) to (e). Prior to 1981 the term "Fabrication and Loss" was not included

in the contract for reworking of platinum rhodium scrap gauzes. M/s. Engelhard Industries Limited have clarified that in European countries most of the major precious metal companies started charging 1% handling charge from 1980 onwards on the weight of precious metal which was manufactured into new gauzes to meet effectively the rapidly escalating costs that these companies were bearing in respect of insurance, security, transportation and processing losses. Since this handling charge was not admitted in India fabrication loss is 1.4% which includes 1% handling charge plus 0.4% fabrication loss. This was first admitted by National Fertilizers Limited, Nangal.

The contract at Rourkela Fertilizer Plant of RSF was signed subsequently by incorporating similar clause. Since then the contract is continuing in almost all the Fertilizer Plants producing nitric acid.

Indians in Yemen

104. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 700 Indians living in Yemen have been deported to India due to the disturbances in Yemen;

(b) if so, the total number of Indians still living in Yemen;

(c) The total number of Indians died in Yemen due to the conflict; and

(d) The protection being provided by the Government of India and the steps taken to help and assist them and also to obtain their properties there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) 1564 Indians living in Yemen have so far been evacuated to India due to disturbances.

(b) The total number of Indians still living in Yemen is estimated to be in the vicinity of 1000.

(c) The Government has not received any report of Indians having died due to the conflict in Yemen.

(d) The Government has taken all possible steps in this regard. These include regular contact by the Embassy in Yemen, arrangements for evacuation, financial assistance on arrival in India.

Transmission Losses

105. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the deficit of power in Gujarat at present and the power loss in transmission annually;

(b) whether the Government propose to give any assistance to the State to modernise its transmission system to reduce the transmission losses; and

(c) if so, the details of the assistance provided to the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A *Statement* showing details of the deficit of power in Gujarat at present and the power loss in transmission annually is enclosed.

(b) and (c). The scheme for Renovation and Modernisation of transmission lines and sub-stations in Gujarat which *inter-alia* covers reconducting of 1500 CKt km of 132 KV lines and 1100 CKt kms of 66 KV lines was sanctioned by the Government in March, 1992 at an estimated cost of Rs. 73.58 crores. The scheme is aimed at improving the reliability of power supply besides improving voltage profile and reducing transmission losses in Gujarat power grid.

STATEMENT

Details regarding deficit of power in Gujarat at present are as under:

(All figures in MU net)

April '94	
Requirement	2900
Availability	2775
Deficit	125
(%)	4.3
Peak Deficit	
(%)	16.5

Details of the power loss in transmission, transformation, and distribution system in Gujarat State for the year 1990-91 to 1992-93 are as under

Years	T&D Losses	
	Quantam (MKWH)	Energy loss (%)
1990-91	5414.23	23.71
1992-92	5888.08	23.56
1992-93	5802.13	22.20

Relations with South Africa

106. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians living in
South Africa;

(b) whether any talk/agreement has
been reached with the newly elected
Government of South Africa regarding
the interests of the Indians living there;
and

(c) if so, the details thereof and
other steps being taken to strengthen the
relations with the Government of South
Africa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The number of
South African citizens of Indian origin
residing in South Africa is approximately
1 million. The number of Indian families
residing in South Africa which have so
far registered themselves with the Indian
mission is 625.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government in the process
of forging strong links with the new
Government in South Africa in political,
economic, cultural and scientific spheres.

Bodhghat Hydel Project

107. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA
VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be
pleased to state:

(a) the latest position regarding
clearance of the Bodhghat hydel project
in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the names of power projects of
Madhya Pradesh cleared for execution
by the private companies, and the number
of proposals of private companies
received so far during 1992-93 and
1993-94; and

(c) the action being taken in this
regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Bodhghat (4x125
MW) Hydro-electric Project was techno-
economically cleared by Central Electricity
Authority in November, 1978 and received

investment approval from the Planning Commission on 24.2.1979. Environmental clearance was obtained on 20.2.1985. However, the State Government has not obtained forest clearance for the project.

(b) and (c). Maheshwar Hydro-electric Project (10x40 MW) was considered acceptable, subject to certain conditions by Central Electricity Authority on 12.11.1993 for execution by the private company Shri Maheshwar Hydel Power Corporation Limited.

The following schemes for installing thermal power stations in private sector have been received in Central Electricity Authority:-

1. Pench Thermal Power Station (2x210 MW) was appraised by Central Electricity Authority on 16.11.1993 and found acceptable from Technical aspects. Its executing agency was M/s. Century Power who have since withdrawn from the project.
2. Korba West Thermal Power Station, units 5 & 6 (2x210 MW) has been given in principle clearance by Central Electricity Authority on 4.1.1993 and can be considered for Central Electricity Authority's techno-economic appraisal after all the clearances/inputs are tied-up by the project authorities. Its executing agency is M/s. India Thermal Power Ltd.

In addition, a letter of Intent for Tawa Hydro-electric Project (12 MW) has been signed by M/s. HEG Ltd. However, no project report has been submitted by the promoters to the Central Electricity Authority.

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges

108. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far with regard to expansion and conversion of various telephone exchanges into electronic ones in Gujarat, district-wise?

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

(b) There is a plan to expand the capacity by 23.11 lakh net lines during 1994-95.

(c) As per *Statement I and II*.

STATEMENT-I

Status of Electronic Exchanges in Gujarat Circle (District-wise) as on 1.4.94.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total Exchanges	Electronic Exchanges	Capacity of Electronic exchanges	Total Eqp. Cap.
1.	Ahmedabad	92	74	1,28,200	230550
2.	Baroda	59	50	47,124	73059
3.	Surat	58	50	64,764	90274
4.	Rajkot	88	80	35,098	62673
5.	Nadiad	111	98	19,604	42454
6.	Bhavnagar	66	55	10,212	25862
7.	Bhuj	101	65	16,128	25373
8.	Jamnagar	69	51	7,568	23078
9.	Junagadh	77	55	21,614	30419
10.	Bulsar	54	38	16,272	30832
11.	Mehsana	102	87	30,688	41500
12.	Amreli	52	41	6,220	8595
13.	Himatnagar	90	77	13,880	21860
14.	Palanpur	80	77	15,012	18312
15.	Surendranagar	54	52	8,712	15737
16.	Bharuch	49	47	8,224	22724
17.	Godha	60	51	10,920	14380
Gujarat Circle (1.4.94)		1262	1048	4,60,250	777685

STATEMENT-II*Progress from 1.4.94 to 31.5.94*

Sl. No.	Name of SSA	Expansion	Conversion	Total
1.	GMTD Ahmedabad	184	--	184
2.	GMTD Baroda	384	--	384
3.	GMTD Rajkot	32	56	88
4.	GMTD Nadiad	272	56	328
5.	TDM Bhavnagar	64	--	64
6.	TDM Bhuj	--	88	88
7.	TDM Junagadh	8	--	8
8.	TDE Himatnagar	568	--	568
9.	TDE Amreli	176	--	176
10.	TDE Palanpur	320	--	320
11.	TDE Bharuch	456	--	456
Total Gujarat Circle		2464	200	2664

**Doordarshan and Akashwani
Kendras in Andhra Pradesh**

109. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any target to set up Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras in Andhra Pradesh particularly in tribal areas during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. Doordarshan has envisaged schemes to set up 3 studio centres, 4 HPTs and 30 LPTs/VLPTs in various parts of Andhra Pradesh covering tribal areas under Eighth Plan. All India Radio has also a number of schemes to strengthen the coverage in Andhra Pradesh including tribal districts, though

there is no scheme to set up a new radio station.

(b) As given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

No.	Scheme	Location
<i>DOORDARSHAN</i>		
1.	Studio Facility	Vijayawada
2.	Studio Facility	Warangal
3.	Studio Facility	Vishakhapatnam
4.	High Power Transmitter	Warangal
5.	High Power Transmitter	Nandyal
6.	High Power Transmitter	Kurnool
7.	High Power Transmitter	Rajahmundry
8.	Low Power Transmitter	Paderu
9.	Low Power Transmitter	Bheemavaram
10.	Low Power Transmitter	Hindupur
11.	Low Power Transmitter	Kuppam
12.	Low Power Transmitter	Allagadda
13.	Low Power Transmitter	Kavali
14.	Low Power Transmitter	Madanapalli
15.	Low Power Transmitter	Medak
16.	Low Power Transmitter	Kadiri
17.	Low Power Transmitter	Nirmal
18.	Low Power Transmitter	Nagarkurnool

No.	Scheme	Location
19.	Low Power Transmitter	Bellampally
20.	Low Power Transmitter	Marcapur
21.	Low Power Transmitter	Kamareddy
22.	Low Power Transmitter	Mandassa
23.	Low Power Transmitter	Emmiganuru
24.	Low Power Transmitter	Tamblapally
25.	Low Power Transmitter	LR pally
26.	Low Power Transmitter	Korangal
27.	Low Power Transmitter	Madhira
28.	Low Power Transmitter	Pasra/Warangal
29.	Low Power Transmitter	Kosgi
30.	Low Power Transmitter	Wanaparthi
31.	Low Power Transmitter	Vishakhapatnam
32.	Low Power Transmitter	Pedanandipadu
33.	Low Power Transmitter	Chintapally
34.	Very Low Power Transmitter	Srisailam
35.	Very Low Power Transmitter	Paderu
36.	Very Low Power Transmitter	Parvatipuram
37.	Very Low Power Transmitter	Ichchapuram
<i>ALL INDIA RADIO</i>		
1.	Upgradation of Transmitter Power (from 3 KW FM to 2x5 KW FM)	Tirupati

No.	Scheme	Location
2.	Establishment of 2x5 KW FM Transmitter for CBS	Vishakhapatnam
3.	Increasing the Transmitter Power from 50 KW MW to 200 KW MW	Hyderabad
4.	Replacement of 10 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Transmitter	Hyderabad

*[Translation]**[English]***Food Processing Units****Eastern Region Electricity Board**

111. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals cleared in 1993-94 for the setting up of food processing units in Gujarat;

(b) the number of such proposals pending with the Union Government; and

(c) the steps being taken for their speedy disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Nine proposals for setting up of 100% Export Oriented Units for manufacture of fruit and vegetable products have been approved during 93-94 for Gujarat. Out of nine, five are to be located in the District of Ahmedabad, two at Baroda, one at Mehsana and one at Surat.

(b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

112. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALA-HUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Region Electricity Board (EREB) held a high level meeting with the officers of his Ministry and national bodies related with power generation;

(b) if so, the points discussed in the meeting;

(c) whether any concrete results have been achieved in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response of the Government to the points raised by the EREB?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of answer to (a).

[Translation]

Electronic Exchanges

113. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Electronic Telephone Exchanges set up in Rajasthan during 1992-93 and 1993-94 and proposed to be set up during the rest of the period of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to provide telephone to all the applicants in the waiting list in Jaipur by the end of current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No. of electronic telephone exchanges set up/planned is as under:-

Year	No of exchanges set up
1992-93	386
1993-94	368

During the rest of the period of 8th Five Year Plan (1994-97) about 450 Nos. of electronic exchanges are planned to be set up in Rajasthan, subject to availability of resources.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

It is planned to clear the waiting list of Jaipur city by the end of the current financial year (1994-95) by installing the exchanges as per details given below

Sl. No.	No. of Lines	Type of exchange
1.	20,000	New technology Siemen's
2.	20,000	—do—
3.	20,000	—do—
4.	13,000	E-10-B exchanges expansions
Total		73,000 lines

[English]

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

Graphite in Andhra Pradesh

114. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted a survey for locating fresh deposits of graphite in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for its exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has carried out detailed surveys for locating graphite deposits in the Eastern Ghats coastal belts of Andhra Pradesh.

The details of graphite resources estimated by GSI in these areas are as below:—

West Godavari district:—

Reddi Bodair deposit	—	17,600 tonnes of graphite with 20% fixed carbon.
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East Godavari district:—

Burugubanda deposit	—	94,500 tonnes of graphite with 12% fixed carbon.
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Tapasikonda deposit	—	15,000 tonnes of graphite with 15% fixed carbon.
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Marrikonda deposit	—	22,500 tonnes of graphite with 8% fixed carbon.
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Visakhapatnam district:—

Kuppametla deposit	—	48,000 tonnes of graphite with 10 to 20% fixed carbon.
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Kokkirapalli deposit	—	44,000 tonnes of graphite with 3 to 5% fixed carbon.
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(c) An expenditure of Rs. 44,36,819 was incurred by GSI.

(d) Deposits are being exploited by private lessees.

Power stations by NTPC in Gulf Countries

115. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NTPC has offered its expertise to run and manage power stations in Gulf countries;

(b) if so, whether the officials of the NTPC have recently conducted tours to Gulf countries in this regard;

(c) whether any MOU has been signed by any firm in Gulf countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the conditions of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Officials of NTPC visited Saudi Arabia in April, 1994 and Oman and United Arab Emirates in May, 1994. During these visits, discussions were held with concerned organisations to explore possibilities for NTPC to provide services in the commissioning of power plants as well as their operation and maintenance.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Certification of Film Songs

116. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

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

(a) whether the Doordarshan has recently taken a decision to certify film songs before telecast;

(b) if so, the reasons for adopting dual censorship policy of film songs to be shown on large and small screen;

(c) whether such a step of the Government is not encouraging film producers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. Only those film songs, which are duly cleared by Central Board of Film Certification are telecast on Doordarshan.

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

Review of Advertising Policy

117. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review its policy on advertise-

ments in the electronic media to make it competitive;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the viewership of Doordarshan programmes varies according to the time of the programme;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to have a different set of advertising facilities for Doordarshan according to the time allotted for each programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Review of the policy covering advertisements on the electronic media is an ongoing process.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Doordarshan already has a differential tariff structure for commercial advertising.

Gas leakage at Bokarc Steel Plant

118. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an enquiry committee has been constituted by the Steel Authority of India Limited to enquire into the gas leakage at the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

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

(e) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A one man Committee consisting of Justice K.B.N. Singh (Retired Chief Justice, Patna and Madras High Court) has been constituted by Chairman, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to enquire into the gas leakage from a ruptured pipe line in Bokaro Steel Plant on 22.4.94.

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:

- (i) Find out the causes leading to the incident, and assess the damage of equipment and assets;
- (ii) Recommend remedial measures to avoid recurrence of such incident; and
- (iii) Fix up the responsibility, if any.

(c) and (d). The Committee is likely to submit its report to Chairman, SAIL, by 30th June, 1994.

STD system in Maharashtra

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

(a) whether STD system in Maharashtra is working properly;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that calls from Delhi and other places of the country do not materialise for months together; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps proposed to be taken to redress the grievances of the people in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SC/ST Posts in post offices in Gujarat

120. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices functioning in Gujarat;

(b) whether the posts reserved for SCs/STs have been filled up in the above offices according to the reservation policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 8896

Post offices functioning in Gujarat state as on 31/12/93.

(b) to (d). The posts reserved for SCs/STs are filled according to reservation policy. The categorywise details thereof are:

O/C	10833
S/C	3141
S/T	2321

DAVP Advertisements to Newspapers

121. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether dailies, weeklies, fortnightly and monthlies published from Gujarat have been given DAVP advertisements during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the newspaper-wise amount given during the same period; and

(d) the details of newspapers whose requests were not accepted for advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The details are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

(d) During 93-94, requests from the following publications from Gujarat could

not be accepted for issue of advertisements:—

1. Bharoach Times, Gujarati Daily, Bharoach.
2. Challenge, Gujarati Daily, Ahmedabad.
3. Yuva Mello, Gujarati Weekly, Manavadar.
4. Gandhi Nagar Samachar, Gujarati Daily, Ahmedabad.
5. Samajvad, Gujarati Daily, Junagarh.
6. Gandhi Nagar, Gujarati Daily, Gandhi Nagar.

STATEMENT

Names and place of publications, periodicity and net amount of advertisements paid to publications from Gujarat

Sl. No.	Name and Place of Publication	Net amount (Rs.)		
		1993-94	1992-93	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
Dailies				
1.	Times of India, Ahmedabad	235827.00	254805.00	236314.00
2.	Indian Express, Ahmedabad	341273.00	393474.00	482383.00
3.	Western Times, Ahmedabad	160107.00	234411.00	243339.00
4.	The Economic Times, Ahmedabad	9302.00	15288.00	26039.00
5.	Indian Express, Baroda	187303.00	98853.00	.00*
6.	Young Leader, Ahmedabad	517725.00	404251.00	178751.00
7.	Times Press International, Ahmedabad	56354.00	64047.00	4560.00
8.	Prasarah, Dahod	30492.00	13054.00	9848.00
9.	Herald Young Leader, Ahmedabad	130690.00	160771.00	64634.00
10.	Alp Viram, Ahmedabad	22934.00	15563.00	.00*

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Gujarat Vaibhav, Ahmedabad	131470.00	.00*	.00 *
12.	Herald Young Leader, Baroda	28090.00	.00*	.00 *
13.	Sandesh, Ahmedabad	2144868.00	1575448.00	1582201.00
14.	Gujarat Samachar, Ahmedabad	3019075.00	2968050.00	1689068.00
15.	Gujarat Samachar, Surat	237372.00	214473.00	140146.00
16.	Phul-Chaab, Rajkot	441431.00	430673.00	365073.00
17.	Loksatta-Jansatta, Ahmedabad	38253.00	54197.00	61792.00
18.	Loksatta-Jansatta, Rajkot	20713.00	4884.00	16829.00
19.	Loksatta-Jansatta, Baroda	93067.00	147787.00	13947.00
20.	Guj. Mitra and Guj. Darpan, Surat	339603.00	363470.00	326092.00
21.	Jai Hind, Rajkot	347750.00	408255.00	309143.00
22.	Jai Hind, Ahmedabad	64822.00	61506.00	55216.00
23.	Shri Nutan Saurashtra, Rajkot	90563.00	48622.00	21705.00
24.	Saurashtra Samachar, Bhavnagar	143722.00	189226.00	93687.00
25.	Prabhat, Ahmedabad	87920.00	101607.00	141123.00
26.	Kutch Mitra, Bhuj	179135.00	196395.00	134757.00
27.	Lok Raj, Bhavnagar	18035.00	24718.00	8986.00
28.	Pagdandi, Bhavnagar	61129.00	55781.00	19495.00
29.	Vadodara Samachar, Baroda	80638.00	85967.00	67627.00
30.	Nayapadkar, Anand	81199.00	78988.00	77181.00
31.	Sandesh, Baroda	644360.00	507095.00	449317.00
32.	Sambhaav, Ahmedabad	165227.00	239266.00	193697.00

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Gujarat Samachar, Baroda	225335.00	222711.00	213934.00
34.	Times of India, Ahmedabad	16026.00	119348.00	202039.00
35.	Sandesh, Suraj	174407.00	202818.00	148715.00
36.	Janma Bhoomi, Ahmedabad	429.00	7293.00	7106.00
37.	Gujarat Samachar, Rajkot	100341.00	123948.00	10053.00
38.	Sandesh, Rajkot	146178.00	81635.00	39773.00
39.	Gujarat Today, Ahmedabad	85704.00	29955.00	7934.00
40.	Valsad Times, Valsad	23935.00	2340.00	.00*
41.	Hamlog, Patna	16996.00	1300.00	.00*
42.	New Surat Times, Surat	53680.00	1490.00	.00*
43.	Karnavati Express, Ahmedabad	8846.00	.00*	.00*
44.	Financial Express, Ahmedabad	28251.00	.00*	.00*
45.	Janyug, Surandranagar	.00*	00*	10952.00
46.	Hindu, Ahmedabad	224029.00	220210.00	183635.00
47.	Nobat, Jamnagar	95992.00	140844.00	114420.00
48.	Bhoomi, Jamnagar	90402.00	98962.00	53743.00
49.	Akila, Rajkot	156322.00	122964.00	98811.00
50.	Saurashtra Bhoomi, Junagadh	53780.00	50836.00	31161.00
51.	Western Times, Ahmedabad	129755.00	158722.00	171166.00
52.	Sanj Samachar, Rajkot	77710.00	46061.00	41645.00
53.	Chanchal, Bhuj	28395.00	32609.00	22066.00
54.	Yugprabhav, Baroda	20567.00	9035.00	4552.00

1	2	3	4	5
55.	Navnirman, Surat	28147.00	12412.00	30508.00
56.	Bindu, Ahmedabad	21944.00	22261.00	2882.00
57.	Good Evening, Jamnagar	14645.00	16233.00	6682.00
Weeklies				
58.	Sadhana, Ahmedabad	7805.00	7706.00	3694.00
59.	Phulwadi, Rajkot	6231.00	9743.00	10672.00
60.	Stree, Ahmedabad	30169.00	21536.00	37139.00
61.	Amruta, Rajkot	15322.00	10579.00	8720.00
62.	Charotar Bhoomi, Anand	11728.00	10396.00	16078.00
63.	Matru Bhoomi, Kambhat	8918.00	7326.00	16410.00
64.	Maha Gujarat, Patan	9321.00	5887.00	7323.00
65.	Ramban, Rajkot	5260.00	4680.00	4680.00
66.	Vyapar Udyog, Ahmedabad	17514.00	35694.00	22858.00
67.	Gujarat Times, Nadiad	22775.00	13409.00	14839.00
68.	Panchmahal Vartman, Godhra	6485.00	5220.00	6786.00
69.	Satyakam, Bharuch	5260.00	4680.00	4915.00
70.	Kheda Vartman, Kheda	7718.00	5220.00	8526.00
71.	Janyug, Rajkot	5260.00	4680.00	5564.00
72.	Lok Bhoomi, Borsad	8918.00	7326.00	15207.00
73.	Taratam, Jamnagar	6365.00	4680.00	4680.00
74.	Chanakya, Jamnagar	5260.00	4680.00	440.00
75.	Janta Soor, Jamnagar	5260.00	4680.00	4680.00

1	2	3	4	5
76.	Gurjar Sandesh, Godhra	6609.00	5220.00	3596.00
77.	Sarvodaya, Kapadwanj	5260.00	4680.00	4680.00
78.	Deep Kamal, Khambhat	6609.00	5220.00	5720.00
79.	Mahasaurashtra, Rajkot	663.00	3380.00	2790.00
80.	Agekadam, Petlad	8726.00	5220.00	4067.00
81.	Mayur Bhumi, Morvi	5730.00	1170.00	4212.00
82.	Gujarat Prabha, Surat	7348.00	5220.00	11644.00
83.	Gujarat Prabha, Bharuch	9563.00	7429.00	8646.00
84.	Cheti Chand, Nadiad	6365.00	4680.00	4900.00
85.	Kekarav, Visnagar	6365.00	3380.00	4212.00
86.	Samaya, Surendra Nagar	7718.00	5220.00	6902.00
87.	Pinal Times, Patna	5260.00	4680.00	4680.00
88.	Tamanna, Ahmedabad	8918.00	3380.00	1212.00
89.	Outdoor-Indoor, Ahmedabad	6609.00	.00*	.00*
90.	Bhuj Samachar, Bhuj	3050.00	.00*	.00*
91.	Gujarat Today, Ahmedabad	4759.00	29955.00	.00*
92.	Kathiawar Times, Rajkot	.00*	.00*	4212.00
93.	Gram Sahyobi, Rajkot	.00*	.00*	3673.00
94.	Hamsafar, Patan	.00*	.00*	3132.00
95.	Swarajya, Palanpur	.00*	5220.00	6496.00
96.	Uttar Ganga, Mehsana	.00*	4680.00	4800.00
97.	Divadandi, Disa	.00*	.00*	4284.00
98.	Sewa Sandesh, Dahoo	.00*	.00*	4212.00

1	2	3	4	5
99.	Yuvadrashan, Bombay	.00*	8436.00	16519.00
100.	Prerana Patrika, Baroda	.00*	.00*	4212.00
101.	Chetak Chakra, Ahmedabad	.00*	.00*	4212.00
102.	Rashtriya Prem, Ahmedabad	6365.00	5148.00	2867.00
103.	Sachai, Ahmedabad	7294.00	5148.00	5712.00
104.	Jhulelal, Ahmedabad	.00*	.00*	3042.00
Fortnightlies				
105.	Dharma Sandesh, Ahmedabad	4080.00	800.00	.00*
106.	Niranjan, Rajkot	4250.00	4800.00	7771.00
107.	Rang Tarang, Ahmedabad	5783.00	.00*	897.00
108.	Adarsh Pariwar, Rajkot	.00*	.00*	3884.00
109.	Yojana, Ahmedabad	.00*	.00*	2574.00
Monthlies				
110.	Jyotishdeep, Ahmedabad	2975.00	2091.00	2708.00
111.	Sakhi, Ahmedabad	6384.00	6113.00	9220.00
112.	Stree Jiwan, Ahmedabad	768.00	450.00	580.00
113.	Arthsankalan, Ahmedabad	1275.00	900.00	1184.00
114.	Arthik Vikas, Ahmedabad	2955.00	2085.00	3432.00
115.	Yojana, Ahmedabad	3077.00	.00*	.00*
116.	Krushi Vigyan, Rajkot	.00*	4392.00	6052.00
TOTAL		12302592.00	11442130.00	8936338.00

*Publication not borne on the panel during the year.

*[Translation]***Projection of India's Image**

122. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any offers from various advertising agencies in response to the call given by the Ministry for presentation of Indian view in the World Fora;

(b) if so, whether the Government have selected any agency for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which these advertising agencies are likely to be helpful in projecting the image of India in various foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has received submissions from various advertising agencies for preparation of advertisements promoting India as an attractive destination for business and investment.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise, Sir.

(d) It is felt that these advertising agencies will be able to put across in an attractive form the message that the Government seeks to communicate to potential investors and foreign

businessmen, namely that India offers innumerable opportunities for trade and investment.

*[English]***New Sponge Iron Plants**

123. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up sponge iron plants in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Central Government has no proposal to set up new sponge iron plants in the country.

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

Development of Inland Water Transport System

124. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far with regard to the first national waterway and the proposals regarding the development of new ones; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to boost the inland water transport system in order to make full utilisation of inland waterways of the country?

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

(a) In National Waterway No.1 (The Ganga), a fairway of minimum 45 m width is being maintained. Instructions have been issued to the Inland Waterways Authority of India to maintain 2m depth. The facilities such as Channel marking for day navigation and terminals are available.

In National Waterway No. 2 (The Brahmaputra), a fairway of minimum 45m width is being maintained. Instructions have been issued to the Inland Waterways Authority of India to maintain 2 m depth. The facilities such as Channel marking for day navigation and terminals at Dhubri and Pandu are available.

In National Waterway No.3 (The West Coast Canal), a fairway of minimum 32m width and 2m depth is being maintained in Udyogmandal Canal and Champakara Canal. In Kochi-Kollam stretch of West Coast Canal dredging is in progress in critical shoals so as to facilitate vessel movement.

There is a proposal for declaring river Godavari from Cherla to Rajahmundry alongwith its Delta Canals as National Waterway.

(b) In order to boost up Inland Water Transport, the IWAI are providing the following incentive schemes:-

- (i) Interest subsidy on most of the loan taken from banks for the

purpose of acquiring new IWT Vessels.

- (ii) Under the scheme of experimental-cum-promotional IWT operations by private operators on the Ganga, it is proposed to hire 2 nos. of 600 tonnes capacity vessels by IWAI from CIWTC Ltd., and give them to the private IWT operators free of hire charges for a period of one year.
- (iii) Compensation of 10 paise per river KM tonne of cargo moved non-availability of infrastructural facilities in the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.
- (iv) No fees/charges for utilization of the waterways.
- (v) Loans to the extent of 50% to the State Govts. for development of IWT under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Chawandia Lime Stone Project

125. SHRI TARA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NMDC Limited has been in the process of changing the terms of contract for the Chawandia Lime Stone Project;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether certain operations have been taken out of the contract; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) has examined the validity of the contract in respect of Chawandia Lime Stone Project (Rajasthan) so as to ensure that there is no violation of the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

(d) The following items of work are proposed to be removed from the scope of the contract:

- (i) Loading into truck or tipper.
- (ii) Transport of sized limestone to Nagpur railway siding and unloading at loading yard for 46 Kms. lead, and
- (iii) By more categorically clarifying that the overburden removal, drilling and blasting will be done by NMDC departmentally.

US Views over AGNI

126. SHRI CHANDERJEET YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent remarks of the US Ambassador designate to India Mr. Frank G. Wisner before the US Senate on the country's missile programme;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In response to a question during the course of his confirmation hearings before the Near East and South Asia Sub-Committee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, US Ambassador-designate to India Mr. Frank Wisner stated that Prithvi was an indigenously produced missile of short range which was not, so far as he knew, configured for a nuclear warhead. Wisner added that the US position was that India should consider the consequences of missile deployments when tensions were already high. He said that the Prithvi had not yet been deployed and hoped that Government of India would not undertake deployment. Regarding Agni, he said that, if deployed or built, it would be with concern about China in mind. He added that Agni, however, was an experimental rocket and he was not aware whether any new round of experiment was being contemplated by Government of India.

The US State Department issued a clarification on 31 May, 1994 that Ambassador Wisner was reiterating the long-standing position of the United States which had been addressed in bilateral consultations with both India and Pakistan.

(c) Government remain committed to a policy of determining the course of India's missile programme on the basis of India's national security requirements.

[Translation]

Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs

127. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had made any proposal to set up a permanent cell in Commonwealth to assist the member

countries to deal with the problem of illegal trafficking of narcotic drugs;

(b) if so, reaction of the other member countries thereto; and

(c) the present position of the said proposal?

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

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

[English]

Mining Sector

123. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
P.A.O:
SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations made at the 31st International Round Table Conference on foreign investment, exploration and mining in India;

(b) the steps being taken to implement these recommendations;

(c) whether a package of incentives has been envisaged to accelerate foreign investment in mining sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some foreign investment has already been agreed upon by investors; and

(f) if so, the value thereof and the details of minerals listed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The recommendations of the International Round Table Conference organised by the Ministry of Mines are listed in the *Statement* enclosed.

(b) Aerial reconnaissance can be done after due clearance from the concerned aviation authorities, Central Government is empowered to relax the ceiling on area of prospecting licences and mining leases. Geological Survey of India has been asked to make the data available with them more accessible. The State Governments have also been asked to streamline the process of grant of mining rights and other clearances, joint ventures in this sector are being encouraged.

(c) No separate package of incentives has been envisaged for investment in the mining sector.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). It is understood that CRA Exploration India Pvt. Ltd. has submitted application to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for prospecting license over an area of 24,000 Sq. Km. for diamond. Ashton Mining India Pvt. Ltd. has also submitted to the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh application for prospecting license over an area of 15,000 Sq. Km. for diamond. The question of investment would arise after the grant of Prospecting license by the State Governments concerned.

STATEMENT

Recommendations of the International Round Table Conference on Foreign Investment in Exploration and Mining in India held in New Delhi 25-27 April, 1994.

Prospecting Licence/Mining Lease

- (i) The system of reconnaissance permits may be provided for in the mineral legislation.
- (ii) Increasing the limits of areas for prospecting licences and mining leases may be considered favourably. In the case of prospecting licences progressive reduction of areas may be provided for.
- (iii) The question of easy access to land for prospecting activities needs to be urgently addressed.
- (iv) Time limit for processing of applications for prospecting licences and mining leases needs to be reduced.

Geological/Exploration Data

- (i) Geological/exploration data are available with the various organisations such as Geological Survey of India, Mineral Exploration Corporation, State Directorates of Mining and Geology and Indian Bureau of Mines. To facilitate selection of areas/targets for exploration by investors, all the data in respect of particular areas may be compiled and made available at a reasonable price. Increasing the levies for land

covered by prospective licences could also be considered.

- (ii) A price list of GSI reports and reports of other Central and State Government agencies may be published. A tenement map of prospecting licences and mining leases needs to be compiled.

- (iii) A revolving fund may be created with staggered mode of payment for supply of information and data from GSI and other organisations.

Single Window Clearance

In view of the large number of agencies involved with clearance of application of prospecting licence/mining lease, evolving of a single window clearance system merits consideration. Arrangements for speedy issue of environmental clearances may also be made.

Royalty

- (i) Since high rates of royalty pose a major disincentive to attract foreign investors any where, rationalisation of existing rates of royalty may be looked into.
- (ii) Long term stability in rates of royalty merits consideration.

Fiscal

- (i) Setting up of a Mining Finance Corporation for provision of funds for exploration and mine development merits consideration.
- (ii) Exploration expenditure may be treated as R & D expenditure in

view of the high risk involved and uncertainty of results.

- (iii) Fiscal policy may be so structured as to provide adequate incentives for developing marginal prospects.
- (iv) A comparative study may be made of mining and fiscal costs of projects to be developed in India as well as in selected foreign countries to help assess the economic viability of investments for exploration/mining and design for taxation cum policy packages in India.

Joint Ventures

Considering the expertise and highly skilled manpower available in India in exploration/mining, the foreign investors may consider setting up joint ventures with both public and private sector enterprises.

Project Agreements

In the Indian context, the mechanism of Project Agreements/Contract of Work used by certain countries to attract foreign investments in exploration and mining would merits consideration.

General

Both in mineral legislation and mining policy, provisions should be explicit and should not leave room for discretion.

Kashmir Issue

129. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR
YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan President Mr. Farooq Ahmad Leghari has sought America's active engagement in resolving the Kashmir dispute;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Government have seen reports to the effect that the President of Pakistan during his visit to the US on May 20–31, 1994 sought that the US must remain actively engaged in addressing Kashmir issue.

(c) Government are of the view that all differences between India and Pakistan, including aspects relating to J & K issue, should be resolved peacefully and through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement and there can be no role of any sort for any third party.

Telephone Calls

131. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jagraon flocked by ISD callers" appearing in the Indian Express dated April 9, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the further steps taken by the Government to prevent this type of bungling taking place in other parts of the country?

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

(b) Departmental investigation was conducted. However, the allegations contained in the news-item could not be substantiated.

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

(d) Surprise inspections have been stepped up and CBI help is being taken wherever necessary. Special investigation cells of CBI are being set up for metropolitan cities to deal with malpractices. A Bill is introduced in Lok Sabha to further amend Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 providing for deterrent penalties against abettors as well as beneficiaries of malpractices like diversion of lines etc.

Training Abroad

132. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for sending the officers abroad to get training;

(b) the number of officers of his Ministry went abroad to receive training during the last three years; and

(c) the total amount spent on the officers for importing training to them abroad during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A Screening Committee of the Department of Telecom. selects the officers for training courses abroad keeping in view the specialisation of the officer, his/her experience, age, length of service and previous trainings etc.

(b) and (c). A *Statement* indicating the number of officers who were deputed abroad for training during the last 3 years and amount spent each year is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Officers deputed abroad for training	Amount spent on foreign training by the Department of Telecom.
1.	1991-92	64	Rs. 20 lakhs
2.	1992-93	42	Rs. 7.20 lakhs
3.	1993-94	289	Rs. 760 lakhs

[Translation]

Passport Racket

133. SHRI RAM KAPSE:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major Passport racket has been busted by the Central Bureau of Investigation involving people having connection with Bombay explosions;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the *modus operandi* of the racket as revealed by the CBI; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that such rackets do not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected, and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Censor Board for Doordarshan Programme

134. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Censor Board to curb depiction of obscenity on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, whether any code of conduct has been formulated in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the penalty to be awarded to those who violate the model code of conduct for obscenity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no proposal to set up a separate Censor Board for Doordarshan programmes.

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

Indians Settled Abroad

135. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise number of persons of Indian origin settled in various countries;

(b) the efforts being made by the Government to provide protection to them;

(c) whether people of Indian origin are often harassed and treated as second class citizens in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Bangladesh; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard with the concerned foreign Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A *Statement* showing estimated number of persons of Indian origin country-wise is enclosed.

(b) Government keeps itself informed on an on-going basis about the welfare of the overseas Indian community in foreign countries. Persons of Indian

origin with foreign nationality are, however,
primarily the responsibility of the foreign
Government concerned.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

*Statement of estimated number of persons of Indian origin world wide
as on 31.12.93*

Sl. No.	Name of the country	Total No. of Overseas Indians	Foreign Nationals	Indian Citizens
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Afghanistan	N.A.	N.A.	Nil
2.	Algeria	88	Nil	88
3.	Angola	30	8	22
4.	Auguilla	3	Nil	Nil
5.	Antigua	4	Nil	Nil
6.	Argentina	1,700	900	300
7.	Armenia	179	Nil	179
8.	Aruba	50	10	40
9.	Albania	5	Nil	5
10.	Australia	1,00,000	75,000	25,000
11.	Austria	7,250	1,212	6,035
12.	Azerbeizan	50	Nil	50
13.	Bahamas	200	N.A.	N.A.
14.	Behrain	1,15,000	N.A.	1,15,000
15.	Bangladesh	329	6	323
16.	Belarus	106	Nil	106

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Barbados †	N.A.	N.A.	69
18.	Belgium	7,096	2,779	4,317
19.	Belize	680	120	560
20.	Republic of Benin (Gostonov)	250	Nil	250
21.	Bhutan Ø	20,000	Nil	20,000
22.	Bolivia	80	Nil	80
23.	Bosnia & Nersegovina	1	Nil	1
24.	Botswana	2,700	20	2,680
25.	Brazil	1,400	1,300	100
26.	Brunei	9,208	Nil	9,208
27.	Bulgaria	50	Nil	50
28.	Burkina Faso	5	1	4
29.	Burundi	250	75	175
30.	Combodia	55	Nil	55
31.	Cameroun	250	Nil	250
32.	Canada	4,20,295	N.A.	N.A.
33.	Cape Verde	2	Nil	2
34.	Caynan Island	50	Nil	50
35.	Central African Republic	8	1	7
36.	Chad	Nil	Nil	Nil
37.	Chile	500	50	450
38.	China	49	Nil	49

1	2	3	4	5
39.	Columbia	58	Nil	58
40.	Comoros	360	180	180
41.	Congo	15	Nil	15
42.	Costa Rica	109	78	31
43.	Croatia	5	1	4
44.	Cuba	37	9	28
45.	Cyprus	312	12	300
46.	Czech Republic	60	4	56
47.	Denmark	1800	1200	600
48.	Dominica	11	Nil.	11
49.	Djibouti	365	15	350
50.	Ecuador	5	Nil	5
51.	Egypt	1,300	40	1,260
52.	Eritrea	20	Nil	20
53.	El. Salvador	8	Nil	8
54.	Estonia	11	2	9
55.	Equitorial Guinea	30	Nil	30
56.	Ethiopia	1,335	390	945
57.	Fiji (as of December 1989)	N.A.	3,52,000	N.A.
58.	Finland	610	285	325
59.	France	6,500	800	5,700
60.	Gabon	11	Nil	11

1	2	3	4	5
61.	Gambia	98	6	92
62.	Guatemala	12	3	9
63.	Germany	37,404	6,000	31,404
64.	Georgia	30	N.A.	30
65.	Ghana	1,200	160	1,040
66.	Greece	3,355	Nil	3,355
67.	Grenada	31	Nil	Nil
68.	Guinea	60	Nil	60
69.	Guinea Hissau	11	Nil	11
70.	Guyana	141	12	129
71.	Hong Kong	20,400	7000	13,400
72.	Hungary	94	1	93
73.	Iceland	17	6	11
74.	Indonesia	61,000	52,048	8,952
75.	Iran	3,000	200	2,800
76.	Iraq	854	2	852
77.	Ireland	1,500	700	800
78.	Israel	60,200	60,000	200
79.	Italy	12,243	109	12,134
80.	Ivory Coast	120	15	105
81.	Jamaica	51,000	50,000	1,000
82.	Japan	5,713	75	5,638
83.	Jordan	2,500	6	2,494

1	2	3	4	5
84.	Kazakhstan	260	Nil	260
85.	Kenya	69,400	62,750	6,650
86.	Korea (Rep. of)	450	50	400
87.	Korea (Dem. Rep. of)	16	Nil	16
88.	Kuwait	N.A.	N.A.	1,50,000
89.	Kyrgyzstan	200	Nil	200
90.	Latvia	Nil	Nil	Nil
91.	Laos PDI	128	Nil	128
92.	Lebanon	10,000	Nil	10,000
93.	Lesotho	200	5	195
94.	Liberia	297	4	293
95.	Libya	12,000	100	11,900
96.	Luxembourg	162	N.A.	N.A.
97.	Madagascar	15,000	8,000	7,000
98.	Malawi	5,000	4,700	300
99.	Malaysia	17,20,000	17,00,000	20,000
100.	Maldives	1,433	1	1,432
101.	Malta	200	50	150
102.	Mali	9	4	5
103.	Mauritius	7,00,885	7,00,085	800
104.	Mauritania	3	1	2
105.	Mexico	129	5	124
106.	Moldova	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
107.	Mongolia	14	Nil	14
108.	Moutserrat	11	Nil	Nil
109.	Morocco	300	1	299
110.	Macedonia	Nil	Nil	Nil
111.	Mozambique	23,000	22,600	400
112.	Myanmar	5,00,000	4,92,034	7,966
113.	Namibia	63	12	51
114.	Nauru	50	Nil	50
115.	Nepal	35,36,891	32,66,298	2,70,593
116.	Netherlands	6,000	1,200	4,800
117.	Netherlands Antilles (Curacaost. Nearten)	2,000	60	1,940
118.	New Zealand	26,980	23,980	3,000
119.	Nicaragua	5	N.A.	N.A.
120.	Niger	13	1	12
121.	Nigeria	15,000	1,000	14,000
122.	Norway	5,300	2,500	2,800
123.	Oman	3,00,000	380	2,99,620
124.	Pakistan	Nil	Nil	Nil
125.	Panama	3,956	128	3,828
126.	Paraguay	30	N.A.	N.A.
127.	Papua New Guinea	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
128.	Peru	82	Nil	82

1	2	3	4	5
129.	Philippines	10,000	1,500	8,500
130.	Poland	80	2	78
131.	Portugal	1,00,000	98,000	2,000
132.	Qatar	80,500	500	80,000
133.	Reunion Island	1,80,150	1,80,000	150
134.	Romania	46	4	42
135.	Rwanda	360	120	240
136.	Saharawi Arab Democratic Rep.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
137.	Sao-Tome	Nil	Nil	Nil
138.	Saudi Arabia	10,40,000	1,000	10,39,000
139.	Senegal	52	27	25
140.	Seychelles	5,400	5,000	400
141.	Sierra Loone	500	35	495
142.	Singapore	2,06,000	1,85,000	21,000
143.	Somalia	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
144.	South Africa	10,30,000	10,00,000	30,000
145.	Spain	11,000	1,800	9,200
146.	Sri Lanka	6,43,847	5,12,965	1,30,882
147.	St. Kittalevis	8	Nil	Nil
148.	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	60	Nil	60
149.	St. Lucia	35	1	34
150.	Sudan	1,900	145	1,755

1	2	3	4	5
151.	Suriname	N.A.	N.A.	120
152.	Swaziland	150	Nil	150
153.	Sweden	11,051	9,339	1,712
154.	Switzerland	4,716	879	3,837
155.	Syrian Arab Republic	409	1	408
156.	Slovenin	30	Nil	30
157.	Slovak Republic	19	Nil	19
158.	Taajikistan	60	Nil	60
159.	Tanzania	49,500	46,500	3,000
160.	Thailand	85,000	75,000	10,000
161.	Togo	235	15	220
162.	Tonga	12	Nil	12
163.	Trinidad Tobago	289	13	276
164.	Tunisia	42	Nil	42
165.	Turkey	151	Nil	151
166.	Turks & Caicus Island	20	Nil	20
167.	Turkmenistan	50	Nil	50
168.	Uganda	1,500	1,000	500
169.	Ukraine	838	Nil	838
170.	U.A.E.	4,50,000	N.A.	4,50,000
171.	U.K.	3,40,255	N.A.	N.A.
172.	U.S.A.	10,00,000	N.A.	N.A.

1	2	3	4	5
173.	Russia	1,800	3	1,707
174.	Uruguay	10	N.A.	N.A.
175.	Uzbekistan	700	Nil	700
176.	Vanuatu	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
177.	Venezuela	280	30	250
178.	Vietnam	N.A.	N.A.	135
179.	Western Samon	30	Nil	30
180.	Yewn, Rep. of	1,07,780	1,00,080	7700
181.	Yugoslavia	21	1	20
182.	Zaire	1200	550	650
183.	Zambia	10,390	9,880	6,510
184.	Zimbabwe	15,200	14,000	1,200
		14,133,687	9,369,676	3,005,316

Notes:-

Figures marked * as on 1.7.91

Figures marked 0 as on 1.12.92

NA means Not Available

The totals of Column 3, Column 4 & Column 5 do not tally because figures for each of these columns for several countries are not available.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations

136. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide funds in the form of grants to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, the funds provided during each of the last three years;

(c) whether periodical review and assessment of these institutions are being done effectively;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations receives grants-in-aid from the ministry of External Affairs.

(b) The details of the grant received during the last three years are as follows:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Amount
1991-92	13.50
1992-93	14.55
1993-94	15.00

(c) and (d). The activities and the programmes of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations are regularly monitored and viz., the General Assembly, the Governing Body and the Finance Committee. As per the Constitution of the Council, the Governing Body has been entrusted with the responsibility for the supervision and control of the work of the Council. Additionally, the Foreign Secretary is *ex-officio* Vice-President of the ICCR. The Financial Advisor in the Ministry of External Affairs is the Financial Advisor to the Council and is a Member of the Finance Committee. This ensures that the activities and the programme of the Council are carried out within the framework of the broad mandate given to the Council.

(e) Does not arise.

Shipping Industry

137. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up a Committee to examine the scope for further liberalisation in the shipping industry;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee and whether State Governments' representatives have also been included in the Committee; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its recommendations?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Group has been constituted to examine and make recommendations on the Indian national Ship-owners Association's request for further liberalising the controls. This includes:—

- (i) Review of guidelines on trade licence policy for ships;
- (ii) Proposal to issue safe Manning Certificate Scales for all categories of ships;
- (iii) Removal of Pre-conditions and other restrictions attached with approval letter for acquisition of ships;
- (iv) Setting up of time-bound norms for clearance and approval of various types of ships; and
- (v) Relaxation of age norms.

State Governments' representatives are not included in the Committee.

(c) The group is expected to submit its report in the near future.

control the sugar price, therefore, I beg to move Adjournment Motion.

Loans from Asian Development Bank

138. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has recently proposed a set of projects to the Steel Ministry which involves taking of loans from the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

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

12.00 hrs.

RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a copy of Lok Sabha : Practice and Procedure in my hands and I would like to take advantage of one of the rules of it.

This particular rule gives right to the hon. Members to move Adjournment Motion to discuss a particular matter. Since the Government have failed to

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already given a notice to this effect, and it is under your consideration. It is a matter of public interest which is related with the day to day life of common man. Sugar is being sold at the rate of Rs. 16.50 per kg. in the open market...*(Interruptions)*... I wish to amend what I have stated, actually the sugar price has gone up to Rs. 20.00 per kg. Why has it happened? Was the Government not aware of the probability of inadequate production of sugarcane and consequently having lesser production of sugar? Was it not the duty of the Government to make prior arrangement for importing sugar? This Government has even not decided who would import the sugar. One Ministry blames the other while the concerned Minister rebukes his secretary in public. What does the Prime Minister's Secretariat do—only God knows?

The way in which sugar prices have soared in open market—has caused a loss of crores of rupees. Not only the sugar industrialists, but the traders have also earned huge profit. This is summer season, and the consumption of sugar is much more now a days because of the season of marriages and festival time. Moreover, the aspect of importing sugar from foreign countries should also be investigated. But the matter should be discussed extensively before doing so. This is our demand. It is not the first time that sugar scandal has taken place. In 1989 I was the Chairman of Public Accounts Committee and Shri Sukh Ram who hails from Himachal Pradesh, was the concerned Minister, perhaps he has still not forgotten the consequences he had to meet. Sugar is not always sweet, sometimes sugar tastes sour, and this the situation that prevails in the country

at present. It is a very serious matter. Since it is related with the life of common people, therefore, it requires immediate attention. My adjournment Motion should not be disallowed on the pretext that price rise is a continuous process, and that I should have raised it earlier?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request you to allow discussion on the matter of public interest...*(Interruptions)*. The Government should also be given opportunity to clarify their stand on the subject.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): We have also given an adjournment motion about sugar...*(Interruptions)*... I hope you are going to admit it... *(Interruptions)*..

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): We have also given notices for adjournment motion.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): We have also moved an adjournment motion...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are other hon. Members too who support my motion...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of twelve Members have been received.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please do not make undue delay in taking the decision. Such very important matters, at least, should be disposed of quickly. It is such an

important matter that the Parliament has become the focus of attention throughout the country today. I do know that you would say that special session has been called to consider the Representation of People (Amendment) Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you need not predict what I am going to say.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: No please, the Government is likely to give such argument, I did not mean it to you. Such arguments would be given to postpone the matter and delay the discussion on it. The matters can be kept undecided and discussion can be disallowed but it is very essential to convey the dissatisfaction arising in public due to incessant increase in sugar prices. For this, we would condemn the Government, mere discussion on the subject won't do.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the Government's stand?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): According to the Rules of Procedure, it will be proper for the hon. Speaker to make a decision in the matter. This can be discussed under a motion other than the adjournment motion. *(Interruptions)*

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: The Rule Book here provides various

contingencies. The hon. Minister has already given a notice for making a *suo motu* statement on this subject. After hearing the statement of the Minister, the House can decide whether a motion can be accepted for discussion. A discussion can be held in the House under various rules which you may be pleased to decide. Therefore, I would request you to let the Minister make a statement on this matter. (Interruptions)

After that, you can take a view whether an adjournment motion is necessary or a discussion on an urgent matter of public importance can be held under other rules of the Rules of Procedure.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): We want to censure the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: That is very clear when you have given the notice.

Well, before I decide on this point, I would like to hear from the concerned Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This is not a matter concerned with or confined to one Minister alone. Thousands of crores of rupees have changed hands.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I don't want your statement now. I would like to know what you have to say on what Shri Vajpayee has said.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): Sir, I would like to submit to all the hon. Members that they may please consult and discuss the matter.. (Interruptions)... I would give reply to all their questions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All right. I give my consent to the Adjournment Motion. I have received notices from twelve Members. It has to be balloted. So, we will ballot the names and then we will fix the time. We may now go to the next item.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Who are those twelve Members?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: When will it be fixed?

MR. SPEAKER: There are one or two procedures to be followed. First of all, we will ballot the names. After balloting the names, the person whose name comes in the ballot will be asked to raise the issue. Then, a particular number of Members will have to stand up and support the Motion. Then we will fix the time.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The matter should be discussed today itself.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, we will try to fix it today.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): May I know those twelve names from whom you have received notices?

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. The list has gone for ballot.

12.12 hrs.

RE: EXPLOITATION/KILLING OF
HARIJANS IN PHULBANI,
ORISSA

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, In the State of Orissa, in Phulbani District, there has been a large scale killing of Harijans. This planned and organised conspiracy by some political leaders is taking place in order to completely liquidate the Harijans in my constituency. This issue has been highlighted in the news media and also discussed all over the country in various forums. For the last three months, there has been a turmoil in my constituency and Harijans are being killed like anything. More than 15,000 Harijans have migrated from my district. The neighbouring districts are also being affected gradually. As a result, there will be retaliation by both the communities, viz. the Harijans and the Adivasis. This is a planned conspiracy because two rival leaders of the Janata Dal are engaged in the task of finishing each other. This will create communal violence in the district. Even the Chief Minister and the Home Minister have openly confessed about it in the Assembly in a statement. Harijans are being exploited. Irresponsible and provocative statements have led to communal clashes. I hold the Chief Minister responsible for having created such communal violence in my district. I seek

your protection. I have also demanded that the Chief Justice of India should be appointed as the head of the Inquiry Committee to probe the situation. I also demand that adequate protection be given to the Harijans. There should be sincere attempts to create communal amity, mutual trust and brotherhood. I need your specific ruling on this. The Central Government should react because the State Government has expressed its inability. They have also confessed frankly that the situation in the Phulbani District cannot be tackled even with the deployment of the entire forces in the State. So, it is high time that the Centre should intervene. I have discussed the matter with the Home Minister also. Every Member is agitated over this matter and I urge that the Home Minister should make a statement on the floor of the House.

SRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I have also given a notice of the same issue.

MR. SPEAKER: No, please.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): This is a very serious matter and...

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, before the Home Minister react, you should please hear me.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Would you like to speak on the same issue?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Yes, Sir, I have also given a notice on this issue.

Phulbani district was the most peaceful district in our State where Adivasis and Harijans, that is the

Scheduled Castes were living in harmony. For the last three months there was a killing spree, burning of houses and the State Government has completely failed to control the situation. It appears that the State Government wants to keep this situation alive keeping in view the coming elections. Many manifestations are there. Whatever they may do for elections, but to create a disastrous condition in the most peaceful and harmonious state where Adivasis and harijans live in harmony is not a thing to be appreciated. It is a matter of concern for the whole nation. Therefore, I urge upon the Home Minister to comment on this and to inquire whether there is any instigation behind this and whether there is a plan to keep it alive to make life miserable. *(Interruptions)*

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): I request that a Parliamentary Committee headed by the Home Minister should probe into the matter and that the entire Report should be laid on the Table of the House. A sincere attempt should be made to resolve the crisis which is agitating the whole country. It seems that all this is done due to the instigation of Janata Dal Party and the State Government has completely failed to run the administration of the State. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, as stated earlier, it is a very very serious situation which is prevailing in the most peaceful district of Orissa, that is Phulbani. Many reputed Press Reporters have made an on-the-spot study of the situation prevailing in Phulbani and they have come out with the observation that it is an outcome of internal differences and group conflicts of the Janata Dal Party in Orissa. They have named one leader... (Not recorded) who is inciting the people.

MR. SPEAKER: The name will not form part of the record.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: They have taken a cue from the Chief Minister's statement made on the floor of the Assembly saying that the Harijans too exploit the Adivasis. This has intensified the trouble and 13 persons have lost their lives. It is gradually spreading over to other parts of the State. This is a very serious situation and it is time for the Government of India to intervene in the matter. I request the Government that in order to bring the communal harmony back between the poor Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who are made to fight among themselves the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission should also rush to that place and try its best to bring amity. An inquiry should also be conducted in this regard.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKAR (Ballia): Recently I was in Phulbani. The situation is quite serious there. I am surprised why the Government of India has not come out with any statement so far because it is almost a month when this whole thing had started. The situation is getting worsened every day. I do not know about the facts but I found during my two days' visit to the place that most of the members of the public share the concern expressed by various Members here. I do not want to say anything about the Orissa Government or the Chief Minister or the various statements that have come out in the local Papers. But, if people have this type of apprehension, it is a fit case where the Home Minister should use his machinery to know the facts and tell the people in clear and unambiguous terms as to who is responsible for this type of crime. Phulbani was the most peaceful tribal area and if in that tribal area this type of situation

arises and it continues for more than a month, it should be the concern of everybody. I join the concern of every Member of the House and I hope the Home Minister must have investigated the matter and if he has not, then he should use his intelligence agencies and other agencies to find out the fact.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we feel hurt in this regard. The hon. Member Shri Mrutunjaya Nayak who belongs to that constituency has given a statement. I do agree with Shri Chandrashekhar that the entire country is concerned about this particular matter regarding Orissa. The age old cordiality in the relations of Harijan-Adivasis has declined and it has been three months since when the incidents to this effect have been taking place. I would like to submit that this should not be allowed to happen in Harijan-Adivasis. The Parliament holds responsibility in this matter because the entire nation is concerned about it. Through you, I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to take measures and immediately restore peace there. The rift between harijan and Adivasis should not be allowed to widen. The Parliament should appeal to stop such happenings in Orissa which encourage tension. The Central Government should direct the State Government to take immediate measures to restore peace in the state. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should collect the facts if he does not have, furnish them to the House and take measures to restore peace there... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Every Member need not speak. Be brief.

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar): Sir, some vested interests for their narrow ends had provoked these two exploited sections viz., the tribals and the Scheduled Castes. Further, the statement...*

MR SPEAKER: If you are making allegations against some persons who are not able to defend themselves, it can be made against any other persons also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: No. All those things have come in the newspapers. A separate statement was made in the State Legislative Assembly also. After that, the main political parties in that district viz., the Janata Dal and the Congress, none of them tried to pacify the people there. I do not know whether they wanted to take advantage of the situation. It is not a law and order affair of a State but it is a serious problem between the tribals and the Scheduled Caste. It concerns the Central Government also. So, it is their duty also to take steps but they had also failed in their duty.

This is what I wanted to say.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are very late.

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is your direction and also the convention of the House that the state matters are not raised in the House, but the matters relating to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have been raised in the past and the same has been repeated today with your permission. The

news regarding the incidents that took place as a result of tension between the Adivasis and Harijans in Phulbani have been appearing in the newspapers everyday; it is a matter of concern. Thirteen people have been liquidated and the State Government is still not taking any action in this regard. Tension is mounting there. I would like to know whether the Central Government intend to remain a mere mute spectator or would intervene. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs may please give a statement to apprise the House of the steps proposed to be taken. Had the State Government tackled the situation on its own, it would have been better. But the fact is that the State Government is watching while the chasm between Harijans and Adivasis is widening and killings are taking place. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs may please give a statement in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Please allow me to speak, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: But this is unending:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: I will take only one minute, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: What new thing you are going to say?

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Sir, the State Government has dealt with this issue in a political manner. Therefore, my request to the hon. Home Minister through you is that at least the Central Government should deal with this situation in a humanitarian way. He should solve this problem because the State Government has totally failed to solve this problem.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN; Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am in full agreement with what the hon. Members are saying. It is a serious matter and we were under the impression that the State Government will be able to restore peace in that area. But the way the entire thing has been handled and the kind of allegations which some of the hon. Members have made, I will have to get the report from the State Government first because that will be the authoritative version.

I will have to ask the intelligence agencies also. Though they gave me a very brief report, a detailed report will have to be got from that area as to how the whole thing started and who, in fact, is responsible. I cannot possibly disclose in the House as to what exactly the intelligence agencies have reported to me.

Thirdly, I will specially request the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission to kindly go over there and also submit a report to the Government, as a special report, especially about this area and thereafter we will consider as to what needs to be done. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I may bring to the notice of this House through you, Sir, and also to be immediate attention of the Government the pathetic and miserable situation and sufferings of the 35 lakhs of coconut cultivators in Kerala due to the deep fall in prices of coconut in Kerala.

The Government has not taken any effective measures even when the Government have the knowledge that the benefit of oilseeds will also be made available to coconut cultivators. But nothing has been done so far. Even the support price fixed by the Government

was quite inadequate. As a result of which 35 lakhs of cultivators and their families are suffering like anything. I do not know why the Government is just giving a deaf ear to such a serious situation faced by the people of Kerala.

Again, Sir, on the one hand there is a fall in the prices of coconut, on the other hand, the prices of all these industrial products for which the coconut oil has been used as a by-product, have been going up. For example, soap and hair oil. Its estimated loss is Rs. 1,500 crores. But I just would like to avail of this occasion to urge the Minister of Agriculture to pay some attention to this humanitarian problem. Therefore, he must also give due consideration to this burning issue in Kerala. I think the Minister would just do something in this matter and some effective measures will be taken to save the situation in Kerala, which the hon. Minister knows much better than me. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): It is a very serious issue in the State of Kerala and for the last ten years there is no Coconut Board there... *(Interruptions)*... It is a very serious problem. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you. Your statement is not going on record.

You should help to maintain some discipline in the House. I have called his name. You should sit down.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: I request the hon. Minister to respond to it. It is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may discuss this matter with the Members from Kerala.

Now, half-an-hour is over.

MR. SPEAKER: The lady member who is recently elected, it appears, is in the House and she has asked whether she can take the oath. I think she should be allowed to take the oath. If she is there, she may be called and she may take the oath.

12.30 hrs.

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Lovely Anand Singh (Vaishali)

12.32 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Governors (Emoluments Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 475(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 1994 under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5986/94]

**Ministry of Surface Transport,
Roads Wing (Chief Draftsmen)
Recruitment Rules, 1994 and Major
Port Trusts Act, 1963, etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):
I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Ministry of Surface Transport, Roads Wing, (Chief Draftsmen) Recruitment Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 350(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1994 issued under proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5987/94]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:-

- (i) G.S.R. 34(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1994 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Eighth Amendment Regulations, 1994.

- (ii) G.S.R. 58(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1994 approving the Cochin Port Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) (Amendment) Regulations, 1994.

- (iii) G.S.R. 101(E) published in Gazette of India dated the

18th February, 1994 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees' (Leave Travel Concession) Third Amendment Regulations, 1994.

- (iv) G.S.R. 104(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 1994 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Festival Advances) Regulations, 1994.

- (v) G.S.R. 103(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 1994 approving the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5988/94]

- (3) A copy of the Sailing Vessels (Assignment of Free Board) Amendment Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 159 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1994 under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5989/94]

**Manipur Municipalities Ordinance,
1994 (No. 6 of 1994) Punjab
Municipal Corporation Law
(Extension to Chandigarh)
Ordinance, 1994 (No. 7 of 1994)
and New Delhi Municipal Council
Ordinance, 1994 (No 8 of 1994)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution:-

- (1) The Manipur Municipalities Ordinance, 1994 (No. 6 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 24th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5990/94]

- (2) The Punjab Municipal Corporation Law (Extension to Chandigarh) Ordinance, 1994 (No. 7 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 24th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5991/94]

- (3) The New Delhi Municipal Council Ordinance, 1994 (No. 8 of 1994) promulgated by the President on the 25th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5992/94]

12.34 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Seventh Report

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): I beg to lay on the Table

a copy of the Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on Spices.

12.34½ hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

As reported by the Joint Committee

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to move for leave to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as reported by the Joint Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to say something, Mr. Minister?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Is there any objection for withdrawal?

The House will recall that this Bill was introduced by me and now that the same provisions are being incorporated in another Bill which I am likely to introduce after the withdrawal of this Bill and it is covered by the Rules of this House. Rule 110 provides for it, I am competent and fully justified in withdrawing this Bill and there should be no objection to withdraw this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act,

1951, as reported by the Joint Committee."

[English]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not yet read out my objection and the hon. Minister has given his explanation. My objection was that under Rule 110 any Bill could be withdrawn under specific circumstances. The hon. Minister did not clarify whether the provision in the Bill was to be scrapped or a new Bill was proposed to be introduced to replace the old one. Since the start of the session we have been demanding for the delimitation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes but that has not been done. They are withdrawing the motion moved in Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a Bill on People's Representation Act.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): The hon. Minister's proposal to withdraw the Bill is important from the point of view that two Bills regarding electoral reforms are already under the consideration of the House. In the meantime this Bill was referred to the Joint Select Committee. They discussed the pros and cons of the Bill and submitted their report. Thereafter, this Bill was introduced here. The Government mentioned the reasons for withdrawing the Bill and introducing a comprehensive Bill to amend RPA, 1951. However, my submission is that this Bill too contains no concrete provisions for electoral reforms. The members of BJP have been demanding for a Bill regarding electoral reforms for a long time inside and outside the House. The Government somehow managed to introduce the Bill making the provision for all the electoral expenses.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to say as to why the leave should be given and why the leave should not be given.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: My submission is that introducing Bill and withdrawing it time and again is a mockery of electoral reforms. We have no objection to introducing a comprehensive Bill containing the provision for state funding and other important provisions. The Bill introduced earlier provided provisions for diesel and petrol supply, state funding etc. Similarly, a Bill regarding the recommendations of Goswami report has still been lying pending with Rajya Sabha. The new Bill repeats only the provisions made in the previous Bill, thus it is not at all a comprehensive Bill. It has been brought just with an intention to disqualify the need to issue identity cards. It is being introduced to provide special benefits for contesting elections to a particular political party. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill providing for concrete electoral reforms, otherwise the entire exercise of the Joint Select Committee and the decisions taken regarding electoral reforms are likely to prove nothing more than a mockery. Therefore, I would like the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill in the real sense.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to repeat all these points.

MR. SPEAKER: No need to repeat. You may speak only if you have something new.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): There is a need for it because the Government has been repeating the process of introducing and then withdrawing the Bill in the House. Rajya Sabha had passed the Bill unanimously whereas in Lok Sabha the Government is seeking permission to withdraw it, and also wants the other House to do the same. I would like the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill in this session only or constitute a committee and introduce the Bill regarding electoral reforms in the next monsoon session, so that their commitment is realised and an effective electoral procedure is established.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I would humbly request that the hon. Members may see that the RPA enlisted at item No. 8 in today's list of Business is the same which I had introduced in the House in 1993. I would like to introduce it just now. Members of neither state have raised objection on the Bill. The whole Bill has been consolidated into one and all the provisions have been squarely covered under clause 10.

[English]

There can be no objection when all the provisions of that Bill are incorporated there.

MR. SPEAKER: *The question is:*

"That leave be granted to withdraw a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as reported by the Joint Committee."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I withdraw the Bill.

12.42 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

As passed By Rajya Sabha

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R.
BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted by this House to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of this House on the 4th May, 1992."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted to this House to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of the House on the 4th May, 1992."

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill presented in the House by the

Hon. Minister of Law and I urge upon the members of all the parties to understand its implications. The leave had been sought to withdraw the earlier Bill. My colleague Shri Guman Mal Lodhaji and Mohan Singhji has opposed it. They opposed it with a view to make the Government introduce an comprehensive Bill in regard to electoral reforms. Government should not adopt a policy of fix-and-start, or in other words, first introducing the Bill on an ad-hoc basis and then withdrawing it. I feel that the Bill presented last year in 1993 by the then hon. Minister of law was a wrong step and that is why it has been withdrawn and this is a welcome step. But the resolution which has just now been put up in the House to withdraw the Bill was introduced by Shri Dinesh Goswamy. This resolution is in connection with the important recommendations made by Dinesh Goswami Committee. This committee has considered certain points as to what is the total number of Members since de-limitation has not taken place in the country for a long time and whether the existing number of members is enough etc.

They were reminded of that also that at the time of de-limitation of constituencies in 1951, the average number of voters for one General seat of Lok Sabha was 7 lakh, it was more or less than that at different places. In today's Lok Sabha also there are some seats where the average number of voters is one lakh to one and a half lakh. But as in 1991 the average number of voters has gone upto 14 lakh ranging from 18 lakh in some place to 3-4 lakh in other places. That is why it was considered that de-limitation is very important. The Dinesh Goswami Committee had recommended that it should not be delayed. That is why, he had himself presented a Bill in 1990 but

Dinesh Goswami Committee had also recommended that there should be an arrangement for rotation because as there are some seats reserved for people belonging to Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes, these have been reserved for them for years together irrespective of the fact that the neighbouring constituencies have an increased population belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes though their number of reserved seats has decreased. Keeping this in view the Committee made a recommendation for an arrangement of rotation. The Government should keep in view that this Bill was not passed during the times of Dinesh Goswami Committee but in fact it was passed unanimously in Rajya Sabha during the times of the present Government when Shri Kumaramangalam who is present here, was the then Law Minister and Bhardwajji had some other portfolio and incidentally the leave is being sought today to withdraw the same Bill. But when it had been sent by Rajya Sabha after being passed, some of our Members developed a doubt that the provision for rotation would affect delimitation and wondered as to what would be the results and it was decided by Shri Kumaramanglam on behalf of the Government and in consultation with all the parties that though normally, when it is passed by Rajya Sabha, then we also pass it in Lok Sabha but this time we can constitute a Select Committee to have a consensus, and we had agreed. The Select Committee was constituted and when this matter was put before it, the unanimous opinion was that there should be delimitation. There was no difference of opinion on that. The difference of opinion was only regarding rotation. The Government was in favour of rotation but the Committee was not, yet the Government got it mentioned in the report that they were in its favour.

[Shri Lal K. Advani]

Our friend Shri Shahabuddin had some objections which he had brought out in the Dissent Note but there was no dispute as regards delimitation and an almost unanimous proposal had been presented before the Government in the form of a report.

Now, what is this Government doing? If the Government is really interested in electoral reforms, then they should get the delimitation proposal passed as it is a very important aspect. After getting it passed, they should then consider Constitution (Amendment) Bill or Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill. But since the provision for rotation has been withdrawn from the unanimous report submitted by the Select Committee, now, it will have to be submitted to them. The Government will present and very likely it will be passed there also because most of the parties agree with it. The delimitation process should not be suspended due to dispute on rotation. No matter what kind of opinion you have about rotation you should start the process of delimitation because even this process takes one to one and a half years. First of all, a Delimitation Commission is constituted and only then the matters progress. That is why it should have been passed. They were going to make a provision for delimitation in the proposed Constitution (Amendment) Bill but it is yet to be presented and a new Article 324 (A) is being added regarding Election Commission which is disputed and different opinions have been expressed even publicly in the Chamber of Mr. Speaker also. When they are not unanimous, then, why do you want to jeopardise this also by adding it to the Bill? If we are really interested in electoral reforms, then, we should be interested in initiating delimitation on which

everybody is unanimous but you are withdrawing it and adding it to some other Bill.

I feel the reasons of withdrawal cited by you are completely unjustified. It is a deliberate attempt to hamper the process of delimitation because the other Bill may not get passed. This Bill is very likely to be passed with unanimity. But they are trying to withdraw a Bill which is going to be passed with unanimity. I urge upon the House to refuse to grant them the leave of the House to withdraw the Bill.

It is my submission that the report submitted by the Select Committee chaired by Shri Kumaramangalam, should be adopted as it is without any further dispute.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria). Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Delimitation Commission used to be constituted for delimitation of seats after the census as per the provisions under the Constitution of India. As per the amendments to constitution passed during emergency the delimitation process is to be undertaken after this century comes to an end. But according to the census which took place in 1991, there has been a 3 per cent increase in the number of Scheduled Castes and Tribes etc. and consequently the questions have been raised in this Committee that the number of candidates in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be increased in proportion to the increase in their population.

It is their right and the Constitution ensures that. But the Central Government has stopped the delimitation process and the files are gathering dust. In the beginning of this Session itself, Rajya Sabha had taken up this question and

passed a unanimous Bill and then that Bill was presented here. The House should have passed it there and then but due to some apprehensions it had been referred to a Select Committee. It was referred to the Select Committee in May, 1992 with a view that this Bill would be passed in the forthcoming monsoon Session after quelling all the misconceptions and apprehensions. But the Central Government is withdrawing it even after the lapse of two years and in fact it has been linked with some other disputed Bill and which does not enjoy unanimous following in the House. I am of the opinion that this Bill should be passed in its original form and the other disputed Bill should be separately presented.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government that the leave to withdraw this Bill, which is in the interest of the advasis, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes of this country, should not be given.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as delimitation is concerned, there is no dispute and everybody is in favour of it. But the question is, although the Rajya Sabha had adopted the Bill along with the recommendation of the late Dinesh Goswami Committee report, this House felt it necessary to refer it again to a Select Committee which has given its recommendation which, if adopted, will mean another consideration by the Rajya Sabha. It will not become the law with the President's consent, if we make changes in the Bill as adopted by the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, even the Motion that has been

moved by the Minister now, it would have to go to the Rajya Sabha and after the Rajya Sabha has approved of that Motion, then he will have to come once again to this House for withdrawal. So, the process has to be prolonged. It is not a question of process. I am talking of the substance and the content of it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am coming to that. Therefore, today passing that earlier Constitution (Amendment) Bill by this hon. House does not end the process. It has to go to the Rajya Sabha for a proper consideration by the Rajya Sabha and approval of the changes. Then, it can go to the Respected Rashtrapati.

Sir, I am on a different point. This Session has been called for a purpose which has been known to all the hon. Members and the dates were also decided by the hon. leaders of different parties including my learned friend. I believe Vajpayeeji was there at that meeting in this very campus and it was known that a new Constitution (Amendment) Bill which has been circulated would be taken up for consideration—passing or not passing, that is a different thing—along with the Amendment to the Representation of the People Act. Now, certain further changes have been made. That Bill also has not been introduced. Therefore, one Constitution (Amendment) Bill will be introduced wherein provisions for delimitation will be contained along with other provisions plus a Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill will be taken up for consideration. These two Bills, at least, were in our hands although they were not formally introduced in the House. What we have solemnly decided that day, at least we should discuss that. That discussion is possible only if this Motion is adopted. Otherwise, we cannot discuss that. Therefore, what was the

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

solemn agreement that we arrived on that day?

Sir, this unusual Session has been called in between the regular Budget Session and the Monsoon Session. Therefore, I submit that whatever may be our views about the merits of the Bill as and when they come, certainly we shall make our submission. There is no question of compulsion that anybody should agree or disagree. Therefore, at least let us take it up. Otherwise, the whole basis of calling this Session becomes useless and we would have, then, been indulging in futility, calling a Session of this House to discuss two Bills and then we do not do it on technicalities. I submit that this is not correct.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
(Kishanganj): I am on a very specific point.

The hon. Minister has said that the Bill that he proposes to introduce contains the same provisions as the Bill which he is seeking to withdraw.

I would like to bring to the notice of the House that the Bill that he is seeking to withdraw now contains an enabling provision in respect of article 327 of the Constitution, with regard to possibility of rotating the constituency for the purpose of reservation. The Bill which the Minister has now circulated does not contain this provision. Therefore, this is a different Bill altogether. This is one thing that has to be taken into consideration that the new Bill which he is seeking to introduce is new amendment Bill and its provisions are not exactly the same as the provisions contained in the previous Bill which is sought to be withdrawn.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR
(Ballia): I did not want to say a word. But I was surprised by the speech made by my hon. friend, Shri Somnathji that because the hon. leaders decided something to have this Special Session in their wisdom, so we are duty bound to discuss something.

I have not been able to understand the wisdom to call this Special Session. What was the urgency? I have every respect for the leaders. But the Constitution should not be so lightly amended. The Constitution (Amendment) Bill should not be taken so non-seriously. I may be excused to use this word. The Government of India shows its own mind by proposing an amendment, withdrawing the amendment and all that. I do not want to go into it. That has been the nature of things in today's parliamentary practice which is alien to anybody who knows something about the parliamentary procedure and dignity of parliamentary functioning. But that apart, that has been the standard to which we have stood to. I have nothing to say but it only shows fickle mindedness of the Government—they can pass the Bill, withdraw the same Bill and introduce another Bill.

About the other thing that is going to be discussed in this House, about which Mr. Somnath Chatterjee is so particular, I think, this is an affront in the name of amendment of the Constitution. The Constitution should not be amended to favour an individual; the Constitution should not be amended to punish an individual. The Constitution should be amended in order to bring about social transformation, certain basic changes in the functioning of the whole system. I am sorry to say this, Mr. Speaker. There are other provisions by which the Government could have taken a stand on those

matters and have punished a person, if they think that the person is doing something wrong. But instead of facing the facts in all fairness and boldness, the Government is trying to bring about such a thing which is not ideological, which is not a principled stand. But it is being done because of the indecision of the Government of India, because they are suffering from chronic indecision and they want to use Parliament to bring them out from that catastrophe. Parliament should not be used for this purpose. I see no reason why this House should discuss a Bill which they are proposing. Because it is not before the House, I do not want to make comments about it, but that was unnecessary.

Mr. Speaker, I shall tell you very humbly that you were advised by the Government and by the leaders of the Opposition for a matter...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I said, a solemn decision has been taken. Even dates were fixed to accommodate the political parties.

MR. SPEAKER: In all fairness to Shri Vajpayee, I should say, he was reluctant.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had requested that the Session should not be called so early and if we had waited till the July Session it would not have made much difference but it was said that it had been decided. We were asked to give the dates which suited us. The dates, 7th and 8th June, were suggested. Any decision could have been taken when we were in Vadodra. Though we took part in giving suggestions but we

are not bound by any assurance. This Bill should immediately be withdrawn and should at least be post-poned till the July Session.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: The Leader of the Opposition is sitting on the other side. It is not without any reason that I consider him my ideal. He sometimes strikes a point.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am his follower. If I do not always strike a point then it means that there is something wrong with the ideal.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would still like to make a submission to the Government that they should not introduce the proposed Bill to amend the Constitution. This way it would be in keeping with their dignity, the dignity of the Constitution and the dignity of the House.

It is my submission that you should consider what can be done with a unanimous decision and leave everything else. It would preserve the dignity and honour of the House.

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Sir, I rise to oppose the withdrawal of the Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Bill. The Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Bill, 1990 was introduced on 30th of May 1990 along with another Constitution Amendment Bill. Another Constitution Amendment Bill, on the same day, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha. So, the Seventieth and the Seventy-first Amendment Bills were introduced on the

[Shri Guman Mal Lodha]

same day by the then Law Minister Shri Dinesh Goswami. The dual purpose was that in the amendment which was moved as the Seventieth Constitution Amendment, all the powers regarding the processing or modalities of the Election Commissioner's appointment were mentioned; that the Chief Election Commissioner would be appointed by the President in consultation with the hon. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition of this House and also the Chairman of the other House. That amendment was moved in the Lok Sabha on the same day. The Seventieth Constitution Amendment Bill was having far-reaching consequences relating to electoral reforms. The Seventy-first Constitution Amendment was for delimitation. As has been explained, it was long awaited. This delimitation process started for consideration on 30th May 1990 by the introduction of a Bill. Then, on 29th of April, 1992, it was passed in the Rajya Sabha. But it was referred to the Select Committee in the Lok Sabha on 7th May, 1992. The Report of the Select Committee also came on the 18th December, 1992. Today, the position is that we are considering the Constitutional Amendment and the Eighty-second Constitutional Amendment Bill was sought to be brought forward on 13th but it could not be done on account of a very bold Ruling given by your honour and that contains the provisions of Article 324A which is most controversial. As the hon. Member has said, this meant to just reduce in size, cut the powers and make the Election Commission, virtually the Chief Election Commissioner, defunct and the Election Commission would become a sort of a tool in the hands of the Government. Therefore, that process is going to be made. I am objecting to the withdrawal on this ground.

MR. SPEAKER: Why withdrawal should not be allowed? That is the moot point.

SHRI GUMA MAL LODHA: I am saying that it should not be withdrawn for the reasons which have already been given by the hon. Member Shri Lal K. Advani Saheb. The reason is that the withdrawal of the Constitution Amendment Bill should not be allowed like the changes in the nature of weather. It is not to be done like that. Today, in the morning they start doing one thing and in the evening they withdraw it and again they introduce something else. It is very unfortunate that Constitutional Amendments are taken so lightly. Even now it is not going to be a comprehensive amendment. The amendment which is sought to be made by the introduction of Article 324A, as has been said, is going to be most controversial. It is not going to be allowed because the entire country is against it. Nobody wants that the free and fair election which is the basic structure of the Constitution, which is the basic feature of the Constitution on which the entire democracy is based should be jeopardised.

MR. SPEAKER: At this stage, no dissertation is required.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I submit that the Delimitation Commission's provisions sections 81, 82, 170 and 327—which are contained in this Bill should be passed. They moved that these sections should be passed. Then, where is the question of withdrawal? It would be a great injustice to the people of India to allow them to withdraw it.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, some big questions have been added to this small question. I would like to say that Janata Dal is in favour of electoral reforms. Our

experiences so far tell us that it is the need of the hour to go in for electoral reforms and we should have a proper discussion on that and try to have a unanimous decision on that. The only question left is that the Government wants to present a comprehensive Bill after withdrawing this Bill. It is correct that today the House is going to have a special sitting, no matter whether anybody has an objection to that. But eventually everybody would agree to that. This Session has been specifically called to discuss the electoral reforms.

That is why, we are of the opinion that the Bill introducing electoral reforms should be discussed. Several problems have cropped up and many a basic question has been raised such as election process has become a costly affair, and it is not fair, anybody can hold it up or hold elections as per their whims and fancies. The Bill regarding electoral reforms should be presented in the House and properly discussed and if the Government wants to introduce some other Bill after withdrawing this Bill, then, they should be given permission to do so and it should be discussed.

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, may I, with your permission, remind the hon. Member Shri Advani that there are two constitutional Bills pending—Constitution (Seventieth Amendment) Bill and Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Bill. One relates to the delimitation and the other relates to the Chief Election Commissioner (Conditions of Service) Bill. They were based on the report of the Dinesh Goswami Committee and they were pending. After that the Joint Committee recommended that the rotation should be deleted and that was not pursued. You will find that provision incorporated in the

Bill which I have circulated, the 83rd amendment of the Constitution. That provision for re-adjustment of seats has been provided and delimitation is a commitment which this Government gives to the House. We are going ahead with the delimitation as proposed by the Joint Committee. So there is no going back on this issue. Only thing that the Committee recommended was that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes seats will not be rotated. That aspect is neither presented nor was it recommended.

With regard to the Section of the Bill which was on the conditions of service in regard to multi-member Commission, you kindly recall that it is borne out of the proceedings of this House and press statements on that by all leaders suggests that it is unanimously adopted by this hon. House and the other House to have a multi-member Commission. With regard to conditions of service, it was examined and recommended that certain consultation process has to be given in the Bill. We have considered time and again and you will kindly bear me out that we have talked to all major political parties to satisfy as far as possible their viewpoints because this is not a partisan question where you want to make somebody a target. This is totally false. I deny it with all the vehemence at my command. I request most humbly that we are trying to consolidate these two measures in one Bill, that is, 83rd Amendment and you will find the desire of the Government to accommodate that viewpoint. We are still of the opinion that if you can give better formulation, we can still consider it with regard to the process of consultation because it affects all the political parties in the country and not our party alone. Everybody is interested in fair and free elections. So we should not be

[Shri H.R. Bhardwaj]

misunderstood on this issue. And to impute motives like this, I would like to resent because we have absolutely no motive. There is genuine difference of opinion between your thinking and our thinking. We are trying to narrow it down. We have done so. We have been able to do something. Our proposed amendment bears me out of this. Even you can go and talk to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister and others to see whether there is better formulation possible.

My commitment to introduce this Bill, withdraw it then and bring in a comprehensive Bill is not at all motivated by any other considerations. And rule 110 (c) says that it covers all or either of the provisions:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Law has spoken in the nature of a dialogue practically and I respond to it accordingly. I would like to know from him as to why is he not allowing this Bill to be passed separately. What he does about the Election Commission matter can be separately considered. But regarding this particular Bill on which there is no difference—we are all unanimous—why is he jeopardising this by combining it with the Election Commission issue? On the Election Commission issue, we can agree to disagree or I can persuade him or he can persuade me. But on this particular matter on which there is unanimity, he is trying to withdraw that Bill. That is what I am objecting to.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: It is not withdrawing, it is incorporated in a separate Bill.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: The question of incorporating will come later. You have

sought permission to recommend to the Rajya Sabha that this Bill be withdrawn. The Bill is being withdrawn at the moment. You are only recommending through a Motion to the Rajya Sabha that they permit you to withdraw so that this also will have to go through these processes. But I would plead one thing with you. We can pass it today itself. This Bill would be passed if you move today that the Report of the Select Committee be taken into consideration. It can be passed today. And at least one thing in the direction of Electoral Reforms you would have achieved unanimously. Why are you denying yourself that opportunity. I would like to understand. Why are you jeopardising this?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I can submit with all humility at my command that you have totally misunderstood me, that is, absolutely there is no desire not to discuss any point with you. We are keen to discuss with you. Kindly appreciate that. The whole Opposition—the major political party—should note our desire to discuss with you. We are requesting you to give your viewpoints on what type of consultation you want, what type of allocation or what type of transaction of business you want. After all, these issues...

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: That is not my point.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Shri Advani made a positive suggestion. Why do you not move that the Report of the Select Committee be taken into consideration? This Bill will be passed today within a hour by both the Houses. It can be one minute more or whatever it is, it depends on the decision of the Speaker. What is the objection? Then you can move another Constitution Amendment Bill. Is there any constitutional bar on it?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: It is *never* done—one Constitution Amendment today and another Constitution Amendment tomorrow—in that manner.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this cannot be a correct logic. One House passed the Bill and you had a Select Committee and you also got the Report of that Select Committee. The House is unanimous but because the Law Minister does not want, so the House should agree that he had the right to override the decision of the Rajya Sabha, the Law Minister has got the wisdom to bypass the decision of the Rajya Sabha, to bypass the decision of the Select Committee and to *bypass* all that time that was spent by both the Houses. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it cannot be acceptable that the Law Minister should have the last word. The House is ready to cooperate with him on 30 per cent or 50 per cent of the matter, but he does not want to take the cooperation of the House. And he wants that everybody should accept every comma and full stop of what he says. This is not going to happen.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, the Constitution (Seventy-First Amendment) Bill contains two aspects. One is relating to the rotation of seats and the other is relating to the delimitation. The Bill was referred to the Select Committee of this House alone and the Select Committee of this House had recommended only one of the two things, that is, the delimitation, and had given an opinion that the rotation part should be deleted. Since that matter was pending here, I suppose the right course is what has been adopted by the Government now, particularly when another provision was sought to be incorporated in the Constitution. And,

therefore, the right course, in fact, is what has been followed, that is, the provision relating to delimitation as reported by the Select Committee is incorporated in this Bill. When we are arguing that that Bill should be passed, I suppose there is some misplaced opinion as far as that is concerned. The right course is what we are following now.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to something said by the Law Minister. He said that it can not be done that today one constitution (Amendment) Bill is introduced and tomorrow it is some other constitution (Amendment) Bill whereas in this very House such a situation had arisen before also. In the tenth Lok Sabha 72nd and 73rd amendments were presented. Both the amendment were of the same nature one was regarding Panchayati Raj while the other pertained to urban bodies. In this House both the amendments were taken up one after the other. How can you say that we can not introduce one amendment today and the other tomorrow? Which law forbids us from doing that? I feel that Law Minister has developed a habit of saying anything without conviction.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I merely want one clarification. This Bill has been passed by Rajya Sabha almost unanimously. We are urging upon Rajya Sabha to withdraw it. I would like to have a clarification as to whether the Government would be capable enough to retain the Bill concerning amendment to the Constitution which has been moved in case the Rajya Sabha does not accept our request and does not withdraw the Bill?

MR. SPEAKER : This is a legal point. You also can understand it.

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARADWAJ: These two provisions are now contained in one Bill. I cannot bifurcate them now. I seek the withdrawal of this Bill. As Somnathji has said, both the 71st amendment to the Constitution and the other one are incorporated here. That is why I am seeking the withdrawal. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Whenever we have had discussions and are of the same opinion, it should be taken into account immediately. I belong to a constituency which is probably number-one in India. Next time when we will go in for elections, probably twenty lakh voters will be voting from that constituency. Should we not expect justice from the House when we have unanimity on this subject? Why withdraw the Bill, come again and have some problems afterwards? Instead of that, you just accept Advaniji's suggestion, move the Bill and get it passed. About the other Bill we can have a discussion. Please do it urgently in the interest of the

constituencies which are having voters numbering 20 lakhs or more. Please do something.

MR. SPEAKER: I think we can put the motion moved by Shri Bharadwaj to the vote of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We want a division.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Lobbies be cleared.

Now the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted by this House to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of this House on the 4th May, 1992."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 1]

[13.21 hrs.

AYES

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Ahamed, Shri E.

Ahirwar, Shri Anand

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajit Singh, Shri

Akber Pasha, Shri B.

Antulay, Shri A.R.

Asokaraj, Shri A.

Ayub Khan, Shri

Bala, Dr. Asim

Baneerjee, Kumari Mamata

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Barman, Shri Palas

Barman, Shri Uddhab

Basu, Shri Anil	Damor, Shri Somjibhai
Basu, Shri Chitta	Das, Shri Jitendra Nath
Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar	Datta, Shri Amal
Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan	Deka, Shri Probin
Bhardwaj, Shri Paras Ram	Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
Bhatia, Shri Raghunandan Lal	Dennis, Shri N.
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini	Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
Bhoi, Dr, Krupasindhu	Devarajan, Shri B.
Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.	Devi, Shrimati Bibhu Kumari
Bhonsle, Shri Tejsinghrao	Dighe, Shri Sharad
Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh	Diwan, Shri Pawan
Birbal, Shri	Farook, Shri M.O.H.
Brar, Shri Jagmeet Singh	Fernandes, Shri Oscar
Chakraborty, Prof. Susanta	Gaikwad, Shri Udaysingrao
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal	Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Maragatham	Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh
Charles, Shri A.	Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti	Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath	Gehlot, Shri Ashok
Chaudhary, Sqn. Ldr. Kamal	Ghangare, Shri Ramchandra Marotrao
Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh	Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Chaure, Shri Bapu Hari	Giri, Shri Sudhir
Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.	Giriappa, Shri C.P. Mudala
Chennithala, Shri Ramesh	Gogoi, Shri Tarun
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin,	Gomango, Shri Giridhar
Choudhary, Shrimati Santosh	Gopalan, Shrimati Suseela
Dadahoor, Shri Gurcharan Singh	Gundewar, Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao
Dalbir Singh, Shri	Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna

Harchand Singh, Shri

Kurien, Prof. P.J.

Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh

Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri

Hossain, Shri Syed Masudal

Made Gowda, Shri G.

Imchalemba, Shri

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Inder Jit, Shri

Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh

Islam, Shri Nurul

Malik, Shri Purna Chandra

Jaffer Sharief, Shri C.K.

Mallu, Dr. R.

Janarthanan, Shri M.R. Kadambur

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Jangde, Shri Khelan Ram

Manphool Singh, Shri

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Kahandole, Shri Z.M.

Mathew, Shri Pala K.M.

Kaliaperumal, Shri P.P.

Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan

Kamble, Shri Arvind Tulshiram

Meena, Shri Bheru Lal

Kamson, Prof. M.

Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram

Kanithi, Dr. Viswanatham

Mirdha, Shri Ram Niwas

Karreddula, Shrimati Kamala Kumari

Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Kaul, Shrimati Sheila

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Kewal Singh, Shri

Mujahid, Shri B.M.

Khan, Shri Aslam Sher

Muralee Dharan, Shri K.

Khan, Shri Ghulam Mohammad

Murmu, Shri Rup Chand

Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Nandi, Shri Yellaiah

Khursheed, Shri Salman

Narayanan, Shri P.G.

Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna

Nawale, Shri Vidura Vithoba

Krishnaswamy, Shri M.

Nayak, Shri Mrutyunjaya

Kshirsagar, Shrimati Kesharbai Sonaji

Nikam, Shri Govindrao

Kudumula, Kumari Padamasree

Nyamagouda, Shri S.B.

Kuli, Shri Balin

Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Kumaramangalam, Shri Rangarajan

Pal, Dr. Debi Prosad

Kumarasamy, Shri P.

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Kuppuswamy, Shri C.K.

Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav

Patel, Shri Harilal Nanji	Reddaiah Yadav, Shri K.P.
Patel, Shri Praful	Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar	Reddy, Shri Magunta Subbarama
Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai	Reddy, Shri R. Surender
Patil, Shri Prakash V.	Rongpi, Dr. Jayanta
Patil, Shrimati Surya Kanta	Roy, Shri Haradhan
Patil, Shri Uttamrao Deorao	Sadul, Shri Dharmanna Mondayya
Patnaik, Shri Sivaji	Sahi, Shrimati Krishna
Pattanayak, Shri Sarat	Sai, Shri A. Prathap
Pawar, Dr. Vasant Niwruiti	Sanipalli, Shri Gangadhara
Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal	Sawant, Shri Sudhir
Pilot, Shri Rajesh	Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Prabhu, Shri R.	Scindia, Shri Madhavrao
Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan	Selja, Kumari
Pradhani, Shri K.	Shankaranand, Shri B.
Pramanik, Shri R.R.	Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa	Shingada, Shri D.B.
Rahi, Shri Ram Lal	Shivappa, Shri K.G.
Rai, Shri Kalp Nath	Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan
Rai, Shri M. Ramanna	Siddhartha, Shrimati D.K. Tharadevi
Rajaravivarma, Shri B,	Sidnal, Shri S.B.
Rajendra Kumar, Shri S.S.R.	Silvera, Dr. C.
Rajeshwaran, Dr. V.	Singh, Shri Arjun
Ram Awadh, Shri	Singh, Shri Motilal
Ramasamy, Shri R. Naidu	Singh, Kumari Pushpa Devi
Rao, Shri J. Chokka	Singla, Shri Sant Ram
Rao, Shri V. Krishna	Sivaraman, Shri S.
Rathva, Shri N.J.	Sodi, Shri Manku Ram
Rawat, Shri Prabhu Lal	Sridharan, Dr. R.
Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan	Sukh Ram, Shri

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati
 Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt
 Sundararaj, Shri N.
 Tara Singh, Shri
 Thangka Balu, Shri K.V.
 Thomas, Shri P.C.
 Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan
 Thungon, Shri P.K.
 Tindivanam, Shri K. Ramamurthee
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
 Tope, Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb
 Topno, Kumari Frida
 Tytler, Shri Jagdish
 Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Umrao Singh, Shri
 Unnikrishnan, Shri K.P.
 Upadhyay, Shri Swarup
 Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha
 Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal
 Verma, Shri Shiv Sharan
 Verma, Kumari Vimla
 Vijayaraghavan, Shri V.S.
 Wasnik, Shri Mukul
 Williams, Maj. Genl.
 Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan
 Yumnam, Shri Yaima Singh
 Zainal Abedin, Shri

NOES

Advani, Shri Lal K.
 Agnihotri, Shri Rajendra
 Baliyan, Shri N.K.
 Bandaru, Shri Dattatraya
 Berwa, Shri Ram Narain
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
 Chandra Shekhar, Shri
 Chaudhary, Shri Rudarsen
 Chauhan, Shri Chetan P.S.
 Chauhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
 Chhatwal, Shri Sartaj Singh
 Chhotey Lal, Shri
 Chikhliia, Shrimati Bhavna
 Choudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
 Choudhury, Shri Lokanath

Chowdhary, Shri Pankaj
 Das, Shri Dwaraka Nath
 Dharmabhiksham, Shri
 Dhumal, Prof. Prem
 Dikshit, Shri Shreesh Chandra
 Drona, Shri Jagat Vir Singh
 Fernandes, Shri George
 Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
 Gowda, Prof. K. Venkatagiri
 Gupta, Shri Indrajit
 Jai Prakash, Shri
 Jatiya, Shri Satynarayan
 Jeswani, Dr. K.D.
 Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal

Kalka Das, Shri	Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Kamal, Shri Shyam Lal	Raj Narain, Shri
Kanaujia, Dr. G.L.	Raje, Shrimati Vasundhra
Kanodia, Shri Mahesh	Ram Singh, Shri
Kashwan, Shri Ram Singh	Ramdew Ram, Shri
Katheria, Shri Prabhu Dayal	Rana, Shri Kashiram
Katiyar, Shri Vinay	Rao, Shri D. Venkateswara
Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra	Rawal, Dr. Lal Bahadur
Koli, Shri Ganga Ram	Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Kori, Shri Gaya Prasad	Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Krishendra Kaur (Deepa), Shrimati	Saikia, Shri Muhi Ram
Kusmaria, Shri Ramkrishna	Sakshiji, Dr.
Laljan Basha, Shri S.M.	Scindia, Shrimati Vijayaraje
Lodha, Shri Guman Mal	Shakya, Dr. Mahadeepak Singh
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra	Sharma, Shri Jeewan
Mallikarjunaiah, Shri S.	Sharma, Shri Rajendra Kumar
Mandal, Shri Brahmanand	Shastri, Shri Vishwanath
Mehta, Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad	Shukla, Shri Astbhuja Prasad
Misra, Shri Shyam Bihari	Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan
Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta	Singh, Shri Rajveer
Munda, Shri Kariya	Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad
Murthy, Shri M.V.V.S.	Singh, Shri Rampal
Oraon, Shri Lalit	Singh, Shri Satya Deo
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan	Singh, Shri Surya Narayan
Patel, Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas	Sur, Shri Monoranjan
Patel, Shri Chandresh	Swami, Shri Sureshanand
Patel, Shri Somabhai	Tej Narayan Singh, Shri
Pathak, Shri Harin	Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
Pathak, Shri Surendra Pal	Topiwala, Shrimati Dipika H.
Patidar, Shri Rameshwar	Tripathi, Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani

Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, Prof.

Varma, Shri Sushil Chandra

Vadde, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao

Verma, Shri Phool Chand

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh

Verma, Prof. Rita

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari

Verma, Kumari Vimla

Yadav, Shri Vijoy Kumar

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the division is:

Ayes : 218

Noes : 99

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

13.28 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill. This Bill seeks to amend People Representation Act, 1950.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lodha, just a minute please. If there are many Members who want to oppose the introduction of the Bill, should we continue now or should we take it up after lunch?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Please see that it is over in ten minutes' time.

*The following Members also recorded their votes:

AYES: S/Shri Jangbir Singh, Jaya Surya Prakash Reddy Kotla, Kartikeshwar Patra, Lakshman Singh, Ram Sharan Yaav, Roshan Lal, Maruti Deoram Shelke, Bapusahib Thite, Pramothesh Mukherjee.

NOES: Shri Balraj Passi, Dr. P.R. Gangwar, Sarvaswari Anna Joshi, Ram Nagina Mishra, Amar Pal Singh, V. Dhanraj Kumar, Yogananda Saraswati, Kunjee Lal, Arvind Trivedi and Prakash Narain Tripathi.

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MR. SPEAKER: If there are many Members who want to speak, what should we do?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It all depends on how many you allow to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not restrain Members who want to speak. This is introduction of the new Bill. Withdrawal of the other Bill is already over and it can now go to the other House.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, the Law Minister has to go to the Rajya Sabha after Lunch. So, he will not be here in the House after Lunch. He is required to be present in the Rajya Sabha for the withdrawal of this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: If many Members want to speak on this Bill I am inclined to allow them. I would not restrict Members either on the Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Bill or the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: No Member from our side will speak.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a different thing. Since it will take time, I thought we will take it up afterwards.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: But, Sir, after Lunch the Minister has to go to the Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: Let some other arrangement be made for that purpose.

13.31 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT
RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION
ON SUGAR SITUATION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: As far as the Adjournment Motion is concerned, I have to inform the House that I have received twelve notices of Adjournment Motion regarding failure of the Government to meet the sugar situation resulting in forcible import thereof in large scale at higher price, from the following Members:

1. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao
2. Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee
3. Shri Guman Mal Lodha
4. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
5. Shri George Fernandes
6. Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)
7. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde
8. Shri Srikanta Jena
9. Shri Nitish Kumar
10. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh
11. Shri Indrajit Gupta
12. Shri Hari Kishore Singh

I give my consent to Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, who has secured first place in the ballot, to move the motion in the following form:

Failure of the Government to meet the sugar situation resulting in forcible import thereof in large scale at higher price.

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh may ask for leave of the House.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): I seek leave of the House to move the Adjournment Motion regarding failure of the Government to meet the sugar situation resulting in forcible import thereof in large scale at higher price.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is not opposed. So, the leave is granted. Under Rule 61, the Adjournment Motion is to be taken up at 16.00 hours or at an earlier hour. Under Rule 62, not less than two-and-a-half hours are allotted for its discussion. The Motion will be taken up at 16.00 hours.

The House stands adjourned to re-assemble at 14.30 hours.

13.34 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for
Lunch till Thirty Minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[English]

14.35 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after
Lunch at Thirty-Five Minutes past
Fourteen of the clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill presented in the House. While presenting the Bill we will have to keep

in mind the peculiar circumstances in which it is being brought in respect of electoral reforms....

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Justice and Company Affairs is not present in the House. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is required to be in the other House. I have allowed him to go to the other House. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is deputising him.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that since 1967 we have been constantly demanding for electoral reforms....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: At the stage of introduction, legislative competence will be discussed and nothing more than that.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Whatever time you allocate me, within that, I will speak in brief.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Then, the Government will have to hold full discussion on the subject. In addition to raising points regarding legislative competence, other objections can also be raised.

[English]

The rule says that if it is questioned or if it is proposed on the ground of legislative competence then you have to permit everyone.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I will not take much time. But I would at least like to say that this House should also get full information as this Special Session has now been convened exclusively for the purpose of electoral reforms whereas we have been constantly raising this issue since 1967. Several committees were constituted in this regard. And, at last the report of the Goswami Committee was submitted. Shri Dinesh Goswami had presented a comprehensive Bill on the basis of recommendations of the Committee. It may be termed solely as Electoral Reforms Bill... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is really becoming a regular debate on this.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: This Bill had taken care that no Member is constraint to submit a false affidavit in respect of electoral expenses before taking an oath in the House and also to save our Members of Parliament from this unfortunate situation in which they may find themselves in an embarrassing position and they may not start their work with a false affidavit the Government has made a provision of State funding. Under the scheme of State Funding, free voters'

list, free identity slips alongwith free petrol diesel will be made available to them. They will also be provided facility to speak on stage.

But Goswamiji has introduced some amendments to the Representation of People's Act, 1950 in his Bill. Today we are passing through 1994. But after introducing it in the House, it was referred to the Select Committee. At that time it was hoped that one much more effective Bill will be brought forward so that the people of India may not tolerate any type of corrupt practices like muscle power or money power while exercising their franchise.

I would like to submit that this Bill was circulated on 13th. There was a provision in the Bill that the Government will provide at least free voters' list, identity slips, etc. as well as diesel and petrol to all political parties. Such type of provision was made in that Amendment Bill of 1990 which was circulated by Shri Bhardwaji and discussed till last 13th at the fake end of the session. But I am surprised to know that these provisions are missing in the Bill which is being brought forward for introduction. It means that we are heading towards opposite direction instead of bringing improvements. We have reversed the gear. After a long time we have endeavoured a bit. But these provisions have been left out of the Bill for which leave is being sought to move. Why is it so? The Government is revoking such existing provisions whereas it should have introduced more stringent legislation for the purpose of bringing improvements. Therefore, I would like to draw your attention towards section 324 of the People's Representation Bill in which the Commission has been empowered to run its administration. The Government is going to exercise control over it.

[English]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, on a point of order, I would like to know whether the substantial Bill, which has many provisions in common with this Bill, which was introduced in 1990, in the Rajya Sabha has been withdrawn from there, because, this Bill should have been introduced only after the withdrawal of that Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): After 2.30 p.m. it is going to be withdrawn.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It has not yet been withdrawn and before that they have sought leave to introduce this Bill! Is it not against the Rules? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very valid point. Let me find out what is the position? I would like to know whether the same kind of Bill is there or not.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Yes. I have it here with me.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It is not of the same kind. This is a new Bill which is being brought here. It may have some provision of the Bill which is being introduced here.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Have you withdrawn that Bill?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It is not the same kind of Bill. There are some common features. But that does not make it the same.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha which reads as follows:

"66. A Bill, which is dependent wholly or partly upon another Bill pending before the House, may be introduced in the House in anticipation of the passing of the Bill on which it is dependent."

I was also raising this question earlier about the Bill. Such type of Bill is being considered in the Rajya Sabha and it has not been withdrawn. It is lying pending there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Rule 66 is not applicable. That is completely different.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to Rule 67 which reads as under:

"When a Bill is pending before the House, notice of an identical Bill, whether received before or after the introduction of the pending Bill, shall be removed from, or not entered in, the list of pending notices, as the case may be, unless the Speaker otherwise directs."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we examine Rules 66 and 67 it will be clear that the Bill which is lying pending in the Rajya Sabha cannot be discussed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Rule 66 is not applicable. Rule 66 is applicable to a Bill which is dependent on 'any other Bill'. Unless that 'any other Bill' is passed, no Bill can be introduced. That is different.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): These two rules refer to the Bills pending in this House. That objection cannot be substantiated. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I think somebody may collect the information and clarify this point later on. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may not have all the information. The information may be collected from the Law Minister.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: You want to know about the pendency of the Bill or the nature of the Bill, Sir?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will submitting that even if that is pending still another Bill can be introduced. Technical objection about a Bill can be tackled technically. There are rules for tackling it. The rules postulate that only if the Bill is pending in this House a second Bill incorporating almost the same provisions of the first Bill or an identical Bill cannot be introduced here. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give my ruling later on.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I have that Bill with me. Several clauses are common. Therefore, on the same analogy on which they were naturally keen to withdraw that Bill, ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a little difference. If the Rajya Sabha has passed the Bill and if that Bill has been received by the Lok Sabha, only then we would not withdraw that Bill without procuring the agreement of the Rajya Sabha for withdrawal. But supposing that is pending with them, can a new Bill be introduced here in this House before it is passed in the other House?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It has been introduced already.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it. I will not just respond to it immediately.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rule 67 says:

"When a Bill is pending before the House, notice of an identical Bill, whether received before or after the introduction of the pending Bill, shall be removed from, or not entered in, the list of pending notices, as the case may be, unless the Speaker otherwise directs."

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I would like the hon. Member to enlighten this House and the hon. Speaker whether this Rule refers to the Bills pending in this House or in the other House. My understanding is that this Rule refers to the Bills pending in this very House and not in the other House. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The stand of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister and Shri Bansal appears to be correct. This Rule is applicable to the Bills pending in this House and not in the other House. (Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): If some

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra
Khanduri]

Bill is already pending in the other House, can you introduce a similar Bill here? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now this kind of discussion cannot be allowed. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I got a ruling here, which says that there is no bar to a Bill being introduced in the Lok Sabha when an identical Bill is pending in the Rajya Sabha. It is very clear.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I was submitting that the Government had made several provisions in the Bill which was circulated on the 13th May, 1994 in respect of electoral reforms. The provisions of the Bill of 1994 which is being introduced in the Rajya Sabha are almost similar to the recommendations made by Goswamiji regarding containing electoral expenses, state funding of elections and checking of corrupt practices in the elections.

I would like to submit that all these provisions have been removed from the Bill circulated today and there is nothing worth the name of electoral reforms in the Bill. It seeks to secure powers for the Government to exercise control over the Election Commission. Because the Election Commission has declared that the elections will be held only after issuing Identity Cards to the voters throughout the country. This provision has been made. Until and unless the Election Commission receives clearance from the Central Government, it cannot hold elections. The Central Government will act at its convenience. They will

introduce Identity Cards in a State which suits them and will not introduce these in another State which does not suit them. I would like to submit that such an interference of executive is being encouraged which is not required to maintain healthy democracy and for holding fair elections. Therefore, Sir, it should be considered whether a provision for an ordinary legislation can be brought just to curtail powers provided in the Article 324 of the Constitution. To amend the article 324 of the Constitution.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Even if it is brought forward.

[English]

It will be over-ruled.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I would like to see that it is over-ruled by you.

MR. SPEAKER: You know very well that I cannot do it, the Court will do it.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: The Court has already given its verdict. In Indira Gandhi *versus* Raj Narain case, the court had given the verdict that free and fair elections and democracy are the basic features of our Constitution. So, my submission is that wherever there is interference in fair and free elections such a Bill should not be brought in the House. It is not the question of Sheshan, Sheshan comes and goes in the country but a session is called to bring a Bill to put the pressure that identity cards will be made wherever the Government may want to do so. It is against the Articles 14 and 324 of the Constitution. As per the law of the land, no amendment can be made in it against Article 324. This House has got limited powers under

Article 368 and a constitution Amendment can be brought through a special procedure. Such a decision was given in Keshwanand Bharti *versus* Raj Narain case and you all are aware of it. All the laws should be enacted to provide free and fair elections. While giving permission, you must ponder over it. The wave for a free poll in the country is being suppressed. A particular and flourishing party, towards which the majority of the countrymen are attracted, is being liquidated. It is not legal. Therefore, the permission should not be granted to bring this Bill. If a electoral reforms Bill is to be brought then a comprehensive Bill should be brought. The list system should be introduced under proportionate representation and there should also be the provision for bringing an end to muscle power. Even after making such proposals during 1990-94, the necessity, to pass these was not felt. Now it is being withdrawn. If some sort of new Bill is to be brought, there should be more provisions for electoral reforms in it. These should be in accordance with the law. My submission is that the Bill should not be brought with the intention to maintain the dominance of Government on the Election Commission and to cut the rights of Mr. Sheshan.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, you have to be very brief, relevant and only on the point as to why it should not be allowed to be introduced.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity. You will recollect when you had convened the meeting of Party Leaders in your Chamber on 10th of last month...

MR. SPEAKER: We do not discuss those things here. Please come to the merits.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, you are aware of the move by the Government to introduce both Constitution Amendment Bill and the Representation of the People Amendment Bill on 10th of last month which could not be introduced for some valid reasons. The Government had circulated the Bills on 11th morning. The House adjourned on 13th of last month. The Government had not included in the List of Business its intention to introduce those two Bills on the floor of the House. So, the Opposition Parties had raised the objection and the Government could not introduce those Bills. Today, the Government has come forward with Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill even before it could introduce the previous Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1994 (Bill No. 52 of 1994). Here, why I am objecting is, Sir, actually when a later Bill is brought forward it must be an improvement over the previous proposal. In fact, the present (Second Amendment) Bill is a retrograde step because it has altogether withdrawn the provisions relating to State funding of elections which were there in the previous Amendment Bill and it is one of the crucial recommendations made by Dinesh Goswami Committee. Unlike the Ruling Party which has got an enormous money power with them because of being in power, the plight of the other political parties is not so to meet the election expenses. The Committee has recommended that the Government should help the candidates of recognised political parties in meeting some requirements such as microphones or diesel for the vehicles to move and identity slips.

[Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

Some more items were yet to be added to that, but the Government has withdrawn that Bill.

In the previous Amendment Bill, which was earlier circulated, the Committee had also recommended removal of non-serious candidates and to prevent some candidates contesting from more than one constituency when bye-elections are necessitated. In your previous Amendment Bill, you had proposed that a candidate should not contest from more than one constituency, whether for the House of the People or for the Legislative Assembly elections. But in this second Amendment Bill, you have given scope for the candidates to... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, these are matters which you can discuss when we consider the Bill or at the stage of clause-by-clause consideration. Moreover, you can give the amendment if you want.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, I am telling why I am objecting to it. Anyway, I am completing. I shall not take more than one minute.

What I mean to say is that you have *not improved upon your previous proposal*. So, our suggestion is that you come forward with a comprehensive Amendment Bill to amend the Representation of People's Act, fully incorporating the recommendations made by the Dinesh Goswami Committee, and *not in a piecemeal manner like this*. It appears that the Government has no clear thinking and clear stand on the amendments. In the previous Bill they had provided that a candidate contesting

election to Lok Sabha can be an elector from any constituency in the country but later, for some reasons, they have withdrawn that clause from this Bill. It appears that the Government is not at all serious or sincere in its intentions to bring forward the electoral reforms. That is why we oppose this Bill and demand, through you, from this Government to come forward with a comprehensive electoral reforms Bill. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI E. AHMED (Manjeri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel it will be a dereliction of my duty if I were not to oppose or not point out certain infirmities in the Bill which, according to me, are not Constitutional. I am not mentioning only the unconstitutional provisions but also some other provisions which have been incorporated in this Bill.

We are all committed for the electoral reforms and we all want this reforms Bill to be passed by the House. But there is a certain provision which has the Constitutional infirmity and I am duty bound to bring that to the notice of this House as well as of the Government. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is mentioned in para 4... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please, Mr. Ahmed.

SHRI E. AHMED: I am not going into it, Sir, I am just mentioning about one of the provisions which the Government has incorporated in the Bill, which I could see is very much against the essence and the letter and spirit of the Constitution. Article 19(1)(c) of the Constitution has given freedom of association, subject to three reasonable restrictions - security of the country, public order, and morality or decency. Any party which can stand the test of these reasonable restrictions provided in the Constitution, has every right to function

and to stay in the country. But here, one of the provisions which has been made is... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, Mr. Ahamed, it is not necessary at this stage.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI E. AHMED: I shall take only two minutes, Sir. A party which bears a religious name even if it can function under the Constitution, will be banned or de-recognised but a party which is based on caste can contest. I cannot understand what is wrong in the religion. Is the name of caste more holier than religion? A party with any other name can contest but a party which bears a religious name will be de-recognised. I cannot understand why. If a party with religious name cannot contest or will be de-recognised, then would a candidate who has a religious name, also be banned?

We have an hon. friend of mine here, Mr. Nurul Islam. If he contests in the election and says, "vote for Islam" would you ban him also? It is a ridiculous proposition, according to me and so, it is not fair. I want the Government only to correct this. I am supporting the other provisions of the Bill. But this provision is really unconstitutional, arbitrary and misuse of the democratic and parliamentary process. You have to see not just the name, but the activities of the party. But unfortunately, anywhere in the Bill you have not put a provision for the scrutiny of the activities of the party. You have kept a provision only to see the rules and regulations, memoranda and the nomenclature, the name. Therefore, that will be hit by the article 19(1) (c) of the Constitution. So, it shall not have a place in this piece of legislation. I am not worried because my party the

Muslim League which has not got a religious name. I am mentioning it as a matter of general principle. But it is the right of every party and every citizen to contest the election. If there is any opposition, we have to fight on the political track. Therefore, this provision is unconstitutional and it will be *ultra vires* of the Constitution. So, on this point I say there is a legal and constitutional infirmity. The Government may reconsider this provision.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have actually heard the views of the hon. Members and when the Bill is taken up for consideration we will deal with those points.

With your permission, on behalf of my colleague Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. SPEAKER: He is seeking the leave of the House.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Is there no reply to the debate?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I have given the reply. I said that I have taken note of the points that the hon. Members have made and we will deal with them at the time of the consideration of the Bill, mainly because they have gone into the merits and various clauses of the Bill. So, I do not think that we should deal with them at the stage of introduction.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It is not merely merit. There are other things also. You should have replied to what Mr. Ahamed said just now.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
The reply need not be given at this time.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: The whole thing seems to be a farce. He is not ready even to reply to the debate.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It is not a farce. If we do not act according to your wishes, it become a farce.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Please give the reply. If the intention is to pass it, then pass it. Please ask for voting on it. Let the hon. Members play the game of Answer the points, which the hon. Members have raised.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.05 hrs.

MANIPUR MUNICIPALITIES BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move

for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution and organisation of municipalities in the Urban areas of Manipur and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution and organisation of municipalities in the Urban areas of Manipur and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government is showing utter disregard for the House at every step. There can be no such big glaring example of blatant disregard. The House was prorogued only for a few hours. The House was prorogued for a few hours to issue the ordinance. Three ordinances were issued during this short period of prorogation. We had received the information and we had given notices of questions also. There can be no other big misuse of the provision of the Constitution than that the House was first prorogued and then summoned in such a way. Article 123 says that if at any time, except when both the Houses of the Parliament are in session, hon. President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action he may promulgate the ordinance. If these three ordinances were not promulgated Government would not have stopped functioning at all... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It was a Constitutional requirement.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): It is all right that it was a constitutional requirement and the House was prorogued for a few hours, saying that ordinances are to be brought. What was the hurry to bring these ordinances? Sir, the by elections in the country for the Lok Sabha were to be held on 26th, the Government was to convey a message that an amendment has been brought regarding the municipal committees and it will be implemented throughout the country... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me. As per the provisions of the Constitution all these ordinances have to be passed before a particular date and if it is not done then it will be a breach of Constitution... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, these could be presented in the House in the shape of a Bill. Therefore, it is a disgrace of the House. I think that running the Government in such a way through the chain of such ordinances is just like playing with the Constitution and the Government has dragged your Ministry and your office also in it. You should give them the directives that the permission will not be granted to run the Government in such a blind and unnecessary manner through the ordinances. When an hon. Member of opposition speaks in such a manner you become more sensitive but in this case this Government is playing with the Constitution, therefore, my submission to you is that you should give them the instructions not to do it again... *(Interruptions)* ... They should learn to honour the House... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have rightly asserted that it was a Constitutional requirement.

While the Government might be aware of this practice that the House should not have been prorogued, rather it should have been continued while a discussion was going on; but the Government did not take any care. The budget session lasted for such a long period and the Government was aware of the essential formalities to be completed as per the Constitution. Under those circumstances, when the session was going on, the Bill could have been brought and in the meantime the Constitutional requirements could have been completed, but the way the Government functions, none had such an idea in mind and secretariat also fixed the date of putting up the questions and the date of ballots and the hon. Members also submitted their questions. The Members had to submit notices of question again. Thus, we had to undergo a lot of difficulties. All of a sudden, it occurred to their mind that to fulfil the requirements of the Constitution, prorogation of this House is necessary. Therefore, in the end, the House was prorogued for some time. Again the house was summoned. In this way, there were many complexities. Even, your office and the whole Secretariat had agreed to this view that the hon. Members had to put double efforts and submit notices of questions again. The Government should be admonished for creating such a situation. You have a right to admonish us but we fear if the Government would work in a responsible manner or not. In a way, this House is being run by a Hon. Minister of the Government. Nobody knows how the Department of Parliamentary Affairs is functioning? Today, such a strange things are happening that even the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is making a statement on behalf of the other party. He talks to the Members of other parties and gives a statement on their behalf. He is enjoying the right to speak on

[Shri Nitish Kumar]

behalf of the whole country and the Government. This is the way the Government is functioning. Therefore, I would request you that the Government should be admonished for this act and such kind of a practice should be criticised

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue was also raised today morning. The hon. Home Minister had then told that he would apprise the House about his compulsion under which the ordinance had to be issued. He further said that he did not know if such a situation would arise. It has been said that had the House not been prorogued, there would have been a Constitutional crisis. The hon. Home Minister is not present here at the moment. However, nobody has replied on behalf of the Government as to why it became necessary to issue an ordinance.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I remember that on this subject, an historical correspondence took place between Shri Mavlankar and Pandit Nehru. Perhaps no other Constitution of any country of the world has such a provision wherein the powers of the Parliament under certain circumstances have been vested in the Executive.

[English]

"Ordinance-making is a kind of an exceptional provision in the Indian Constitution, a parallel of which does not obtain, not to my knowledge, in other Constitutions, generally democratic."

[Translation]

Therefore, initially when this chain of introduction of ordinances started,

Sh. Mavlankar was not pleased and he wrote a letter to Pandit Nehru. I would like to quote a few lines of this letter. Once on 25th November, 1950 Shri Mavlankar wrote to Pandit Nehru:—

[English]

"The procedure of the promulgation of Ordinances is inherently undemocratic. Whether an Ordinance is justifiable or not, the issue of a large number of Ordinances has psychologically a bad effect. The people carry an impression that Government is carried on by Ordinances. The House carries a sense of being ignored and the Central Secretariat perhaps gets into the habit of slackness etc."

[Translation]

It purports that—Parliament is made to feel like a rubber stamp.

Shri Mavlankar stressed this point. On one occasion, he even refused to prorogue the House to make Pt. Nehru agree to his point. He made it clear that he would not prorogue the House because after prorogation, the Government immediately issues an ordinance. Sir, this time the Government, through you, have prorogued the House by openly violating the convention. The convention is that the prorogation follows after the adjournment of the House *sine-die*.

[English]

When the House is adjourned only for a specific date, as it was adjourned on the 13th May to meet again on 13th of June, there was no adjournment *sine die* and, therefore, there could have been

no prorogation. At least, that was the convention. They persuaded you. They came to you. It will be a constitutional crisis if you do not prorogue it and, therefore, you recommended to the President that it be prorogued. We have met the President in this connection, protested to him, pointed out that it is without precedent, it is against precedent.

[Translation]

But when today it is being introduced here, I think that:—

[English]

Minimum that is required is that this Government must be admonished.

[Translation]

Though, no ordinance can be a solution of any negligence on the part of the Government, yet there are many ordinances about which the Government had full knowledge that these ordinances should become a law before 31st May. In this regard, a Bill should have been introduced in the House and it should have been discussed thereadbare. They should have said that if such and such Bills were not passed before 31st May, a constitutional crisis would crop up. The House was even ready to sit on 14-15, after Saturday and Sunday but at that time it did not occur to the Government. It was because T.N. Seshan was reigning their mind. It resulted in issuance of ordinances which would be ratified on the basis of majority. However, being a custodian of this House, you have a responsibility also. Shri Mavlankar had created such a precedent during the Prime Ministership of Pandit Nehru that nobody dare to speak before him. While protecting the rights of the Parliament,

he admonished the Government. However, the word 'admonition' has not been used here. Once he knew that the Government is going on its own way, he refused to prorogue the House. It happened before my eyes. It was after then that the practice of issuing ordinances halted to some extent. Therefore, we urge that you should take due notice of it. Though the Government has not been able to convince us but at least, it should convince you that why could not it bring these ordinances before 13 May? What were the circumstances under which they had to resort to such step? I would like to say that what was the Government doing on 13th May when there were six Ministers of State for Parliamentary Affairs? Earlier, there was a tradition that there will be three Ministers in-charge of Parliamentary Affairs. They used to be two from this House and one from the other House. But, today there are six Ministers. Despite this, the Parliamentary Affairs are being run in this way. They introduced this Ordinance in the same manner which Shri Mavlankar had termed as inherently undemocratic procedure. I think it should not be pushed through on the basis of majority. Hence, it is very essential to censure the Government on this occasion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I want, perhaps, one explanation from you on this. If there is a question of breach of Constitution and adjustment of the procedure, which one should we accept?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I accept that. Therefore, I do not protest against your allowing them. I am saying about the failure. There was nothing between 13th May which made them to do this. It is their indifference. It is their laxity. It is their lack of awareness.

[Translation]

SHRI CHARNDRAJEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. You have raised another question that if there is a breach of Constitution or the provisions of the Constitution are violated then who will go by its provisions? It is true that there is a breach of the Constitution but it becomes our primary duty to safeguard the Constitution as well as its provisions. There are now two opinions that why did this situation arise? As Shri Advani has said, the serious question is that the Government was not woken up to this issue. Sir, my objection is that if the Government was not woken up to the issue and continued to show laxity and lower the dignity of this House or the Constitution due to its negligence, it is not a good sign. I think, we must go into these two aspects. It is surprising that when a meeting was called, which was attended by the Ministers also, and the dates of the session were decided, the Government did not know then that such a situation would arise and it will have to fulfil its constitutional obligation. In addition to Parliamentary Department, there are two or three other departments. However, the concerned departments were supposed to fulfil their responsibilities, but they did not do so. Rather, the House was put into a difficult situation and it was forced to be prorogued against the established convention. In this episode, besides yourself, the hon. President was also involved and parliamentary conventions were broken. It is a very serious matter and you should give your ruling on this... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If I ask you another question, you people will advise me from there itself.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: We give you advice. How do we know that this Government is functioning in a responsible manner?

MR. SPEAKER: Not one but two Members have said this.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The people in the Government have a basic responsibility to run the Government according to the Rule of the Law and the Constitution. If they go in a different way, they should accept their responsibility. It had been better, if the hon. Home Minister would have made a statement. He could have at least sought an apology that it is a mistake on their part. In such a situation, we would not have become an obstacle. But the dignity demands that the Government should seek an apology and assure that such mistake will not be repeated in the future. Sir, Keeping in view the dignity of this House, you should get it done.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): May I intervene in this matter? I can understand the feelings of the hon. Members that there are certain very sacred traditions of this House. But conditions were such that we had hardly any option because of the information which we got from Punjab. Actually, when the Punjab Act was amended, it was not applicable to Chandigarh. It was to be made applicable thereafter in consonance with the provisions of the Constitution. In case of Delhi also, we never had elections in the NDMC. For the first time, it was discussed at considerable length whether some kind of a democratic set up was possible or not. And ultimately, it was decided that it would not be possible as it would

create lots of problems. That is why, it came at such a time when both the Houses were adjourned. There was no other option left to Government. That is why, in order to be in consonance with the provisions of the Constitution, we wanted to have this before 31st May, 1994. That was the last limit which was laid down and that is why, this prayer had to be made. I cannot possibly say that hereafter such an occasion will not arise. If I say that then you may say, "you had given the assurance that you will not come before the House." So if any such situation, which is beyond the control of the Government, were to come all of a sudden, then we have to sometimes concede to such things. So far as this incident is concerned, at least I have no doubt in saying that we should have taken more than enough care to see that we were within the time limit. But we could not do that. In fact, I really feel that we should have avoided this.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:
Union Territories come under you. You should have known it.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Government appears to have taken note of the feelings of the Members. It is always better to avoid such an awkward situation. We expect and hope that that would be done in future.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You have spoken in a soft language.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Even with harsh words, you are not controllable.

The suggestion is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution and organisation of municipalities in the Urban areas of Manipur and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto."

The Motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: I introduce the Bill.

15.24 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE MANIPUR MUNICIPALITIES ORDINANCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): I beg to lay on the Table an Explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Manipur Municipalities Ordinance, 1994.

15.24 1/2 hrs.

PUNJAB MUNICIPAL CORPORATION LAW (EXTENSION TO CHANDIGARH) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to

[Shri S.B. Chavan]

move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the extension of the Punjab Municipal Corporation Act, 1976 to the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the extension of the Punjab Municipal Corporation Act, 1976 to the Union Territory of Chandigarh."

Do we have to discuss this?

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be made clear whether in addition to 10 members, other 9 members shall be officials or nominated? Basically, it should be changed.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 10 members shall be elected and 9 members shall be nominated. What is this model of democracy which is being set up in Chandigarh? It is good that an initiative is being taken in this direction. But it should not be that we are confronted with obstacles at the very first step. Sir, it is not acceptable to this House. The hon. Home Minister should reconsider it.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the original Act there was a provision of 40 and 50 members but the Government has cut it down to ten elected and nine nominated members. It is not proper. Further, they have also been given the right to vote which is absolutely against parliamentary convention. It is not proper because it is not consistent with its original spirit.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur):

Sir, I would like to say one more thing. This Bill provides for the extension of this Act to Chandigarh. There are several Municipal Corporations in Punjab and each has a population of about five lakh. But there, 30 Councillors are elected to each corporation. However, the population of Chandigarh is much more than these Corporations. Here, you have provided ten elected and nine nominated members. Suppose, one or two members of a ruling party are elected, that party will nominate other nine members and in this way it can grab the posts of Mayor and Deputy Mayor. As Atalji has said what type of a model is being evolved for Chandigarh? Jhuggi-Jhonpari clusters have also come up there. Therefore, do not opt for this type of model. It should be changed or modified.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: This is all being done in the name of local administration.

[English]

And particularly in the case of Chandigarh this is all being done in the name of self-governance. You should also note that Chandigarh does not have an Assembly.

[Translation]

Chandigarh has been striving on this point that it should have one representative in the administration. Though you are doing it for the first time yet it is bureaucracy dominated in that way also.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, after the introduction

of the Bill, I do intend to move an amendment and I am confident that the hon. Minister would take that into consideration and all those points which arise subsequently after the introduction when we discuss that. The opportunity has to be given to us.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Basically, this notion is wrong. It should not have been introduced this way.

[English]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, may I explain the position? Sir, with great difficulty we have been able to persuade both the Government of Punjab as well as the Government of Haryana. This is a disputed territory and both the State Governments are having some kind of a claim on this city. Both were, in fact, totally opposed to any kind of a local body status being given for Chandigarh. But I quite see the point that the strength of the local representatives need to be increased. If I have to justify, I can definitely say that in the MCD, for every 60,000 population, we are giving representation to one member. And if the same proportion is to be made applicable in the case of Chandigarh, it fits in completely. But I will not exactly go on this logic. I concede that some kind of an amendment will be necessary at an appropriate stage. At this stage, I would not like to commit myself.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Sir, the hon. Minister has quoted only MCD but we are going to extend Punjab Act to Chandigarh. As I have said earlier, in

Punjab, there are 30 elected members for a population of 5-6 lakh. In this way, he is creating an anomaly. Further, he has said one surprising thing that Chandigarh is a disputed territory. The Hon. Member Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal has been elected from this Constituency. Is the population of this parliamentary constituency, on the basis of the number of voters, is less in comparison with the population of a constituency in Punjab or Haryana? When a M.P. can represent Chandigarh, why cannot a Municipal Councillor?

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Many times we have said that we are going to hand over Chandigarh to Punjab. On several occasions the hon. Home Minister has stated during his visit to Punjab and even in the House...

MR. SPEAKER: How is this relevant?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: I just want to ask him....

MR. SPEAKER: Should we be allowed to ask questions which are not on this point?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: The other question which is relevant to this is, at that time it was decided that if it is handed over to Punjab or Haryana, the Assembly will be extended and these seats will be again included in the State to which it is given. What is the spirit of the Rajiv-Longowal Accord? I am sorry to say this. Most humbly I would remind the hon. Home Minister that he himself has assured this several times.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the extension of the Punjab Municipal Corporation Act, 1976 to the Union Territory of Chandigarh."

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I introduce the Bill.

move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the New Delhi Municipal Council and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the New Delhi Municipal Council and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

[Translation]

15.33 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
GIVING REASONS FOR
IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY
THE PUNJAB MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION LAW
(EXTENSION TO CHANDIGARH)
ORDINANCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Punjab Municipal Corporation Law (Extension to Chandigarh) Ordinance, 1994.

SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' (East Delhi): I would like to submit that Delhi is a metropolitan city. There is MCD on the one hand and NDMC, on the other. When elections to MCD can be held and the elected representatives can perform their duties, then I strongly oppose the stand of the Government not to hold election to NDMC. This is an undemocratic step.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): I would like to add that holding elections would have been a better step. But it is provided that there would be six nominated representatives—5 nominated and one presiding officer. Further, there will be five public representatives. Among them will also be elected MLAs of NDMC. But, it should be just opposite.

[English]

15.33½ hrs.

NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to

At least the Chairman of the NDMC should be a representative of the people. Even before elections can be introduced, that would be an ideal situation. But this kind of lopsided arrangement in the Bill today is not right.

[Translation]

I would like that the existing system of NDMC should be changed on the lines of the assurances given in the case of Chandigarh. If elections could be conducted, it would be a good step and if not, then this proportion of representatives is not proper.

[English]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I have already stated that we cannot think of having elections in these areas. If a public representative were to be made the Chairman, he will have the powers without responsibility. The administrator has the full responsibility of carrying out what the Council decides. That is why, even this Chairman is also going to be from the public, but he is an eminent person who has sufficient knowledge and experience of municipal administration. In this capacity as an eminent person, he is going to be the Chairman of that Committee. He will be a full-time Chairman who will be taking the responsibility as well as the power. I do not think this needs any change.

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Sir, it is against the democratic system if the nominated or elected representatives become the Members and a bureaucrat becomes the Chairman. It would be proper and democratic if an elected representative is appointed the Chairman, till the election process starts.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establish-

ment of the New Delhi Municipal Council and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
GIVING REASONS FOR
IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY
THE NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL ORDINANCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the New Delhi Municipal Council Ordinance, 1994.

15.36½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for central assistance to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for providing relief to the farmers whose crops have been affected by hailstorms**

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTAN-PURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the recent hailstorm in Himachal Pradesh has damaged the crops of apple and

[Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

other fruits. Apart from it, at several places the standing crops of foodgrains have also been damaged. People are unable to maintain economic balance to their worsened economic condition. Prices of foodgrains and other essential commodities have gone up enormously and thus common people are facing a great difficulty. I have already brought the position in the knowledge of the Minister of Agriculture. State Government does not have enough funds to compensate the loss.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to send a study group for taking stock of the situation. If this could not be done early then the State Government should be asked to send the report and economic relief should be provided on the basis of that report so that the affected persons could be given compensation

- (ii) Need to formulate Comprehensive scheme to provide better facilities to the patients suffering from mental disorders**

[English]

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE (Jorhat): Sir, there are nearly a million mental patients in India and due to absence of adequate facilities, many State Governments are forced to send these helpless patients to jails where many of them die prematurely.

The total number of beds for mental patients is 25,000 in 45 mental hospitals where at least 8,00,000 are required. The majority of mental hospitals are quite out of date and are designed for detention without regard to curative treatment.

Mental illness is curable if detected at an early stage. But if it is allowed to become chronic, complete cure is not possible.

Mental health forms an integral part of the total health and social service scenario.

I urge upon the Central Government to formulate comprehensive scheme to provide more funds to State Governments so as to enable them to provide better facilities to mental patients in the country.

- (iii) Need for construction of an overbridge sub-way on railway crossing at Ramghat road in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM (Aligarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards accidents occurring at railway crossing of Ramghat road in Aligarh. It is a very busy line, which links Delhi and Calcutta, this railway crossing often remains closed and number of accidents are increasing day by day. An overbridge or sub-way for pedestrians is urgently needed on this railway crossing.

Therefore, I request the Central Government that an overbridge/subway should be constructed immediately on Ramghat road railway crossing in Aligarh.

- (iv) Need to ensure early payment of dues to sugarcane growers particularly in Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, sugarcane growers are

in a deplorable condition in the country mainly due to delayed payments by sugar mills who are their major buyers. Uttar Pradesh has always been prominent in the production of sugarcane but farmers are not paid its prices in time. During the last session the Government gave an assurance that payment to sugarcane growers would be made immediately but the payment has not been made as yet, especially by the Government run sugar mill of Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh. Whereas recovery of loans and Government expenditure continues and thus farmers face great problems.

So, I urge upon the Government to issue orders to State Government and officials of the sugar mill situated in Bareilly district for immediate payment to sugarcane growers.

(v) Need to set up agriculture based Small Scale Industries and a Heavy Industries at Chhapra in Bihar

SHRI LALL BABU RAI (Chhapra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary constituency Chhapra is an industrially backward area. Consequently educated youth of the State migrate to other States. This area has a great potential for small scale and agriculture based industries. Since no heavy industry has been set up in this area, there is no scope for progress of small scale industries. Earlier there was Saran Engineering Industry which has now been closed down.

So I urge upon the Central Government to set up a heavy industry along with the small and agriculture based industries at Chhapra at the earliest.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We may now take up Item No. 18, viz. Transplantation of Human Organs Bill. Are there any Members who want to speak on the Bill?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker Sir, before we take up the discussion on Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, I would like to make a submission. Now that the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill is introduced, I would draw your attention to the fact that it has to be referred to the Standing Committee concerned. When the Standing Committees were formed, it was agreed that all Bills excepting those which are technical in nature, would be referred to the Standing Committee concerned. This, in a way, is the duty cast on the Speaker. I would like to draw your attention to it. I can cite from rules that have been framed which have now become a part of the procedure.

MR. SPEAKER: I will come to that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I would like to submit that towards the end of the last Session, it was decided to call a Session or rather extend the Session for about three or four days to discuss the Bills relating to Electoral Reforms including the Constitution Amendment Bill and the Representation of the People Bill. The point that Advaniji has raised is that all Bills have to be necessarily referred to the respective Standing Committees. If that procedure is adopted here, I am

[Shri Mukul Wasnik]

afraid, it may not be possible to discuss the Bills which have been introduced. It was generally known during our previous meetings also that these Bills would be taken up for consideration in this Sitting.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure the Ministers must have been aware of the actual provision of the Law and they must have anticipated what would happen!

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: We have not pressed this point earlier because the Bills can be referred to Standing Committees only after they are introduced. Earlier, they have not been introduced and hence we did not press the point. But I may mention here that this was the basis on which the Standing Committees were constituted. Now, you are trying to deny the Standing Committee its right to discuss such a very important Bill.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: It has been specifically mentioned in the rules that the hon. Speaker of Lok Sabha and the hon. Chairman of Rajya Sabha will decide as to which Bills need to be referred to the Standing Committee. It has not been categorically mentioned therein that all Bills introduced in the House will have to be referred to the Standing Committees.

MR. SPEAKER: When we framed the rules, that was the intention. All the Bills were expected to be referred to the Standing Committees. Only the Bills of technical nature were not to be referred by the Speaker and that is why the discretion was given to the Speaker to decide whether a particular Bill is of a technical nature and it should not be referred to the Standing Committee. But, the Speaker is duty bound to refer a Bill

to the Standing Committee if it is not technical in nature.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up further discussion on the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill.

15.46 hrs.

TRANSPLANTATION OF HUMAN ORGANS BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha; and

**As reported by the Select
Committee-Contd.**

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier this Bill was referred to Select Committee which has given its unanimous report on it. You have brought this amendment after that. I could not understand that what is the use of constituting a Select Committee. Select Committee has Members from all the political parties, representatives from the concerned Ministry. It is a unanimous report passed earlier by Rajya Sabha and it has been brought here later on. The Select Committee was set up and they seriously discussed for 4-6 days. All the concerned parties were heard and evidences were taken and thereafter the report was prepared. Now after a short interval the Government has brought an amendment and therefore, there is no time for making amendment in the amendment. I am ready to give my verbal amendment, if you accept that. I request you to include

some words in it...(Interruptions).. What will be our position in that case.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Your position will be in accordance with the Rules. This Bill was brought during the last session. You can give amendments.

We will move an amendment on the motion and say whatever we have to say only if it is in the unlisted business and has been circulated.

[English]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I have pointed it out because this was circulated today and we got it today itself.

How can you move a motion in this manner?

MR. SPEAKER: Time will be given for it, if you have received it today.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: For suspension of rules, motions are moved in this manner. (Interruptions)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I have said this because the time for discussion on it has been allocated after 3 p.m. We have not been given time to give amendments on the Amendment moved by the Government.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Let him bring a motion tomorrow.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It will not be completed today because only 10 or 15 minutes have been left.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): What is the Bill on which he wants to suspend the rule?

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I will tell you what is it about. I am telling you the rule.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Normally, the Bills that are introduced in the House have to be referred to the Committee and that is the practice we have adopted so far. All the Bills are referred to the respective departmentally related Standing Committees. But, looking at the urgency of this matter, with your permission, Sir, I would like to move a motion verbally. (Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, let him give a formal notice. We will consider it and move our amendments. He cannot stand up in this manner.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: If you permit me, I will move a formal motion.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): What is urgency? It has not even been circulated.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Now Transplantation Bill is coming up for discussion; why are you interrupting in that?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
Why are you getting panicky? Be
patient.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla):
Two things have been assigned to the
hon. Minister.*..... and the other is
that of Parliamentary Affairs.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That will not form
part of the record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
When meetings were called at the
respective party offices today morning,
the question that whether the proposed
Bill should be sent to the Standing
Committee was raised. You had clearly
indicated that both the Bills should go to
the Standing Committee. Now, the hon.
Minister has brought in a motion of
suspension of rules. Would he like to
decide it by a majority vote? Will you
permit him?

MR. SPEAKER: Why?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
Because he wants to bypass the Standing
Committee. All the Bills go to the Standing
Committee. What for have Standing
Committees been constituted? We do not
agree with the proposition that the
Government may not send a Bill it
intends to pass immediately, to the
Standing Committee.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand
the correct position. The correct position

is as I said it before and as I said it in
the House also – you were not present
in the House – that the Speaker is duty
bound to refer it to the Standing
Committee. But supposing the House
decides otherwise, then what will happen?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE
(Lucknow): By 'House', you mean
majority?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Let them
give due notice on this. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
They will be whimsical.

[*English*]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
What is meant by *manmaani*?
(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If
such a situation arises, we might be in
minority but if our opinion is not sought
and they resort to *manmani*, we will not
let the House run. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: A person
like Shri Vajpayee, who through all these
years, admonished his partymen for
violating the dignity of the House, has
been compelled to utter these words.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I
did not compel him.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: You have compelled him. He has always upheld the dignity of the House.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not keep quiet unless I admonish you.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Transplantation Bill was being debated. What new Bill is being brought up in between? (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. Now, I think that there had been discussions between the Leaders and my impression is that the things are moving in a proper direction. Let not the temper flare up. Let the Leaders talk to each other. Everything would be done in a proper manner. Nobody is trying to violate the rules or bypass the rules. Let there be a discussion between the Leaders. We will do it. Because this happens to be the Electoral Reforms Bill, it is in the fitness of things that everybody is taken into confidence and with consensus and agreement everything should be done. Let us not go with an impression that somebody is out to violate the rules. Let us talk to each other and then decide.

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is too much. See for yourself. You clarified it.

"The Speaker is duty bound to refer the matter to the Standing Committee".

On this hon. Vajpayeeji asked who has the right to refer the Bill? You replied that the House can refer it. On asking whether it is a right by majority you replied in affirmative. On this he said that majority will not be allowed to go whimsical. When I intervened to say that majority does not mean whim, he become annoyed.

MR. SPEAKER: Vajpayeeji never gets annoyed.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I would like to say very respectfully that majority does not mean *manmani* and one should not get annoyed on it. I can not understand why Vajpayeeji and Advaniji are getting annoyed on it when I have not said anything wrong. If we are in majority, respect to House, Parliamentary procedures. (Interruptions)

Majority does never mean whim. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I reiterate that everybody known what majority means and it is wrong to construe it as *manmani*...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We will look into it in a proper manner.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We are perturbed to see that you have initiated a discussion on a particular Bill. Shri Laxminarayan Pandeya was expressing some resentment and suddenly it took a new turn.

MR. SPEAKER: You are interrupting time and again. Everybody does not say so.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): But its solution is not coming forth.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please let us do understand that all the Members sitting here are conscious of the fact that electoral reforms are something very very important and everybody is in a mood to hear the other side, consider it and take a proper decision. So let us not jump to the conclusion that something which should not be done would be done.....

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Then Transplantation Bill was taken up. We have to take up adjournment motion at 4 p.m.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to move an amendment to the resolution moved by the Government. I may be permitted for the same if that is available today itself.

MR. SPEAKER: You may speak on that. Then only seek time for moving an amendment.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

No, the amendment will be moved by the Government, then alone I can move my amendment on that because I have given the notice of my amendment over that amendment. Therefore, that should be given priority and moved first.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, that will come up at the proper stage—the clause by clause stage. Do you have to say anything on that?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

As I have already submitted, it is an important Bill and we all are interested in its passage but the manner in which the Government is bringing it and trying to pass the Bill in a hurry by immediately moving new amendments to it, is not benefitting to it. The doctors and different specialists have been consulted in this connection who have opined that the Government wants to pass it in a hurry. I hope, there is no need to get it passed in such a hurry. As I have said that the Estimates Committee had accepted it unanimously and the clause on which the Estimates Committee had given its unanimous decision, was considered thread-bare and it was decided that this clause should be incorporated in the Bill but the Government is again bringing an amendment over that clause.

It is not benefitting. The Government may tomorrow move another amendment to it according to its sweet convenience. Therefore, I would like to make a submission....

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:

The Government is not in a hurry. We given the time of months and years together and have also discussed it mutually. We have discussed it in the speaker's chamber separately and tried

to bring in a Bill on unanimous decision but despite our efforts...*(Interruptions)*
You don't listen to me but speak whatever you like. It has been our endeavour to reach a consensus and it always takes time. Consensus can't be reached at in a hurry.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is again Transplant. What is happening here?

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
Are we discussing the procedural matter on Human Transplantation Bill? I do not know. Which Bill are we discussing, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: Human Transplantation Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
That is your outlook, what you want to do that. What is the hurry about it?
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: After we have gone to that Bill!

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
The Government wants to pass it in a hurry without having listened to my point he has prepared himself for the reply. This proves that the Government is in a hurry. They want to do everything in a whimsical manner.

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, he is in tension, ask him to relax with a cup of coffee.

16.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Nitish Kumar also should be invited for a cup of coffee.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: But it should be without sugar.

16.0 1/2 hrs.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Sugar Situation

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that:

"The House may be adjourned,"

Such an adjournment motion is only moved when there is an emergency or a crisis in the country. The sugar situation in the country is responsible for this crisis. There is a great rise in the price of sugar and most of the people cannot afford to buy it at such a exorbitant price. This is a marriage season which is called the 'Lagan' period in the rural areas. Sugar is most required in this season by the poor and the rich alike. Besides, it is an important commodity for every household. Today, sugar is being sold at Rs. 18 to 20 per kilo and the Government is watching it as a silent spectator. The Government will have to answer for this, for the reasons behind it? The Government did nothing in this regard and the poor had

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

to suffer on this account. You must make clarifications in this regard. Through you, I also want to raise some points.

The new economic policy was presented in this House. The Government had given some clarifications and it was also opposed at that time. While presenting the policy, the Government had submitted that this policy, besides strengthening the economic condition would also check the price rise. Now you can judge yourself, who was right the Government or the persons who were opposing it. Today prices of all commodities are soaring to new heights. The Government measures have been totally ineffective in checking the price rise. I would like to ask the Food Minister, was he not aware of it earlier? It was clear in 1993 that in the coming month there would be acute shortage of sugar. In the beginning of 1994, the prices of sugar started soaring, the Government remained inactive. The businessmen availed the opportunity and as a result thereof the price of sugar have risen to Rs. 20 per kilogram.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister called a meeting on 18th April in which STC and MMTC were ordered to immediately import sugar. Had an action in this regard been taken immediately after the Prime Minister's meeting then the Government would have controlled it and the people could have saved from such an embarrassment. When there was a steep rise in the prices of sugar, the STC officers also took incentive, but somehow Shri Kalpnathji dissuaded them. It is in the air in rural areas that elections are round the corner, that is why there is a rise in the price of sugar and the Government has earned crores of rupees. Earlier, I used to wonder, how one can become

a millionaire over night but after going through this experience, now I have to come to know that it is quite possible. But I am quite sure about one thing in this regard that some bungling has taken place otherwise this issue would not have been raised in the House. After the meeting of the Prime Minister the Ministry of Commerce did not pay any attention to it for the next 2 months and four days i.e. from 9th April to 13 May the Ministry kept quiet. It ruined the country. The Cabinet Secretary intervened and asked FCI to go for import of sugar but Ministry of Commerce later on stopped it. It proves that the Government was well aware about the soaring prices of sugar and it is the Government, which is responsible for this crisis. The Government should at least feel ashamed that they themselves are responsible for the suffering of the people. Thirdly, the Government are aware about the statewide production of sugar and that now it has been declining. Had the Government imported sugar in time then the businessmen could not have looted the people by increasing the price of sugar. You have data with you, the sugar Mills in Bihar were on the top but today they are lying sick. A number of other Mills are also facing closure and the sugar production is declining. There is a reason behind such a situation that the farmers, who sell their sugarcane to the Mills do not get payment on time. They were facing problems and they reduced the production of sugarcane. The Government also knows about this fact that due to the production of jaggery and khandsari the sugar production was also affected. In such a situation, the Government should have accepted in the House that they have committed a mistake. Instead the Government started giving vague arguments and some of them are sufficient to confuse you. I want to ask, what are the duties of the Government? The Government is meant

to provide facilities and safety to the people not to loot them. This Government is not paying any attention towards providing facilities to the common people. I therefore, want to submit that this Government has no right to remain in power. This is not a small issue, it is an important issue. Either you or the Government can solve this issue but the Government has not thought about its result. I want to submit that we have moved this motion for Adjournment to bring the drawbacks of the Government to the light. How this Government is working in a shameless manner. The Government on the other hand claims that it is the most efficient Government and only they can run this nation. Now you can decide yourself whether or not this Government is able to run this nation. With this I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the House do now adjourn."

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion initiated by my hon. friend on the Adjournment Motion does not pertain to one Ministry only. Delay in import of sugar has resulted in skyrocketing of sugar prices. This issue does not pertain to the Ministry of Food alone, but is related to the Ministry of Commerce too. Though the Prime Minister's Secretariat and the Cabinet Secretary were also actively involved in the matter, yet I am seeing that the hon. Minister of Food is the only Minister, present in the House. This issue is very important and has wider ramifications on the life of commonman. Therefore, the Government should come out with clarifications. Which can be given by the hon. Prime Minister

alone as allegations have been levelled against the hon. Minister of Food.

Sir, when the role of the Cabinet Secretary is discussed, who will reply? I would like to know who will reply on the points relating to directions issued or decisions taken by the Prime Minister's Secretariat from time to time? Replies cannot be given by Shri Kalp Nath Rai. Therefore, I think that the Hon. Prime Minister should be present in the House if justice is to be done to the Adjournment Motion, as I stated earlier that the issue does not pertain to one Ministry alone. Though it had been estimated that due to anticipated decline in the production of sugarcane the production of sugar will also be less, yet no proper estimation was done to increase availability of sugar in the open market or through the Public Distribution System? From the beginning, it was known that sugarcane crop will not be good, yet no timely steps were taken. Facts and figures are not only quite astonishing but are also likely to create apprehensions in the mind. Unfortunately, the atmosphere prevailing in the country is such that overrules fishy in everything. Therefore, there is the need for making everything transparent. There is need to present all the facts before the House. However, this is not being done.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know when was the action taken on the note sent on 24th January by the hon. Minister of Food to the Cabinet, wherein it was mentioned that there was likelihood of shortage of 10 lakh tonnes of sugar. For 6 to 7 weeks, no decision was taken. I would like to know the reasons for the same? Secondly, was it not clear that there will be sugar shortage in the country? Upward trend in sugar prices was the warning signal, especially when there was no downward trend in sugar

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prices after the festival season was over, was clearcut the warning shot. During festival season, sugar prices tend to go little high but afterwards come down to the old level. However, nothing of this sort was witnessed this year. I can quote figures in this regard. These were the warning shots. In view of these warning signals, sugar imports should have been immediately undertaken. I would like to reiterate that for 6 to 7 weeks no decision was taken. In the meeting held on 8th march in connection with the note of 24th January a decision was taken to import sugar under O.G.L., but the decision got leaked. I am levelling these allegations with all seriousness. This news that India is going to import sugar under OGL reached the international market. Actually, international market of sugar is confined to in London and is controlled by a handful of companies there. These companies come to know that India is facing sugar shortage and imports will be undertaken under O.G.L. I would like to know why did not the Government decide on its own to import sugar? As a result of the leaking of the decision, sugar prices in the international market went up by \$50 to 60 per tonne. I can quote the statistics of earlier international prices of sugar which were less. At that time, sugar could have been imported without much ado. By making proper forecast of demand for sugar at low international prices, sugar could have been imported. However, delay was witnessed and even the news of delayed steps taken reached abroad which resulted in spurt in prices.

It is my belief that this scandal is of the magnitude of Rs. 1,000 crore. In international market, Rs. 300 crore extra was paid and if an evaluation of Indian market is made, then the consumers have paid Rs. 700 crore extra within the

country. The prices have skyrocketed. There is the need to look into all these things, because marriage season is on and in the summer season people drink more 'Sharbat'. Apprehensions cannot be allayed by giving clarifications.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to reiterate that delay of 6-7 weeks was witnessed. I would, therefore, like to know who is responsible for the same? The hon. Minister of Food will state that a note was sent to the Cabinet and the latter did not take any decision. A clarification in this regard should be given by the Cabinet. Indian consumers incurred losses while the foreign sugar traders cornered all the benefits.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is anticipated that in addition to the shortages in the open market, it is anticipated that PDS will also be witnessing shortage of one million tonne of sugar. I would like to submit that when the question of sugar imports was being discussed, nothing was being done regarding the Public Distribution System. Drought is the main reason for decline in the production of sugarcane. Sugarcane instead of reaching sugar mills was diverted for the production of 'Gur'. This resulted in fall in the production of sugar and consequently, decline in levy sugar for PDS. The poor purchase sugar from ration shops as sugar is also an essential commodity.

I remember one prices of onion had skyrocketed and hue and cry was witnessed everywhere. People sitting on that side were making an issue of it and were also shedding crocodile tears. Onion is pungent, but sugar too has also turned bitter during the sugar crisis. Sufferings of the housewives purchasing sugar at Rs. 20 per kg. could be imagined. However, if this is due to mismanagement

then who is responsible for this mismanagement or is it a scandal? Whatever was touched by Gandhiji got converted into Gold but Government is concerned in whichever treads, scandal is witnessed. The Government is converting everything into scandals. This is not the mischievous propaganda of the Opposition. The Opposition is just apprising the House and the Government of the sentiments of the people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, should it not have been discussed as to whether imports will be undertaken for PDS? Whose responsibility was it to think about this? Why nothing was done in this regard? Statistics of the Ministry of Food are with me. Release order for sugar is given by the Ministry of Food and it tells the sugar mills as to how much quantity is to be released in a particular month. In the month less quantity of sugar was released. I would like to know the reasons for the same? In May, more quantity of sugar should have been released as along with it being summer month, there was marriage season also. The result was that people could not get adequate quantity of sugar from PDS. Even the poor could not offer 'Gur sharbat' to the bridegrooms family and will have to offer 'Sharbat' made of sugar. Even the poor purchased sugar at high prices from the market. What was the reason for the short supply of sugar at PDS shops? If imports had to be resorted to, then why the estimation was not made? Whose responsibility was all this? Sugar is being sold through PDS at Rs. 9 per kg. and on it, Rs. 3 per kg. is being given as subsidy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the day our relations with the World Bank and the IMF have taken new turn provision or subsidies is acting as a big stumbling block and our decisions are increasingly

getting distorted. When it had been decided to import sugar and distribute the same through the PDS to the public, then the question of payment of subsidy should also have been decided. The hon. Minister of Finance time and again had indicated that subsidy will not be given. Had STC and MMTC imported sugar and incurred losses, then they would have been pulled up for the same as those selling sugar at cheap rates, are likely to be grilled. I would like to know whether the twin issues of import of sugar and the payment of subsidies should not have been decided together? These should have been sorted out earlier. Since these were not sorted out earlier. Since these were not sorted out early, delay occurred in importing sugar. This was also the reason for the increase in international prices and domestic prices. Only by April end, it was decided to import sugar for PDS. However, the decision was not implemented. Twin issues of extent of subsidy and payment of subsidy were not sorted out. Sugar shortage issue was being tackled by PMO and at this juncture, the Cabinet Secretary come into the picture. Before boarding the aircraft on 14th May for foreign tour, the hon. Prime Minister took the Cabinet Secretary to a side and taking his hand into his own—this I have read in the newspapers. I was not present there—told him that

[English]

Something will have to be done in regard to sugar.

[Translation]

The hon. Prime Minister was going on such an important tour, but instead of worrying about the issues to be taken up there and how those were going to

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

be settled, was worrying about the accentuation of the sugar crisis during his absence from the country. That is why the hon. Prime Minister took the cabinet secretary to a side and gave him some instructions. On being questioned, it was stated that it was the job of the cabinet secretary to discuss the sugar crisis with the Ministries of Food and Commerce. The hon. Minister of Food was on the tour of Gazipur. It was being said that he was not available. Had the hon. Minister of Food been a thin and weak fellow, this alibi could have been understood. The hon. Minister of Food cannot hide himself easily behind somebody. Therefore, the question of locating him does not arise. The Government states that the hon. Minister of Food could not be contacted. Through the District Magistrates anybody anywhere in India can be easily contacted. If the Government is not able to contact a Minister, when needed, then it all the more reflects the incompetency of the Government. Then in case of any emergency, it would also be difficult to contact the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence. In the absence of the advice of the hon. Minister of Food, a decision was taken, but the same was turned down by him after returning from tour. Reasons for revoking the decision are cited from the report of the Public Accounts Committee, headed by me.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Just to please you.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Only to save his own skin. I have that report with me. How does the history repeat can be know from this. Situation of 1989 got developed again in 1994. Only after extensive enquiry, the report

was submitted by the Public Accounts Committee. If I read out same portions of that report then it will be construed that it is the report of 1994 and not of 1989.

[English]

Initial delay of about three months in according approval to the import of sugar.

[Translation]

Earlier there was no need to import this much quantity of sugar. Earlier it used to be a matter of importing only one or two lakh tonnes of sugar and even then crisis developed. Even then Shri Sukh Ramji was involved in the controversy. Therefore, he could not make it to the Lok Sabha. However, the scandal at that time was also similar. Delay was seen in the matter of import of sugar. Issue of who is to be entrusted with the task of importing sugar was the bone of contention. Authority entrusted with the task of importing sugar gave the following reason for delay.

[English]

First tender enquiry floated on 23rd August, 1989 proved infructuous due to the failure of telex machine.

[Translation]

Later on, the officer informed that the machine was operational, but there was no paper in it. Since there was no paper in the machine that's why figures of prices were not available. Machine was not giving information regarding the names of persons/companies giving quotations and purchasers, yet the

Government was functioning. Preparations were on to import sugar. Time changes, but the functioning of the Government never changes. Magnitude of scandal this time is bigger. More sugar needs to be imported. People this time have faced more problems. Action Taken Report on the PAC report of 1989 is yet to be submitted. However, from the feed back, it is known that FCI refused to get involved in it and PAC also recommended that this is not the job of FCI. FCI only distributes sugar and if any deal is to be settled in London or at anyother place on equal footing, then there is a need to be cautious. For these things experts are required and the experts are available only with STC and MMTC. Services of the officers of the Ministry of Commerce could also be utilised. One thing is to be certain and that is whenever deal is made it should be very transparent but nothing of this sort was witnessed.

Now, it is being informed that sugar is coming. Figures in this regard are available with me. Sugar has reached ports in less quantity. However, the quantity that has reached market is further less and the quantity which has reached shops is further more less. Cannot the availability in the market be augmented? I would like to know whether in this regard a Task Force could not be constituted to successfully handle sugar crisis? I am of the opinion that the Government did not do anything to handle the sugar crisis effectively.

Sir, in the last report of the PAC, a recommendation had been made that in future permission should not be granted to unregistered companies to trade in such items. Credibility of the unregistered companies is in doubt and these also did not have any previous track record. However, at the instance of the Cabinet Secretary, many decisions were taken to

allow unregistered companies. Therefore, the question is as to how did these come into picture and what were the reasons therefor? Further, I would like to know who will reply to all these questions? I submitted earlier that the hon. Minister of Food cannot reply to these questions and only the hon. Prime Minister can give reply as decisions were taken by the Cabinet Secretary. What was the need to allow unregistered companies? Though registered companies can trade in sugar, decision was taken to allow import of sugar under OGL from open market. Prices increased not only in India, but abroad too. Therefore, crisis developed in India. Prices also increased as sugar was not properly released by the Ministry of Food in the open market.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that regarding sugar no coordinated policy is being adopted. Sometime, sugarcane production increases and sometimes it comes down. I remember that Acharya Vinoba Bhave had said that a copetition continues between sugarcane and foodgrains. Foodgrains or sugarcane, either of the two can be grown. India needs foodgrains more than sugar. However, now demand for sugar is increasing because 'Gur' does not serve all the purposes. Now-a-days even 'Gur' is seeling at Rs. 20 per kg., but 'Gur Tea' is difficult to drink. What will be the requirement of sugarcane for producing Gur, Khandsari and sugar?

Was the Government not capable of formulating a consolidated policy after anticipating the things rightly? The State Governments would have to assist in this regard. Now, sugar prices have risen and the Government should review the prevailing situation with regard to profit earned by sugar mill owners and traders respectively. There is misappropriation and plundering everywhere and hapless

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common man is forced to purchase sugar at high price. It is true that people do not condemn the Government overtly, but there has been a scandal which is glaring example to the Government's incapacabilities.

There is another question whether licences should be given for sugar mills or not, and if these are to be given then in what number? Uttar Pradesh, has been demanding for a license and Punjab has already got it. It has to be decided as to how many licences will have to be given and how much sugar mill be required? There is one Government but it lacks coordination and different decisions are taken by different factions. Ministers blame the bureaucrats while the bureaucrats condemn the Ministers at their back; and the purchasers are only the sufferers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why we are forced to bring the Adjournment Motion. This sugar scam should be investigated by a high level committee. However, in the first place the Government should give a satisfactory clarification to the House and the facts be placed there. Everything should be made clear. It is the second sugar scam since 1989. My submission is that the Government should take measures to prevent such scam in the future. But I am not confident that the Government would take some measures in this regard. Two sugar scams have already taken place during the reign of the present Government and if the Government continues to remain in power, a third will inevitably take place. This Government would certainly lose power if scams continue to take place, but that is a separate matter. I would like the Congress members also to think over the matters which are under the consideration of the Government. We have moved an Adjournment Motion, but that does not

mean that Government supporters, voters or consumers do not suffer due to price rise. One person or the other will have to raise the voice on behalf of people and the accused will have to be exposed and punished. It won't be possible to hide the things for long and favour the wrong actions of the Government. No matter even if the culprit is a cabinet Minister or a big bureaucrat, he will have to be accountable for wrong deeds. If this Adjournment Motion proves positive in influencing the Government, it would be a great success.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar to speak.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): I have not given my name.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a way it is very encouraging that a very serious issue of public importance has been raised on the first day of this Session.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): It happens every day.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Of course, I would have liked if the Opposition had agreed to a discussion and if it had not insisted upon an Adjournment Motion because it has some connotation of censuring the Government. A free discussion by the whole House would have been advisable as far as this issue is concerned.

Sir, it cannot be gainsaid that sugar is a daily necessity for every family. Therefore, the rise in the prices of sugar is a very sensitive issue. If I am right,

I think, in the past, one of the Governments had fallen because they could not control the sugar prices. It is very serious issue and the Government should take this issue very seriously. There is no doubt about it. I share partly the concern expressed by the Opposition regarding the hardship that is being caused to the common man because of this spurt in the sugar prices.

Now the main question is, what are the failings of the Government in this matter and what should have been done? Therefore, I had said earlier, it would have been better if the Minister was allowed to make a statement first on this clarifying the Government position so that there would have been a fair debate in this House. In any case, now this matter having been raised in this fashion, we are bound to participate in it from that point of view only. Now the main grievance or the main attack of the opposition is that there has been delay in taking steps. The conditions were known far in advance. And if the Government had taken steps at the right time regarding importing the sugar, then perhaps, this situation would not have arisen. Now the figures show that the sugar production in the first seven months of 1993-94 fell to 9.39 million tonnes compared to 10.27 million tonnes in the same period for the previous year.

16.43 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

And the National Federation of Sugar Factories had announced that 5.77 million tonnes of sugar stocks was there on the 1st of May this year. The import of sugar which was the only remedy for controlling the sugar prices was resorted to by this Government. And

the STC was directed, as I learn, to buy eight lakh tonnes. And the total quantity of sugar contracted by State Trading Corporation and the Metals and Minerals Trade Corporation had gone up to 4.81 lakhs. The schedule which is announced is that 40000 tonnes are expected to reach Kandla Port in June; 84000 tonnes are expected to reach in July; 275000 tonnes in August and so on and so forth. One of the reasons which is given is that import of sugar was required because of the shortage of production in sugar. For that purpose, if we analyse it, one of the reasons appears to be the policy regarding molassis which diverted the sugar production from sugarcane growers to *gur* and *khandasari* and, therefore, the production fell as far as this season was concerned.

If we see all the reports regarding the difference of opinion between the Prime Minister's office and the Food Minister which appeared in a section of the press. But these have been denied by the Food Minister himself and from the Prime Minister's office also.

Therefore, there is no substance in saying that there had been a muddle because of the differences of opinion between the different departments of this Government. The Food Minister had taken prompt steps for importing the sugar which was the only remedy for controlling the sugar prices and accordingly he had also taken the cue from the last Report of the Public Accounts Committee which had discouraged the involvement of the Food Corporation of India for importing the sugar. And, therefore, the Food Minister also took prompt action in correcting certain orders which were issued relying upon the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee. Therefore, it appears th-

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

even though better and more prompt action could have been taken by the Government, at least, at certain time the correct actions were taken for importing the sugar through STC and MMTC so that this can be controlled. I hope that when this importing of the sugar is completed and by that time the new sugar season also will begin the whole crisis would come to an end and there would be relief as far as the common consumer is concerned.

Now, unfortunately, as far as the demand for sugar from India increased the prices in the international market also went up and that had also its own effect. It is said by the Food Minister—but I do not want to justify the sugar prices on that account—and I do not know on what basis that the sugar at present is the cheapest in India and that in the neighbouring countries the price is Rs. 20 per Kg. I do not for a moment want to justify this rise in the sugar prices on this count at all because the sugar prices in this country should be suited to the pocket of a common man and, therefore, we have got a public distribution system. The Finance Minister has announced that due to constraints of the finances he will not allow any subsidy as far as sugar is concerned. But he has gone further and said that just as 38 per cent average levy is there, here also for public distribution system full concession will be given in the subsidy as far as the public distribution system is concerned.

16.49 hrs.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*]

If that is also done, I hope that in the near future, the conditions will improve

and the hardships of the common man will come to an end and the festival season which would be approaching thereafter would be celebrated by the common man in a better condition.

It is because of the present policies of the Government. No doubt it is true that if the steps had been taken as early as February itself, this situation would not have arisen. In any case the steps of importing the sugar and also announcing the subsidy for the public distribution system, these two steps, will bring down the prices in the near future and we shall have no occasion further to censure this Government as far as the sugar prices are concerned. As I said, it would have been better if there had been a free debate in this House without censuring the Government.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): The hon. Member has said that it would have been better if there had been a free debate without censuring the Government. Is there any restriction on the debate now? Is he under pressure to speak?

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: You are a seasoned parliamentarian. You know the difference between these two devices when they are used and the restraint on the Members of different political parties and I need not explain it to you.

What I was saying is that there is no point in censuring the Government on this issue. They have taken proper steps. The only thing is they should have taken promptly these steps, so that these hardships would not have arisen as far as the public is concerned.

With these words, I oppose this motion.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my opinion is that this discussion should not be confined only to the import of sugar and the undue advantage taken by certain individuals. If the august House does not review the factors behind the present situation we would not be able to improve the situation. Rather we would have to bow to the conditions laid down by others to get sugar from them. If we go through the record of previous four years, we find that there has been a gradual decline in the production of sugarcane. The land under sugarcane cultivation is decreasing gradually and the sugarcane yield per hectare is also reducing resultantly.

I would like to refer to the figures of the economic review presented by the Government before introducing the Budget. the total sugarcane cultivation area during 1989-90 was 34 lakh hectares, having a yield of 65,000 kg. per hectare, totaling 22 crore 50 lakh tonnes. In 1990-91 the cultivated area increased to 37 lakh hectares having an yield of 65 thousand kg. per hectare, totaling 24 crore 10 lakh tonnes. Similarly, in 1991-92 the entire area under cultivation was 38 lakh hectares having an output of 66,000 kg. per hectare, totaling 24 crore 50 lakh tonnes. This is where the economic policy affects. These people are not ready to realise the things in this regard. Despite our repeated requests, we were told that the Government was reviewing the prospects of export to ascertain whether to adopt Karagil Continental Grain or some other Channel for export. Majority of these people would be ignorant of the fact that there are only six American companies which have maintained a monopoly in the world food grains market. In 1991-92 a new economic policy was introduced. Not even a year

had passed thereafter that the area under cultivation decreased from 38 lakh hectares to 36 lakh hectares and the production from 66 thousand kg. per hectare to 63,800 kg. per hectare. The reason was that the prices of fertilizers increased and farmers could not afford to use fertilizers of high quality. On the whole the total produce of sugarcane during 1991-92 was 25 crore 40 lakh tonnes. The target set by the Agriculture Minister for the next year was 24 crores 38 lakh tonnes and the actual production confined to 23 crore tonnes. Now comes the year 1993-94. These are Government figures and not mine. The cultivated area now reduced from 36 lakh hectares to 34 lakh hectares making a reduction of 3 per cent in total land under sugarcane cultivation. The target for production was 25 crore tonnes which has now been reduced to 23 crores tonnes. The figures regarding yield have not been furnished so far. I would like to warn not only the House but everybody, that it hardly matters as to which party forms the Government and who becomes the Minister. The most important thing is that as long as the present Government is in power, it should not be forced to take measures in this regard because the new economic policy implemented by it has already put the country in dire straits and is likely to deteriorate the situation further.

Propaganda is being made through radio and television that prospects for farmers in the world market have been brightened, and that they would be able to export their commodities. Sugarcane prices in our country have gone up. Besides, irrigation water and electricity have also become costlier to them. If taken as a whole, the sugar prices have increased more than the prices of sugarcane in the open market. This is something separate. But it is surprising that some bureaucrats have been giving

[Shri George Fernandes]

statements through newspapers for the last 10-15 days that sugar could be imported at such and such rate or that some companies had offered to reduce the rate by 100 dollars from their actual rate of 400 or four hundred and fifty dollars. All this is being done to create a misconception in the country, sugar prices in other countries have gone down during the last 5-6 years. But the individuals or the private companies which are involved in the import and who have personal benefits, get the prices increased one way or the other.

17.00 hrs.

As per the Far East Economic Review the sugar price, a year ago, was 241 dollars per tonne, which increased to 267 dollars per tonne by 6th June this year. There is a total increase of 26 dollars per tonne. If we are to import 15 lakh tonnes of sugar, it involves a misappropriation of Rs. 150 crore, that too in dollars. This is what has been happening. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee talked of it just now. The report to this effect was presented in April last year. But, the same thing has reoccured this year also. It should be investigated by JPC, PAC or any other committee.

It is a matter of sugar price. PAC's 45th report was presented on 19th April last year. As per the figures furnished in it, the sugar prices during August 1989, September, 1989 and October, 1989 varied from 505 dollars per tonne to 396 dollars per tonne. After a gap of six years we have taken up the matter again in the House today when the sugar price in the world market is 400 dollars, and if OCIF purchases sugar at its own, then the rate comes to 267 dollars per tonne

as on 6th June i.e. today, World sugar market at present is depressed. But I would not like to go into those details. I am referring to all these points to make it clear that they hold discussions only to mislead the country. Therefore, people should be cautioned against fishy activities.

I would not go into the details of why and how the incidents took place, due to which the situation deteriorated to such an extent. But since the hon. Minister is present here, I would like to put some questions to him. I would like to know from him whether his Ministry had furnished a document to the Cabinet on 24th January, indicating that sugar scarcity was likely and therefore, measures for import of sugar should be taken immediately. I would also like to know whether it is a fact that nobody bothered to think in this regard till 9th March. It should also be please clarified whether any Cabinet Committee has been constituted and that whether the meeting of that Committee has already taken place? Was the matter regarding increase in sugar prices taken up and measures suggested in the meeting? We would like to know as to when the committee took decision to import sugar and whether the Public Accounts Committee Report of April 1993 was taken into consideration while taking decision in this regard.

[English]

"The Committee would also emphasise that the matter should be thoroughly examined by the Ministry of Food with a view to devise detailed remedial steps required to be taken in the matter of any future imports to be undertaken by the Ministry so as

to ensure that such imports are made in the most cost effective and timely manner."

[Translation]

When was the policy framed, when the document of the policy was published and finally when was it decided that sugar would be imported not through FCI or any other such agency but only through State Trading Corporation. When such a policy had been framed, why the other decision was taken by the concerned Ministry. It hardly matters whether the hon. Prime Minister or the Minister of Food is there in May or not, the Government as a whole is always there. Many hon. Members are of the opinion that after the first scam JPC was constituted, but there was nothing appreciable in the report they submitted. We would like to know that when neither the hon. Prime Minister nor the hon. Minister of Food had approved the proposal, on whose orders sugar was imported? I would also like to know why the Government broke the promise they had made in the Parliament to import sugar only through STC. After all a report of PAC is a parliamentary report and an invariably action taken report thereon should be furnished to the committee. Why this promise was broken?

We are surprised on the decision taken regarding invitations of tenders. Notice for tender was published on 17th May and the global tenders were expected to be submitted by 9.30 A.M. on 19th May, I do agree that everything has been globalised and fax facilities are available to convey the messages in time and that is what was done. We do agree to all this for a minute. Fax messages were sent, quotations were invited and the order was issued on 18th May by the concerned Ministry stating:

[English]

"Since, time is the essence of the matter, the Government feels....

[Translation]

We would like to know-which Government is being referred to? Because it includes the entire machinery. Even if the decision is taken by the concerned Ministry the entire Cabinet gets involved into it.

[English]

Which Government and what level of the Government?

[Translation]

They should not have been floated and now the Government claim that a special empowered committee is being constituted.

[English]

"Since time is the essence of the matter, the Government feels that a special Committee of the FCI Board should be empowered to take all final decisions regarding sugar imports on the tenders, enquiries floated by FCI. This Committee should consist of Chairman, FCI, as Chairman, M.D., FCI as Financial Advisor to the Ministry of Food and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food, as member."

Thus special Committee is to take all final decisions.

[Shri George Fernandes]

[*Translation*]

There were four officers— Chairman, Managing Director, Financial Advisor and Additional Secretary of STC.

[*English*]

“....To take all final decisions of the Government which will later on be reported in due course for *ex-post facto* approval of the FCI Board.”

So, four people will decide.

“For any of the conditions of tender inquiry wherever found necessary and desirable for consideration of unsolicited offers outside the tender enquiries etc...”

[*Translation*]

In other words tenders were invited but at the same time it was also decided not to bother about them. In case if a company offers to adjust the sugar prices as required, four persons are there in the Government who have been authorised to take the final decision. We would like to know from the hon. Minister whether all these decisions were taken by the concerned Ministry, if so, the basis on which agreements to this effect were made with sugar suppliers all over the world. State Trading Corporation comes under the Ministry of Commerce, and we have read not one but a number of statements given by the Commerce Secretary who alleged publicly that he was pressurised from higher circles? Who was there at higher level to pressurise the Commerce Secretary? He could have been either the Commerce Minister or the Cabinet Secretary. Did they really do so? Since it is a matter

of higher level, it could be from Prime Minister's office. Now a days there is a new trend - it can well be called an institute or something else - that every work is done in the same PMO.

[*English*]

PMO wants, PMO desires, PMO commands.

[*Translation*]

Was any instruction given from the Prime Ministers' office or did the Prime Minister himself order the Commerce Secretary? He did not refer to anybody by name, but he did give the indication. We also do not want him to refer to any of his colleagues or anybody in the Government by name. However, it has become clear from the statements of Commerce Secretary made in public that there was a pressure to transact the deal with some private companies. The names of two such companies have been revealed by the newspapers. I need not make the publicity of their names. You might be knowing their names. It is known to everybody as to who are associated with those companies. But it must be revealed in the House today as to who was the person to exert the pressure.

Our colleague Shri Digheji has rightly stated that it is not a free debate. We have not made it known in the morning itself that we to criticize the Governments today and we seek the reply of the hon. Minister during discussion today because not only his Ministry but also the entire Government have been put in the dock.

Sir, I would like to point out one thing more. We were worried about the amount of money involved. Sugar is consumed one crore tons a year. But the

consumption increased this year. It is likely to reach one crore and twenty lakh tons. If the price of sugar is raised by Re. one per kilogram arbitrarily at any level the people of India will have to pay Rs. one thousand crore on one crore tons of sugar. The wholesale price of sugar in the market was Rs. 933 per quintal during the month of January, 1993 and now it has reached Rs. 20 per kilogram or Rs. 2000 per quintal. This increase in price took place during the period of 17 months from January, 1993 to December, 1993 and May, 1994. The consumption of sugar at the rate of 10 lakh tons per month comes to 1 crore and 50 lakh tons in 15 or 16 months and even if the average price rise has been Rs. 5 per kilogram the people had been robbed of Rs. 7 or 8 thousands crores. The Government now must reveal the names of middlemen in the deal.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are raising this issue today because the situation is worsening too much. Sugar is being imported at the rate of \$ 400 per tons which is made available to people at the rate of Rs. 12 or Rs. 12.50 per kilogram. If the price is raised by Rs. 2 or Rs. 2.50 per kilogram, the people will be robbed of Rs. 500 crore to 1000 crore. The new economic policy of the Government has brought it to such a past that the hon. Minister is now compelled to ask the traders to sell sugar at the rate of Rs. 14.50 per kilogram and not at Rs. 15.50 per kilogram. But who will listen to him? The Hon. Minister should raise this question before the hon. Prime Minister or the hon. Minister of Finance who have introduced this new economic policy in the country and are bent upon selling it out. It dire consequences will have to be faced and the present crisis is just a beginning. Tomorrow the same thing will be repeated with regard to foodgrains and other items. In the light

of the new economic policy selling of land by the farmers in Maharashtra has been allowed by the Legislative Assembly. One can purchase any area of land and use it for horticulture. What is this? It is a step towards giving up cultivation of foodgrains, sugarcane and taking up to horticulture? The foreigners are misleading us. The people in the Government are bent upon leading this country to ruin.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, therefore, request that we should discuss not only the issues as to who made how much money but also the issue as to how can we deal with the present crisis into which the new economic policy has thrown us. Our country has been the largest producer of sugarcane. We will have to discuss as to how can we restore this status of the country and what can be its permanent solution.

With these words, I conclude and urge that the Government should be censured. I urge upon the House to admit the *Adjournment Motion* and the Government should be shown its place.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let us get the perspective right. We are discussing the problem, not of the whole of our population; at least 50 per cent of our countrymen do not take sugar. Those who are below the poverty line and those who are around the poverty line, are not affected by any rise in the price of sugar.

Now I mention this also to highlight this fact that potentially whatever amount of sugar we are producing in the course of the last few years is being short supplied. Whatever we may be producing,

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[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

even this year, we say that we have a surplus of sugar production. We forget that 50 per cent of our population do not have that amount of purchasing power which will permit them to buy sugar. If you try to improve their condition, then whatever we consider to be our surplus will no longer remain so.

Add to this, that in the course of this year, or this year's sugar season, as my hon. friend Shri George Fernandes has indicated, the acreage of sugarcane was coming down over the last two or three years. The stock of sugar also was coming down in the course of the last three years. And the production of sugar also was coming down in the course of the last three years. Yet, no decision could be taken unless or until very late about intervention through imports in the sugar market in our country. This needs some explanation. I think he has very correctly pointed out the major sources of our problem. As if in a flash, the whole episode connected with sugar indicates two things: One is that the entire new economic policy in all its aspects will lead to this kind of problem and ruination of the people of our country. He has made an estimate of about Rs. 6000 to 7000 crore about the loot. Loot has two directions. Somebody has benefited. Somebody else has paid.

I was privately estimating that it may be around Rs. 5000 to 6000 crore. Anyway, this Rs. 5000 crore has been sacrificed by 50 per cent of our population in favour of a few. Some persons are benefited. Fifty per cent of our population have lost this Rs. 5000 crore.

Is this the new economic policy? This is the new economic policy! Let us analyse. Why is it that the Finance

Ministry appeared to be an obstacle according to some version of some Ministers? Because, the Finance Minister had promised somewhere else that he was trying to reduce subsidies as a part of the new economic policy. This whole question of subsidy is a part of the new economic policy. Therefore, some Ministers utilised this or may be, they are afraid of this; that without subsidy whether or not or will it be possible to have import intervention of sugar?

The new economic policy, combined with that our agreement on GATT is anti-agriculture and pro-industry. Let us analyse, let us see this.

In the statement of the Food Minister his reaction to this whole problem is given.

He forgets the cane growers. He says that he is giving more licences to sugar factories and his emphasis is on the industrial sector. That is exactly what follows from the New Economic Policy—neglect of our farmers, neglect of our agriculture and trying to get things done via the route of industry. The consequences...(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum):
Can I put one question?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You can put your question later on. Let me carry on with my speech.

This approach is also a part of that approach, which is associated with encouraging the industrial sector and discouraging the agricultural sector.

Then, let us look at the hesitation for imports. Look at the problem of intervention within the economy. We

have been told by the GATT understanding, we have been told by the International Monetary Fund and others, that in terms of our Budget stabilisation, our fiscal deficit, etc., we cannot do certain things in the economy. And exactly as the Finance Minister did with his Budget figures, our Food Minister does with his food figures, with his sugar figures. As we have discovered in the course of our Budget discussion, the figures of the Finance Ministry were all fudged, they suppressed the figures of expenditure, and in glowing terms they presented the figures of revenue collection. Exactly in the same mode, the Food Minister says that we are producing very nearly what we have produced last year. Despite the fact that all indications—the acreage was less, the content of sugarcane was less than in the past so that extraction of sugar will be less than in the past—were there, he was continuing to bluff the economy by also saying, by adding that, as has been mentioned, we have unnecessarily low prices of sugar. Remember that 50 per cent of our population cannot buy sugar at that price. He comes out in a bravado saying that our prices of sugar are too low compared to our globalised international markets. Whatever he has learnt or picked up from his elder, the Cabinet Minister of the Finance Ministry, he is trying to disgorge before the people of this country. When all indications were there that there would be a shortage of about two million tonnes, he was bravely saying that there is no need to import because the Finance Ministry does not like it. Despite all his claims about accumulation of reserves, all his claims about accumulation of foreign exchange, his private advice is not to spend them on import. And then what happens?

Let us try to understand and let us try to find out how both the policy and

the perpetrators of the policy are of the same mode and are equally guilty and none is fit to rule the country any more.

Sir, it is said that the approach was New Economic Policy. Very bravely our Minister comes here and says, "We are not going to import anything in the public sector. Under New Economic Policy, we cannot emphasise the public sector. Therefore, OGL is being granted to private sector."

We asked him this question. He said, 'No'. There is no public sector import. We are granting open general licence and allowing the private sector. This unlimited faith in the private sector has been generated in us by the World bank and IMF. He is not directly concerned with them. He has been tutored by perhaps Shri Manmohan Singh and others. Therefore, he says that even when we have to import, hand it over to the private sector, the private sector in the meantime was behaving in a particular manner within the economy. To the extent imports are delayed the prices are rising. To the extent there is no assurance that there will be import intervention in abundance, the private sector failed in the market. If the supply is less because of existing level of demand, the prices have to rise. The touching belief in the market economy and the Economic Policy is reflected in the package. Let the private sector bring whatever they can at whatever price they can. There will be no subsidy. Whatever the price level, on the basis of that supply, the people have to pay. There is nothing to complain because our prices are very low. This is the kind of argument, this is the kind of psychological mindset that they have. That is what has led to this debacle. Look at the movements of different sectors within the Government.

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

The Food Corporation of India should not import. Why? It is because the Public Accounts Committee had said so. I was the Member of the Public Accounts Committee when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Chairman. He also remembers it. Therefore, he uses that as a tool. Why often some of the Action Taken Reports of the Government say that we are not agreeable? In order to justify non-intervention and non-import, we are told that an Action Taken Report has been sent in February last year whereby they say that they accept that the Food Corporation of India should not import. Now, if this Action Taken Report says that we should not import, then another wing of the Government, the Commerce Ministry, says that we should import. That was the recommendation. Have we drawn the attention of the Cabinet to the fact import is a must in order to save the population of our country from a loot of Rs. 5000 or 6000 crores? And if we are prevented by the Public Accounts Committee then let the Cabinet order the STC and the MMTC to import as quickly as possible. Now, this is what has not been done. I agree with the earlier statement of Shri George Fernandes that it is not a matter of one Ministry, it is the entire Government, its entire Policy—the liberalised Economic Policy—which depends on the market, which allows the law of supply and demand to have its full play, which promises to others and prevents giving subsidy to any necessary item of intake of the population. Therefore, what has happened? I do not know who have shared. There is a statement that leakage of this information has led to enhancement of prices in the international sugar cartel—ISMA or RSA (Refined Sugar Association of London) or International Sugar Marketing Association.

They were raising the prices because despite this shortage within our country, we are perhaps the biggest or the largest producer of sugar in the world. Any shortfall in our country generates a pressure in the international market and since the believers in the market forces refuse to see this, those who control those who have monopoly in the market, are free to manipulate the prices according to their sweet will. That is the law of economics that monopoly prices prosper on the basis of shortage of supply. And, Sir, they have shared in the loot. I am sure, one of the most wonderful things as reported in the Press—I want the Minister to deny—is that global tenders this time were called in terms of rupee. And the story is—he does not know or may be because he is a part of the Government, he also knows—that there is over-involving on the high seas. Already which are contracted on the high seas, they changed hands. When the public sector are forced, because of the cry among the public and the people, to enter into the purchase of sugar, they are purchasing it at the high seas. No foreign exchange is involved. And whatever the international prices, we do not know. We know the story of over-involving. In this process itself, foreign exchange will be accumulated outside. But Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000 crore of loot is the inside our country. That is the inside story. That also is going to be shared with the foreign multinationals. The Indian segment of the traders and producers in collusion with the political part of the Government, have shared the loot. This is a bigger scandal than the scandal of the Bofors. It is a bigger scandal qualitatively than the scandal that the JPC was trying to unfold, which was called a scam, because one single commodity generated a profit of Rs. 5,000 crore. Qualitatively, the significance of this sugar episode is exactly as in the case of that scam, we know. That was related to the 1991 July declaration of the New Economic Policy. Similarly, today

we are seeing the working out of this New Economic Policy on a commodity, despite the fact that fifty per cent of the population cannot consume. Nevertheless, the rest of the fifty per cent of the population is suffering from the impact of the same policy. Therefore, the first question that has to be answered is: where has this Rs. 5,000 crore gone? We have to find out whether it has gone to the industrialists, the traders or their political masters. The question is not merely that you have connived. I am saying on the basis of my experience in the Joint Parliamentary Committee that there is a share in the loot also. I do not know how many suit cases are involved. But it is normal to anticipate that Rs. 5,000 crore is not a small sum. It is normal to expect that when such things happen, that also happens. And they have to answer where this 5,000 crores of rupees have gone. Secondly, we have to pin down responsibilities about what is being criticised as pure and simple bungling—from the Cabinet Secretary, the Food Secretary, the FCI and the PM's Office.

In the JPC report also which we have brought out, there was a note of dissent and many questions remained unanswered. We do not want to have these questions unanswered in this case. I have a letter with me. I do not want to read it out. He says that he has offered sugar at a particular price which would have saved all this amount of money and the prices could have come down. He says that he has written such a letter to the Food Ministry also. If they deny, I will produce that letter.

17.41 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, therefore one has to find out, under the verbiage of PAC, under the verbiage of some bureaucrat or the

political arm of the Minister, what was the directive from the PMO. This pinpointing has to be done. I am sure that whatever the reply is, it will not be satisfactory because many more details have to be unearthed. Many a link has to be discovered and to discover all such links, that, perhaps, requires another probe by a Committee of the House. This is inescapable and therefore, I did not desire that the new economic policy should be changed thoroughly immediately, at least on the basis of this experience including the approximation of the Patents Act. Including that all the things have to be changed, failing which the Government should resign. They have to own the responsibility for this scandal and if the Government wants to wait till the findings of the new Committee, let the Committee be established here and now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL (Sangali):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Adjournment Motion brought in the august House. But I would also like to point out that merely the Opposition of the motion will not absolve us of our duties. Every aspect of the problem that has cropped up should be discussed here and we should have a deep study into the problem.

First of all we have to see that the production of sugar in 1991 was 134 lakh tons which was the largest in the world. Thereafter, the production was reduced to 106 lakh tons in 1992-93. We should investigate the reasons behind this steep fall. We must discuss the factors responsible therefore deeply. Could we not provide remunerative price to the sugarcane growers which prompted them to switch over to oil seed production and

[Shri Prakash V. Patil]

which resulted in the decline of sugar production.

When the new Government came into power, it announced a new policy to decontrol molasses under the leadership of Shri Kalp Nath Rai. This has created such a situation today that it has become doubtful whether we will be able to give the stipulated remunerative prices to the sugarcane growers or not. Thereafter, in order to raise the production of sugar, the Government started giving some concessions to the sugarcane growers which brought about prospects for the increase in the production of sugarcane. But the production of sugar fell steeply in the year 1992-93 to 98 lakh tons only.

Now we are endeavouring to raise the production of sugar to the tune of 110 lakh tons and we are proceeding in this direction, but the sugarcane producers in Uttar Pradesh and other States opted to go for the production of jaggery (gur) and khandsari which resulted in the fall in the sugar production.

Keeping in view the production in 1991-92 and 1992-93 nobody bothered to fix the prices of sugarcane. What is the present rate? 50 per cent of sugar is stocked throughout the year. Due to the stock we have suffered the loss of the Rs. 300 crore on account of interest alone. Whenever there is bumper production sugar is supplied in large quantity for the Public Distribution System. Previously this quota was 50 per cent, but now it has been made 40 per cent. Previously the loss was four rupees per kilogram but now this has become five rupees per kilogram. We should think over the price of the sugar sold in the market also. Sugar is exported also. We

have suffered the loss of Rs. 400 crore due to the export. In such a situation we want to sell some quantity of sugar out of the remaining stock with us. It will fetch us higher price. But even this would not compensate the loss completely.

This year our production of sugar has been 32 lakh tonnes more than previous year. We are going to store it. When the Government does not have sugar for re-sale and levy then how can it release more quantity of sugar in the release mechanism. Moreover, there is no likelihood of getting higher prices for the outstanding sugar meant for re-sale. But we have imported 4 lakh tonnes of re-sale sugar through national sugar factories federation. Out of which 2 lakh tonnes of sugar has arrived and we are going to give it to the Government at the rate of Rs. 13 per kilogram for the Public Distribution System. Moreover we are ready to supply 2.5 lakh tonnes of sugar to compensate the shortfall in levy sugar. This has already been approved by the Government. If the import takes place, every kind of shortfall will be made up because the import is being made in large quantity.

The present prices of the sugar are fluctuating between 235 and 400 dollars. If the sugar is supplied at 235 dollars then it is not devaluation. Shri George Fernandes has rightly stated that the price of sugar is upto 400 dollars. The production of sugar in our country starts in the months of November and December. But its production starts in the month of July in Brazil. Sugar purchased in the month of July will be cheaper. At present the shortage of sugar in the market is to the tune of 10 lakh tonnes. Therefore, release mechanism should be changed accordingly. We have pointed out through the sugar federation that we will sell the

imported sugar at not more than Rs. 14.50 per kilogram. Even after the imposition of Government taxes we will sell sugar at not higher than Rs. 15.50 per Kg. We are ready to make such promise now. If the sugar is imported in the month of July then it will be cheaper. The sugar imported from Brazil is not sweet up to the mark because hybrid granules are not formed in it and it is mostly used for manufacturing sugar products.

Today there is shortage of 1.7 million tonnes of sugar in the international market. Therefore, the price of the sugar will be higher if we import sugar. Sugar should be imported in large quantity only after the new crop. The Government should not misuse its funds.

Since we are facing sugar crisis, people belonging to the backward classes should be made sugar available through the Public Distribution System. Even in such a situation sugar may be made available at the rate of Rs. 12 per kg. The sugar industry has suffered a loss of Rs. 700 crore. It has suffered a loss of Rs. 400 crore through the export. We must evolve a system that may enable us to produce maximum quantity of sugar and farmers should be given remunerative prices. Once it happened that the sugar industry decided to export 12 lakh tons of sugar. Something can certainly be done if it is thought comprehensively. The policy formulated by the Government will raise the production of sugar in the coming years. It takes one or one and a half years to grow sugarcane. Thereafter, we hope, this problem will be solved.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Centre's new sugar policy has ended

in a spectacular debacle with sugar prices showing signs of spinning out of control. The current sugar crisis almost perfectly mirrors the sugar controversy which rocked the nation way back in 1989. The drama today reads identical to the one enacted half a decade ago.

In 1989, the prices of sugar had sky-rocked from Rs. 6.50 to Rs. 9/- per kg. in a matter of mere two months and then zoomed to Rs. 12 by September of the same year. The buck was passed on from one Ministry to the other and from one bureaucrat to the other. Ironically, the situation is no different—today when imports were first mooted in November last year, the price was 280 US dollars per tonne but due to inordinate delays, the country is paying 360 US dollars per tonne. The losses this time are expected to be almost double the 1989 figures.

The 1989 scandal contributed in the debacle of the Rajiv Gandhi Government at the hustings. This year's controversy between the Cabinet Secretariat and the Food Ministry, on the one side and, the Commerce Ministry, on the other, has centred around the floating of FCI tender. The Public Accounts Committee after a thorough investigation had indicated the Government for the scandal. The PAC plans to initiate an enquiry this time as well.

The most significant aspect of the sugar crisis is the deliberate stalling of imports even after it became evident that the shortfall of eight lakh tonnes in domestic production could not be met otherwise. I do not know why the Government has not taken any steps to import when officials in the Ministry underlined the need for it as early as November, 1993. The role played by the Commerce Minister, Mr. Pranab

[Shri P.G. Narayanan]

Mukherjee who never bothered to arrange the imports through the STC and MMTC despite the directives of the Cabinet Committee on prices given on March 9 and April 12 and the Prime Minister's intervention on April 18, is also surprising.

Had the Government cared to listen to the impassioned plea of the Food Secretary or even the Civil Supplies Minister that there was no escape from imports, the exchequer could have saved Rs. 225 crore as the price obtaining in November, 1993.

In the bargain, the consumer is forced to shell out rupees eight per kg. more than the price prevailing last December. The price of sugar has been rising for the past several months. It is clear that the Government has proved itself incapable of managing the sugar crisis. In a word, I think, the reason is inefficiency. The decision to arrest sugar prices has been taken at the higher level of the Government. The Prime Minister has given a direction and there are all sorts of mechanisms like the STC and the MMTC, the two institutions with considerable experience, but all the repute is misplaced and the experience largely useless. There is just no explanation for the illogical step of the Government. However, the situation can still be retrieved to some extent if the Government is really concerned about the difficulties experienced by the common man. So, the Government has failed to safeguard the interest of the common man in the country.

Sir, if anybody thinks that sugar prices have reached their zenith and would not rise further, he must be living in a fool's paradise because prices are

slated to go up further, especially in the States where elections are being held this year. It is common knowledge that whenever elections are held, prices of essential goods, including sugar, go up steeply as the contributions made for the election funds have to be recouped by the industry and trade. So, while this may be partly true, it is exactly because of this factor and the consequent spiral in sugar prices that the Government had announced on March 15 its decision to allow imports of sugar on Open General Licensing but took more than a month to notify the decision. The Government not only delayed the implementation of the import decision but also apparently helped the price rise.

However, the situation can still be retrieved to some extent if the Government is really concerned about the difficulties experienced by the common man because of the runaway rise in sugar prices. At the same time, the Government should get out of announcing free-sale quota every month. It is this mechanism which has proved to be the culprit for the present unwarranted increase in sugar prices. When the Government has permitted Open General Licence imports of sugar and adopted an aggressive liberalisation programme, it has no business to meddle with free-sale quotas once it has taken care of the weaker sections' needs through the levy sugar for the Public Distribution System. Will any inquiry fix the responsibility for all these omissions?

Needless to say, if the sugar market is allowed to function freely and so long as the buffer stock machinery is operated efficiently to discipline the market, one can expect that sugar prices will come down to a realistic level in due course. The sugar industry is the only industry

which is making huge profit which is unaccounted thereby creating a lot of blackmoney. Because of this development, there is underhand dealing by the Government officials. First, this has to be rectified. Otherwise, we cannot check the rising price of sugar.

Sir, this issue is a serious one which affects the common man. There is definitely a lot of bungling on the part of the Government in this regard. So, I demand a thorough enquiry by a Parliamentary Committee to go into the whole episode.

MR. SPEAKER: Next, I call Shri Surya Narayan Yadav to speak. If you want to speak, you can. If you do not want to speak, we are not going to compel you.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now I was hearing the speech of the leader of the Opposition Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Why this Adjournment Motion has been introduced here?

18.00 hrs.

This discussion is on the topic of sugar and it is being alleged that there is a sugar scandal... (Interruptions) Please try to understand your own version. Whenever I refer to Shri George Fernandes or Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, why do you make an uproar? I am not hurling abuses on Shri Vajpayeeji, I am rather appreciating him. Sir. Whenever I lend my ears to Shri Vajpayee and Shri Fernandes, I start believing that there is a scandal. The people of the country understand that certain scandal is taking place there and it affects the psyche of

the common people very adversely... (Interruptions) Now, now let me speak here and do not interrupt me. So much propaganda has been made about this scandal that the Government employees or the common people or unemployed youth all have started believing that there has been a great scandal.

SHRI DILEEP BHAI JANGHANI (Amreli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is 6 p.m. and the time of the sitting of the House has not been extended as yet how can its proceedings continue?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think we should dispose of this matter today.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): It is a very important issue. Please admit it for tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: We therefore, should sit longer.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Lok Sabha is country's supreme body which is responsible for enacting and implementation of laws. This 'Scam' has been discussed here so much that it has affected the Government employees and the common people of this country very adversely. By tarnishing the image of the country, where do they want to lead the country?

I would like to ask you one question. Shri Vajpayee was speaking just now. When your Government came in power there was shortage of onion. The Opposition was making scathing comment at that time. Was there no price hike at

[Shri Surya Narayan Yadav]

that time? Was that time not the scam of mustard oil? Was there not onion scam that time? Does scandal means a wholesale mess? I am not cutting any joke. When Shri George Fernandes starts speaking, he immediately switches over to the policy of liberalisation. While speaking on sugar he talks of the policy of economic liberalisation. Shri Chatterjee was speaking just now that sugar has become costly because farmers have been issued excess licences.

You are not a farmer. But I am. I know how much licences should be given to farmers...(Interruptions) Please listen to me...You are not a farmer. Had you been a farmer, your speech must not have been anti-farmers. I was hearing his speech with rapt attention. He did say that the shortage of sugar was due to issuing licence to sugar growing farmers. But he did not ask to provide licences to farmers for growing sugarcane. He did not ask to increase the cultivation of sugarcane and make the farmers self-reliant. It is suggested to import sugar. But I would like to state that had the farmers grown sugarcane in more quantity in the country, there would have been no sugar crisis. Shri Vajpayee was stating that...

[English]

MR SPEAKER: You have made a very good new point in regard to protecting the agriculturalists. Now, please give chances to others also to suggest other points.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:
I am talking different from what other

have spoken. The law making body must know the accurate facts of laws. Shri George Fernandes is a learned person. He does not lack in knowledge. But I would like to claim that Shri George Fernandes is not a farmer at all. Had he been a farmer he would not have criticised the policy of economic liberalisation and deprived the farmers of their benefits. The example of Maharashtra was given just now...(Interruptions)...Please listen to me. Please give me a chance. He referred to Maharashtra and suggested to grow fruits, vegetables, paddy and wheat which will not be of any advantage to farmers. He implies to prevent the cultivation of mustard, tobacco, sugarcane etc. I want to submit that today farmers will have to be made self-dependent and successful. I think there have been some lapses on the part of the Government. Had the Government remained vigilant during February-March there would not have been the shortage of sugar. The Government are responsible for it. It would not be justified to call everybody a black marketeer, criminal or dacoit. Please tell me who is human being. It cannot be called humanity if one acts in a different way. Thus a human being may remain so and we should try to highlight the truth. We will, too cooperate with you in this matter.

Without taking much time, as the bell is ringing I would like to submit that all of us irrespective of the Opposition or ruling party should unitedly make arrangements to provide relief to the people of the country.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, though I did not want to speak on the subject but the members who spoke earlier have inspired me to speak something on this subject. That is why the level at which we are holding discussion on such a serious

matter cannot be termed as injustice to the subject. Shri George Fernandes had raised some fundamental issues and sought reply from the Minister of Food. I do not know whether the Minister of Food would be able to reply. I know him for a long time. But known faces seem to be unknown today. Because they are not principled persons as their predecessors. The people do not hesitate in avoiding truth. I do not agree with Shri George that it is not possible to believe all the officials in bureaucracy. After all we have to run the Government and the country too is run by them. These people belong to our country. I do not possess much experience. With a little experience whatever I have, I can say that if most of the people who think about the welfare of the country are given proper directives they would have taken proper steps. In the matter of sugar I would like to raise one question and want to know from the Government whether directives are issued in time. If so, whether their proper implementation has been carried out? I know it. It is a fact that the Government was aware about the less production of sugarcane. It was not a secret matter. The entire world was aware of it. The Ministry of Food knew it. My friend, Shri Mukherjee knew it. It was mentioned in the Public Accounts Committee report that the Food Corporation of India must import sugar at any cost. But the condition was that it should be imported through STC or MMTC. The Ministry of Food had given an assurance to the Public Accounts Committee to implement this recommendation in toto. Afterwards, it was not possible for them to import sugar.

Sir, today it is very easy to level allegations against Shri Kalpnath. Just now one of my hon. friends was sitting here. At present he is not available. Earlier he was the Minister of State in

the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs. Had he tried to speak the truth he would have been sitting with us. Shri Kumaramangalamji, this apprehension troubles the people. Perhaps, Shri Kalpnathji is also terrified with the same fear. It has been said that the Minister of Commerce has not done anything. If the Minister of Commerce asks the Minister of Finance, he is ready to sanction it. This news has been regularly appearing in the Press, that nobody talks about Government files. Who will reply to it? Will it be replied by Shri Kalpnathji, Pranab Mukherjee or the Minister of Finance or my friend Shri Raoji, who is sitting at the helm of affairs. Of these, one will have to answer. Every Department has become inactive as restrictions in any way are imposed on them. These restrictions are not imposed due to our internal compulsions. As Shri George has rightly said that we have imposed restrictions because the Government have made some promises and given assurances to some people and it cannot go beyond that limit. Our people are facing starvation and sugar is being sold at higher rate, but we cannot make import because we cannot spend foreign exchange. We cannot enhance our Budget. These type of things are developing in our country.

Just now, the Minister of Agriculture has left the House. As my friend Shri Surya Narayan was saying rightly that the agriculture policy has been a success. Shri George has said that nowadays sugarcane is being sown comparatively on lesser area in Maharashtra. Grapes are being exported. We should congratulate the people of Maharashtra. I feel happy to see that grapes, 'Kinnu' and guava will be exported in the world market. In this way, we will earn foreign exchange. But it will result in non-availability of sugar to the people. These two things are inter-linked.

[Shri Chandra Shekhar]

While discussing GATT agreement had pointed out to the Minister of Food about his wrong policies. Scheme of agricultural production for the purpose of export is being formulated for the first time in our country. This scheme was first introduced in African countries 20-25 years ago in which food production was neglected and production of coffee and cocoa was encouraged. They earned a lot of money for 12 years. The people who were owing these industries were happy. But one day they ruined this industry. All industries were closed. Big farms now do not exist. Today African countries are facing starvation. Small countries cannot depend on other countries in the matter of food, sugar, wheat, rice and grams. Our country is a big country. It cannot depend on other countries. Not only I am saying these words but the people who believe in 'Swadeshi' and self-reliance had advocated this concept since independence days. I feel happy to listen the speech of the Prime Minister delivered in the session of All India Congress Committee in which he declares that our country favours Swadeshi, self-reliance conscious and believes in Gandhism. Gandhiji had taken a dream to see the village self-reliant. We feel ashamed in making the country self-reliant and declares this Government as Gandhian Government. We pronounce the policies of Gandhiji. This is the basic concept of our country.

Why should the farmers of Maharashtra sow sugarcane, when they get less remunerative price? They should sow grapes, to have more benefit, although the Government may spend more to import sugar.

The Minister of Finance creates hurdles and says that the Minister of

Commerce cannot import sugar. P.A.C. has issued directives that the Minister of Food cannot import sugar and it is said that the sugar should be imported through O.G.L. When an industrialist imports sugar, he imports it to earn profit and not to reduce the price of sugar and facilitate its supply to poor and thus does not help the Government.

Just now, my colleague was making deliberations. Perhaps he is associated with the sugar industry.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is Chairman.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: He is the son of late Shri Vasant Dada Patil.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Pardon me. He is son of a person for whom I have a great respect. Today, Shri Vasant Dada Patil would have thought it ten times as to why the sugar is being sold in the market at the rate of Rs. 18-20 per kilo instead of Rs. 10-12 per kilo. Would the Government conduct an inquiry into it? Would somebody be held responsible for it? Are sugarmill owners ready to take the responsibility? The Minister of Food should ponder over it.

Suddenly what happens? Prime Minister goes on a foreign trip. The Minister of Food visits his constituency. Three Government officials whose names, I would not like to mention take a unanimous decision to import sugar worth Rs. 400 crore. Why? Who has authorised them to do so? Nobody knows it. Just now Shri George was saying that global tenders are invited on a day's notice. On the second day, they had tried to cancel the tender on 8 hours' notice. When the Minister of Food arrives in Delhi he is

informed that directive had been issued by the Prime Minister's Office. When the Minister of Food desired to record it on the file, it was not carried out. The same very officer had given an assurance that directive issued by PAC headed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee would be implemented. When he was asked why he had done so despite the fact that he had given the assurance in writing, then the file was removed from the Ministry of Food and subsequently found in P.A.C.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask whether it is the way to run the country? Only by abusing Ministers or some other people will not yield any result. Until the file is recovered from the PAC, the P.M.O. cannot contradict in the matter and declare that the Ministry of Food has committed a mistake. Constantly for seven days there had been press reports in the national and international media that the Minister of Food had violated the orders of the Prime Minister. But the P.M.O. had not acted. When it is known that the Ministry of Food had given an assurance in writing to the P.A.C. through the same official, then the statement is issued that there is no difference of opinion, between the Ministry of Food and the P.M.O. I do not know the view point of the Minister of Food. I also do not know whether the Prime Minister is aware of the matter or not. But the P.M.O. is functioning in a very different way. Press reported that the officials take decision themselves. In a Cabinet form of Government, it is the first time that the decision is taken by an official without the knowledge of the concerned Minister on the plea of directives received from the P.M.O. When the officers were asked to record it in the file, they refused. I am not concerned about whether the sugar is sold at Rs. 5/- or Rs. 5000/- per kg. But these tendencies are dangerous and one day

these officers will sell out the country and we will not be able to know about it. It is not a simple matter. That is why I am compelled to speak. Do not take the debate as merely a loss of Rs. 4000 or 5000 crores. I do not want to go into who the culprit was or what was the amount of bribe. The question is whether we are running a civilized administration or democracy? In a parliamentary democracy the Cabinet members may have difference of opinion. The Government will have to decide and assign the responsibility who had authorised the officials for inviting global tender without informing any Minister. How does the P.M.O. come in between the two? The Prime Minister, the Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Finance were not aware of the fact. The Minister of Food too was not aware of this decision. I know it as he has already given his statement. Later on they backed out from their statements. Secondly, the Secretary had issued a statement against the Minister. A senior officer of the Ministry of Commerce had said that a high official had pressurised him many times on phones, to import from such companies which are not even registered. All these things are happening. Through you I would like to urge upon my Congress friends not to make it a party issue. Do not give political colour to every issue. I know it that you will defeat this motion. I know that you will get the majority. You have seen that the people of the country had rejected you and us also twice even after having majority. What will happen if all the people are rejected in politics. The politicians will be disheartened. What will happen to the country? You will have to ponder over this problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have to pay a little attention as the P.A.C. functions as per your directive. Is it an ordinary

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thing that the assurances given to the P.A.C. have been disappeared from the files of Ministry of Food? It should be observed from this angle that the economic policies will play a pivotal role. In the world, nobody will help us in making us prosperous and wealthy. Shri Pranabji has been with us since 1962. He is one of my old friends. We have intensively worked together to revive the economic policies of that time for years. One day I had said that he has become the citizen of the world whereas I remained an Indian. I surprise to see Shri Pranabji. I know Shri Kalpnathji since his student life. He was happy with the socialist movement and even today he is in high spirits while talking. But I don't know why he is keeping mum? Why did not he speak today? Is the portfolio of the Minister is too important, to obscene self restraint. The man who has no idea of decorum, the dignity of the country cannot be safe in his hands. I am not demanding his resignation. There is no need to tender resignation. Fortunately hon. Shri Arjun Singh has come. I would request him. "Arjunasya Pratigya Dwai, Na-Cha Dainyam Na Playanam." Do not be humble and renounce the world. I am not asking to protest it in the House but you can resist it at least in the Cabinet. This matter should be examined. How will the inquiry be conducted? Personally, I am not against any person, I have nothing to do in the matter. But it pains me when I see that the entire dignity of the country and the parliamentary democracy is being tarnished and high officials are fighting each other and disgracing bureaucracy. These people are running our administration. It may not be so as we are compelled to form our opinion about all the officials. Just now Shri George has expressed the same view point. A dangerous bell is ringing not for him but

for the entire nation. Therefore, I would like to request to take up the matter seriously. If you are able to issue directives to these officials in the right perspective, it would benefit a lot.

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla): Speaker, Sir, we all know that sugar tastes sweet, but it is very unfortunate that in our country it tastes sweet for only a few traders, industrilists, politicians and a few bureaucrats. For a common man it tastes bitter. Sir, you may please see the price of sugar in the last three-four months. There is a great variation. In December 1993, the price of sugar was Rs. 1260 per quintal. In the month of February, it was Rs. 1305 per quintal. It was Rs. 1400 per quintal in the month of April and in May it was Rs. 1650 per quintal. This variation in the price of sugar has in turn affected the common man heavily and we are very much concerned over this price hike. I do not know whether it was due to the fault of the Commerce Ministry, Food Ministry, Cabinet Secretary, Deputy Secretary or the Government as a whole. All these people are trying to blame each other for this kind of mismanagement and for the Government's inability to control the sugar price. We really wonder whether this Government is interested in protecting the common man's interest or they are just interested in quarrelling among themselves!

According to me this hike in price is due to the utmost delay in taking decisions on the part of the Government as a result of which the prices in the international market shot up. The London Commodity Exchange rates in the month of April were 322 Dollars per quintal. In the month of May it was 338 dollars per quintal and when

we placed order in the month of August, it became 400 dollars per quintal. So, when the buyer is in a hurry, the seller gains in negotiations. This is how thousands of crores of rupees of the public exchequer are wasted. The amount comes to about Rs. 320 million.

MMTC and STC have been given orders to purchase sugar but there also bungling has taken place. When the private people are purchasing at a lower price, say about 320 dollars per quintal, STC is purchasing it at 400 dollars per quintal or even higher than that. STC struck a deal with the ETL thereby denying 20 other bidders to float their tenders at a lower price.

Sir, Marcrich is the world's largest trader in sugar. They quoted much lower price than the STC and the MMTC but on two conditions. They are, the delivery should be taken in the warehouses and the payment should be made in Rupees. Not only this company but even other private companies had imported sugar at much lower prices. Previously, Mr Mulji, the Chairman of the STC had owned a company called GES. In May, they imported two lakh tonnes of sugar at much lower price. Dharmapur had imported 13,000 tonnes and the ESSAR had imported 26,000 tonnes of sugar. Kothari Soya had imported 26,000 tonnes and Kothari Sugar had imported 26,000 tonnes of sugar. There are also other companies which had imported sugar at much lower prices. They ranged from \$ 358 to \$ 398 per quintal. These are the differences in prices between the private companies and the STC and the MMTC. These prices were negotiable but the opportunity was denied to other companies. So, the STC had quoted much higher price.

Sir, when the prices were increasing in this manner, India exported sugar to

USA and other European countries. The last consignment worth 1 lakh tonnes of sugar was exported between November 1993 and February 1994 to these countries. We are aware that production was about 135 lakh tonnes in 1991-92, in 1993, it was 106 lakh tonnes and during 1993-94, the production is estimated to be 98 lakh tonnes whereas the output is only 59.26 lakh tonnes. In those circumstances, knowing fully well that our requirement every year is about 130 lakh tonnes in addition to the ten per cent increase in consumption every year, the Government did not respond properly to taking adequate precautionary measures for tackling the situation in the country. Because of this, the common man had suffered heavily. The price had increased to a large extent and sugar was selling at Rs. 17/- per kg. In spite of all these things, they were blaming one another. I would say that the Government is responsible for all these things. The Government should come out with the real picture. Why should there be a licensing system for the sugar mills when they are controlled by the big sugar lobbies of UP and Maharashtra? This was done in order to get money from these sugar lobbies. Because of this the party in power will be able to get money from these sugar lobbies. These are the things which are to be rectified. Whether the Minister resigns or not, the Government should take the responsibility.

I again demand that the Government should take the full responsibility and do the needful.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the last three years, the new economic policy has made an impact on the

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economy and the common man of this country. I would like to say that it is not by sheer chance that the production is decreasing. Nowadays, the production of an item is not measured acre or hectare-wise only. The question of productivity has assumed great significance because we don't have more land in our country for its cultivation. In regard to production of sugarcane, our Government has absolved itself from the responsibility of supplying quality seeds and fertilizers, making arrangements for irrigation facility to avoid any inconvenience during drought, modernising the mills and some other related works. Rather they have transferred it to the trading institutions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today all sugar mills functioning under Sugar Corporation in Bihar and four other nationalised mills—Samastipur, Rayyam, Lohat and Sakari—are even not able to produce 4 quintals of sugar. In this case, the Government of India and the Government of Bihar are following the same policy. I am not going in a different way but this is the very basis of the original policy. They want that the production and productivity should not increase, the machines should not be modernised and State Sugar Corporation become defunct. If there is shortage of sugar, the Government and its new economic policy is wholly responsible for that. Now the question is that if the production of sugar has declined, it was known to all. Then why should there be increase in the prices due to less production? Our senior colleagues have said that if there is less production, the prices of sugar would increase. Today, the economic theory of Adam Smith, Marshall and Kenith is unhesitatingly being imposed on the people. The price is determined by taking into account the cost, labour, capital and raw material. It

can be understood that if there is short supply, it cannot reach all the people or it will be available in less quantity but under which economic theory the prices increase exorbitantly.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR (Gopalganj): You are seeing that all the Members have encircled Shri Kalpnath Rai. He should be give an opportunity to clarify his position. He would definitely speak openly.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: At the moment, Shri Kalpnath Rai has control over sugar and that's why there is sweetness in his voice, that is why the Members have encircled him. If there is shortage of any commodity, will the writ of the robbers and dacoits run large in our country and will they charge the prices as asked for? There should be a rule or base on the basis of which prices should be fixed. They say that the market will have a check on the man. Will this market take the whole society under its check to rob a few people? The people who obtain loan from the bank and store sugar in the godowns plunder the country when its demand is high in the market. Just Shri Chandra Shekhar was telling that one of his friends from Maharashtra has said that sugar prices will come down. Shri Chandra Shekhar was surprised but I am not. Now the wedding season is passing off and the rainy season is due for set off. The demand of sugar will go down in the market and the prices will decrease. When the prices of sugar shall be fixed then they will say that the sugar is available on reasonable rates and therefore, the prices of sugarcane were not raised. This is a way they loot the people because on the one hand, they claim that the prices of sugar are low and on the other hand, they give less price for sugarcane. In this way, they loot both ways. The prices are not

coming down because of their efforts. They have given the reigns in the hands of the plunderers of this country and till their writ run large, the prices of sugar will also come down. I think even if they resort to import of sugar in a month or two, the prices of sugar would go down in the rainy season. Whether Jakhar Saheb speaks openly in favour of protecting the interests of the farmers or not, but I think the farmers are being looted. It means the country is being looted. Shall we again resort to import of sugar from Jawa as it used to be imported during our childhood? It was our little effort which made us self-reliant in the field of sugar production and even we resorted to export of sugar. Today, we have to go in for import of sugar by expending a lot of money. The point of argument is that why this commodity was not imported earlier?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say that the severe onslaught of new economic policy, which we are suffering in every aspect, has put every Ministry and efficient officer in an indecisive position as to where this policy should be adopted. Sir, the important point is that when did the Government get an inkling of it? Our Food Minister, Shri Kalpnath Rai is sitting here. He did not tell earlier that there is a shortage of sugar and it will have to be imported. As has been stated that they invited the tenders in January, then who is responsible for this lapse? After all, somebody will have to pay the price of it.

Sir, I know that there are internal bickerings among various ministries. We have also read about this in the newspapers but the whole country is being looted. It is not a question of one Minister or the other or one bureaucrat or the other. I would like the hon. Prime

Minister to come in the House and reply to the debate personally. It would be better because no officer can come in the House to reply. When the hon. Minister was leaving for abroad, nobody had an inkling of it. The House was adjourned *sine-die* on 13th May. It was told that the hon Minister of Food was untraceable at that time but he was very much in India. It is because of this the Food Ministry officials took such an important decision like import of sugar. However, it is true that global tenders were invited but the bidders were given 24 or 36 or 48 hours to send their bids. Though, the Public Accounts Committee had made recommendations in this regard yet they acted against these recommendations. As my friend has said, I would not like to complain that why did they accept our recommendation? If they had accepted our recommendation, why did they call tenders from black-listed bidders? Is there any rule in this country or not? Will the meaning of new economic policy be that anyone can be given tender and it can be accepted within hours? All this is going on and will have serious repercussions. It is not only the question of sugar. The most important thing is that in which direction our financial base is slipping and how its policy would be assessed?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that several ministries are involved in it. Therefore, the hon. Prime Minister should come in the House and reply to the debate. He should take the people into confidence so that the doubts over this dangerous step—not only in the case of the prices of sugar, economic policy of the country and foreign exchange—are cleared by him. Next year, the farmers will produce less sugarcane and will tell the Government that it gives them less prices and spend the money lavishly in the foreign countries so that one who is

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not even a producer or consumer, becomes rich by looting the farmers. Does the Government has any such device as can ensure recovery from these plunderers? The hon. Finance Minister has a number of ways to adjust unearned income or money but does not he have any justification how the amount of Rs. 5 crore or Rs. 6 crore was plundered just in two months? However, it was a serious bungling. The news has appeared in the newspapers that recently a meeting of the ruling party was held in which they had claimed that they would adopt the new food policy in a balanced manner *i.e.* they would let the cat drink the milk but simultaneously, they will keep a watch over it. I would like to say that in this case, they should come out with a proof that what type of checks they are exercising and what is the way out to recover the above amount of Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 crores? Further, they should also let us know about the assurance which they propose to give to the farmers and consumers of this country so that there is no recurrence of such a lapse.

Sir, not speaking much on this subject, I support the Adjournment Motion moved by our friend, Shri Ramshray Prasad Singh. As this motion has been introduced unanimously, I think this time they have shown their weakness also. Now, they should not oppose it during the voting. Whosoever is responsible for it, he should be punished and brought before the people or the House.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present the prices of sugar have reached at their zenith. We have been debating over this issue for a long time and everytime it centred around only one point that there

has been delay in the import of sugar. We should find out who is responsible for not issuing the order for import.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards this point that at present, there is no scarcity of sugar in the country and if there is shortage of sugar in the market or the prices of sugar have increased, the Ministry of Food is solely responsible for that. In the beginning of this year, the pending balance of sugar in the country was 31.13 lakh tonnes. The production so far is to the tune of 93 lakh tonnes. Now, the total comes out to 124.13 lakh tonnes. However, till September, another 4 lakh tonnes will be added. In this way, the total stock of sugar will reach upto 128.13 lakh tonnes. Whereas, the consumption of sugar during the last year was 120 lakh tonnes, this year the consumption in the open market is likely to be 115 lakh tonnes. Thus, we will still be left with 13 lakh tonnes sugar. They would again say that despite this much of stock, why are the prices rising?

I would like to inform you that a sugar lobby is operating in the country in which big sugar mill owners and a few big traders of the Government are also involved in it. The common traders are not involved in it and hence, they are not getting any benefits out of it. It is on the wishes of these close traders of the Government that the prices have been raised.

I would like to speak on one more point that as per the 1991 census, the total requirement of sugar in the open market was about 6 to 6.50 lakh tonnes per month. But the Ministry of Food supplies sugar in less quantity every month because the Ministry has become a tool in the hands of the sugar lobby.

Now, they are not able to come out of it.

In the meeting of the Consultative committee, I had cautioned the Food Secretary as well as the Hon. Minister of Food, but no attention was paid to it. Recently, on my request, a meeting was called on 10th May in which I had stated that the prices of sugar are rising and they have not been able to control it. In the other meeting called by the hon. Minister, the traders as well as the mill owners were also invited.

I would like to request the hon. Food Minister to reply to this point that whether due to release of less quota during the month of May, has the prices not increased? The prices have increased due to the policy adopted by the Government to release sugar in the open market. This policy could not be controlled by the hon. Minister or the Ministry but it has been controlled by the sugar lobby.

In this connection, I, time and again, warned the authorities concerned. The people belonging to sugar lobby were also sitting there. At that time I had also said that the prices of sugar are likely to rise. As mill delivery rate of sugar is Rs. 1421 per quintal and if Rs. 85 as excise duty and Rs. 30 as other expenditure are added to it, the prices of sugar per Kg. comes to Rs. 15. Therefore, its retail price should not be less than Rs. 16 per Kg.

What are the reasons for giving the same price for sugarcane to the farmers? When the prices of sugarcane were fixed, the rate of sugar was Rs. 900 per quintal. Thereafter, molasses was decontrolled. It has its own story. I would not like to go into its details. The sugar lobby also had a hand in it. There is a

practice that if the prices of sugar rise, the prices of molasses will also rise. Fifty per cent of this price-rise will either go to the farmers or the consumers. When molasses was decontrolled and it was sold at the rates varying from Rs. 20 per quintal to Rs. 100 per quintal, had its 50 per cent share gone to the farmers or the consumers? I had raised this point in the meeting but no attention was paid to it. Why did the prices rise? The demand of sugar in the open market was 6.25 lakh tonnes but in January only 5.75 lakh tonnes was released. In February, 5.65 lakh tonnes, in March, 6 lakh tonnes and in April, 5.45 lakh tonnes sugar was released. At that time, the price of sugar was Rs. 12 per Kg. When the supply was curtailed, the prices rose upto Rs. 13 per Kg. In May, sugar lobby made a strategic move as a result thereof only 4.90 lakh tonnes sugar was released, and the prices shot by Rs. 2.50 per Kg. It is evident from the figures given by them. According to these figures, the wholesale market price of sugar was Rs. 1260 per quintal in December, it was Rs. 1302 in February and Rs. 1400 in April and when less quota was released in May, the prices rose upto Rs. 16.50 per Kg. In the meeting of the committee, I was told that 92 thousand tonnes sugar had been imported whereas not a single piece came to India. Again, in the meeting held on 10th May, I had said...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Don't refer to the meetings again and again.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA: I had warned them that sugar has not reached the market so far. Therefore, they should release 6.25 lakh tonnes. If 6 lakh tonnes sugar had been released in May, the prices would not have increased. But despite our repeated warnings, they did not budge. The result was that when 4.90 lakh tonnes sugar

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was released, the prices rose by Rs. 2.50 per Kg.

I would like to know from the hon. Food Minister that under what circumstances less quota of sugar was released in May. However, he has a simple answer that on 15th March, they had permitted import of sugar under open general licence. But, did they calculate that what quantum of sugar reached India? What is the position today in regard to import of sugar? Are you still going to cut down the quota? In June, 5.60 lakh tonnes sugar was released. I had cautioned them that it was the season of festivals and wedding ceremonies. Therefore, they should release at least 6.5 lakh tonnes sugar. When sugar is already available in the stock, why is it not being released? I do not understand this logic. Every time it is said that sugar is being imported. Even we have less stock of sugar, which is released under P.D.S. However, we can expect less stock of sugar meant for open market in October or November because by that time a new year would start and imported sugar would reach India. But as per the past experiences, less quota is released every time.

So far, we have entered into an agreement for import of 6.81 lakh tonnes sugar, out of which only 2,90,345 tonnes sugar have reached the port. Out of this, 2,30,448 tonnes sugar has been unloaded and 1.27 thousand tonnes has reached the market so far. The remaining sugar has not reached the market but you would calculate that it has come in the market.

I would like to say one more thing. The powers of stocking the sugar in India

have been vested with sugar mill owners. For a wholesale trader the limit of sugar stock has been fixed at 250 quintals and there is a restriction that he would have to sell it off within 7 days after receiving the stock. It shows that sugar mills are having regulatory hold over its stock. The traders have no stock with them at the moment. If some Government traders are having sugar stock, it is because they have recently imported sugar under open general licence. The Government has given exemption to those sugar traders who import sugar and keep its stock as they wish. All others are not getting the benefit of such relaxation. The release policy of the Government is the main reason for hike in the prices of sugar. If the Government releases 6 lakh tonnes of sugar for next month the sugar prices will fall. The Government had issued orders for import of sugar under the open General licence on March 15th. At that time big traders made deal at the rate of Rs. 275 to 297 but now why it is being sold at the rate of Rs. 380. Does the Government have any control over it? Has it imposed any restriction? Today sugar is being procured at the rate of 294, 275 and 280. But the Government has not imposed any ban over the profit earned. Recently the Government has thanked the sugar mill owners. The Government is releasing 12 thousand tonnes sugar for PDS on no profit no loss basis but I do not know whether that quantity of sugar was released or not. I had tried to know whether that quantity of sugar was sold on no profit no loss basis or not. Now this sugar is lying at airport which costs Rs. 10 or Rs. 10.50 per kg. but it is being sold at the rate of Rs. 14-15. Besides this it is being said that import of sugar has been delayed. I, had apprised you in December-January that sugar must be imported. At that time it was told that there was no scarcity of sugar but later on the scarcity was felt.

I wish to make it clear that the Ministry of Food and the Minister of Food are responsible for the hike in prices of sugar which has gone upto Rs. 16.50 per kg. It is a different matter who are the people involved in or responsible for import policy. It is the policy of the Government which is responsible for hike in prices of sugar. I, therefore, demand that it should be investigated and the facts should be kept before the House.

The Governemnt has just now implemented the Jaggery control order and the production of Gur is stopped at present because it is a seasonal business. The gur already produced would be consumed by next October. Fresh gur will come in December. I had requested the Government not to issue this order. The Government had issued an order in which the traders were told to sell out all the stock of gur which they possess within the fifteen days. If the present stock of Gur will be sold within 15 days under the Jaggery control order issued by the Government from where the gur will be available in the market and who will buy it. Though I requested the Government several times for ensuring availability of Gur yet the Government imposed control over it in Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh. People are facing great difficulty due to this Jaggery control order. Many people have filed cases in High Court and Supreme Court and the Supreme Court has given stay over it. Big traders are earning profit from it but the small general traders are suffering badly. I would like to state that the Minister of Food should give its clarification and the Jaggery control orders should be withdrawn only then jaggery will be available for common man. With these words, I support this resolution.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla):
The Gur has been provided to wine

producers so that wine could be produced and sold.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the debate on sugar should have been sweet but it has become sour. It should be taken seriously and a solution must come out.

All the people know and it is correct also that due to the less production of sugarcane the production of sugar has come down.

19.00 hrs.

It is stated in the argument which is given here that sugar should be imported, but it is not the solution. Here the debate is going on but the issue is whether sugar should be imported or not but actually we also look into this fact whether import of sugar is in the interest of the country or not.

The leader of the opposition Party has mentioned the name of Gandhiji in this context. If Gandhiji would have been alive he would have not said that sugar should be not imported but its use should be minimised. I would like to say that less consumption of sugar is in the interest of the country. During the time of famine former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bhadur Shastri had given a slogan for north Indians to stop consumption of rice for giving it to South Indian people. We accepted his advice and stopped eating rice. Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji should have told his friends and this House to make an appeal to the public that in view of the sugar crisis the consumption of sugar should be minimised. I do not say that the prices of sugar will come down if it will be imported or and whether wasting of foreign exchange on the import of sugar is correct or not? My friends are

[Shri Umrao Singh]

saying that there had been a scam in sugar-import and actually sugar was not imported at all, in view of it I would like to say whether sugar is imported through FCI, MMTC or State Trading Corporation, in next session also, Shri George will level charges against the Government that there had been some scam in sugar import. The Government will be blamed for the decreased production of sugar or import of sugar because the prices of sugar will be not reduced. This issue can be solved only by providing subsidy on sugar.

This problem cannot be solved without raising the production of sugarcane. Today sugarcane growers are facing great hardships. The crop of sugarcane is reaped once in a year but its prices are low and thus the farmers sow less sugarcane. Farmer can reap three crops and earn more profit. If he does not sow sugarcane. So, in my view the scarcity of sugar in the country can be removed by giving remunerative prices for sugarcane so that the farmer will sow the sugarcane crop in the next season.

Perhaps you do not know that at the doors of sugarmills farmers have to wait for two or more days for supplying sugarcane in the chilled days of December and January. It is very difficult thing especially in winter. We do not try to go deep in such things. We should reduce the consumption of sugar, if we want to solve this problem permanently. People of other countries do not take sugar in coffee or tea and here Atalji is saying that time has come for taking 'Sharbat'. Where are we going by advising our people to consume more sugar, rather we should have advised them to consume less sugar. Sir through you I request the Minister of Food to make an

announcement in this respect that he has given up sugar from today itself. It will improve his health. I can claim that consumption of sugar should be reduced to meet the demand of sugar in the country. It has been said that sugar is sweet and hot but I would say that it is poisonous also. The Minister of Agriculture is also sitting here who is also a big farmer. I request him to raise the production and quality of sugarcane so that sugarmills will get sufficient sugarcane to meet the demand for sugar in the country. Import of sugar is not in the interest of the country. In my opinion, we should appeal to the public of the country for reducing the consumption of sugar as it was done by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri for non-consumption of rice by north-Indians.

With this I oppose this Resolution. It is not in the interest of the country and more foreign exchange is spent on this item. Mr. Nirmal Kanti has mentioned that 50 per cent among poor people do not use sugar and if 50% people can live without sugar why others cannot do so. Mahatma Gandhiji has taught us this thing and we cannot follow his principles, if we eat more sugar.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing a serious issue. The role of Cabinet Secretary of the Government of India and the Ministry of Food and the Minister of Food and Ministry of Commerce is doubtful in this sugar scandal. Judicial commission should be set up to investigate their roles. I demand in this august House to ensure the punishment to the guilty persons for the cleanliness of the polity of the country.

As my colleagues have mentioned that policies are responsible for this

sugar scam, but I would like to say that along with policies, persons and their efforts are also responsible. The debate is not on the issue that prices of sugar have gone up due to the declined sugar production and untimely its import. I refuse to accept this fact and argument, because for the past three years the country has produced more sugar than the requirement. Now during the fourth year sugar production has declined I would like to read out the datas in this regard. Sugar production was 1 crore 9 lakh tonnes in 1989-90, during 1990-91 it was 1 crore 20 lakh tonnes and during 1991-92 it was 1 crore 34 lakh tonnes. At that time while addressing this House, the President said that India had become one of the biggest sugar producing country and we can export sugar. Last year also 160 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced, which was just equal to our requirement. Now after producing surplus sugar continuously for three years if the production of sugar is declined only 7-8 lakh tonnes why the prices of sugar have risen. The Government is responsible for it. It has to give its reply to this House. I would like to say that the Government's policies, the implementing Minister and officials, all are equally responsible for it.

The next thing I would like to say that the Government should not have gone to international market for the import of sugar. Whenever the production of sugar declines in the country, the Government altercates the ratio of free sale and sale of sugar at controlled price once at a time of sugar scarcity, Government of India imposed a levy and collected 55 per cent sugar from mills for selling it at controlled price through PDS. Now Government has changed the ratio and 35 per cent sugar is sold through PDS and 65 per cent is in open market. New sugar mills are given exemption

from supplying of levy sugar, and thus I would like to say that the Government of India has handed over the open market in the hands of sugarmills owners.

Sir, during the current year, when production of sugar declined, it was the responsibility of the Government of India that percentage of levy sugar would have been raised and would have collected more sugar in its buffer stock but it was not done. The second thing is when we were discussing the open Licence Policy in the House, the hon. Minister said in reply to one question that the concerned Member should go to market and purchase sugar as much as he desires. How the Government will sell sugar at reduced rates during Monsoon season replying to the question about the hon. Minister told that Sugar Mills will start production by July onwards. The hon. Minister made an impression that he is taking sugar scarcity very seriously, but it was only an eyewash. I would like to read out the names of sugarmill owners who kept with them surplus stock of sugar and imported sugar under general open policy. They are all the big sugarmill owners—Asia Sugars, Balrampur, Dhampur, Bhopal Sugar, Aruna Sugar etc. I will not read out all the names. Those were the big and famous sugarmill owners who imported sugar under this policy and sold it in open market. I would like to say that sugar is imported from Thailand and Pakistan. This sugar has been bought at higher rates. The Government has paid an additional 50-60 dollars at every tonne of sugar and thus wasted the previous foreign exchange of the country. These sugarmill owners controlled the market by buying this sugar and looted the common public of the country and this was done under the patronage of the Government. I would like to say that Rs. 700 crore of farmers were outstanding with sugarmill

[Shri Mohan Singh]

owners in the year when 134 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced. What measures you have taken for its payment. The payment of last year was made during this year when sugarmills started production. Hon. Minister has given assurance that payments of arrears will be made by June this year but payment was made by selling sugar this year. Due to this fact farmers sold their sugarcane to Khandsari and sugarcane crushers, where they got Rs. 60 per quintal. But you say that sugar production has declined due to diversion of sugarcane. The jaggery and khandsari also contain sugar contents where has that gone? I would like to say that this jaggery and khandsari have been smuggled from Uttar Pradesh to Nepal and Bangladesh but the Government has not taken any action against those smugglers. I would like to know whether this was not the responsibility of the Government of India and Ministry of Food.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): It is the responsibility of the State Government.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): At that time a rally was held in Uttar Pradesh and Minister of Food was its incharge. For the benefit of sugarmill owners the prices of molasses were raised and it was decontrolled. I do not have figures as to what extent the palms were greased but it was said that 50 per cent of profit earned by sugarmill owners on molasses will be given to farmers. But farmers got nothing. If the Government has any courage then announcement should be made that in proportionate to the profit earned by sugarmill owners, farmers will be given bonus on prices of

sugarcane. This will reveal your intention towards welfare of farmers. But you will not do that. Today, horders, smugglers and blackmarketeers are looting the public but the Government of India is not taking any action in this regard.

Does the Government have the figures of the people against whom action was taken.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that the bureaucracy of India in connivance with the Khaddar-clad politicians are plundering the people of India. This is the second great scandal after the securities scam. A judicial commission should be constituted in order to purge the public life and an inquiry should also be conducted into the matter. With this demand, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pranab Mukherjee to speak now.

(Interruptions)

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought you announced my name.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, all the names with me are exhausted now. Do you want to speak?

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: I will just speak for five minute.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you can speak for five minutes.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to

speaking on this Adjournment Motion. I stand here to oppose this Motion because this Motion is based totally on political motive. The Government is quite aware about the sweetness as well as the bitterness of sugar. As it has been said that one Government had fallen because of the sugar policy, we are quite aware of the bitterness of sugar.

In the past, there was an import of foodgrains. At that time also, same type of speeches were made by the opposition Members. I am a doctor and I have a friend who is a gynaecologist. That friend gynaecologist once told me...

MR. SPEAKER: No gynaecologist and those things now.

(Interruptions)

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Their motive is totally political. Everything they are seeing with a black glass. They are making allegations of scam, this and that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no time for all that now.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: It is a fact that the production of sugar has gone down. In 1991-92, 134.11 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced; in 1992-93, 106 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced and in 1993-94, it came down to 86 lakh tonnes. The cost of production has gone up. The production cost which is incurred by the sugar Rajya Sak has gone up. I must say here on this cooperative sector in Maharashtra, now you private farmers have contributed to our country. They have

Mr. For that they have incurred a loss of Rs. 5 per kilogram on the matter of the FCI Rs. 2000 crore and they have

helped this nation. You will not understand it because you know only the sweetness. Because of the drought condition in Maharashtra, diversion of cane to gur and khandsari, the sugarcane price reached a low level and the cultivation of sugar was less. That is why, the Government has done proper thing by increasing the sugarcane price and it has been increased up to Rs. 36.5 per quintal. This Government has paid back the arrears of the previous Government. As it has been mentioned, about Rs. 475 crores has been paid by this Government to the farmers. The Government has taken proper steps. The decision of import of sugar was declared in this Parliament on 15th March, 1994. The OGL import was allowed and raw sugar was also left duty free. The Surface Transport Minister has agreed for berthing vessels and the Minister of Railways has also helped us. For monitoring of this import of sugar, a committee is there and the committee is having weekly stipulation. Alternative sweetness like gur, khandsari has been allowed to enter the market as also restriction on the stock holding limits and restrictions on the turn-over today have been imposed on the gur dealers, that is, by the Gur Control Order. That is perfectly in order. 6.13 lakh tonnes of sugar was contracted by imports through STC and MMTC. As per my knowledge, the first vessel has arrived in Madras. Further about 1.36 lakh tonnes of sugar is arriving in the Indian ports this month and not later than the end of July. About 6.81 lakh tonnes has been imported by the private parties. Out of this, 2.30 lakh tonnes has arrived till today. Arrangement by the PDS has been maintained and we have to wait till the next season starts. The PDS cost is Rs. 9.50 per kilogram. And this is still available in the PDS shops. The Government is committed to this. We have to just wait for increasing availability and it will show a definite

[Dr. Vasant Niwruiti Pawar]

decline in the future. The production has to be improved and more price to the sugarcane growers must be given. More sugar factories have to be set up. All these efforts are done by the Government and that is in proper order. Hence, I oppose this Adjournment Motion.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would just like to make a very brief reference to a couple of issues which have been raised in connection with the import of sugar. As the hon. Members are well aware the decision to import sugar was taken on 9.3.94 and on the same day the Ministry issued the notification for importing sugar under OGL and it was also exempted from the duty. Naturally, Sir, when the decision was taken to import under OGL there cannot be any question of giving any directives to the State agencies. State agencies were also advised that if they, according to their commercial judgement, found it necessary to import, they can do so. But there was no question of giving any directives or instructions to import sugar. MMTC started importing sugar in a limited quantum in April itself and they contracted for import of about 78,000 tonnes. STC intervened in the market when it was found after one month that private sector agencies were not importing sugar under OGL upto that quantum which was expected. Then when we asked STC and MMTC to step up their purchasing, uptill now, they have contracted—STC and MMTC taken together—around 6.26 lakh tonnes which will be made available from now to October-November. The first shipment has already arrived.

The second question which I would like to clarify is about the prices. It has

been pointed out and some figures have also been quoted that private parties have bought sugar at \$ 350 per tonne. One Member quoted the figure as \$ 350 per quintal. It is not per quintal, but it is per tonne. They said that they bought sugar at \$ 350 per tonne on FoB. If you add \$ 50 towards freight, it comes to \$ 400 per tonne. And exactly the average price at which MMTC bought sugar comes \$ 382 per tonne including the freight. Similarly, STC had bought sugar at an average price of \$ 392 per tonne and when they wanted the advancement of the cargo, they have paid more for some cargo. For example, in the June shipment we had advanced the cargo and they bought it at a higher price. But the average price, according to the contract which they have made comes to \$ 392 per tonne. As far as MMTC is concerned, the average price comes to \$382 per tonne and in the case of STC it comes to \$ 392 per tonne.

And how the prices have fluctuated in the London market? People are saying that cheap sugar was available. If cheap sugar was available then why the private parties could not buy it? We are told that the price was less by \$ 100 or \$ 40 or \$60. But how it is that the private parties did not take advantage of that cheap sugar? How is it that all these offers are coming to STC and MMTC? What special advantage STC and MMTC have got? Duty free clause is applicable to everybody. So, these issues are to be found out. At what price, just at that time Bangladesh bought sugar in the international market; at what price bought sugar at international what was the price level? As you can figures are available on the everyday. The moment India started to buy sugar on a large scale, the prices shot up like anything. I thank you. 324.50 per tonne on the spot. unity to

on the 15th of April. On 18th of April, we decided that STC and MMTC would intervene in the market in a massive way. The prices went up to \$343.50; then it went upto \$ 358 and on 27th May, it went upto \$ 359 per tonne. This House will have to address itself to this problem. On earlier occasions also I told that if we just intend to purchase anything, be it sugar, be it edible oils, be it any other commodity, the moment we take the decision that we are going to import, people think that India is going to import in a big way and immediately a cartel is being formed and we have to face the situation.

Therefore what mechanism could be thought of, that we should think of. In respect of other matters, I am not going to discuss them in detail in this intervention because those are the issues which my colleague, the Minister of Food, can competently deal with. I can assure the hon. Members that if there is a lapse on the part of anybody, the Government will surely look into it and will take appropriate action at appropriate time. What will be that appropriate action will be decided by the Prime Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the adjournment motion brought by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, I would like to, say that this House was in session for February, March, April upto 13th May and during these three months no discussion, in Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha took place on this question. I have listened to you; now you should also listen to me.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it became a matter of discussion only when on 19.5.94, the FCI floated tenders for importing

sugar without the knowledge of the hon. Minister. I am a Minister today and you too have been a Minister once. The bureaucracy executes the decisions taken by the Minister. I cancelled the decision taken by them on this, because hon. Vajpayeeji was the chairman of PAC and that Committee had submitted its report on sugar scandal of 1989 and the then Prime Minister had asked to CBI to probe the matter. If the Parliament is supreme, then PAC is the mini-Parliament. PAC is composed of the most learned MPs of all the parties. They submitted their report in which following three things were enumerated.

[English]

"No unregistered company should be allowed to import sugar. Responsibility should be fixed for the sugar bungling. The Committee would also emphasize that the matter should be thoroughly examined by the Ministry of Food with a view to devise the detailed remedial steps required to be taken in the matter of any future imports undertaken by the Ministry so as to ensure that such imports are made in the most cost-effective and timely manner. The Committee would like to know the detailed strategy proposed to be implemented by the Ministry in future in this regard."

"The Committee feel that if the import had been made through OGL, it would definitely have been both cheaper and quicker. The Committee feel that the better course at that time would have been to permit import through OGL."

[Translation]

Our Ministry has taken action on the action plan formulated in this regard. The Committee submitted its Report on

[Shri Kalp Nath Rai]

19.4.93 and on 18.2.94 they said on the action taken programme given here by our Ministry:

[English]

"Now, in future, only STC will import sugar because it is an expert party-has a knowledge of import and export."

The second thing written by our Ministry was:

"Now no unregistered company will be allowed free import of sugar in future."

The third thing written was:

"The Food Corporation of India's work will be only to transport and handle the sugar which has come on the ports."

[Translation]

The fourth thing written was that it was the action plan. PAC, the apex Parliamentary Committee conducted an inquiry into this scandal of 1989 and the CBI is probing the matter and this report has been given unanimously by our today's leader of the Opposition and the erstwhile Chairman, PAC and we formulated an action strategy after that report was received. Hon. colleague, Mohan Singhji may tell me what shall I do when such thing happens without the knowledge of the Minister and tenders are floated for an order worth Rs. 400-500 crores... (Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Either sack that officer or resign.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second question raised

here is about sugar. Hon. Vajpayeeji knows that a debt of Rs. 475 crore was outstanding on the farmers of India when I took charge of the Ministry of Food. Of that an outstanding sum of Rs. 460 crores has been paid. There were reports that the farmers of India were sowing Soyabean and Sunflower in place of sugarcane. Thus, there was need to do something by which the farmers would cultivate more and more sugarcane. Mohan Singhji, tell me, has the Central Government increased the prices of sugarcane as much after 1947 as have been increased after I took the charge of this Ministry... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): You have not helped the farmers. (Interruptions) You have helped the sugar factories. (Interruptions) You have not passed on the benefit to the farmers. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: We are all the representatives of the people. You have been in power, not once but many times. You know the number of times the Central Government increased the prices of sugarcane... (Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): How much benefit was passed on to the farmers?... (Interruptions)...

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I listened to him as one would to one's younger brother. He spoke even what he should not have spoken. After 1947 such exorbitant prices have never been paid to the farmers... (Interruptions). Mr. Speaker, Sir, with the well wishes of the hon. Prime Minister, we decided to

increase the prices of sugarcane. Because of this price increase, crores of Indian farmers have grown sugarcane in such abundance that the next time when we meet, India will produce so much sugar that we will be exporting the surplus stock.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like you to impress upon my friends here to listen to me carefully. I wish Atalji listened to me for 2-4 minutes. I don't have to speak much but as is being said here why did not we import sugar in November? According to the sugarcane production data sent to us by the Ministry of Agriculture in November and December, the production of sugarcane this year has been only, a little more than that of the last year. This year's estimated sugar production is 1 crore 7 lakh tonnes as compared to last year's production of 1 crore 6 lakh tonnes, according to those figures. You know that there was an increased production of sugar during November and December but since the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, hon. Mulayam Singhji removed the ban on producing Gur, sugarcane, that could produce 10 lakh tonnes of sugar was diverted to making gur. It was at that time that we sent a note to the Cabinet Secretariat saying that there will be less sugar production, now, and the country will face a shortage of sugar. Therefore one million tonnes of sugar should be imported. My Ministry sent the note on 24th January. Subsequently, a decision in this regard was taken in the first Cabinet meeting on 9th March. Two types of sugar are sold in the country—one type is sold at Rs. 9 per kg. through public distribution system right from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and this is managed by the Chief Ministers of respective states and the second type of sugar released under the free-sale quota by our Ministry is sold in the free market

on the basis of competition. In order to maintain the price stability of the free-sale sugar, we made an announcement in this very Parliament on 15th March about the import of six or six and a half lakh tonnes of sugar and just now Mishraji has said that of that 2 lakh tonnes of sugar has reached Indian ports. As a result of that the prices of sugar have registered a fall in the market of Delhi. You may confirm it if you wish so. *(Interruptions)* You confirm it for your own satisfaction.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today, one can buy as much sugar at the rate of Rs. 14.50 per kg. as one likes because it is available in Delhi's Consumer goods godowns and 500 outlets. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we decided to import sugar under OGL on the recommendations of the hon. Vajpayeeji because the committee had suggested that we can get relatively cheaper sugar if it is imported through OGL.

We have fixed Rs. 9 per kg. as the rate of sugar for the poor people who used to buy it at the same rate. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Joshi, this is very wrong. You are getting up every time.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through PDS, sugar is being sold @ Rs. 9.05 per kg. throughout the country and such quotas have been sent to all the State Governments. Now the responsibility of making available this sugar at the same rate in their respective states lies on Shri Shekhawatji, Shri

[Shri Kalp Nath Rai]

Mulayam Singh Yadavji and Shri Laloo Yadavji. *(Interruptions)* Just now our friend Shri Mohan Singhji asked what has the Government of India done? Against how many black marketeers, hoarders and smugglers has action been taken? Hon. Mohan Singhji, this is the responsibility of Shri Laloo Yadav and Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was because, sugarcane was diverted to prepare gur. Today, I would like to say that under OGL, sugar has come into the market and the Ministry of Commerce has procured 6.5 lakh tonnes of sugar for the poor people and we assure them that the price of Rs. 9 will be maintained until the commencement of seed time on 1st November and price of free sale sugar... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Tell us how did it happen in FCI. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our friend, Mohan Singhji asked why was molasses decontrolled. We have increased the prices of sugarcane for farmers by decontrolling molasses, a cause for which leaders like Shri Chandra Shekhar, Chowdhary Charan Singh, Basant Dada Patil and Shri Gonda Singh had to go to jail. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: But, who are benefiting out of this decontrol of molasses? Have you passed on 50 per cent of the profit to the farmers which you promised to them? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, I will conclude by saying that the question is whether this country will be run by democracy or bureaucracy. We have already taken a decision on it. *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chandra Shekharji, you said that Atalji is your Guru (teacher) and you are my Guru... *(Interruptions)* you said that today, I must speak the truth. I have to say only one thing:

Ham karein kya dariya agar labrez maikhane mein hai

Ham to itni jante hain jitani paimane mein hai.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in case Chandra Shekharji were the Prime Minister and I were in his Cabinet, then my duty was that

[English]

I will obey him one-hundred per cent.

[Translation]

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now I shall put the motion to the vote of the House. Let the Lobbies be cleared—

Now, the Lobies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the House do now adjourn."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 2]

[19.52 hrs.

AYES

Abdul Ghafoor, Shri	Choudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
Acharia, Shri Basudeb	Choudhury, Shri Lokanath
Advani, Shri Lal K.	Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin,
Agnihotri, Shri Rajendra	Chowdhary, Shri Pankaj
Anjalose, Shri Thayil John	Das, Shri Dwaraka Nath
Asokaraj, Shri A.	Das, Shri Jitendra Nath
Baliyan, Shri N.K.	Datta, Shri Amal
Bandaru, Shri Dattatraya	Deshmukh, Shri Chandubhai
Barman, Shri Palas	Dharmabhiksham, Shri
Barman, Shri Uddhab	Dhumal, Prof. Prem
Basu, Shri Anil	Dikshit, Shri Shreesh Chandra
Berwa, Shri Ram Narain	Drona, Shri Jagat Vir Singh
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal	Fatmi, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini	Fernandes, Shri George
Chakraborty, Prof. Susanta	Fundkar, Shri Pandurang Pundlik
Chandra Shekhar, Shri	Gangwar, Dr. P.R.
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti	Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Chaudhary, Shri Rudrasen	Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
Chauhan, Shri Chetan P.S.	Ghangare, Shri Ramchandra Marotrao
Chauhan, Shri Shivraj Singh	Gohil, Dr. Mahavirsinh Harisinhji
Chavda, Shri Harisinh	Gopalan, Shrimati Suseela
Chhatwal, Shri Sartaj Singh	Gowda, Prof. K. Venkatagiri
Chhotey Lal, Shri	Hossain, Shri Syed Masudal
Chikhlia, Shrimati Bhavna	

Jai Prakash, Shri

Malik, Shri Puma Chandra

Janarthanan, Shri M.R. Kadambur

Mallikarjunaiah, Shri S.

Jatiya, Shri Satyanaran

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Jeswani, Dr. K.D.

Mandal, Shri Suraj

Jha, Shri Bhogendra

Manjay Lal, Shri

Joshi, Shri Anna

Maurya, Shri Anand Ratna

Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal

Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina

Kalka Das, Shri

Misra, Shri Janardan

Kamal, Shri Shyam Lal

Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Kanauija, Dr. G.L.

Misra, Shri Shyam Bihari

Kanodia, Shri Mahesh

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Kashwan, Shri Ram Singh

Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta

Katheria, Shri Prabhu Dayal

Mukherjee, Shri Pramothas

Katiyar, Shri Vinay

Mukherjee, Shri Subrata

Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Munda, Shri Kariya

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan
Chandra

Murmu, Shri Rup Chand

Narayanan, Shri P.G.

Khanoria, Major D.D.

Oraon, Shri Lalit

Koli, Shri Ganga Ram

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Kori, Shri Gaya Prasad

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan

Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa), Shrimati

Passi, Shri Balraj

Kumar, Shri Nitish

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas

Kunjee Lal, Shri

Paswan, Shri Sukdeo

Lodha, Shri Guman Mal

Patel, Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra

Patel, Shri Brishin

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Patel, Shri Chandresh

Mahendra Kumari, Shrimati

Patel, Shri Haribhai

Patel, Shri Somabhai

Pathak, Shri Harin

Pathak, Shri Surendra Pal

Patidar, Shri Rameshwar

Patnaik, Shri Sivaji

Prakash, Shri Shashi

Pramanik, Shri R.R.

Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal

Prem, Shri B.L. Sharma

Premi, Shri Mangal Ram

Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra

Rai, Shri M. Ramanna

Rai, Shri Nawal Kishore

Raj Narain, Shri

Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara

Ram, Shri Prem Chand

Ram Singh, Shri

Ramdew Ram, Shri

Rana, Shri Kashiram

Rao, Shri D.Venkateswara

Rawal, Dr. Lal Bahadur

Rawat, Shri Bhagwan Shankar

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Ray, Shri Rabi

Ray, Dr. Sudhir

Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan

Reddy, Shri B.N.

Roy, Shri Haradhan

Roypradhan, Shri Amar

Sanghani, Shri Dileep Bhai

Sarode, Dr. Gunvant Rambhau

Scindia, Shrimati Vijayaraje

Shah, Shri Manabendra

Shakya, Dr. Mahadeepak Singh

Sharma, Shri Jeewan

Sharma, Shri Rajendra Kumar

Shastri, Acharya Vishwanath Das

Shukla, Shri Astbhuja Prasad

Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan

Singh, Dr. Chattarpal

Singh, Shri Hari Kishore

Singh, Shri Mohan (Deoria)

Singh, Shri Rajveer

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Singh, Ramashray Prasad

Singh, Shri Rampal

Singhl, Shri Satya Deo

Sivaraman, Shri S.

Soren, Shri Shibui

Sur, Shri Monoranjan

Swami, Shri Sureshanand

Tandel, Shri D.J.

Tej Narayan Singh, Shri

Thakore, Shri Gabhaji Mangaji

Tirkey, Shri Pius

Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Topiwalla, Shrimati Dipika H.

Varma, Shri Satish Chandra

Tripathi, Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Narain

Vekaria, Shri Shivilal Nagjibhai

Trivedi, Shri Arvind

Verma, Shri Phool Chand

*Umrao Singh, Shri

Verma, Prof. Rita

Vadde, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao

Verma, Kumari Vimla

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Varma, Shri Ratilal

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal

Zainal Abedin, Shri

NOES

Adaikalaraj, Shri L.

Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu

Ahirwar, Shri Anand

Bhonsle, Shri Tejsinghrao

Ahmed, Shri Kamaluddin

Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Birbal, Shri

Ajit Singh, Shri

Brohmo Chaudhury, Shri Satyendra Nath

Anbarasu, Shri R.

Buta Singh, Shri

Antulay, Shri A.R.

Chacko, Shri P.C.

Arunachalam, Shri M.

Chaliha, Shri Kirip

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Margatham

Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh

Charles, Shri A.

Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar

Chaudhary, Shri Kamal

Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan

Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh

Bhardwaj, Shri Paras Ram

Chatre, Shri Babu Hari

Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Chidambaram, Shri P.

Chinta Mohan, Dr.

Chowdary, Dr. K.V.R.

Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh

Chowdhury, Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan

Dadahoor, Shri Gurcharan Singh

Dalbair Singh, Shri

Damor, Shri Somjibhai

Deka, Shri Probin

Delkar, Shri Mohan S.

Dennis, Shri N.

Deora, Shri Murli

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

Devarajan, Shri B.

Devi, Shrimati Bibhu Kumari

Dighe, Shri Sharad

Faleiro, Shri Eduardo

Farook, Shri M.O.H.

Fernandes, Shri Oscar

Gaikwad, Shri Udaysinghrao

Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath

Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh

Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Gehlot, Shri Ashok

Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh

Giriappa, Shri C.P. Mudala

Gogoi, Shri Tarun

Gomango, Shri Giridhar

Gudadinni, Shri B.K.

Gundewar, Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao

Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna

Harchand Singh, Shri

Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh

Imchalemba, Shri

Inder Jit, Shri

Islam, Shri Nurul

Jaffer Sharief, Shri C.K.

Jakhar, Shri Balram

Jangbir Singh, Shri

Jangde, Shri Khelan Ram

Jawali, Dr. B.G.

Jayamohan, Shri A.

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Jhikram, Shri Mohanlal

Kahandole, Shri Z.M.

Kairon, Shri Surinder Singh

Kaliaperumal, Shri P.P.

Kamal Nath, Shri

Kamble, Shri Arvind Tulshiram

Kamson, Prof. M.

Kanithi, Dr. Viswanatham

Karredula, Shrimati Kamala Kumari

Kasu, Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy

Kaul, Shrimati Sheila

Kewal Singh, Shri

Khanna, Shri Rajesh

Khursheed, Shri Salman

Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna

Krishan Kumar, Shri S.

Krishnaswamy, Shri M.

Kshirsagar, Shrimati Kesharbai Sonaji

Kuli, Shri Balin

Kumaramangalam, Shri Rangarajan

Kuppuswamy, Shri C.K.

Kurien, Prof. P.J.

Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri

Made Gowda, Shri G.

Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh

Mallikarjun, Shri

Mallu, Dr. R.

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Mathew, Shri Pala K.M.

Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan

Meena, Shri Bheru Lal

Meghe, Shri Datta

Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram

Mujahid, Shri B.M.

Muniyappa, Shri K.H.

Muralee Dharan, Shri K.

Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekara

Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh

Naik, Shri G. Devaraya

Naikar, Shri D.K.

Nandi, Shri Yellaiah

Nawale, Shri Vidura Vithoba

Nayak, Shri Mrutyunjaya

Nayak, Shri Subash Chandra

Netam, Shri Arvind

Nikam, Shri Govindrao

Nyamagouda, Shri S.B.

Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Padma, Dr. (Shrimati)

Palacholla, Shri V.R. Naidu

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan

Pandian, Shri D.

Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav

Panja, Shri Ajit

Panwar, Shri Harpal

Patel, Shri Harilal Nanji

Patel, Shri Praful

Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar

Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harijibhai

Patil, Shri Prakash V.

Patil, Shrimati Pratibha Devi

Patil, Shrimati Surya Kante

Pattanayak, Shri Sarat	Roshan Lal, Shri
Pawar, Dr. Vasant Niwruitti	Sadul, Shri Dharmanna Mondayya
Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal	Sahi, Shrimati Krishna
Pilot, Shri Rajesh	Sai, Shri A Prathap
Prabhu, Shri R.	Sanipalli, Shri Gangadhara
Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan	Sawant, Shri Sudhir
Pradhani, Shri K.	Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa	Selja, Kumari
Rahi, Shri Ram Lal	Shankaranand, Shri B.
Rai, Shri Kalp Nath	Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal
Rajeshwaran, Dr. V.	Sharma, Capt. Satish Kumar
Ram Awadh, Shri	Shingda, Shri D.B.
Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S.	Shivappa, Shri K.G.
Ramamurthy, Shri K.	Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan
Ramchandran, Shri Mullappally	Siddhartha, Shrimati D.K. Tharade
Rao, Shri J. Chockka	Sidnal, Shri S.B.
Rao, Shri P.V. Narasimha	Silvera, Dr. C.
Rao, Ram Singh Col.	Singh, Shri Abhay Pratab
Rao, Shri V. Krishna	Singh, Shri Arjun
Rath, Shri Rama Chandra	Singh, Shri Motilal
Rathwa, Shri N.J.	Singh, Shri S.B.
Rawat, Shri Prabhu Lal	Singh, Deo, Shri K.P.
Reddaiah Yadav, Shri K.P.	Singla, Shri Sant Ram
Reddy, Shri A. Indrakaran	Sodi, Shri Manku Ram
Reddy, Shri A. Venkata	Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu
Reddy, Shri G. Ganga	Sukh Ram, Shri
Reddy, Shri M. Baga	Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati
Reddy, Shri M.G.	Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt
Reddy, Shri R. Surender	Sundararaj, Shri N.

Suresh, Shri Kodikkunil

Unnikrishnan, Shri K.P.

Swamy, Shri G. Venkat

Upadhyay, Shri Swarup

Tara Singh, Shri

Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha

Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh

Verma, Shri Shiv Sharan

Thangka Balu, Shri K.V.

Verma, Kumari Vimla

Thomas, Shri P.C.

Vijayaraghavan, Shri V.S.

Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan

Thungon, Shri P.K.

Vyas, Dr. Girija

Tindivanam, Shri K. Ramamurthee

Wasnik, Shri Mukul

Tope, Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb

Yadav, Shri Ram Lakhan Singh

Topno, Kumari Frida

Yadav, Shri Ram Saran

Tytler, Shri Jagdish

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the Division is:

Ayes - 177

Noes - 217

The motion was negatived.

from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 13th June, 1994, has passed the following motion:—

Motion

19.57 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received

"That this house concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to leave being granted by the Lok Sabha to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, which was passed by the Rajya

*The following members also recorded their votes:

AYES: Shrimati Saroj Dubey, Shri V. Dhanajay Kumar, Shri Yogananda Saravali, Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria.

NOES: S/Shri Umrao Singh, Vilas Muttemwar, Satya Pal Singh Yadav, Lakshaman Singh, S. Jaya Surya Prakash Reddy Kotla, Kumari Sushil Maruti Deoram Shelke, Shri Bapu Sahib Thite.

Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 4th May, 1992.

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 14th June 1994 at 11.00 A.M.

19.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, June 14, 1994/ Jyaistha 24, 1916 (Saka).
