

LOKSABHA DEBATES
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AUGUST, 3, 1995
FOURTEENTH SESSION



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Thursday, August 3, 1995/Starana 12, 1917 (Saka)		..	
Col/Line		For	Read
(1)/2		XIII	XIII
20/26		repaid	rapid
97-98/11		7070.52 (col.5)	27070.52
116/6 (from below)		SHRI P. KUMARASAMY	SHRI P. KUMARASAMY
132/6		(a) to (e)	(a), (b) & (e)
191/7		(c) and (e)	(c) to (e)
197/11 (from below)		PLANNING AND PROGRAMME	PLANNING AND PROGRAMME
235/1		not	IMPLEMENTATION
259/8			note
1- 289/19			
239/6		19383	1983
268/29		168	138
288/8		lacks	lacks
288/12		lack	lakh
277/14		earing	meaning
288/3 (from below)		Therefore	Thereafter
291/3		hence	House
305/19/20		'I hope and wish that	
		the Pension Bill' be deleted	

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, August 3, 1995 / Sravana 12, 1917 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 61 - Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah
- absent.

Shri Satyagopal Misra.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur) : My name has been printed wrong. The question is in the name of Satya Deo Singh and the name printed is that on Shri Satyagopal Misra. May I ask my question with your permission?

MR. SPEAKER : All right, I grant it to you. Please ask your question.

11.01 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Crimes in Delhi

*61. +SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of heinous crimes of murders, robberies, kidnappings, etc. have taken place in the Capital during the current year;

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

(c) the number of persons arrested who were involved in these crimes; and

(d) the effective measures taken/being taken to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (d):-

1. The number of cases of murder, robbery, kidnapping, etc., reported in 1995 (upto 30.6.95) is as under: -

Crime Head	Period from 1.1.95 to 30.6.95
Murder	248
Robbery	255
Kidnapping	443
Dacoity	17
Snatching	237
Riot	110
Burglary	904
Hurt	1219

2. The number of cases of murder, robbery, kidnapping, dacoity, etc. reported in the first six months of 1995, month-wise, is as under:-

Month-wise Reported Crime in Delhi - 1995

CRIME HEAD	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
Murder	31	40	41	46	40	50	248
Robbery	31	29	25	60	63	47	255
Kidnapping	46	58	73	93	87	89	443
Dacoity	3	2	1	3	5	3	17
Burglary	158	129	131	158	184	144	904
Riot	23	18	19	18	13	19	110
Snatching	15	33	23	67	59	40	237
Hurt	148	160	229	210	244	228	1219

3. The number of persons arrested in cases reported under various heads of crime committed during the period 1.1.1995 to 30.6.1995 is 7633.

4. The Government have taken several steps to check crime in Delhi. These include increased patrolling, posting of pickets at strategic points, strengthening of intelligence machinery, frequent raids at the hideouts of criminals, increased surveillance, coordination meetings with the officials of the neighbouring States, training of police officers in handling modern weapons, introduction of scientific methods of investigation, modernisation of communications network etc.

5. In view of several crimes committed by domestic servants, measures have also been taken to curb such incidents. These include servant verification drives and installation of door chains and other security devices. Meetings with Residents' Welfare Associations are regularly organized where areas of cooperation between public and police are identified.

6. Besides, a Senior Citizens Security Scheme has been introduced whereby all senior citizens are identified, beat and division wise, in every police station area. Beat staff visit the senior citizens and offer them advice on security steps to be taken by them.

7. To contain incidents of kidnapping of children intelligence gathering machinery has been geared up and patrolling as well as PCR Surveillance has been intensified. Special Cells have been created in each district, assigning dedicated teams to investigate cases of kidnaping and abduction. Safety tips for parents of school going children have been prepared, widely publicised in newspapers and circulated to all schools in Delhi. Similarly, safety tips to be observed by school children themselves and steps/precautions for safety of children to be taken by teachers and principals of schools have been published in newspapers and circulated to all schools. Police officials also visit schools to brief children and school staff on these safety tips.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one does not feel comfortable in asking such questions but the capital of India, Delhi is today known more by the term — Crime capital of India. The figures presented by the hon. Minister do not present a clear picture of the agony and tragedy of the common people. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the details of the Mafia Gangs working here because these foreign mercenaries and international criminals, who are particularly from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangla Desh and Nepal and are present in Delhi in a large number, are jeopardising not only the law and order situation but also the country's unity and integrity. They are destroying the country's youth

under a planned conspiracy by smuggling in drugs and making them addicts. The I.S.I. and LTTE activities have been arrested here. These figures neither indicate to any serious threat now draw attention to police action.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the question. What is your question?

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how the administration and Delhi Police going to deal with such international gangs who have turned Delhi into their headquarters?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member's supplementary deviates from his main question. He has asked a question about the militancy, the foreign militants and I.S.I. intruders etc. Delhi Police is keeping a constant vigil on all the militants and criminals.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : How many of them have been apprehended?

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has not appreciated the gravity of the question. The foreign criminals have a hand behind the murders, rapes, kidnappings etc. The hon. Minister has neither furnished any figures nor is he ready to give clarifications in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : May I make it clear further? The question relates to the crimes in Delhi. I have given under "Crimes of Delhi", almost every aspect.

MR. SPEAKER : May I put the question in that sense? There are foreign agencies working in the city and they are also responsible for the crimes committed. What are you going to do to see that those agencies do not perpetrate crimes in Delhi? That is the question.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Sir, we are also aware that such elements are there in the country, particularly in Delhi. We have special agencies to locate them and also to see that if they are perpetrating such crimes, they are specially taken into account, and according to the law of the country, they are also dealt with.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been replied to completely. The hon. Minister is, perhaps, not ready to accept the seriousness of the question that such organised gangs are active here. My other supplementary is:

[*English*]

There is a credibility gap between the people and the police.

[*Translation*]

New problems have arisen in this regard. On 16th February, the hon. Minister while citing this new tendency in his speech at Kingsway Camp stated that the police should perform its duty while rising above casteist tendencies. So far, these tendencies were present in politics. Yesterday, this House also discussed the issue of political protection and patronage extended to the criminals. The measures suggested by him do not speak of imparting such training to police personnel which can help them win the confidence of common citizens, get their co-operation and inculcate humane attitude in their overall demeanour. Is there any proposal of incorporating such curriculum in police training.

MR. SPEAKER : I hope it is already there.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the greatest religion of a policeman is his uniform. They profess the religion of uniform alone once they are in uniform. They, then, have no caste or other considerations.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : I did not raise the question of casteism.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him give a complete reply.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, have you completed your reply?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : So you have completed it.

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Sir, let me explain what my colleague has said. First, let me satisfy about the foreigners, the agencies involving themselves in the inter-security of this country.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Why did you not do it earlier?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I am just coming out of it because my colleague has replied earlier. I am adding a little information to what my colleague has said. We have divided the country into four zones knowing very well that Delhi cannot have direct information of borders. So, the

Northern Zone comprising Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir meets very regularly. Any information about the foreign agencies operating is transmitted to Delhi immediately so that a complete, cohesive approach could be taken and this has produced results. Lately, we have caught those gangs to a greater degree. So, you must be confident that the Government is alert on these agencies. Yes, we may not be able to check them hundred per cent. But we have tried our best to see that they do not succeed in any mission.

There is a second supplementary about which my colleague has said. Regarding the culture of the police, we have tried our best to change it. Yes, there are some lacunae; there are some faults in the system which the Home Ministry has talked to the Director-General in the Directors-General Conference. We have taken a decision that every police station should have a senior citizens' council. We are showing them films how to behave in tension. When a murder takes place in somebody's house, we show them how does the police behave at that time; how does the police react at that trying time. All this coaching is being taken care of.

So far as caste is concerned - what you have said - this report did come to us from various States where the police did act, on some occasions, like this. That is what the hon. Home Minister has said that this nature or this culture should not come into the police force. That is what my colleague has said that uniform is their religion. We must maintain that and we shall carry on putting our stress on this culture...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No, this cannot be permitted. You are allowed only two questions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that Delhi police is fully equipped with more facilities, latest equipment, vans and other facilities. Such facilities are not available to the police departments of other metropolitan cities and yet, there are incidents of dacoities, kidnappings, murders and snatching in Delhi.

I would like to know the number of cases registered in this regard and the number of people awarded punishment. Secondly, two types of powers posts create conflict in administration. Despite creating the post of Commissioner of Police in metropolitan cities for controlling crime, there is a rising crime rate. As this system of commissioner of police seems to be failing, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to effect any change in the system?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to reply.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: He has asked a general question of how many have been punished under different heads of crime like dacoity, murder etc. Do I have to give the details?

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you are going to have someone also in the place of the Police Commissioner to control the crime situation in Delhi.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: No

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: I have asked that how many cases have been registered and how many guilty persons punished.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You can give that statistics.

[Translation]

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Today Delhi's population is 1 crore 10 lakh. I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister as to whether the number of police personnel is in proportionate to the population of Delhi. Whether there are sufficient number of police stations or not?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good question.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: I think he has asked whether the strength of the Delhi Police is sufficient to take care of its population. The population of Delhi has just crossed the number of one crore and the strength of the Delhi Police is about 55,000. I think, this is a fairly good proportion.

SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: What measures have been adopted.

[Translation]

I would like to say as to whether the Government is paying any attention towards it? There are only 8 police stations over a population of 26 lakh. There have been 25 murder cases in East Delhi.

[English]

The police force is inadequate.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister there have been 31 murder cases upto the month of January and by June this number increased upto 50. In the same way up to January the number of cases of kidnapping was 46

which increased upto 89 by June. The incidents of assault increased to 228 from 126. The incidents of murder, kidnappings and assault have been doubled upto June from January. Whether the Government has inquired into the reasons for it? It is not clear from this that now much people died in police custody during the last one year and the action taken against the number of officials found guilty.

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: It is true that the figures show an upward trend. This is what the hon. Member has said. Here I would like to share the concern of the hon. Member with the House. Earlier there used to be a lot of complaints about the non-registration of the cases in the police stations. Even hon. Members used to complain about it. I used to get daily some sixty cases on an average. Now I do not think there are any such complaints about the non-registration of cases. This is the result of the direction given by the Delhi High Court also. And we have given direction to all the 106 police stations that no case should be turned down and every case has to be registered. Therefore, it is quite natural that this figure of 36 shows an upward trend.

As far as performance is concerned, last year, out of 25 murder cases, 22 cases have been worked out. This is a good percentage of work done by the police.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was not that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking why the number of murders is going up in a particular manner. In January, the number of cases is 31 and in June, the number of cases is 50.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: That is true.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any clarification which you can give? If you can, you can give the information. It is not necessary that you should have all the information.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: At the moment, I will not be in a position to do that...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: My second question is about jail and custodial deaths.

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: The second question is that in jail and custody...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any statistics?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Normally, Sir, in the case of

habitual criminals, we are in a position to detect or investigate but in murder cases, as we all know, it is the instinct of not only the habitual murderers but others too will join. For example, recently the cases for the past one month in the Capital were as a result of that. Therefore, that may be the reason...*(Interruptions)*

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: We are discussing regarding a very serious matter. Robbery has taken place in the house of one of our colleagues in May. I am living in the first floor and he is residing in the ground floor. At 11 a.m. in broad daylight the house of Shri Narendranath Pradhan, M.P. from Orissa was looted, his revolver was taken away breaking the lock of his Godrej almirah. It had happened though the Police Station is just in front of our quarter. I would like to know whether the Government has received any information regarding this and what action has been taken?

MR. SPEAKER: The question is disallowed.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the criminal assault on minors in the city is increasing and last year it was 773 but the conviction rate is coming down. Is there any accountability by the police in these cases? Why are convictions coming down? That needs to be probed. What steps are you taking to find out why these cases of conviction are coming down?

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a very good point and now please do not repeat it. It is a very good question.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: The coming down of conviction rate, as she has already mentioned, is correct. Firstly, the police is finding difficulty in getting witnesses to come forward. Secondly, the adjournment of the cases in the judiciary, that also takes long time and thirdly because of the increasing arrears of the cases in the judiciary. These are two or three points according to which the conviction rate is low.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Two or three convictions a year, I can understand. *(Interruptions)* There must be some mechanism to find out. Some Committee should probe into that and find out the reasons...*(Interruptions)* Some probity should be there...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the Government as to whether it has paid any attention towards the white collared criminals who always make an attempt that criminals using weapons remain engaged in criminal activities so that attention of the Government and the people of the country may not be diverted towards the white collared criminals.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good question.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: I could not follow the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please repeat it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He is saying that white collared criminals divert the attention of the people of the country towards other criminals to save themselves.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I agree that this is the apprehension in the common citizen's mind. There is no doubt about it. That is why, we in the Government have been trying for a system to improve - Lok Adalats were purposely set up and 'Open House' by Delhi Police was also arranged.

We have told all ACPs and DCPs to have an Open House once in three months at least, so that the common man can talk what he thinks about the police system, where is the fault and whether the FIR is registered or not. This number is going up. It is only after these measures were taken that in the Open House people open up.

[Translation]

We have introduced Open House system to check and expose the white collared criminals.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know as to whether the Government has paid any attention towards it and whether it understands that the white collared criminals....

MR. SPEAKER: Vermaji, it is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. You are not expected to reply and we are going to have a discussion on this. Please be prepared to reply to these questions properly.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I have stated that this Open House is arranged only because of that.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has given a very good reply. He has told about the measures taken to prevent crimes and those are training of operating sophisticated weapons, of police

* Not recorded.

officials introducing scientific methods for investigation and modernisation of communication system. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many training centres have been set up for modern weapon training and how investigations or being conducted through scientific methods because as we all are aware that no results could be drawn from investigations being conducted for the last one month in the case.

MR. SPEAKER: Not in months but results are achieved in years.

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: This is an on-going scheme of training the personnel as well as giving them the modern weapon training. It is not particularly opening up some training institutes and then giving them training. There are different centres where training is given.

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these days police has started a new system in Delhi. People who go to police station for lodging their report are asked to give their complaint in writing then after that the second party is called and an assessment is made about the Standing of that party. The case is registered if the other party is financially sound, otherwise, not. In this way cases of poor people are not registered and they are deprived of the justice. On the other hand the number of cases are curtailed because police do not register all the cases. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether he is aware of this new system.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, reply to this question has already been given. Perhaps you were not present in the House at that time.

[English]

You have already replied to that.

[English]

Inter-linking of Rivers

*62. [†]DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM:

SHRI D. PANDIAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Peninsular as well as the Himalayan rivers for which the prefeasibility report for inter-linking has been completed by the National Water Development Agency;

(b) the details of the inter-link for which the feasibility reports have been completed;

(c) whether any meeting was held with the representatives of the State Governments regarding inter-linking of the rivers; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

STATEMENT

(a) The name of the Peninsular and Himalayan rivers/ Tributaries for which the pre-feasibility reports for interlinking have been completed are:

Peninsular Component

Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Pennar, Palar, Cauvery, Vaigai,

Pamba, Achankovil, Vaippar,

Par, Auranga, Ambica, Purna, Tapi, Narmada

Damanganga, Tansa

Netravathi, Hemavathi

Bedti, Varada

Ken, Betwa

Kalisindh, Chambal

Himalayan Component

Manas, Sankosh, Ganga, Damodar, Subarnarekha, Kamali, Sharda, Yamuna

(b) Feasibility reports have been prepared for the following links under the Peninsular Component:

1. Ken-Betwa

2. Par-Tapi-Narmada

3. Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The interlinking was discussed in the meetings of the Society, Governing Body, Technical Advisory Committee and the Sub-Committee in which the concerned basin States are represented and where some of them have expressed apprehensions regarding surplus water availability.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Flood is affecting some parts of the country and some other parts of the country are affected by drought every year. This contradiction is a continuous phenomenon in this country. For this problem interlinking is the only permanent solution. But it is very unfortunate that so far no concrete steps have been taken in this direction. The idea was mooted by Shri

V.K.R.V. Rao, but so far the Government has not come to any concrete solution. The Minister has stated in his answer that pre-feasibility reports for interlinking of rivers have been completed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you what will be the financial requirement, that is, the total estimate for implementing this project and what are the financial arrangements the Government is envisaging for this project.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the N.W.D.A. was constituted in the year 1982 on the basis of a Resolution passed by the Central Government in 1981, mainly to carry out the balancing of water resources on a scientific and realistic basis and other related studies on optimum utilisation of water resources of the Peninsular river system and for preparation of feasibility reports. It was later modified the year 1984 to include the Himalayan component also. So far, we have identified around seventeen links in the Peninsular component, and for fourteen out of these seventeen, studies have been completed. We have only the pre-feasibility reports and we have to go in for a regular feasibility report based on these studies and later on, we have to go in for actual detailed project reports for which the consent of the concerned State Government is necessary because it envisages linking of rivers passing through various States.

Sir, the rough estimate of expenditure on fourteen out of these seventeen links of the Peninsular component is about Rs. 23043 crore. The question of finding finances for this scheme would arise only after the draft project reports are approved by the States and appropriate legislation is passed by the Parliament of this country to bring all the rivers together because at the moment it is not possible under the present law unless it is agreed to by the various States and a law is enacted by the Parliament in this regard.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Sir, I would like to know what is the time-frame for the implementation of this project. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government is considering nationalisation of the rivers in the country so that there may not be any water dispute. I would like to know whether any State has raised any objection regarding inter-linking and if so, I would like to know from the Minister the details of such objections.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot give the time-frame for this as it involves several states, as submitted by me earlier. Of course, it was a laudable suggestion made by some eminent political personalities of this country including the late M.G. Ramachandran, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. So far, we have not taken up this issue because we wanted to have the technical data ready. We cannot discuss this

in the National Water Resources Council or any other appropriate body unless we have the technical information. We are preparing that technical information in order to have a meaningful discussion at a later stage. So, it will take some time and at the moment I cannot give any time-frame.

About objections, yes, some States that have raised objections. I have already mentioned in my answer that some States have raised objections. We are discussing these in the various bodies connected with the implementation of this scheme.

SHRI D. PANDIAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Water Resources Minister whether at any time they have convened a meeting of the concerned State Chief Ministers to convince them and to get their cooperation for the implementation of this scheme by supplying to them the facts and figures about the estimated benefit that may accrue to each State by implementing the scheme and also the need and necessity for implementing the much needed, as he has stated, laudable project.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I had already submitted, the preliminary work is going on in this regard. And the moment the work is completed, we will circulate these details. In fact, these schemes are being circulated to the concerned State Governments as and when the feasibility reports are submitted to us. The comments of the State Governments are also called for. They are all being discussed in the various bodies of this organisation. Once we know the technical aspects of this scheme, we can take them up with the Chief Ministers. In fact, we are thinking of calling the National Water Resources Council meeting very soon.

Probably, by that time, if the reports are ready, we can place before it. In the meanwhile, we can also discuss it in the National Water Board in which Chief Secretaries of all the States are Members presided over by the Secretary of Ministry of Water Resources.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the rain water or surface water available in this country flows down to the sea and we are not capable of harnessing it. On the other hand, we have so far been able to irrigate only one third of our agricultural land. In such a situation, only one scheme, the River Garland scheme has been in vogue, in principle, since the era of Dr. K.L. Rao. Just now, the hon. Minister stated in his reply that in this connection, pre-feasibility report for 14 link canals and feasibility report for three linkages has been drafted and he has also stated the amount involved in it. The hon. Minister also added that further action will be taken by bringing it before the Parliament and incorporating many amendments in it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Standing Committee on Ministry of Agriculture has also given its recommendations with regard to the Ministry of Water Resources Development that the heads of Water Resources and Irrigation should be transferred from the state list to the concurrent list. This mega project can prove to be a very ambitious project for the country and for proper management and optimum utilisation of water. I would like to know whether the Government will consider this recommendation and also transferring the head of irrigation to concurrent list.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think this is too big an issue. I would not expect the Minister to reply to this question without consulting his colleagues. It is a good question but let us not burden him.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I wish the Government should at least consider it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a good suggestion but he should not be burdened with that.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, it is very happy to know that the Government of India has taken some concrete measures to conduct technical feasibility studies. In respect of some links, the Minister has said that they are possible. While interlinking rivers, sometimes it may so happen that one river is in one State and the other river is in another State. In these circumstances, unless the Government of India definitely comes forward to make available some financial assistance for proper implementation of such schemes, I think its entire exercise may not really become fruitful. Just like a part of the Rozgar Yojana funds is being spent for construction of houses for the poor in rural areas, I would like to know whether the Government will consider a percentage of certain rural development scheme funds being utilised for the schemes meant for interlinking of rivers.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, your question is misplaced.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the report on Water Resources envisages linkage of Par, Tapi, and Narmada rivers and this report has been submitted. These are two major rivers of Gujarat which are flood prone and cause great losses. Besides, Gujarat also experiences severe droughts. Through you, I would like to know the time frame within which this programme will be implemented.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that he cannot speak about that. Please understand that he has replied to this question before.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, the Minister, in his reply, has said that the Chief Ministers have not yet been consulted because this is not the stage and he is thinking about it. Water distribution is the most sensitive issue either between different States or even internationally also. You may spend time and money but in principle, if the Chief Ministers are not taken into confidence at this stage and agreement is not found with them, then it will be waste of time and money.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that they are circulating and if necessary, they will call a meeting.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: No, Sir. He has said that this is not the stage when the Chief Ministers should be consulted.

MR. SPEAKER: They are circulating them.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Circulation is not enough, Sir. I am suggesting that the Government of India, at this stage, may involve the Chief Ministers and call a meeting so that they may agree in principle.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, Mr. Minister, he is insisting that the meeting should be held at this stage. Would you like to respond to this?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I have already said that we are calling a meeting of the National Water Resources' Council of which the Chief Ministers are Members. So, if time permits, we may discuss this issue also.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, water management is one of the areas which should attract the priority of the Government.

Sir, from the answer that has been given, I am afraid that it might take quite a number of years even for laying down the priorities. May I know from the hon. Minister as to whether any urgent action shall have to be taken on the projects on which the feasibility reports have already been received.

Every year we are spending huge amounts of money either for combating drought or for controlling flood. The priorities for the States should be fixed, the concerned States should have to be informed about this so that such States could come forward in some joint venture projects and ensure implementation of such projects within a time-frame.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, I have already answered this question.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you have.

Question no. 63 Shri Janardan Misra.

[*Translation*]

Fencing the Borders

*63. *SHRI JANARDHAN MISRA:

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are erecting fencing on Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Pakistan/Bangladesh has shown any resentment over erecting of such fencing;

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

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

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On the Indo-Pak Border, fencing in Punjab has been completed and in Rajasthan, 334 kms. of fencing has been completed in Ganganagar and Bikaner districts and work on 387 kms. is under progress in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts. Fencing has also been sanctioned for 180 kms. of International Border in the Jammu Sector, where the work had to be suspended temporarily due to intermittent firing by Pakistan Rangers. Necessary measures are being taken to resume the work shortly.

With regard to Indo-Bangladesh Border fencing, the target for fencing is 896 kms. out of which 501 kms. have been completed. A protest was received from 15 Bn. Bangladesh Rifles conveying their concern about erection of fencing which will affect the movement of Bangladesh nationals to 33 Bangladesh enclaves in India opposite District Lalmonirhat, in West Bengal. The matter was discussed during the last DG level Coordination Meeting between Bangladesh Rifles and BSF authorities held from 26th to 30th June, 1995. The fencing work on Indo-Bangladesh Border is in progress.

(d) The last phase of fencing in Rajasthan is scheduled to be completed by December, 1996.

Fencing work on Indo-Bangladesh border is expected to be completed by March, 1998.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question of 29th March, 1995, the Government had stated that the work of fencing 387 kms. of Indo-Pak border in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts was in progress. In today's reply it is the same 387 kms. length. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the progress made in it so far and if there is not, the reasons therefor?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It is true that there has been progress of fencing 387 kms. border phase along Jaisalmer and Barmer districts. The Government has the data of progress made. I myself visited Jaisalmer district, both fencing and lighting works are in progress there according to the set target. I will send the figures of the work completed so far to the hon. Member. Work is in progress as per the schedule.

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: The Government has sanctioned the fencing of 180 kms. border in Jammu sector but this work was suspended due to firing by the Pakistani Rangers. Work of fencing 501 kms. has been completed an Indo-Bangladesh border. Due to the constraints created by the Jawans of Bangla Rifles the fencing work, with an objective to check the free movement of Bangladeshi intruders was disrupted. I would like to know whether the Government lacks in the will power or erecting fencing so that the movement of Bangladeshi intruders can be checked and effective steps taken to identify the intruders?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the details sought in the first supplementary were about completion of 121 kms. total area. Fencing in Jaisalmer sector in phase I, and in Barmer sector, working on 146 kms. in Phase II will be completed by December, 1995, I did possess the information regarding the first supplementary.

The second supplementary is an Jammu and Indo-Bangladesh border. Truly half of the problem arises because our borders are not strongly guarded. The problem of infiltration in Punjab ended with the completion of fencing. The Government is of the opinion that half of the problem of terrorism will be solved once the Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders are checked. It will help check the intruders crossing the border to this side disrupting our peace and tranquility. That is why this work was started on priority basis.

Sanction was accorded to the work of erecting fencing along 180 kms. out of 210 kms. of International border along Jammu Range but when work was started on this project, the Pakistani rangers resorted to firing. The civil contractors of CPWD were undertaking work there and

when firing started, the labourers ran for their lives. We held another meeting with them the day before and took measures to ensure that our work is not disrupted.

So far as Indo-Bangladesh border is concerned. I have the figures of work completed in every north eastern state. I can tell you the phase wise figures of work done in every state. The work is in progress as per the schedule upto March, 1988. The Government is maintaining a strict monitoring of the situation because half of our problem will be solved the day infiltration is checked...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has stated that he has the will power to accomplish it.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been demanding the erection of fencing along Rajasthan border for about past thirty years. I would like to know whether it is true that according to the Additional District Magistrate, Mootha, 5786 Pakistani nationals have settled in Dikyan ki Chor, Shahgarh, Ramgarh and Tannote in Jaisalmer and the fencing of border has proved ineffective in checking infiltration.

In this connection, my 'a' part of my question is whether the work of fencing of Rajasthan border will be expedited to achieve the target for completion of this work by December, 1966?

Besides part 'd' of my question is that according to your statement, along the Bangladesh border...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Lodha ji, you are asking so many questions that you are confusing the question numbers.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: It is 'a', 'ba', 'sa' not 'ka', 'kha', 'ga'?

They have demanded for 33 Bangladesh enclaves and are opposed to its fencing as they use it as a thorough fare. You have not told in your answer as to what reply you have given to this vital question. Do you take it as their right or you have rejected it. You have just stated that they have said like this and our work is in progress. Is it true that several enclaves out of these 33 enclaves are such.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Lodhaji, you should conclude your question now.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Which, as per the agreement on border of Bangladesh we should have got from them but we have not got so far? If you do not get the border fenced after giving them three Bigha land, will not passage other problem creep in? There will be created

another problem in spite of giving three bighas. 'C' part of my Question is.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Well, then reply two questions only.....One fencing is there another fencing is here.

MR. SPEAKER: Lodha ji, your question as well as your interruption is offensive.

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Thank you very much. It is only in a lighter vein.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said, the fencing work in Rajasthan is scheduled for December 1996 and Government is willing to take it up and you too have said that the Government has a strong will power for it, and that you want to get it done soon but I can not make any promise with regard to duration of its completion. We are trying to complete it within the schedule time. We have received reports regarding cutting of fencing at several places. I have also seen on border that infiltration has been tried there but border police is quite vigilant. Earlier patrolling was carried there on camels but now arrangements have been made for tractors for repaid patrolling. It will become more convenient if light facility is also made available there. As far as the case of Indo-Bangladesh border is concerned. I have statewide targets. It does not depend upon will power. We are working with a heavy hand. In Assam we have a target of 192 kilometres out of which fencing of 114 kilometres area has been completed. The targets in Meghalaya, West Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram were of 208 kilometres, 1770 kilometres, 514 kilometres and 100 kilometres respectively, out of which fencing has been completed along 164 kilometre, 743 kilometres, 264 kilometres and 41 kilometres area respectively. Our policy is to keep our international borders fenced as we can not afford more intruders. It adversely affects our economy and internal security. We, therefore, will keep it under check.

[English]

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the people of Assam and North-East, fencing of Indo-Bangladesh border is not a routine Government scheme but a commitment of the Government of India which came through the Assam Accord. The Assam Accord was signed ten years back. The Minister has just now said that the

Government is having the will power to complete the fencing and the pace in this regard is quite fast. Ten long years have already passed since the Assam Accord was signed in which it was committed that Indo-Bangladesh border fencing will be erected. As per your report, out of almost 900 kms., to be precise 896 kms., you could complete only 501 kms. It means almost 400 kms. area is still left. With all your will power you have taken 10 years to complete fencing of 500 km. of area. It will take another 10 years to complete another 400 km. Assuming by the pace at which you are going, it will take another decade to complete the border fencing. The people of Assam are getting restless.

MR. SPEAKER: Please formulate the question.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Are you going to take any special step to expedite the pace so that not only the border fencing is erected but also the commitment made by the Government of India in the Assam Accord is fulfilled at the earliest? Already one decade has passed.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, it is a fact that the Assam Accord was made possible due to the sincere approach from both the sides. The work started well in 1984. After this tender was given, it worked well. Let me also tell the House that during some short period, I think it was during 1989-90 when the AGP Government was there, it slowed down very badly. It did slow down the pace of work. But I assure the House that we will put strong pressure so as to complete the work within the scheduled time so that it does not get delayed further.

Mid-Term Appraisal

*64. *SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the shortfalls noticed in various sectors, sector-wise;

(c) the manner in which the shortfalls are proposed to be met; and

(d) the original Plan allocations and the projected actual utilisation by the end of the current Plan period; sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b). The necessary exercise pertaining to Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) is underway in the Planning

Commission in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments of Government of India.

(c) This question will arise only after the completion of mid-term appraisal.

(d) A Statement indicating the sector-wise Eighth Plan allocation is placed on the Table of the House. Sector-wise actual utilisation of the Plan allocations for the entire Plan will be known after the terminal year of the Eighth Plan is over in 1996-97 and no projections of actual expenditure can be made at this stage.

STATEMENT

Public Sector Outlay by Major Heads of Development - Eighth Plan (1992-97)

(Rs. crores at 1991-92 prices)

Sl. No.	Head of Development	Outlay
I.	Agriculture and Allied Activities \$	54992.50
II.	Rural Development	34425.36
III.	Special Area Programmes	6750.16
IV.	Energy*	115561.09
V.	Industry and Minerals	46921.75
VI.	Transport	55925.57
VII.	Communication	25109.98
VIII.	Science and Technology	4131.71
IX.	Ecology and Environment #	4909.98
X.	General Economic and General Services	6360.00
XI.	Social Services	79011.90
	Grand Total	434100.00

\$ includes allocations for Irrigation and Flood control.

* includes allocations for Integrated Rural Energy Programme.

includes allocations for Forestry and Wildlife.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the work of mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan and the exercise pertaining to it is underway in the Planning Commission in consultation with the Ministries concerned. The work of mid-term appraisal has not been completed so far. A meeting was held on 6th July, 1995 to finalise the draft of the mid-term appraisal, and thereat it was decided to convene another meeting on 19th July, 1995 to be chaired

by the Prime Minister and to place all the documents there and to finalise mid-term appraisal. I want to know from the hon. Minister. Whether it is true that a draft which was placed and discussed in the meeting held on 6th July, 1995 revealed that some negative results, like increasing disparity on account of economic liberalisation policy come to light and it has noticed that the graph of employment as well as poverty has gone down during the last three or two and half year. This apart, social sectors have been affected very much following heavy curtailment in expenditure resorted to by the Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good question; you should understand it please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Is it true that a special programme involving Rs. 6 thousand, 750 crore and 16 lakh has been affected. The hon. Minister stated in his reply that the social works involving Rs. 79 thousand 11 crores and 90 lakh have been adversely affected. And not only this, the amount of Rs. 4 thousand 131 crore and 41 lakh which is going to be spent on health has affected science and technology programme, is it true?

[English]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Sir, the internal meeting of the Planning Commission was held but the full Planning Commission meeting which was scheduled was not held because of the reason that consultations with the Ministries concerned is still going on. The issues on which the hon. Member asked questions are being discussed by the Planning Commission. It will be difficult for me to give all the details to the questions asked because all these issues are still being discussed with concerned Ministries/Departments by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, protection is required. It has been highlighted in all the newspapers of the country and all has happened due to it.

MR. SPEAKER: You ask this question properly. Why the mid-term appraisal has not been carried out so far?

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I am asking the same question. He will answer to this question also.

MR. SPEAKER: He will not answer to the newspapers. He will reply to your question.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: No, Sir. I want to ask the hon. Minister if he has not understood my question fully. I have asked all my questions. I want his reply.

[English] [Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: No, please understand. He does not have answers to your questions as the mid-term appraisal is still underway.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: It has been carried out on 6th July, 1995 and this has been reported in all the news papers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Shastri, you should understand this basic fact.

[Translation]

This is an important question. You are raising doubts on his answer. Whatever the Minister states in the House, is authentic. But which have been received from outside this House is not authentic.

[English]

Please understand it.

[Translation]

You should ask, as to why the mid-term appraisal has not been carried out so far.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Through you I want a reply from the hon. Minister to the 'a' part of my second question as to why the mid term appraisal has not been done.

HON. MEMBER: You ask, why it has not been done.....

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Why it has not been done by you and the (B) part of the second question is that I have come to know that you have carried out some mid-term appraisals.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, not like this.....

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: He has made a statement it has come to my notice and.....

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever the Minister speaks in this House is final. We do not pay attention to whatever he speaks outside the House. If he is wrong, you can take action against him later. Please leave it and sit down.

[English]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Sir, the internal meeting was held by the Planning Commission. The hon. Member wants to know about the midterm appraisal.....

MR. SPEAKER: The Member wants to know, the House wants to know why the midterm appraisal is not done on time.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Sir, it was delayed because we have to consult the States also. In some States elections were there and they were not able to come and discuss with the Planning Commission. But the Ministries and the Departments should have been informed about the Appraisal being done by the Planning Commission.

Sir, we discussed this in our internal meeting. A full Planning Commission meeting is yet to take place. It was not fixed because the discussion with the Ministries and the Departments by the Planning Commission have not been completed so far. They are under way. As soon as the information is received, it will be discussed in the full Planning Commission and then in the NDC... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, consequent upon implementation of the new economic policy, the percentage of the people living below poverty line has come down in the Eighth Five Year Plan but the prices of commodities have increased more than three times in the country due to non-assessment of new economic policy. I want to know from the hon. Minister through you as to what measures the Government is going to take to reduce the prices?

[*English*]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Sir, the inflation rate was 11 per cent in the year 1994-95. It was 9.6 per cent in the year 1995-96. We are taking steps to reduce the rate of inflation by accepting and adopting different measures. But compared to previous years, it has been reduced.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: My question was with regard to poverty. What measures have been taken to reduce the poverty. His reply does not pertain to my question.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What are the steps you would like to take to reduce the rate of inflation?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: He has asked two questions. Firstly he has asked about inflation. Secondly, he has asked about poverty. Which question shall I reply?

MR. SPEAKER: Both.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: The estimated level of poverty is 20.3 per cent in 1992-93. In addition to the on-going schemes which are already there for alleviating poverty, we have started a number of new schemes in recent years.

Then, we have schemes for rural development as well as new schemes which are intended for rural areas

where there are maximum number of people who are living below the poverty line. The schemes that have been introduced recently by the Government are the Employment Assurance Scheme, the JRY and so on. They are related mostly to the rural areas and the rural poor. So, these are the measures which have been taken by the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Sir, I have not got reply to my question.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had decided to discuss on the mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs was also a party to the said decision. But it has come to our notice now that even mid-term appraisal has not been carried out so far. What will be discussed then

MR. SPEAKER: By what time it is likely to be completed?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I am asking you.

MR. SPEAKER: It will become a new tradition if the leader of the opposition puts a question before the speaker.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking you because decision was taken in your presence.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I am saying that you ask regarding the period by which it is likely to be completed so that it can be discussed here.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I think that the appraisal is incomplete, when it will be completed?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Sir, there are two questions. An internal meeting was held for mid-term appraisal. So, every point will be discussed one after another.....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, the House is not ready to hear this kind of a reply. The House would like you to get the information and make the mid-term appraisal... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, this is the question to be replied by the Prime Minister but the Minister is abroad on a visit. You gave the ruling last time that no Minister visit foreign country until the session of Parliament is over.

MR. SPEAKER: The question may not be discussed if you go in to the politics.

[English]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: As soon as we get the information from each Department.....

MR. SPEAKER: Please note the feelings expressed by the Members. They want to have the mid-term appraisal to be discussed on the floor of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): There are three stages. One is the internal meeting. Second one is the full Planning Commission meeting and the third one is NDC meeting. There are three stages. The first stage which has started is still going on. Second stage is the Planning Commission meeting which will be held on the basis of the first report prepared by the Planning Commission in its internal meeting. Last one is the NDC meeting. Sir, shall I submit that during 1992 the Eighth Plan document was placed in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: You should note the feelings of the Members. We are not to discuss the Eighth Five Year Plan. We are not discussing the mid-term appraisal also. The House, I think, is not happy about it.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: On the appraisal of the Eighth Plan, internal discussions are going on and after that we will have a full-fledged meeting of the Planning Commission and then the NDC meeting. After this, I will come to the House again.

MR. SPEAKER: The question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Production and Despatch of Coal

65*. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the target for production and despatch of coal by companies under Coal India Limited (CIL) for 1995-96;

(b) the quantity and value of pithead stocks with CIL as on March 31, 1995;

(c) the value of the above pithead stocks which has been taken into account for computation of profit and loss of CIL;

(d) whether the target for liquidation of the pithead stocks was also fixed for 1994-95; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the above stock has been liquidated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) For the Coal Companies under Coal India Limited the targets for production and despatch of coal for 1995-96 are 241 million tonnes and 245.50 million tonnes respectively.

(b) and (c). The quantity of measured pithead stocks with subsidiaries of CIL as on March 31, 1995 was 30.8 million tonnes. The value of the stocks as well as the final profit and loss figures will be known only after the accounts have been audited.

(d) and (e). A target of liquidating 8.5 million tonnes of pithead stocks had been fixed for the year 1994-95. Stock to the extent of 11.89 million tonnes was despatched during the period April-October, 94. However 12.38 million tonnes of coal was again added to the stock in the period, between November, 94 and March, 95.

Custodial Deaths

*66. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deaths in the police custody in the Capital have increased during the last six months;

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

(c) the number of custodial deaths occurred during 1994;

(d) whether the National Human Rights Commission has started probing the causes of such deaths; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). No death in police custody in the Capital has been reported by Delhi Police in the last six months.

However, intimation of four instances of deaths allegedly in police custody in Delhi in the first six months of 1995 was given to the National Human Rights Commission. The Commission obtained reports from the Commissioner of Police, Delhi and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi on each of these deaths, allegedly in police custody. Reports on all these four instances have been received by the Commission. In two of these cases, after considering the reports, the Commission has already directed that no further action be taken.

(c) to (e). Two custodial deaths occurred in police custody in Delhi during 1994.

Intimation of these two instances of deaths in police custody in Delhi during the year 1994 was given to the National Human Rights Commission. The Commission obtained reports from the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi on each of these deaths in police custody. Reports on both instances have been received by the Commission. In one of these cases, after considering the report, the Commission made the following recommendations:

(i) that the investigation be handed over to an officer not below the rank of Additional Commissioner of Police belonging to an agency other than the local police;

(ii) that the investigation and consequential prosecution of persons involved should be expedited;

(iii) that the allegation of bribery be gone into and in case charge can be tagged to the criminal action for torture leading to death, the same should be included;

(iv) departmental action be initiated against all police officers concerned; and

(v) that the next of kin of the deceased be compensated. Interim compensation of Rs. 50,000/- should be provided within one month of the recommendation. This amount, though initially payable by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, should be recovered by way of reimbursement from persons found guilty through appropriate proceedings.

Intimation regarding all deaths in police custody is sent to the National Human Rights Commission within 24 hours of the incident according to the standing instructions of the Commission.

Special Educational Development Programmes for SC/ST Girls

*67. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new Special Educational Development Programmes for SC/ST girls has been prepared;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Kerala has also been included under these programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Educational Complex for Scheduled Tribe girls in Low Literacy Pockets, has been introduced from 1993-94. However, Special Educational Development Programme for Scheduled Caste girls in Low Literacy areas is under consideration.

(b) The scheme for Scheduled Tribe girls is implemented through Non-governmental organisations with cent percent Central Assistance. The capacity of the Educational Complex for ST girls is 50 children from Class I to Class V.

(c) and (d). The Scheme of Educational Complexes for Scheduled Tribe girls covers Kattunaickans Primitive Tribal Group of Kerala. One Complex has been sanctioned.

(e) The Question does not arise.

Talks on Uttarakhand

*68. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the creation of a separate State of Uttarakhand/Uttaranchal;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in taking a final decision in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have also held any talks with the elected representatives of Uttarakhand/Uttaranchal on the issue of creation of a separate State;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken in the matter; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Discussions have been held at different levels with the leaders of political parties and protagonists of Uttarakhand with a view to finding an amicable solution. As this is a sensitive and delicate issue with far-reaching implications for the country, it would not be possible to lay down a definite time frame for arriving at an acceptable solution.

[Translation]

Gas from Qatar

*69. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import gas from Qatar;

(b) if so, the quantity of gas proposed to be imported by the Indian Government;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details including terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). The import of natural gas/LNG from Qatar was discussed during the visit of the Qatari Minister for Energy to India in March, 1995. It was agreed that a Group will be set up with officials from the two countries to further discuss the matter. The quantity to be imported and the terms and conditions of imports will be discussed by the Group.

Agreement between Doordarshan and CNN.

*70. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

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

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between Doordarshan and the Cable News Network (CNN) International;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives, terms and conditions of the agreement;

(d) whether views of the political parties and interests of the Indian telecasting companies, together with the security point of view have also been considered before arriving at a final decision in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the agreement has been criticised by the media and the political parties;

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

(h) whether the Government propose to sign such agreements for other type of programmes also; and

(i) if so, 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). The salient features of the agreement between Doordarshan and Turner International Inc., USA are as given in the attached statement.

(d) and (e). The leaders of all political parties in Parliament were apprised about the salient features of the agreement before it was signed. The agreement does not in any way impinge upon the national interests or security.

(f) and (g). The agreement has evoked both positive and negative reactions. Government, however, does not

share the view that the agreement is against our national interests.

(h) and (i). Several proposals have been received for collaboration with Doordarshan and these are at present being examined by Doordarshan.

STATEMENT

The salient features of the Agreement between Doordarshan and Turner International INC., U.S.A. are as follows:

(i) The term of the agreement is 2 years.

(ii) Doordarshan will provide uninterrupted access 24 hours a day to the INSAT 2B, C-Band transponder alongwith uplink and downlink facilities to the CNNI service.

(iii) The DD/CNN channel will carry a minimum of two and a maximum of eight half hours of original news and current affairs programme per day provided by Doordarshan.

(iv) Doordarshan will provide Turner International a minimum of one hour transmission time daily terrestrially on either DD-1, DD-2 or DD-3 for Turner Internationals entertainment or current affairs programming. This shall be subject to Doordarshan's editorial control. Doordarshan's decision will be final and binding on the acceptability or otherwise of such programmes.

(v) Turner International will pay Doordarshan an annual telecast fee of US \$ 1,500,000 (one million five hundred thousand dollars).

(vi) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 50% of the additional net revenue over and above the first one million five hundred thousand dollars from the said satellite channel.

(vii) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 50% of the net advertising revenue derived from Turner Internations programming carried on the DD-3 channel.

(viii) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 65% of the net advertising revenue derived from Turner Internationals programming carried on the DD-1 and DD-2 channels.

(ix) Turner International will do the marketing of all CNNI and TI programming.

(x) The advertising time on the satellite channel will range from 2 minutes an hour for the CNNI service to 4 minutes an hour for DD programming.

(xi) Turner International will be allowed 4 minutes an hour of the advertising time on its programming relayed terrestrially on DD-1, DD-2 and DD-3.

(xii) Doordarshan and Turner International will not

exercise any editorial control on each others programming on the satellite channel. However, all programmes will conform to Doordarshan's broadcast and advertisement code.

(xiii) Doordarshan and Turner International will provide to each other news, information stories and footage from each others programming. Turner will pay the requisite delivery charges to Doordarshan for this purpose. There will be no such corresponding obligation on Doordarshan.

(xiv) Turner International will provide on a fee basis to Doordarshan assistance in its international news gathering operations outside India.

Cellular Telephones

*71. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI HARISINGH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders have been invited to introduce the Cellular Mobile Telephone Services in the Metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) whether any tender has been accepted and licence given to any company; and

(c) if so, the names of such companies Indian as well as foreign alongwith the areas allotted to them?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Eight Indian companies have been given licences for four metro cities, two in each city. Details are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Cellular Mobile Telephone Service

List of licensees

S.No.	Name of the Company	Name of the Foreign Partner	Cities
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Bharti Cellular Ltd., 15th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019	(i) M/s. General Mobile Co. Ltd., UK (ii) M/s. Mobile Systems Intl., UK (iii) M/s. EMTEL Ltd., Mauritius	Delhi
2.	M/s. Sterling Cellular Ltd. 19, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Madras - 600034	M/s. Cellular Communication International Inc. U.S.A.	Delhi
3.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019	M/s. Hutchison Telecom Ltd., Hongkong	Bombay
4.	M/s. BPL Systems & Projects Ltd., 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore - 560001	M/s. France Telecom. France LCC Inc, USA	Bombay
5.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 503, Hemkunt Chambers, 89, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019	M/s. Telecom Malaysia BHD Malaysia	Calcutta

1	2	3	4
6.	M/s. Modi Telstra Pvt. Ltd., 13th Floor, Hemkunt Tower, 98, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019	M/s. OTC International Ltd., Australia	Calcutta
7.	M/s. Skycell Communication Pvt. Ltd., Sardar Mohan Singh Building Connaught Lane, New Delhi - 110001.	M/s. Bell South Intl. (Asia/Pacific) Inc., USA M/s. Milicom Intl. Cellular S/A, Luxembourg	Madras
8.	M/s. RPG Cellular Service Ltd., N-83, Partap Building, 1st Floor, Connaught Circus, New Delhi - 110001.	M/s. Vodafone Group Plc. U.K.	Madras

[English]

Coal Mines

*72. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of coal mines in Bihar are dangerous and unsafe on account of open case mining and unchecked human settlement over abandoned mines;

(b) whether operation of coal mafia in Jharia, Katras and Chikunda continues unabated in collusion with staff of Department of Mines Safety;

(c) the number of CBI raids made during the last one year in Dhanbad area and number of officials of the Directorate arrested in this regard; and

(d) whether the Government propose to increase staff strength of the Department to ensure that Department of Mines Safety work properly to check operation of coal mafia in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) As per information provided by Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS), there are 15 opencast coal mines in Bihar declared as dangerous and unsafe under the Mines Act, 1952 and the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957. Besides, 26 areas of human settlement over abandoned mines have been declared unsafe.

(b) to (d). The Director-General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Dhanbad is responsible for implementation of the relevant provisions in the Mines Act, 1952, relating to occupational safety and health of workers in Mines. Its responsibility does not extend to checking operation of coal mafia, which is primarily the concern of the State Government.

During the last one year two raids were made by CBI

in which two officials of the Directorate were arrested on corruption charges.

Supply of Fuel for Vessels

*73. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an agreement to supply fuel for the vessels involved in deep sea fishing under the joint venture at the international rate;

(b) if so, the amount and the number of vessels for which the fuel supplied during the last three years;

(c) whether there is any price difference for fuel between Indian market rate and international rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The vessels on coastal run are charged the Indian market rate which is much higher than the international rate applicable to vessels on international run.

The current bunker prices for duty paid products for vessels on coastal run applicable at Bombay are given below:-

F.O.	Rs. 5308.66/MT.
LDO	Rs. 7345.72/MT.
HFHSD	Rs. 7762.07/MT.

The current bunker prices per MT at Indian ports for vessels on international run are as under:-

EXCHANGE RATE	Rs. 31.55 per Dollar (Effective from 17.7.95 to 1.8.95)
F.O.	USD - 105.08 Rs. 3315.27
L.D.O.	USD - 185.25 Rs. 5844.64
HFHSD	USD - 302 Rs. 9528.10

Allotment of Coal Blocks

*74. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted coal blocks to the private companies for captive use;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Coal India Limited has worked out terms and conditions for allotment of coal blocks to private companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). Following the amendment to the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, allowing private sector participation in coal mining for certain specified purposes, applications were received from private parties, among others, for allotment of coal mining blocks for captive use. After due consideration, coal blocks for 13 applicants for power generating purpose, two for sponge iron production and one for pig iron production have been identified and offered to them for their captive use. Details of the said parties are shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). The following are the guidelines adopted for allocation of blocks to the private sector for coal mining for power generation;

(i) Preferably blocks in green field areas where basic infrastructure like road, rail links etc. is yet to be developed should be given to the private sector. The areas where CIL has already invested in creating such infrastructure for opening new mines should not be handed over to the private sector, except on reimbursement of costs.

(ii) The blocks offered to private sector should be at reasonable distance from existing mines and projects of CIL in order to avoid operational problems.

(iii) Blocks already identified for development by CIL where adequate funding is on hand or in sight should not be offered to the private sector.

(iv) Private sector should be asked to bear full cost of exploration in these blocks which may be offered.

(v) For identifying blocks the requirement of coal for about 30 years would be considered.

Further the policy *inter-alia* includes:-

approval of mining plan as required under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

inspection and appropriate enforcement of conservation measures by the Coal Controller under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974 with a view to ensuring scientific mining.

enforcement of safety regulations by the Directorate General of Mines Safety.

STATEMENT

Details of Parties offered Captive Coal Mining Blocks

S.No.	Name	End use	Coalfields in which blocks identified/ indicated
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. R.P.G. Industries/ Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation	Power generation	Raniganj, North Karanpura, Mahan Talcher
2.	M/s. Kalinga Power Corporation	Power generation	Talcher
3.	M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	Power generation	Wardha/ Bander
4.	M/s. Tamil Nadu Electricity Board	Power generation	Talcher Bander
5.	M/s. Gujarat Power Corporation	Power generation	Ib valley (tentative indication)
6.	M/s. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	Power generation	Talcher
7.	M/s. Indian Aluminum Company Ltd.	Power generation	Ib valley
8.	M/s. Development Consultants Ltd.	Power generation	Chuperbhit
9.	M/s. Associated Cement Company Ltd.	Power generation	Wardha
10.	M/s. HOKI generation	Power	Talcher
11.	M/s. Samlai Power Private Ltd.	Power generation	Ib valley

1	2	3	4
12. M/s. WESEB	Power generation	Raniganj	
13. M/s. Videocon Power Ltd.	Power generation	Talcher	
14. M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd.	Sponge Iron	Raigarh	
15. M/s. Prakash Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron	Hasdeo - Arand	
16. M/s. Birla Technical Services Ltd.	Pig Iron	North Karanpura	

Ground Water Level

*75. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level is going down every year in some States;

(b) whether the Central Ground Water Board has identified the areas where ground water level is going down;

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

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to recharge the ground water?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Changes indicating both rise and fall in the level of ground water have been observed in certain pockets of various States.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Statewise list of areas where fall in ground water level of more than 4 metre has been observed on long-term basis is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) A Central Sector Scheme of Studies in Recharge of Ground Water prepared by the Central Ground Water Board is under implementation. Besides, the Central Ground Water Board has also prepared a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to serve as guidelines to the States for formulating schemes for recharge of ground water. The Manual has been circulated in 1994.

STATEMENT

List of districts with pockets where fall in ground water levels is more than 4 metres on long-term basis (1981-90) (Pre-monsoon situation)

State	Name of the districts
	In parts of the district:
Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboobnagar, Kurnool, Prakasam, Chittoor.
Gujarat	Junagarh, Amreli, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Kuchchh, Bhavnagar, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Gandhinagar, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Banaskantha.
Haryana	Faridabad, Rewari, Rohtak, Hissar, Gurgaon, Mahendragarh.
Karnataka	Tumkur, Hasan, Mandya, Mysore Kolar.
Madhya Pradesh	West Nimar, Sehore, Rajgarh, Hoshangabad, Guna, Chhindwara, Seoni, Narsinghpur, Bhind, Balaghat, Jabalpur, Raipur, Bastar, Dhar, Dewas.
Maharashtra	Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Dhule, Jalgaon, Buldhana, Akola, Chandrapur, Kolhapur.
Orissa	Sundargarh.
Punjab	Faridkot, Sangrur.
Rajasthan	Sirohi, Udaipur, Dungarpur, Rajsamand, Bilwara, Chitaurgarh, Jalore, Pali, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Bikaner, Churu, Ajmer, Tonk, Jaipur, Sikar, Sawai Madhopur, Alwar.
Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri, Salem, Tanjavur, Pudukottai, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari, Coimbatore, Madurai.
Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur, Agra, Mathura, Ferozabad, Hardoi, Sitapur, Aligarh, Bulandshahar, Ghaziabad, Bijnor, Moradabad, Lakhimpur Kheri, Kanpur, Fatehpur, Allahabad, Mirzapur, Banda, Pratapgarh.
West Bengal	Bankura, Purulia

Telecom Regulatory Authority

*76. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Telecom Regulatory Authority in view of the privatisation of telecom services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up;

(d) whether DOT had sent any team of experts to foreign countries in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) In the context of proper implementation of National Telecom Policy, 1994 Government have decided to set up a Telecom Regulatory Authority.

(b) The proposed Telecom Regulatory Authority to begin with all be non-statutory in character but will have well defined functions, responsibilities and powers to regulate Telecom services in an effective manner. Its functions and responsibilities will include:

(i) revenue sharing arrangement between different service providers;

(ii) fixation of tariffs for telecom service and ensuring price regulation;

(iii) protection of consumer's interests;

(iv) protection of national security interest;

(v) resolution of issues between service providers;

(vi) ensuring of quality of service to world standard.

The proposed Authority will consist of a Chairman and two Members. The Chairman shall be a person who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or who is or has been the Chief Justice of a High Court. The Members will be such persons who have held the post of Secretary/Additional Secretary to the Government of India or an equivalent post in the Central or State Government for a period of at least three years.

(c) Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1995 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 2nd June, 1995 for amendment of Section 3 (6) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. This Bill seeks enlargement of the definition of Telegraph Authority to include besides, Director General, Telecommunications any statutory or non-statutory body or any other officer empowered by the Central Government. The Government proposes to set up Telecom Regulatory Authority through a Central Government Resolution after this Bill is passed by the Parliament.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A two Member team headed by the then Chairman, Telecom Commission had visited the USA, U.K. and Germany between 27.10.93 and 6.11.93 to study Restructuring of Telecom, which included a study of Telecom regulatory framework in these countries. Another three Member team headed by advisor (Operations) of the Department of Telecom was deputed to study Telecom Regulatory framework obtaining in U.P. and Canada. The Team visited U.K. from 25.10.94 to 29.10.94 and Canada from 30.10.94 to 3.11.94.

Duping of Foreign Tourists

*77. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police has recently busted a gang of auto-rickshaw drivers, hotel staff and tourist bus operators, who had been duping unsuspecting foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details of the persons nabbed and their modus-operandi; and

(c) the effective measures taken to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two persons viz. Sri Radhey Shyam & Sri Jaipal have been arrested in case FIR No. 438 dated 22.6.95 under Section 420/34 IPC, police station Connaught Place, New Delhi.

The modus-operandi adopted by these persons, one of whom is an auto-rickshaw driver, was to misguide a foreign tourist couple into believing that riots have broken out in Delhi and to persuade them to go to safer places like Agra or Jaipur. The auto-rickshaw driver helped the foreign tourist couple to make arrangements for their travel from Delhi to Jaipur by a taxi and in the process extorted foreign currency from them.

(c) Steps taken by the Delhi Police for prevention of such incidents are as under:

(i) under a new scheme launched in this regard, registration numbers and names of TSR drivers who carry foreigners are recorded at various pickets. This is expected to help in identifying TSR drivers who might fleece foreigners;

(ii) staff of police stations has been sensitized about modus operandi employed by such cheats.

(iii) Police informers have been deployed to develop intelligence about such criminals.

(iv) vigilance staff, deputed in plain clothes, has been instructed to maintain water over suspicious persons inside the Airport.

(v) staff deployed as TOURIST POLICE has been instructed to provide information and to guide tourists properly so that cheating is prevented.

(vi) warnings through notice boards, T.V., etc. are displayed at the Airport to warn tourists about cheats.

Telephone Facility to Panchayats

*78. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Panchayats provided with telephone facility so far, State-wise;

(b) the number of Village Panchayats without the said facility at present, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be provided to all the Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 31.03.95, 1,54,393 Panchayat Villages had been provided with public telephone facility. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) As on 31.03.1995, the number of Panchayat Villages without public telephone facility is 89,353. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) As per the National Telecom Policy, all the villages in the country, including the Panchayat Villages, are to be provided with public telephone facility by 1997.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of Panchayat Villages provided with/without Telephone Facility upto 31.03.1995

S.No.	Circle/State	Number of Panchayat Villages	Panchayat Villages provided with telephone facility	Panchayat Villages without telephone facility
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19533	15447	4086
2.	Assam	2485	2050	435
3.	Bihar	11762	8080	3682
4.	Gujarat	13510	11690	1820
	(Including Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu)			
5.	Haryana	5946	5946	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2757	1984	773
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1461	721	740
8.	Karnataka	8335	6100	2235
9.	Kerala	982	982	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	30922	2216	8806
11.	Maharashtra	24937	18744	6193
	(Including Goa)			
12.	North East	4241	1775	2466
	(Including Arunachal, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)			
13.	Orissa	5261	4916	345
14.	Punjab	11743	8163	3580

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Rajasthan	9178	7369	1809
16.	Tamil Nadu (Including Pondicherry)	13288	12808	480
17.	Uttar Pradesh	73741	22189	51552
18.	West Bengal (Including Sikkim)	3473	3122	351
19.	MTNL, New Delhi	191	191	0
TOTAL		243746	154393	89353

Consumption of Petroleum Products

*79. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's import bill for crude oil and petroleum products is expected to jump by more than \$ 1 billion this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) its impact on Government's subsidy bill and the oil pool account; and

(d) the steps being taken to cut down high consumption of crude, diesel and petrol and increase the domestic production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The estimated import bill for the year 1995-96 will be about US \$ 6.43 billion, as against about US \$ 4.93 billion in 1994-95. However, the actual increase/decrease in the import bill for the current year would be dependent on various factors like volume of indigenous production of crude, prevailing international prices of crude, prevailing exchange parity of dollar etc. While an increase in the import of crude oil and products would entail increased outflow of foreign exchange, they will meet the energy requirements of the growing economy.

Subsidy or impact on Oil Pool Account is dependent on the actual price paid for import of crude/product, the quantity imported and the extent to which recovery is made through the selling price.

The measures include adoption of practices for increasing fuel-efficiency in the transport sector, by inter-fuel substitution like CNG, upgradation of lubricants, replacement of inefficient boilers and furnaces, promotion of fuel-efficient equipment and practices in the industrial sector, rectification of pump sets in the agriculture sector,

development and promotion of fuel efficient kerosene and LPG stoves in the domestic sector and launching multi-media awareness campaigns and imparting of education and training to the various target groups of oil users.

Government have allowed private investment in the oil refining sector. As against the existing refining capacity of 57.40 MMTA, the total refining capacity in the country after the expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries, setting up of new grass-root refineries JVCs and private sector refineries including EOUs, is expected to be around 153 MMTA. This capacity would be sufficient to meet the projected demand of petroleum products, since the demand of petroleum products in the year 2001-2002 is estimated to be about 102 MMTA.

A number of short-term and medium term measures have been taken to boost the indigenous production of crude oil. As a result of these measures the crude oil production is expected to reach a level of about 37 MMT in 1995-96 and 38.5 MMT at the end of 1996-97.

Commission for Backward Classes

*80. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister the WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where Commission for Backward Classes has been set up;

(b) the names of the States where such Commission has not been set up so far and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the States where provision for reservations has not been made for the backward classes so far in State services and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). As per the information available, the following states have set up Commission for Backward Classes as per the directions of the Supreme Court in the Mandal Case Judgement:-

- (1) Andhra Pradesh
- (2) Bihar
- (3) Goa
- (4) Gujarat
- (5) Himachal Pradesh
- (6) Haryana
- (7) Jammu & Kashmir
- (8) Karnataka
- (9) Kerala
- (10) Madhya Pradesh
- (11) Maharashtra
- (12) Orissa
- (13) Punjab
- (14) Rajasthan
- (15) Tamil Nadu
- (16) Tripura
- (17) Uttar Pradesh
- (18) West Bengal

The State Government of Meghalaya has entrusted the work to the State Law Commission.

The Supreme Court in the Mandal Case judgement has directed the Government of India, each of the State Government and the Union Territory Administrations for constituting a permanent body for entertaining, examining and recommending upon request for inclusion and complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion in the list of Other Backward Classes of citizens. As such, it is for each State Government to comply with the above direction of the Supreme Court.

As per the information available with the Ministry of Welfare, State Governments of Assam, Sikkim and Manipur have not reported the setting up of a permanent body for this purpose. The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland have stated that these States have mainly tribal population.

As per the information available with this Ministry, the State Governments of Manipur, Sikkim and Tripura have not yet reported as having provided reservation for other backward classes in the State services. The State of Meghalaya is yet to notify the list of OBCs in the State.

Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram have stated that these States have mainly tribal population.

The question of providing reservation to any backward classes of citizens in the State services is the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

Modernisation of CIL's Projects

537. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has laid down stringent conditions to finance the modernisation of Coal India Limited's (CIL) projects;

(b) if so, the conditions and the technical norms laid down by the World Bank for rehabilitation and retraining;

(c) in case of funding not coming through, how it is proposed to proceed with the modernisation of Coal India Limited's projects; and

(d) whether the Coal India Limited has evolved any Plan for accepting these World Bank norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL: (a) to (d). Discussions have been going on between Coal India Limited (CIL) and the World Bank for a possible loan for 31 projects, including new/expansion projects and replacement of heavy earth moving machinery in existing mines and projects. The loan proposal is presently at pre-appraisal stage. The terms, conditions and norms etc. of the loan will be known only after the discussions with the World Bank reach a conclusion stage. In case of loan from the World Bank not coming through, CIL envisages a contingency plan to proceed with the implementation of the schemes in phases through mobilisation of finances from other bilateral and multilateral sources including market borrowing.

Broadcasting Law

538. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the judgement dated February 9, 1995 of the Supreme Court in the case of Union of India versus Cricket Association of Bengal;

(b) whether the Government have examined the above judgement;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(e) the time by which a comprehensive broadcasting law is proposed to be drafted for the country as a prelude to allowing setting up of private radio/television stations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The salient features of the judgement are enclosed statement.

(b) to (d). The matter is under consideration.

(e) No time frame can be indicated at present.

STATEMENT

*Judgement delivered by the Supreme Court
in the case of Union of India versus
Cricket Association Bench of Bengal*

The salient features of the two separate but concurring judgements delivered by the Supreme Court of India on 9.2.92 in the above case are:-

(i) Airwaves or frequencies are a public property whose regulation should be controlled and regulated by a public authority representative of all section and interests in the society.

(ii) It is the fundamental right of a citizen to use the best means of imparting and receiving information and as such to have access to telecasting for the purpose. This right is, however, not absolute and is liable to restrictions being imposed (a) by virtue of the use of a public property (airwaves) and (b) in terms of the provisions of Article 19(2) of the Constitution.

(iii) The broadcasting media should be under the control of the public as distinct from Government. It should be operated by a public statutory corporation or corporations, as the case may be, whose constitution and composition must be such as to ensure its/their impartiality in political, economic and social matters and on all other public issues.

(iv) Public broadcasting is implicit in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution but private broadcasting is not.

(v) It is for Parliament to decide whether private broadcasting should be allowed or not. If allowed it should not be left to market forces to ensure wide variety of voices enjoying access to it.

Post and Telegraph Offices in A.P.

539. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise all the existing Post and Telegraph offices in Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). During 1995-96, 4 large and 20 medium/small post offices are proposed to be covered under the Department's programme of modernisation which is centred around PC based multi purpose counter machines and seeks to

improve the quality of services offered at the counter and the front office so as to achieve the objectives of enhancing customer satisfaction and providing a clean and modern work environment for boosting the morale of the employees. These 24 post offices will be in addition to the 10 offices modernised during the last year. List of post offices proposed to be modernised in the current year is at the enclosed statement-I.

However, in respect of telegraph working in combined postal and telegraph offices in Andhra Pradesh, modernization has been effected in all except 11 offices, which are proposed to be modernized during the current year. Details of these eleven offices are given in the enclosed statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

*List of Post Offices proposed to be modernised in
Andhra Pradesh during the current year (1995-96)*

1. Secunderabad H.O.
2. Hanamkonda H.O.
3. Rajahmundry H.O.
4. Vijayawada H.O.
5. Sanathnagar S.O.
6. Begum Bazar S.O.
7. Somajiguda S.O.
8. Jamai Osmania S.O.
9. Arundelpet S.O.
10. Eluru H.O.
11. Nellore H.O.
12. Ongole H.O.
13. Cuddapah H.O.
14. Anantapur H.O.
15. Nandyal H.O.
16. chittoor H.O.
17. Mahbubnagar H.Q.
18. R.C. Puram Industrial Estate P.O.
19. Suryapet H.O.
20. Bhongir H.O.
21. Srikakulam H.O.
22. Vizianagaram H.O.
23. Kakinada H.O.
24. Amalapuram H.O.

STATEMENT-II

List of combined post and telegraph offices in Andhra Pradesh where telegraph working is proposed to be modernised during the current year (1995-96)

1. Gorantla.
2. Bitragunta.
3. Kaligiri.
4. Vinjamoor.
5. Udayagiri.
6. Kanigiri.
7. Yerragendapalam.
8. Cumbum (KN).
9. Denakonda (RS).
10. Saravokota.
11. Ketturu.

Nationalisation of Rivers

540. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the plea contained in Madras High Court Order dated July 14, 1995 on a Public interest Petition to declare all the rivers flowing in the country as national rivers as reported in the Hindustan Times dated July 15, 1995;

(b) if so, the details and salient features and objectives of the High Court Order;

(c) whether the Government have examined the Order and its implications;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the reactions of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the plea of the High Court?

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

(b) The High Court has not given any order in this regard. While dismissing the Writ Petition No. 6207 of 1983 filed by one Sri K.S. Radhakrishnan against Union of India/ the State Government of Tamil Nadu/ the State Government of Kerala and others, the court referred to a suggestion given by the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu late Dr. M.G. Ramachandran in his letter dated 26/04/82, addressed to the Central Government that Government of India should declare all rivers including inter-State rivers as National rivers and bring forward a legislation to ensure proper utilisation of rivers subject to a condition that the entitlement of states for water as decided upon by the Tribunal shall, on no account, be disturbed by such legislation. The Court observed that 'in our opinion, the suggestion is worth

consideration by the Central Government, particularly in view of the fact that the problem remains unsettled for over two decades and the methods adopted till now have proved unsuccessful'.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Coal Production

541. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has expressed its serious concern over the severe shortfall in coal production during the terminal year of the current Plan and suggested total privatisation of mining and selling of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir. Planning Commission has at no stage suggested total privatisation of the coal sector in India. However, it has suggested that in order to meet the increasing demand for coal, further initiatives for the greater participation of the private sector, including commercial mining would need to be considered.

(b) and (c). However, at the terminal year of the Eighth Plan, the coal requirement has been assessed at 311 million tonnes by the Planning Commission. This demand is now proposed to be met by a coal production of 300 million tonnes, draw down of pit head stocks by 5 million tonnes and import of 6 million tonnes of coal for blending purposes.

Assistance to Displaced Persons

542. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some people were killed, injured and displaced in Nagaland and Manipur due to Naga-Kuki clash;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided to displaced persons and steps taken to repatriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Sea Erosion

543. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments have sent some proposals to the Union Government for control of sea erosion for approval;

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

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The State Governments of Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have prepared outline Master Plan/Project proposal for Anti-sea Erosion Works and submitted to Central Water Commission for approval.

(b) and (c). A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

1. **Gujarat:** Government of Gujarat have submitted to Central Water Commission an outline Master Plan for Anti-Sea Erosion works in the districts of Valsad, Surat and Bharauch estimated to cost Rs. 10.00 crores. The Master Plan was examined in C.W.C. and comments sent to State Government in advising them to prepare separate detailed project report for each identified priority reach to be protected and process them after clearance from State Technical Advisory Committee and State Flood Control Board. Compliance is awaited.

A scheme for construction of Anti-Sea Erosion work at Nani Danti - Moti Danti Taluka in Distt. Valsad estimated to cost Rs. 6.66 crores was also received in C.W.C. in December, 1993 for considering the scheme for external assistance. The scheme was examined and the Government of Gujarat was advised in March, 1994 to revise the scheme as per guidelines already sent to them for preparation of scheme for external assistance and also make it economically viable. Revised scheme is awaited.

2. **Karnataka:** The Government of Karnataka prepared a Master Plan for execution of emergent Anti-Sea Erosion works costing Rs. 15.00 crores which was examined in C.W.C. and detailed comments were sent to the State Government in 1991 advising them to modify the proposal. Modified proposal is still awaited.

3. **Kerala:** A composit project of 10 years perspective for Anti-Sea Erosion works amounting to Rs. 346.00 crores was received in C.W.C. for external assistance. After examination, the project was returned to the State Govt. for revising the proposal as per guidelines for preparing project reports for external assistance and the revised proposal is still awaited.

In February, 1995, a project profile on emergent conservation of Kerala Coast costing Rs. 5.99 crore was also received in C.W.C. for central assistance which was sent back to the Government of Kerala in March, 1995, suggesting them to modify the scheme as per comments. Modified scheme is awaited.

4. **Tamil Nadu:** Government of Tamil Nadu had sent a Master Plan to C.W.C. in May, 1992 for Central Assistance envisaging Anti-Sea Erosion Works throughout Tamil Nadu Coast costing Rs. 37.00 crores. Since Central Loan Assistance for Anti-Sea Erosion Works has been discontinued since 1991-92, the State Government was advised to formulate a comprehensive project proposal to provide protection against sea erosion along the vulnerable stretches of the Coast and send the same to C.W.C. for processing for external assistance. No compliance is received so far.

5. **West Bengal:** Government of West Bengal had prepared a scheme titled "Beach and Estuarine Protection Work of Sunderbans and Coastal Reaches" costing Rs. 330 crores for construction of sea wall over a length of 180 kilometres in the district of 24 Parganas (South and North) and Midnapur. The scheme was submitted initially to Central Water & Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune, the then Secretariat of Beach Erosion Board in April, 1991. CWPRS sent their comments to State Government in November-December, 1991. The scheme was also examined in C.W.C. and comments sent to the State Government in April, 1992 suggesting to prepare project report of each priority work keeping in view the observations made by CWPRS and C.W.C. and process the schemes through State Technical Advisory Committee and State Flood Control Board. Eleven such schemes were received in C.W.C. in January, 1995, which were examined and comments sent to the Govt. of West Bengal suggesting them to modify the schemes accordingly. Modified schemes are awaited.

Gupta Committee Report

544. SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the Gupta Committee Report regarding smooth functioning and expansion of the telecommunication services;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report; and

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

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

(b) The salient features/recommendations of the D.K. Gupta Committee Report broadly relate to streamlining administrative, technical and financial set-ups at the Headquarters of the Department; rationalisation of distribution of work and channel of submission of papers at the Headquarters keeping in view the need for distancing policy making functions from operational functions in the

context of implementation of National Telecom policy announced by the Government.

(c) The Report has been considered by the Commission but no final decision has been taken by the Government on the recommendations of the D.K. Gupta Committee Report in so far as these relate to Restructuring of Headquarters of Department of Telecommunications for distancing policy making functions from operational functions.

[English]

STD in West Bengal

545. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all Sub-divisions and Tehsil Headquarters in West Bengal have been provided with STD facility;

(b) if not, the places which can yet to be connected with STD facilities; and

(c) the time by which such facility is likely to be provided to those places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. All the Sub-Divisional Headquarters in West Bengal have been provided with STD facility. (There are no Tehsil Headquarters in West Bengal).

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of 'a' above.

Area of Calcutta Telephones

546. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to extend the area of Calcutta Telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not feasible to further extend the existing area of Calcutta due to techno-economic constraints.

TV Transmitters in Kerala

547. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for setting up T.V. transmitters in Kerala completed so far and the number of projects pending;

(b) whether the low power T.V. transmitter in Malapuram, North Kerala has been commissioned; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

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

(a) Eighteen TV transmitters of varying powers, including two Low Power TV Transmitters (LPTs) for relaying DD 2, are presently operational in Kerala as shown in Statement - I in 14 more TV transmitters of varying powers are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State as per details given in the enclosed Statement II.

(b) and (c) The Low Power TV Transmitter at Mallapuram is already operational since the 28th May, 1988.

STATEMENT-I

List of Locations of the existing TV transmitters in the State of Kerala

S. No.	Location	Transmitter
1.	Calicut (Interim)	HPT
2.	Cochin	HPT
3.	Trivandrum	HPT
4.	Cannanore	LPT
5.	Kasargod	LPT
6.	Palghat	LPT
7.	Shoranpur	LPT
8.	Changanacherry	LPT
9.	Kayamkulam	LPT
10.	Pathanamthitta	LPT
11.	Tellicherry	LPT
12.	Mukki	LPT
13.	Mallapuram	LPT
14.	Punalur	LPT
15.	Trichur	LPT
16.	Kalpetta	LPT
17.	Cochin (DD 2)	LPT
18.	Trivandrum (DD 2)	LPT

HPT - High Power TV Transmitter

LPT - Low Power TV Transmitter

STATEMENT- II

List of Locations where TV Projects are Presently under Implementation/Envisaged to be set up in the State of Kerala

Sl. No.	Location	Transmitter*
1.	Cannanore	HPT
2.	Calicut	HPT
3.	Kanhangod	LPT
4.	Chengannur	LPT
5.	Thodupuzha	LPT
6.	Adoor	LPT
7.	Athapadi	LPT
8.	Pala	LPT
9.	Calicut (DD 2)	LPT
10.	Kanjirapalli	VLPT
11.	Munnar	VLPT
12.	Devikolam	VLPT
13.	Mundakayam	VLPT
14.	Erattupetta	VLPT

HPT High Power TV Transmitter

LPT Low Power TV Transmitter

VLPT Very Low Power TV Transmitter

*Foundation stone to be laid in September, 1995.

Telephone in West Bengal

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

(a) whether any steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to improve the position of telephone density in West Bengal as a whole and particularly in Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of additional telephones proposed to be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Steps taken for expansion of Telephone exchange network in West Bengal particularly in Calcutta have resulted in Substantial improvement of telephone density in the State. As on 1-4-92 339084 telephone connections were working in West Bengal including 274426 telephone connections in Calcutta Telephones. During the first 3 years (1-4-92 to 31-3-95) of the 8th Plan 150569 new telephone connections have been added in the State including 105981 in Calcutta Telephones resulting in improvement of telephone density from 0.50 to 0.72 per hundred persons in the State as a whole and from 2.514 to 3.485 per hundred persons in Calcutta Telephones taking 1991 Census figures as the base.

During 95-96 about 127400 new telephone connections are planned to be provided in the State (including 90,000 connections in Calcutta Telephones). This will further improve the telephone density in the State.

The revised 8th Plan objectives envisage provision of telephone on demand by 1-4-97.

IPS Officers

549. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned cadre strength of the IPS State-wise as on March 31, 1995;

(b) the deputation reserve, State-wise, included in the above;

(c) the number of officers on deputation as on March 31, 1995 cadre-wise, and State-wise, to the Union Government and to any Central Public Sector Undertaking or any attached or subordinate office of the Central Government as on March 31, 1995; and

(d) whether the Government maintain a balance among various States in this regard in proportion to their cadre strength while drawing upon the deputation reserve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Statement enclosed.

(d) Efforts have always been made to draw officers for Central deputation from all cadres according to their deputation reserve.

STATEMENT

State-wise cadre strength/deputation reserve of Indian Police Service as on 31.3.95.

State/Cadre	Cadre Strength	Auth. CDR	IPS Officers in position on Central deputation
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	183	40	16
AGMU	162	35	25
Assam-Meghalaya	136	30	28
Bihar	250	54	29
Gujarat	133	29	18
Haryana	109	24	21
Himachal Pradesh	72	16	17
Jammu & Kashmir	94	20	6

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	140	30	20
Kerala	121	26	13
Madhya Pradesh	278	60	38
Maharashtra	205	44	29
Manipur-Tripura	105	23	40
Nagaland	49	11	-
Orissa	151	33	19
Punjab	144	31	11
Rajasthan	146	32	13
Sikkim	21	6	4
Tamil Nadu	189	41	19
Uttar Pradesh	395	86	51
West Bengal	254	55	45

TV Station, Sambalpur

550. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the scheme for setting up of a T.V. Station at Sambalpur, Orissa; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Civil works for the proposed Studio and the High Power TV Transmitter at Sambalpur are in progress and action for procurement of equipments and construction of transmitting tower has been initiated.

(b) The TV Studio and the 10 KW High Power TV Transmitter are expected to be ready by the end of 1995 and 1996 respectively.

Telephone Connections in Delhi

551. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections extended during the last six months in Delhi, particularly under Tis Hazari Exchange;

(b) the number of cases where telephones are not in functioning state even though they were installed three month back;

(c) the reasons for such delay; and

(d) the time by which these telephones are likely to be in a functioning state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) sir, 103322 number of connections were opened during last six months i.e. from 01.01.1995 to 30.06.1995 out of which 4188 number of connections were installed in Tis Hazari Exchange;

(b) No specific case of abnormal delay came to notice.

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

Integrated Coal Policy

552. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to formulate an Integrated Coal Policy;

(b) If so, the areas that will be taken care of under the proposed policy;

(c) whether any foreign technology will be acquired to improve the quality of coal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has constituted a high level committee for formulating an integrated coal policy. The terms of reference of the Committee are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) In order to improve the quality of coal, Coal India Limited is in the process of finalising agreement with Indian and foreign parties after inviting bids through global tenders for setting up coal washeries.

STATEMENT

The terms of reference of Committee is given below:

The study is to address to issues for an Integrated Coal Policy for adoption by the Government in the IX and X Plan periods. It would, *inter alia*, incorporate:

A. Broad assessment of demand for coal (coking and non-coking) and Lignite for different sector of the economy in the Ninth and Tenth Plans periods (1997-2007).

1. Power Sector

(a) Power Ministry's estimation of capacity additions with different fuels in power sector for Ninth and Tenth Plans (1997-2007).

(b) Evaluation of relative costs for thermal power generation with different fuels at different representative locations including at pitheads and load centres.

(c) The techno-economics of exercising least-cost options in the choice of deshaled/beneficiated indigenous

coals *vis-a-vis* imported coals/Natural Gas/other fuels for Power Generation, based on delivered price per heat unit and its impact on plant performance and costs of generation, apart from the angle of security of supplies and environmental pollution.

(d) New and emerging clean coal technologies for power generation and the scope for their adoption in the Ninth and Tenth Plans.

2. Steel Sector

(a) What new and emerging technologies for steel making are under implementation-introduction of Coal Dust Injection, Partial Briquetting, Formed coke etc. Making use of non-coking coals-so as to reduce dependence on coking coal? What is the scope of their adoption in the Ninth and Tenth Plans periods?

(b) How does the Steel Sector view the performance of Coking Coal Washeries with particular reference to the quality and quantity of supplies of washed coal to the Steel Plants? Have the Steel plants availed of all possible technological innovations, including improvement in the quality of input of raw materials other than coal?

(c) Is the performance of captive collieries (TISCO's) optimal, having regard to the reserves held by them?

(d) What are the pros and cons of use of imported *vis-a-vis* indigenous coals for steel making and the implications of imports on the Coal/Steel procedures in terms of their commercial interests and the interest of the country?

B. Review of Resources and Availability of Coal and Lignite in the period in the Ninth and Tenth Plans (1997-2007) as made by CMPDI/NLC etc. and their adequacy or otherwise to meet the demands.

a. Approach necessary for ensuring an optimal mix of exploitation of coal through open cast & underground mines for meeting the potential demand.

b. Identification of optimal transportation modes (Railways, Roads, Inland Waterways, etc) for supplying coal to different consumers and availability and augmentation requirements of the infrastructure facilities; strategies necessary for promoting an optimal mix.

c. Environmental issues related to production & utilisation of coal.

C. Investment and related Issues

a. Broad estimate of the investments needed for production of coal, lignite, beneficiation and augmenting infrastructure/transport facilities for meeting the projected demand for coal by 2006-07; adoption of an appropriate policy package so as to attract private investment including

from existing & potential customers both in the private & public sector:

b. Identification of factors responsible for the steadily rising costs to the coal consumer through frequent increases in pithead prices, apart from increases in the rates of Royalty, Railway freight etc; strategies to overcome low productivity, high production costs, delays in sales realisation, accumulated losses and lack of consumer satisfaction; study of the need for restructuring the coal industry including issues relating to greater autonomy, removal of existing price and other controls, disbanding cross-subsidisation through CPRA and exposing the entire organisation to market-based competition;

c. Regulatory measures necessary for promoting appropriate mining practices, for adoption of necessary environment management measures and for safeguarding consumer interests.

Telephone Instruments

553. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is severe scarcity of telephone instruments in the country, if so, the reasons therefore;

(b) whether the MTNL has now stopped replacing old, outdated and particularly, defective telephone instruments;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether the shortage of instruments is on account of the decline in production by Public Sector Undertaking;

(e) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the steps taken to remove the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Not applicable in view of (b) above.

(d) No Sir. There is sufficient production capacity of Telephone Instruments in the country in Private and Public Sector Units.

(e) and (f) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

Upgrading of Post Offices in Bihar

554. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand for upgrading the Branch Post Offices at Baraha (via Benipatti), Semri and Bisfi in Bihar;

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be upgraded;

(c) whether there is any demand for opening of Branch Post Offices under Darbhanga and Madhubani Postal Divisions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. There was demand for upgrading of Baraha (via Benipatti), Semri and Bisfi branch post offices in Madhubani Division.

(b) Details were examined, but there was no justification for upgrading them, according to the norms.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are as under:

Madhubani Division:

Kaparia, Pathrahi, Dharhara, Routania, Durgipatti, Ram Chandra, Chaturbhaj Piprahi.

Darbhanga Division:

Prem Jiwari, Narwinpur, Mahsi, Bansara, Dhunga, Katwasa, Llimabad, Kamarkalan, Tirmohanighat, Jalwar.

(e) Proposals are pending, and will be examined to assess justification according to the norms. Those found justified, will have to wait for their turn according to availability of resources.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies in M.P.

555. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of L.P.G. agencies in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the position of demand and supply of L.P.G. in the State at present;

(c) whether any request has been received from the State Government for opening of new L.P.G. agencies in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these agencies are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 30.6.1995, there were 275 LPG distributorships in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The average demand of LPG in Madhya Pradesh in 13652 MTs per month which is being met in full.

(c) and (d) In order to meet the growing demand of LPG in Madhya Pradesh, in addition to 54 LPG distributorships included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94, selection for which is already underway through OSB (Madhya Pradesh), 104 LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1994-96 for Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Children's Film Complex, Bangalore

556. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: (a) whether the land given on lease by the Bangalore City Corporation for the proposal Children's Film Complex had been cancelled;

(b) if so, whether any other alternate land has given in Bangalore;

(c) whether the construction work has been taken up on the land given;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. DEO): (a) There have been some press reports to this effect but no official communication has been received by the National Centre of Films for Children and Young People (N'CYP).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) An approach road is to be constructed through the land belonging to the Forest Department, Government of Karnataka, to reach the land leased to N'CYP. The construction work will be taken up immediately after, the approach road is constructed on receiving the clearance from the concerned authorities.

Integrated Coal Policy

557. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has constituted a Committee on Integrated Coal Policy recently; and

(b) if so, the terms of reference and the composition of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Terms of reference of committee are given in the enclosed statement.

The composition of committee is given below:

1. Shri K.S.R. Chari	Chairman
2. Secretary, Ministry of Power	Member
3. Secretary, Ministry of Coal	Member
4. Member (Transportation), Rly, Board	Member
5. Chairman Coal India Limited	Member
6. Chairman & Managing Director, NTPC	Member
7. Shri R.G. Mahendru, Former Chairman, CMPDI	Member
8. Adviser (Energy), Planning Commission	Member Secretary

STATEMENT

The terms of reference of the Committee are given below:

The study is to address to issues for an Integrated Coal Policy for adoption by the Government in the IX and X Plan periods. It would, *inter alia*, incorporate:

A. Broad assessment of demand for coal (coking and non-coking) and Lignite for different sector of the economy in the Ninth and Tenth Plans periods (1997-2007).

1. Power Sector

a. Power Ministry's estimation of capacity additions with different fuels in power sector for Ninth and Tenth Plans (1997-2007).

b. Evaluation of relative costs for thermal power generation with different fuels at different representative locations including at pitheads and load centres.

c. The techno-economics of exercising least-cost options in the choice of deshaled/beneficiated indigenous coals *vis-a-vis* imported coals/Natural Gas/other fuels for Power Generation, based on delivered price per heat unit and its impact on plant performance and costs of generation, apart from the angle of security of supplies and environmental pollution.

d. New and emerging clean coal technologies for power generation and the scope for their adoption in the Ninth and Tenth Plans.

2. Steel Sector

a. What new and emerging technologies for steel making are under implementation-introduction of Coal Dust Injection, Partial Briquetting, Formed coke etc. Making use of non-coking coals-so as to reduce dependence on coking coal? What is the scope of their adoption in the Ninth and Tenth Plans periods?

b. How does the Steel Sector view the performance of Coking Coal Washeries with particular reference to the quality and quantity of supplies of washed coal to the Steel Plants? Have the Steel plants availed of the possible technological innovations, including improvement in the quality of input of raw materials other than coal?

c. Is the performance of captive collieries (TISCO's) optimal, having regard to the reserves held by them?

d. What are the pros and cons of use of imported *vis-a-vis* indigenous coals for steel making and the implications of imports on the Coal/Steel producers in terms of their commercial interests and the interest of the country?

B. Review of Resources and Availability of Coal and Lignite in the period in the Ninth and Tenth Plans (1997-2007) as made by CMPDI/NLC etc. and their adequacy or otherwise to meet the demands.

a. Approach necessary for ensuring an optimal mix of exploitation of coal through 'open cast' & 'underground' mines for meeting the potential demand.

b. Identification of optimal transportation modes (Railways, Roads, Inland Waterways, etc) for supplying coal to different consumers and availability and augmentation requirements of the infrastructure facilities; strategies necessary for promoting an optimal mix.

c. Environmental issues related to production & utilisation of coal.

C. Investment and related issues

a. Broad estimate of the investments needed for production of coal, lignite, beneficiation and augmenting infracture/transport facilities for meeting the projected demand for coal by 2006-07; adoption of an appropriate policy package so as to attract private investment including from existing & potential customers both in the private & public sector.

b. Identification of factors responsible for the steadily rising costs to the coal consumer through frequent increases in pithead prices, apart from increases in the rates of Royalty, Railway freight etc.; strategies to overcome low productivity, high production costs, delays in sales realisation, accumulated losses and lack of consumer satisfaction; study of the need for restructuring the coal industry including issues relating to greater autonomy, removal of existing price and other controls, disbanding cross-subsidisation through CPRA and exposing the entire organisation to market-based competition;

c. Regulatory measures necessary for promoting appropriate mining practices, for adoption of necessary environment management measures and for safeguarding consumer interests.

CBI Investigation in Death Case

558. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for CBI investigation in the suspected death case of a Revenue Divisional Officer in Ernakulam district, Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request of the State Government is under consideration.

Visit to China

559. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he paid an official visit to China in July, 1995;

(b) if so, the objectives alongwith the issues discussed with the Chinese leaders; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The visit was organised at the invitation of the Government of Peoples Republic of China. Several issues of common interest were discussed with the Minister for Public Security and the Minister for Supervision, Peoples Republic of China. A meeting was also held with the Prime Minister. These high-level contacts are aimed at achieving long-term stable and good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

Industrial Growth

560. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of industrial growth projected by the Government during this year; and

(b) the steps taken to achieve the projected growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) The Eight Plan (1992-97) aims at average annual industrial growth rate of about 7.5 per cent.

(b) The new industrial policy, *inter alia*, provides for enhancement of investment in industries due to virtual abolition of licensing, liberalisation of foreign investment approvals and foreign technology agreements, reduction of industries exclusively reserved for the public sector, and public sector reforms.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

561. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes to assist the State Governments to augment and harness the water resources in the country;

(b) the allocation made and the amount released to Maharashtra and Goa, separately, for each of the schemes during the last three years and the current year so far;

(c) the performance of these schemes in the above States; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure effective implementation of these schemes?

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

(a) A Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme is being operated by the Ministry of Water Resources to assist State Governments to augment and harness the water resources in the country;

(b) Statewise allocation of funds is not made, however, the releases of Central assistance is done to states on the basis of performance of various Command area development activities. Central assistance provided during the last three years i.e. from 1992-93 to 1994-95 to Maharashtra and Goa states is given in the statement below:-

		Rs. in Lakhs		
Name of the Scheme	State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Command Area Development Programme	Goa	79.04	90.37	42.66
	Maharashtra	1315.13	704.54	1731.62

(c) In the states of Goa and Maharashtra releases of Central assistance for the period from 1992-93 to 1994-95 has been Rs. 212.07 lakhs and Rs. 3751.29 lakhs for the programme respectively. The physical progress under core components of the programmes i.e. field channels and warabandi has been about 68.0 thousand hectares and 34.0 thousand hectare for the last three years (from 1992-93 to 1994-95) respectively in Maharashtra and 2.70 thousand hectares and 4.10 thousand hectares in Goa for these activities respectively.

(d) To ensure effective implementation, monitoring of the programme is being intensified through the field formations of the Central Water Commission and private agencies besides involving farmers in irrigation water management.

[Translation]

Drug Addition

562. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drug-addiction in various parts of the country is increasing constantly;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by the Government to check it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government through the help of voluntary organisations have set up Drug Awareness Counselling and Assistance Centres and Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres to provide Counselling, Treatment and Rehabilitation Services to Drug Addicts all over the country. In addition, a nation wide multi media awareness campaign has been launched for drug demand reduction and to educate the people about drug abuse prevention.

Employment Oriented Schemes

563. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has issued directives to various Ministries/Departments to formulate employment oriented schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of persons likely to get employment in the next two years as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (c) Guidelines issued by the Planning commission to various Ministries/Departments for formulating the Annual Plans emphasised, among other things, the need to keep in view the policies and strategies envisaged in the Eighth Plan to achieve the employment goals of the Plan. The Planning Commission have also reviewed the progress of policies and programmes in different sectors having a bearing on employment with various concerned Ministries.

Estimates of additional employment opportunities likely to be created in the next two years have not been made.

Sixth Schedule

564. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the sixth schedule of Constitution in tribal areas according to the constitution; and

(b) if so, the States where sixth schedule is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) The Sixth Schedule at present already applies to the specified tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

[English]

Alcohol Consumption

565. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have appointed a Committee of Secretaries to study ways and means to reduce alcohol consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring any legislation to curb liquor consumption; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Human Rights Commission

[Translation]

566. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases regarding violation of human rights registered with the 'Human Rights Commission' during 1995 so far; and

(b) the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) National Human Rights Commission registered 5273 cases from January to 15 July, 1995.

(b) Of the above, 4840 cases have been considered by the Commission. Out of these, 1907 cases were dismissed in limini, 1410 cases were disposed of with directions to the authorities concerned to take appropriate action at their end, and in 1523 cases, reports have been called for from the concerned authorities. 433 cases are under consideration of the Commission.

Increase in LPG and Petrol Prices

567. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petrol and LPG have recently increased in Delhi;

(b) if so, the extent to which the prices of LPG and petrol have been increased;

(c) the reasons for such increase; and

(d) the number of times prices of petrol and LPG have been increased during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) The ex-storage price of LPG (domestic-packed) and Petrol (MS-87) was last increased by the Government in January 1994 and February 1994 respectively as in the current prices of petroleum products, the full cost of operation involving exploration, production, processing and marketing were not being recovered.

The revised ex-storage prices of these products are given below:

Product	Unit	Price Rs.	Effective date
LPG (Domestic packed)	MT	5840.11	14.1.94
Petrol (MS-87)	KL	15413.21	2.2.94

(d) During the last three years the Government has increased the ex-storage prices of these two products only on 2 occasions i.e. on 16.9.1992 and in January/February, 1994.

Telephones in Villages in M.P.

568. DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures undertaken to set up telecommunication network in rural areas and to keep it operational; and

(b) the number of villages in each district of Madhya Pradesh which are linked by telecommunication network and the number of them operational as on June, 30, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The following measures have been undertaken to set up telecommunication network in rural areas and to keep it operational :-

(i) Indigenously developed MARR equipment of latest technology is being inducted in the net-work for provision of telephone & telegraph facilities.

(ii) In order to reduce dependence on erratic power supply in rural areas, solar energy is being used.

(iii) Electronic telephone exchanges of tropical finish, which can operate without airconditioners, are being opened at places where the registered paid demand reaches 10 or more.

(iv) Small capacity transmission systems are being installed for providing connectivity to the telephone exchanges.

(v) Routine maintenance is being carried out through trained staff.

(b) As on 30.6.1995, 26121 villages of Madhya Pradesh have been linked by public telephone network put of which 23810 are operational. District-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

*District-wise details of 26121 villages of
Madhya Pradesh linked by Public Telephone
Network upto 30.6.1995.*

Sl. No.	District	No. of villages linked by Public Telephone Network	No. of village telephones in operation.
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1	2	3	4
1.	Balaghat	548	533
2.	Bastar	972	767
3.	Betul	654	632
4.	Bhind	352	333
5.	Bhopal	253	249
6.	Bilaspur	1249	1021
7.	Chhatarpur	392	374
8.	Ghhindwara	793	747
9.	Damoh	328	311
10.	Datia	256	240
11.	Dewas	458	429
12.	Dhar	512	480
13.	Durg	580	428
14.	Guna	731	716
15.	Gwalior	572	548
16.	Hoshangabad	752	737
17.	Indore	388	388
18.	Jabalpur	1048	1037
19.	Jhabua	414	371
20.	Khandwa	749	718
21.	Khargone	972	954
22.	Mandla	467	450
23.	Mandsour	619	570
24.	Morona	692	669
25.	Narsinghpur	426	406
26.	Panna	174	152
27.	Raigarh	805	673
28.	Raipur	1375	1214
29.	Raisen	590	518

1	2	3	4
30.	Rajgarh	642	559
31.	Rajnandgaon	531	453
32.	Ratlam	516	464
33.	Rewa	360	308
34.	Sagar	759	739
35.	Sarguja	333	169
36.	Satna	421	370
37.	Schore	424	417
38.	Sconi	462	444
39.	Shahdol	420	300
40.	Shajapur	661	575
41.	Shivpuri	500	488
42.	Sidhi	353	330
43.	Tikamgarh	311	296
44.	Ujjain	686	644
45.	Vidisha	621	562
Total		26121	23810

Incident of Bagia Restaurant

569. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

SHRI RABI RAY:

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations have been made in the recent murder case of a lady and burning of her body in the Tandoor of Bagiya Restaurant in the premises of Ahsok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi;

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

(c) the details of the persons found involved in this case; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P M SAYEED) (a) to (d) A case was registered vide FIR No. 486/95 on July 3, 1995 at the Police Station Connaught Place, New Delhi under Sections 302/201/212/34 IPC following the discovery of an attempt to burn the body of a young woman in the Tandoor at Bagia Restaurant of the Ashoka Yatri Niwas in New Delhi. As a consequence of investigations into the case conducted by the Delhi Police, a chargesheet under the aforesaid provisions of the IPC was filed by the Delhi Police on July 28, 1995 in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi against the following accused persons -

- (i) Shri Sushil Sharma
S/o Shri Indermani Sharma
- (ii) Shri Keshav Kumar,
S/o Shri Chiranjil Lal
- (iii) Shri Jai Prakash
S/o Shri Ram Pal
- (iv) Shri Rishi Raj,
S/o Shri Jeet Ram Rath
- (v) Shri Ram Prakash
S/o Shri Hans Raj

Smuggling of Arms

570 SHRI DATTA MEGHE Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

- (a) the number of persons taken into custody for smuggling illegal arms and ammunition into the country through sea during each of the last two years,
- (b) the quantum of arms and ammunition seized from them, and
- (c) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[English]

Irrigated Land

571 SHRI K G SHIVAPPA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

- (a) the national average of irrigated land,
- (b) the percentage of irrigated land in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu,
- (c) whether the percentage of irrigated land differ from State to State,

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) According to the latest Land Use Statistics (1991-92), the national average of irrigated land (estimated in terms of Net irrigated area to Culturable area) is 26.5%. The Percentages of irrigated land in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are 17.9, 27.4 and 31.1 respectively

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The percentage of irrigated land differs from state to state as the factors contributing to the creation of irrigation capacity, including the financial constraints, availability of water resources and culturable land, topography, etc., differ from state to state

(e) With a view to increase the percentage of irrigated land, thrust is laid on (i) early completion of on-going major & medium irrigation projects (ii) priority for speedy completion of a large number of ongoing surface water minor irrigation schemes, (iii) conjunctive use of surface and ground water, and (iv) greater user's participation in major and medium irrigation projects

[Translation]

Transfer of Telephones in Delhi

572 SHRI LALLBABU RAI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

- (a) the number of applications for transfer of telephones received from Members of Parliament by M T N L, Delhi during the last three years,
- (b) the number of applications accepted,
- (c) whether any violation of transfer policy has been noticed,
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the action taken or proposed

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

[English]

Telephones in M.T.N.L.

573 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

- (a) whether licences have been issued to private

companies for providing telephone connections under privatisation programme of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the claims made by these companies are genuine depicted in advertisements published in leading newspapers of Delhi from time to time.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the charges for providing telephone connections by private companies differ from those being charged by MTNL; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Such Advertisements are misleading. A public notice clarifying the position of MTNL vis-a-vis the advertisers has been published in the Newspapers.

(e) and (f) : The Government has formulated a scheme for operation of Indialling Group EPABXs by private parties under franchises in Multistorey buildings. The users will be given an extension of indialling EPABX which will be allotted a Directory number. The Charges for such DID extension will be different from DELs provided by MTNL.

Command Area Development Programme

574. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to channelise the plan allocation under the Command Area Development Programme through the Command Area Development Boards with farmers' association; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) An Advisory Committee on the Command Area Development Programme, under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister (Water Resources & Parliamentary Affairs), had advised in its first meeting in June, 1994 that Command Area Development Boards be formed. The Minister (WR & PA) has written to the Chief Ministers of states that in future, plan funds would be given directly to Command Area Development Boards and that action be initiated for

formation of Command Area Development Boards and Farmers' Associations. Response of the states is awaited.

Production of Heavy Oil

575. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions were held with Canada recently to allow India access to technology and know how in producing heavy oil; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Alberta Research Council, Canada governed by State of Alberta has expressed its readiness to provide technical assistance in development of India's heavy oil reserves.

Doordarshan Network in Gujarat

576. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Gujarat which are not covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation for bringing more areas in the State under Doordarshan network; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available throughout the country, including the entire State of Gujarat, by using an appropriate dish antenna system, terrestrial transmission is also available, wholly or partially, to all districts of Gujarat covering an estimated 69.7% area of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Thirty one TV transmitters of varying powers are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in Gujarat. With the commissioning of these projects, the terrestrial TV service is expected to increase to 95.3% area of the State.

[Translation]

Channel for Youth

577. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a new Channel of Doordarshan for youths;

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

(c) the time by which the said channel is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. Not at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Irrigation Capacity

578. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total irrigation capacity generated in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to start some new irrigation projects in State to increase irrigation capacity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the irrigation capacity is likely to be increased during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total anticipated irrigation potential (capacity) generated in Gujarat during 1994-95 is 50,340 hectares.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An increase in irrigation potential (capacity) of approximately 1,37,000 hectares is planned to be created by the Government of Gujarat during the next three years.

Appointments in Delhi Home Guards

579. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have banned the appointments in all the ranks of Delhi Home Guards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Further enrolment in Delhi Home Guards has been stopped with effect from the last week of June, 1995 by the Government of NCT Delhi. This has been done in view of detection of irregularities in the enrolment of Home Guards and because the strength of Home Guards in Delhi is considered to be adequate.

WAKF Properties

580. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Wakf properties in the hands of the DDA and LDO which were to be transferred to the Delhi Wakf Board as recommended by the Burney Committee;

(b) the reasons for the delay in the transfer;

(c) the legal steps taken by the Government for the repeal of the Stay Order on the transfer, during 1994-95;

(d) the particulars of the other Wakf properties in Delhi which are under unlawful occupation; and

(e) the brief particulars of other Wakf properties in Delhi which are under occupation by the various Government Departments and their attached or subordinate offices?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the concerned Deptt, the Government has filed a reply to the petition filed by Indraprastha Vishwa Hindu Parishad in the High Court of Judicature, Delhi. The case has not been listed although the Government Counsel has been requested to move the Hon'ble Court for an early hearing.

(d) and (e) Information is being collected.

[Translation]

Complaints against Petrol Retail Outlets and LPG Agencies

581. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against petro retail outlet owners and LPG distributors;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of complaints on which action has been taken during the above period; and

(d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Some complaints have been received against retail outlet dealers and LPG distributors.

(b) and (c) The time and efforts involved in the

collection and compilation of the requisite data will not be commensurate with the objective sought to be achieved.

(d) In order to curb the malpractices/irregularities, the Oil Industry has evolved the Marketing Discipline Guidelines with the approval of the Government, under which regular/surprise inspections are carried out by the officers of the Oil Company, joint industry teams and mobile laboratories. Density checks under the MS/HSD Control Order and furlural doping of kerosene are done to check adulteration of MS/diesel. Inspections are also conducted by officials of State Government enforcement agencies.

The marketing discipline guidelines have been revised and made more stringent. Action such as issue of warning, suspension of sales and supplies, imposition of fines and termination of the dealership/distributorship, is taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines, in proven cases of malpractices/irregularities.

[*English*]

Prices of Coal

582. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether after nationalisation of the Coal Industry, the price of coal is being reviewed and fixed by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP);

(b) whether BICP has submitted its final report;

(c) if so, the details of the interim report;

(d) the parameters followed by BICP in fixing and reviewing the coal prices;

(e) whether these parameters are objectively followed in reviewing and fixing the coal prices from time to time;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) In December, 1981, the Government asked BICP to undertake a comprehensive study of coal industry including coal prices. The report of the study was made available in 1983. Prices of coal were revised in 1984 in accordance with the recommendation of BICP. BICP undertook a second study of coal industry in 1985 and coal prices from 1987 onwards are being revised in accordance with the recommendations of this second study report.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) BICP have undertaken their third comprehensive study of coal industry since 1991 on various aspects including pricing of coal. Their interim recommendations,

received in 1992 mainly relate to coal pricing besides grading, environmental problems etc.

(d) to (g) The main cost components considered by BICP in their last report for fixation of coal prices include wages, costs of inputs, interest, depreciation and pre-tax return. Changes in these components have been linked to various indices of actuals for working out increases in coal prices and as such the increases are based on objective criteria.

Allocation of Natural Gas

583. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for allocation of natural gas by the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL).

(b) whether GAIL has not been allocating gas to the new applicants for the last few years;

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

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve availability of gas in the country and ensure its allocation to all the eligible applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Allocations of natural gas are made by the Government. These are based generally on the Imputed Economic Value of gas use, preference being given to power/fertilizer sectors.

(b) and (c) Apart from fallback allocations and allocations from isolated pools, no new allocations have been granted recently as the gas projected to be available is fully allocated.

(d) Steps taken to increase the production of gas include additional development of existing fields, development of new fields and enhanced exploratory efforts. The Government is also exploring the possibility of importing gas from Oman, Iran and other countries.

[*Translation*]

Atrocities on Women

584. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of atrocities on women and minor girls are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years, upto July, 1995, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed by the Government to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Available information on the incidence of crimes against women during 1993 and 1994 is given in the enclosed statement I and II.

The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes against women is the responsibility of

the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Government of India have initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. Apart from legislative changes in the relevant facts, instructions/guidelines have also been issued from time to time to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crimes against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. Awareness generation camps are being organised. The Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWACRA) Programme and the female literacy programme are some of the other steps being taken to improve the status of women.

STATEMENT-I

Incidence of Crimes committed against Women during 1993. (State & UT-Wise)

Sl No.	State/UT	Rape	Kidnapping and Abduction	Dowry Deaths	Cruelty by Husband and his Relatives	Molestation	Eve Teasing (Revention) Act	Immoral Traffic Act	Sati Prevention Act	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
States:										
1.	Andhra Pradesh	827	538	575	2053	1899	2451	693	0	9028
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29	7	0	3	20	0	0	0	59
3.	Assam	508	684	19	209	146	5	0	0	1491
4.	Bihar	775	273	338	356	145	9	10	0	1906
5.	Goa	13	18	2	16	27	17	49	0	142
6.	Gujarat	266	515	114	1428	850	258	4	2	3437
7.	Haryana	189	180	166	293	276	536	13	2	1655
8.	Himachal Pradesh	87	185	18	168	257	22	0	0	729
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	136	356	20	3	185	207	29	0	936
10.	Karnataka	220	276	266	1153	930	157	1923	0	4925
11.	Kerala	168	145	10	381	468	19	66	0	1257
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2486	904	370	1500	5572	546	87	0	11465
13.	Maharashtra	1107	903	746	6746	2996	1415	403	0	14416
14.	Manipur	5	71	0	1	30	0	1	0	108
15.	Meghalaya	21	2	0	1	19	0	0	0	43
16.	Mizoram	32	2	0	0	44	0	0	0	78
17.	Nagaland	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
18.	Orissa	372	274	254	201	910	120	5	0	2136
19.	Punjab	87	108	147	41	15	7	8	0	408
20.	Rajasthan	890	2303	369	1984	1587	27	111	1	7272
21.	Sikkim	4	6	0	0	18	0	0	0	28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
22.	Tamil Nadu	186	330	79	254	680	942	6031	0	8502
23.	Tripura	69	51	5	41	100	0	0	0	266
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1754	2403	1952	2905	2416	2618	168	0	14216
25.	West Bengal	740	709	256	2187	1074	12	32	0	5010
Total (States)		10971	11156	5706	21916	20664	19363	9733	5	89514
Union Territories:										
26.	A & N Islands	3	4	0	14	27	9	0	0	57
27.	Chandigarh	4	27	3	11	14	23	0	0	82
28.	D & N Haveli	0	2	1	4	3	0	0	0	10
29.	Daman & Diu	1	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	6
30.	Delhi	255	641	107	113	259	2107	131	0	3613
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	0	6	0	3	17	507	83	0	624
Total (UTS)		271	681	111	148	321	2646	214	0	4392
Total (All-India)		11242	11837	5817	22064	20985	12009	9947	5	93906

Note: Figures are based on monthly crime statistics and may be treated as provisional.

STATEMENT II

Incidence of Crimes committed against Women during 1994

(State and UT-Wise)

Sl No.	State/UT	Rape	Kidnapping and Abduction	Dowry Deaths	Cruelty by Husband and his Relatives	Molestation	Eve Teasion	Importing of Girls (Upto 21 Yrs)	Sati Prevention Act	I.T.P. Act	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
States:												
1.	Andhra Pradesh	854	571	396	2295	2185	3710	6	0	264	38	10319
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28	25	0	3	28	1	0	0	0	0	85
3.	Assam	441	600	13	293	184	13	1	0	0	0	1545
4.	Bihar	823	524	296	483	432	75	3	0	8	129	2773
5.	Goa	7	9	0	16	21	11	0	0	15	0	79
6.	Gujarat	290	620	105	1563	1017	97	34	1	3	45	3775
7.	Haryana	198	240	191	351	356	426	3	0	1	13	1779
8.	Himachal Pradesh	110	178	4	140	286	19	0	0	0	0	737
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	123	299	1	11	237	213	0	0	0	0	884
10.	Karnataka	279	320	170	1159	1159	94	0	0	2013	88	5282
11.	Kerala	193	105	9	550	679	3	0	0	54	16	1609

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2801	971	354	1815	6362	1158	23	0	4	21	13509
13.	Maharashtra	1275	912	519	7105	3007	541	41	0	163	5	13568
14.	Manipur	6	67	0	1	8	0	0	0	4	0	86
15.	Meghalaya	32	14	0	0	11	0	0	0	1	0	58
16.	Mizoram	37	8	0	1	32	0	0	0	0	0	78
17.	Nagaland	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
18.	Orissa	364	220	169	361	955	122	2	0	8	11	2212
19.	Punjab	108	112	117	87	60	8	21	1	1	5	520
20.	Rajasthan	1050	2276	298	2277	1364	49	28	0	26	1	7369
21.	Sikkim	8	4	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	43
22.	Tamil Nadu	265	441	83	247	935	1195	3	0	4825	17	8011
23.	Tripura	61	32	6	45	95	0	11	0	0	0	240
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2021	2860	1977	3943	2891	2216	0	0	0	240	15914
25.	West Bengal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total (States)		11375	11410	4710	22746	22336	9951	166	2	7306	369	90481
Union Territories:												
26.	A & N Islands	4	4	1	3	18	5	0	0	0	0	35
27.	Chandigarh	9	41	3	14	17	40	0	0	0	0	124
28.	D & N Haveli	2	5	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	15
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	261	741	132	136	291	116	1	0	102	0	1780
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	5	6	4	3	18	367	0	0	15	0	418
Total (UTs)		281	797	140	163	345	528	1	0	117	0	2372
Total (All India)		11656	12207	4850	22909	22681	10479	167	2	7513	369	92853

Note: 1. Figures are based on monthly crime statistics and may be treated as provisional.

2. NA Stands for not available.

Unremunerative Coal Mines

585. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several mines in the country functioning under the Coal India Limited and public sector organisations, are unremunerative;

(b) if so, the details of those mines which were unremunerative during 1994-95;

(c) the number of the mines which are not producing coal at present;

(d) whether the Government have made efforts to revive the closed down mines so as to make them profitable during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details of those mines, and

(f) the average annual loss suffered by these organisations due to these unremunerative and closed mines during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Out of 498 mines of Coal India Limited that were being worked during 1994-95, 254 mines were found to be unremunerative. The details of these mines are as under:

Name of Company	No. of Unremunerative Mines
1	2
ECL	96
BCCL	69
CCL	31
NCL	1
WCL	31
SECL	17
MCL	6
NEC	3
Total	254

(c) At present 30 mines are not producing coal.

(d) and (e) The Coal India Limited are making efforts to revive 30 mines, the company-wise break-up of which is given below :-

Name of Company	No. of Mines
ECL	11
BCCL	10
CCL	8
WCL	1
Total	30

(f) The average annual loss incurred/profit earned by these mines during 1994-95 will be known only after completion of audit of accounts.

Information from the other public sector organisations in regard to parts (a) to (f) of the question is being obtained and will be laid on the table of the House.

Flood Control

586. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the heavy floods in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh last year due to the release of water at Bhainsa Lotan in Main Gandak canal by Nepal;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to find out a permanent solution of this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The planning and execution of flood control schemes are primarily the responsibilities of the State Government. The Centre renders assistance in works that are technical and promotional in nature. There has been no report from Government of Uttar Pradesh on the flooding last year in the Deoria district due to release of water in Main Gandak Canal.

Coal Management Institute

587. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose for establishing the Indian Coal Management Institute at Ranchi;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(c) the details pertaining to employment including officers and employees made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Objectives of establishing the Indian Institute of Coal Management are as follows:

1. Assess training and learning needs of the organisation.
2. Prepare need-based industry-specific learning curriculum modules and course studies for imparting the same throughout industry, so as to ensure uniform development of all employees of Coal India Limited.
3. Organise distance learning.
4. Develop distance learning modules.
5. Develop industry-specific case studies for use in the management development programmes.
6. Conduct research in Management processes and provide input to the industry, for improving its functioning.
7. Arrange workshops, seminars and conferences, both national and international, on important issues industry is confronting and on matters on which growth of industry is dependent.
8. Provide interventions for working out solutions for the units of CIL whether performance in one area or the other is not at planned level.
9. Oversee the development of supervisors and workmen.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the construction of the main infrastructure of the Institute was Rs. 19.80 crores.

(c) No recruitment has been made for the Institute. However, 25 executives and 17 non-executives have been drawn from various subsidiaries of Coal India for the Institute.

*[English]***Guidelines for Advertisements/Films on T.V.**

588. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fresh guidelines have been issued in respect of advertisements and films shown on the Television;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Plan Targets of States

589. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has expressed serious concern at the failure of the State Governments to raise targeted resources to finance their respective development programmes during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the States which have failed to meet the Plan targets;

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce the allotment of funds to these States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have directed the State Governments to take steps to meet the Plan targets set up by the Planning Commission before finalising the draft plan aid of the States; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of approved Plan outlays, State's own resources and Central support and also actual Plan expenditure, State's own resources and Central support for first three years (1992-95) of the Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 are indicated in the enclosed Statements I to III.

(c) No, Sir. Allocations of Central Plan assistance to the States have been made according to the formula approved by the National Development Council in December, 1991.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Since shortfalls in Plan expenditure in case of States arise from their inability to raise resources as per their commitments, they have been advised, from time to time, to step up resource mobilisation efforts, improve the working of State level public enterprises, effect economy in non-plan revenue expenditure, improve collections of small savings etc., to avoid shortfalls in plan expenditure.

STATEMENT-I

Approved Outlay/Plan Expenditure State's own Resources and Central Support: 1992-93

(Rs. crores at current prices)

States	Annual Plan			Actual *		
	Originally Approved Outlay	State's own Resources	Central Support	Plan Expenditure	State's own Resources	Central Support
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Special Category						
1. Arunachal Pradesh	245.00	0.00 (-32.80)	245.00@	233.61	4.21	280.11
2. Assam	960.00	0.00 (-650.55)	960.00	655.44	-462.01	1007.28
3. Himachal Pradesh	486.00	90.00 (-266.78)	396.00	490.98	-177.66	378.32

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Jammu & Kahsmir		820.00	0.00 (-704.38)	820.00	620.00	-920.58	867.03
5. Manipur		210.00	2.04 (-62.91)	207.96	170.95	-113.10	207.13
6. Meghalaya		241.00	23.47 (-54.79)	217.53	198.98	-50.00	195.70
7. Mizoram		160.00	1.81 (-42.86)	158.19	165.17	-33.08	167.93
8. Nagaland		185.00	0.00 (-177.91)	185.00	110.55	-187.65	206.45
9. Sikkim		110.00	1.10 (41.36)	108.90	102.53	-20.09	108.87
10. Tripura		282.00	19.36 (-168.73)	262.64	217.94	-156.88	244.28
Total : A		3699.00	137.78 (-2203.07)	3561.22	2966.15	-2116.84	3663.10

B. Non-Special Category

1. Andhra Pradesh	1660.00	305.17	1354.83	2364.04	718.45	1682.96
2. Bihar	2202.73	574.25	1628.48	1149.18	-660.20	1448.15
3. Goa	152.50	81.77	70.73	141.96	94.68	67.43
4. Gujarat	1875.00	1124.79	750.21	1939.75	1541.63	840.86
5. Haryana	830.00	427.61	402.39	748.36	351.04	400.26
6. Karnataka	1915.00	1056.65	858.35	1971.41	1373.64	813.86
7. Kerala	913.00	85.68	827.32	825.32	-37.18	819.87
8. Madhya Pradesh	2400.00	1181.12	1218.88	1992.03	662.49	1316.66
9. Maharashtra	3160.00	2025.58	1134.42	3372.80	3470.26	1114.08
10. Orissa	1405.00	240.56	1164.44	1054.33	24.11	885.05
11. Punjab	1500.00	-619.19	2119.19	885.30	96.53	922.12
12. Rajasthan	1400.00	369.01	1030.99	1406.67	430.65	1029.71
13. Tamilnadu	1751.00	295.60	1455.40	1934.59	597.18	1337.96
14. Uttar Pradesh	3853.00	12.42	3840.58	3457.61	-253.99	3308.79
15. West Bengal	1501.00	-145.81	1648.81	881.59	-143.96	1138.71
Total : B	26518.23	7015.21	19505.02	24124.94	8265.33	17126.47
C. Grand-Total (A+B)	30217.23	7152.99	23066.24	27091.09	6148.49	20789.57

Parentheses figures relate to total state resources (including negative balance from current revenues etc not included in plan funding).

⊕ Excluding Rs. 13.85 crores left to cover non-plan gap.

* Gap in resources corresponding to Plan expenditure set through ways & means advances (including overdrafts) from Reserve Bank of India.

STATEMENT-II*Approved Outlay/Plan Expenditure, State's own Resources and Central Support: 1993-94*

(Rs. crores at current prices)

States	Originally Approved Outlay	Annual Plan		Plan Expenditure	Pre-Actual *	
		State's own Resources	Central Support		State's own Resources	Central Support
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Special Category						
1. Arunachal Pradesh	290.00	1.25 (-24.36)	288.75	262.14	3.99	279.51
2. Assam	1027.00	-118.07	1145.07	862.19	-561.38	1166.43
3. Himachal Pradesh	560.00	96.00 (-239.60)	464.00	570.73	-272.80	417.14
4. Jammu & Kashmir	880.00	0.00 (-683.38)	880.00	653.74	1067.44	1110.80
5. Manipur	230.00	3.40 (-75.88)	226.60	174.34	81.841	267.30s
6. Meghalaya	281.00	14.00 (-55.10)	267.00	195.99	-111.68	245.86
7. Mizoram	185.00	2.50 (-22.56)	182.50	174.39	-81.84	267.30
8. Nagaland	203.50	1.38 (-173.47)	202.12	163.84	-193.02	289.18
9. Sikkim	120.00	1.21 (-48.84)	118.79	121.62	-33.72	118.32
10. Tripura	310.00	21.68 (-164.29)	288.32	224.18	-78.30	250.01
Total : A	4086.50	23.35 (-1605.55)	4063.15	3403.13	-2457.13	4357.46

B. Non-Special Category

1. Andhra Pradesh	1851.00	234.58	1616.42	2867.46	763.36	2142.61
2. Bihar	2300.00	498.40	1801.60	811.70	-949.62	1649.46
3. Goa	170.00	107.35	62.65	147.94	96.44	55.88
4. Gujarat	2137.00	1358.13	778.87	1930.86	703.77	905.49
5. Haryana	920.00	395.80	524.20	806.82	411.31	371.43
6. Karnataka	3025.00	2139.10	885.90	2796.95	1610.36	1156.51

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
7. Kerala		1000.00	46.63	953.37	1013.06	156.69	880.87
8. Madhya Pradesh		2400.00	1106.53	1293.47	2235.88	751.23	1544.92
9. Maharashtra		3804.00	2587.76	1216.24	3778.08	2641.14	1465.09
10. Orissa		1450.00	236.86	1213.14	1094.74	43.20	944.35
11. Punjab		1250.00	-146.68	1396.68	1142.68	-310.64	1318.34
12. Rajasthan		1700.00	571.90	1128.10	1743.32	464.02	1230.08
13. Tamilnadu		2101.00	545.02	1555.98	2234.45	946.89	1611.24
14. Uttar Pradesh		4050.00	-192.95	4242.95	3249.58	-474.33	3148.56
15. West Bengal		1550.00	-96.71	1646.71	1217.00	-228.42	1238.09
Total : B		29708.72	9391.72	20316.28	7070.52	6625.40	19662.92
C. Grand-Total (A+B)		33794.50	9415.07	24379.43	30473.65	4168.27	24020.38

Paretheses figures relate to total state resources (including negative balance from current revenues etc. not included in plan funding).

* Gap in resources corresponding to Plan expenditure set through ways & means advances (including overdrafts) from Reserve Bank of India

STATEMENT-III

Approved Outlay/Plan Expenditure, State's own Resources and Central Support: 1994-95

(Rs. crores at current prices)

States	Annual Plan			Latest Estimates *		
	Originally Approved Outlay	State's own Resources	Central Support	Revised Outlay	State's own Resources	Central Support
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

A. Special Category

1. Arunachal Pradesh	335.00	3.00	332.00	333.00	-1.19	334.70
2. Assam	1051.00	-154.88	1205.88	997.20	-654.18	1193.18
3. Himachal Pradesh	650.00	211.84	438.16	666.32	-546.44	418.48
4. Jammu & Kashmir	950.00	0.00@	950.00	868.00	-1408.67	1649.00
5. Manipur	240.00	-30.00	270.00	214.50	-52.95	247.90
6. Meghalaya	281.00	-27.09	308.09	232.12	-64.80	234.12
7. Mizoram	207.66	-18.08	225.74	202.53	-81.72	210.74

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8. Nagaland		220.00	-32.50	252.50	84.39	-196.59	259.75
9. Sikkim		135.00	-16.00	151.00	135.00	-52.79	147.77
10. Tripura		310.00	-31.03	341.03	244.57	-64.86	278.03
Total : A		4379.66	-94.74@	4474.40	3977.63	-3124.19	4973.67

B. non-Special Category

1. Andhra Pradesh	2130.00	-60.59	2190.59	2170.00	-272.34	2282.71
2. Bihar	2400.00	331.95	2068.05	900.00	-961.83	1940.05
3. Goa	182.00	104.36	77.64	163.38	82.48	81.00
4. Gujarat	2240.00	1363.78	876.22	2240.83	596.56	878.44
5. Haryana	1025.00	371.71	653.29	1019.05	302.26	553.29
6. Karnataka	3275.00	2094.95	1180.05	2800.00	1951.80	1186.93
7. Kerala	1260.00	214.41	1045.59	1260.60	180.84	1095.59
8. Madhya Pradesh	2750.00	1154.92	1595.08	2253.29	22.75	1500.46
9. Maharashtra	4400.00	2872.56	1527.44	4758.00	3352.51	1887.44
10. Orissa	1951.00	639.57	1311.43	1464.18	-39.48	1209.04
11. Punjab	1450.00	308.00	1142.00	1374.46	-162.49	1193.61
12. Rajasthan	2450.00	1008.54	1441.46	2450.00	903.65	1441.46
13. Tamilnadu	2750.00	738.70	2011.30	2750.75	672.67	2011.30
14. Utter Pradesh	4562.00	-114.07	4676.07	3639.84	-1792.04	4780.74
15. West Bengal	1706.00	-44.20	1750.20	1483.31	-179.82	1547.81
Total : B	34531.00	10984.59	23546.41	30727.69	4657.52	23589.87
C. Grand-Total (A+B)	38910.65	10889.85	28020.81	34705.32	1533.33	28563.54

Paretheses figures relate to total state resources (including negative balance from current revenues etc. not included in plan funding),

* Gap in resources corresponding to revised outlay met through additional resources mobilisation economy in non-plan expenditure and ways & means advances (including overdraft) from Reserve Bank of India

@ Excluding (-) Rs. 656.77 crores of Jammu & Kashmir which was not included in Plan Resources.

Siltage in Nagarjuna Sagar Dam

590. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has undertaken any study about the siltage in Nagarjuna Sagar dam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the annual siltage has been noticed by the Central Water Commission?

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

(a) No, Sir.

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

Irrigation Projects

591. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) since when these projects are pending alongwith the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for the early clearance of pending projects; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). 17 major Irrigation projects and 10 medium irrigation projects have been submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to Central Water Commission for clearance. Out of these, 10 major and 8 medium irrigation projects have been sent back to the State for resubmission of modified proposals after compliance of observations of Central Appraising Agencies. A Statement giving details of 7 major and 2 medium irrigation schemes of Andhra Pradesh pending clearance is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The clearance of a project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of various Central Appraising Agencies and obtains forest/ environment/rehabilitation and resettlement plans clearances as applicable. The projects are pending clearance due to want of compliance by State Government to observations of various Central Appraising Agencies. The State Government is persued regularly to expedite compliance. The Chairman C.W.C. also held a meeting with the officials of the State Government on 16.3.95 to review the status of appraisal of Major and Medium Irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh. Minister of State for water Resources also held a meeting with the Chief Minister (Andhra Pradesh) on 17.6.1995 at Hyderabad for the same.

STATEMENT*Details of New Major & Medium Irrigation Schemes of Andhra Pradesh:*

Name of the Project	Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. crores)	Benefits (Hectares/MW)	Date of Receipt in CWC	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
MAJOR				
1. Jurala	204.75	47,840	9/80	Accepted by the Advisory Committee in 4/88 subject to environment clearance. Environment clearance has been given by the Ministry of Environment & Forest in 4/94. The State Government is required to submit updated cost estimate.
2. Vamsadhara Stage II	410.74	50,960	3/79	Accepted by the Advisory Committee in 12/91 subject to environment & forest clearances, clearance of Ministry of Welfare on Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plans. The State is required to obtain clearances and resolve the submergence issue with Orissa Government based of mathematical model study recently done by CWC.

1	2	3	4	5
3. Yeleru	335.34	27,360	1/93	Accepted by the Advisory Committee in 3/93 subject to environment and forest clearances, clearance of Ministry of Welfare for rehabilitation and resettlement plan and resolving the issue of charging of water rate for industrial water supply.
4. Telugu Ganga	1120.00	1,99,000	12/83	Consideration deferred by the Advisory Committee in 4/88 due to non-resolution of inter-state issues.
5. Publichintala	268.64	No additional benefit (irrigation) but 60 MW power proposed	7/93	Comments on irrigation planning, foundation engineering and hydrology aspects have been sent to State Government for compliance.
6. Flood Flow Canal from Sriramsagar	1334.00	89,030	12/93	Comments on irrigation planning, hydrology, embankment, barrage & canals design and construction machinery planning aspects have been sent to State Government for compliance.
7. Modernisation of Kurnool-Cuddapah	317.00	1,46,200	9/94	The Comments on various techno-economic issues have been sent to State Govt. for reformulation of project proposal.
MEDIUM				
1. Peddaru	26.23	6,460	9/91	Accepted by the Advisory Committee on 11/93 subject to clearance of Rehabilitation & Resettlement Plans by Ministry of Welfare and provision of adequate funds. The State Govt. is required to comply the above observations.
2. Palemvagu	29.13	6,230	1/86	Accepted by the Advisory Committee on 10.11.93 subject to forest clearance and provision of adequate funds. The State Government is required to comply with the above observations.

Reimbursement of Amount

592. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any requests from the Government of Maharashtra for reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by the State Government for deputing 12 companies of State Reserve Police (CSRP) in New Delhi from May 1990 to April, 1993;

(b) if so, the total amount incurred by the State Government on this account;

(c) whether the Union Government have reimbursed the amount to the State Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the total amount will be reimbursed by the Union Government to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). A bill

for Rs. 11,92,57,205/- has been raised against the Delhi Police for Maharashtra Special Reserve Police Force Companies deployed in Delhi for assisting in law and order duties from 2.5.90 to 9.2.93. The bills for the remaining period have not been received by Delhi Police.

(c) to (e). The reimbursement could not be made for want of certain documents viz. original bills and cost statements from the Government of Maharashtra.

The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have now approved the payment of bills raised for the deployment of the MSRPFC Companies in Delhi from 2.5.90 to 9.2.93. A request is being made for allotment of additional funds for clearing these bills.

Committee for Extra-Departmental Employees

593. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee to study the working conditions of Extra-Departmental employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have set up a one-man Committee headed by a retired Judge of Delhi High Court for the purpose.

(b) and (c). The terms of reference of the Committee will, *inter-alia*, include the following:

(i) To examine the system of Extra-Departmental Agency, the conditions of employment, the wage structure of the agents and recommend suitable changes considered necessary;

(ii) To examine the reasonableness of introducing a Social Security Scheme for providing P.F. and retirement benefits for employees engaged as ED Agent;

(iii) To examine and suggest any changes in the method of recruitment the minimum qualifications for appointment and conduct and disciplinary rules; and

(iv) To review facilities provided for the public at different classes for Extra Departmental Post Offices.

The Committee will function for a period of one year, extendable at the discretion of the Government.

Sharing of Ganga Water

594. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions were held recently with Bangladesh regarding sharing of Ganga water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to conduct joint monitoring of flow of Ganga river;

(d) whether both the countries have agreed to set up a Joint Commission at ministerial level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). During the visit of the Indian Foreign Secretary to Bangladesh in May, 1995, discussions were held on the

sharing of Ganga waters involving Joint monitoring on Ganga both in India and Bangladesh and the revival of talks under Joint River Commission.

(d) and (e). There already exists a forum called the Joint Rivers Commission between the two countries at Ministerial level since 1972. The concerned Ministers of India and Bangladesh are the Chairman and Co-Chairman of this Commission alternately.

Amendment to CR.P.C.

595. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has proposed amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.) clauses relating to rape cases of women especially minor girls; and

(b) if so, the measures the Government are taking to expedite the necessary amendments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Suggestions have been received from various organisations, including the National Commission for Women, for amending certain sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 relating to cases of rape, etc. However, adequate provisions already exist in the law to provide for stringent punishment for such offences.

Per Capita Expenditure

596. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any disparity in the per capita expenditure in rural and urban areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up any Commission to conduct a survey to remove this disparity;

(d) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to be set up; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b). As per the results of the 48th round (January-December, 1992) of National Sample Survey, the average per capita consumer expenditure in Gujarat is Rs. 261.9 in rural areas and Rs. 388.1 in urban areas. The corresponding figures for Rajasthan are Rs. 280.5 and 375.4 respectively.

(c) to (e). The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) document prepared by the Planning Commission set out the strategy and programmes for agricultural and rural development, which will contribute to increase in investment and income in the rural areas.

[Translation]

Amount on S.T.D.

597. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent during 1994-95 in providing S.T.D. facility to the telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the amount spent was more than the proposed amount and the works have not been completed so far; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The accounts of 1994-95 are yet to be closed. So far an expenditure of Rs. 9.67 crores has been booked under STD and other Trunk Dialling Systems.

(b) No, Sir. The amount spent is less than the provision. Works (provision of STD facility) completed were actually more than the target proposed for 1994-95.

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

Telecom Under NCR

598. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the economic research unit of telecommunication department in the National Capital Region in regard to telephone population ratio;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to modify the telecommunication network expansion scheme of NCR;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to bring down the demand of telephones in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). A total of 3.67 lakh lines of switching capacity have been provided for NCR towns in the 8th Five Year Plan. However, the National Telecom Policy, 1994,

envisages provision of telephones on demand by 1997 all over the country including Delhi.

[English]

Telephone Complaints

599. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Helpline' appearing in the 'Statesman' dated July 2, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to set the telephones right and action taken against guilty persons?

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

(b) "Complaints" pays for going to press appeared in the 'Statesman' in its issue of 2.7.95 has been seen. The details about 23 cases mentioned in the report are being investigated and information has been called from field units. The details will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) As stated in (b) above, detailed investigation report along with action taken against the guilty persons, if any will also be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Tender by Private Companies

600. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private companies who have filed the tenders till date;

(b) whether any action will be taken against the defaulting telephone companies for non compliance of the terms and conditions stipulated in the tender; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) In 1995, 239 Private Companies have submitted tenders till 31.07.1995.

(b) Yes, action against the defaulting companies will be taken as per terms and conditions stipulated in the tender documents.

(c) Total 522 bids were received during January to July'95. In the case of bidders who default in compliance of terms and conditions the following remedies are available to the Government:

- (i) Encashment of bid security.
- (ii) Levy of liquidated damages for delayed supplies.
- (iii) Encashment of Performance Bank Guarantee.
- (iv) Setting Off of any money due and payable to the bidder against claims of Government outstanding against him.

[English]

Welfare Schemes for Street Children

601. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:

SHRI A. CHARLES:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of street children in the country according to the available statistics;
- (b) the schemes introduced by the Union Government for the welfare of street children during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether the Union Government have introduced any new schemes for the welfare of street children recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether under these schemes the voluntary organisations are providing grants-in-aid for the welfare of street children; and
- (f) if so, the voluntary organisations in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu receiving such grants-in-aid from the Union Government for this purpose and the area of activities of these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) There is no authentic data available about the number of street children in the country.

(b) The Central Government has launched a scheme, namely, Welfare of Street Children during the Eighth Five Year Plan which is being implemented since 1993-94.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Under the Scheme of Welfare of Street Children the voluntary organisations are provided 90% grants-in-aid for setting up of centres for the development of street children.

(f) A Statement indicating the names of the voluntary organisations in the country which were sanctioned grants-in-aid during 1994-95 is attached. These organisations are providing integrated community based non-institutional basic services for the care, protection and development of street children.

STATEMENT

Names of voluntary organisations provided grants-in-aid under the Scheme of Welfare of Street Children during 1994-95.

S.No.	Name of the Organisations
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ANDHRA PRADESH

Hyderabad

1. Indian Council for Social Welfare, Red Hill, Inside Cancer Hospital Compound, Hyderabad.
2. Society for Integrated Development in Urban and Rural Area, 144/2, RT Vijay Nagar Colony, Hyderabad.
3. Urban and Rural Development Society, 8-6-758/4, Street No. 13, Himayat Nagar, Hyderabad.
4. Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), 29, Narayanguda, Hyderabad - 29.
5. Mahila Dekshata Samiti, Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad.

Visakhapatnam

6. Child Foundation of India, 36-46-51, Sri Surya Clinic, Kancharanlem, Main Road, Visakhapatnam.

ASSAM

Guwahati

7. Indian Council for Child Welfare, Assam State Branch, G.N. Bordoloi Road, Ambari, Near Govt. Emporium, Guwahati.
8. Indian Red Cross Society, Assam State Branch, Chand Mari, Guwahati.

GUJARAT

Ahmedabad

9. Akhand Jyoti Foundation, C/o Nirmal Nursing Home, Paladi, Ahmedabad.
10. Indian Council of Social Welfare, Municipal Bal Bhawan, Paladi, Ahmedabad.
11. Rachanatamak Abhigam Trust, Hardik Prerora Park Society, Opp. L.S. Hospital, Mani Nagar, Ahmedabad.

Baroda

12. Baroda Citizens Council, Above Health Museum, Sayaji Baug, Baroda.

13. Vikas Jyot Trust, Behind Bharat Floor Mill, Nagarwads Char Rasta, Nagurwada, Baroda.

KARNATAKA

Bangalore

14. BOSCO, D-20, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bangalore.
15. Ragpicker Education and Development Centre, Marianist Kendra, 62 A, Richmand Road, Sacred Heart Church Compound, Bangalore-25.
16. Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), 66, Infantry Road, Bangalore.
17. Mythri Sarva Seva Samithi, 94 Farm House, 7th Cross, 3rd Main Road, Bamlur Layout, Bangalore.
18. Amruthan Edn. and Cultural Society, 435, 9th Cross, Kumarswamy Layout, Bangalore-78.
19. MAYA, 438 1st Floor, 9th Cross, I&II Block east opp. Swimming Pool, Jayanagar, Bangalore.

KERALA

Kozhikode

20. Association for Welfare of Handicapped, 7/852, P.B. No. 59, S.M. Street, Calicut, Kerala.

Trivendrum

21. DON BOSCO, Veedu Society, TC 41/2065, Manacaud, Trivandrum.

MADHYA PRADESH

Bhopal

22. M.P. Council for Child Welfare, Hostel No. 5, Pikalina, Bhopal.
23. Varun Mana a Vikas Samiti, LIG 171, Sesh Bagh Stadium, Bhopal.
24. Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), E4/ 150 Arora Colony, Bhopal.

Indore

25. Shri Govinda Ram Saksaria Charity Trust, 18, Yashwant Niwas Road, Indore.
26. Kalyan Mitra Samiti, 91, Hira Nagar, Indore-452 008.

MAHARASHTRA

Bombay

27. Salam Balak Trust, Near Asha Sadan, Umar Khudi, Bombay.

28. SUPPORT, C/o Pholchand Export Ltd., D/2, Mathura Das Mill Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Bombay.

29. Society for Promotion Area Resource Centre (SPARC), P.B. No. 9389, Bombay-26.

30. Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Box No. 8313, Sion Trombay Road, Deonar, Bombay.

31. VATSALAYA Nirmala Niketan College of Social Works, 38, New Marineline, Bombay-20.

32. Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action, 8, Second Floor, 351 Mughbat Cross Lane, Bombay.

Nagpur

33. Apang Va Niradhar Bahuddeshya Kalyan Kare Sanstha, C/o Mentally Retared Spl. Residential School, Old Remand Home Building, Koradi Road, Mankapur, Nagpur.

34. Samaj Kalyan Mandal, Lal Gunj Naik Ralao, Nagpur - 2.

Pune

35. Community Aid Sponsorship Programme, A-2 Rasadhara Coop. Housing Society, 385 SVP Road, Girgaon 385, Bombay.

36. Deptt. of Continuing and Adult Education and Extension Works, SNDT Women University, Maharshi Karve Vidya Vihar, Karve Road, Pune.

MANIPUR

Imphal

37. Manipur Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Deulahland, D.M. Road, Imphal

MIZORAM

Aizawal

38. Baptist Church of Mizoram, Sarkamen, P.O. Zetland, Lungiee, Mizoram.

ORISSA

Bhubaneswar

39. Orissa Council for Child Welfare, Q.No. VI MR II Unit VI, Bhubaneswar.

RAJASTHAN

Jaipur

40. Janakala Sahitya Manch Sanstha, Agarwal Farm, Mansarwar, Jaipur.

41. Indian Institute of Data Interpretation and Analysis, Jaipur.

TAMIL NADU*Madras*

42. Asha Nivas Social Centre, Rutland gate, 5th Street, Madras.
43. Asian Youth Centre, 127, Dr. Radhakrishnan Road, Malayapore, Madras.
44. DON BOSCO, 116, Malayappan Street, Mannady, Madras-600 001.
45. Indian Council for Child Welfare, 5, 3rd Main Road, West Shenoy Nagar, Madras.
46. Mazzarallo Magalir Nalvazhvu Maiyam, Marialaya, 29, Padariar Koil Street, Madras-600 001.
47. Street Elfins Education and Development Society, 1st Cross, Street, Lake Area, Nungam Bakkam, Madras-600 034.

UTTAR PRADESH*Lucknow*

48. Bodhi Satwa Baba Sahab Dr. Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, 68/363, Chitrapur Bajwa, Lucknow.
49. Saheed Memorial Society, E 1698, Rajaji Puram, Lucknow.
50. U.P. Council for Child Welfare, Ranapratap Marg, Moti Mahal, Lucknow.

Kanpur

51. Sarvajanic Shikshonnayan Sansthan, Alipur Road, Hardol.

WEST BENGAL

52. Institute of Psychological & Educational Research, 27, Circus Avenue, Calcutta-17.
53. Child in Need Institute, P.B. No. 1672, Calcutta.
54. Forum of Communities United in Services (FOCUS), 6, Tiljala Road, Calcutta-46.
55. Gana Unnyan Parshad, 10, Gomesh Lane, Calcutta-14.
56. Jana Shiksha Prachar Kendra, 70, College Street, Calcutta.
57. West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, 42, Ramesh Mitra Road, Calcutta-25.
58. Prantik Jana Vikas Samiti 163 EC Block, Salt Lake City, Calcutta-64.
59. Centre for Social Development, 19 U Salimpur Road, Calcutta.
60. Mass Education, 14/1 Town Street Road, Calcutta-25.

61. Liberal Association for Movement of People, 5/6 Vivek Nagar, Jadavpur, Calcutta-75.
62. Council for Social Development, 4, Mominpur Road, Calcutta-23.
63. People Union for Development & Reconstruction, 30/3 ANS Deptt. (FUDUR) road, Howrah.
64. Vivekananda Education Society, 13/3 Kalicharan Dutta Road, Calcutta.
65. Haldia Samaj Kalyan Parishad, P.O. Anantpur, Via-Sutahati, Distt. Midnapore.
66. Song of Unity & Liberty, 14 H, Dr. Lal Mohan Bhathacharjee Road, Calcutta-14.
67. Humanity Association, 3YA, Sashi Bhushan Deay Street, Calcutta.
68. National Council for Women in India, Child and Family Welfare Section, 166, Bipin Behari Ganguli Street, Calcutta-12.
69. Calcutta Social Project, 172/3 Rash Behari Avenue, Calcutta-29.
70. West Bengal SC, ST and Minority Welfare Association, Rabindra Nagar, P.O. & Distt. Midnapore-721 101.
71. Indian Institute of Human Welfare, B-1-246, Salt Lake City, Calcutta.
72. Ram Krishan Vivekananda Mission, 7, River Side Road, Barrackpore, 24-Paraganas, West Bengal.
73. Women Coordinating Council, 5/1 Red Cross Place, Calcutta.
74. Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20/1B, Lal Bazar Street, Calcutta-1.
75. Children Right Development Service, B-25, Arobindo Park, P.O. Purabaputariy, Calcutta-700 093.

DELHI

76. Bal Sahyog, Cannought Place, New Delhi.
77. Prayas Juvenile Aid Centre, FIX 4, Jahangirpuri, Opp. Jahangirpuri P.S., Delhi.
78. Salam Baalak Trust, 1402, Som Vihar Aptt. R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
79. YWCA, Parliament Street, New Delhi.
80. ANKURAN, Room No. 13, Type-I, Telecom Colony, A 2/A, Janakpuri, New Delhi.
81. Indian Council for Child Welfare, 4, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi.

*[Translation]***Coal Washeries**

602. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed the participation of private sector in setting up of coal washeries;

(b) if so, the details of offers received from private sector for setting up of coal washeries till June, 1995; and

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In June, 1994 Coal India Limited (CIL) floated global tenders for setting up of coal washeries in private sector on build-own-operate basis at seven identified locations.

12 bidders out of 14 pre-qualified bidders submitted the offers for setting up of washeries at six sites.

On the basis of final evaluation of commercial bids letters of Intent (LOI) have been issued to the following successful bidders for washeries indicated against each:

Name of Company	Location
M/s Roberts & Schaefer's Co.	Dipka
M/s Roberts & Schaefer's Co.	Kalinga
M/s Madhu Continental Construction.	Anantha Bharatpur
M/s Madhu Continental Construction.	Sasti

In November, 1994 CIL floated another global tender for setting up of washeries at two sites i.e. Raigarh and Tikok on build-own-operate basis. Twelve pre-qualified bidders have been issued tender documents for submission of commercial bids in respect of these two sites.

Production of Natural Gas

603. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of natural gas in the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to increase the production of natural gas in the country; and

(c) the quantum of gas produced daily in the country and the quantum thereof required for various projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (c). The production of gas in the current year is likely to be 62 MMSCMD as against a

demand of around 75 MMSCMD from units which have been allocated gas, for extraction of LPG, C2/C3 and for internal use.

(b) Steps taken to increase the production of gas include additional development of existing fields, development of new fields and enhanced exploratory efforts. The Government is also exploring the possibility of importing gas from Oman, Iran and other countries.

Newsprint Prices

604. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

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

(a) whether small and medium newspapers are under tremendous economic strain in view of the unprecedented rise in the prices of newsprint;

(b) whether a Price Fixation Committee is proposed to be set up to regulate price of indigenous newsprint;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to control newsprint prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) It is a fact that the rise in the newsprint prices affects the economy of small and medium newspapers adversely.

(b) to (e). At present there is no proposal with the Government to set up a Price Fixation Committee to regulate prices of indigenous newsprint in view of the fact that the Government do not have any statutory control on newsprint prices. The indigenous newsprint mills are free to fix their prices on the basis of the costs of various inputs which go into the production of newsprint. Every rise in newsprint price is, however, referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP) by the Government for an ex post facto study of its causes and justification.

*[English]***Terrorism Infested States**

605. SHRI P. KUMARASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of the terrorism infested States to discuss and chalk out a plan to tackle the problem; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal at present.

Rehabilitation of Migrants from Sri Lanka

606. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether migrants from Sri Lanka have been settled in Tribal Areas of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether the tribals of that area have shown resentment for rehabilitation of these migrants; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). During 1973-76, the Government of India settled 47 families of Sri Lankan repatriates at Katchal Islands in Andaman & Nicobar Islands under Special Area Development Programme. Government have not received any representation from the Tribals of that area. However, Nicobarese have expressed their resentment to touring officers. The local Administration is seized of all aspects of the matter.

Cauvery Water Dispute

607. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted any Committee to monitor the implementation of interim award given by the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the manner in which the Government are monitoring the implementation of the interim award of the Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, a Standing Committee of experts has been set up with the concurrence of the four basin States/Union Territory namely, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry on 21st January, 1994 under the Chairmanship of Chief Engineer (Southern Region), Central Water Commission, Coimbatore with Chief Engineer/Principal Engineer of Cauvery Basin States/Union Territory as its Members. The Committee is to reconcile the flows at Billingundlu Hydrological Observation site of Central

Water Commission and Mettur Reservoir in Tamil Nadu and report the same to the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and the four basin states. The Committee has held four meetings so far.

The water flowing downstream of Billingundlu Hydrological Observation Station enters Mettur dam reservoir after covering a distance of only 10 km.

Gas in Tripura

608. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether millions of cubic metres of natural gas is going waste in Tripura; and

(b) if so, the efforts made/being made to put it into proper use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Since the gas available in Tripura is non-associated gas, the production is regulated according to the demand and there is no flaring/wastage of gas.

(b) At present 0.26 MMSCMD of gas is being utilised in Tripura. Allocations of 1.64 MMSCMD have been made on a firm basis. A concessional price is being charged for the gas in order to encourage its utilisation.

Infiltration of Pakistanis

609. SHRI GURDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Pakistanis have come to India in the wake of Karachi disturbances;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for their repatriation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

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

T.V. Centre at Sahibganj

[Translation]

610. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations to set up a T.V. relay centre at Sahibganj, Santhal Pargana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the works executed at this T.V. centre;

(d) the time by which the above centre is likely to be completed;

(e) whether the T.V. centre situated at Dumaka has also not been working since long; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Representations have been received from time to time, from various quarters, for augmentation of TV service in Bihar, including the Santhal Pargana division of the State. No specific representation has, however, been received for setting up of a TV Relay Centre at Sahibganj.

(c) and (d). Whereas there is no approved scheme, at present, for setting up of a TV transmitter at Sahibganj, a Low Power TV Transmitter is envisaged to be set up at Barharwa in the district subject to availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities. The normal lead time involved in implementation of an LPT is about two years after approval of the scheme by the competent authority.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Vividh Bharti Broadcasting from Cochin

611. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which Vividh Bharti Broadcasting from FM station Cochin is likely to be started; and

(b) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Local Radio Station at Cochin is already relaying Vividh Bharti Service using FM transmitter from 0830 hours to 1000 hours.

(b) Does not arise.

STD/ISD Booths in M.P.

612. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD public telephone booths functioning in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the number of applications pending for allotment of such new booths in the State; and

(c) the time by which the pending cases are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 6650 STD/ISD Public telephones are functioning in Madhya Pradesh at present.

(b) 2114 applications are pending for allotment of STD/ISD booths in the State.

(c) The pending cases are likely to be cleared by March '96 subject to the completion of formalities by the applicants and feasibility of the area.

Telephone Adalats

613. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone adalats are held every month to solve problem of the subscribers;

(b) whether this exercise has yielded good results and made the official machinery more alert and responsive to subscribers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. As per existing instructions Telephone Adalats are to be held once in three months and not once every month.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Telephone Adalats have their objectives satisfactory redressal of long pending customer grievances. The Adalat comprises of 3 member bench chaired by the General Manager Telephones/Telecom District Manager. The other two members are from Finance and Engineering Branches. 187 Telephone Adalats have been held in 1994-95 upto March, 1995 as per enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

*Circle wise Telephone Adalats held in
1994-95 upto March - 1995.*

Circle/Metro Distt.		No. of Telephone Adalats held
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27
2.	Assam	3
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Gujarat	17
5.	Haryana	14
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
8.	Karnataka	9

1	2	3
9.	Kerala	10
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5
11.	Maharashtra	17
12.	North East	6
13.	Orissa	2
14.	Punjab	4
15.	Rajasthan	8
16.	Tamilnadu	2
17.	MTNL, Delhi	31
18.	MTNL, Bombay	22
19.	Madras	1
20.	Andaman & Nicobar	4
Total		187

Sale of HSD with Sulphur Content

614. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to market HSD with 0.5 per cent sulphur content through retail outlets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) HSD with maximum sulphur content of 0.5% is proposed to be marketed in four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and in Taj trapezium area with effect from 1.4.1996.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies and Petrol Retail Outlets

615. SHRI KUNJEE LAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise, details of the petrol retail outlets and LPG agencies allotted in Rajasthan under the discretionary quota by the Government since 1992 till March, 1995 indicating the locations thereof;

(b) the names of the places under consideration of the Government for the allotment of petrol and LPG agencies in the State; and

(c) the basis of selection of sites for the allotment of new agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The requisite information is as under:

	RO	LPG
1992-93	2	2
1993-94	1	0
1994-95	1	-
Total =	4	2

(b) 99 Retail Outlet dealerships and 51 LPG distributorships have been included in the RO Marketing Plan 1993-96 and LPG Marketing Plan 1994-96 for Rajasthan.

(c) LPG distributorships are opened at the locations having a population of 20,000 and above as per 1991 census subject to product availability and economic viability of the location.

[English]

Natural Gas Prices

616. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to link prices of natural gas to international prices of liquid hydrocarbons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Government have appointed a Committee to review the existing pricing policy and to recommend changes required in the principles for determining gas prices. Necessary action will be taken after the report of the Committee is received.

Centenary of World Cinema

617. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had set up a national committee for the celebration of centenary of World cinema;

(b) if so, the functions entrusted to this Committee for organising celebration of 100 years of Cinema in India in 1996;

(c) whether old classic films, produced in Calcutta, are also proposed to be included in the centenary exhibition; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee is for celebration of centenary of cinema in the world in 1995 as well as centenary of cinema in India in 1996.

(b) The Committee, will decide the various ways in which the event is to be celebrated in India.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The details in this regard are being worked out.

Air Station at Asansol

618. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made for setting up of the AIR station at Asansol, West Bengal; and

(b) the time by which the work in this regard is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Civil works pertaining to construction of office and transmitter building at Asansol are nearing completion. The erection of a 100 M high tower for FM antenna and installation of equipments are in progress.

(b) The Relay Centre with 2x3 KW FM Tr. is scheduled for completion by March, 1996.

Speed Post Facility

619. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY:

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue earned by the Government through speed post service during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the places connected so far with speed post facility;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend speed post facility to other centres also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The year-wise revenue earned by the speed post service for last three years is as below:-

1992-93	=	32.00 Crores.
1993-94	=	50.12 Crores.
1994-95	=	54.17 Crores.

(b) A list of places connected under National Network of Speed Post is attached as Statement.

(c) Extension of Speed Post facility is an ongoing process depending on the operational feasibility & potential viability.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

STATEMENT

List (Speed Post Centre) on National Network

1. Agartala
2. Agra
3. Ahmedabad
4. Allahabad
5. Alwaye
6. Bangalore
7. Bhopal
8. Bhubaneshwar
9. Bombay
10. Calcutta
11. Calicut
12. Chandigarh
13. Cochin
14. Coimbatore
15. Cuttack
16. Delhi
17. Dhanbad
18. Faridabad
19. Gorakhpur
20. Guwahati
21. Gwalior
22. Howrah
23. Hyderabad
24. Imphal
25. Indore
26. Jaipur
27. Jalandhar
28. Jammu
29. Jamshedpur

30. Jodhpur
31. Kanchipuram
32. Kanpur
33. Lucknow
34. Ludhiana
35. Madras
36. Madurai
37. Mangalore
38. Meerut
39. Moradabad
40. Mysore
41. Nagpur
42. Panaji
43. Patna
44. Pondicherry
45. Pune
46. Quilon
47. Raipur
48. Ranchi
49. Salem
50. Shimla
51. Shillong
52. Silchar
53. Srinagar
54. Surat
55. Tirupati
56. Trichur
57. Trichy
58. Tirupur
59. Tiruvananthapuram
60. Vadodara
61. Varanasi
62. Vijawada
63. Vishakhapatnam
64. Nasik
65. Kottayam

66. Gurgaon
67. Dehradun
68. Siliguri
69. Gangtok

Regional Language Programmes

620. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being adopted to ensure that regional language programmes on the direct channels, reach the people living far from their home States; and

(b) the reasons for discontinuing the regional language programmes introduced on DD-4 last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The programmes telecast on the regional language satellite service of Doordarshan can be received throughout the country through an appropriate dish antenna or through a cable television network.

(b) The clubbing of programmes in Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu on this channel was discontinued from 15th August, 1994 consequent upon each individual language being shifted to a separate channel and the programmes being uplinked from Bangalore, Thiruvananthapuram, Madras and Hyderabad respectively.

N.M.F.D.C.

621. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the Board of Directors of the National Minorities Finance Development Corporation as on April 1, 1995;

(b) the total equity capital and working capital of the Corporation as on March 31, 1995;

(c) the break-up of equity and working capital between the Centre, the States, State-wise, and other public and private bodies;

(d) the total administrative expenditure during 1994-95 and the administrative budget for 1995-96;

(e) the total amount loaned to beneficiaries and the number of beneficiaries during 1994-95; and

(f) the total expenditure on other welfare programmes for the minorities during the year?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) As per the Article of Association of NMDFC, the Board of Director consists of Nominees of State level Minorities Development Corporation-5; representative of

financial institutions SIDBI/NABARD - 2; Addl. Secy./Dt. Secy, Ministry of Welfare-1; Functional Directors-2; Managing Director-1.

(b) and (c). Total equity capital as on 31.03.95

	(Rs.)
Govt. of India	50,00,00,000
A.P.	4,000
U.P.	6,000
Karnataka	4,000
Other public bodies	-
Other private bodies	-
Total	50,00,14,000

Working Capital of the Corporation as on 31.03.95
(as per unaudited balance sheet)

	(in Rs.)
Govt. of India	21,12,83,934.89
A.P.	1,690.27
U.P.	2,535.41
Karnataka	1,690.27
Other public bodies	-
Other private bodies	-
Total	21,12,89,850.84

(d) Administrative expenditure incurred during
1994-95 Rs. 2,15,695

Budgeted Administrative expenditure during
1995-96 Rs. 1,05,25,000

(e) By 31st March, 95 projects costing Rs. 54 crores were sanctioned to 6 States with NMDFC's share of Rs. 33 crores to benefit 14,336 persons.

(f) Nil.

Oriya Films

622. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Oriya films shown on the regional channel of the Doordarshan during 1994-95 and 1995-96, so far;

(b) the guidelines laid down for selection of screening of such films; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to boost the Oriya films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The films offered for telecast on the regional channels of Doordarshan are previewed by a selection committee comprising non-officials to determine their suitability for telecast. Actual telecast is dependent upon the completion of the requisite contractual formalities.

(c) While the National Film Development Corporation provides financial assistance for production of films in various languages including Oriya, depending upon the merits of the scripts/proposal, Doordarshan telecasts films in various dialects/languages offered to it depending upon their suitability and its programme requirements.

STATEMENT

1994-95

1.	07.04.94	Janani (Col)
2.	21.04.94	Sanskar (Col)
3.	05.05.94	Sasti (Col)
4.	19.05.94	Pua Mora Kala Thakura (Col)
5.	16.06.94	Mana Akasha (B/W)
6.	30.06.94	Mahasati Savitri (Col)
7.	07.07.94	Paradeshi Chadhei (Col)
8.	21.07.94	Maa Mote Shakti De (Col)
9.	04.08.94	Akashara Akhi (Col)
10.	18.08.94	Palatak (Col)
11.	01.09.94	Amadabata (B/W)
12.	29.09.94	Daibacaudi (Col)
13.	06.10.94	Jai Phoola (Col)
14.	20.10.94	Dadagiri (Col)
15.	03.11.94	Ghara Mora Swarga (Col)
16.	17.11.94	Kalia Bharasa (Col)
17.	01.12.94	Srikrishna Raasaleela
18.	15.12.94	Stree (B/W)
19.	05.01.95	Mukti Masala (Col)
20.	02.02.95	Papa Punya (Col)
21.	16.02.95	Amaghara Ama Sansara
22.	02.03.95	Subarna Sita (B/W)
23.	16.03.95	Pipasa (B/W)
24.	30.03.95	Adina Megha (B/W)

1995-96

1.	06.04.95	Golamgiri (Col)
2.	20.04.95	Kapala Likhana (Col)
3.	04.05.95	Eita Duniya (Col)
4.	01.06.95	chaka Bhauri (Col)
5.	04.06.95	Gapa Helebi Sata (Col)
6.	11.06.95	Hakim Baboo (Col)
7.	18.06.95	Kie Kahara (B/W)
8.	25.06.95	Jaidev (Col)
9.	02.07.95	Arundhati (B/W)
10.	09.07.95	Bhisma Pratingya (Col)
11.	16.07.95	Sadhana (B/W)
12.	23.07.95	Hasaluha Bhara Duniya (Col)

Local Radio Stations

623. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to set up adequate number of local radio stations;

(b) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry in that direction during the Eighth Five Year Plan period so far; and

(c) the target fixed for the above Plan in this regard, State-wise?

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

(b) and (c). In the approved Eighth Plan, there were 59 schemes of Local Radio Stations in different States of the country. Out of these, 44 schemes were part of ongoing Seventh Plan and 15 were new ones. The target fixed (State-wise) in this regard is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

State	Number of Local Radio Stations included in the 8th Plan
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	3
Arunachal Pradesh	1
Assam	3
Bihar	4

1	2
Gujarat	2
Haryana	1
Himachal Pradesh	2
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Karnataka	4
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	7
Maharashtra	8
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	1
Nagaland	1
Orissa	7
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	2
Tripura	3
Uttar Pradesh	3
West Bengal	1
UNION TERRITORIES	
Daman & Diu	1
Pondicherry	1
Total	59

Dish Antennas

624. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dish antennas in public and private sectors in the country which received the programmes telecast by foreign countries, State/UT-wise;

(b) the criteria laid down for individuals or institutions for having such antennas and the charges therefor; and

(c) the revenue earned by the Government therefrom during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). As most of the dish antennas in the country have been installed without any specific permission being obtained from any governmental agency no such details are available with Government.

Flaring of Natural Gas

625. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gas flared up per year in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and other regions of the country;

(b) the measures taken by the Government for utilisation of such gas;

(c) whether the Government have received proposals from NRIs for setting up projects for producing kerosene, high grade chemicals and other, products from such waste gas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) In 1994-95, 5.56 MMSCMD of gas was flared in the country.

(b) The Government are implementing a number of projects including the Gas Flaring Reduction Project in the Western Offshore to set up the necessary compression and transportation facilities to reduce flaring to the technically minimum levels. Consumers have been identified for the utilisation of gas from isolated pools which is now being flared.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. 45000 SCMD of gas has been allocated on fallback basis to a project in Gujarat promoted by a group of NRIs for the manufacture of chemicals from natural gas.

[English]

Haldia-Barauni Pipeline

626. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has any proposal for construction of Haldia-Barauni pipeline for transportation of oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating *inter-alia* the length of the proposed pipeline between Haldia and Barauni, feasibility, the estimated expenditure involved, the cost-efficiency of the pipeline project *vis-a-vis* transportation of oil by waterways;

(c) whether the Ministry of Surface Transport has strongly opposed the Haldia-Barauni pipeline mooted by the Indian Oil Corporation;

(d) if so, the grounds of their opposition of the proposal; and

(e) the time by which a final decision with regard to the construction of Haldia-Barauni pipeline is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e) IOC has submitted a proposal to lay a crude oil pipeline from Haldia to Barauni which is under process for obtaining necessary investment approval. The length of the proposed pipeline would be about 515 Kms and the approximate cost of proposal is Rs. 953 crores, at December 1994 price level. The transportation of crude oil through pipeline is comparatively cheaper than transportation through water ways.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Surface Transport had some reservation about the pipeline as they wanted to move crude oil in barges through river Ganga. However, PIB in its meeting held on 26.4.1995 considered all other aspects and recommended the proposal of crude pipeline.

U.N. Report on Poverty

627. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations in its report has emphasised the need to focus on the development of 300 million people in India living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the main points highlighted in the said report;

(c) whether the Government have examined the said report; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (d) The United Nations in its report. "The Case for Human Development" has assumed that 300 million people in India live below poverty line. As per out latest official estimates for 1987-88 the number of people living below poverty line is 237.7 million.

The U.N. report underlines that economic growth by itself cannot guarantee development that is sustainable in terms of natural resources and meet the basic needs of all people, and states that the focus ultimately has to be on India's macro-social priorities, subsuming the economic dimension within a wider framework of concerns.

Poverty In India

628. SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the news item captioned, "Noted economist concerned over rising poverty" appearing in the Economic Times dated June 25, 1995;

(b) whether the contents of the report have been examined by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the factors responsible for increasing poverty in India; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (c) : The news item captioned, "Noted economist concerned over rising poverty" appeared in the Economic Times of June 25, 1995 dealing with a special lecture of "Changing Macro Economic Scenario and the role of NGO" at a symposium.

(d) As per official estimates, the poverty has reduced from 51.5% in 1972-73 to 48.3% in 1977-78, 37.4% in 1983-84 and 29.9% in 1987-88. The comparable estimates for the later periods are not yet available.

(e) A number of programmes are being implemented in order to improve the quality and life of the poor households. Of these, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) are being continued.

Three new Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Universalisation of Integrated Child Development System (ICDS), Community Nutrition Centre and Indira Mahila Yojana are to be introduced shortly.

A new scheme for eradication of poverty in Towns having population between 50,000 and 1,00,000 known as Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP) is under consideration.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Tamil Nadu

629. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges set up in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, year-wise and district wise;

(b) whether all the exchanges have been connected with STD facility; and

(c) expenditure incurred thereon, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 864 electronic telephone exchanges have been set up in Tamil Nadu during the last three years. The district-wise/year-wise details are given in enclosed statement.

(b) Out of 864 electronic exchanges set up during the last three years, 664 electronic exchanges have been connected with STD facility,

(c) The amount spent year-wise is given below :-

Year	Amount (Rs. In Crores)
1992-93	Rs. 215.80 Crores
1993-94	Rs. 214.05 Crores
1994-95	Rs. 257.00 Crores

STATEMENT

District-wise No. of Electronic Exchanges set-up in Tamil Nadu.

Sl No.	Name of District	No. of electronic exchanges set up in Tamil Nadu		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Madras	4	7	3
2.	Chengalpattu MGR	21	23	12
3.	Chidambaranar	12	8	12
4.	Coimbatore	15	19	27
5.	Dharmapuri	17	11	3
6.	Dindigul Anna	7	13	13
7.	Kumarajar	5	8	6
8.	Kanyakumari	10	1	5
9.	Madurai	13	4	14
10.	Nagapattinam Q. Milad	7	10	19
11.	Nellai Kattabomman	23	1	4
12.	Pasumpon	3	2	11
13.	Periyar	19	10	25
14.	Pondicherry	5	1	2
15.	Pudukottai	12	2	12
16.	Ramanathapuram	7	6	10
17.	Salem	32	33	27
18.	Sambuvarayar	21	10	1
19.	Thanjavur	24	16	19

1	2	3	4	5
20.	The Nilgiris	6	2	1
21.	Trichy	21	6	39
22.	Vallalar	18	21	24
23.	Villupuram SSR	0	0	3
24.	Ambedkar	21	24	11
Total		323	238	303 = 864

[Translation]

Infiltration for Indo-Nepal Border

630. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a large scale infiltration through the Nepal border during the last few months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Police stations, outposts and immigration checkpoints on the Indo-Nepal border have been alerted to keep strict vigil. Border security and policing have also been tightened all along the border. In view of terrorist activities along the Indo-Nepal border, the Government of India has established an anti-terrorist checkpoint near Sonauli in the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh.

LPG Agencies

631. DR. P.R. GANGWAR:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and petrol retail outlets sanctioned in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years till date; and

(b) the number of LPG agencies and petrol retail outlets sanctioned by the Oil Selection Board and under the discretionary quota of the Minister separately during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The number of dealerships/

distributorships allotted during the period 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 (upto June, 1995) through OSB and under discretionary quota in U.P. is as under:

	RO	LPG
OSB	253	83
Discretionary quota	40	29

In addition to the above, 11 LPG distributorships have been awarded to Government projects during the above period in U.P.

(English)

CNN International

632. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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

(a) whether the CNN International has shown distorted and biased version in the news bulletin on June 30, 1995 and has also shown Kashmir as a part of Pakistan.

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. According to CNNI the reports to this effect were incorrect.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Official Language Policy

633. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bilingual Mechanical Electronic Equipments are made available to the Branches and Sections of all Ministries/Departments of Central Government offices for proper implementation of the Official Language Policy;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any check on proper implementation of this policy;

(c) whether the Government are aware that there are many Departments, where Bilingual/Mechanical/Electronic equipments are not available in their Sections/Branches and due to that Hindi work is not properly done by the officials; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Mechanical Devanagari/bilingual electronic equipment are purchased by the Central Government Ministries/Departments/Offices themselves, keeping their nature of work and requirements in view. In the electronic category only bilingual equipment are required to be purchased.

(b) to (d) It is the responsibility of the Administrative Heads of Central Government Offices to ensure that the provisions of the Official Language Rules, 1976 and directions issued thereunder, are properly complied with. The Department of Official Language has been obtaining quarterly progress reports regarding implementation of the Official Language Policy from various Ministries/Departments etc., which *inter alia*, contain information on equipment. The situation in this regard is also monitored from time to time through inspections. Instances of violations of the Policy, wherever observed, are brought to the notice of the Administrative Head of the concerned office for corrective action. This matter is also discussed in the meetings of the Hindi Advisory Committees/Official Language/Implementation Committees/Town Official Language Implementation Committees.

Salaries to IMAMS

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

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to allocate Rs. 300 crores to the Waqf Board for payment of salaries to Imams of mosques:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the constitutional propriety; and

(d) if so, the result of such review and its effect on other religious denominations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court in its Judgement of 13th May, 1993 *inter alia* directed the Union of India and

the Central Wakf Council to frame a scheme for payment of salaries/allowances to Imams of different types of mosques in the country taking the scales prevalent in the region of Punjab and Haryana as a 'model'.

As the information about the exact number of mosques and Imams, required for framing a scheme as directed by the Hon'able Court is not available, it has not been possible to formulate such a scheme and make an assessment about the expenditure likely to be made. Hon'ble Court has not directed the Union of India to make payment of salaries/allowances to Imams.

[Translation]

Basic Telecom Services

635. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI RAM SINGH KUSHWAN:

SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK:

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licence has been issued to Private companies for providing basic telephone services in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the companies to whom licences have been issued alongwith the areas of operations allotted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Financial aid to Gujarat State Minorities Corporation

636. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for grant of financial aid to the Gujarat State Minorities Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Self-Sufficiency in Coal

637. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Business Standard" dated May 15, 1995 regarding self-sufficiency in coking coal by 2003 A.D.;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the manner in which the demand of coal is likely to be fulfilled through indigenous sources during the next three years; and

(e) the estimated consumption of best quality of coal by 2003 A.D. in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) A Technical Group set up by the Government had prepared an action plan for reducing dependence on coking coal imports. Major steps being taken to augment indigenous availability of coking coal, *inter alia*, include :-

(i) Increasing raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines.

(ii) Modification of the existing coking coal washeries to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal.

(iii) Early commissioning of two new washeries under construction at Madhuband (BCCL) and Kedla (CCL) for increasing the existing washing capacity.

(iv) Setting up of new washeries to wash metallurgical coking coal including low volatile medium coking coal of suitable quality.

(v) Effective and better coordination between coal companies and the steel plants through regular review meetings at various levels.

With the effective implementation of these steps the import of coking coal is expected to come down.

(e) No firm figures of likely consumption of good quality coal by 2003 A.D. are available. The Technical Group had tentatively projected the requirement of washed coking coal as 22.79 million tonnes in 2001-02 A.D. for steel plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL).

[English]

Autonomous Development Council for OBCs

638. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up an Autonomous Development Council for the Other Backward Classes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Supply of Petroleum Products to Orissa.

639. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: the quantity of petrol, diesel and kerosene demanded by the supplied to Orissa during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): Petrol and Diesel are not allocated products and are supplied to meet the full demand all over the country. The quantities of petrol and diesel supplied to Orissa during the last three years are as under :-

(Figs. in TMT)

Year	Petrol	Diesel
1992-93	56.43	504.37
1993-94	58.92	534.11
1994-95*	62.97	572.76

* Figures are provisional.

Kerosene is an allocated product. On account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the full demand of the States. Nevertheless, an additional allocation of 18663 MT of kerosene was made to Orissa during 1995-96 representing an increase of 9.7% over the previous year against an increase of 3% for the country as a whole. The quantities of kerosene allocated to Orissa during the last three years are as under :-

(Figs. in MTs)

Year	Allocation
1992-93	155472
1993-94	173952
1994-95	194954

Postal Divisions in Gujarat

640. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the postal divisions set up in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more of such divisions in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No new postal division was set up in Gujarat during 1994-95.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal for a new postal division in Gujarat.

Fire Incidents

641. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of fire incidents occurred in the high rise buildings in Delhi during May-July, 1995;

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

(c) the causes of such fires; and

(d) the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of fire incidents in Delhi from May' 95 to July' 95 (upto 20.7.95) is 26. Property worth Rs. 1,35,85,000/- approximately was lost in these fires.

(c) The probable cause of fires, in cases where the cause could be identified, was either drop light on electric short circuit.

(d) Notices under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 are issued from time to time to owners/occupiers of all multi-storeyed buildings that fall short of the minimum requirements for adequate fire-safety. Reasonable time is given for meeting these requirements. Punitive action has also been initiated in some cases.

Investment in Telecom

642. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme-wise details of the investments to be made in telecommunications sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of sources in the public, private, and foreign sectors from which the capital would be collected;

(c) the various heads where this capital is proposed to be invested; and

(d) the details of the total money to be obtained through foreign sources in the form of equity and loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The investment required for the approved physical targets of 8th Five Year Plan for Department of Telecommunications is Rs. 40555 Crores.

Scheme-wise details of the requirement are given below :-

Scheme	Crores (Rs.)
(a) Local Telephone system	23530
(b) Long Distance Switching	1080
(c) Long Distance Transmission including village phones	12550
(d) Insat and Intelsat	400
(e) Telegraph, Telex & Non voice system	1095
(f) Others, Land & buildings (staff qrs. & Admn. Offices)	1000
(g) Ancillary Services	900
	40555

The approved outlays for Public Sector Units etc. are as follows :

	Creore (Rs.)
ITI	350.00
VSNL	800.00
HTL	15.00
WMO	26.00

(Wireless Monitoring Organisation)

(b) A mid term review of the 8th Five Year Plan identified the following sources for funding 8th Five Year Plan are :-

	Rs. (Crores)
(1) Internal Resources	27232.65
(2) Extra Budgetary Resources	7758.00
(3) Budgetary Support	390.00
(4) Others	255.00
Total	35635.65

(c) The capital would be invested in the Department

of Telecommunications, the Public Sector Undertaking MTNL, ITI, HTL, VSNL.

(d) The investment proposed during 8th Five Year Plan from foreign loan is Rs. 452.17 Crores.

[Translation]

Incentives for Use of Hindi

643. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any incentives in cash/kind is given to those Central Government employees who are doing official work in Hindi;

(b) if so, the amount of incentives, being given thereon and the rules prescribed in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to enhance the above amount; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Incentives are payable to the employees/officers of Central Govt. for doing work in Hindi as per prescribed norms. Details of incentives in brief are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Amount of Incentives are increased from time to time.

STATEMENT

Detail in brief of payable Incentives

(1) Incentives scheme for doing official work originally in Hindi (Noting/Drafting).

Only those officers/employees of Central Government are eligible for award who write at least 'twenty thousand words in Hindi in a year in regions "A" and "B" (i.e. Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Punjab states and Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Union territories of Delhi and Chandigarh) and at least 10,000 words in Hindi in a year in region "C" (which comprises all other states and Union territories except region "A" and "B").

Following cash prizes are payable under this scheme:-

(a) Independently for each Ministry/Deptt./Attached Office of Central Govt.:-

1st Prize (2 prizes) - Rs. 500/- each

IInd Prize (3 prizes) - Rs. 300/- each

IIIrd Prize (5 prizes) - Rs. 150/- each

(b) Independently for each Subordinate Office of any Deptt. of Central Govt.:-

Ist Prize (2 prizes) - Rs. 400/- each

IInd Prize (3 prizes) - Rs. 200/- each

IIIrd Prize (5 prizes) - Rs. 150/- each

(2) Incentives Scheme to officers for giving dictation in Hindi:

Under this scheme, all officers who have been provided stenographers assistance or who generally give dictations, may participate in this scheme. All Ministries/ Deptts./Offices may operate this scheme independently and prescribed the minimum limits of dictations in Hindi for grant of an award. An award of Rs. 500/- may be prescribed under the scheme. The number of award may be 2 as well. One award for the officers having their declared home town in region 'A' and 'B' and other for those having their declared home town in region 'C'.

(3) Grant of Hindi Incentive Allowance to Stenographers and typists for doing official work in Hindi, in addition to English.

Special allowance of Rs. 60/- and Rs. 40/- p.m. is given to those stenographers and typists respectively, who knows English Typing/Stenography and do their work in Hindi, in addition to English. Only such English Stenographers/Typists are eligible for this allowance who type on an average of 5 notes/drafts/letters in a day or about average of 5 notes/drafts/letters in a day or about 300 notes/drafts in a quarter. Under this scheme, such typists/stenographers are also eligible for the above incentive allowance, who in addition to English do their official work in Hindi on typewriters/computers as per prescribed limits.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in Delhi

644. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL, Delhi has opened a number of new telephone exchanges from April, 1995;

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

(c) whether laying of telephone cables from the exchanges to localities has considerable time, as a result of which the new connections have been delayed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide out of turn/priority connections at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir Five new telephone exchanges have been opened in MTNL, Delhi.

(b) The details of new telephone exchanges opened from April, 1995 onwards are enclosed in the statement attached.

(c) MTNL takes prompt action for laying of cables wherever there is a shortage of cable pairs. But in a few cases, the actual provision of Telephone connections takes more time.

(d) In a few cases, there is delay in provision due to delay in getting permission for digging on receipt of stores.

(e) Every effort is made to ensure that there is no delay in provision of out of turn priority connections. Where delay is anticipated due to non-availability of cable pairs, use of pair gain system is restored to for immediate provision of out of turn connections.

STATEMENT

The details of New Telephone Exchange opened in MTNL, Delhi from April, 1995 onward.

Sl. No.	Exchange/location	Number of lines
1.	Vigyna Bhavan	250
2.	Hotel Maurya Sheraton	250
3.	Sarita Vihar	10,000
4.	Rajouri Garden	12,000
5.	Lothian Road	10,000

[Translation]

Brain Drain

645. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telecom scientists who have left the department during the last three years and more who are in the process of leaving;

(b) the efforts made to check such brain drain;

(c) whether the Government are planning to set up a National Telecommunications Research Board to provide the research and development back up to expand schemes envisaged by the new telecom policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There is no cadre of Telecom Scientists in the DOT. However 29 Telecom Engineers have left the Deptt. since 1.1. 1992.

(b) Suitable recommendations have been made to Pay Commission to make the service in D.O.T. attractive for the engineers to continue in DOT.

(c) There is no proposal at present under consideration.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to 'C' above.

[English]

Removal of Poverty

646. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the economic reforms programmes launched with regard to removing the poverty in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the outcome of such programmes so far in removing the poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Alleviation of poverty has been one of the main objectives of planned development in India with direct State intervention through various poverty alleviation schemes. However, consequent on introduction of economic reforms which were initiated in 1992-93 and its possible adverse impact. On the poor, in the short run, certain new initiatives were taken to expand the scope and content of poverty alleviation programmes. The major programmes aimed at alleviating poverty both in rural and urban areas are given below:

(i) **Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP):** The IRDP which is being implemented in all blocks seeks to provide assistance to poor households in order to enable them to acquire assets for self-employment.

(ii) **Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY):** The JRY is a wage employment programme where the main objective is the generation of additional gainful employment for the unemployed and underemployed rural people, on public works which would lead to creation of rural infrastructure and assets for more sustained employment.

This programme was modified in 1993-94 and is now implemented in 3 streams. Under the 1st stream funds are earmarked for the Million Well Scheme and Indira Awaas Yojana at the State level the remaining funds are allocated

to districts on an index of backwardness. At the district level 20 per cent funds are retained and the remaining 80 per cent are allocated to the village panchayats.

(iii) **Second Stream of JRY:** The Second Stream of JRY namely Intensified Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was introduced in 1993-94 in 120 backward districts where there is concentration of unemployment and underemployment. Funds under this stream are retained at the district level for undertaking works which can provide sustained employment to the people. These works include irrigation, social conservation, water harvesting works, farm forestry, construction of roads, primary school, primary markets etc. From 1995-96, 50 per cent of the funds are earmarked for taking up activities within a watershed plan.

(iv) **Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS):** A new scheme called the Employment Assurance Scheme was launched in 1993-94 in 1752 identified backward blocks situated in drought prone, desert, tribal and hill areas, in which the revamped public distribution system was in operation. The EAS has now been extended to cover 2446 blocks of the country in all States and UTs excluding Goa, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry. The additional blocks include the new DPAP and DDP blocks, MADA blocks and the flood prone areas of the country. Under this scheme assured employment for 100 days of unskilled manual work has to be provided to those who are seeking it, during the lean agricultural season. The secondary objective is the creation of rural infrastructure and community assets. From 1995-96, 50 per cent of funds have been earmarked for taking up works under watershed development. In addition minor irrigation works, rural roads, construction of primary school buildings and anganwadis is permissible.

(v) **Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY):** The Nehru Rozgar Yojana is designed to tackle the urban poverty. It has three components (i) the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) to encourage self-employment and skill upgradation by providing subsidy, loan, training and infrastructural support; (ii) the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment (SUWE) provides wage-employment opportunities to urban poor; and (iii) Scheme for Housing and Shelter Upgradation (SHASU) provides technical training in construction trades and assists beneficiaries belonging to weaker section of society (EWS) in housing and shelter upgradation.

(vi) **Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM'S IUPEP):** Recognising the seriousness and complexity of urban poverty problems especially in the small towns having population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 where the situation is more grave due to lack of resources for planning their environment and development, the Prime Minister had announced on 15th

August, 1994 an integrated scheme for amelioration of poverty known as the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP). The foremost objective of the new programme is to attack several root causes of urban poverty simultaneously, in an integrated manner. The specific objectives under the new programme will be (i) effective achievement of social sector goals; (ii) community empowerment; (iii) convergence through sustainable support system; (iv) improvement of hygiene and sanitation; and (v) environmental improvement.

(vii) **Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS):** The Revamped Public Distribution System was introduced in 1992 to provide access to foodgrains to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population residing in remote and inaccessible areas. This covers 1778 blocks situated in drought prone, desert, tribal and hill areas. In these blocks the issue price of foodgrains is Rs. 50 per quintal lower compared to the normal PDS price and most of the RPDS blocks are in rural areas redressing the imbalance between urban and rural areas.

(b) The outcome in term of physical achievement over the last three years is given in the table below:

IRDP (families assisted)	67,90,232
JRY (Lakh mandays generated)	
1st Stream	24,797,12
2nd Stream	2,776,84
EAS (Lakh mandays generated)	3,228,21
NRY	
SUME (Beneficiaries assisted)	5,13,758
SUWE (Lakh mandays)	199,29
SHASU (Dwelling Units upgraded)	3,45,826

Production of Crude Oil

647. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of crude oil presently from various oil wells in the country;

(b) the quantity of crude oil produced annually from oil wells in Gujarat;

(c) whether the Union Government have sought any foreign assistance for production of crude oil; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) During the first quarter of this year

(April, 1995 to June, 1995) the crude oil production was 8.860 MMT.

(b) The crude oil produced during 1994-95 in Gujarat was 6.279 MMT.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

New Bottling Plant

648. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has commissioned any new bottling plant for LPG in the Saurashtra Region of Gujarat;

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

(c) the estimated cost of the project together with its average per day refilling capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise. However, Indian Oil Corporation Limited is setting up a LPG Bottling Plant of 44,000 TMTA at Bhavnagar in Saurashtra Region of Gujarat State at an estimated cost of Rs. 36.06 crores. The plant is expected to be commissioned by the year 1998.

Digital Net Work in Gujrat

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

(a) whether the Government propose to bring certain district of Gujarat under the Rural Integrated Digital Network Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Delhi Police

650. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts, sub-divisions and Police Stations in which Delhi Police Administration has been divided; and

(b) the number of officers and employees belonging to Scheduled castes/Scheduled tribes in Delhi Police Administrations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The Delhi Police Administration has been divided into nine police districts, thirty-six sub-divisions and one hundred and six police stations.

(b) The number of police officers and employees (rank-wise) belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Delhi Police as on 30.6.95 is as under:-

	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
Additional Commissioner of Police.	2	-
Deputy Commissioner of Police.	6	5
Assistant Commissioner of Police	59	19
Inspector	140	43
Sub-Inspector	531	110
Assistant Sub-Inspector.	467	70
Head Constable	2104	366
Constable	5268	1925

[English]

Irrigation Projects

651. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major and medium irrigation projects taken up for extension, renovation and modernisation during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in Orissa;

(b) the financial provisions made therefor in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). A Statement giving details of on-going extension/renovation/modernisation of major and medium irrigation projects of Orissa is attached.

STATEMENT*Details of on-going extension/renovation/modernisation of major & medium irrigation projects of Orissa:*

Name of the Project	Financial Progress			Anticipated Expenditure during 1992-94	Likely date of completion
	Latest Estimated Cost	Expenditure upto the end of 3/92	VIII Plan Outlay		
Rs. Crores					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Strengthening of Hirakud Dam for Cracks.	29.39	3.65	22.00	1.33	Beyond VIII.
2. Hirakud Distributary system	81.82	2.66	20.00	1.24	-do-
3. Rushikulya Phase II	55.00	0.38	7.40	0.20	-do-
4. Dhanei	4.40	0.40	1.55	0.10	-do-
5. Jaimangal	0.39	0.07	0.19	0.10	VIII
6. Salia	2.82	0.27	2.60	0.10	Beyond VIII
7. Budhabudhiani	4.53	0.20	0.32	0.32	-do-
8. Utlei	6.44	0.25	2.20	0.05	-do-
9. Saipal	0.50	0.30	0.10	0.10	VIII
10. Hiradharbati	1.18	0.05	0.78	0.10	Beyond VIII
11. Khadkhai	0.26	0.18	0.01	0.05	VIII
12. Nesa	0.25	0.14	0.10	0.05	-do-
13. Okhala Distributary.	0.21	0.16	0.07	0.03	-do-
14. Recycling of Chulkinalla	0.35	0.03	0.16	0.20	-do-
15. Salgudi Das Mouza Canal	1.87	0.25	0.31	1.00	-do-
16. Delta Dev. Plan	600.75	7.02	100.00	9.49	Beyond VIII

De-Nationalisation of Coal Mines

652. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposals to de-nationalise coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any offer has been made for Singareni Collieries in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

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

National Film Policy

653. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading film professionals including directors have demanded the formulation of a National Film Policy for all round development of Indian cinema;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether discussions were held in the seminar on the centenary of cinema held recently;

(d) if so, whether the Government have considered the suggestions made in the seminar; and

(e) the steps being considered to formulate a national film policy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No specific demand in this regard has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No seminar on the centenary of cinema has been held recently by Government. A meeting of the working

group for the celebration of centenary of cinema was held recently. However, no discussions took place regarding a national film policy in this meeting.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Since financing, production, distribution and exhibition of films is largely in the private sector, the policy on films continuously evolves with technological innovations and changes in the investment environment. It is Government's experience that various problems afflicting the film industry can be effectively and promptly tackled by setting up various committees/working groups as and when required. Similar steps would also be taken as and when required in future. Government also holds periodic meetings with the representatives of film industry to discuss various issues/problems and find ways and means of resolving them.

Custodial Death

654. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAAN:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:

SHRI MULAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajan Pillai died while in police custody;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted to find out the circumstances which led to his death; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has appointed, on July 27, 1995, a single-member Inquiry Commission under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, headed by a retired Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court, Smt. Leila Seth to ascertain all relevant facts and circumstances leading to the death in judicial custody of Rajan Pillai. The Commission has been asked to give its report in 3 months.

The terms of reference of the Commission are as under:

(a) to ascertain the circumstances and sequence of events including deterioration in the physical condition of Shri Rajan Pillai leading to his death;

(b) to ascertain the adequacy of the treatment given to him by the Jail Medical Officer and doctors in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in the context of the history of his past illness;

(c) to ascertain the adequacy and promptness of response of the doctor(s) and other authorities both in the Jail and DDU Hospital when the health of Shri Rajan Pillai deteriorated;

(d) to ascertain whether there was any negligence on the part of any authority and to fix responsibility for the same;

(e) to suggest remedial measures in connection with medical care for prisoners in jail;

(f) any other matter relevant to the incident.

Flood Prevention

655. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for flood prevention in Keleshai River in Midnapur District in West Bengal is still pending with the Ganga Flood Control Commission for clearance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Ganga Flood Control Commission has not received scheme for flood prevention in Keleshai River in Midnapur District in West Bengal. However, one scheme of Flood prevention of Kaliaghye River in Midnapur district in West Bengal received in Ganga Flood Control Commission was examined and comments were sent to the State Government for carrying out necessary modifications. So far State Government has not re-submitted the modified scheme.

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges with STD

656. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Telephone Exchanges provided with STD/ISD facility during 1994-95 in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the Telephone Exchanges proposed to be provided with STD facility during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 2237 Stations

have been provided with STD facility in the country during 94-95.

In U.P. 4 stations have been linked to the STD/ISD Network during 94-95.

(b) The details of the Number of Stations proposed for provision of STD facility in the country during 1995-96 is given in the enclosed statement, subject to availability of resources such as funds, land, building, equipment etc.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of locations where STD facility is proposed to be provided during 1995-96.

State	No. of Locations
Andhra Pradesh	209
Assam	15
Bihar	70
Gujarat	203
Haryana	50
Himachal Pradesh	57
Jammu & Kashmir	39
Karnataka	400
Kerala	70
Madhya Pradesh	57
Maharashtra	80
Goa	-
Arunachal Pradesh	6
Manipur	5
Meghalaya	3
Mizoram	1
Nagaland	-
Tripura	3
Orissa	50
Punjab	22
Rajasthan	39
Tamil Nadu	219
Uttar Pradesh	117
West Bengal	161
Sikkim	3
A. & N. Islands	5
	<hr/> 1784 <hr/>

[English]

Procurement of Films

657. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure/guidelines laid down for procuring films for telecasting on national/regional network of Doordarshan;

(b) the expenditure incurred on procurement of such films during each of the last three years;

(c) the number of films telecast on national and regional network during 1994-95 and 1995-96 so far;

(d) the steps taken/proposed for telecasting quality films on Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the enclosed statement I and II.

(b) The expenditure incurred on payment of royalty for films during this period is as follows:

1992-93	Rs. 7,72,36,123/-
1993-94	Rs. 10,66,87,215/-
1994-95	Rs. 7,42,86,470/-

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

(d) It is Doordarshan's constant endeavour to telecast good quality feature films which have won national/international awards, having entertainment value, suitable for family viewing and are based on established tradition and heritage, socio-cultural themes with universal values.

STATEMENT-I

National Network

(a) Hindi films

Saturday — 10.00 p.m.

Offers for films are invited through a public notice. Initial shortlisting is done by a committee comprising officials. Shortlisted films are previewed by a committee comprising non-officials. The films are telecast on sponsorship/royalty basis.

(b) Regional films

Sunday — 1.30 p.m.

Offers are received suo-moto. Individual cases are considered in the order in which the offers are received.

Films are telecast language-wise in an alphabetical order. Films are previewed by a committee comprising non-officials. The films are telecast on royalty basis. The eligibility criteria for the telecast of these films is at Annexure II.

Regional Network

The films for being considered for telecast on the regional network of Doordarshan are received suo-moto from time to time. The films are previewed by a committee comprising non-officials. The films are telecast on royalty basis.

STATEMENT-II

Feature films which fulfil any of the following criteria or have won any of the following national/state awards, as the case may be, only are considered for telecast on the national network: of Doordarshan;

- (I) National Award for the Best or second Best feature film of the year (in all language combined)
- (II) Indira Gandhi Award for Best first film of a Director.
- (III) Award for best film providing popular and wholesome entertainment.
- (IV) Nargis Dutt Award for Best feature film on National integration.
- (V) Best film on Family Welfare.
- (VI) Best films on other social issues such as prohibition women and child welfare, anti-dowry, drug abuse etc.
- (VII) President's Award of 'Rajat Kamal' for the Best feature film in an Indian language.
- (VIII) Films which have won the 'Certificate of Merit' in the National Film Festival.
- (IX) State Government Awards for the Best Feature Film.
- (X) Entry in the Indian Panorama and mainstream sections of any International Film Festival of India/ Filmotsav.
- (XI) State Government Award for Best Direction.
- (XII) Films which have won any two State Government awards (other than those mentioned above),
- (XIII) Films which have celebrated Silver Jubilee (having run-continuously for 25 weeks) and carry a 'U' certificate.
- (XIV) Films which have won as award in any international film festival held abroad.

[English]

Autonomous Councils for Tiwa and Mising Tribals

658. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the agreements signed on April 13, 1995 and June 14, 1995 for granting Autonomous Councils to Tiwa and Mising Tribals respectively in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Union Government's stand in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have also received any memorandum from Tribal Peoples Front and other Tribal Students Organisations of the Misings and the Tiwa in regards to such agreements raising the issue of boundary and area;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the Government's stand in respect of the issues raised in the memorandum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). The information is being obtained from the State Government and will be furnished after it is received.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. The Memorandum has, inter-alia, raised certain objections to the signing of the two Accords (Tiwa and Mising) by the State Government of Assam and demanded that implementation of the said Accords should be kept in abeyance and fresh tripartite Talks should be held by the Centre and the State Government with certain tribal organisations of the area. Comments of the State Government have been invited which are still awaited.

Funds for Central Sector

659. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for the Central Sector during 1995-96 to meet the core and Social Sector Targets of the Eighth Five Year Plan Period;

(b) the amount set/released and spent during the current Plan so far; and

(c) the achievement made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) A Statement I showing the Central Plan outlay (Budget Estimates) during the Annual Plan 1995-96 for Infrastructure and Social Sectors is attached.

(b) A Statement II showing the Plan allocation (Budget Estimates) and anticipated expenditure during the first three years of the Eighth Plan is at attached.

(c) The Central Plan investment is made for the country as a whole keeping the national priorities in view. It is neither planned nor accounted for State-wise.

STATEMENT I

		(Rs. Crore)
Sl. No.	Sectors	Plan Outlay (Budget Estimates) for Annual Plan 1995-96.

1.	Infrastructure Sector	46201.11
2.	Social Sectors	15378.86

Notes:-

1. 'Infrastructure sectors' includes Energy, Transport and Communication.
2. 'Social Sectors' includes Rural Development, Education, Health & Family Welfare, Welfare of SC/STs/OBCs including Women and Child, Labour, Information & Broadcasting etc.

STATEMENT II

		(Rs. Crores)	
Sl. No.	Sectors	Plan Outlay (Budget Estimates) during the first three years of the Eighth Plan (1992-95)	Anticipated Expenditure during the first three years of the Eighth Plan (1992-95)

1.	Infrastructure Sectors	109458.18	101845.75
2.	Social Sectors	31843.61	32763.26

Notes:-

1. 'Infrastructure sectors' includes Energy, Transport and Communication.
2. 'Social Sectors' includes Rural Development, Education, Health & Family Welfare, Welfare of SC/STs/OBCs including Women and Child, Labour, Information & Broadcasting etc.

Publicity on Prohibition

660. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is conducting adequate visual publicity programmes to combat alcoholism; and

(b) if so, the details of such programmes publicised to reduce consumption of alcohol amongst the poorer sections of people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Ministry of Welfare is conducting adequate visual publicity programmes to combat alcoholism.

(b) Awareness programmes to reduce consumption of alcohol amongst the poorer sections of people are being launched through multi-media campaign such as Electronic, Press and Outdoor Media etc. Details are given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

Publicity on Prohibition

1. FILM/ELECTRONIC MEDIA:

- a) 35 mm film entitled 'Naye Rishte' has been produced and released in Theatres all over India.
- b) Two 10 mts drama based programme on Prohibition was produced and released in Hindi and 11 regional languages and broadcast under weekly radio sponsored programme 'Aao Haath Badayen' over 30 commercial channel of All India Radio.

2. PRESS MEDIA:

- a) Half page advertisement with Mahatma Gandhiji's message on Prohibition was released in English, Hindi and Regional languages in National Dailies/weeklies all over India on 2.10.94 on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

3. PRINT MEDIA:

- a) One prize winning poster on Prohibition was printed in Hindi, English and regional languages and distributed to NGOs, State Welfare secretaries, Field Publicity Officers and Field Exhibition Officers.
- b) Various messages on Prohibition have been printed on following items:-
 - i) Computerised Railway tickets of Northern and Eastern Railway.
 - ii) Postal stationery i.e. post card, inland letter card and POSB pass books.

4. OUTDOOR MEDIA:

- a) Messages on Prohibition were on continuous display on following outdoor media in Delhi and Faridabad:
 - i) 250 Kiosks.
 - ii) 20 bus queue shelters in Delhi.
 - iii) 76 hoardings in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
 - iv) Message on Prohibition is on display on animation display board at Katra, Jammu.

Post Boxes in Villages

661. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages without a post box at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide one lakh post boxes in the country;

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

(d) the time by which the said facility is likely to be extended to all the remaining villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The State-wise number of villages without letter boxes is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) & (d). The Government's policy is to provide letter boxes in all the villages having a population of 500 or more, during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

STATEMENT

Statement showing number of villages without letter boxes as on 31.3.1995.

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of villages without letter boxes
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	481*
2.	Assam	11354
3.	Bihar	47486*
4.	Delhi	-
5.	Gujarat	352
	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	-
	Daman & Diu	-
6.	Haryana	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	11378
8.	J&K	2920
9.	Karnataka	10376
10.	Kerala	-
	Lakshadweep	-
11.	Maharashtra	11584
	Goa	42*
12.	Madhya Pradesh	38241*

1	2	3
13.	North East	
	Arunachal Pradesh	3104*
	Manipur	1064*
	Meghalaya	3968*
	Mizoram	288*
	Nagaland	598*
	Tripura	2274
14.	Orissa	32127
15.	Punjab	1676
	Chandigarh	-
16.	Rajasthan	17310
17.	Tamil Nadu	1793
	Pondicherry	62
18.	Uttar Pradesh	51155*
19.	West Bengal	5011*
	Sikkim	239*
	Andaman & Nicobar	27*
Total:		254910

* As on 31.3.1994.

Delhi: Police

662. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of Delhi Police in view of the increase in crime rate in the Capital; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). Improving the functioning of Delhi Police and augmenting its strength, including opening of new Police Stations, is a continuous on-going process. Proposals for expansion of the force are examined on merits as and when received.

LPG Agencies in Bihar

[Translation]

663. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware that the number of LPG agencies in Bihar are less in comparison to other States; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to set up more LPG agencies in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.7.95, there were 177 LPG distributorships operating in Bihar.

(b) LPG marketing is being expanded gradually and steadily by including more and more locations in the LPG Marketing Plan keeping in view the demand potential and product availability all over the country. Accordingly, in addition to 44 LPG distributorships pending for commissioning from previous Marketing Plans, 95 LPG distributorships have been included in the current plan 1994-96 for Bihar against the number of 1191 for the whole country.

[English]

Persons Detained Under TADA

664. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that persons detained under TADA have not been released even after the lapse of this Act; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, As per section 1(4) of the expired Act, any investigation or legal proceeding or remedy pending on the date of such expiry may be continued as if the Act had not expired.

Fire Safety Act

665. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Fire Safety Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). There is no Central Fire Safety Act because the legislations pertaining to 'Fire' are enacted by the respective States. The Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 was enacted by Parliament. No amendment to this Act is under consideration of the Central Government.

Change in Timings of National Channel

666. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a change has been made in the timings of the National Channel (I and II) television programmes and news timings recently;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has received representations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(b) to (d). The change has evoked both positive and negative reactions. On its part Doordarshan continues to monitor its programme schedule and will effect changes in it as and when deemed necessary based on its overall programme requirements from time to time.

[Translation]

Agricultural and Rural Development

667. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh under State Plan for agriculture and allied activities and rural development during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount sought for by the State Government and approved by the Planning Commission for this purpose during the above period; and

(c) the reasons for allocating less amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) The per-capita amount (based on the population figures of 1991 census) sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh under State Plan for agriculture and allied activities and rural development during the last three years are as follows:

Year	(Rupees)	
	Agriculture and Allied Activities	Rural Development
1993-94	27.26	19.22
1994-95	27.77	29.89
1995-96	32.09	47.12

(b) The amount sought for by the State Government and approved by the Planning Commission for the purpose during the above period are as follows:

Year	(Rs. crores)			
	Agriculture and Allied Activities		Rural Development	
	Proposed outlay	Approved outlay	Proposed outlay	Approved outlay
1993-94	181.64	181.64	128.10	128.10
1994-95	188.15	185.05	198.75	199.20
1995-96	213.83	213.83	314.04	314.04

(c) The allocation for individual sectors is decided on the basis of overall outlay as well as priority fixed for different sectors.

[English]

ONGC Plan

668. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil Natural Gas Corporation plan for coming out with a high premium public issue in May, 1995 has been abandoned;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this decision has severely affected the plans of Oil Natural Gas Corporation;

(d) if so, to what extent;

(e) the time by which the Oil Natural Gas Corporation propose to come out with the public issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The proposed issue was postponed by ONGC due to depressed sentiment in the capital market in India, especially the primary market, which was considered not very conducive to a large public issue.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) ONGC would come out with a public issue after taking into account market sentiments so that the issue elicits a good response.

Hostels for SC/ST Students

669. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe students constructed in Tamil Nadu during the last three years alongwith the locations thereof;

(b) the amount released by the Union Government for this purpose; and

(c) the number of SC/ST students benefited there from during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Number of Hostels for SC/ST students constructed/under construction in Tamil Nadu during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 alongwith the locations thereof under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Hostels for SC/ST Girls/Boys students.

Year	Location of the Hostels constructed/under construction	Progress of construction
1	2	3
SC Girls Hostels		
1992-93	1) Girls Hostel at Trichirapalli Town (Indirapali)	Under construction.
	2) Girls Hostel at Panapakkam (North Arcot Ambedkar)	—do—
	3) Girls Hostel at Permabalur (Trichirapali)	—do—
	4) Girls Hostel at Arakkanam (North Arcot Ambedkar)	—do—
	5) Girls Hostel at Payamatham (Dharmapuri)	Agency to be settled.
	6) Girls Hostel at Maruvathur (Trichirapalli)	Under Construction.
1993-94	1) Girls Hostel at Nannilam (Nagai-Quid-E-Milloth)	Tender Stage
	2) Girls Hostel at Bargur (Dharmapuri)	—do—
	3) Girls Hostel at Nagalur (V.R.P.)	—do—

1	2	3	
	4) Girls Hostel at Pernamallur (Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar)	—do—	
	5) Girls Hostel at Paranampattu (North Arcot Ambedkar)	Tender stage	
	6) Girls Hostel at Poovanipattu (Trichy)	—do—	
1994-95	Not reported by the State Govt.		
	SC Boys Hostels		
1992-93	1) Boys Hostel at Ulundurpottai (South Arcot)	Under Construction.	
	2) Boys Hostel at Poovanipattu (Trichy)	—do—	
	3) Boys Hostel at Sangarai (Salem)	—do—	
	4) Boys Hostel at Tirunalvali Junction (Nallai Kattabommen)	Site Dispute	
	5) Boys Hostel at Spakkam (South Arcot)	Under Construction.	
	6) Boys Hostel at Thittakudi (South Arcot)	—do—	
1993-94	1) Boys Hostel at Pudukuppam (V.R.P.)	Tender Stage.	
	2) Boys Hostel at Pampattipatti (Trichy)	—do—	
	3) Boys Hostel at Kadayanallur (Nellaikattaboman)	—do—	
	4) Boys Hostel at Thiyagadurugam (V.R.P.)	—do—	
	5) Boys Hostel at Eraiyur (V.R.P.)	—do—	
	6) Boys Hostel at Ubilampatti (Madurai)	—do—	
	7) Boys Hostel at Nallur (South Arcot Vallalar)	—do—	
1994-95	Not reported by the State Govt.		
	ST Girls Hostels		
1992-93	Girls Hostels at Kunjapanni (Nilgiris Distt.)	Not reported by the State Govt.	
1993-94	Not reported by the State Govt. (No. hostel was sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme).		
1994-95	— do —		
	ST Boys Hostels		
1992-93	Boys Hostel at North Arcot Ambedkar	Not reported by the State Govt.	
1993-94	Not reported by the State Govt. (No hostel was sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme).		
1994-95	— do —		
(b)&(c)	Central Assistance released, number of SC/ST hostels and number of inmates sanctioned to Govt. of Tamil Nadu during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for SC/ST Girls/Boys.		
Year	CA released (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Hostels sanctioned	No. of Inmates sanctioned
1	2	3	4
	SC Girls Hostels		
1992-93	80.88	8	800
1993-94	50.55	5	500
1994-95	Nil	—	—

1	2	3	4
SC Boys Hostels			
1992-93	60.66	6	600
1993-94	43.6295	6	600
1994-95	17.0305 (Arrears of 1993-94)	—	—
ST Girls Hostels			
1992-93	6.12	1	50
1993-94	Nil	—	—
1994-95	Nil	—	—
ST Boys Hostels			
1992-93	6.74	1	5
1993-94	Nil	—	—
1994-95	Nil	—	—

Post Office Buildings

670. SHRI RAJANATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices housed in private buildings in U.P.;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct its own post office buildings in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 2596 Post offices are housed in private buildings in U.P. Postal Circle.

(b) and (c) Due to non-availability of financial resources, no new construction of departmental building for Post Offices is being taken up, during the current financial year.

Conversion of Refining Companies

671. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to convert refining companies into energy companies by asking them to enter the power generation sector in association with the private sector, and

(b) if so, the reasons and purpose thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) No such decision has been

taken. However, CRL and MRL are considering proposals to set up power plants in a joint venture.

TV Transmitters in Kerala

672. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the proposed T.V. transmitter at Cannanore in Kerala has been commenced;

(b) if not, the time by which the work on this project is likely to be commenced and completed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in commencing work on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Site for the proposed High Power TV Transmitter at Cannanore has been taken over and building plans have been finalised. The normal lead time involved in implementation of a project of this magnitude is about 3 to 4 years after approval of the scheme by the competent authority.

Poverty Alleviation

673. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report by the Non-Governmental Organisation Action Aid that absolute poverty has been growing steadily in the country at an annual rate of 12% and that its present level exceeds 40%;

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

(c) whether any further steps are under consideration of the Government for alleviation and eventual elimination of absolute poverty in the country by the end of the century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) While speaking on "Changing macro economic scenario and the role of NGOs" in a symposium, Non governmental Organisation, ACTIONAID has mentioned that poverty has been growing at 1-2 per cent and it now exceeds 40%.

(b) As per official estimates the poverty has reduced from 51.5% in 1992-73 to 48.3% in 1977-78, 37.4% in 1983-84 and 29.9% in 1987-88. The comparable estimates for the later periods are not yet available.

(c) A number of programmes are being implemented in order to improve the quality and life of the poor households. Of these, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme are being continued.

Three new Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Universalisation of Integrated Child Development System (ICDS), Community Nutrition Centre and Indira Mahila Yojana are to be introduced shortly.

A new scheme for eradication of poverty in Towns having populations between 50,000 and 1,00,000 known as Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP) is under consideration.

Telecast. of Films

674. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made selection of films for telecast during the next two months; and

(b) if so, the names of such films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) The names of the Indian films likely to be telecast by Doordarshan on the national network during this period are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Names of the films likely to be Telecast during the next two months.

DD - I

Hindi (Saturday)

Sl. No. Name of the film

1. Anjali
2. Appu Raja
3. Nakabandi
4. Saboot Mangta Hai Khoon
5. Ghar Ho To Aisa
6. Qaid Mein Hai Bulbul

Regional (Sunday)

1. Sasti (Oriya)
2. Mister Pellam (Telugu)
3. Sunya Theke Suru (Bengali)
4. Swamy Nasanta Kukdi (Gujarati)
5. Chinna Ri Mutha (Kannada)
6. Ilayam Mullum (Malayalam)
7. Saaphabeen (Manipuri)
8. Tu Binu Anya Gatinah (Oriya)

DD-2

Hindi (Saturday and Sunday)

1. Prem Geet
2. Amma
3. Yaad Rakhegi Duniya
4. Unch Neech Beech
5. Guru Hoja Shuru
6. Rukhsat
7. Bandhan Kachche Dhagon Ka
8. Swarg

New Coalfields to SEBs

675. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the policy for allotment of new coalfields to State Electricity Boards (SEBs) or private parties for their captive use to ensure supply of coal to their plants;

(b) the number of such proposals received so far and decisions taken thereon alongwith proposals pending;

(c) the total number of new coalfields available for captive use by private parties/NRIs and the State Electricity Boards and their production potential; and

(d) the estimated production of coal proposed from such mines during current year and next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was amended in 1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for generation of power, for washing of coal obtained from a mine or for other end uses to be notified by Government from time to time, in addition to the existing provisions for the production of iron and steel.

(b) For power generating purposes applications from 22 private power companies/State Electricity Boards etc. have been received so far. After consideration, coal mining blocks for 13 power companies/State Electricity Boards have been indentified for their captive use.

(c) 47 coal blocks in 16 coalfields have been identified so far for mining for captive use and the total estimated geological reserves therein are estimated to be about 14000 million tonnes.

(d) Coal production programmes from the captive coal blocks identified for power generating purposes is dependent on completion of various procedural formalities before commencement of the mining activities.

Sealing of Gujarat Borders

676. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to erect barbed wire fencing in Kutch and other districts to seal the borders of Gujarat with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the Government also propose to establish permanent check-posts of the Border Security Force and Coast-Guard at some vulnerable places in Kutch District to check the activities of Pakistani intruders and for the protection of Indian fishermen;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to convene a

meeting of the Chief Ministers of all border States to sort out the problems and ensure better co-ordination between the border States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) At present 4 Bns of BSF are deployed on Indo-Pak border of Gujarat State and there is no proposal to establish additional stations/Posts of BSF.

Three Coast-Guard stations have been established in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat at Porvander, Okha and Vadinar to protect the interest of Indian fishermen. In addition maritime reconnaissance of the area is regularly undertaken by aircraft operating from Daman.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

De-Addiction Centres

677. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central assistance provided to Orissa for strengthening the infrastructure in establishment of De-addiction centres during each of the last two years;

(b) whether any Centre has been established in Orissa during the said period;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether any project of the State Government is pending with the Union Government for approval in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reasons and the time by which the project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The grant-in-aid setting up of De-addiction Centres by NGOs is considered depending upon the seriousness of the drug abuse problem in the concerned area and existence of adequate number of centres in the area and availability, of funds.

(d) and (e) No Sir.

STATEMENT

Central Assistance provided to Orissa for non Government organisations for strengthening the infrastructure in establishment of De-Addiction centres during 1993-94 & 1994-95

Sl No.	Name of the Organisation	Amount Sanctioned	
		1993-94	1994-95
1.	Association of Moral Guide and Legal Aid Services to Poor, Nayagarh.	6,44,820	3,33,456
2.	Akhil Bharatiya Adivasi Vikas Parishad, Rourkela	6,80,628	3,69,360
3.	Centre for Youth and Social Development, Bhubaneswar	4,59,600	6,94,846
4.	Open Learning Systems Bhubaneswar	6,69,060	6,78,780
5.	National Institute of Community Health, Bhubaneswar	6,79,320	6,73,169
6.	Nilachal Seva Pratisthan Puri	6,95,520	6,62,580
7.	Project Swarajya Cuttack	7,48,336	6,82,830
Total:		45,77,284	40,95,021

Coal Production

678. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for production of coal during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the demands of the States are likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All India coal production target fixed by Planning Commission for year 1995-96 is 274.50 million tonnes. Company wise break-up of production is given below:

(In million tonnes)

Coal India Ltd.	241.00
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.	28.00
Others	5.50
Total	274.50

(c) Demand of coal is not assessed state-wise. The demand is assessed industry and sector-wise for the country as a whole. All India projected demand of coal for the year 1995-96 is 288 million tonnes. The gap between demand and production will be bridged by draw down of stock to the extent of 7.50 mt. and import of 6.00 mt. of coking coal for blending purposes.

Trunk Exchanges in Tamil Nadu

679. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computerised trunk exchanges proposed to be set up in Tamil Nadu with locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government also propose to start remote line exchanges in that State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) During 1995-96 five numbers of Computerised Trunk Exchange proposed to be installed at the following places:-

1. Erode
2. Coimbatore
3. Trichy
4. Vellore
5. Madras.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The equipment ordered is only for the cities indicated above.

Underground Coal Mining

680. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY:

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHIR PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and France have entered into any agreement regarding extending the term of bilateral co-operation for improvement in underground coal mining technology;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) when this agreement is likely to be effective;

(d) whether the Coal India Limited is seeking assistance from France and England for thick seam underground mining; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) During the 14th Working Group Meeting on Coal held in New Delhi on 20-22 June, 1995 India and France agreed to extend the existing bilateral co-operation in coal sector including in underground mining technology. However, no project specific agreement was signed.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, a project for thick seam underground coal mining is already under implementation by Coal India Ltd. with French collaboration at Kottadih.

Import of Petroleum Products

681. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have asked leading refineries to review the system of import of petroleum products;

(b) if so, the quantum of petroleum products imported during the last three years and foreign exchange involved therein;

(c) whether the Government propose to chalk out plans to reduce imports and to boost indigenous production of petroleum products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. The import of petroleum products for public sector oil companies is canalised through Indian Oil Corporation.

(b) The quantity and value of petroleum products imported during the last 3 years was as under:

	Quantity (Million tonnes)	The value of foreign exchange in terms of Indian Rupees (Rs. Crores)
1992-93	11.283	6360
1993-94	12.076	7041
1994-95*	13.951	7522

Provisional.

(c) and (d) Government have allowed private investment in the oil refining sector. As against the existing refining capacity of 57.40 MMTPA, the total refining capacity in the country after the expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries, setting up of new grass-root refineries J.VCs and private sector refineries, including EOUs, is expected to be around 153 MMTPA. This capacity would be sufficient to meet the projected demand of petroleum products, since the demand of petroleum products in the year 2001-2002 is estimated to be about 102 MMTPA.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

682. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants-in-aid sanctioned and released to the Government of Kerala under the Relief and Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons and Repatriates Scheme during 1995-96;

(b) whether the Union Government have any check on the utilisation of this grant;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No amount of Grants-in-aid has been sanctioned or released to the Government of Kerala Under the Relief and Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons and Repatriates Scheme during 1995-96.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Operation Third Eye

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

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI P. KUMARASAMY:

SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Internal Security in danger" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated June 16, 1995;

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

(c) whether a High Power Committee "Operation Third Eye" has been constituted;

(d) if so, the terms and reference thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to make the Vohra Committee report public; and

(f) if so, when and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reports available indicate that Pakistani and Indian smugglers are involved in smuggling activities. Some terrorists are also reported to be exploiting these channels for receiving funds from abroad.

(c) and (d) A nodal Group under the Chairmanship of the Home Secretary has been constituted to guide investigations into cases of nexus between underworld - politicians - Bureaucrats - Businessmen.

(e) and (f) Vohra Committee Report has been laid on the Tables of both Houses of Parliament on 1-8-1995.

Electronic Exchanges in Gujarat

684. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of old telephone exchanges in Gujarat;

(b) the number of electronic exchanges which have been put into operation till date; and

(c) the number of villages where the telephone facility had been provided during 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 59 as on 30.06.95.

(b) 1281 as on 30.06.95.

(c) 3399.

[Translation]

Irrigation Water Management

685. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to involve farmers' participation in the irrigation water management for better utilisation of created irrigation facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States where such scheme is implemented;

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to implement the scheme in the remaining States;

(e) whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to increase the representation of farmers in the Command Area Development Board;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (A) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme Union Ministry of Water Resources is providing Central assistance at the rate of Rs. 50 per hectare for the first two years and Rs. 37.50 per hectare for the 3rd year as management subsidy for the farmer's associations formed at minor level for taking over management of water distribution.

Central assistance is also admissible on matching basis with the States as grant for taking up farmers' training, organising conferences and seminars to popularise the idea and undertaking action research programme in the command covered under Command Area Development Programme.

(c) Twenty two States and two Union Territories are participating under the scheme. These are; Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and Union Territories of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

(d) The remaining States and Union territories may opt for the scheme as the same is open to all.

(e) & (f) Union Government have asked the States to form Command Area Development Boards in lieu of Command Area Development Agencies with a minimum representations of 60 percent of non-officials including farmers.

Union Minister for Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri V.C. Shukla has written to Chief Ministers of all twenty two participating States on 19th June, 1995 requesting them to form Command Area Development Boards.

(g) Reactions of States Governments are awaited.

[English]

Oil Refinery in Orissa

686. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an oil refinery in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands and the efforts made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation has, in principle, approval to set up a 6 MMTPA joint-venture refinery in East Coast. Government has also approved the proposal of IOC for selection of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) as a joint partner with IOC for the refinery.

CBI Raids on Doordarshan Offices

687. SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA RAO:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

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

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted raids on the offices of Doordarshan in Delhi and Bombay recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the raids alongwith the details of the indiscriminate documents seized; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be even against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d) During a surprise check of a few Doordarshan Offices at Delhi, CBI have seized some official documents. Subsequently, CBI have also obtained some official documents from Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay. The CBI's report has not been received so far. However, normally in such cases, further action if any, against delinquent officials, etc. is taken according to the rules on receipt of CBI's report. The disclosure at this stage of the documents seized will jeopardise CBI's inquiry and will not be in public interest.

Coal Mining

688. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether purpose for amendment to the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 allowing private power promoters to develop and mine coal for captive use has served its purpose; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, was amended w.e.f. 9.6.1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining for captive consumption for power generation and for other end uses. Since this amendment, 36 proposals were received and placed before the Screening Committee constituted by the Government for the purpose. Out of those, 12 private companies have been offered captive coal blocks, nine of these being for power generation and two for Sponge iron production and one for Pig iron production. The above parties have been directed to contact the concerned State Government Authorities for completing necessary formalities with regard to obtaining the lease of mining rights and related matters.

(b) A statement giving the necessary details of the 12 private companies who were offered captive coal mining blocks is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of allocation of coal mining blocks to private companies.

Sl. No.	Name	End use	Coalfields in which blocks identified/ indicated are located.
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. R.P.G. Industries Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation	Power generation	Raniganj, North Karanpura, Mahan
2.	M/s. Kalinga Power Corporation	Power generation	Talcher
3.	M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	Power generation	Wardha/ Bander
4.	M/s. Indian Aluminum Company Ltd.	Power generation	Ib Valley
5.	M/s. Development Consultants Ltd.	Power generation	Chuperbhita
6.	M/s. Associated Cement Company Ltd.	Power generation	Wardha
7.	M/s. HOKI	Power generation	Talcher
8.	M/s. Samlai Power Private Ltd.	Power generation	Ib Valley
9.	M/s. Videocon Power Ltd.	Power generation	Talcher

1	2	3	4
10.	M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd.	Sponge Iron	Raigarh
11.	M/s. Prakash Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron	Hasdeo-Arand
12.	M/s. Birla Technical Services Ltd.	Pig Iron	North Karanpura

Norms for Telephones

689. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications have announced on the May 3, 1995 the new norms in regard to the installation and working of telephones in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Sir, presumably the question refers to a news item which appeared on 4.5.1995 in an English Newspaper. Details are as follows:

The Department of Telecom. have decided to observe 1995-96 as "Year of Customer Satisfaction". Department of Telecom have taken a number of decisions for implementation during the year to provide focus on customer satisfaction in the changing telecom scenario. The details of new norms are as under:

(1) Restoration of long term safe custody of telephones will be done on overriding priority within one month of receiving the request and short term safe custody will be done within a week of receiving the request or on the day specified by the customer whichever is later.

(2) STD/ISD facilities will be provided within 48 hours of receipt of request from the customer.

(3) Barring those cases which are due to excess metering on prolonged interruptions in service, any refunds to the customer would be paid within 60 days. Interest will be payable in case of delays beyond this period. The DOT will setup vigilance squads to check tampering of telephone equipment.

(4) Existing procedure for the use of landlord's telephone by tenant has been simplified. A joint declaration from the landlords and the tenant along with a fee of Rs. 100/- will be sufficient for an agreed period.

(5) Registration for new telephone connection at a place can be done by post. Standard format will be made available in all customer service centres for this purpose, simplified forms will be used for new telephone connections.

Development of Orissa

690. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to develop Orissa as a model State; and

(b) if so, details of the special Central assistance proposed/released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b). As per available information, there is no proposal by the Government to develop Orissa as a Model State.

[Translation]

Sardar Sarovar Project

691. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present height of the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) the number of families displaced due to the present height of the projects;

(c) the number of families rehabilitated so far alongwith the details of facilities provided to them; and

(d) the time by which the remaining families are likely to be rehabilitated?

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

(a) The lowest block level upto which the Sardar Sarovar Dam has been raised is EL. 80.3 metres. Humps of 1.2 metres height in Spillway Block Nos. 30, 31, 38 to 41 and 3 metres height in Spillway Block Nos. 32 to 37 and 42 to 46 have also been provided from safety consideration.

(b) The project affected families displaced due to the present height (EL 80.3 metres) of the dam is as follows:

State	No. of affected families (PAFs)	
	No. of PAFs affected due to permanent submergence	No. of PAFs affected due to temporary submergence
Gujarat	31	177
Maharashtra	81	559
Madhya Pradesh	7	512

(c) The progress of Resettlement & Rehabilitation upto 15th July, 1995 is as under:

Total No. of Project Affected Families (PAFs)	House Plots Allotted (No. of PAFs)	Agricultural Land Allotted (No. of PAFs)
40,727	8,999	8,843

Apart from allotment of House Plots and Agricultural Land to the eligible families, the Project Affected Families are provided payment of subsistence allowance, rehabilitation grant, ex-gratia, productive assets and civic amenities like primary schools, wells, hand pumps, transit-sheds, insurance cover and electrification.

(d) Rehabilitation Programme for the affected families is linked with the progress of construction of the dam. Steps have been taken to rehabilitate the families well before the actual submergence of the villages in which they reside.

[English]

Expansion of Postal Services

692. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had a proposal for the expansion of postal services in the country during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction so far, State-wise?

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

(b) Postal facilities are extended by opening of post offices and upgrading post offices, subject to fulfilment of norms and availability of resources under the Five Year Plans. Postal Circle-wise, Post offices sanctioned during the first three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

Post offices sanctioned during the first three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95)

S. No.	Name of Circle	Sanctioned	
		EDBC *	DSO **
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	20
2.	Assam	53	10
3.	Bihar	160	9
4.	Delhi	•	18
5.	Gujarat	45	12
6.	Haryana	26	9
7.	H.P.	105	4
8.	J & K	28	1
9.	Karnatak	31	18
10.	Kerala	45	15
11.	Maharashtra	142	43
12.	M.P.	85	16
13.	North East	75	5
14.	Orissa	82	12
15.	Punjab	18	11
16.	Rajasthan	92	14
17.	Tamil Nadu	18	11
18.	U.P.	193	28
19.	West Bengal	90	6
Total		1306	262

* Extra Departmental Branch Post Office

** Departmental Sub Post Office.

Channels Under Doordarshan

693. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of channels presently operation under Doordarshan;

(b) the revenue generated from each channel of Doordarshan in 1994-95;

(c) whether there are proposals to further increase Doordarshan channels in 1995-96; and

(d) if so, the details thereon?

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

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

(c) and (d). The DD-3 channel is likely to be operationalised during this period.

Petroleum Products Crisis

694. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Southern States have faced crisis of petroleum products in May, 1995;

(b) if so, the main reasons for such crisis;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry has taken a decision to formulate a policy to meet the petroleum products crisis in the Southern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). No report of shortage of petrol and diesel has been reported in any of the Southern States except in Andhra Pradesh on account of the high growth in demand in some parts of the State. Owing to inadequate bulk movement capacity and saturation of rail movement capacity, the Oil Industry had to move the products by road refinery/port locations like Vizag and Madras to meet the shortfall. Further, during the current month, owing to the delayed monsoon, the demand of diesel continues to be very high which is being fully met.

(c) and (d). As a long-term policy measure, the Government have decided to create facilities to maintain 45 days inventory and to develop a national pipeline grid to ensure faster movement of products. As a short-term measure, the Oil Industry has been asked to develop additional road transport capacity to meet the immediate product requirement of all locations in order to supplement the shortfall in rain movement capacity.

[Translation]

Advertisements

695. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Akashvani and Doordarshan's revenues have increased considerably on account of advertisements;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) the amount outstanding against various parties in this regard; during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken to recover such outstanding dues of Doordarshan and Akashvani?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The gross commercial revenue earned by All India Radio and Doordarshan which has shown an upward trend over the years was as under during the last two years:

Year	All India Radio	Doordarshan
(Rupees in Crores)		
1993-94	64.35	372.98
1994-95	64.37	398.02

(c) Agency-wise details of outstanding dues for the period 1993-94 and 1994-95 in respect of major defaulters in respect of All India Radio is given in the enclosed statement.

In so far as Doordarshan is concerned, the information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) In order to ensure timely payment of dues, All India Radio and Doordarshan are taking recourse to all the contractual provisions including encashment of bank guarantee, de-accreditation of errant agencies, arbitration and legal action.

STATEMENT

*Outstanding dues of Major Defaulters
in respect of Commercial Broadcasting Service,
All India Radio (1993 - 1994)*

S.No.	Name of the Agency	Amount outstanding
1	2	3
		Rs.
1.	M/s. Creative Unit, Bombay	4,54,850
2.	M/s. Contract Advertising	3,47,159
3.	M/s. DAVP	46,14,729
4.	M/s. Hindustan Thompson	7,45,555
5.	M/s. Headstart	5,36,341
6.	M/s. Krishna Leela	1,45,520
7.	M/s. Lintas	4,94,879

1	2	3
8.	M/s. Mudra Communications	1,34,943
9.	M/s. Mode Advertising	8,05,286
10.	M/s. Musirecca Cassettes	3,23,666
11.	M/s. Ogilvy & Mather	4,62,368
12.	M/s. Pragati Radio	1,98,140
13.	M/s. Renukay Advertising	5,72,148
14.	M/s. Rediffusion Advertising	2,11,655
15.	M/s. Radio TV Comercials	17,16,239
16.	M/s. Rayer Communications	3,28,958
17.	M/s. Srishti Advertising	1,25,919
18.	M/s. Tara Sinha Associates	1,00,472
19.	M/s. VRG Agencies	16,46,404
20.	M/s. Sri Raghavendra	2,65,311
21.	M/s. Shree Advertising	1,60,634
22.	M/s. Mantralaya Mahan Ads.	2,52,613
23.	M/s. Clarion	1,60,514
24.	M/s. A to Z	1,19,214
25.	M/s. Ambilikalanilayan	1,12,154
26.	M/s. Kamread News	4,88,017
27.	M/s. Response India	1,19,851
28.	M/s. Chaitra Advertising	1,62,318
29.	M/s. Jaishree Pictures	1,35,875

Outstanding dues of major defaulters in respect of commercial broadcasting service, All India Radio (1994 - 1995)

S.No.	Name of the Agency	Amount outstanding
1	2	3
		Rs.
1.	M/s. Dte. Audio Visual Publicity	51,74,076
2.	M/s. Mode Advertising	19,05,022
3.	M/s. Herald Advertising	5,45,020
4.	M/s. Creative Unite	11,09,622
5.	M/s. Musirecca Cassettes	3,80,284
6.	M/s. Ogilvy & Mather	3,83,106
7.	M/s. Krishna Leela	3,66,173

1	2	3
8.	M/s. Rediffusion Advertising	12,67,062
9.	M/s. Mudra Communications	2,15,494
10.	M/s. Image Ads. & Communications	1,88,924
11.	M/s. Norvicson Advertisements	2,72,362
12.	M/s. Super Ads.	2,24,893
13.	M/s. Vichitra Arts	1,88,021
14.	M/s. Ulka Advertising	2,24,381
15.	M/s. Friends Advertising	1,42,249
16.	M/s. Hindustan Advertising	1,35,659
17.	M/s. Shree Advertising	1,15,678
18.	M/s. Rucha Vision	1,12,073
19.	M/s. Enterprises Advertising	1,54,851
20.	M/s. Ankur Advertising & Mktg.	1,03,161
21.	M/s. System Recording	1,07,191
22.	M/s. Maa Communications	1,05,995
23.	M/s. Lintas	5,00,664
24.	M/s. Contract	1,27,799
25.	M/s. Clarion Advertising	1,19,245
26.	M/s. Media Advertising	1,06,545

[English]

Meeting of Newsprint Advisory Committee

696. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Newsprint Advisory Committee has held its meeting to discuss the problems of small and medium newspapers with regard to newsprint;

(b) if so, the main issues discussed in the meeting;

(c) whether the suggestions made by the Committee have been accepted by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The following were the main issues discussed in the meeting held on 6.6.1995:

(i) Newsprint Import Policy for 1995-96.

- (ii) Subsidy on Newsprint.
- (iii) Prices of Indigenous Newsprint;
- (iv) Duty & Tax Concessions on Newsprint;
- (v) Availability of Newsprint;
- (vi) Increase of DAVP rates and quantum of advertisements etc.

(c) and (e) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion have already notified "Newsprint (Regulation of Production and Distribution) Order, 1995" whereby the newsprint mills are required to earmark 1/3 of their annual production to meet the demand of small and medium newspapers whose annual requirement of newsprint is upto 200 MTs. The existing weightage in advertisement rates for small and medium newspapers upto the circulation of 50000 copies has been increased by 15% with effect from 1st July, 1995. The other demands made in the meeting have also been taken note of by the Government for appropriate action.

Alcohol Consumption

697. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been done by his Ministry on the prevalence of alcohol consumption amongst working people;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the recommendations made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

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

De-Addiction Centres

698. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of De-addiction centres in Delhi and other States;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more such centres; and

(c) if so, the number of De-addiction centres proposed to be set up during 1995-96, State-wise/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) There are 136 De-addiction Centres in the country. Out of these, 8 De-addiction Centres are functioning in Delhi.

(b) and (c). The setting up of more such Centres during 1995-96 will depend upon the need and the gravity of the problem in different parts of the country.

Repatriation of Burmese Nationals

699. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Burmese nationals living in Andaman and Nicobar Islands with specific permission from the Government of India;

(b) since when they have been staying there; and

(c) the time by which they are likely to be repatriated to Burma?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). About 80 (eighty) Burmese nationals are living in Andaman & Nicobar Islands on the strength of Residential Permits. Among them, approximately 30 (thirty) Burmese nationals are staying there since birth and the rest are living in the Islands since 1990. At present, there is no proposal to repatriate them.

Fire Accidents

700. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the number of fire accidents in the high-rise buildings in Delhi this year, Government have again caused a survey of fire safety measures and devices provided in such buildings in the capital;

(b) if so, the number of high rise buildings in Delhi/ New Delhi considered hazardous and unsafe; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure adequate fire safety in such buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are at present 95 high rise buildings in Delhi which do not have the twelve basic fire safety requirements.

(c) Notices under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 are issued from time to time to owners/ occupiers of all multistoreyed buildings that fall short of the minimum requirements for adequate fire-safety. Reasonable time is given for meeting these requirements.

Fire Incident in Sagar Samrat

701. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Ministry of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been fire incident in the engine room of Sagar Samrat, the drilling rig of ONGC;

(b) if so, the causes of the fire;

(c) the financial and production loss as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent recurrence of such fires in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Yes, sir. A fire broke out on 23rd June, 1995 in the engine room of the ONGC's drilling rig Sagar Samrat due to short circuit in the electrical cable.

(c) The financial loss was about 6.93 crores. There was no production loss as the rig was deployed in exploratory drilling.

(d) The measures taken to prevent such fire incidents are:-

(i) All precautionary measures recommended by the enquiry committee are being implemented.

(ii) An expert committee has been appointed to carry out technical and safety Audit of all ONGC rigs in the Bombay region.

[*Translation*]

ISD/STD Booths in U.P.

702. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advertisements were given for allotment of I.S.D./S.T.D. booths in Uttar Pradesh particularly, in Jaunpur district;

(b) whether these booths have not yet been allotted even after one year of the advertisement;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the criteria adopted for allotment of such booths; and

(e) the time by which these allotments are likely to be made?

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

STD System in M.P.

703. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that S.T.D. system is not working properly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether calls from major cities and other places of the country do not materialise for months together; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to redress the complaints of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, the S.T.D. System in Madhya Pradesh is working properly.

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

(c) No, Sir. No such problem exists.

(d) In order to reduce the complaints about quality of STD services, it is proposed to replace the existing Openwire Transmission media which are prone to disturbances, by reliable radio or fibre optic media through planned development.

[*English*]

Import of Kerosene

704. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the proposal to import kerosene; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government has approved the import of about 4.182 of SKO for the year 1995-96.

Inclusion of OBCs in Central List

705. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Backward Classes has received any representation from the Government of Tamil Nadu for inclusion of OBCs in the Central List during the last three years;

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

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). Three representations have been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu by the National Commission for Backward Classes since its constitution in August, 1993. The request made in these representations and the status of action taken by Commission are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT*Details of Representation received by National Commission for Backward Classes.*

1. Request for inclusion of Panisaivan including 'Veerakodi Vellala' in the Central List of Backward Classes.

2. Request for inclusion of the following communities in the Central List of Backward Classes:

1. Battu Turkas
2. Devagudi Talayaris
3. Reddy (Ganjam)
4. Nangudi Vellalar
5. Agaram Vellan Chettiar
6. Ansar
7. Ayira Vaisyar
8. Chowdry
9. Kallar Kula Thondaman
10. Kaniyala Vellalar
11. Kannidiya Naidu
12. Karpooora Chettiar
13. Kasikkara Chettiar
14. Kongu Vaishnava
15. Kudikara Vellalar
16. Kuga Vellalar
17. Lingayat
18. Moondrumandal Embathu Nalu (84) Ur. Sozhia Vellalar
19. Oottruvalanattu Vellalar
20. O.P.S. Vellalar
21. Paiyur Kotta Vellalar
22. Podikara Vellalar
23. Pooluva Goundar
24. Pulayar (in Coimbatore & Periyar Distts.)
25. Shoik
26. Sundaram Chetty
27. Syed
28. Thoraiyar
29. Ukkirakula Kshatriya Naicker
30. Urakkara Nayakkar

31. Velar
32. Servai
33. Rawthar
34. Mangola, Pronopakari
35. Moopnar, Nainar
36. Agasa, Madivala, Ekali.

The above cases are being considered by the National Commission for Backward Classes. Public meetings have been held and State Govt. is to furnish information.

3. Inclusion of Christians in the list of OBC - Representation of the Indian Christian Association of Tamil Nadu - regarding.

Name of caste/community:

1. Converts to Christianity from SCs
2. Converts to Christianity from Nadar, Shanar, Gramani.
3. Paravar including Converts to Christianity
4. Meenavar, parvatharajakulam, Pattanavar, Sembadavar (including converts to Christianity)
5. CSI formerly SIUC in Kanniyakumari Distt. and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli-Kattabomman Distt.
6. Latin Catholics in Kanniyakumari Distt. and Shencottah Taluk of Tirunelveli-Kattabomman Distt.
7. Converts to Christianity from any Hindu Backward Class community (which includes Vanniyakula, Kshatriya, Maravar and Kallar).

These communities are already included in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu.

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

706. SHRI MULLA PALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new telephone exchanges opened and expanded in Kerala during 1994-95; and

(b) the details of new telephone exchanges proposed to be opened in Kerala during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The details of opening of new telephone exchanges and expansion of existing telephone exchanges in Kerala are as under:-

1994 - 95

- (i) No. of new telephone exchanges opened - 25
- (ii) No. of existing telephone exchanges expanded - 242

1995 - 96

- (iii) No. of telephone exchanges proposed to be opened

- 53

Flood Control Scheme

707. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the latest estimate for execution of the Mahananda Basin Flood Control Scheme as finalised by the Ganga Basin Commission;

(b) the elements of the scheme which have been executed upto April, 1995 and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the elements of the scheme to be executed during 1995-96 and the allocation therefor; and

(d) whether there has been any decision by the State Government on the time frame for the execution of the entire scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) The latest estimated cost of Mahananda Flood Control Scheme is Rs. 2,062.91 lakhs as per Annual Plan 1994-95.

(b) So far 240.40 km. of embankment has been constructed in Bihar under this scheme. Expenditure incurred upto March, 1994 on this scheme is about Rs. 2,170 lakhs. No provision was made against this scheme by Government of Bihar during 1994-95.

(c) Government of Bihar has finalised an anti erosion, raising and strengthening of existing embankment at an estimated cost of Rs. 334.29 lakhs for implementation in 1995-96.

(d) Flood Control Schemes are planned by the State Government according to their own priority.

Development Schemes

708. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development schemes sanctioned by the Planning Commission for Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the achievements made by the State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission within the framework of the Five Year Plans finalise Annual Plans and Sectoral outlays primarily on the

priorities decided by the State Governments. Details of the Annual Plan for Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are given in the Annual Plan documents of the State which have been made available to Parliament Library. Since these schemes are formulated by the State Governments, the Planning Commission does not have any direct role in the implementation or monitoring thereof. The Commission's role is restricted to a general review of these schemes at the time of Annual Plan discussions with the State Government.

Projects in Goa

709. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects for development of information network in Goa implemented by the Government during the last three years;

(b) the major schemes/projects under implementation during the current year; and

(c) the allocation of funds made during the current year for implementation of the above schemes/projects in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO): (a) During the last three years i.e. 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95, following schemes/projects have been implemented in Goa:

i. Upgradation of 5 KW MW Tr. to 20 KW MW Tr. at AIR, Panaji.

ii. 2 x 3 KW FM (Stereo) at AIR, Panaji.

(b) The following schemes/projects are under implementation during the current year:

i. Type III (R) Studio at AIR, Panaji.

ii. 2 x 250 KW SW Transmitter for external services of AIR at Panaji.

iii. LPT at Panaji for transmitting DD II Channel.

(c) An amount of Rs. 73.35 lakhs has been earmarked for the above schemes during the current financial year.

Demand and Supply of Oil and Gas

710. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any long-term strategy to manage future demand and supply of oil and natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total investment involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The management of future demand and supply of oil and natural gas is dependent upon various factors which include indigenous crude and natural gas production, availability of petroleum products from the refineries, materialisation of demand and adequate infrastructure.

Towards securing enhanced crude oil supplies in the country, Government is making all efforts to increase the exploration of crude oil within/outside the country by allowing joint ventures and private sector participation to supplement public sector oil companies. Government is also taking measures to increase the production of crude oil and natural gas from indigenous sources and is also exploring the possibilities of importing natural gas/LNG.

Government have allowed private investment in the oil refining sector. As against the existing refining capacity of 57.40 MMTPA, the total refining capacity in the country after the expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries, setting up of new grass-root refineries JVCs and private sector refineries including EOUs, is expected to be around 153 MMTPA. This capacity would be sufficient to meet the projected demand of petroleum products, since the demand of petroleum products in the year 2001-2002 is estimated to be about 102 MMTPA.

Government has planned to put up necessary infrastructure at the post locations, storage tankages and pipeline net work in the country for inland product movement, based on future demand.

It is not possible to quantify the amount of investment required for execution of above strategic measures at this stage. Quantum of investment would depend on the cost and time frame of various projects conceived for implementing these strategic measures.

Tapping of Telephones

711. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone of leading politicians and journalists are being tapped in Tamil Nadu;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, no agency of the Government is authorised to conduct any surveillance on any one for political purposes.

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

Foreign Investment

712. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign investment has been sought from France, England, Canada, Germany, Australia, China and USA for technology in respect of blasting galleries and longwall sub-level caving and for lignite mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance has been sought on turn key basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). Currently no investment has been sought from England, Canada, Australia, China and USA for technology in respect of blasting gallery and longwall sub-level caving in coal mines and for lignite mines.

France is currently giving assistance for introduction of blasting gallery technology in two mines, namely, GDK-10 Incline and GDK-8 Incline, of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL). Total contract value for these two project is FF 63.65 million. GDK-10 Incline has since been completed and GDK-8 Incline is progressing as per schedule. Agreement includes a provision of performance guarantee for both these projects. Recently French Government has agreed to provide credit of FF 25 million for introduction of blasting gallery technology in VK-7 project of SCCL.

In lignite sector, Germany has been supplying technology and making available concessional credit. Bilateral discussions between India and Germany to obtain financial support for 1st Mine Expansion Project and for other non-mining projects of Neyveli Lignite Corporation are in progress. Foreign exchange component for the 1st Mine Expansion Project has been estimated at DM 227.48 million. The capacity of the lignite mine is proposed to be increased to 10.5 million tonnes per annum from its present capacity of 6.5 million tonnes per annum as a result of this expansion project.

(c) and (d). For none of these projects, assistance was sought on turnkey basis.

New Channel

713. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI TARA SINGH:

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

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

(a) whether Doordarshan proposes a launch its new channel shortly as reported in the Statesman dated July 11, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Doordarshan has been frequently reshuffling its programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken to regulate the telecast of various programmes keeping in view the interest of viewers;

(f) whether the Government propose to discontinue late night films and TV serials which have an adverse impact on school going children; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The DD3 channel is expected to be operationalised soon.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Doordarshan endeavours on a continuing basis to telecast programmes that cater to the diverse needs of the widest cross section of its viewers.

(f) and (g). There is no such proposal at present since there is a felt need for such programming. Besides, regulation of the television viewing habit of children is essential to be done by the parents/guardians.

Shifting of ONGC Headquarters

714. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Headquarters from Dehra Dun;

(b) if so, the reasons and justifications therefor;

(c) whether any representation has been received against the proposed shifting of the Corporation;

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed by the Government thereon; and

(e) the reasons for reducing the staff over the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). There is no proposal to shift the headquarters of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd. from Dehradun. Manpower of ONGC Ltd. at

Dehradun as on 1.4.1993 was 4019 and it was 3685 as on 1.4.1995. The shortfall is due to superannuation, voluntary retirement, resignation, death, etc.

Strike by Telecom Workers

715. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom employees went on strike during June, 1995;

(b) if so, the details with reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the Government on this account;

(d) whether any action has been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on their demands; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The DOT employees went on strike for stoppage of privatisation in Telecom. A copy of the strike notice dated 2nd June, 1995 sent by the three Staff Federations is enclosed as statement-I.

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

(d) and (e). A copy of the agreement signed between the Department of Telecom and the Staff Federations is enclosed as statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

National Federation of Telecom Employees Federation of National Telecom Organisations Bharatiya Telecom Employees Federation

No: 22-1:0343/95

Dated: 02/06/95

To

Sri R.K.Takkar,
Chairman,
Telecom Commission,
New Delhi - 110 001.

Sir,

Notice for Indefinite sit in strike with effect from 19.6.95

In accordance with the provisions of Sub-Section 1 of Section 22 of Industrial Disputes Act 1947, we hereby notify that the Three Federations in the Department of Telecom have called upon its members of Group C & D cadres to go on a Nationwide indefinite SIT IN STRIKE effective from 1000 Hours of 19 June, 1995 against the calculated attempt of the Government to eliminate DOT from the field instead of strengthening it.

We have continuously been agitating against privatisation and been expressing our concerns through correspondence and dialogues. Though it has been assured on number of occasions that no attempt will be made to fragment Telecom, every action that emerge out are for a total fragmentation of the industry by allowing private competitors. These actions are against all reached agreements.

The clarification to various queries in terms of clause 4 of section II part I of tender documents for provision of Telephone Service (vide No: 314-7/94-PHC) are nothing but an attempt to strengthen the Private Operators at the cost of DOT and for gradual elimination of the Industry that has been built by us over a long period. We cannot agree with this calculated attempt of killing our industry.

The Indefinite SIT IN STRIKE is organised on the following demand.

"STOP PRIVATISATION OF TELECOM"

We once again express our anxiety for avoiding dislocation of services at this crucial hour but the unrealistic, unreasonable and unhelpful attitude of the Government is responsible for this Strike.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Ch. Raghbir Singh
Leader, Staff Side
JCM-DC

Sd/-

O.P. Gupta
Secy. Genl.
NFTE

Sd/-

R. Venkataraman
Secy. Genl.
FNTD

Sd/-

Suresh Kumar
Secy. Genl.
BTEF

- Copy to: 1. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Shram Shakthi Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) Curzon Barracks, New Delhi.
3. Member (Services), Telecom Commission, New Delhi.
4. Advisor (HRD), Telecom Commission, New Delhi.

**National Federation of Telecom Employees Federation
of National Telecom Organisations Bhartiya
Telecom Employees Federation**

No: 21-1:0343/95

02 June, 95

To

Shri Sukhramji,
Hon'ble Minister for Communications,
Government of India,
Sanchar Bhavan,
New Delhi - 110 001.

Sir,

While thanking you for discussing the various aspects of the National Telecom Policy, it is unfortunate to learn from you that you were not kept informed about our reaction opposition to the entry of Private Operators or our views on the National Telecom Policy.

While we have not opposed to the basic aspects on the National Telecom Policy, we maintained in every forum of meeting and discussion that it is not necessary to induct any Private Operators either directly or in association with MNCs.

As the Department agreed to upgrade the skills of the workforce to expand the service as well as changed work culture to remove the dissatisfaction of the consumers, we were confident that we will be able to make the entry of Private Operators infructuous.

But consciously or purposefully the steps have been taken to make you to feel helpless at this stage.

Even before the TRAI is constituted the Private Sector has been given various concessions which would make the DOT a sick industry.

In the proposed struggle that commences from 19.6.95, there are no economic demands of the employees. The strike is being organised to attract attention of the public over the sell out of the industry.

After hearing you, it is not a question of disputing or accepting your arguments, as we feel that you are condemning 4.5 lakh employees of Telecom for failure without giving them an opportunity.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

O.P. Gupta
SG, NFTE

Sd/-

R. Venkataraman
SG, FNTD

Sd/-

Suresh Kumar
SG, BTEF

STATEMENT-II

*Ministry of Communications Department of
Telecommunications (Telecom Commission)*

Dated New Delhi the 23rd June, 95.

Copy of agreement signed between Chairman, Telecom Commission and Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India with Leader, Staff Side, JCM-Departmental Council, and Secretary Generals of National Federation of Telecom Employees, Federation of National Telecom Organisations and Bhartiya Telecom Employees Federation on 23rd June, 1995.

1. The Federations contention about the role of foreign companies and other aspects about the entry of Private Sector in Basic Telecom Services as violation of NTP is subjudice.

2. As for the demands relating to fixation of tariff and access charges, it was agreed that since the Government has already announced the formation of the TRAI, all the related issues will be referred to the TRAI by the DOT after it has been established.

3. New Switching capacity for each SSA of the DOT will be determined by the concerned Chief General Managers in charge of the Circle. However, locational planning of such capacity within the SSA will be decided by the local management in consultation with representatives of the recognised Unions/Associations.

4. It is agreed that the DOT will be subjected to the same standards of performance and the quality of service in the field of competition.

5. It is agreed that the DOT will be free to enter into the operation of the value added services at any time based on its best commercial judgement.

6. It is agreed to appoint a Committee of senior officers to make proposals of how the DOT's status could be upgraded and how it could be made more efficient and customer friendly so as to prepare it for competition. This Committee will be expected to submit its report within three months. The report of this Committee will be placed before the Reforms Committee before the Government takes any final decision in the matter.

7. It is agreed that if the DOT is ordered by a Court or a Consumer Forum to pay refund, fine, compensation or damages for not providing satisfactory services or related matters, responsibility will be fixed in each case and suitable action against the delinquent officer/official will be taken.

8. On the complaint of the Federations about the slow implementations of the decisions of the Reforms

Committee, it is agreed that similar committees will be set up at SSA levels so as to monitor the implementation of the decisions taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Reforms Committee.

9. Training programmes and schemes already agreed upon will be implemented with greater speed. In this connection, the following further measures will be taken:

- (a) Training facilities for restructured cadres will be organised in relation to the number of employees eligible for being trained rather than number of posts available in higher category;
- (b) An employee who has undergone training and has passed the post-training examination will be entitled to a one time lump sum incentive in case he does not get promoted to a higher position within a period of six months of the passing of the examination;
- (c) Help of private training institutions of repute will be taken to supplement the capacity of the Department to train more employees;
- (d) Such of the employees who are required to undergo basic training in the use of computers will be exempted from undergoing the prescribed departmental training if they have been actually deployed on duty which requires the use of computers for a minimum period of one year. Such an exemption will entitle an employee to appear for the post-training examination without undergoing the training. Successful completion of the prescribed examination will entitle such an employee for promotion or incentive in the manner applicable to other employees.
- (e) For technical personnel who have been handling duties involving new technologies for one year or more, special courses of shorter duration shall be evolved. The post training examination however shall be common for the employees participating in the condensed or normal courses. New technology Jobs for such condensed courses are to be identified in the first instance.

10. The representatives of the Federations and the Leader, Staff Side, expressed their unhappiness over the delay in the implementation of a number of agreed decisions of the JCM/Federations. They were also keen that some other matters which had been pending before the Standing Committee of the JCM for a long period should be expeditiously disposed of. It was agreed to issue necessary orders on all agreed items and to dispose of all the pending issues within 90 days, at the end of which any pending issue will be placed before the Minister of Communications

for a decision in one of the monthly meetings referred to in Para 14 of this agreement.

11. Some of the issues and questions discussed include orders for Group 'D' employees in Circle offices and Civil Wing for OTBP/BCR; time scale for wireless monitoring staff; Norms/Promotional prospects of Civil Wing employees; regularisation of mazdoors with three years of service; pay fixation under FR 22(c) for the P/TA etc. and restructured cadres. It was agreed to discuss these issues and various other issues raised by the Federations/Unions not seated in the JCM expeditiously and settle them.

12. About the strike wages MOS (C) had separately agreed to consider the submission of the Federations which will be submitted at an early date. Meanwhile it was agreed to postpone deduction of wages for the period of the strike pending decision of the Cabinet.

13. No disciplinary action/victimisation shall be taken against the striking employees except in cases suspected sabotage.

14. It was agreed that the monthly meeting will be granted by the Minister for Communications to the representatives of the three Federations for watching the implementation of the above decisions.

15. Considering the dislocation and inconvenience caused to the subscribers, the workers agreed to put in extra efforts to bring back the work to complete normal by 1300 hrs today, i.e. June 23, 1995.

Sd/-

(R.K. Takkar)
Chairman
Telecom Commission
& Secretary, DOT, GOI

Sd/-

(Ch. Raghubir Singh)
Leader, Staff Side, JCM

Sd/-

(O.P. Gupta)
Secretary General, NFTE

Sd/-

(R. Venkataraman)
Secretary General, FNTD

Sd/-

(Suresh Kumar)
Secretary General, BTEF

Functioning of MTNL

716. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are general complaints about the poor functioning of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), particularly, the services on 197, 198, 199 etc.;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the services;

(c) whether MTNL proposes to provide telephone on demand in the next one or two years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide an efficient service to the existing subscribers, before embarking on the ambitious plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Some complaints have come about improper functioning of services on 197 and 198, However, 199 service is working quite satisfactorily.

(b) Full computerisation of 198 service alongwith opening of new services like voice mail are some of the steps to improve the fault repair service. Similarly, to supplement the 197 services, a fully automatic changed number announcement system has been installed at Bombay (195 service) & is under installation at Delhi which will reduce the load on 197 substantially.

Also the present 197 computer is under replacement by latest advance computer which will be able to handle large number of queries effectively.

(c) MTNL has drawn plans for easy availability of telephone during the next two years. This is subject to timely availability of equipment, material and financial resources.

(d) Steps taken to improve services are given below:

- (i) Introduction of new electronic exchanges;
- (ii) Phasing out of old and life expired electro-mechanical exchanges;
- (iii) Introduction of optical fibre and digital microwave systems for inter-exchange junctions;
- (iv) Upgradation of external plant;
- (v) Improved Customer interface.

Employment Generation

717. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Full employment expected by 2002" appearing in 'The Economic Times' dated July 5, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have formulated

any plan for the co-ordinated implementation of various self employment programmes operated by the Central and State Government agencies; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The news item is based on the Planning Commission's paper on "Employment Generation in the Eighth Plan" placed before the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation. The Paper deals with the employment goals and strategies of the Eighth Plan including special employment schemes, an assessment of employment growth during 1992-95 and future prospects.

The State Governments are advised during the Annual Plan discussions to take steps to dovetail self-employment programmes implemented by them with those of the Central Government agencies so as to enhance their impact.

Oil and Gas Fields to Private Parties

718. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are evolving a novel procedure to award oil and gas fields to private parties for development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the scheme is likely to be beneficial; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

New Exploration Projects

719. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new exploration projects either by indigenous entrepreneurs or with foreign collaboration are under consideration of the Government at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be cleared and the reason for delay in clearing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) Government of India has signed four contracts for exploration of oil and gas under the Fourth Round of bidding with consortia consisting of Indian and foreign companies. Additionally contracts for one block under the Fourth Round and 6 blocks under the Fifth Round of exploration bidding have been approved for award subject to finalisation of contract terms and conditions. Under the 6th, 7th and 8th Rounds of bidding a total of 20, 12 and 33 bids respectively have been received. These are under consideration of the Government. Negotiations with bidders were in progress and clarifications had been sought from them. Award of contracts for these blocks are likely to be finalised shortly. On 15.3.95, Government of India has offered 28 blocks for exploration of oil and gas under the joint venture exploration programme. The last date for receipt of bids in 15.9.95.

Hydrocarbon Fuel

720. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are finalising a Hydrocarbon-Fuel for private sector participation in Thermal and Hydel Power generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The Government is already following a policy of allocating Hydro-carbon fuels to public and private sector applicants for thermal power generation. The allocation is made after taking into consideration the recommendation of the Ministry of Power and the views of the Oil Company as well as the Oil Coordination Committee in respect of availability of fuel and the logistics of supply. On request of the Ministry of Power, a paper on the subject has been sent to them.

Telephone Instruments by Subscribers

721. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to stop supply of telephone instruments to the subscribers at their premises in Metro cities with effect from 1-4-95;

(b) if so, the present status of this proposal;

(c) whether this proposal has been shelved; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The date of implementation has postponed to 1.9.95.

(c) No Sir.

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

Rationalisation of Kerosene and LPG Prices

722. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steady rise in prices of crude and petroleum in the international market in recent months which has resulted in the mounting of deficit in our oil pool account;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had appointed a restructuring group for rationalisation of prices of kerosene and liquified petroleum gas (LPG);

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the aforesaid Group in this regard;

(e) the reaction of the Government to the recommendations;

(f) whether in view of the mounting deficit in the oil pool account, the Government propose to raise the prices of kerosene and LPG in phases in near future to keep the deficit in the oil pool account within controllable limits; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the international market, being highly volatile, are subject to wide fluctuations due to global factors.

(c) A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring the National Oil Industry with members comprising of top management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, has been formed.

(d) and (e). The report of the Group is awaited.

(f) and (g). There is not such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Quality of Feature Films

723. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Have film awards become irrelevant" appearing in 'The Hindu' (Delhi edition) dated July 19, 1995;

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

(c) whether the quality of feature films entered for the awards has been steadily falling and the awards themselves have failed to encourage good cinema;

(d) if so, the reasons for deterioration in the quality of films produced in recent years; and

(e) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) The comments expressed in the article are based on the personal views of Shri Chetan Anand. However, Government is of the view that for selecting good films and identifying talents, encouragement must be given for outstanding artistic work and good cinema from all genres of film making must be recognised and encouraged. Such recognition and encouragement will greatly help in maintaining the technical and artistic standards of cinema in India.

(c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Oil Schemes/Projects

724. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some oil schemes/projects from Andhra Pradesh are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has proposed to expand its capacity at the Vishakhapatnam Refinery by 3.0 MMTPA, at an estimated cost of Rs. 998.26 crores. The process of project approval is at an advanced stage.

Telephone Connections in Tamil Nadu

725. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Tamil Nadu, district-wise; and

(b) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided to the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 30.6.95, number of persons on the waiting list are 3,24,083. District-wise details are as per the attached statement.

(b) National Telecom Policy, 1994, envisages provision of Telephone connections on demand all over the country including Tamil Nadu by 1997.

STATEMENT

District-wise Status in Tamil Nadu - June, 1995

Sl. No.	Name of District	Waiting List
1.	Ambetkar	10081
2.	Chengal Pattu MGR	8043
3.	Chidambaranar	6125
4.	Coimbatore	49167
5.	Dharmapuri	6016
6.	Dindigul Anna	4863
7.	Kamarajar	3970
8.	Kanya Kumari	6425
9.	Madurai	16379
10.	Madras	92258
11.	Nagapattinam Qemilad	3222
12.	Nellai Kattabomman	6391
13.	Pasumpon	2420
14.	Periyar	19720
15.	Pondicherry	6587
16.	Pudukkottai	3074
17.	Ramanathapuram	3513
18.	Salem	25757
19.	Sambuvarayar	2661
20.	Thanjavur	11719
21.	The Nilgiris	2899
22.	Trichy	23508
23.	Vallalar	7131
24.	Villupuram SSR	2154
Total		324083

SPV Systems

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

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYÉE:

Will the Minister of COMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) purpose to purchase 50,000 solar photovoltaics energy systems (SPV) valued at Rs. 300 crores to provide power to telecom installations in remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any tender has been invited for the supply of SPV systems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The estimated cost of procurement of 50,000 Solar photovoltaics systems is about Rs. 80 crores.

(b) 50,000 Solar Photovoltaic systems are proposed to be procured for commissioning of Village Public Telephone during 1995-96.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A tender for procurement of Solar Photovoltaic systems has been opened on 20th December, 1994. The tender is likely to be finalised shortly.

Chakma Refugees

727. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions between India and Bangladesh were held in the month of June, 1995 in regard to repatriation of Chakma refugees;

(b) if so, the points of disputes taken up in the discussions have been sorted out;

(c) the number of Chakma refugees which are still to be repatriated; and

(d) the time by which these refugees are likely to be repatriated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The subject of repatriation to Bangladesh of the Chakma refugees in Tripura was, however, discussed during the meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Working Group held at Dhaka from 19-21 April, 1995. It was, *inter alia*, agreed to exchange information and expedite the repatriation process. A positive response from the Government of Bangladesh of the issues raised by the Chakma refugees leaders is awaited.

(c) The number of Chakmas in refugee camps in Tripura to be repatriated to Bangladesh is 51,489.

(d) No specific time-frame can be indicated as the resumption of the repatriation process is dependent upon a satisfactory resolution by the Government of Bangladesh of the issues raised by the Chakma refugee leaders.

Satellite Stations

728. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of Satellite stations functioning at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set-up more of such stations in the country;

(c) if so, the locations thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up and the estimated expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The location of the Satellite Earth Stations of DOT functioning at present, state-wise is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A number of Satellite Earth Stations have been planned using Multichannel Per Carrier (MCP), Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) and will be provided after feasibility studies in nearly all the states. Likely state-wise locations are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) These are likely to be set up during 8th Five Year Plan period. The amount to be spent there-on is estimated at Rs. 141 crores.

STATEMENT-I

List of the Satellite Earth Stations of DOT working in the Country

Name of the State	Place of Satellite Earth Station
1. Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad.
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1. Along 2. Anini 3. Deparizo 4. Seppa 5. Tezu 6. Tawang 7. Itanagar 8. Zero 9. Changlong.
3. Assam	1. Tejpur.
4. Bihar	1. Patna.
5. Goa	1. Panjim.
6. Gujarat	1. Ahmedabad 2. Bhuj
7. Himachal Pradesh	1. Kalpa 2. Keylong 3. Kullu 4. Ani 5. Bharmour 6. Kaza 7. Pooh 8. Nichar 9. Sangla 10. Moorang 11. Jabbal 12. Killar 13. Kotkhai 14. Janjheli 15. Udaipur.
8. Jammu & Kashmir	1. Doda 2. Kargil 3. Leh 4. Poonch 5. Rajouri 6. Srinagar 7. Diskit 8. Bhadarwah 9. Kishtwar 10. Putwama
9. Karnataka	1. Charambadi 2. Tirthalli 3. Huvinahadagalli 4. Kastagi 5. M.M. Hills.
10. Kerala	1. Ernakulam
11. Maharashtra	1. Bombay-I 2. Bombay-II.
12. Manipur	1. Imphal 2. Moreh 3. Tamenlong.
13. Meghalaya	1. Cherapunji 2. Mahenderganj 3. Shillong-I 4. Shillong-II 5. Bagmore 6. Dawki 7. Shella
14. Mizoram	1. Aizwal 2. Saiha 3. Champi 4. Chowngte
15. Nagaland	1. Kohima 2. Tuensang 3. Kiphra.
16. Orissa	1. Bhubneshwar 2. Phoolbani.
17. Punjab	1. Jallander.
18. Rajasthan	1. Jaipur 2. Jaisalmer 3. Jodhpur.

19. Sikkim 1. Gangtok.
20. Tamil Nadu 1. Madras-I 2. Madras-II
3. Giddalur 4. Perlipattu
5. Thalawandi
6. Pannikkadu 7. K.C. Patti.
21. Tripura 1. Agartala 2. Beloni
3. Kamalpur 4. Khowai
5. Sabroom.
22. Uttar Pradesh 1. Lucknow 2. Joshimath
3. Srinagar(G) 4. Uttarkashi
5. Badrinath.
23. West Bengal 1. Calcutta-I 2. Calcutta-II.
24. Delhi 1. Delhi-I 2. Delhi-II
25. Andaman & Nicobar 1. Campbellbay 2. Carnicobar
3. Diglipur 4. Hutbay
5. Kamorta 6. Mayabundar
7. Portblair 8. Rangat
9. Katchal.
26. Lakshdweep 1. Agatti 2. Androth 3. Kalpeni
4. Kavaratti 5. Kiltan
6. Minicoy.

STATEMENT-II

List of likely statewide location of Satellite Earth Stations

1. Andhra Pradesh
Paderu, Araku, Chintapalli, Sileru.
2. Arunachal Pradesh
Kolariang, Tuting, Hayuliang, Mechuka, Sagalee,
Basar, Mariyang, Chayengtezu, Yingkiang, Palin
(Lumba), Kalaktang, Pakke Kesang, Jang, Bameng,
Huri, Liromobo, Gensi, Anelih, Hunli Kronli, Boleng,
Tali, Nyapin, Gelling, Sinje, Jengging.
3. A&N Islands
Teressa, Trinket, Little Nicobar, Kondul.
4. Himachal Pradesh
Chopal, Shimla, Seoni, Dodrakwar, Karsog,
Yangthang.
5. Jammu & Kashmir
Uri, Tangdar, Gurez, Nauma, Padam, Sona Marg,
Khelsi, Mohore, Gandoh, Jammu, Thatri, Drass,
Kotranka (Budal), Bani.
6. Karnataka
Tumri, Jagalur, Kalasa.

7. Manipur
Temei, Tousem.
8. Madhya Pradesh
Bijapur, Deobhog, Bhabra, Bhanpura, Baihar,
Beohari, Dantewada, Ramanujanj, Seheopur Kalan,
Mandu, Pach Marhi, Konta, Sukma, Samari (Kusmi),
Alirajpur, Rajgarh, Kannod, Niwari, Dindori,
Shahpura, Kharsia, Akash Nagar, Kirandual, Bachel.
9. Maharashtra
Dhadgaon, Moolgi, Peint, Surgana, Pimaller.
10. Meghalaya
Balat, Pynursla.
11. Mizoram
Bungmun, Phaileng.
12. Nagaland
Tobu, Samatore.
13. Orissa
Baliguda, Baramba, Narsingpur, Daityair, Tensa,
Koiria, Rajnagar, Chandbali, Balasore, Bonai,
ringibadi, Paradip.
14. Sikkim
Chungthang, Ravangla, Soreng, Sombaria, Melli,
Naya Bazar, Rhenok Rongli, Dentam, Samdong,
Rangpo, Singtom, Mangan.
15. Tamil Nadu
Bitherked, Cherumulli, Panadalur, cherampadi,
Davarshola, Erumad, Perumpara, Perumalmalni,
Hasonar.
16. Uttar Pradesh
Puraula, Raj Garhi, Danda, Bhatwari, Gangotri,
Yamnotri, Ukhimakth, Gupta Kashi, Kedarnath,
Dehradun.
17. West Bengal
Hingalgang, Basanti, Patharpratima.

Irrigation Projects

729. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the
Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned loan for the
completion of on-going irrigation projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of projects which are likely to be undertaken, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned loan for completion of ongoing minor and medium irrigation projects from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund in four States as per details given below:-

State	No. of Projects	Amount Saanctioned (Rs. in crores)
Andhra Pradesh	5	57.65
Karnataka	69	59.79
Madhya Pradesh	124	133.95
Orissa	47	57.75

Proposals for financial assistance have also been received by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for completion of various ongoing minor and medium irrigation projects from the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Assam.

12.00 hrs.

PROBLEMS FACED BY MAJOR PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise point of privilege.
...(Interruptions)

Please listen to me.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: One by one please.

[Translation]

Unless I receive your notice, I will not allow you.

[English]

Let me have a look at your notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, let us not waste our time. Somnathji is raising a very good issue. You please hear him first.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, I am on

point of information. I would like to say that Clause 10 of Rule 225-A in Parliamentary Practice and procedure provides that motion of privilege should be given preference on all other items listed in the List of Business. According to it the permission to raise the privilege question, is sought after Question Hour and before taking other items listed in the List of Business.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are right.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Therefore I request you...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are right. You are 100 per cent correct. But it I have not allowed, you cannot raise it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for allowing me to raise a very important issue of national importance. This is with regard to the present condition of the very many important public sector undertakings under the control of the Central Government. I had also given a notice to the hon. Minister for Industry, Mr. Karunakaran. But he is conspicuous by his absence. Sir, it is expected that such an important issue should be responded on the floor of the House itself. That shows the total callous attitude on the part of this Government to a very important matter which is now concerning this country and the fate of 200,000 workers. Just imagine the number of members of their family, how many people are involved their future that is involved and the Indian industrial production that is involved. But no response is there. I am constrained to raise this because a large number of public sector undertakings in this country under the control of the Central Government are facing very serious problems and it is not only affecting not only the industrial production but eroding the very base of our national economy.

Sir, the cases in respect of the undertakings like Braithwaite & Co., which is employing about 4,000 people, Bharat Brakes & Valves, Tyre Corporation, Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation, MAMC, Cycle Corporation, Bharat Process, National Instruments, Bharat Ophthalmic, Rehabilitation Industries Corporation, National Jute Manufacturers Corporation, Rey Rolle Burn Ltd., Indian Iron & Steel Co., Burn Standard, Jessph are pending now adjudication before the BIFR. Sir, as you know, BIFR was it was told, really for the purpose of finding out the methods of revival of these companies. Some of these companies can be revived.

Sir, I am happy to say that when sincere efforts were made by the Government of India, three important units, namely Bengal Chemicals, Bengal Immunity and Smith Stainstreet have been revived. Since the Government arranged for some financial input and some managerial input, these companies have now been taken out of the BIFR and they have been declared to be viable units although they were earlier decided to be closed down. But, there are so many other units like Bharat Brakes and Braithwaite, which are employing about 4,500 workers altogether. The revival schemes for these units have been sanctioned by the BIFR and agreed to by the Government of India but the same are not being implemented. Even where the BIFR has sanctioned the revival schemes, the Government of India before the BIFR accepts them and then it does not take any steps for its implementation.

Now, the banks which are under the control of the Central Government are saying that unless they get a guarantee from the Government of India they shall not give the money. Now whose responsibility it is, may I ask? The responsibility is on the Government, which is controlling the banks and which is also controlling these companies. Now the banks are asking for a guarantee and on the plea that the banks are asking for a guarantee, the revival schemes, which have been approved, are not being implemented. Most of these workers are not getting regularly their pay, their statutory dues are not being regularly deposited and there is a total uncertainty with regard to these workers in these very major units in the country.

Sir, Tyre Corporation of India is employing more than 2,500 workers. They have been manufacturing quality tyres, everybody knows about it. They have got two units, one at Kakinada and the other near Calcutta. The BIFR has notified their revival schemes. The procedure is that after this notification, the Government has to give its views. But they have got a body—a peculiar body I do not know—or a group of Ministers which are sitting over it and they have no time to consider the BIFR's package, which has been approved, and they are taking time. Now, after a long time, we are informed that they have asked the BIFR to review the revival schemes. They are not accepting even the BIFR packages and there is a total procrastination, a deliberate procrastination.

Now, the case of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation is a case of absolute national shame. So far as its Durgapur unit is concerned, the Government of India have declared that they have decided to revive the Durgapur unit. But the BIFR has no time to look into it. They are not giving any clearance to that because once the matter is pending before the BIFR, every organisation, every Department, every undertaking from banking to others come to a halt and they do not take any action until the BIFR gives its

clearance. This is a decision. Although the Government has announced to revive it, the BIFR is not giving any decision and as such, no financial tie-up is being made. These are important units manufacturing fertilisers and who can deny that we need fertilisers. The Ministers are here. We are importing fertilisers but our own units are being made sick and they are not working. The case of Haldia unit, of course, as I said, is a case of national shame because they utilise technology which is unworkable. So, the fate of total workers of about 9,000 is totally uncertain. This is a national asset.

The fertilizer units are national assets. MAMC is one of the finest units. I am sure, Shri Panja will agree with me. It is one of the finest units for manufacturing machines which are required for coal mines or mining machines. The Cycle Corporation of India Ltd., Weighbird India Ltd., Bharat Process, National Instruments Ltd., Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd., have over 8000 people employed in them.

Now the BIFR, without listening to our grievances, without really giving any thought to it, has come to a tentative decision to wind them up and the Government of India is not contesting it. These major Public Sector Undertakings are sought to be wound up without any sincere attempt to revive them. These are units which should not be closed down. They can be run profitably. The National Jute Manufacturers Corporation (NJMC) has 23,000 workers. Indian Iron and Steel Co. has 30,000 workers. Burn Standard and Company has 9,100 workers. Jessop and Company Ltd., which is ought to be one of the flagships of any industrial structure of the country, is one of the finest units. These few companies employ about 75,000 workers and their cases have been referred to the BIFR. The future of all these units has become uncertain. There is no financial input. No modernization attempt is being made. What is the position in IISCO? In Jessop, wages are not being paid. There has been total uncertainty for two months. The wages have not been paid in most of these concerns.

What is the way out? What we find is that once a case is referred to the BIFR, it takes its time. A large number of cases have been referred to it and once they are referred to it, nobody wants to place orders because they say, the future has become an uncertainty. Nobody knows whether the company will survive or not. They do not come forward. The banks immediately become wary of giving finance and the result is total stalemate.

Now more reference to BIFR is being treated as a near closure or almost a closure and once the reference is made, everything comes to a standstill and the financial resources of all these companies are dying up.

Many of these units, like IISCO, are making cash

profits now. The order books of Rey Rolle Burn and Jessop are full for the next two years. Although orders are there, they are prepared to do it. And these are employing the most skilled people. Everybody knows. In spite of this, because of lack of finance, because of mere reference to the BIFR, things are coming to a complete halt.

A very serious situation has developed so far as Hoogli Docking and Port Engineering is concerned. They have not been referred to the BIFR but the salary are being paid. It is under the Government of India. In cases where reference is made to BIFR, things are coming to a standstill. Where it has not been referred to also, in many cases, salaries are not being paid. What is happening in this country? There is no charge against these lakhs and lakhs of workers who have given their blood and sweat and who are willing to contribute to our national economy. There is no complaint against them. Just because the Government is following a particular type of economic policy or industrial policy, they have just left them in the lurch and there is nobody to look after them. They are citizens of India. There is no alternative employment available. There is no social security and there is no national security in this country. Unemployed people do not get any security, any money from the Government, as is done in other countries. What is the fate of these people?

Therefore, I very strongly demand that the Government of India should immediately come forward with schemes for revival of each of these units which can be revived. All these workers and their families will have to be protected. If any particular unit has any particular problem, why do they not sit with the workers' union? Why do they not sit with the Government also? Why can they not find out a package? This reference to BIFR has become a national joke. It has become a joke. It is a hoax to mislead the people and, Sir, I charge this Government. We have been opposing this. Only with a view to pass on their responsibility, they have evolved this concept of BIFR.

The reference is made to BIFR as they are the embodiment of everything in this country. The Government has to take a decision. Why do they give up this position? Why do they leave it to one or two or three bureaucrats? Will they decide the fate of these units? What is their commitment to the protection of the interests of the workers and the public sector in this country?

I know that this is a short Session. We wanted a fuller discussion and I am thankful to you that you have allowed us to raise it. This is a matter which is of vital concern to us. The people from the units are coming to us. What do I tell them when they come and ask us what we are doing in Parliament? What do we tell them? It may be in one or two cases where there is a special difficulty and we are prepared to discuss.

I am concluding. I only wish to remind you. I am sure that you will kindly recall that repeatedly the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister have on the floor of the House assured that there would be unit by unit survey and review. I have been repeatedly reminding them and asking them why do they not review case by case, unit by unit. We have to find out because there may be some units which can never be revived. Let us find out an alternative there. The Government cannot issue a blanket order by reference to the BIFR and say that it is all finished. What can we do of this Government elected by the people, not as a majority but a minority, somehow sticking to power? They are telling the people that they cannot do anything. They go to courts of law. We have obtained injunctions against some of these winding up orders and because of the injunctions of the courts they are somehow surviving, limping, gasping, though; but the Government is totally unconcerned.

I am obliged to some of the Judges. They tried to take a humanitarian approach and they tried to revive these companies for the sake of our own economy. But the banks will immediately say that they want every pie of their liability with interest at 18 or 20 per cent over the years. Everybody will come for his last pie. This is happening. There is no beneficial approach, no cooperative approach by the Government of India.

I charge that this Government is anti-people and anti-labour. Now the public sector is being deliberately jettisoned and this is the process that is being adopted. I request, therefore, the hon. Minister to commit here on the floor of this House — I hope he has time to go through this apart from his Kerala politics and has some time to look into this problem of these people who are now starving — that each one of these units will be revived, sincere and honest steps will be taken and that the banks will be asked to provide funds. Why do they not call the Finance Minister to make a commitment and why do they not make a unit to unit time-bound review of each of these cases and see that immediate steps are taken?

I request the hon. Minister to respond to some of these points I have raised.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI BAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank my friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee for raising an important issue in this House. We are also grateful to you to allow us to raise and draw the Government's attention towards serious issues during Zero Hour. Thus Zero Hour becomes more meaningful. But problem is that the Government should reply to such debates. When debates continue for hours, the main issue is sidelined and the Government escapes reply of such debates. But today it is difficult not to reply this debate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Public Sector Undertakings are our national property. Country's money has been invested therein and labourers have worked very hard for them. These are the basis of our industrialisation. I remember the day when performance of Public Sector Undertakings was at commanding heights. But now it has declined to the lowest level. Will the situation become like this? How the policies of a ruling party could be changed to such an extent. But it is happening. Privatisation does not mean that you close down or sell that factory to Private Sector which can be revived by financial assistance and can work efficiently. In this way you are starting a new method of corruption. BIFR was constituted to deal with cases where problems arise. As Shri Chatterjee said that cases are referred to BIFR for keeping them pending and these are not decided for years. The labourers fight their cases for several years and when these are decided, the Government not implement these decisions. If the Government is not going to implement the recommendations made by BIFR, what's use of setting up of such institutions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind you that Rs. 500 crore were allocated for Public Sector industries in Supplementary Demands for grants but so far not a single penny has been spent. The Government has allocated money to appease the people and labourers but it seems that the Government does not intend to spend it. Why is has not been spent so far? The Finance Minister is sitting here and saying that they do not have such intention but they are not spending this money. Hon. Finance Minister can refute it if my information is wrong. Is my information right? ...(*Interruptions*) I myself have written several times to the Finance Minister about Public Sector Undertakings. Many cases relate to my constituency. It has been said that matter has been referred to BIFR. Banks do not give money even after the recommendations have made by BIFR in this regard. The Banks will not give money unless the Government changes its policy. It will be really unfortunate for the country, and destruction of our economy if the Government adopts a policy to close down the public sector and handover everything to private sector.

Shri Chatterjee has rightly said that performance of each and every unit of the factories should be reviewed. Labourers are ready to make sacrifices. They are ready to lose their salaries. They are ready even for retrenchment of some persons, if necessary, and for that a solution could be found after some settlement but the factory should remain functional. The livelihood of thousands of labourers should not be affected. Today this matter has been raised here. It is an important matter and I seek categorical reply from the Government in this regard.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not like to go in detail because it is Zero Hour.

I do not want to repeat what had been said by Shri Somnathji and Atal ji. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter relates to all the units of West Bengal. Now a days it has become really difficult to sit at home because almost every day delegations of Public Sector units meet us to tell their problems because these factories are facing great difficulties. Even after the several assurances given by the Government, we find that retrenchment is being made on large scale whether it is textiles, coal or any other industry under public sector. During all the Five Year Plans, we unanimously said that these are the modern temples of our nation. But today these temples are being demolished and destroyed.

I would not like to go in details in this regard but through you I would like to say that BIFR is not functioning efficiently in this matter. You should find out some other ways to save these factories which have been set up with out constant efforts for the last 40-45 years under Five Years Plans. Lakhs of labourers are working in these factories and now they will be rendered jobless as almost all the factories are in crisis. I cannot say anything more as we do not have any reply to these questions. This new economic policy has created destructive atmosphere.

Therefore, through you, I request the hon. Minister to make a statement in this House and state some concrete steps in this regard so that some effective results can be achieved. The hon. Finance Minister is also sitting here I want that he should make a categorical statement in this regard so that this problem could be solved. I would not like to go in details on this issue and I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, the Government has laid down in their so-called New Economic Policy, the basic principle that public sector is to be considered, on the whole, as a loss to the country and that reliance must be placed now entirely on private sector, both domestic as well as foreign, for future growth. This is the guideline which has been given. BIFR consists of certain officials/bureaucrats who have been brought from various Ministries and put on the BIFR. How are they to be guided when they go into individual cases? They are not told that they must do everything possible to see how these companies which are supposed to be sick, are to be revived. All of them are not sick. I do not agree to this. There are a number of important public sector undertakings which, despite the best efforts of the Government, are doing very well. Take Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., for example. I was visiting their plant at Haridwar only the other day. It is really a matter of pride for any Indian to see a huge concern like that. There is no other comparable power machinery manufacturing concern in any of the other developing countries, which can make the entire range of power equipment. So, they are doing very well. In between,

there was a tax that their equipment is not up to the standard quality. Some State Electricity Boards were complaining that this equipment was no good, and this and that, and an atmosphere was created in which foreign companies, including Siemens of Germany was ought to be brought into this, with their new technology and all that. That also we do not mind. Some Technological agreements have been made. But this Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is now getting so many orders, not only here but from abroad also. But I am saying about these concerns to which Mr. Chatterjee specially referred to, many of which are situated in my State, West Bengal. BIFR people have been given, directly or indirectly, a certain guideline to follow. The guideline is that the private sector must be relied on, that the public sector is only wasting the country's money, that their resources are going down into a bottomless pit...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): There is no such guideline to the BIFR from the Government.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am not saying that you have issued a guideline as such, I am saying that this is the basic principle which you have formulated.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: BIFR proceeds on the basis of laws passed by this Parliament. There is no other guideline.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, it is true that if you go by the balance sheets of a company, in a particular year they may be showing some loss. Is that to be the only guideline? But that is the instruction. What does the Act say?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: There is no instruction other than what the Act says. The Act itself defines what a sick unit is.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But the Act itself goes only by the balance sheets of a company, not by their contribution to the national economy...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): If the liability of a company is more for a few years continuously, then only a company is declared sick.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Have you not to find out the reasons for it?

MR. SPEAKER: Indrajit ji, one minute please. I think very honestly and very thoughtfully some points have been made. May be what has been said on the floor of the House is not correct or is correct. I think the Government may please note down the points and I think it is better if they respond to those points. That is very welcome. The hon.

Finance Minister has correctly said that no guidelines have been set. If such points are there, please do respond.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: No, Sir. I have not said that they have issued in writing a guideline to the BIFR. ... (Interruptions) What I have said Sir is ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North West): Sir, he is not telling correctly. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, if it is a serious discussion, please let it be discussed seriously.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, you allow a full-fledged debate.

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing you to speak.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This kind of a mini-debate in the name of Zero Hour does not satisfy anybody. Let us have a full debate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, let us have a full debate on this. You have been good enough to do this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If it is necessary and if time is available we will do that.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): In which session? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please do not confuse this issue. Shri Indrajit Gupta is putting this point very sincerely and thoroughly. They can be certainly replied. Government is having some information and Government will certainly reply. Why do you feel worried about it?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, they are worried because in this House, several times I have made the charge that some public sector units are deliberately being made sick. ... (Interruptions) If there is a full-fledged debate, I will give all the examples.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We will give a number of examples.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: In order to purchase the same goods from the private manufacturers in the open market the public sector is being turned into sick. You should see what is happening to the IDPL - Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited - one of the most prestigious public sector units which was set up in this country. If you go to buy the drugs or medicines manufactured by the IDPL from any chemist's shop, you will never find it. They say: 'We do not stock them'. Why should they stock them? They will not get any commission. I am sorry to say that the

drugs and pharmaceutical manufacturers, who are private people, give all these commissions etc. not only to the stockists but even to the doctors which is unfortunate. They are given some commission and things under the table so that they prescribe only those medicines manufactured by them and the medicines of IDPL will never be available. In Government hospitals they are not supplied. In the health centres you will not find them. Then if this Company does not become sick what will it become? And then it will be sent to BIFR and the BIFR will say that this Company is not able to sell its product and therefore it is going down. They say: 'let us liquidate it and close it down and let the big monopoly pharmaceutical manufacturers have a field day'. This policy, the basics of this policy, in our opinion, are wrong...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member may at least check the facts. What the hon. Member is saying about the IDPL is not correct. If you look at the record you will find that the Government have gone out of their way to provide money to rehabilitate IDPL. What is said from here is to the contrary. I am sorry that a senior Member of this House is distorting the facts in this matter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): He provides money and advises in terms of his economic policy that this is what should be done. That is how several units have been turned sick...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Indrajit Gupta's statement will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am sorry to say this. I do not know if it is known to any of the hon. Minister sitting here. Some years ago, on behalf of the central trade unions, including the INTUC, we had approached the then Prime Minister, Madam Indira Gandhi with this very question — not the BIFR-but how to revive these public sector units which are supposed to be sick and in which crore● of rupees of public money have been invested as nobody likes to see these things going waste and that the major concerns should be taken up one by one, have a thorough probe and examine as to what were the factors responsible for their poor performance. That should be found out. Then only rectification measures can be thought of. We had suggested to her that let a tripartite committee be set up with Government's representatives, managements' representatives and the workmen's representatives and let them jointly study each concern, one by one, and go into the causes of the malaise and find out what was wrong and then suggest how they can be put right. She agreed very readily. She said: 'I will tell my people to start processing

the papers and a committee will be formed and then we will sit together and work it out'. But, I regret to say that nothing has happened till today.

That kind of procedure is not followed. BIFR is the substitute. Two bureaucrats who are sitting there — I have nothing personally against them—are given the whole charge of disposing of the future fate of these concerns and thousands of workers. Who are they? They are not experts. I know some of the people who are in the BIFR. They may be quite good officers and bureaucrats. But they are not experts in this field by any means. They are going only by the balance sheet. I referred here the other day to a company called Instrumentation Limited which has a strategic importance in the whole economy. It is deliberately being made sick. What is the idea?

Now take some of the Defence units. I have raised the TAFCO issue here many times. It was laid down that they were...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, it is very unfortunate that various wrong things are going on record.

MR. SPEAKER: You note those points and I will allow you to reply.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Thank you, Sir. Please allow us to speak.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Certainly, you should allow them. We want to hear them...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, please do not get annoyed. Kindly allow us to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow the Minister of Industry to reply and other Ministers, if they want, I will allow them also to reply.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What would you say, Sir, about this Bailadila affair? It has been Very much in the news in the last few weeks.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not go to the specific issues. You only raise the broad issues. Otherwise, you know, they shall have to collect the information.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But then we have to have a proper debate.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to have a proper debate. Even then you wanted to speak, so we allowed you. Now, please confine yourselves to the broad parameters. If you go to the details, it will be difficult for them to collect the details and reply on the points now.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It would not be at all difficult. They have got all the details with them and they know all the facts and figures. The question is what is the outlook?

MR. SPEAKER: That is correct.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, no doubt that some of the public sector units are running in losses. Although we have said repeatedly that we are prepared to cooperate in finding out what are the factors responsible for it; yet all the units are not running in losses; not yet at any rate until they are brought to a stage where they will start showing balance sheet losses. But what I am saying is that this big public sector which is bigger and stronger than public sector in any other Third World country — I do not know if we still belong to Third World or not, we used to at least — that public sector is still a viable base; a base for developing self-reliance. If it is properly used, if it is properly organised, if the cooperation of the workers is taken and if it is properly run by efficient professional management then this public sector can serve as a base for developing self-reliance. But you have given up 'self-reliance' itself as a dirty word. What is self-reliance? Globalisation! Now, only globalisation, no-self-reliance. Everything must depend on a globalised economy into which you have to integrate yourselves. Then what is left? Therefore, these are the ideas which are being pumped into the heads of all these officers, bureaucrats, BIFR people and everybody. Therefore, the temptation, on their part, is that whenever they examine the balance sheet and find that they are not making profits every year then they start saying that this company is sick, it cannot be retrieved, it cannot be rectified and therefore think of winding it up. The banks and the financial institutions — I do not know what instructions have been given to them — are not prepared to give any money. They have neither working capital nor have they laid down any clear policy about past liabilities. What has happened about them? So, the whole thing is in a chaos, in a mess and people are, naturally, thinking about their job security. Are they committing a crime because of that? Job security is now at stake. In this country nobody knows whose job will be there tomorrow; nobody knows whose factory will be running tomorrow or closed down. This job security and insecurity have become a menace. This is the result of this new economic policy.

Therefore, Sir, I would suggest that let us have a proper debate in which they also should speak. We want to know their point of view clearly. But this should not be permitted to go on in this way. It is because the foundations of our national economy which have been laid over the years are being systematically sabotaged, crippled and destroyed. This should not be permitted.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Somnath ji has raised a very important question but our hon. Finance Minister has indicated that they are following the precedents set by the Parliament. He is right.

The day we adopted new Economic Policy, we decided to close public sector units. Shri Manmohan Singh is an economist. He may deny it but I think if there is a free competition, big industrialists of the world will come to India and that will affect our industries particularly public sector.

Just now Shri Indrajit was discussing about Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. which is a well established concern. But is it not true that today it also seems to be unable to protect itself in the competition? Whether it is not a fact that Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. had submitted that it can commission the Dabhol project? But we resorted to a foreign company. When we talk of free competition and say that the principle of self-reliance is useless, we should be ready to face the consequences that public sector enterprises of our country will not be able to compete with the heavy industries and these will ultimately be closed.

I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to apprise the House about the total number of public sector enterprises which have been transferred to private sector in the last 4 years and the total loss suffered on account of selling the shares of public sector enterprises. I do not want...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No, loss has been suffered.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I am asking about the loss to the country not to Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: You asked about the loss incurred on selling of shares.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: There is no question of personal loss, it is a question of national industry. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev ji is our best friend.

Today it has been published in a News paper that I tried to save the Congress Party in the last two days out of three days. I am trying my best to save this country and not the congress party. But what can I do if these people are creating problems. Today, I recall the sentence pronounced by Acharya Narendra Dev when I came into politics. He said—"I am not one of those wise persons who commit suicide in anticipation of next birth."

Has it not been stated in our economic policy that foreigners will come to India and will make our country wealthy, they will make our country progressive, whatever wrong has been done during the last 40-50 years will be finished? Hon. Finance Minister, if you remember your statement, you have said that it was all wrong what had been done in 40-50 years. Jawahar Lal Nehru was a great leader...(Interruption)

[English]

SHRI MAN MOHAN SINGH: I have never said this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: It is good if you have not said this, I may be wrong but everybody reads News paper. We accept this fact at least.

MR. SPEAKER: It might have been published in the News paper but he did not say this.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was a great leader. And Indira ji and Rajiv Gandhi are remembered everyday. But is it not true that a person in this country who has even little knowledge of economic and industrial policy, is not aware of the fact that our traditions are being throttled? This is the greatest menace of our country. This country had many disputes, Naxalite's movement, incidents of violence but we have always been unanimous on national convention. There have been some principles like principle of self-reliance and principle of building the country by support of poor people, on which even political parties in opposition gave their full support. Even they also did not separate themselves from the fundamental principles of national movement. That is why, there was no threat of disintegration to the society. We had been able to come over the crisis because this country remained united on certain matters.

MR. SPEAKER, Sir, intentionally or unintentionally or under some pressure our friend Shri Vidya Charan Shukla ji has been drifting away from these convention but you cannot keep this country together while drifting away from them. You can not stop the melancholy, repugnance and wrath erupting in the minds of the people as has been expressed by Shri Inderjit Gupta. You can silence them since you are enjoining majority, you have numerical strength. Perhaps you may prove my statement wrong but remember that you may show them alluring dreams, but when a labourer is removed from service, he is deprived of his livelihood his children are compelled to die of starvation then in this world none can suppress the voice of hunger which ultimately become the voice of violence.

It seems that you have nothing to do with that starvation. Politics of our country has been isolating itself from the starvation suffered by labourer because it has been overwhelmed by the glamour of foreign countries. Today, we have to think about the world of glamour about which a mention has been made by Shri Indrajit Gupta ji. We have a citizen of this world over night. Once, I had said that now we are not the citizen of India only. We have stopped thinking within our limits. We are forgetting ourselves in a day-dream and it is the only this flow which is the main cause of the destruction of public sector industry.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am acquainted with the hon. Finance Minister for a long time. I have worked with him. He is intelligent, perceptive and honest but God knows

what has happened to him. During my personal meetings with him many times I have warned him not to go in for alluring day-dreams always which have eaten into the vitals of many countries in the world and India is going to be no exception. All the poor, developing countries of Africa, Latin America etc. have destroyed themselves following the mirage of these alluring dreams. India will also face the same fate. It is a separate story that you may complete your term of five years or we may continue as Members of Parliament for 2-4 years but this country has been disintegrating day by day.

Our greatest asset, the manpower has been drifting away from us and becoming helpless and hapless. Please think over this problem. The Public Sector Undertakings were erected on the basis of this manpower and you cannot integrate the country by disintegrating the manpower.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I think the hon. Members have made the points. Probably, the Ministers have noted the points. If you want to respond to them now, one Minister or more Ministers, you would be allowed. But if you want to respond to them later on also, I shall have no objection.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Sir, I want to answer to one point of Shri Somnath Chatterjee because he has taken my name.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to make one submission. I think this is a matter which obviously has evoked universal attention not only in the precincts of this House but in the country also. It would be in the fitness of things if a proper debate on this subject is allowed by the hon. Speaker. That is the only way by which all of us can focus attention on the issues which are vital to the future of this country.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, I think it is a good suggestion. I will discuss it with the Leaders and with the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. We will try to find the time. But now that the points have been made, if they go un rebutted, that will also not be proper.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH (SATNA): That is all right.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Sir, I want to answer to one point because my name was specifically mentioned by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. He has mentioned about the MAMC which is a unit situated in Bengal. They used to manufacture very quality coal-handling machineries and other machines. I myself held sittings not only with the MAMC Management but also with the worker's union whoever approached me. There is a huge time and cost overrun in respect of various orders. I gave a list. Then, I went to a particular colliery where things are pending. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, kindly

not it and help me. There things are pending for supply of machinery. For one-and-a-half years, the machine could not be installed. It was a long-wall machine. Some parts were to be supplied. The machine could not be installed because of the delay caused by MAMC. I myself called the local officers, which I should not do usually, but only to expedite the matter, I called the local officers.

They said that they are trying to expedite the matter. I came back and found that huge sums of money have been given as advance to the MAMC for this purpose, which is not usually done. But advance was given because they pleaded for it due to some financial constraints there is delay in delivering the machines. I do not actually remember the actual amount. But huge amount was advanced. Even then the supply was not made. I tried my best. That is why, the consistent policy of this Government has been that the public sector unit is always given consideration. Even in the matter of coal also, in the matter of whether to accept a global tender or an internal tender, if it is a public sector unit, it was given consideration. But this created a problem because if a public sector unit does not deliver the goods in time and within the sanctioned cost, that creates a problem. It is the people's money and not the Central Government's money. Where does the Central Government get money from? It gets from the taxes of the people - the Income-Tax, the Wealth Tax and so on. Therefore, this money is the people's money which is being spent. That is why, I asked for help. Even the management...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I appreciate it.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: May I complete? Therefore, whichever union came, Mr. Chatterjee did not mention it beforehand, I tried to help. Now the words used by Mr. Chatterjee that Government of India is 'anti-people' and 'anti-labour'. I strongly deny this so far as my Department is concerned, I have never taken any step against the PSU, not a single instance could be pointed out. Rather I can cite umpteen number of cases where I tried to help the public sector units because I am dealing with Coal India Limited which is also a public sector unit. It is one of the largest units in the corporate sector and only six and a half lakh people are working in it. Therefore, I will only request Shri Chatterjee to go to Bengal and establish first a work culture there. After the work culture is established, taking into account the time and cost overrun and after proper goods are delivered, there is no harm. If we do not get it...(Interruption) May I continue? If we do not get it, the CIL have to find a alternative. We have to purchase it within the Budget amount. If there is time and cost escalation, then I am in difficulty. The entire thing gets into difficulty. I have to approach the Finance Department for money. Whose money is it? It is the money of the people of India. Therefore, these are the things. Let there be a detailed

debate and I will come out with all the facts about where I have the difficulty. If the debate does not solve it, I will ask Mr. Chatterjee himself to call a meeting. I will send him a list mentioning about the difficulties I am facing. Let him resolve them, I do not mind it at all if he has taken up the responsibility. Hundreds of MOUs have been signed by the Chief Minister of West Bengal. Please name one which has been done with a public sector unit. They go abroad and ask for private money. But when they come to India, they will shed crocodile's tears for public sector units. This would not do. This cannot go on. I will give for more details to discuss this in this House. After all Bengal is a part of India. Therefore, the whole interest of India is involved. It must be discussed here. How many MOUs have been entered into? What are the names? Mr. McNamara may be asked to go back and the entire Left goes to the street. But when Mr. McNamara meets the hon. Chief Minister there, there is not uproar, there is double standard. Therefore, let there be a debate. I ask Mr. Chatterjee to come with his list because he himself went there as a good lawyer to advise Jyoti Babu...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You are wrong. This is a deliberate attempt to tell of untruth. You are deliberately doing it. This is the attitude of the Government of India. This is the Government of India - the irresponsible people...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I am very sorry if any of my true statements have hurt Mr. Chatterjee. But this is the truth. And I accept the challenge to disclose it here. Under what circumstances did they go there? What are the dealings made? These must be disclosed here first and then let them talk about the public sector units...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let us discuss it with the spirit with which this issue is raised.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is the attitude of the Government...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Panja please. Now, let us understand the spirit.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basudeb Acharia, will you please stop. The spirit with which this matter was raised was that the public sector undertakings are important, they should be continued and wherever possible they should be helped. Nobody has said that you do not want the public sector because the policy of the Government of India is mixed economy and if there are certain points, highlight item. The speeches made by the senior Members are very proper, according to me. Let them be properly responded

to. Let us not try to find fault or gain a point over the other. It does not help any of us. With that spirit, please reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH): I am on a Point of Order. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order now.

SHRI ANIL BASU: The Minister has cast aspersions against a Chief Minister. How could he do it?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you raise all these things? He has not said that. You are saying it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev to mention on behalf of Shri Panja or somebody in the Government. Please mention the name where the Government of West Bengal has denationalised any public sector...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dev, please first hear me. My request to you is, you follow your own line; do not follow the instructions.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am extremely grateful to the hon. Speaker and the important senior Members of this House including Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Chandra Shekhar and others for bringing in an issue which is exciting the minds of the people all over the country. I am myself facing in my Ministry certain problems. There is a conflict in the nation today; what we are trying to follow and what others are trying to say and on that respect, it is better at the very beginning I will not go to all the issues that have been raised. I will only clear something which should not go in the Press. Regarding other things, I will leave my right to reply when the debate takes place.

The first and foremost is, as Shri Indrajit Gupta has said, that BIFR does not go only on its own. In BIFR all the parties who are involved, like the trade unions, the concerned State Government and the concerned Ministry of the Central Government are called to present their schemes before the BIFR, how that particular industry which has gone to BIFR, can be made a viable one. 1300 hrs.

My party which is concerned, like the Trade Union, can give any proposal before the BIFR. But they have to justify it...(Interruptions)...Let me finish.

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: No. They are not asked to give any proposal. I attended a number of meetings of the BIFR.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: If I am wrong, they can give a privilege notice against me. Why are they disturbing? There are rules to correct a Minister, to reprimand a Minister. So let them not do it. Here in this case what has happened is this. In principle, one should not go to discuss things in your Chamber; I am not doing it. But I will just try to recall that the Sick Industries Bill was amended in this House. First the Left Parties opposed it; they went to you; you called me also and then it was discussed and the Bill was passed by the House. After that amendment, now the position is that if the net worth of an industry is in minus, in spite of the fact that it might have earned profit for two or three years, it will be referred to the BIFR.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If it shows losses for three consecutive years.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No. That is what I want to make clear. This was the case before. But his House, including Shri Indrajit Gupta, has passed an amendment. Take for instance IISCO. It has earned profit or it is in break-even. But that does not save IISCO from BIFR. BIFR will take the total value of the IISCO its property, its total loss, its liability to the Government of West Bengal and the Centre and if the total net worth is negative, it will be sent to the BIFR. This is why it has been sent. Shri Indrajit Gupta is wrong. If I am wrong, if he corrects me, I will offer unconditional apology. But it should not go in the Press.

Secondly, they are saying that the Congress Government at the Centre is antilabour. We are not...(Interruptions)...I am giving instances. As per BIFR rules, if a case has been referred to the BIFR, the employees are not taken into the wage negotiations. They would not get any increase which the employees of other viable industries gain. I, termed as anti-West Bengal and anti-Communists, have given increase of wage to the IISCO employees and officers. Have I not given? I have given. Why have I given?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But when IISCO went to BIFR, they refused to grant any money for its modernisation.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Let me finish. Why have I given? I had to go to the hon. Finance Minister who is being termed by Shri Chandra Shekhar that he is doing some ~~हेर फेर~~. He has told me, 'Sontosh, legally you should not do it'.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I never said that he is doing some ~~हेर फेर~~.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I went to the Prime Minister. I said this is one industry we are trying to revive

right from 1972. But we could not. Now let us not send a message that we are not interested. Both the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister told me to go ahead. They said I have to pay it from my resources. So I have not got any budgetary support. I am paying from resources. Again in 19983 about another sick industry the Cabinet took a decision to close it down. But I have not closed it down. What I have done was, I again went to the Finance Minister...(Interruptions)...Let me finish. I told the Cabinet that we can revive it. They have asked me to give a package. I have given a package to the Finance Minister. Unofficially he has accepted it. We have given advance to HSCL and now we are making a revaluation and it is going to be viable. So there are instances. But there are also genuine complaints from many of the MPs. The Government should look into them. But I must make one thing clear. Today also there is a news item that I have seen in *The Statesman*. Sixty-two MPs have written to the Prime Minister against me about Bailadilla. You have also said something just now.

MR. SPEAKER: What did I say? I do not remember.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: You have said about private and public sectors, about mixed economy. On that I want to give some information to the House.

Sir, our priority today is this. In the public sector, where the area is not sensitive, if private sector investment comes in and it does not hamper the interest of the nation, that should be allowed ...(Interruptions).. Let me finish. ...(Interruptions)... Now, when we do it, what is the benefit?... (Interruptions)... Chandrashekarji has also criticised our policy.

We are in a position now to spend our resources for the anti-poverty schemes. When we came here, it was hardly 3,000; then it has been raised to 7,200 and now we want to go to 30,000. We want to save the Government money. We do not want to spend in areas where private sector can come and do it. Now, many people are saying that it is unsuccessful. No. In the steel sector, today, eight plants are coming up in private sector, which would produce six million tonnes by the year 1997. And another plant would be coming up later which would produce another seven million tonnes. This would be one of the highest producers of steel in Asia.

I was in Japan and Australia. The people there were very much happy to hear me. If I sent one million tonne of iron ore to Japan, I would get Rs. 50 crore; if I sent one million tonne of finished steel to the world market, I would get Rs. 950 crore. The Government cannot do it on their own. So, we have called the private sector to do it. To say that all the policies of the Government have failed and thereby created this situation is not correct.

With all humbleness at my command, without going into any other particulars, I would disobey you in the last minute only...(Interruptions)... The Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta has been transferred from the public sector to the private sector in West Bengal...(Interruptions) I am giving only one example. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar is a good friend of mine...(Interruptions)... He does not know that I have got many files ready. I do not want to go into controversies. But we want that there should be a debate. We have to answer what we have done in Bailadilla. We have the full knowledge. We will explain it before this August House. This is the temple of our democracy. We will answer the questions in this House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will you place all the papers on the Table of the House?

SHRI MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a new entrant to the House, I had some impression about the functioning here. Today, because of the seriousness of the situation and the importance of the problems, we have conceded to discuss this in detail, as you would expect.

Sir, not only the Government and the Opposition, but the people of the country, as a whole, also are very much concerned about the happenings in the industrial sector - not only in the public sector but also in the private sector. Is this a new development? Is this a creation of the Narsimha Rao Government? Is this a creation of the Congress Government? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Whose creation is this? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, over the last forty to forty-five years, certain industries were making heavy losses. But still we are continuing. There are certain reasons for this. Recently, when I went to HEC, I saw that HEC did not make profits except on one or two occasions...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It did not make a profit for a number of year...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: But still we are keen that that industry should function. The very importance of this issue has come out this year in an unusual way. Our learned Member, Shri Somnath Chatterjee moved it and that was supported by the Leader of the Opposition and the former Prime Minister intervened in the discussion. I do not see it as a political one. If it is political, I can very well say that the Marxist party and the BJP came here to fight the Government. It is not so. How do we solve the problem? From the Government side, we have taken a number of steps to sort this out. I do not have the details because I did not expect that I would be getting an

opportunity to speak in detail. Since the Chair has suggested to discuss this at another time, I do not wish to go into details.

I would like to make one thing very clear. The Government is earnestly at it. We have chalked out a certain programme as a part of the industrial policy for which major finance is also available.

Mr. Chatterjee was telling that a number of public undertakings could not function for want of money. I would like to bring to his notice what the Government has done in West Bengal alone. He mentioned about three or four factories. Out of 14 public undertakings which were making a heavy loss in West Bengal, 10 factories were nationalised by the Government because it could not continue its functioning. Those factories were bankrupt till the Government decided to take over to give employment.

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: When? Long back!
...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: I am not talking about yesterday. I am talking about the industry. That is why I am telling you that it is not the concern of the Congress alone. This was there when the Congress Government was there. Janta Government was supported by all of you together. You were there. Former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was there. I am not seeing it as a political issue. We have given financial assistance exceeding Rs. 1,250 crore in West Bengal alone to these 46 public undertakings which clearly shows that finance never stood in the way. Unfortunately, the actual loss of these units till 31st March, 1994 had gone up to Rs. 1,625 crore. It is not lack of funds. It is not because of BIFR. So, how can we find out some solution?

I may say that the Government of India alone cannot do it. The State Government should also cooperate.

Hon. Member, Mr. Chatterjee, mentioned about certain things. Let me put a humble question: "What did the West Bengal Government do for running the sick units?"...(Interruptions) Please hear what I am going to say.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, it is absurd that the Minister comes and says this in the House...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: What I am stating is that Government of India has given certain concessions to the sick units like price preference and purchase preference...(Interruptions)...Please hear what I am saying...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: I am not blaming anybody; I am not blaming the West Bengal Government. But I am telling certain facts. We have to run the sick industries but for a long time, we were not able to do it. We are trying our best to run the factories. The Government of India has given certain concessions. Price parity was there; purchase parity is given; tax exemption is given...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, let them allow the Minister to speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, they are not allowing the Minister to respond...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now, when they have sat down, why are you disturbing? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): This is very unfair that they are not allowing the Minister to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now. I do not think that the hon. Members from West Bengal are very touchy. They can take splints and arrows from the other side also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I do think that the hon. Minister had to respond immediately and he had no notice also. He is responding on principle. When the main debate takes place, he may go in detail also but please hear him with patience to whatever he has to say.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I point out to impress upon the Members that the Government of India are giving certain concessions for the sick industries. For the representation we have made to the State Governments, the State Governments also must cooperate with the public sector undertakings to run the factories. I may cite one example. Sir, in West Bengal, there was an offer made to take over the units with a clean slate, without any past liability but West Bengal Government did not agree to this proposal...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Karunakaranji, I think Mr. Somnath Chatterjee was trying to say that if the public sector units need some help, they should be examined and if possible, help should be given and nothing more than that. Others made certain other points but he made this point.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: I am only stressing on this particular point. On the one side, the Government of India is trying its best to run the sick industries and we requested the State Governments also to cooperate with the Government of India. That is my point.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very legitimate point.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: In the revival process of one PSU, namely, National Jute Manufacturing Corporation, West Bengal Government was given the offer to take over the unit with a clean slate, without any past liability but West Bengal Government did not agree to this proposal...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How can the State Government take them over?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Problems are there...*(Interruptions)* If an undertaking cannot run, what is the way out?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, this is wrong. If you have criticised others, you have to hear the criticism from others also.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, there are certain Bodies in the States also like the State Industrial Development Boards. This Board exists in the State of West Bengal also. Our friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee is the Chairman of that Board. We requested them to take over the unit without any arrears and why liability. We said, we would give tax exemption. We would write-off all the arrears. But they did not come forward. Why?

The fact is there. It is not difficult to run the sick industries as it is. That is why, the Government of India, as part of their Industrial Policy, made certain schemes for running the factories and all the public undertakings. I may make one thing very clear here, that is, we are not for closing down the public undertakings. We would try our best to run them. We do not want to push the workers to the roadside. We would protect them. We would look after their interests and for that whatever sufferings we have to undergo, we would undergo such sufferings. But at the same time, we cannot make allowances for heavy losses. If an undertaking is making losses continuously, it becomes a problem for the nation as a whole, it becomes a burden on the economy of the nation as a whole. So, it is not the issue of the Central Government alone. Under such situations if the Government is not in a position to run the public undertakings, we are asking the workers and other organisations to come forward and help the Government in running them. We are prepared to give them to the workers and the organisations...*(Interruptions)* We are prepared to make available the funds to them. We are prepared to give them all concessions including tax concessions. Are you prepared to take up this challenge?

Sir, it is easy to criticise the Government. What is the Government? Who is the Government? It is the peoples' Government. So, naturally if problems are there, we should share the problems together and run the factories.

Sir, I do not wish to take much of your time. But let me make it very clear that we have no intention of closing down the factories...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not correct.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, they have made some complaints about BIFR. BIFR hears the arguments of both the parties - the workers and the employers - and they try to bring somebody to run the factories. They are not deciding to liquidate the factories. If anybody could come forward and assist it, it would be in the interest of the country. Certain complaints have also been made in regard to the functioning of the BIFR. In this connection, I would like to make one thing very clear - it is my personal view - that the views of the workers should be properly heard and the workers' schemes should be looked into. These are not schemes given by the bank alone. We have to see how best we could rectify these shortcomings and we would do it. We are not shutting our eyes to facts. We will try to correct ourselves. If there is any defect, we would correct it and see that our industries prosper.

Sir, we cannot go on with the undertakings which are continuously loss-making. If we cannot revive the factories by protecting our interests, if necessary, we may have to close it. But at the same time, by making our workers suffer and by incurring loss of revenue to the State, we cannot continue with such loss-making units for an indefinite period. This is the policy of the Government. The Industrial Policy of the Government is very very clear - if we cannot run the factories, if we cannot run the industries and if anybody is coming forward to run those factories and industries on our conditions - the conditions as contained in the Policy Declaration - in such cases, within the limits of the Policy Declaration, we would welcome foreign investment. It is coming up very well.

I am very confident that within the short time we will be able to run most of our factories profitably. Some of the factories which were making losses heavily and we were about to close them, we have decided to revive them and run them profitably. I assure the Members not to worry about the future. We will try our best. My only appeal is, please do not take it as a political issue. Why I am telling this is because with all this nice work and with all the emotion, they have made this request: "I call upon the Government to take immediate steps in the matter for the due revival of these concerns," - We all welcome it - "and to change their anti-national, anti-people policy."

So, they want to stress on anti-people and anti-national policy of the Government and not to protect the industry and the poor workers. We are for protecting our industry, for protecting the poor and for stabilising our economy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I must reply to him. He has misused it. Otherwise I will be forced to give a privilege notice. I want to avoid it. He should have the courage to say the truth. He is deliberately misleading the House.

MR. SPEAKER: We will have it later on.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Then I shall give a notice of privilege. Sir, you are forcing me to give a notice of privilege. If I do not get the opportunity, I will give a notice of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: You may please speak on the next occasion. There are other Members who want to say something important. We will create probably one more occasion for this and then you can speak. Let other Members have their say.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, you have been kind enough...

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, if you allow him to speak, then the hon. Minister should also get a chance to reply.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, you will recall that I requested for a full-fledged discussion...(Interruptions) Since the time would not be available, I made a request. You have been kind enough to have accepted it and at least some discussion has taken place. Taking advantage of that, if deliberate mis-information is given to the House...

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, you can reply to it later on.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: He has only cleared the position...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please reply to that later on because there are other Members who want to speak.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What other occasion will I get?

MR. SPEAKER: We will create some occasion.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I thought the Minister will do some home work. I can now understand why you have been despatched here. Kerala people have done the right thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, you discussed it in a very fine spirit and he has given the reply in that spirit only.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He has deliberately misled the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow a few more Members to raise their points. If other Members want to avail of the facilities in the canteen, they are welcome.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise one point...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Datta Meghe's statement will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the orders of the officers of the Nagpur Kamati Cantonment Area, who are Army Officers, the army jawans demolished 258 concrete houses in Gora Bazar and Kamsara Bazar areas of Kamati Nagpur. The people rendered homeless were living there for the past 30-40 years. The local people and the social workers were beaten black and blue. I rushed to the spot immediately after learning about it. I also wrote a letter to the hon. Minister of State for Defence. The Monsoon has set in now-a-days. These people have suffered a loss of about Rupees five crores. Their houses which have been demolished fall under the jurisdiction of the Cantonment area. The army does not need that land. Those people have been rendered homeless. I urge upon the Government to inquire into this matter and allot plots of land to the people whose houses have been demolished.

In this regard, I have submitted all the details to the hon. Defence Minister who is now present in the House. All the newspapers have reported this incident. That land is not going to serve any military purpose. Through you, I would urge that this land be allotted to the people who inhabited there if it is not meant for any military purpose. Moreover, an inquiry should be conducted by your department into the loss of Rs. 5 crores incurred there.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Recently, a truck from Ahmedabad in Gujarat loaded with a large quantity of weapons including revolvers, AK-47 and AK-56 rifles etc. reached Mahidpur in Madhya Pradesh where large quantity of arms and ammunitions was unloaded. The Gujarat Police followed the truck and the Madhya Pradesh Police also escorted. One Pepa Pahalwan, One Pappu Pathan and Mohammad Khan etc. were apprehended in this connection. RDX and other explosive materials are expected to be recovered from this truck. The arrested people have links with the Mafia. The police have

* Not recorded.

also seized an American carbine and arrested some persons after raiding a farm house at Khandawa Road near Indore. The seizure of large quantities of illegal arms and ammunition in and around Mandsaur has terrorized the people who have an apprehension that some heavy devastation or explosion is awaiting them in future which will cause a heavy loss of life.

I wish the Government should explore all the facts and the hon. Home Minister make a statement in the House about the factual position prevailing there and the truck which reached there. Whether it was the same truck No. MOU-686 whose number I have with me that came from Ahmedabad to Madhya Pradesh. Some days ago, both the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police in Ahmedabad came over to Ujjain and visited many places. They are also having negotiation with the Government of Madhya Pradesh but the State Police in Madhya Pradesh is not co-operating with them due to which the whole atmosphere has been charged with unrest. I would like the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in the House in such a situation where apprehensions of rebellion or some heavy explosion are being expressed so that people come to know about the real situation.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise in this House a very serious matter pertaining to my constituency. Just now, there has been a long drawn discussion on Public Sector Industries in the House. In my constituency, British India Corporation functioning under the Ministry of textiles and four Public Sector sugar mills functioning under the sugar Corporation had been examined by BIFR for two years. After the examination, the BIFR said in its award that these factories should be handed over to the Private Sector but as on date these factories are neither run by the Government nor have been entrusted to the Private Sector as directed by BIFR.

Today, the situation is that these sugar mills owe Rs. 77 crore to the cane growers and out of it the Central Government has not paid even a single paisa to the growers for the current crushing season. All the officers deputed by the Government have since left the factory and the people of private sector have also not come to their rescue, while the new season is likely to set in. The farmers are launching an agitation and the workers of these mills have not got their salaries for the last two months.

I would like to submit that the Government should make a statement here in regard to the present status of these sugar mills, whether these mills are under the Government or have been transferred to some private party and what will be their status in the coming season. Not even a single paisa of the last year's arrears of the sugarcane growers has been paid, who will pay that amount? The workers have not got their salaries for the

last two months, who will pay it, the Central Government or the private sector? It is a serious issue and has taken the shape of an agitation in our area. The hon. Textile Minister should make a statement in the House. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection on such a serious issue. All the farmers are in trouble there since not even a single paisa has been paid to them. I seek your direction on this issue.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue here, with your kind permission. Sir, Chandigarh is one of the beautiful cities of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Look, there is no time for a lengthy speech. Everyone knows that Chandigarh is a beautiful city. Do not make any introduction, please come to the point directly.

[English]

You come directly to the point.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: I do not want to start with criticism. It is because if I start with criticism, you will say sit down. Therefore, I am taking your permission.

MR. SPEAKER: This exactly does not come under the purview of the Government of India. It is because, you are a gentleman and you will not speak unless you are allowed to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Sir, the point is that there is a move to set up a new city around Chandigarh. It has been named New Chandigarh after uprooting 52 villages.

[English]

The Forest Ministry has issued a letter.

[Translation]

I have an objection to the notification issued by the Government. I seek your permission to raise the matter. Environment and Forest Ministry has issued a letter.

[English]

There are fifty two villages, covering an area of 25,000 acres.

"The Environment Ministry views the move quite in contrast. The land to be denotified accounts for more than half of the State's forest cover of less than 1400 square kilometre (barely 5.7 per cent of its geographical area), it says. If the denotification goes through, the wood cover will stand reduced to an all-time low of 2.7 per cent in comparison to the 33 per cent recommended in the National Forest Policy."

[*Translation*]

This beautiful city is being ruined for the second time. 29 villages were uprooted earlier. New Chandigarh is being set up by uprooting 52 villages. There is a big conspiracy behind the setting up of New Chandigarh. During the days of terrorism, some Ministers, bureaucrats and smugglers purchased land worth crores of rupees, cut plots and set up colonies. They purchased the land from the farmers at very cheap rates and are selling it now for crores of rupees. The Ministers, the Chief Minister and their relatives are reportedly involved in the deal. If action is taken on the basis of the Environment Ministry letter the entire forest cover of the Punjab will be ruined. Mr. Lee Carbozier, the great architect in a note appended had warned that no city should be set up adjacent to Chandigarh. If this third city is set up, it will ruin the beauty of Chandigarh. Already two cities Panchkula and Mohali have been set up around Chandigarh and if the third city is set up it will be a great injustice to those people, whose futile land is spread over 25,000 acres under the Shivalik mountain range. Now these people are being uprooted for the third time by setting up this New Chandigarh. Earlier it was uprooted in 1947 and then in 1952. Now it is again being uprooted and in 1995 with the issuance of this notification.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Environment Ministry should give a reply in this regard as it is a big loss to Punjab and the new city of Chandigarh is being set up in the interest of a handful of people. It should be stopped. With these words I conclude.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention towards a issue, involving the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. A train "Janta Express" by name has been running between New Delhi and Howrah since long in memory of the Father of the Nation. Only poor people travel in it since it consists of II class compartments only. It halts at main stations except the halt stations. The train has been cancelled all of a sudden this year for the last one month. Crores of people are anguished at it. I say very seriously that crores of people are anguished at for it. Dharnas are being staged at various stations on the main lines in Bihar and in some parts of Uttar Pradesh on this issue. I have personal knowledge about it. I am receiving representation from passengers' Association in this regard. People are also meeting me personally. The people of our area are concerned about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are well aware that we have been saying for the last three years at the time of the presentation of the Railway Budget that Bihar is being neglected and the eastern parts are being neglected instead of giving anything to Bihar, the train, which reaches Delhi from Patna in 23-24 hours and from Howrah in

around 36 hours has been cancelled. People are very anguished at it. I would like to submit that you should personally intervene in the matter and help us to some extent. Besides, the Railway Ministry should be asked to reinstate the services of this train otherwise it could result in a serious agitation. This train used to run in memory of Babuji and by the cancelling the some disrespect is being shown to his memory.

The Government should be asked to reconsider its decision and keeping in view the sentiments of the people, the train should be reinstated.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I thank all the Members who are sitting in the House. The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.45 p.m.

13.41 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.52 hrs.

[*English*]

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Governor's (Allowances and Privileges)
(Amendment) Rules, 1995**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): On behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 538(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 1995, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

(Placed in Library, see No. L.T. 7965/95)

Cable Television Network (Amendment) Rules, 1995

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): On behalf of Shri K.P. Singh Deo, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 453(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1995, under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Cable Television

Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

(Placed in Library, see No. L.T. 7966/95)

Order published in Chandigarh Administration Gazette dated 22.4.95 regarding extension of period of holding elections to the Panchayat Samitees and Zila Parishad in the Union Territory, Chandigarh by another six months.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) published in Chandigarh Administration Gazette dated the 22nd April, 1995 regarding extension of period of holding elections to the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad in the Union Territory, Chandigarh by another six months commencing from the 23rd April, 1995, under sub-section (2) of section 223 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

(Placed in Library, see No. L.T. 7967/95)

14.53 hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Twenty-second Report and Minutes

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA (Seoni): I beg to present the Twenty Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Communications on the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1995 relating to the Ministry of Communications and the Minutes of the Sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

14.53 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

[English]

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

Motion to elect one Member of Rajya Sabha to the said committee

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal): I beg to move:-

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do elect one Member of Rajya Sabha, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri S.K.T. Ramachandran from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the Member so elected by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do elect one Member of Rajya Sabha, in accordance with the system of proportional representation

by means of the single transferable vote, to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri S.K.T. Ramachandran from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the Member so elected by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The motion was adopted.

14.54 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need for construction of a bridge on river Kosi in North Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kosi river flowing from Northern Bihar is inundated every year and hundreds of villages of that area are submerged by water. Though the Government spends hundreds of crores of rupees for the people of these flood affected areas in the form of relief, no permanent solution of this problem has been found so far. As a result of this, people have to face lot of difficulties. Nepal Government is also interested in construction of a dam on Kosi river but the matter has been pending because it has not been discussed in detail.

I, therefore, request the Government of India that a decision to construct a dam to check the flood water entering Sahasra, Supaul, Darbhanga, Khagaria etc. in Northern Bihar may be taken and implemented as early as possible so that the people of that area may take a sign of relief and Government may earn money by generating thermal power, and through water ways.

[English]

(II) Need to set up Western Orissa Development Council

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): In order to remove the backwardness of the Western region and ensure balanced development of different parts in Orissa. With equitable opportunities in the fields of economic development, education, employment and health care etc., the much needed Western Orissa Development Council should be constituted in consultation with all concerned without delay.

I urge upon the Union Government to initiate necessary action in this regard forthwith.

(III) Need to convert meter gauge railway line between Suratgarh and Hanumangarh into broad gauge

[Translation]

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH (Bikaner): The meter gauge canal loop line from Suratgarh-Swarupsar to Hanuman Garh under Bikaner division of Railways has not been converted into broad gauge. Among broad gauge lines in this area, only this fragment is yet to be converted into broad gauge. There are big mandis situated on this line. Large quantities of wheat, gram, mustard-seed and cotton are sent to these mandis from all over the country but the farmers get fifteen to twenty rupees less per quintal for these items because of not sending them by broad gauge line. Farmers are directly affected. It is, therefore, necessary to convert the meter gauge line between Suratgarh and Hanumangarh into broad gauge line.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take action in this regard without any delay.

[English]

- (iv) **Need for early payment of compensation to the people whose land was acquired by Neyveli Lignite Corporation**

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): The Neyveli Lignite Corporation had acquired 8,172 acres of land during the years 1977-80. This acquisition was for expansion of First Mines, commencement of Second Mines and for Thermal Stations. This vast area of land consists of dry land, irrigated land and house sites. The owners of these lands are small and marginal farmers. Their lands were the only source of income for their subsistence. In pursuance of the acquisition order they had been ousted from their lands.

The oustees are numbering about 10,000. They have been agitating for compensation for the last 15 years. The Court of Subordinate Judge of Cuddalore ordered for providing compensation to the oustees. Some of the oustees preferred appeals for enhanced compensation. The High Court of Madras has fixed the compensation and the oustees are agreeable to the quantum of compensation fixed by the High Court of Madras. But the Neyveli Lignite Corporation has been delaying to paying the compensation as directed by the Court. As a result, the oustees are suffering a lot.

In these circumstances, I urge upon the Government of India to instruct the Neyveli Lignite Corporation to pay the oustees, the compensation as fixed by the Division Bench of the Madras High Court and help the oustees.

- (v) **Need for construction of a bridge on river Sharda in Pilibhit, U.P.**

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Sharda river flows

through my constituency. Land is eroded rapidly due to fast flow of this hilly river which results in heavy floods. This river divides the Legislative Assembly constituency and Tehsil Puranpur into two parts. Block and Tehsil's headquarters are situated in Puranpur, while five Nyaya Panchayats of this area fall on the other side of the Sharda river. Due to floods in the river, people across the Sharda river are unable to reach the Block, Tehsil and district headquarters. There is no bridge; that is why they have to cover a distance of 140 km. instead of 18 km and they have to remain without medicines etc. Hundreds of houses and thousands of hectares of crops are washed away due to land erosion caused by Sharda river each year. Not only this, sometimes people also become victims of the floods. Thus, country has to bear a loss of crores of rupees in the rainy season every year. Pitching is done every year by putting stones and bags full of soil but it is not a permanent solution.

I, therefore, request the Central Government that a bridge may be built over Ghanara Ghat on Sharda river and pitching and embankments may also be built.

15.00 hrs.

- (vi) **Need to strictly enforce prohibition**

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is always the policy of the administration that together with providing food, clothing and accommodation, it should protect the honour and dignity of the citizens of the country as well. But it is a matter of regret that their dignity is being lowered due to promotion and encouragement of alcoholism and gambling in the country. Simultaneously, country's culture is also getting a set back. It is an irrefutable fact that if a country is to be enslaved, its language, literature and culture should be destroyed. That country will remain slave for several centuries. Hindi has not been able to get its proper place in our administration as per the Constitution and foreign literature is dominating instead of Indian literature.

On one hand, Government is claiming that it is making the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi true by spending more and more money on prohibition and implementing it fully. On the other hand, it is issuing licences for liquor shops, Bhang and other intoxicants. That is why arson, murder, robberies, terrorism and anarchy are growing by leaps and bounds.

I request the Central Government to implement the prohibition fully so that everyone in the society may lead his life peacefully with his hard earned money.

- (vii) **Need to set up a Research Centre at Shahabad town in U.P. to encourage production of petroleum from plants.**

SHRI SURINDRA PAL PATHAK (Shahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, famous American Chemist, Dr. Kamertwan had suggested production of petroleum by crushing the stems of wild sea-plants and bushes. Getting inspiration from this suggestion, many scientists have made commendable efforts in this direction.

Farming of petroleum plants is very important for our country which is pre-dominantly an agricultural country. Such farming is done on wasteland, which is abundantly available in our country. Secondly, its farming does not cost much because there is no need to sow it again upto twenty years, if once sowed. Therefore, the farming of petroleum producing plants will prove to be a boon to the farmers. At the same time, there cannot be a better use of wasteland also. It requires Governments efforts so that farmers can be provided with the related technique and other information.

Hardoi, Lakheempur khiri, Sitapur, Unnar, Farukhabad and Shahjahanpur districts of Uttar Pradesh have wasteland in abundance. Farming of petroleum producing plants may be beneficial there.

I, therefore, request the Central Government that a research Centre may be established in Shahabad city of this area so that the production of petroleum producing plants may be enhanced.

[English]

- (viii) **Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for continuance of various subsidized rice schemes**

SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA RAO (Bapatla): Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh under various schemes, is supplying rice at subsidized rate to the people of Andhra Pradesh. The expenditure on these schemes during the year 1994-95 was about Rs. 1,115.00 crore. If the issue price is increased by the Food Corporation of India, it would rise to Rs. 1,265.00 crore per annum.

Hon'ble Chief Minister during his visit to Delhi has made a request to the Government of India to supply enough quantity of rice to the Government of Andhra Pradesh free of cost so as to continue the various subsidised schemes.

I request the Central Government to favourably consider the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh and to release adequate funds to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

[English]

15.05 hrs.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1995 - AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA...CONTD.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up item No. 8-further consideration of the motion moved by Shri P.A. Sangma on the 1st August, 1995. Shri Ram Kripal Singh Yadav was on his legs. Mr. Yadav, you can continue your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before concluding my speech yesterday, I was saying that there is nobody to safeguard the interests and provide protection to the large number of poor labourers from Bihar who come here or go to other states in search of work. The principal factor responsible for this is that the Government pays no attention to the unorganised labour of the country and they do not get benefits under the existing rules of the Government. Therefore, the Government should devise a policy of getting unorganised labourers registered. They will definitely accrue the benefits extended by the Government under rules once they are registered. Here, I would also like to add that many policies of extending benefits to the labourers, granting them protection and all round co-operation are being formulated but despite all that the intention of the Government does not seem to be good. To my mind, the Government cannot do anything good for the labourers and the poor unless both its policies and intentions are good.

Since 1947 many labour laws and welfare schemes have been formulated for the labourers but is there proper vigil and monitoring of these policies? Have any measures been taken in the direction of accruing the benefits of the laws and Acts, formulated for the labour sector, to these labourers? The Government has been following the policy of liberalisation on a comprehensive basis whereunder the foreign companies are setting up their industrial units in India. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that, in the absence of such rules and their effective implementation, our labourers will be subject to exploitation by these foreign companies. Therefore, I wish that the laws proposed to be enacted for this purpose should be enforced strictly so that all the workers including those of MNCs may also get benefits of these laws.

Through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the labourers have made a great contribution to the national building but in today's situation, as all the hon. Members know, they are not able to feed their children with two square meals after the day's relentless toil.

They construct palatial buildings, mills and factories in the sweat of their brows but they do not possess even a jhuggi to live in. Therefore, there is a need to formulate a policy to providing housing facility to the labourers also.

Sir, there has been a long standing demand of enhancing the amount of bonus payable to the employees and the labourers but the Government is turning a deaf ear to it. There is the need to bring forward a fresh legislation to incorporate all these aspects so that the labour class and the Government employees are benefited.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the exploitation to which the women and child labourers working in private houses, Bidi factories and fireworks industries of this country are subjected on a large scale. We will really appreciate your concern for the poor and your zeal of doing something for the labourers if they are also covered by this law and in the purview of this Bill. Not only this, the Government also pays no attention to the large number of labourers and poor sections of the country who work abroad. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this aspect also and urge him to take concrete measures to give relief to them so that their sufferings are mitigated.

Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that a large number of women workers working with the Government have to face many difficulties because they do not get leave at the time of their delivery. The Government should think about the women workers and make special provisions of granting them this specific facility. The casual labourers are subject to great exploitation. Such facilities should be extended to them also.

I would like to submit that medical facilities are not available to the workers here. There is need to extend such facilities to them because they are prone to various kinds of diseases and there is nobody to attend to them. The Government is blind to this fact. The wages which the workers of the poor sections of society get, are not adequate to meet their medical treatment expenses properly. Therefore, proper medical facility should be extended to them so that they can protect their lives. The Government and the hon. Minister will positively consider the suggestions put forth here if they are benefactors of the proletariat. While granting this compensation the Government should also keep in mind the pace of the inflation rate. Such a Bill is being brought forward after a long time and the hon. Minister should bring forward a similar Bill during next 2-3 years because the amount being fixed is not adequate. This amount should be increased. The amount of relief provided to the workers is not proportionate to the rate of inflation. The workers can be protected if facilities are granted to them in keeping with the inflation rate. There is

a large scale exploitation of the workers under the contract system in the country today. There is need to formulate a stringent legislation in order to do away with this contract system and to provide facilities to the workers. Some lacunae are left in the laws and the management takes advantage thereof. If the Government is the real benefactor of the proletariat, then it should remove these lacunae and take drastic action against the management if they do not implement these laws strictly. Then alone can the workers get the benefits of these laws. The workers' interests cannot be protected if there is no match between the policy and the intention. The proletariats can be benefited if policies are enforced with a strong will power.

With these words, I would like to reiterate that the amount provided in the Bill should be enhanced. The suggestions given by all the hon. Members should be considered and some concrete steps should be taken thereon, then alone can we appreciate that the Government and the hon. Minister want to help the poor workers in the real sense of the word.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Shahabuddinji, before you start I want to bring to your notice that the time allotted for this Bill was one hour and we have already taken three hours and fifty-five minutes. So, kindly restrict yourself to the relevant points.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I will be very brief.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur): But it affects the lives of the workers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: My request is that you kindly raise only the relevant points so that the Government can apply its mind and try to implement your suggestions. Let them not unnecessarily search for a house of gold in a den of dust.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir...(Interruptions)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir it is a very important issue. Therefore, its time should be extended so that everybody can put forth his points of view on it.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are right. But the time allotted for discussion in the Business Advisory Committee was one hour. But somehow you all felt that the matter is very important

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This is very important Bill. Therefore, more time should be allotted for this Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kindly restrict yourselves to the relevant points as it will be easy for the hon. Minister to not down the points and he can apply his mind.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. George Fernandes in his intervention has brought out in a very convincing manner and in his inimitable style, which speaks of his commitment as a trade unionist, the inadequacies of the present legislation.

Sir, the Bill before us is an amendment to a law which was originally enacted nearly 75 years ago under the British rule. I have a feeling, Sir, that the entire Bill was meant to protect the interests of the employer and not to promote the welfare of the workers. And, therefore, Sir, whenever we undertake or we have undertaken tinkering with the Bill or going in for piecemeal amendments here and there, that basic framework has continued to persist. What was, therefore, needed was that after 50 years, we should be in a position to apply the mind *de novo* on the subject and place before the House a more comprehensive piece of legislation worthy of the welfare State that we are trying to construct in our country.

Sir, in 1950, when we wrote our Constitution, we dreamt of a welfare State. We wrote certain provisions in our Constitution and we gave to ourselves the objective of trying to bring in a social order which would be based on social and economic justice. We inserted Article 21 which grants us the right to life and Articles 22 to 24 which guarantee against exploitation of labour. Not only that, in the Directive Principles of State Policy, a number of Articles are there which are worthy of note in this connection Articles 38, 39, 43 and 47. And I shall not take the time of the House to go into the details. But the point I am making is that we dreamt of a welfare State and that welfare State is yet far from being realised. Certainly, this legislation that is before us does not take us any further towards that national objective of constructing a welfare State in our country, and that is why, we felt that, perhaps, it would have been better if, instead of this piecemeal amendment, it should have been circulated to the public at large by means of a Select Committee so that all the ideas that are there would have been incorporated in the Bill and that would have been of use to the hon. Minister. But I would suggest a few things here. For example, the scope of the Bill. It has been expanded, no doubt, but it still does not cover the vast classes of unorganised labour; it does not cover the casual labour, and I am afraid that even the

Government Departments are guilty in that respect. I know of a specific case in which the Ministry of Railways terminated the services of a Stenographer no less than five times on completion of 179 days of work in order to deprive him of the benefit that would have flown from normal and regular employment. And of course, the cases of such casual workers, as they are called, in the other Departments are very well-known to you, Deputy-Speaker.

Therefore, the scope of the Bill should have been expanded to cover, at least, the casual labour, the contractual labour and basically the unorganised sector. I have a feeling, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that the organised sector can take care of itself. My friends have spoken about the people who are employed by foreign companies. At least, in that respect, I would say that the foreign companies and the organised companies will be absolutely correct to the letter of the law, that they will not deviate. But it is really the unorganised labour which suffers in this country and which is far more in number than the organised labour. And, therefore, the Bill is not universal in scope. There is the immigrant labour not only from Bihar but from all States of the country to go and seek their livelihood in other parts of the country and they are totally unprotected. There is a law in which the parent State can appoint Inspectors with the help of the host Government, but obviously, they are not being employed and they are not being looked after. Therefore, Sir, one specific suggestion that I would like to place before the hon. Minister is, please make sure that all the labour whom you wish to bring under the purview of this law does, in fact, receive the benefit of this law. And that is possible only if you insert a panel clause providing for compulsory registration of labour by the employers with the local labour authorities. Unless that is done, surely they can play ducks and drakes with the fortunes of the disabled working men.

The second point that I would like to make is that I have a feeling that between health and disability, there is a vast spectrum. There is a spectrum of what would call, creeping sickness, sickness like silicosis, sickness like fibrosis and tuberculosis in back. A man gradually dies and slowly his productivity goes down. He is debilitated and his energy ebbs. He cannot perform as well and sometimes the employer is good enough to let him carry on, on reduced wages, but sometimes he throws him out. After all, how has he come to this pass? He has come to this pass because of a particular occupation in which he has been engaged, to which at one time he was healthy enough to give all his energy and today he is not. What is the compensation that he is going to receive during that period when he is not totally disabled, when he is not really thrown out and yet, at the same time, he is not able to satisfy his employer? Will the employer then be prepared to give him the wages that were available to him when he was at the peak level of his energy? That is not ensured here in this Bill at all.

The third question that I have is the question of quantum of compensation. We are living in an economic environment where we are faced with a ten per cent inflation every year. I am always opposed to these specific digits and specific numbers because they become out of date by the time you have legislated a draft into law and, therefore, what should be done is a process of indexation. It should be built into the law that whatever is given there every year, automatically the Presiding Officer, the Commissioner, can add that additional element which would cover the extent of inflation. It should be indexed. Whatever is given here in this law should be automatically indexed according to the period at which the compensation is being determined and that power should be vested in the Commissioner.

The final point that I would like to make is — that point has already been made but I would like to add my word to it — that you must have a Central Fund. Just as you have got a Provident Fund, you should have a Compensation Fund. Let that Fund be partly contributed by the Government and partly contributed by the employers at say one per cent of what they are paying wages. Let that be pooled together so that immediately that money is available for the payment of compensation and the family does not have to run from door to door in order to get the compensation. Therefore, the creation of such a Fund is absolutely essential.

These are the four essential points that I would like to make here. But I would like to once again plead with the hon. Minister 'Do not tinker with the law. Apply your mind.' I know you have got a very gracious heart. I know you have sympathy for the workers. I know you from the long correspondence that we always had on so many subjects pertaining to the labour situation. But get your Department to work out a really comprehensive law for the workmen's compensation taking into account the most modern legislation that is obtainable anywhere in the world including the Western world.

With these words, I would once again suggest to the hon. Minister: Let him agree to this Bill being assigned to a Select Committee for public circulation and for incorporation of various views that have been placed in this country on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Chitta Basu has sent a slip where the says he has to attend a meeting. Shri Dattatraya Bandaru has also sent a slip that he has to catch a flight at 4.30 PM. This is just violating the norms that are before me. If the House were to agree, we can just permit. A number of individual slips are coming. It is made known that the Whips of the Party shall have to send the slips. If individual slips come, it becomes very difficult to accommodate. Hon. Members have already consumed so

much of time. Therefore, it is better you should limit your speeches to five minutes each. Shri Chitta Basu will now speak. Kindly limit it for five minutes so that more Members can participate.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (BARASAT): Sir, I felt it necessary for me to make the intervention only to reiterate the demand or request made from this side for referring it to a Select Committee for further incorporating many constructive suggestions.

This Bill is one of the important social security measures for the sweating workers and toiling workers of our country. What I say, I do not say from the labour laws. What I say now is not collected from any wisdom or wise person in our country. But what I say now is the practical experience of a person who has spent quite a considerable part of life in organising trade unions, the unorganised section of the society. It is very difficult today to draw a dividing line between the organised labour and unorganised labour because I feel that the unorganised labourers are those who are working in the rural areas or the urban areas in factories who have got no regularised service, who have not been brought under the laws of the country, particularly the labour laws. Therefore, certain special arrangements need to be made for the protection of their rights so that they may have an exploitation-free life. In every factory today, even in most highly organised industry, we shall get a large number of workers who are called the casual workers. Can the Labour Minister deny that the Jute Industry, the traditional industry in West Bengal, which was started in the late eighteenth century, has got a large number of casual workers? He was telling about the Cement Industry. Most of them are casual workers. I do not like to mention the names. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to review the provisions on four grounds. The first ground is about the inadequacy of the coverage. The second ground of my request is the inadequacy of the quantum of compensation. The third ground is the absence of deterrent and penal measures against the defaulting employers and my fourth ground of request to the Government is that merely passing of a law is not enough. The implementation mechanism has to be restructured. I have seen it myself and it is the result of my own experience that I am suggesting this. There are compensation courts. I had to plead before them for getting the compensation to the injured workers. Not months but years elapsed. The injured worker did not get any benefit. I do not know whether he has ever got the benefit. First of all, they do not say that he is their employee. Mr. Labour Minister, first of all, you should understand one thing. The employer does not recognise that this particular worker was his employee. There is no method in our country to verify and say that such and such employee was working there; he met with an accident when he was in the course of discharging his duties.

1504 hrs

(Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary in the Chair)

Therefore these things are also manipulated. So, the main thing is the Inspectorate of the Labour Department require to be restructured and they should be given proper training. It is very much needed to give them social orientation. There is their responsibility to the social commitment. Anyway, I do not like to take much of your time. I think he understands the problem of social security. I have got great regards for the hon. Minister because you have got the understanding of the problem. You are not merely a law-maker; you are not merely a Minister but you have also got certain commitments towards the philosophy of the working-class movement.

I plead for referring this matter to the Joint Select Committee or any machinery you like because the fundamental principle demands it. The recommendations of the Law Commission are the source for having this kind of amendment of the Bill. It is because of these recommendations that you have decided to bring about amendments. I have read your speech made in the Rajya Sabha and I found that you yourself admitted it. It is not necessary for me to explain that all the recommendations of the Law Commission have not been incorporated in this Bill. You have been pleased to admit that certain recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Labour have also not been accepted. This House recommends sometimes certain measures which have been recommended by the Law Commission and certain recommendations which have been recommended by the Standing Committee. How do you try to defy the recommendations of the Law Commission? You can defy it. You rejected the recommendations of the Standing Committee; you rejected the recommendations made by the House. What is this democracy? Why are we here? I do not know why I am here. You do not accept the recommendations of the Law Commission fully. You show discrimination. You go by pick and choose method. You do not accept the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Labour. You also do not accept the recommendations made by the Members of this House. I do not challenge your bona fide. But it is not fair. It is not a fair labour practice. You accuse the employer; we accuse the employer saying that they are following unfair labour practices. You are not playing a fair game.

Lastly, the coverage is to be increased particularly in our country for agricultural workers. I can leave it provided you assure me that you would bring the Bill on Agricultural Workers incorporating these social securities for them. If you assure me that you would bring another Bill during this session, I am prepared to extend my support to you because this way, at least a wider section of our exploited

and sweated labour will be benefited by this. More than ten crore of our rural workers are now engaged in agriculture. They have got no protection, no social security and nothing of the sort. This is in contravention of the ILO convention. The ILO has also recommended for the inclusion of the rural labour. I had an opportunity of working in a Sub-Committee on this unorganised workers. There has been a model Bill. s this is a very important social security Bill, I think, he should agree to it.

Lastly, I also want you to say about the Pensions Bill. Of course, it is not directly related to it. But it is also a social welfare measure. I will be happy if you say something about it. The Bill is bending with the Government.

I do not take much of your time. I feel it is not necessary to explain it to him in a speech ranging from five minutes to two hours. it is an unnecessary wastage of energy. I think, he understands the subject. He would understand the feeling of the House and he will play fair with the working class of the country particularly the sweated and toiling labour force of our country for whose betterment of life, we are constitutionally committed.

Having regard to all these things, I once again plead that he may kindly either accept the suggestion for the improvement of the Bill or refer it to the Select Committee when we will be able to impress upon the Minister for its improvement.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Madam Chairman, the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill was considered by the Standing Committee on Labour. I being a Member of the Standing Committee on Labour, I can say that the Standing Committee is also not unanimous on many points. Many meetings took place. Consensus had to be taken, but the Committee could not come to any consensus. In spite of that, our Minister has come up with the Bill. Though the Bill was enacted in early 1923, it was amended in 1984. After that now again this Bill to include some of the working classes in the provisions has come before this Parliament. This Bill is also not a complete and broad-based Bill because as many colleagues have mentioned much of the labour sections and working classes is left over and are not covered under this Bill.

Particularly under the ESI scheme, we got medical benefit, accident benefit, maternity benefit, death benefit and so on. All these things are there under the coverage of ESI. Now, the Government has come forward particularly for the separation of this Bill. Accident benefit is coming separately with the Compensation Bill. There may be temporary disability or permanent disability or partial or total. These things are there by my only plea is that this Bill should cover the labour class and workers of Andhra

Pradesh also. As my friend mentioned, Andhra Pradesh has a very large number of coconut labourers, cashewnut labourers and a large number of bidi workers. They are left over. They are very poor. Their health protection is essentially needed, particularly in the interest of their health. Another thing is that of cement factory workers. Andhra Pradesh is the biggest producer of cement. Large number of workers have died because of T.B. in the Andhra Pradesh. There is no protection for them. That is why I demand the hon. Minister that instead of going in a hurried way, the Bill must go to the Select Committee. Through that Select Committee again some broad-based ideas should come out for the implementation.

Another important thing is the implementation part. Labour Commissioners are not the proper authority. They are not properly visualizing the cases. A large number of cases are pending. That is why, I recommend that the Labour Commissioners, as District Collectors got the magisterial powers, should be empowered with some judicial powers so that some cases can be disposed of. Otherwise for the disposal of cases, as you have mentioned, time limitation should be there because all the employers are not even properly bringing more cases to the notice of the concerned police station. We must put a clause here that whenever accident take place, complaint must come to the police station. There are large number of cases of compromise. Many labourers do not have unions. They do not know the laws but the employers or industrialists are pressurizing the labour and they are making compromises therefrom the worker is getting very meager amount. That is why I say that you must keep time limitation on these things.

Another very important thing I want to mention is that in Andhra Pradesh itself there are eight zones. In all the eight zones only the Deputy commissioner is the competent authority for trial. All the industrialists say that only Deputy commissioners should take trial. They are not hearing even the Assistant Commissioners. So a large number of cases are pending.

Another important thing as mentioned by Shri Chitta Basu is that many of these employers are not properly looking after the workers. As per the Criminal Procedure Code attachment of property is there. Those laws should be reviewed and included in this Bill. Otherwise a large number of major accidents which are there, many of them will not be covered. That is why I request the hon. Minister that it should be included as a criminal offence. Whichever management is not properly giving compensation to the workers, it should be booked under this.

An important item here is what the Standing Committee on Labour has recommended. You have mentioned in the Bill enhancement of Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 as death

compensation and Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000 as compensation for permanent disability. But the Committee has recommended Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 80,000 in the case of death and Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 90,000 in the case of permanent disability. But in spite of the Committee's recommendations the Minister has come forward only with Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 in the case of death and Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000 in the case of permanent disability. I demand from the hon. Minister that he should provide at least for Rs. 2 lakh in the case of death and Rs. 3 lakh in the case of permanent disability. He must come forward to incorporate these two things.

My last point is about the funeral expenses. Here you have given only Rs. 1,000 for funeral expenses. Normally everywhere industrialists are paying Rs. 2,500, Rs. 3,000 like that. Now we only want its legality. Even for this the Government is not coming forward with a broad concept. You are giving only Rs. 1,000. Many managements themselves are giving Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000. That is why I demand that at least Rs. 5,000 must be given for funeral expenses.

I cannot welcome this Bill because of the many lapses it contains with regard to compensation, with regard to implementation, etc. That is why I recommend to the hon. Minister that it must go to a Select Committee and there all the issues should be reviewed. All the important recommendations made by the hon. Members must be incorporated and then the Government should come with a fresh Bill making the base concerning majority of the workers broader.

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil): Madam Chairperson, welcoming the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, I wish to make a few points. The Act was amended last in 1984. Naturally, several problems have surfaced in the mean time. So, to accommodate the changing circumstances and the problems, this amendment is necessitated to protect the interest of the workers. Enhancement of the quantum of compensation to cope up with the present price level is an important aspect which need immediate attention. I wish to point out some other important points in the Bill.

The minimum compensation is enhanced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 in the case of death and in the case of permanent disability it is enhance from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000. Moreover, the provision of the Act is extended to drivers, cleaners and other workers recruited by the employers registered in India and serving abroad. Those who work abroad are getting opportunities to get compensation.

There is the provision of Rs. 1,000 for funeral expenses. Though it is a meager amount, to perform the

last rites of the expired in poor families, this amount would be a great help. Moreover, facilities are extended to the migrant labourers to file the compensation claims before the Commissioners in whose areas the workers or their dependants ordinarily reside.

Extending the provision to the categories of agriculture and fisheries also has to be welcome. Many fishermen own mechanised boats and country-boats.

Now, I want to point out certain drawbacks in the Bill. Casual labourers have to be included in order so as to enable them to get the benefits. They are kept as casual labourers by the employers for long. They should get the benefits like the other labourers. So also, the contract labourers and the unorganised labourers are left out from the ambit of the Bill. They are large in number and they are not getting the opportunities of this benefit. The part-time workers have also been left out.

Sir, the quantum of compensation proposed in the amendment in respect of both the categories is inadequate. It should be proportionate to the price index at the time of the previous amendment of the Act, to that of the price index that is prevailing now. It can be on the basis of the last drawn salary and allowances. The employees working under private owners of factories and small establishments are left unnoticed. They meet with accidents, loss of legs, hands and are subjected to disfigurement of their bodies. But they are left out.

Sir, I would like to make one or two suggestions. The time limit should be fixed for the disposal of the claim petition for compensation that is pending before the Commissioner. Long delay will cause inconvenience and difficulties to the labourers who are financially very poor. So, the timely disposal will be helpful to the workers. Small industries may not be able to pay the compensation amount. In such cases, a remedy has to be found out. If it is insisted upon them to pay a heavy amount, the industry would collapse and that would lead to a lot of difficulties to their industries. So, the Government have to set up a fund for payment of compensation to such labourers. Another point is that the employer would evade payment of compensation. He would plead that the accident did not take place during the course of work or that the worker was not performing his duties to the employer. In such cases, protection has to be given to the labourers because the employers could engage able lawyers and the poor labourers cannot withstand the legal contentions that would be put before the Commissioner. In such cases the burden of proof should not be thrust on the labourers, on the whole this amendment would provide better relief, protection, safeguard and remedy to the workers and their families who are facing risks and accidents.

Finally, I would bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the left-out categories, namely, unorganised labourers, agricultural labourers and casual labourers, should be included in Schedule II to cater their problems too, in this regard. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Workman Compensation Act was enacted in the year 1923 i.e. 72 years back. It has been amended 22 times so far, still it is incomplete. These people are working against the interest of the workers. This is Parliament; had we brought a No Confidence Motion, the government would have been collapsed...*(Interruptions)*...Parliamentary Committee, constituted by Government is a mini Parliament. Its Chairman, Smt. Chandra Prabha urs belongs to ruling party and majority of the members belong to ruling party. Why don't you consider the recommendations in the report presented by them. The conclusions made by the committee should be given due consideration for the benefit of the workers.

Shri Fernandes, Shri Chhedi Paswan and Shri Ramashray ji have expressed their views on casual workers. Shri Panigrahi, a member of ruling party has also opined that casual workers should be included in it. There are 70 percent unorganised workers in the country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I would like to quote.

[English]

"The National Labour Commission has suggested in 1669 that safety should become a habit with employees and workers. At Present, it has assumed the form of a ritual. The employment provides safety devices, if he must; the worker uses safety equipment, if at all he does it, to complete a formality. This is particularly so in the case of smaller establishments and unorganised workers."

[Translation]

Unorganised workers are important in it. I would like to read out the reply given by hon. Minister in Rajya Sabha.

[English]

"So far as inclusion of casual labourers and contract labourers is concerned, I will reexamine this issue. The Government has been giving the utmost importance to the unorganised labour. I will have an exclusive discussion with the hon. Members who are interested. If it is necessary, after we have discussed, there is no difficulty in coming back to the House."

[Translation]

If you want to regain the power, please implement it without any delay....*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGAMA): Before taking any decision, please listen to me.

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Ruling party did not miss any chance to criticise here Shri George Fernandes but it was he who provided Rs. two lakhs to disabled persons and to kith and kins of the dead. Why do you not increase this amount? You should increase it atleast upto Rs. three lacks.

Amount provided for funeral ceremony is very less. Atleast Rs. 4 thousand should be provided for this purpose. We have unorganised sector in our mills where more than 12 lack powerlooms are functioning. You can imagine the large number of workers working there.

At the end, I could not make out what you mean by the sentences you have said.

[English]

"The working journalists are exposed to several hazardous conditions like political rallies, police firing and lathi-charge, etc. Therefore, I thought that it will be good for us to cover the working journalists including the cameramen also under the purview of this Act."

[Translation]

Working journalists work round the clock. They are always haunted by the fear whenever they go for news or they come with news. As their life is always in danger, they should be provided round the clock coverage. In the same way, mill workers too want to form union for their livelihood.

16.00 hrs.

I, therefore, demand, that they should be provided 24 hours coverage because they are killed while coming back from or going to their work place. At the time of strike in mills in 1982, workers intending to come to work, were killed. Therefore issue of providing 24 hours' coverage to them should be considered.

Labour commission has stated that

[English]

"In the wake of new type of industries coming up and continuing technological changes, it may become necessary to write into the law, additional safeguards and safety precautions to match new hazards."

[Translation]

latest and advance technologies are coming, therefore, through you, I urge upon the hon. Minister to think over it and bring the Bill for the workers of unorganised sector as Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh has stated that you want to bring such a Bill. Therefore, please declare it, today itself. I urge upon the Government, through you, to bring a comprehensive Bill on this issue.

You provided me an opportunity to speak, (English) I am very much thankful to you Madam.

[English]

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar): Madam Chairperson, although this Bill is paraded as a step in favour of workers, it is not really so. Hence, I am not able to support it.

The main structure of Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923 has remained the same in spite of a number of amendments during the past so many years. Now also, nothing much is proposed in this Bill. Even recommendations of the Law Commission and Standing Committees have not been accepted. In the earlier Act also it was there that if a worker was injured while at work, it was not compulsory for the employer to provide medical treatment. On the other hand if the employer had extended monetary assistance to the worker during the period of disablement, then after determination of the rate of compensation, the employer may deduct the same from the compensation amount. Such a provision was also there. Now, nothing is done about such a provision.

Much has been said about unorganised workers. I am not adding anything to it. I would only like to mention here that unorganised sector and casual workers are not really covered under this Bill. Much has been said about migrant labourers. Because of the absence of a proper mechanism, they would not be benefited by the provisions in this Bill. What will be the fate of construction workers? Will they be benefited? There is no provision that they will be benefited. There is no mechanism there by which they can be really benefited. They are left at the mercy of the contractors and employers also. We know that with growing privatisation, contract system is an increasing phenomenon. Leave apart the private sector and private employers, even the public sector industries engage casual workers through contractors for permanent nature of work. Sometimes, no record is kept about them. This happens in spite of the law prohibiting it.

The law enforcing authorities in the mines and quarries simply do not operate. This is the state of affairs. Now, the provisions of this Bill also does not clearly spell out anything in concrete terms as to what relief is being contemplated for the workers. What about the agricultural worker? No comprehensive legislation has been brought about for them. No real benefit is suggested for them in this Bill. In the provisions that contain the benefits that would accrue to the workers affected by the pesticides, in that provision, the agricultural labourers and the working farmers have not been included.

I fail to understand the rationale for the rate of compensation that is proposed to be offered in the case

of death or permanent disability of a worker. On what basis, the amounts have been calculated and fixed at Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 60,000 respectively? Is that the price of the life of a worker? It should have been calculated at least by keeping in view the earnings that the worker would have earned had he not died prematurely. But that has not been done. In such cases, there should also have been provision for appointment of a member of his family. There is no such provision in the present Bill. When the Government does not know as to how many workers are affected in accidents as there is no mechanism for it - the mechanism does not function - how could the workers get any benefit just out of some pious wishes? there must be some mechanism.

Madam, I do not want to take much time of the House, but my point is, the mechanism is not there; the rate of compensation is quite low; the enforcement authorities are not there; and the recommendations of the Standing Committee have not been taken into consideration. My view is that instead of pushing through this Bill, it should be sent to a Select Committee. A comprehensive legislation should be brought forward so that if the Minister really wants to give some benefits to workers, it could only be done by bringing in a comprehensive legislation.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Madam, I rise to oppose this Bill. I am opposing this Bill because it intends just to deprive the workers. No benefit is likely to accrue to the workers after the passing of this amendment Bill. Under the Constitution of India, social security, in its broad sense, is envisaged in terms of the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Sir, under article 41 of the constitution, it has been provided that:

"The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance, in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want".

Article 43 provides that:

"The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life..."

All these provisions of the Constitution have not been implemented so far.

India is a party to the decision of the International Labour Organisation. The decisions which have been taken in the ILO Convention relating to social security have not been ratified till the time of this Bill. The unanimous recommendations of the Standing Committee on Labour

Welfare have also not been incorporated and reflected in the present Bill.

The amount which is sought to be fixed in the case of permanent disablement or death is quite meagre and is not in consistence with the price rise and money devaluation since 1984. So, may I know under what circumstances or what is the modality for fixing of this proposed amount, that has been provided in this Amendment Bill, in the case of death or permanent disablement? If you take into account the position of money devaluation since 1984, the amount would have come to much more. The people, who are meeting with accidents in train or on road, are getting much more money through the claim Tribunal. Compared to that the amount that has been provided for death or permanent disablement in this present Bill is nothing. I think the Government was not serious in fixing the amount. I also think that the amount should be revised and that is the reason why I am opposing this Bill.

The Bill also provides for inclusion of certain other categories of workers but I feel it is not sufficient. Unorganised workers, agricultural workers, 'bidi' workers, all types of workers engaged by the Forest Department, Forest Corporation and Contractors engaged for collection of different forest materials, should also be included in this Bill. I request the hon. Minister, who is very sympathetic towards labour, to include those people, who are engaged in forest to collect forest material. The workers who are engaged in 'tendu' leave plucking are mostly tribals and down-trodden people. There is no provision in this Bill to include all these workers. I request the Minister to consider it sympathetically. Workers, who are engaged in forest work including plantation should also be included in this Bill.

The Contract Labour (Abolition and Regulation) Act is just a misnomer. I feel that the laws should be enforced strictly. The Contract Labour Act, which is now in force in our land, is not observed strictly. A person who is getting licence to become a Labour Contractor in any industry is engaging the workers without giving any name. They are not observing the provisions of law strictly. The Contract Labourer Abolition Act means to abolish the contract systems but that is not observed strictly. The Minister should take all steps to see that the industry which engages contract labourers, should strictly engage the contract labourers in the area which is casual in nature. The persons who are for all practical purposes working as permanent workers. But just to avoid the law, are treated as contract labourers and thus are deprived of the benefits for which the permanent workers are entitled to; should be protected without fail.

The safety measures that have been provided under the law are there just for name sake. The Labour

Department, both at the Centre and the State, is not working effectively to see that all safety measures are taken care in the industry. The Factory Inspectors are there and it is their duty to see that all the safety measures are taken care in the industry. But they are not serious about it. Of course, the responsibility is more of the State but the Centre should see that these safety measures that have been provided in the law should be observed strictly most of the accidents that occur in the industries are due to lack of proper safety measures. So, the safety measures should be observed strictly.

I would also like to request the hon. Minister that the Labour Courts, the Labour Tribunals and the Claims Tribunals should dispose of the cases that are referred to them quickly. They take years together to dispose of such cases, because the cases are so many and tribunals and courts are so less. It is not possible for the courts to dispose of the cases timely. So, the Government should take necessary steps to provide more courts and more claim tribunals for quick disposal of all these cases.

Madam, as requested by other hon. Members, I would also like to request the hon. Minister to bring another amendment for enhancing the amount of compensation and enlarge the scope of the Bill to cover all types of workers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIYA (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill to further amend the workman Compensation Act, 1923 has been brought in the House. This act was enacted in 1923 but it was amended in 1924, 1927, 1929, 1933, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1942 and 1946. It was last amended in 1984. It is very unfortunate for the country that even after independence, Government has neglected the workers. Perhaps this Government does not realise the fact that it has been ruling the country since last 47 years, with the support of these workers. I suppose, Congress Government is specially responsible for their deplorable condition. You touch any issue relating to workers, you will find that they are most neglected. Atrocities have been committed on them whether he is an agricultural labourers, industrial worker or employed in any department. Act was amended several times, but it could not be given desired effect. This Bill could not comprise of the workers' feelings. It is you who has to look after the workers since birth to death. Mr. Ministers, this question belongs to social order, so please pay attention to it. If a woman worker dies, no one bothers about her but the workers express sympathy for her and share the grief of the family of deceased. Millionaires do not extend their helping hand to console them. Therefore, the workers have been neglected very much.

Workers play an important role in nation-building. Workers manufacture from bicycle to aeroplane but he cannot afford to buy a bicycle to ride on. Though, he produces light but he himself remains in the dim light of oil-lamp and even it is also not available to him. He has to be content with a candle light only. He constructs the road to facilitate others but he himself walks on a track, still he feels happy. I, therefore, would like to say that Government is not at all caring for the feelings of the workers. In this Bill you are raising the limit from 24 thousand to 60 thousand and from 20 thousand to 50 thousand but I would like to ask you whether this amount is sufficient? You have fixed the amount of Rs. one thousand for funeral ceremony, but is this amount sufficient for this purpose? Do you know the price of fire wood? By making this provision, you have made a mockery of feelings of the workers. If anybody dies in the rail accident, he is provided Rs. 2 lakh but a poor, who works hard for nation building and preserves the culture of the country and is struggling for his rights even after attaining independence the country has been deprived of his rights and a mockery has been made with him by raising the limit from 24 thousand to 60 thousand. A few days back the Prime Minister wanted to know the reason of the natural calamities in the country. The country is suffering due to natural calamities so frequently because even after toiling hard nobody has cared for him and his welfare has not been worked into. The worker builds all the temples whether it is small or big but he has no right to enter the temple and only selected persons of the country go to worship there. It is worker who builds houses ranging from small one to Tajmahal and Parliament House, but he is denied an entry there. Only enacting laws on paper will not do. Therefore, I urge upon you to make them literate, if you really want to do something for them. Good primary schools should be opened in the rural areas where the son of a worker could get education.

Sir, education is soul of learning. In absence of proper education, he will not be able to fight for his rights. Therefore, good schools should be opened in every district of India where the son of a worker could get good education. Education should be fundamental right of every Indian. In lack of education from good school, the son of a farmer finds himself unable to compete in IAS or IPS. Therefore, I demand for a good school in every district, so that every child may get good education. Today, most of the leaders were shedding crocodile's tear in the House.

I urge upon the Government to add one more slogan in this Bill 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kishan, Is' Bharat ka Majdoor Hai Mahan' in tune with the slogan raised after independence 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan.'

Sir, I would like to submit one more thing. The goods

manufactured in the factories in Firozabad and exported also and we earn foreign exchange thereby for the country. The bangles of manufactured in this area are famous. The glass is melted in the furnace and if the melted glass falls on any labourer then his life is ruined. Not only in our area but throughout the country the labourers work in the factories. I had drawn the attention of the hon. Minister towards it that attention should be paid to the plight of the labourers. They should be provided proper facilities. Firozabad not only has a distinguished place in the country but in the entire world. The Government is capable and if the intentions are clear then we should work according to the policy, framed. I had suggested that the factory owners of our area should be called on the some arrangement should be made for the welfare of these poor labourers. Arrangement of gloves should be done so that they may not get injured and become handicapped. Likewise 35% of the labourers, who work in the funances suffer from Tuberculosis. My submission is that health centres should be set up near the colony of the labourers so that their health can be protected. Such sort of health centres should be set up in each district headquarters since the labourers in large number are suffering from T.B. and other fatal diseases. This sort of arrangements are must.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Reiterating may point I would like to say that the slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" should be changed as "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Hamara Majdoor Hai Mahan" and conclude.

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was laughing on hearing that the people of this party also talk about the labourers and "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan and Hamara Majdoor Mahan." Alright, everyone has the right to speak, we are not denying the same.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill is related to the payment of compensation to the labourers. If its aim is the same then, the suggestion of the other friends that this Bill should be handed over to the select committee should be accepted. Keeping in view the election year, if you want to have the votes of the labourers then get it passed.

Myself and other hon. Members have drawn the attention of the Government towards the fact that many things related to the labourers have not been included in this Bill. I would like to draw your attention towards a special thing. There is a sugar mill at Champaran in Bihar. The labourers of that area, fall in which category, who will look after their problems. Likewise attention has been drawn towards the problems of casual labourers, the Bidi worker, the bangle labourers and the other labourers by many hon. Members. Their interests have not been included in this Bill. Even after this Bill is passed the whole category

of the labourers, the agricultural labourers and the rural labourer will not be benefited by it.

The Bidi workers, the coal mine workers and the casual labourers working in railway will not be benefited by it. Therefore, my objection is that the entire labourer category should be included in it.

My second objection is that perhaps the hon. Minister has thought to give something is charity. He might have thought to give 25,000, or 50000. What is the basis of this charity? The Government should have fixed this criteria on some scientific or economic basis and instead of giving 25 thousand or 50 thousand, it has been demanded in the House that the prices are rising day by day and some hon. Members have said that even for cremation more than one thousand rupees are required to buy woods. Therefore, this provision is not sufficient. Therefore, the clause of compensation should be made commensurate with the rising prices.

One more thing is that this Bill should be passed and as the hon. Mishra ji has said that the mechanism should be limited. When the palms of the labour inspector or labour commissioner are greased then he gives the decision not in favour of the labourers but in favour of the mill owners and the farmers. There is no use of passing such a Bill. Therefore my submission is that if this Bill is passed then the cooperation of the organisation which are committed to the cause of the labourers should be taken to implement the law made here. If you will not involve them then the new Government officials and employees will not implement it to the true spirit of this Bill.

As the hon. Member has said and I am also saying that the Government of India makes so many laws and there are not implemented properly. Therefore, please try to implement there. I do not have any doubt on the intention of the Government but the result of what the hon. Minister is saying should not be that a petty thing is given to the labourer by Shri Sangma ji. Then the new Government will come and decide. If the Government is serious over it then send it to select committee after amending it and includes the suggestions of the labour commission, the Standing Committee, the hon. Members and Shri George Fernandes should be included in it. All of us will appreciate it. In the present circumstances there is no other option but to sent it to the select committee.

[English]

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar): Madam Chairperson, I rise not only to oppose this Bill in its present form but also to record my strongest protest against the attitude of the Government towards the unanimous recommendations of the Standing Committee.

This Bill is one of the glaring examples how this Government addresses itself to the Parliamentary norms and practices, how it treats the unanimous recommendations of the new system, the Standing Committee System, which has been introduced by the hon. Speaker. The system itself has no meaning now because all the unanimous recommendations made by the Standing Committee have been ignored and not a single recommendation has been accepted. So I would request not only to the Government but to the hon. Speaker also to kindly consider whether this Standing Committee is got any purpose. As a poor member of this Standing Committee, I feel frustrated. All the exercises are becoming completely futile. They have got no earing. It is a sheer wastage of time and energy. If the Government is not serious about the recommendations of the Standing Committee, then what is the necessity of this Committee, I do not know.

Anyway, coming to the Bill, this Amendment Bill has been prepared, it is said, on the basis of 62nd and 134th Reports of the Law Commission of India. But many a recommendation of the Law Commission have not been taken into consideration. The coverage of the Bill and the proposed enhancements of compensation suffer from serious limitations and those are far below the requirements. I would request the Labour Minister to kindly hear me...(*Interruptions*) Why do you entertain them? You should not entertain them.

Moreover, Madam, there is no new provision in the Bill to ensure the payment of compensation. Non-payment of compensation should be a cognizable offence. The employers, particularly, the private sector employers, are at liberty to violate the provisions of the law, but no new provision has been made for that. So, I would request the Labour Minister to think over this matter also.

Now, what have the Standing Committee stated in their recommendations? The Standing Committee felt that the definition under Section 2 of the Act should be amended so as to bring casual workers and contract labourers also within the ambit of the Act. Accordingly, it was recommended as follows, and I quote:

"the words...Other than a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise, than for the purpose of the employer's trade or business should be deleted from the definition of the workmen in Section 2 (1) (n) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 so as to bring casual workers and contract labourers within the ambit."

The Committee also desired that all the exceptions applying to clerical staff are to be done away with...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Try to finish it please.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: You must give some time to me, Madam.

As such it was recommended that any employee who is required to go to such a place of work and gets exposed to the same hazards as those already posted in it, should also be included in Schedule II.

That was the recommendation.

In this respect, I have gone through the debate of the other House. While replying to the debate the Labour Minister in the other House referred to a number of judgements of High Courts and the Supreme Court and he wanted to impress upon the Members of the House, that the casual workers were included in this definition. He wanted to impress this point. But I would ask him why he is not deleting those words and categorically stating that casual workers and the contract labourers will also be entitled to compensation? Why? I do not know what prevents him from bringing that amendment. The Labour Minister is well-conversant with the labour scenario of the country and of the world also. But is it not a fact that replacement of regular employees and workers by the casual and part-time and contract labourers is a growing feature of the so-called liberalised and globalised economy?

If the position is like that I want to ask why the Minister does not state clearly that those employees should come under the ambit of this Act for compensation? So far as the quantum of compensation is concerned.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Please take your seat now.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: Madam, I will conclude within two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are so many Members who want to speak. I am very sorry. I cannot give you two minutes now.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: I am a poor Member of the Standing Committee. A number of Members of that Committee have already spoken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can give you only one minute.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: I will try to obey you.

The recommendation of the Law Commission was made in the year 1989 and keeping in view the growing trend of prices, will the Labour Minister tell this House clearly whether he wants to snatch away the compensation which the workers are already enjoying? The real value of Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 24,000 of 1984, if it is maintained, the amendment should have been for providing a sum of Rs. 80,000 or Rs. 90,000 as recommended by the Standing Committee. But he has not done that. In effect, the amount

of compensation which is being enjoyed by the workers is being reduced by this amendment if we think of the real value of the amount of the compensation. So, I request the Labour Minister to think over the matter very seriously because he should not neglect those who are responsible for the development and growth of this country. The achievements, the wealth and the growth which we boast of, could not have been possible but for the tireless labour of the workers of this country.

So, they should not be neglected.

So, I would request the hon. Minister of Labour to withdraw this Bill for the time being and bring a new Bill incorporating the recommendations of the Standing Committee. If that is not done, I can tell you that there will be serious repercussions on the working class of this country.

With these few words, I would like to conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMI (Coimbatore): Hon'ble Madam Chairman, I welcome and support the Bill to further amend the Workmen's Compensation Act and let me make certain observations from my point of view.

Majority of the work force in the country constituting about eighty per cent of the total labourers are from the unorganised sector, agricultural labourers, construction industry workers and the weavers in the handloom sector form the major chunk of the labourers left with the unorganised sector. They should also be covered by this Act and they will be getting compensation only when they are brought under the purview of this Act. I hope Hon'ble the Labour Minister will look in to this aspect.

Now we go about laying stress on export oriented industries and we have increased our export earnings. So I would like to suggest that a part of our export earnings should be earmarked for setting up a Labour Fund. Textile industry, handloom industry and garment industry are both labour intensive and export oriented. With these industries and with the manufacture of pumpsets, such units in my constituency alone are exporting goods worth Rs. 4,000 crore annually. A part of such export earnings should be set apart to provide several welfare measures and amenities like Housing, children's education, etc. that will greatly benefit the labour class. To effect this, a Labour Fund may be set up.

I would like to emphasize the need to adopt 'Same work, Same pay' policy. I hope you would consider

implementing this policy which would put an end to parity in payments to workers whether they are in Government units or public sector units or private sector units or multinational companies.

I cannot but point out the fact that the workers' compensation proposed in this Bill is not much, you may consider enhancing the same in the near future. There are workers toiling in the hazardous industries in the unorganised sector. Bidi workers, bleaching and dyeing industry workers, washermen etc. come under this category. They should also be paid compensation along with medical facilities.

Last but not the least, I would like to insist upon the need to bring all the workmen of the country under Pension Scheme. You may devise suitable Provident Fund Scheme to workers in various sectors. Such schemes would benefit mutually both the Government and the Labour Force. The Government would be able to give security to the Labour Force. This is a long pending and much felt demand of lakhs of labourers throughout the country.

I hope the Minister would consider implementing these suggestions if not now at least in the comprehensive Bill he may bring in due course. I request both the Finance Minister and the Labour Minister to evolve a way out and if possible to bring a comprehensive Bill in this Monsoon Session itself.

I would like to bring to your notice the sorry plight of textile workers in my constituency who are suffering due to the closure of textile mills. In my constituency alone there are about thirteen thousand textile workers left to fend for themselves. I have brought this to the notice of the Government several times and I request you to initiate action at the earliest to either nationalise or revitalise these mills. Many of my colleagues have shared their views. I request the Labour Minister to consider all their suggestions while formulating a comprehensive Bill.

With this, I thank the Chair and conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Madam Chairman, I will not take much time of the House. This rule applies to both categories of workmen i.e. those working in the country or those working abroad. But I want to ask the hon. Minister as to why the powers of central and State Governments are different? Central Government says that their rules will be applicable where it exercises control. Will it apply to Delhi and Chandigarh only or to all over the country?

Madam Chairman, the second thing is that the workmen's compensation Bill is neither in the interest of mill

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

owners nor the workers. I, therefore, would like to submit that this Bill is incomplete. It has been amended several times earlier. If it is amended once more, it should not be made a prestige issue.

Keeping in view all these things, you have amended 1st and 11nd schedule but I request that unorganised labourers may also be covered in it. It should also include the labourers engaged in Bidi industry, who are in large numbers in my constituency and Tonk. Besides this, there is also a need to include those unorganised labourers who are engaged in Sanganeri Printing, agricultural labourers, miners and casual labourers.

This Bill has some discrepancies such as different amount of compensations on the death of a labourer in a Railway accident or a plane crash. All these discrepancies are required to be removed. There is no mention of medical facilities and arrangements for rehabilitation of the family of the deceased labourer. Moreover, it is also not mentioned whether family member of a deceased labourer will get pension or not.

Madam Chairman, I have said in the amendment suggested by me that the relief amount which is given to the dependents of the deceased labourer is equal to the pay of 3 years and 5 months. Mr. George Fernandes had also touched upon this aspect yesterday. I think that this amount is not sufficient for his family. I have, therefore, suggested that the amount of compensation may be increased from Rs. 20 thousand to Rs. 50 thousand. Similarly, if a worker is injured permanently, he is given compensation equal to 4 years, one month and 10 days pay as per the existing rules. I think it is also not sufficient and this amount should also be increased. Apart from this, remaining labourers should also be included in this Bill. In the end, I request the hon. Minister that this Bill should not be passed in a haste. Instead, a consolidated Bill should be introduced in the House. The amount of compensation to the labourers should be increased and rest of the labourers should be included in the comprehensive Bill so that the families of the labourers can get some benefit, otherwise this will create dissatisfaction among labourers.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Madam Chairperson, I am opposing this Bill which proposes to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act. I would like to support the proposal put forth for the withdrawal of this Amendment Bill and to come forward with a fresh comprehensive Bill because the Workmen's Compensation Act, even though it is proposed to be amended, will become

outdated in the context of the present changes in the world of labour class because it is the fruit of the labour of the working class which provides comforts and well-being to the people. Even in the context of raising the status of the labourers and the dignity of labour as well, the present Act is very much outdated. In view of this changed outlook, I would like to request the hon. Minister in charge of this Bill to withdraw it and come forward with a Fresh Bill which may be in the interest of both, the common people as well as the labour class. That is my first suggestion.

Secondly, I also join my other colleagues in making the point that even though the Bill was referred to and examined by the Standing committee of the Parliament, the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee have not been accepted by the Government. That is unfortunate. So, I also join the other hon. Members in saying, what is the use of the Parliamentary Committee if the recommendations made by them are not examined and accepted by the Government.

It will only be a futile exercise as well as loss of energy and money. What is the use of this parliamentary Standing Committee if their proposals are not taken into account by the Government? I, therefore, join in protesting that the proposals of the Standing Committee are not accepted. With a fresh outlook and with a fresh consideration it is to be referred to the Standing Committee again and after considering the recommendation of the Standing Committee, a fresh Bill is to be brought out which will only serve the purpose.

Thirdly, I would like to come to the aspect of compensation itself and about the amount of compensation. I am prepared to agree for the enhancement of the rate of compensation but not agreeable to the rate that is now proposed. The compensation must not be less than Rs. one lakh in the prevailing circumstances. Even if a new Bill comes up, the amount of compensation should not be less than Rs. one lakh.

Lastly, I would like to bring to the kind attention of the hon. Minister about taking up programmes of awareness of this scheme to the people. Because of lack of awareness of the rights available to the labourers, many of the labourers in the remote corners of the country and in hilly areas who have to claim this compensation are not able to exercise that right and ask for compensation. An awareness programme is to be taken up by the Government and it should be extended to very remote areas and remote corners of the country. It should apply not only to the industrial workers but it should be extended to the agricultural workers and all other contract workers.

With these few words I conclude. I thank you for the opportunity given.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur): Madam Chairman, I, through you, want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that this is the original Bill of 1923. Today, it is 1995 and we are fastly moving towards 21st century. When, this Bill was introduced in 1923 the reasons and requirements then were quite different from today. This Bill was drafted by Britishers. I do not understand as to why the Government bring it in the House again and again by making minor changes in it. My submission is that this Bill should be framed in a new perspectives and according to new responsibilities while keeping in view today's requirements, circumstances and environment. I think, it is not a proof of wisdom to amend this Bill again and again and bring in this House. The Government is neither thinking honestly of the labourers of this country nor doing any work for their welfare. It is following the policy of adhocism.

Madam Chairman, there is no relation between bonus and compensation in the existing circumstances. The amount of compensation was earlier increased from Rs. 24 thousand to Rs. 30 thousand and now it has been increased from Rs. 30 thousand to Rs. 50 thousand. In the case of permanently disabled labourers it has been increased to Rs. 60 thousand. Today, only those labourers engaged in organised sector can get its benefit.

17.00 hrs.

Today, there is economic reservation on a large scale in public as well as private sector. Only casual labourers and part-time labourers get work there. We do neither think, at any level, about those labourers who are engaged in unorganised sector like agriculture, shops and factories, nor make any laws for safeguarding their interests. Further, no consideration is given to the fact that what will be the plight of the families of labourers, in case they get seriously injured or die. We do not even discuss in this House the problems of lakhs of crores of labourers.

After globalisation, foreign exchange in huge quantity is coming in the country. When infra-structure will be created from foreign exchange, casual labourers under contract system will be employed. If someone gets injured or dies while working in the company will say very easily that he is a casual labourer and hence, he does not come within the purview of Workmen's Compensation Act. The Government has shown great sympathy by adding that:

[English]

"If the injury of the workman result in his death, the employer shall in addition to the compensation under sub-section (i), deposit with the commissioner a sum of one thousand rupees for payment of the same to the eldest surviving dependent of the workman".

17.02 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

[Translation]

The point is that a worker is considered employed round the clock. The Government has not made any provision for compensation if he sustains injuries on the way or at his home. The Government has said that one thousand rupees will be deposited with the Commissioner in case he gets injured while working. The first thing is whether the Government is making any provision to provide employment immediately according to qualifications, to one of the dependents of the deceased labourer? Compensation and all other things come later. I was not present when Shri George Fernandes was speaking on the Bill. Has the Government thought about the condition of the families of labourers, in case they get injured or die after rendering two to four years' service? There is no provision in the Compensation Act for those casual labourers who will be engaged in a large number by foreign companies.

A proposal has been put forward here that a Life provident Fund or Compensation Fund should be created and if considered proper, the employers and the employees can contribute to it. Central Government can also provide matching grant to this fund. I think the Government will not require to make any budgetary provision if a fund like this is created in this country. However, the labourers will be rest assured that they will be paid compensation, if they die or sustain injuries.

Today, when we are making rapid progress, we are talking about going into 21st century and bringing about economic renaissance in the country. For this, we need capital and technology but we must not forget that we also need the manpower. We should strengthen the hands of the workers so that they could work whole-heartedly and the country could repay them in lieu of their contribution to the country's basic development.

I urge upon you to withdraw this Bill, and either refer it to the Select Committee or reconsider it yourself. The British had formulated the Bill of 1923, prior to independence, in their own interest but, today, we should formulate this Bill in the interest of our country. The country's interest is directly linked with the workers' interests. We should not think of capitalists and industries alone and ignore the hands who run these industries. I do not oppose this Bill but urge you to withdraw it. This Bill brought forward in a haste safeguards nobody's interest. With these words I thank you.

DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

"Kuchh aisa lagata hai
 Jaise bandi jeevan ke
 bandhan badle hain
 Karagar vahi hai.
 Badali man ki asha
 Lekin jeevan ka vishwas na badla
 kya badla job manavta ki
 Peera ka itihaas na badla.
 Badal gaya hai
 Kuchh logon ka jeevan
 Lekin ansoon peene walaon ka
 Parivar vahi hai
 Kewal bandhan badle
 karagar vahi hai."

After independence, we have not thinked about the human being, the humanity and the labourious workers, as we should. We think of industry, its production and profit only. Suppose, we consider capital as production and the industry, as machinery, we should not forget that the power needed to run that machinery is the labour. Therefore, no production is possible in the absence of labourers. It is true that it is now the age of computerisation but we are ignoring our hard-working labourers in the name of computerisation and modernisation. We are deviating from this basic concept that our industry should be labour-oriented. Today, we are rendering mankind helpless in the name of globalisation, modernisation and computerisation. In view of this conspiracy, it seems that we are pushing our country into the morass of economic subjugation.

We have the largest manpower in the world today. We can go in for its optimum utilization. It is not proper to ignore them in order to increase production. The purview of Workman Compensation Act is very limited which in effect makes our scope of consideration also very limited. But this Government is not giving due importance to labour. Therefore, in such a situation, the definition of the worker under Workman Compensation Act is very limited. A person who works hard and earn by the sweat of his brow, be it physical or mental labour, should be called a workman. But we are talking on the presumption of repudiating some people at some places. When shall we make the Act more comprehensive? 40-50 years of independence have elapsed but we have given no all-encompassing thought to it. I believe that measures will be taken for all round development of the workers.

The Government have amended it by increasing the

amount in view of rising inflation. There is need for a remedy rather than this obligation. There is no need of giving assistance to them but they should be given full compensation. If a person is rendered physically handicapped can we evaluate this damage in terms of money? We have provided for compensation so that a person who falls pray to a mishap in harness can spend rest of his life with honour and feed his family properly. The intention behind it is good but we are not extending the right help.

It was said right now that in the event of death of a worker, Rs. 1000 will be given for his cremation. Suppose, the dead body of the worker is not completely burnt with a sum of Rs. 1000 should we leave him semi-cremated? No, therefore whatever we do, we should do whole heartedly. At least, we can consider cremation compensation aspect. The Parliamentary Standing Committee has also given certain suggestions in this regard. At least a provision should be made by which proper assistance can be provided to him under the present circumstances. Therefore, the compensation given to him should include all the post death expenses-be it Rs. 1000 or Rs. 2000. It is a question of humanity and we can consider it on humanitarian grounds. Many other suggestions have been given by the Committee on other related aspects and all these things are incorporated in the para of appendix to the Bill.

The discrimination between the casual and the permanent labourers should be dispensed with while defining the workman. How did the system of contract labour come into vogue? It is a blot on the face of free India. There should be no contract labour system at all. Aren't we exploiting and doing injustice to the freedom of a workman by not giving him adequate compensation for his labour and thus, treating him as a bonded labourer? This exploitation and injustice to him has given rise to discontentment in his mind. When a casual labourers sees that the regular employee of a factory gets good return of his work but he does not get that much for the same nature of work, this difference of wages makes him envious. Therefore, differentiating between two persons doing the same work at the same place of work is no freedom. The criterion of freedom implies equal treatment to all. The Preamble of the Indian Constitution also envisages that:-

"We the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens justice, liberty, equality and fraternity without and discrimination.

Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are not mere decorative terms of the Constitution. These are meant to be paractically applied and enforced. Now some people will become free when we will celebrate our independence day. While having a concern for maintaining the independence

of this country if we do not consider as to what will happen to others, certainly it is not going to benefit the nation.

There should not be any difference between casual and permanent employees. The concept of contract labour should also be abolished and it should not exist at the place where there is a work of regular nature. We should first implement it in public undertakings and thereafter we should look out for some measures the remaining fields. This will certainly benefit the commoners.

Another recommendation does not provide the status of worker to clerks who do writing jobs in the factories. But an employee of a factory working with mental ability is also a worker. When we calculate the bonus on the basis of standards in vogue, he should also be entitled for that. Only then he can be treated at par with others. Therefore, clerical as well as other works mentioned in the Act should be justified properly.

Further, the next para reads, "the Committee recommends that in case of death the rate of compensation should be revised and raised from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 80,000 and in case of permanent and complete disability it should be raised from 20,000 to Rs. 90,000". We can at least discuss the recommendation of the committee. It is not going to provide full assistance. If a person is rendered disabled, he is not compensated. He becomes disabled for the rest of the life in harness. Therefore, I was requesting you to consider it in entirety. Normally, we value the life of a human being worth Rs. one, two or five lakh but we want to give him assistance on humanitarian ground and when it comes to assistance, it should be full as incomplete assistance has not value. If you invite anyone for feast, he should have full diet, if we have to welcome any one, the welcome should be warm. Likewise, if we want to help anyone, it should be full help.

In the days of such price hike upper limit of the income fixed, is also inadequate. The Dearness Allowance should be linked with price-index and it should be revised after every two year, so that workers can be benefited. It was recommended by Standing Committee also.

We get insufficient time to discuss the problems of labour and labourers in the House. Therefore, time allotted for it must be fully utilized by us and hon. Minister. If hon. Labour Minister does something good for workers, they must be benefited. Someone has told that several Governments were formed and Labour Ministers were made but no one benefited the labour. Now, our Government is doing this laudable job but if it is your achievement, it is your duty also. You have to fulfil your duty to save the worker from exploitation and injustice. In this Bill, full responsibility has not been carried out, therefore I suggest to refer this Bill to Select Committee for full consideration.

Industries, at present, are in a deplorable condition. Out of them the condition of textile industry has become very pitiable, textile mills are closing down. In my constituency, Vinod Mill and Vimal Mill have already closed down and N.T.C. Mills are in the process of closing down. It is resulting in helplessness and unemployment of millions of workers. They have no work to do, so they have taken the warpath and are wandering here and there. They are not being provided any assistance by the Government. I would like to request the Government to pay attention towards the problems of millions of workers of textile mills as well as other mills who have been rendered jobless. Likewise, you should take care of workers engaged in unorganised sector, since we don't give them status of workers, they have not trade union like Railways and Corporation workers. Therefore you should think for their welfare. Millions of Workers in unorganised sector, engaged in manufacturing of slates and pencils, suffer from silicosis disease but nobody thinks for their welfare. Therefore, this Bill should be referred to Select Committee for full consideration.

"In'saniyat Ke Dayre Simatte Ja Rahe Hain,

Har Bat Ki Ham Keemat Laga Rahe Hain.

Insan Ko Insan Ki Tarah Kab Samjha Jayega,

Kshatipurti Ke Nam Par Kab Tak Chhala Jayega?

Ajadi Men Admi Ki Admiyat Ko Yadi Nahin Smjha Jayega.

Mehanatlash Ko Yadi Uska Haque Nahin Mil Payega,

To Yah Sunishchit Hai Anyay-Shoshan Se Mukti Ke Liye

Phir Se Ek Naya Inkhab Ayega.

If the Government intends to bring this change, it should manage in such a way that everyone may get justice in the democracy.

I again request the Government to send this Bill to Select Committee for full consideration. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the point of order. I shall recite clause H.I.J.K.L. and rule 331 N as the Standing Committees and their rights and the value of their report have not been discussed in the House so far. The price of the report is Rs. 10 and it is available for sale. We people do not consider it more than a bundle of paper. It must be properly replied to since it relates to public money. Crores of rupees are spent on the sittings of the committees as T.A., D.A. on staff and their over time etc. Therefore report is prepared and published. If it has no value in the House, merely quoting on it Rs. 10 as its price, hardly

matters. Therefore, I would like your ruling and before it comes, I will put this rule before you.

[*English*]

Rule 331H relates to the Procedure relating to Bills. It says:

"The following procedure shall be followed by each of the Standing Committees in examining the Bills and making report thereon:-

(a) the Committee shall consider the general principles and clauses of the Bills referred to them and make report thereon;"

You please see this:

"the Committee shall consider the general principles and clauses of the Bills referred to them and make report thereon;"

Now I take you further to Rule 331 I (1) on page 126. It says:

"The Reports of the Committees shall be based on broad consensus.

(2) A Member of a Standing Committee may give not of dissent on the report of the Committee.

(3) The note of dissent shall be presented to the House along with the report".

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER, Sir, I would like to give thrust on consensus. Majority or Minority has not been mentioned here while it has been mentioned in rule 261 that:

[*English*]

"All questions at any sitting of a Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting."

[*Translation*]

It has been mentioned in rule 262 -

[*English*]

"In the case of any quality of votes on any matter, the Chairman or the person acting as such, shall have a second or casting vote."

[*Translation*]

Now see the difference. There are several Standing Committees of the House. To look after the internal arrangements and functions of the House, there are several important committees like - Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee and Public Undertaking Committee. Rules about the committees say that the

decisions will be taken by majority of votes of the Members but this procedure does not apply to Standing Committees because Rule 331 H relates to procedure to bills only and is not applicable to other functions of the Standing Committees such as examining the reports and other works. This relates to Bills only and it is stated here that "The reports of the Committees shall be based on a broad consensus". Consensus means that some sort of compromise is reached between us. Some times, our opinions on any particular issue are at poles apart but we give regard to the committee and therefore, a consensus is reached. Mr. Speaker, Sir, Standing Committees of the House, are like mini Parliament where reports are prepared on the basis of consensus. Now, I would like to quote rule 331 N. It says —

[*English*]

"The report of the Standing Committees shall have persuasive value and shall be treated as considered advice given by the Committees".

[*Translation*]

Please try to understand the two words - 'persuasive value'. It means decision, taken by committee based on consensus or report prepared by consensus shall have persuasive value. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when an argument is put forth in a court, it has a value but that is not an order binding on Judge, that is only of persuasive value. You know what is right, what is wrong. You try to persuade;

[*English*]

You do not impose on the Bench.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): I did not want to interrupt at all. The point of order is not being raised.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Persuasive Value is not an ordinary thing. This is not right.

[*English*]

What is the procedure adopted in discussing the Bill here ?

[*Translation*]

I am not yielding. This is not right.

[*English*]

You try to persuade the Bench. You do not impose a view on the Bench. Persuasive value is not an ordinary thing. I am not yielding. You can certainly rebut me later.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Subsequently, I would like to do that, I would seek your indulgence to do that. But he has no point in raising this.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: But you have no right of interrupting me. Sir, on one side, it has a persuasive value. How the hence would treat this persuasive value? The persuasive value shall be treated as the considered advice given by the committee. This is the considered advice.

[Translation]

After a deep thought and full discussion, considering every aspect, we come to a conclusion and submit the report. I would like to raise two issues. Firstly, Government presents a Bill before the House, keeping in view the considered advice given to it. What advice it had before presenting this Bill? You have not accepted the recommendations made. Since the Government has presented this report in the House, this is its duty to tell the House about the objective behind the Bill as I suppose for the Government, this report has no value or if it is of any importance to it, please let the House know about that. If the report is considered of no importance, then it is insult of the House. If you count the considered opinion of the committee good for nothing, then committee also has no importance. Then this House or any one else has got no right to spend crores of rupees on such unimportant committees. This is a mockery which must end. We have been facing this situation for the last two and a half year but now it has become unbearable. Reports presented by these committees do not get due attention. These committees should therefore, be dissolved. There is a T.A./D.A. committee which is simply a T.A./D.A. committee. I oppose it to be called as a Standing Committee. Whosoever wants to participate in it, he is most welcome and those who do not want to join it, may stay out. This mockery should be ended. I had raised this issue, when the issue of Standing Committee was taken up in the House. This issue was raised some two or two and a half year ago. At that time, I had ventilated all my feelings related to this issue for almost one hour. I will not have a mere rebuttal of this logic. Before this, I would like to raise another issue. Please see the same rule.-

(English)

331J. Except for matters for which special provision is made in the rules relating to the Standing Committees, the general rules applicable to other Parliamentary Committees in Rajya Sabha shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Standing committees specified in Part I of the Fifth Schedule and the general rules applicable to other Parliamentary Committees in Lok Sabha shall apply to Standing Committees as specified in Part II of the Schedule.

Now, I will quote Kaul and Shakhder, page 692, Edition 1991.

1. Reports which are discussed by the House.
2. Reports which are discussed and adopted by the House.
3. Reports which may or may not be discussed by the House.
4. Disagreement between a Committee and the Government.

"The recommendations of a parliamentary committee are normally accepted and implemented by the Government. If in regard to any recommendation the Government hold a view different from that of the committee, the Government have to apprise the committee of the reasons that might have weighed with them in not accepting or implementing the recommendation. The matter is considered by the committee and a further report, if deemed necessary, may be presented to the House."

[Translation]

I do not want to take more time in reading out the rule. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what difference he has from this report? If differences are there, I have just mentioned Rule 331-J which says other rules will apply here *mutatis Mutandis*, then why did you not made us and House aware of it? You often insult the House, but you could have informed us about this. There is a Committee, headed by Smt. Chandraprabha Urs which comprises of 45 Members of the House. A person of the stature of Shri Ramesh Chennithala is also a member of that Committee. Yesterday, he put forth his opinion in the House in a appreciable manner. I found him present in every sitting of the Committee. I mentioned his name since I did not have the report yesterday and I took this report from him. I would like to know. If the Government has different views and feels that instead of Rs. 80,000, it should be Rs. 86,000, instead of Rs. 60,000, it should be Rs. 85,000 and instead of Rs. 15,000 the amount should be one thousand rupees, then why did it not provide us report? What different opinion the Government has? Why did you not make us aware of your opinion? We, therefore, want your ruling on these issues. I think many of us would like to speak on this issue. You please listen to them but you must give your ruling on it because the fate of these committees will depend on ruling, given by you today.

(English)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, with utmost respect to Mr. George Fernandes I have to submit that no point of order as such is involved in the matter raised by him. In a parliamentary system of Government, it is the Government of the day which is responsible for its actions both in the House and outside the House. If the Government comes out with a policy, the

Government holds itself responsible for the outcome thereof. If the Government initiates a legislation, it is for the Government really to face the consequences thereof - whether the people accept it, whether the people are against that particular piece of legislation.

Sir, it was with a pious intention that the rules relating to the Standing Committees were incorporated in the Rules of Business of the two Houses of Parliament because the Government, that is the present Government, the Congress Government headed by Shri Narasimha Rao, wanted to involve all sections of the House in an in-depth study of any matter that is referred to the Standing Committee in regard to any matter about which the Government initiates some action. It was after a number of meetings the Rules Committee of which I also had the privilege of being a member, that the rules which Mr. George Fernandes has referred to, were framed. I am grateful to him that he has referred to the provisions himself. Rule 331 * says that the Report of the Standing Committee shall have persuasive value and shall be treated as considered advice given by the Committee. Unlike him, I do not treat this Report to be just valued at Rs. 10. I consider it to be a very important Report and I am very confident that the Government has considered the Report. Then again, it is for the Government to accept it or not to accept it. It does not necessarily mean that the Government has closed its options for all times to come.

The Government came out with a particular proposition. And we have not yet heard the hon. Minister. He had to reply to the debate. If certain Members raised certain points referring to the Report, the Minister has to reply thereto. The Minister has not even made a mention of the Report. And the hon. Minister has not made a mention of what the hon. Member has spoken in the House...(Interruption)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): He had made a mention but you were not there the day before yesterday...(Interruption)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Has he replied to the debate? He has not yet. It is only after the reply that possibly any hon. Member could have got up to raise certain objections here.

I would like to raise another very important point. Mr. George Fernandes was referring to the types of reports: the reports which could be discussed in the House and the report which could not be discussed in the House. I would just remind this hon. House of occasions in the recent past when Members from the Opposition, particularly the leaders of the Opposition, including Mr. George Fernandes have made demands for referring certain Bills not to the Standing Committees but to the Select Committees. What distinction

do they draw between the two? And they draw the right distinction, I would like to say, because it is only in the case of the Select or Finance Committees that the Government may again refer back the matter to them or the Government may be obliged to refer the matter back to them. The Standing Committees have been formulated to ensure that all pieces of legislation are routed via these Committees. It does not necessarily mean that every action that the Government wants to take has to be finally dictated - I would like to draw the distinction between 'dictated' and 'guided' - the decision of the Committee because in the Committees, - I am not undermining their importance, I have been a Member of the Committees myself - we cut across party lines to express certain things. That is of a persuasive value, that is of an advisory value to the Government.

Finally, when the Government comes to the Parliament with a Bill, there is no provision in the Rule that the Bill has to be passed in the Committee. In my view, we do not even report the Bill as the Select Committees do. The Standing Committees do not report the Bill with amendments. If a particular Committee follows that procedure, it may be doing so in the absence of a particular provision to that effect. But it is unlike the Select Committees that the Bills are not reported. You do not suggest amendments; you only present a report.

Given this scenario, to rise at this point and say that it is only the Standing Committee's Report which should be adopted by the Government and the Government should close its own options and again leave it to them to criticise it outside, I wish, we were to devise some means, we were to evolve a system, where all the people, all different sections of the House would sit together and work on certain things. That was the consensus that the Prime Minister wanted when he took over the reins of the Government. He began with that. There was no proper response, not really any reciprocation of that ideal way of his working. If we were to devise that, we would welcome that. And then, we need not even bring the Bills because the Bills could be discussed in the Committees. Why do we have the Bills here there? Precisely, to ensure that it is finally the Parliament as such, which has to discuss it.

With regard to this Bill, with utmost respect to what has been said in the Report, the Rajya Sabha has passed this Bill. After the Rajya Sabha has passed this Bill, this Bill has come to us now. We have to see what are the reasons why we differ with the views of the Rajya Sabha. And given the situation, I would submit that a point like this should not be and cannot be raised at this stage...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: One minute, let us hear the Minister please.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, we would speak and then he can reply...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Basudeb Acharia, you have already participated in the debate. Mr. George Fernandes has raised one point. When the Standing Committee has recommended something, should it necessarily be incorporated in the Bill? Or, is it only of a persuasive value? Mr. George Fernandes has spoken exhaustively.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): I have a new point, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, Mr. George Fernandes has raised some points. Mr. Pawan Bansal has effectively placed his points of view, the spirit behind the Standing Committee and its recommendations...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The time allotted to this subject was one hour. And it has consumed more than four hours. Now, we are at the fag end of the debate. Mr. George Fernandes has raised one point. There was a Standing Committee. It has given a Report. That Report has not been adopted. That is the objection raised by Mr. George Fernandes.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: After hearing us, he will reply because I have certain new points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no. Mr. Acharia, let us hear the hon. Minister.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: First, you allow us and then the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs can explain.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, it was referred to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has given a Report. Your objection is that the Government has not incorporated some of the relevant provisions that they have indicated.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is not the point.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: There are various points ...*(Interruptions)*...It is not a simple point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (KATWA): Shuklaji, you hear all the points.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I participated and spoke for half-an-hour. But this is a very pertinent question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you hear the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You had been given an opportunity. At that time, you did not raise it. Mr. George Fernandes had raised it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I had raised this point while speaking. I have some new points here.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, this particular Bill was allotted about one hour by the Business advisory Committee. And we have already devoted about six hours...*(Interruptions)*...It may not concern you. But it concerns the whole House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It concerns the entire nation.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: We cannot flout the decisions of the Business Advisory Committee which were endorsed by the House. Every Member of the House is bound by it...*(Interruptions)*...Let me complete my submission. The Standing Committee has been created by the House to give us guidance on various matters.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not only guidance...

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Why do you give a running commentary on my submission? Let me say whatever I want to say. You should not be giving a running commentary in this manner.

I have been a great supporter of this Standing Committee. Therefore, I know that Standing Committees have been created to give guidance to this House as far as matters like Bills or policy documents which are referred to it by the Presiding Office are concerned. And they gave their opinion. In most of the cases, we are able to accommodate their wishes or we accept their guidance. In many cases, we are unable to do that. The Rules have been framed for the conduct of the business of the committee. And it is not binding on the Government. We are not bound to accept that.

The hon. Minister will explain the reasons why it is not possible to accept that. We are unable to accept it. Then, the House will have to take a decision on its own.

After having got the Bill passed in Rajya Sabha, it has come here. It will not at all be wise to refer it to a Select Committee. The House itself can take a decision and should take a decision.

I would submit to you that having spent six hours - we were supposed to spend one hour - we should not

waste any further time on this debate. After hearing the Minister's reply, you should put the question to the vote of the House and take a decision on this matter. But it is no use wasting time unnecessarily on this.

Should we sent it to the Select committee or not? It is absolutely unnecessary to do that. The House itself should take a decision in this matter. We will not agree to refer this Bill to the Select Committee.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I entirely disagree with what hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has stated. I will refer to what the Minister of Labour has said while moving this Bill. Regarding this Standing Committee, the Minister of Labour, while moving this Bill, said:

"The Standing Committee of Parliament of Labour and we Welfare has also cleared the Bill subject to certain observations and recommendations. The Government has noted them for further examination in consultation with sister Ministries after the present Bill is cleared by the House."...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, he has already spoken on the Bill. If we go on and on like this, this is not fair to the House. We strongly object to the practice which is followed by Mr. Basudeb Acharia.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am on my legs and you have allowed me to speak. I am speaking with your permission, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have allowed you but be brief.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Government has noted only certain observations. Why only certain recommendations have been noted? This Bill is pertaining to enhancement of the amount of compensation to be paid to workmen for death or permanent disability. That is the main purpose of the Bill. The recommendation of the Standing Committee is that the compensation amount should be Rs. 80,000 in the case of death and Rs. 95,000 in the case of permanent disablement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, all these points have been covered exhaustively. What is the need to repeat it once again?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, important points are not considered...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, no.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not a single Minister is

able to tell as to what recommendations he has accepted or incorporated.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give my ruling now as we would like to close the debate. I request you to kindly see Rule 331N.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why was the Bill referred to the Standing Committee? The Standing Committee examined and made certain recommendations.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not a place where you have to question as to why it was sent to the Standing Committee. I shall ask the Minister to reply now.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Rule 331N says:

"The report of the Standing Committees shall have persuasive value and shall be treated as considered advice given by the Committees."

So, it is not a must; it has got persuasive value.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Report of the Standing Committee will have persuasive value and treated as considered advice...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: You will be convinced when I will be replying to the debate...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, give your ruling.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAH (Deegarh): Sir, I would just say one sentence...(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Why are you standing now? He has already given his ruling. Sir, he should not be allowed to make any submission as you have given your ruling. Nobody should speak on your ruling, Sir...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling. If you have not properly heard it, once again, I will give it. Rule 331N says:

"The report of the Standing Committees shall have persuasive value and shall be treated as considered advice given by the Committee."

It is not a must. so, I will ask the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank all the hon. Members for having exhibited such an interesting debate. As the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has pointed out, this Bill was supposed to be discussed for one hour and we have already spent six

hours. It could even become seven hours depending on the time I take and Mr. George Fernandes takes. I thank all the hon. Members for having participated in this debate. I would not be able to perhaps reply to each and every point raised by the hon. Members though all the points are very important ones. I will deal with some of the basic questions which have been raised by the hon. Members.

First of all, would come straightaway to the first recommendation of Standing Committee since we have discussed so much about it. The first recommendation of the Standing committee was that under the definition of 'workmen', the casual labourers should be included. That was the first recommendation. The stand of the Government is that the casual labour is already included under the existing definition. What is the existing definition? I will come to that...*(Interruptions)*...Please listen to me. Please have patience. I want to explain. If you have anything to say, please say later on. I would like to state my position.

Now, what is the definition of a 'workman'? A 'workman' means, any person other than a person whose engagement is of a casual nature - this is where every Member of Parliament is catching - and, the word 'and' is very important, who is employed otherwise than for the purpose of the employer's trade or business; which means, in order to exclude any worker from the purview of this Act, two conditions have to be fulfilled, not one. One is, the work has to be of a casual nature; and the second is, he should have been working there other than for the purpose of employer's trade or business. What is the reason? Why has it been so made? It is very simple. You have to go to the definition of 'employer', then you would understand the whole thing. This Act is not the same as that of the Industrial Disputes Act, or the Factories Act, where you generally understand the meaning of 'worker' and the meaning of 'employer'. The definition of 'worker' as well as 'employer' is much larger in this case than in any other industrial law.

"When you go to the definition of an 'employer', it says and I quote: "an 'employer' includes...

it does not say 'means', every definition starts as, 'an employer means', but here the definition is:

"an 'employer' includes anybody or persons or Corporation etc. etc. etc.

It means any single individual is an employer under this Act. A person under the provision of this Act could be an employee as well as an employer.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: What about the contract labour?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Everybody is included. The contract labourers are also included. You go to Schedule

II. There are hundreds of High Court and Supreme Court rulings on casual labourers and contract labourers. I have not gone through all the rulings. But I have gone through many rulings where the judgement is that casual labourer and the contract labourer are covered by this Act. Suppose, I accept the recommendations of the Standing Committee by removing the brackets "casual nature employed otherwise than for the employer's business or trade" - everyone of us becomes an employer...*(Interruptions)*...There is no limitation of workers here. Your cook is an employee, your *mali* is an employee, your driver is an employee if he/she has worked for twelve months. This qualifying period is there...*(Interruptions)*...It should be okay. I leave it to you.

Now, you want the compensation amount to be increased to Rs. 5 lakh or 8 lakh. Let me say frankly, how many of us are capable of paying that amount, God forbid, if that ever happens? ...*(Interruptions)*

Now, if you are constructing your house and because of the definition of an 'employer', if you are asking me to change the definition of 'worker', I think you have to ask me to change the definition of 'employer' also. Otherwise your purpose would not be achieved. Therefore, we have to be careful. You are constructing your own house, I am constructing my house, you are employing a person for your domestic work - everybody would be included here if I go by the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

Today the journalists come under the category of employees. Once I change the definition, they will also become the employer because they will have somebody to drive their cars, or somebody to look after their kitchens or kitchen gardens. I am telling the truth.

[Translation]

ONE HON. MEMBER: It is not so.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: It is so.

[English]

Please listen to me. Please do not argue. You will have your chance.

There are two opinions of the courts. Some High Courts have held that the 36 employments enlisted in Schedule 2 are illustrative and others have held that they are exhaustive. It is a question which came up before the Court. Some Courts have said that it is exclusive. Please listen. I am speaking with responsibility. I have gone through the ruling.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I am saying that when I have an employee, I must have a moral responsibility to take care of him. It cannot be said that you can be an employer but you should not take the responsibility of your employee...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us hear the hon. Minister. Let there be no interruptions.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: There are certain Courts which have held that Schedule 2 of this Act is exhaustive. Some courts have held that it is illustrative and it can be extended. There is a specific case, in which the High Court has given its ruling, which I have gone through. A person brought somebody to water his garden. There was a short circuit in the electric post on the top roof of his House. This gentleman asked him to climb up the post and rectify it. The fellow went up the post, fell down and died. The Court said that he has to pay the compensation because the list is illustrative and it can include this case. But according to my humble view, I am not a very good lawyer but I am a lawyer, this should not have happened and this is what we are trying to avoid.

So, the demand of the House and the desire of the Standing Committee is met full under the existing provisions of the law because the casual labour and the contract labour have been brought under the purview of this law. There are certain areas which are debatable. One of the hon. Members said that the coconut workers should also be included. As far as agriculture is concerned, it says that those who are employed in horticulture operation, forestry, bee keeping or farming will be covered under this Act. I do not know whether the coconut workers can be brought under this description. This again is a matter of interpretation.

One of the reasons to amend this Act is to give the Central Government a similar power which we had given in the original Act saying that the State Governments are entitled to add any type of occupation to Schedule 2 of this Act. If any State Government wants to include coconut workers or Tendu leave workers, it is free to do so.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is already six o'clock. Is it the desire of the House to sit for another half an hour and finish this item?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI LOKANATH COHODHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, both the sides agree to it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: MR. Lokanath Choudhury always agrees with the House.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I do not think I will take much time. Whatever new occupations have been suggested during the course of this debate, which are not included in Schedule 2 of the Act, I assure the Members that I will write to the State Governments to include them also in the list.

18.00 hrs

In the event of their not doing it, if the hon. Members want it, I assure you the Central Government will notify that, because that power is vested in us also.

As I said, through this amendment we are bringing in 16 more categories of employment adding to the 36 categories which are already there in the Act. The new categories of workers that are being included in this amendment are very important ones. For example, our migrant workers who work abroad do not get any protection or compensation. We are going to cover them under these provisions. Those Indian people who had gone to work abroad, recruited by companies which are registered in India, all of them are going to be covered for the first time. Yes, they are covered for the first time. Our journalist friends and cameramen sometimes come to cover our political meetings. Suddenly a lathi charge takes place and even a police firing takes place in which they also get injured but they are not covered under this Act. We are going to add them also in this Bill. Like this 16 more categories have been added. I must mention one thing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central): I would like to know as to whether journalists have been covered under it for 24 hours.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: There is no question of hours. Whenever any accident takes place on duty.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Because they have to go at any time to cover news.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Certainly, on duty.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I would like to say that in the same way employees should also be covered.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Compensation will be given to every person working at any time there is no question of hours.

[*English*]

I do agree with all the hon. Members that implementation of our laws is very poor. This, I think, is what we should debate. This law is being amended today; 36 categories of people are being included, but I do not know how many of them will come to know about it. I cannot guarantee that. I know that the elite sections like journalists will come to know of it and will be happy about it. But what about the agricultural labourers? We are including fishermen in this amendment today. I do not know whether they will watch television tonight or read national newspapers tomorrow and find out that people who work in fishing industry have been included in this. I have my doubts about it. That is the point which, I think, we must emphasise. Every Member of Parliament, every politician, every political party, and every trade union leader must take the message to the people and make them realise this.

There are more than 100 labour laws in this country. People talk of unorganised sector which is governed 90 per cent by a law called the Minimum Wages Act, for ensuring their livelihood. Tomorrow you go to your constituency and ask the people there is they know about it. I have done it in many States whenever I travelled by road. You stop at a place where a road is being laid and ask the workers there if they know about it. You ask them, "Do you know what is the Minimum Wages Act? Do you know how much wage the Government has fixed for you?" I have tested it 100 times in every State. Whenever I go by road I stop at a place where bridges are being constructed and where a road is being laid. I ask the workers as to how much money they get. You know how much money they get. When I ask them "Do you know there is the Minimum Wages Act and the State Government has fixed a minimum wage for you?" they say that they do not know. They say

[Translation]

Sir we do not know to what is it?

[English]

If you ask as to how much wage is paid to a woman and how much is paid to a man, you will find that there is so much of difference between the two, in spite of the fact that we have got the Equal Remuneration Act.

Why do you demand for more and more here? How many people are going to get it? How many people are going to benefit from it? I think our target should be the number of beneficiaries and not a jump in the amount here. How many people are going to get it? My appeal to this House is, what is important is the workers have to be made aware of their rights, they have to be made aware of what is available to them.

This is what we should. This is very important.

Now, I will come to the quantum of compensation. It is very easy to say that Rs. 20,000 should be raised to Rs. 80,000 and Rs. 24,000 should be raised to Rs. 1 lakh.

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: We are asking about the recommendations of the Committee,

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I will explain that.

These are the recommendations of the Committee. I have explained that the casual labourers should be included.

Now, I will come to the quantum of compensation. I have proposed Rs. 50,000. They wanted Rs. 80,000. Here again I have increased it from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000. But the Standing Committee's recommendation was that it should be raised to Rs. 90,000. Here, of course, some hon. Members wanted that it should be increased to Rs. 1 lakh.

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Are you accepting it? We are very much quoting from the recommendations of the Committee.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: We are not accepting it for the simple reason that here the definition of employer is such that anybody can become an employer. A *Pan-shopwalla* engages somebody to sit in his *Pan-shop* whenever the goes for lunch or some such thing. He is an employer under this Act. A man who is running a tea-shop on the road side also keeps two or three people for distributing tea. He is also an employer. They form a majority in this country. Even the smaller farmers, marginal farmers, self-employed people, the people who are running tiny industries, the people who are running *dhabas*, the people who are running *Pan-shops*, everyone of them is included here as an employer. Is it not the duty of the government of India to think about their paying capacity?

Mr. Shahabuddin said that this Bill is meant to protect the employers. Yes, I do agree with him. Why should we not protect the employers? The employers are also Indians. They are also contributing to the economy of this country. They are also doing their job. Why should we not protect them? Why should we condemn them? Even a *Pan-shopkeeper* is an employer under this Act. Is it not the duty of the Government and everyone of us to take care of them? How many *Pan-shopwallas* and how many *tea-shopwallas* will be able to give a minimum compensation of Rs. 80,000 or Rs. 90,000 or Rs. 1 lakh? I think, even the Members of Parliament would not be able to do it what to speak of *Pan-shopwallas* or *Dhabawallas* or *tea-shopwallas*. Therefore, we have to be reasonable. It has to be practicable. What is the meaning of making a law which cannot be implemented by you? It is better to enact a law which is implementable, rather than going on making one law after the other which people do not know and even if they know, they have no capacity to implement it. I do not subscribe to this view. I am absolutely for laws which can be implemented. It is much better. Therefore, the compensation, whether it is Rs. 60,000 or Rs. 50,000, is only a minimum. What we have prescribed is the minimum compensation. The maximum can go up. I have calculated it. I have got the calculations. The formula for calculation is in Schedule-I. Mr. George Fernandes said that the people are getting less. I would say it cannot be. It is because everything is calculated on the basis of a formula. There is a formula for an injury on a finger. The Commissioner has to go by that...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Are you including the contract labourers also who are working in the Government organisations?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: They are all included in it. Everybody is included here. For example, in case of death

by an accident, the minimum compensation is Rs. 50,000 and maximum can go upto Rs. 2,18,000. For a permanently disabled person, the minimum compensation is Rs. 60,000 and the maximum can go upto Rs. 2,70,000. The Government considers it adequate. It is strictly according to the Law Commission's Report.

But there is a second reason why we are sticking to this. Workmen's Compensation Act is only one of the Acts which regulate the social security measures in our country. It is only one of them. It is not that when the worker dies he gets only the workmen's compensation. No. There are so many other social security Acts. We have got ESI Act; we have got the Provident Fund Act; we have got the Gratuity Act; we have got the Bonus Act and we have got the Insurance Scheme. We are joint to give pension. Many hon. Members have mentioned about pension. I am given to understand by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee that in the next two or three days they would be able to finalise their Report on the Pension Bill. I hope and wish that the Pension Bill is passed in this Session of Parliament itself. So, pension is going to be there. The Gratuity Act is there; the Bonus Act is there; and the Provident Fund Act is there.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir it is not in the organisational sector.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Yes...(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You kindly put your questions afterwards. Please note down whatever you want to ask.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Unorganised people are now being covered under the Provident Fund Act. Recently we have taken a decision to reduce the number of workers from twenty to ten in order to bring an establishment under the purview of the Provident Fund Act. We are going down gradually. So many people in the unorganised sector, like the bidi workers have been covered. For those who are not covered under the Provident Fund Act, the Government has introduced Group Insurance Scheme. So, there are a lot of social security measures available for them. So, this Women's Compensation Act is in addition to the other benefits which are accruing to the workers as a result of the social security Acts.

These are the two main points which have been raised by the hon. Members. I do not say that the benefits will accrue to the workers in the bit way. But, I think, this is certainly an improvement over the existing law. So, why should we delay this law referring it to a Select Committee? The hon. Member Shri George Fernandes is a very senior

Member and champion of the working class. The first time I came to know him was as a leader of the Railways Trade Union. He has already stated that the Law Commission has given this report in 1989 and why did you delay in bringing this Bill before this House. I admit that there has been a delay and I am sorry for that. Mr. Fernandes was also a Minister twice. He also knows about the procedure followed in the Government. We had to send this to the State Governments because they are the authority to implement it. We had to wait for their comments. After we received their comments we sent them to the sister Ministries. So, there was a delay. I must point out that this Bill was introduced in the House on 13th June, 1994 and today it is 3rd of August, 1995. So, even in Parliament it has taken more than one year. So, delays do occur. Why should we delay it more? So, I appeal to all the Members to pass this law today...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has exhaustively dealt with the subject. What is remaining there to ask?

[Translation]

DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards that just now you have said that several measures have been taken for welfare of labourers especially from the viewpoint of Workmen's Compensation. But conditions is that labour courts set up to decide all these matters are not functioning properly for want of judges. Madhya Pradesh is in deplorable condition. Most of the courts are functioning there without judges and owing to this position labourers could not get justice at proper time.

Therefore, I request you that some arrangements should be made to avoid delay in meting out justice to them and arrange timely payment of the prescribed amount of compensation to them.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have raised a point and know that hon. Minister is unable to do that. I would like to say that sentiments of crores of labourers are linked with this question. You have been unable to implement the provisions proposed by me. I would like to say that this issue of providing rights to labourers should be raised in the cabinet meeting which is to be attended by hon. Prime Minister also if you share the sentiments of Indian Labourers and want to continue with the slogan of 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' would you raise this issue in cabinet meetings or not?... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: For the last ten years I am Labour Minister in this Government and fully aware of the feelings of labourers and thus there is no need to tell us about that.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: This issue should be placed in cabinet Committee as crores of labourer are attached with it...(Interruptions)...Our sentiments should be conveyed to them...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Virendra Singhji, kindly excuse me. There is a limit for that. You should have some patience...(Interruptions)

DR. ASIM BALA: During the reply the Minister has explained that the contract labourers are not aware of the rules. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is having any plans or programme for creating awareness to the workers and contract labourers...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Upadhyay please.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Sir, Mukhopadhyay.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Not ordinary Upadhyay but Mukhopadhyay!

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Mr. Minister, you have not replied why there is absense of any new provision to ensure the compensation. Non-payment has become a regular feature. Sir there is no penal provision for the defaulting employers. You have not replied why ?

This second point is that the Law Commission had recommended in 1959. What will be the real value of that amount at present. Have you not reduced the value of that amount by raising it only to Rs. 50,000 ? Have you not reduced it in terms of the real value of Rs. 20,000 of 1984?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): The Minister has rightly pointed out about the delay. Sir, the point is that the compensation is not received by the people who deserve it in time. That is the main problem.

Secondly, the Minister has rightly pointed out that if the people who are working abroad and their companies are registered in India, they will be covered by this Act. But, unfortunately 90 per cent of the workers from India are working abroad and their companies are not registered in India. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he can devise some mechanism so that these workers are also covered by this Act?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I object to some parts of hon. Minister's speech. I had never thought that a Minister will say in this August House that life of a person employed with a betel leaf vendor or a driver of someone or a domestic cook is just worthless. It is zero...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGAN): No, it is not said.

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): The Minister has said that it should be a reasonable amount...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It was told exactly in the same words. The hon. Minister has tried today to frighten the Members. What will happen if your cook or a person employed at betel leaf shop dies...(Interruptions)...You have said so. It means that you want to say that compensation for an accident will be payable only to those employees who work in an organisation where more than 10 or 20 persons are employed and no accident compensation will be paid to a person who works in an organisation where employees are less than 10 or 20. You said so. What will happen to their children. Who will look after them...(Interruptions)...This is not a subject of this debate. You have raised it. Not even in dreams I ever expected to hear this from a representative of the Government in this House. We object to it and condemn it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How long do you want to carry on this debate? There is a limit for all these things. I think, it is not fair to drag on the time unnecessarily. After all, he had answered on that point.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (MIRZAPUR): During the debate it was said that compensation will be paid to labourers if they contracted a disease due to the occupational hazards. I am surprised to know that hon. Minister has not said anything about the disease acquired due to occupational factors whereas I had quoted and name out particular factories in this context. A large number of labourers have been engaged in Birla's Hindalco and Kanodia's Chemicals set up at Singrauli and Renukoot, whose waste water containing hydrocarbons goes into Pansagar and labourers are compelled to drink this contaminated water and acquire all sort of diseases. Thousands of persons have been rendered disabled and lame. You have not discussed that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[English]

There is a limit to all these things. There is a system for conducting the House. Nobody is bothered for this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the 12 lakh powerlooms are registered with the Government but as the hon. Member has mentioned just now, they are not paid Gratuity Provident Fund and medical leave is not granted to them. As compared to the organised mills only 1/3 salary is paid to them. The statement made by the hon. Minister is misleading.

I would like to make a request that Journalists are covered under it for 24 hours. Then why other employees are not covered on the same lines. When employees go to constitute unions they are killed. Several such persons have been killed during strikes of mills in Mumbai city.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your time is over. I will call the hon. Minister to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I am telling you that they also face dangers to their lives. They are killed while going to their place of work therefore they should be covered under it.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is over. I have called the hon. Minister to speak. Kindly take your seat or otherwise.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be time conscious. I have called the hon. Minister. If he wants to reply, he can reply. Or we can proceed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: What will you say about the fact that laws enacted here are not implemented properly. You should reply to that.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, probably, we have not heard him. We have passed a number of laws but the laws are not effectively implemented. It is the responsibility of every representative of this House, the lower House to see that they are properly implemented and properly propagated. The people should know that we have made it absolutely very clear.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: As far as Shri Virendra Singh's specific question is concerned — I thought I would reply all these general question together — I will separately discuss with the hon. Member.

Now, as far as Shri George Fernandes is concerned, I never said anything about the life of those who are working in *pan* shop and all. To me, it actually appears, that no life of a person can be equated by any amount of money, whether it is Rs. 100/- crore or rupees two billion or twenty billion. Can the life of a person be valued in terms of money?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Then, why are we talking about the value of life in terms of money, saying, 'increase it to Rs. 5/- lakh, increase it to Rs. 8/- lakh'? I do not agree to that philosophy at all. We are giving compensation as an assistance...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Are you giving them alms.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): You see, when I was talking about them, I was only talking about their paying capacity. So we must take into consideration the paying capacity of the people. Therefore, while fixing the quantum of compensation at the minimum rate, I only said that the Government have to think - because the tendency of the trade union leaders, you know, while suggesting this quantum, is to keep in view the Birlas and to keep in view these Tatas. So all these people are in their own mind. Therefore, the demand is that it should be upped, not knowing that the *panwala* is also included here.

Therefore, we have to be objective. We have to be reasonable. That is why I said, "Paying capacity".

As far as Shri Ramesh Chennithala's point is concerned, for those workers working in companies which are not registered in India, we cannot do it because we do not have territorial jurisdiction of legislation beyond the territory of India. I do not think that it can be done.

As far as non-payment and delayed payment is concerned, which is raised by Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay, it is a law which is being implemented by the respective State Governments. It is they who appoint the compensation commissioners. If I have to apply my mind to this question, I will have to find out from the West Bengal Government first...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 13 to the Motion for Consideration moved by Shri George Fernandes to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 13 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: the House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 Amendment of Section 2

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I beg to move:

Page 2,—

omit lines 37 to 40. (1)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Haradhan Roy — absent.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava — absent.

I shall now put Amendment No. 1 moved by Shri George Fernandes to the vote of the House.

Amendment was put and negated.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"The Clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 — Amendment of Section 4

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are amendments Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 to Clause 4 by Shri George Fernandes and No. 16 by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 17,—

for "fifty thousand" substitute—"four lakh"

Page 3, lines 20 and 21,— (2)

for "sixty thousand rupees" substitute—"five lakh rupees" (3)

Page 3, lines 23 and 24,—

for "two thousand rupees" substitute—"five thousand rupees" (4)

Page 3, line 39,—

for "one thousand" substitute "four thousand" (5)

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad):
I beg to move:

Page 3, line 39,—

for "one thousand" substitute—"two thousand" (16)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 moved by Shri George Fernandes and amendment No. 15 moved by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to Clause 4 to the vote of the House.

**Amendments No. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 16
were put and negated.**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"The Clause 4 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Haradhan Roy - absent.

The question is:

"That Clauses 5, 6 and 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 5, 6 and 7 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: SHRI Mohan Singh - absent.

The question is:

"The Clauses 8 to 14 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 8 to 14 were added to the Bill.

Clause 15 - Amendment of Schedule II

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad):
I beg to move:

Page 8, lines 30 and 31,—

omit "or the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963" (19)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 19 moved by SHRI Ramashray Prasad Singh to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 19 was put and negated.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"The Clause 15 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 15 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 16 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted clause 16 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting formula and the long little stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

Shri George Fernandes, have you given a notice for the Third Reading?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had made this speech to oppose this Bill. I am sorry to say that I could not make the Government and persons of political parties understand as to what are the benefits or disadvantages this law to labourers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the time of adopting this Bill we would not like to remain in the House and we stage a walkout.

18.34 hrs.

[English]

Shri George Fernandes and some other hon. Members then left the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is another item which will have to be dealt with by Shri Sangma. Are we prepared to sit for some more time?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: That can be taken up tomorrow, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right, it will be taken up tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 4th August, 1995 at 11.00 A.M.

18.35 hrs

**The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Friday,
August 4, 1995/Sravana 13, 1917 (Saka)**
