

LOKSABHA DEBATES
TENTH SERIES (VOL.XXVI No. 7)

DECEMBER, 10, 1993

EIGHTH SESSION



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

CONTENTS

[(Tenth Series, Vol.XXVI, Eighth Session, 1993, 1915 (Saka)]
No. 7.Friday, December 8, 1993/Agrahayana 19, 1915 (Saka)

	COLUMNS
Oral Answers to Questions:	1-32
* Starred Question Nos. 121 to 124	1-24
Written Answers to Questions:	33-468
Starred Question Nos. 125-140	33-74
UnStarred Questions Nos. 1266 to 1319.	75-147
1321 to 1378,	148-258
1380 to 1466 and	263-405
1468 to 1499	407-448
Papers Laid on the Table	465-480
Message from Rajya Sabha	489
Advocates (Amendment) Bill	490
As amended by Rajya Sabha - Laid	
Committee on Government Assurances	490
Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Reports ⁻ - Presented	
Motion Re: Implications of the Dunkal Draft	490-534
Text on Trade Negotiations	
Shri Pranab Mukherjee	490-534
Matter Under Rule 377	535-539
(i) Need to connect railway track from Vilupuram to Cuddalore to broad gauge	
Shri P. P. Kaliaperumal	535

* The Sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

	(ii)	COLUMNS
(ii) Need to Protect Chilka lake from silting and shrinking	Shri Gopi Noth Gajapathi	536
(iii) Need to give central University status to Allahabad University	Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)	537
(iv) Need for construction of a railway overbridge at Medukkachary in Ottapalem Parliamentary constituency, Kerala	Shri S. Sivaraman	538
(v) Need to constitute a separate Ministry for proper development of coastal areas	Shri Sudhir Sawant	538
(vi) Need to take steps for development of tourism in Sunderbans in West Bengal.	Shri Supat Kumar Mandal	539
Transplantation of Human Organs Bill Motion to Consider	Shri Vidyacharan Shukla	540
Statutory Resolution Re: Disapproval of State Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance And		541
State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill		541-546
Motion to consider	Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)	541-544
	Dr. Abrar Ahmed	545-546
Committee on Private Members * Bills and Resolutions		
Twenty Sixth Report	- Adopted	
Resolution Re: Uniform Civil Code		547-578
	- Nagative	
	Shrimati Manjula Chatterjee	548-550

(ii)

COLUMNS

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	559-563
Shri Sudhir Sawant	564-567
Kumari Marnata Banerjee	568-570
Shri H.R. Bhardwaj	571-578
Resolution Re: Exploration of Oil and Gas in Eastern Region	579
Dr. Asim Bala	579-584
Shri Ramesh Channoithala	585-588
Shri Sudhir Giri	589-592
Kumari Marnata Banerjee	593-595
Shri Subrata Mukherjee	596-598

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

[Translation]

Friday December 10, 1993 Agrahayara
19, 1915 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Power loom Units

[English]

*121 SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether powerloom units in the country have been provided/are proposed to be provided financial assistance under the refinance schemes of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the Industrial development Bank of India (IDBI)

(b) if so, the refinance assistance provided by NABARD and SIDBI to the above units during the last year and proposed to be provided during the current year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) a wholly owned subsidiary of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have been providing financial assistance under their refinance schemes to powerloom units.

The refinance disbursed by SIDBI for powerloom units coming up in the small scale industries (SSI) sector and not envisaging production of items reserved for handloom sector under its refinance scheme, was of the order of Rs. 76.09 crores during 1992-93. The data reporting system of NABARD does not yield separate figures for refinance provided for powerloom units. However, the total refinance for handloom and powerloom disbursed by NABARD on account of term loans during the year 1992-93. was of the order of Rs. 9.67 crores. NABARD provides short term credit limits to State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) for financing production and marketing activities of Powerloom Weavers' Cooperative Societies

(PWCS) in addition to Handloom Weaves' Cooperative Societies (HWCS). The limits sanctioned on account of Working Capital loans to SCBs for financing handloom/PWCS during 1992-93 amounted to Rs. 492.37 crores. The refinance for all such eligible proposes is provided by SIDBL and NABARD on an on-going basis and no specific activity-wise targets are prescribed in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : Mr. Speaker Sir, as you know, most of the powerloom production is in the hands of master weavers who in turn sub-contract to individual producers and they have little access to organised credit. I want to know whether the Government of India is working out any scheme to identify such individual producers and help them by financing.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Speaker Sir, the loans are advanced to all the powerlooms by IDBI and SIDBI and are refinanced by NABARD. The hon. Member has been provided information regarding loans advanced last year as an answer to the main question. If the hon. Member wants more information, I would like to tell him that SIDBI has provided assistance to 2240 units during the last three years in which Rs. 72.48 crores (*Interruption*)

[English]

SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : That is not my supplementary question. The information on that is given by the Minister already in the Statement that is laid on the Table of the House. He has not understood my supplementary properly.

My supplementary question is, most

of the powerloom productions are in the hands of master weavers who in turn subcontract it to individual producers who have a little access to organised credit. Is the Government of India working out any such scheme to finance the individual producers?

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wants to know about individual producers. There is no direct scheme of refiancing by SIDBI and NABARD as has been stated in the reply to the main question. Whatever assistance is provided within a State is provided through State Financial Corporation or Industrial Financial Corporation of the State.

[English]

SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : My second supplementary is, most of the powerlooms are suffering due to lack of adequate funds for modernisation. It seems that the Government of India, the banking institutions like NABARD or other subsidiary banks are not coming forward for financing modernisation of powerloom units. Is the Government considering to finance modernisation of such powerloom units and also to provide working capital to such type to unit's?

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just submitted that NABARD does not provide direct assistance for this. It only provides refiancing and it refiances State Industrial Organisations. There is no such provision of giving direct assistance.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Mr. Spak, Sir, from the answer given by the hon. Minister, the total refinance

for handloom and powerloom disbursed by NABARD is hardly Rs. 9.67 crores, which is a very small amount. Will the hon. Minister enquire into the matter and issue suitable instructions to NABARD to help these handloom weavers as well as powerloom units weavers, in big way because it is sector which is giving highest employment of self-employed people. The Cooperative Banks will be very near to these people and through NABARD more help can be given to them directly, instead of SIDBI.

I would request the Government to assure this House that more adequate finance to powerloom and handloom units would be given.

[*Translation*]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that we receive complaints in this regard. As I have now said just that NABARD and SIDBI provide only refinancing. The State Financial Corporations and State Industrial Corporation will have to see that they get loans from them and then these are refinanced through NABARD and SIDBI.

[*English*]

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : There are so many problems in the powerloom industry. Hence the Government has appointed the Abid Hussain Committee. I would like to ask through you, whether the Government is going to implement the Hussain committees recommendations and adopt those for financing powerlooms.

Mr. Speaker: This is for the Minister of Textiles to answer.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister

has stated that loans are sanctioned by Industrial Corporations to powerlooms and handlooms.

11.09 Hrs

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *In the Chair*]

Generally it is seen that when small weavers or small powerloom owners apply to Industrial Corporations for loans, the Industrial Corporations follow a long process and the applicants are called upon to fulfill many formalities. The amount of security, the time since when their powerloom is functioning etc. are to be shown in the application. That's why, it takes about one year in the getting loans. I would like to know whether Minister will direct Industrial Corporations to adopt such a process which may ensure timely sanction of loans to small handloom and powerloom owners as per their requirements ?

DR. ABRAR AHMED : All the State Finance Corporations and Industrial Corporations are under full administrative control of the respective State Government and work on their directions. The hon. Member has stated some of their problems which are justified. He should contact the concerned State Government and we will also try to convey the problems to the State Governments.

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV : The hon. Minister has admitted that the problem is a serious one. He has been repeatedly saying that the State Controlled Finance Institution advance direct loans. But keeping in view that this is the second fact that the biggest industry of the of our country and also the fact problem of common man of earning a living is also involved, whether he is working in powerloom industry or handloom industry his problem is getting more serious day-by-day. Last year All India Conference had taken place which was addressed by the

Prime Minister. He had given an assurance that the Government would chalk out a scheme to ensure a direct and speedy grant of loans with a view to help the industry and overcome the problems by the weavers. A common weaver does not get even working capital and equipment. The middlemen take advantage of the situation. That's why the weaver is frustrated and suffering a lot. Whether the Government propose to formulate a comprehensive scheme with the assistance of Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Finance and the State Government with a view to help them and make them self-reliant? Because crores of people depend on that?

DR. ABRAR AHMED : I would like to say in the context of the problem mentioned by the hon. Minister that the Ministry of Textiles formulates a scheme or a policy. It contacts the other when it is required to do so Ministries for coordination. When the Ministry of Textiles submits a scheme to the Ministry of Finance. The role of Ministry of Finance is only to provide financial assistance and to work accordingly and take steps.

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV : When the Prime Minister himself had given an assurance that their Government is giving attention to that. You cannot escape your responsibility by saying that it is for the State Government to take action and we will take action only after the State Government has taken steps. Will you also take initiatives because your department is supposed to finance it ?

DR. ABRAR AHMED : The Ministry of Finance works on the directions issued by the Prime Minister.

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ : The hon. Minister in his reply has said that the total re-finance for handloom and powerloom disbursed by NABARD on account of term

loans was of the order of Rs. 9.67 crores. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister how much of this amount was earmarked for Tamil Nadu and secondly, from the amount which was disbursed to Tamil Nadu, how much of loan was given by nationalised banks and how much of loan was given by the co-operative banks.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : The loans sanctioned to Tamil Nadu by SIDBI are meant for 203 units. The amount sanctioned for the year 1991-92 is Rs. 179.79 lakh and for the year 1992-93 it is Rs. 96.78 lakh.

[English]

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ : I asked for the details regarding how much amount was given by the nationalised banks and how much amount was disbursed by the cooperative banks.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : This question is related only to SIDBI and NABARD.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the powerloom units engage a good number of people. There are some fake units. These fake units draw loans through the State Cooperative Banks. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any effective machinery which can properly examine whether the loans sanctioned are properly utilised or not.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I said it at the outset that Financing is provided by SIDBI and NABARD. It is further disbursed by the state Finance Corporations and their units. The purpose is to ensure that the loans are utilised properly and to check the bungling if any, in the sanction of loans ?

Nationalised Banks

*122. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether some nationalised banks have been merged with other nationalised banks during 1992 and 1993;

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

(c) whether any study has been conducted or proposed to be conducted to determine the consequences of such merger on the business of the banks, their employees, customers and the economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Owing to continuous deterioration in the financial position of the erstwhile New Bank of India over the past several years, the Government amalgamated it with Punjab National Bank on 4th September, 1993. The decision to amalgamate the bank was taken by Government and Reserve Bank of India after taking into consideration the deficiencies in the working of erstwhile New Bank of India and the ability of Punjab National Bank to absorb the losses and provide the needed leadership, management and funds support. The merger is in the interest of the banking sector and will facilitate provision of better

service to the customers of the erstwhile New Bank of India. There has been no retrenchment of employees on account of the merger.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : MR. Chairma Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any compelling reasons or circumstances exist under which the Government of India feels it imperative to merge any more nationalised banks and if so whether the Reserve Bank of India have signed any Memorandum of Understanding with any of the nationalised banks in this connection.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member regarding the merger of banks that the Government has taken many steps to improve the working of banks. As I have stated in my reply that the New Bank of India has been merged with Punjab National Bank and this Government does not intend to merge any other bank.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any truth in the reports saying that the employees of the erstwhile New Bank of India which was merged with the Punjab National Banks are being, in fact, victimised by the Punjab National Bank and they are on the verge of a strike. I would also like to know whether the Government is aware of this fact and if so what steps are being taken by the Ministry to avert such a strike. I would request the hon. Minister to give me the details in this regard.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform the House through you that usually banks were incurring losses and the House as well as the Ministry expressed their concern. Therefore, it was imperative to merge the New Bank of India with the Punjab National Bank. Under these circumstances there could not be two regional offices and two head offices at one place. So far as the staff is concerned, I have the statewise figures. 2125 employees were declared surplus and had there been any other sick unit these employees would have been retrenched, here in this case they were not retrenched but re-deployed. In the wake of the hon. Member's statement that the actual position is not like this, I would like to say that there were 9454 employees in the New Bank of India out of which 3046 were officers and 6408 were in clerical staff. Out of 3046 officers 2543, which comes to 83.49% were absorbed in the same zone, likewise out of the 6408 employees of clerical staff, 5939 employees which 92.68% were absorbed in their own zones and the total percentage of both the officers and clerical staff, who were absorbed in their zones were 89.72%. 503 officers were transferred out of their zones and 243 were transferred to the adjoining zones and 260 were transferred to other zones. Besides 469 employees i.e., 7.32% of clerical staff were transferred. Out of which 338 were transferred to the nearby zones and 131 employees were transferred to some distant areas. At the time of making those distant transfers we kept in mind the awards and the agreement read with the unions. Therefore, they were transferred to their linguistic zones as the clerical staff of Delhi was transferred to U.P. or Rajasthan. Not even a single woman and a handicapped was transferred. The one who is going to retire within three years has also not been transferred. Likewise a few employees were retrenched and re-deployed as it became

quite essential. This problem has cropped up as a result of 1 retrenchment. So, I would like to inform the hon. Member that due to the merger of both these banks, if any employee suffers, then we are responsible for that, but as far as the improvement of the banks is concerned the Government found it imperative to take these steps.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : I seek your protection. There are lots of complaints from various unions that the employees of the erstwhile New Bank of India are being treated like the second class citizens by the Punjab National Bank. I want a clarification from the hon. Minister in this regard.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, New Bank of India has been merged with Punjab National Bank and if the employees of Punjab National Bank wanted to seek transfer in other State like Bihar, their option was sought and after that they were adjusted. Thereafter those transfers were made. There is nothing like second grade. One thing I would like to inform you that if we see the efficiency and work load of each employee of New Bank of India, it comes to Rs. 25.01 lakhs per employee and that of Punjab National Bank is Rs 49.16 lakh. It has been merged with that bank to improve its efficiency. About 2000 employees became surplus they were transferred to some then from retrenchment. There is nothing like second grade employees in it. Taking the working conditions into consideration and the losses it has suffered, it was imperative to merge these two banks. Some good workers, from those Banks about whose per employee business I have made a mention, should be sent there.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES : In view of the answer given by the hon. Minister for the first supplementary question raised by Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, a very basic question is to be answered by the Government. The question relates to the merger of two nationalised banks. And also it relates to the future structure of the Indian banking system. As I understand, the Narasimham Committee has made some recommendations on the financial system before the and the Government Government has, by and large, accepted them and has started implementing them. In that Narasimham Committee Report, specific recommendations are there regarding the structure of the future banking system in India. The Committee recommends that major banks which are incurring losses should be merged with other banks. The structure recommended by the Narasimham Committee is of eight or ten banks. The hon. Minister has given an answer that there is no proposal of any further merger. It is very astonishing to me. So, I want to know from the Government whether there is going to be any further merger and whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee Report. In view of the Narasimham Committee Report, what is going to be the future structure of the nationalised banks set up in India? I would like to know whether the Government has accepted it. In view of the answer given that there is no proposal, what is the stand taken by the Government on the Narasimham Committee Report about the structure?

[*Translation*]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member once again that the Government has no other proposal to merge any other bank. Secondly, the hon. Member has stated that the condition of not only one bank but the condition of several

other banks is not good; so through you I would like to say that the Government has taken some steps in this regard, efforts are being made to put them on the right track and the R.B.I. has issued directions in this regard to the banks. It has been included in those directions, that the branches which are accumulating losses should be closed. Apart from it, a ban has been imposed on the recruitment of the staff. Every banks has to sign an agreement to improve its performance and only then the Government will give it the assistance. Special efforts are being made to recover the non-performance assets. A tribunal has been formed for bank recoveries. The branches of the banks.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has asked to question with reference to the recommendations of Narsimham Committee if you have to say something in that context please speak in the light of that reference only.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Regarding that, I have already stated that the efforts of the Government are going on. Every day the Government reviews the performance as to what steps should be taken for betterment. It is difficult to forecast the day-to-day situation but the decision will be taken according to the circumstances.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : To part (c) of the question the hon. Minister is very evasive. I would like to know whether there is any specific study conducted by the Ministry before amalgamation of any two banks. Here two banks are amalgamated. The Government should study what is the implication of that in the banking system, what about the customers, what will be the future of the employees. This study is a must. I would like to know whether such a study was conducted by the Government. Because as Shri Mullappally Ramachandran rightly pointed out, after the amalgamation

employees are victimised and the customers are also facing a lot of difficulties. Inadequacy of this study is the reason for that. I would like to know whether the Government will review this, study this and try to solve the problems which are prevailing at this juncture.

[*Translation*]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that so far as the customers are concerned, no complaint has been received from them after the merger of Banks, regarding employees. I have already informed the hon. Member that after the merger, 2125 employees have become surplus. I have already informed as to how we have accommodated them. It is wrong to say that they have been victimised. There was no other way to re-deploy them. Not only this, many employees went to the court also and I would like to draw the attention towards the judgement of the court particularly of Delhi High Court ...:

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no need to read out the judgement, you can give gist of that.

MR. ABRAR AHMED : It has been stated clearly that surplus employees can be transferred outside. It has been stated there that they should have been retrenched but we have sent them outside. At least we have to do something in this regard. On the one hand we want to bring about improvement in Banks, we want to reduce the loss and to check the frauds in Banks and on the other if we merge two Banks, transfer the employees or take any corrective measures, objections are raised. How these two things can be done together. We have to take certain harsh steps for improvement. Sir, through you I would like to say that with a view to improve the condition of our Banking system, we may require to take even more harsh steps in future.

SHRI RABI RAY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. He has stated in his written reply that the deteriorating financial position of New Bank of India during the last so many years was the reason for merger. But the Government's policy in the past was that the Government money of public sector undertakings would compulsorily be deposited with the Nationalised Banks. But later on a fundamental change was brought about in the Government policy during the last 2-3 years and the P.S.Us were allowed to keep their money even with Foreign Banks or private Banks also. This basic policy decision was the main reason for economic deterioration of the nationalised Banks. I would like to know the reaction of the Government there.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we see the conditions of Banks, we will find that all the Banks are not going in loss or their economic condition is not deteriorating. The hon. Member has stated that the change in the Government policy has led to the merger but I would like to say that this change in policy was not for any single Bank but it is meant for all the Banks. It is not right that the economic condition of all the Banks is deteriorating. Had that been the reason, it would have affected all Banks. It depends on the top management, staff and working condition of respective Bank. As I have stated that in New Bank of India per-employees business is about 25 lakh; whereas in Punjab National Bank it is 49.16 lakh. It depends on the handling of management, style of functioning etc. These all things get affected by these things.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUSHEELA GOPALAN : Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to whether there is any norm fixed for transfer, especially in respect of

women. Even after posting them in villages and abroad, they are repeatedly being harassed and transferred. I myself have received several complaints and when we write to them, then they say that it is actually for administrative convenience. So, I would like to know whether any norms are there for transferring them especially when husband and wife are employed at one place ?

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Under the general rule if husband and wife are employed, they are posted at one place if possible. So far as the harassment is concerned, I would like to say that if the hon. lady Member is talking about this Bank, I have already stated that no lady employee has been transferred. If there is any other complaint of harassment the hon. lady Member can tell me and I assure that definite action will be taken in the matter.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Minister for having given a categorical assurance that there is no further proposal for the amalgamation of banks. I hope that this assurance will be honoured. But, I am afraid, the Narasimham Committee report is hanging like a Democles' sword. In every Session of Parliament Bills are coming. Today also, State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill is to be discussed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please come to the point.

SHRI A CHARLES : In the last Session of Parliament Recovery of Dues Bill was passed; the result is that, in my constituency, one person who has taken a loan of Rs. 1 1/2 lakhs has committed suicide.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is about merger of two banks.

SHRI A CHARLES : May I know from the hon. Minister as to whether a full-fledged discussion will be held in this House before further implementing the various recommendations of the Narasimhan Committee report, to know the implications as to how it will affect the functioning of the banks? Secondly, in the name of so-called amalgamation and implementation, an attempt is being made to shift the local head offices and regional offices from some of the centres. In Trivandrum, I am told that there is an attempt to shift the local regional office of the Syndicate Bank; and there was proposal to sanction a local head office of the State Bank of India. This is all being done; this is unfair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point?

SHRI A O CHARLES : This will create an imbalance. I would like to know whether the whole Narasimham Committee report will be discussed; and secondly, whether an assurance will be given that none of the existing offices will be changed so that further imbalance may not happen.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED : One thing I would like to make very clear that if there is any misunderstanding about my reply that there will be no merger of banks in future, I would like to say that as on today there is no such proposal before us. I have also stated that in view of the present condition of the banks, there cannot be merger only but some more harsh steps can also be taken in future because on the one hand we want to bring about improvement in banking system and to check the loss in banks and on the other if it is said that no one should be put into trouble these both things cannot go on together... (Interruption)..

[English]

Mr. Chairman: You have got the answer... (Interruption)

Mr. Chairman: The way you will put the question, you will get the answer.

SHRI A. CHARLES: That is the main concern.... (Interruption) ..

Mr. Chairman: All right... (Interruption)

Mr. Chairman: Take your seat please.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Mr. Chairman Sir, as the hon. Minister has Stated in his reply that due to the continuous deterioration of financial condition, the New Bank of India has been merged with Punjab National Banks. When National Front Government was there at the Centre and SHRI V. P. SINGH was prime minister loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000 were waived of and the Congress Party raised much hue and cry over it and said that it is responsible for the collapse of our Banking system and economic system. So, I would like to know whether Harshad Mehta's security scam to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crore is responsible for the collapse of our Banking system and financial system?

DR. ABRAR AHMED : It will be known only after the submission of JPC report.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the hon. Minister has stated in his reply and given assurance that the merger of two banks would not affect the facilities, service conditions and other facilities being provided to the employees of Punjab National Banks as well as of New Bank of India. I would like to know whether it

is a fact that many employees of Punjab National Bank who were earlier posted at Patna proper and were getting special facilities, have now been posted in rural areas. In view of the treatment being meted out to them the Employees Association has started agitation there. Will the hon. Minister ensure that they will continue to avail all those facilities for which they were entitled earlier? Will the hon. Minister take action in this regard?

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Sir, there is no question of any change in the cadre on any employee or officer. If any one is posted in rural area then there can be difference in House Rent Allowance. Car and Housing facilities differ according to the place of posting. HRA entitlement differs in big cities, small cities and rural areas but their cadre and salary will remain the same at all places. There is no question of any difference in their salary.

[English]

Sales Tax

* 123. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the MInister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to replace Sales Tax by Value Added Tax or levy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

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

(a) to (c) : Sales Tax is a subject dealt with by State Governments and hence its replacement by VAT has to be ultimately decided by them.

The National Institute of Public Finance and Policy is preparing a paper on the subject of VAT.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, in a federal set-up, undoubtedly the federating units have to be accorded their due. But this issue and the issues emanating from the sales-tax have today acquired a national importance. Recognising the imperatives of financial and economic rationale, we have to realise that the lack of uniformity in the rates of sales-tax in various States has resulted in diversion of trade and sometimes even industry has shifted from one State to another. The price differentials have cost the economy high and have also an inherent risk of the consumers being over-charged.

I would like to know from the hon Minister as to what initiatives have been taken by the centre to veer the States around to the point of replacing the sales-tax by the value added tax which could be administered, say, by some impartial authority.

SHRINIRMAL KANTICATTERJEE : Uniform sales-tax .

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Uniform sales-tax also.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, sales-tax is a State subject of taxation. Any reform in the sales-tax system can be undertaken only in consultation with and in cooperation of the States.

The Government is making very sincere efforts on it. We have asked the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy to prepare a policy paper on that bringing out the pros and cons of various options suggesting best course of action. This was entrusted to them in March 1993 and their report is expected by December 1993. These are the initiatives which the Government has

taken.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, the hon. Minister has missed a part of my question about the endeavour to bring about uniformity in sales tax.

The second supplementary which I would like to pose is this. Perhaps, we have not realised the causes of generation of black money about the declaration of which we do take steps from time to time, but we have not been able to do anything so far regarding checking the growth of the same. Evasion of sales tax is also a major source of generation of black money. I would like to know whether there are some recommendations made by the Chelliah Committee vis-a-vis sales tax; if so, what is the Government doing thereof.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, it is true that Raja Chelliah Committee had recommended that the present system should be converted into state VAT. And in this regard, we have taken initiatives that I have explained in the last question. But it is also true that evasion of sales tax is also a source of generation of black money. We have written to the state Governments to be very strict and that they should convey or exchange their information with the Department of Income Tax and other agencies.

SHRI BIR SING MAHATO : Sir, sales tax is a State subject. May I know from the hon. Minister whether any State Government has sent any proposal to replace sales tax by value added tax?

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : So far, no State Government has agreed on this issue. After the report of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy is received, it is proposed to be discussed in the Conference of State Finance Ministers and then, we will discuss this with the National

Development Council for further action.

[Translation]

SHRI KESRILAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the rate of sales-tax in various states in the country is not uniform. That is why the people of particular state purchase goods from other States and it is good source of tax evasion. The Minister of Sales Tax of Uttar Pradesh has given an assurance to abolish sales tax in the state. Thus the state will incur a loss of certain revenue. In the circumstances, I would like to know whether the Government of India will provide some funds to compensate this loss.

[English]

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I agree with the hon. Member that the sales tax is not uniform and that it is affecting trade and business. More than that, he has pointed that the Chief Minister has agreed to abolish sales tax. It is for the State Government to decide on it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, there is no doubt that sales tax comes under the jurisdiction or the domain of the State. In spite of that, abolition of sales tax has been agreed to by different political parties and the Minister knows that it has found a place in the election manifesto of certain political parties. That being so, was this discussed in any of the Chief Ministers meetings?

What are the reactions of the State Government on Chelliah Committee's recommendations so far as the abolition of sales tax etc. is concerned? Also, what steps are being proposed by the Government of India to overcome these difficulties and to come to a settlement on this matter which has been agitating the minds of both traders and consumers for quite some decades?

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA

MURTHY : Recently, this aspect has not been discussed in any of the meetings of the State Chief Ministers. As I have already pointed out, after the receipt of the report of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, we are going to convene a meeting of the State Finance Ministers. Then it will be brought before the National Development Council.

11.46 hrs

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI NIRMAL

KANTICATTERJEE : He was about to call me when you were entering.

MR. SPEAKER : I will also call you!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, one of the ways of evading sales tax is to characterize a particular sale as a transfer, to make a transhipment from one place to another and not to call it a sale. In order to plug that loophole, the Chelliah committee, despite some reservations, had recommended the imposition of consignment tax at a low rate of two percent. Is the Government going to introduce a Bill to impose the consignment tax ?

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Even the Chelliah Committee had recommended that the existing system of sales tax should be replaced by State VAT. Regarding the consignment tax, we have discussed with several Chief Ministers. But they have not come to a final conclusion.

Indira Gandhi Rasthiya Man Akadmi

* 124. SHRIMATI GIRJA DEVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government had set up

the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uraan Akademi near Lucknow with the objective of training pilots;

(b) if so, the number of pilots trained since its inception ;

(c) whether the Akademi has achieved the desired results;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the main causes attributed to the unsatisfactory turn-out by the Akademi; and

(f) the steps contemplated by the Government in this regard?

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : A total of 237 pilots have been trained at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) till date.

(c) to (f) : The Akademi has trained 208 commercial pilots for fixed wing aircraft, 20 helicopter pilots and 9 pilots of fixed wing aircraft from Coast Guard. The Akademi also conducts refresher courses. Performance of IGRUA-trained pilots has been appreciated by the national airlines as well as Air Taxi Operators.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : MR. SPEAKER, Sir, I have asked in my question whether the performance of the Indira Gandhi National Uran Academy is good or not, its performance is satisfactory or not, the hon. Ministry has stated in his reply that its performance had been appreciated all over the country as well as abroad. The academy was set up to train commercial pilots and it had fixed target of imparting training to 40 commercial pilots every year. It had trained

nearly 227 pilots in 10 years. According to our calculation in view of the target fixed the Academy should have trained at least 400 pilots in 10 years. Moreover, its capacity was once increased during this period. In such a situation I do not think that the desired result has been achieved. My question is as to what are the causes for imparting training to less number of pilots and whether the reasons for this lapse have been looked into; and if so, the details thereof?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to this question I have stated that while we use the term 'Indian Airlines' we mean that the Indian Airlines operates only within the country and not outside the country and similar is the case of Private Air Taxi. But the Air India operates both inside and outside the country. The service of both the Airlines is satisfactory; and as the hon. Member has opined, the number of pilots trained should have been greater. I would like to state in this connection that his opinion is not correct. Since the inception of the academy, it was scheduled to train not more than 20 pilots per year at any rate. This number went on increasing year after year. It rose to 23, 31, 32, 36 and in the seventh Batch the number was 38. There are 32 trainees in the Eighth Batch. Thus the number is going on increasing every year and it is not correct to say that the target was higher and the number of pilots trained was lower. On the contrary, its number has increased in the subsequent years.

I would also like to inform the August House that there have been some decline in the number of trainees during the last 3-4 years because it was decided in the beginning that the half of the capital and the recurring expenditure would be provided by the government of India and the remaining half would be provided by Air India and Indian Airlines jointly. But after a certain period the

Government of India ceased to meet the recurring expenditure since 1987 and after sometime it even stopped providing capital expenditure. On account of this development, there was some decline in the number of trainees. Now since the advent of Private Taxi Operators, the requirement of pilots has increased. Previously, such a large number of pilots was not required, but now keeping in view the need of pilots we have taken up this issue with the Planning Commission again and I am happy to know that after a period of 6 or 7 years the Planning commission will again start meeting recurring expenditure and capital expenditure as it did earlier. I hope that we will be able to achieve the desired goal.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir these figures are not my own creation. These have been mentioned in the Annual Report of the Academy and on the basis of these figures, I had asked whether the target was to train 40 commercial pilots or not. Later on reports to this effect were published several times in newspapers too. It has appeared in newspapers regarding Fursatganj Institution.

'The Institution is, however, not proving sufficient in terms of output of pilots'.

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to quote from the newspaper.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no intention to quote from the newspaper, but due to shortage of pilots we are suffering huge losses. One time strike has caused us a loss of Rs. 200 crore and the industries linked with it have also suffered a great amount of loss. Thus the shortage of pilots has been affecting our economy adversely. I would like to know from the Government whether it proposes to solve the problem of the shortage of pilots by

strengthening the existing 27 flying clubs and 10 gliding clubs.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have trained nearly 198 pilots in our Academy and out of them only 145 pilots have got employment and the rest 53 pilots are yet to get the jobs.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Where have they got employment?

SHRIGHULAM NABI AZAD : 63 pilots have been recruited in the Air India, 46 pilots have been recruited in Indian Air Lines and 36 pilots have been recruited by the Private taxi operators. In this way in total 145 pilots have been able to get employment so far, and the remaining 53 pilots are unemployed. A new batch is likely to figure from December.

I would also like to point out to the hon. Member that there is no shortage of pilots, rather there is shortage of commanders. A pilot becomes Commander after 8 years.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of Adivasi and harijan pilots trained and whether they have got employment or not.

Secondly, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the information regarding training and selection of pilots to be undertaken by the Academy does not reach the rural areas of the country, so I would like to know as to what are the existing provisions in this regard and what provisions are proposed, to be made in future?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, seven pilots belonging to SC and two pilots belonging to ST—thus 9 pilot in total have been trained and I have already mentioned the number of pilots who have got employment. So far as the process

of selection is concerned, first the trainee pilots who have undertaken sixty hour flight in any of the private companies or flying clubs, are admitted to the Academy. Once they are selected for training, the trainee pilots belonging to the general categories are charged Rs. two lakh each for the entire course and the pilots belonging to Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes are imparted training free of cost. But they will have to undergo training in Private flying club for sixty hours and it is not under us. At least three pilots belonging to the SC & ST can be trained free of cost in each batch.

But the training could have been given to not more than two such pilots in a Batch so far; and there has always been there a scope for training one more pilot.

SHRINITISHKUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question that I wanted to ask has been raised. According to the reply given by the hon. Minister very few pilots belonging to the SC and ST have been imparted training. Taking these things into consideration, and in the wake of the implementation of the recommendations of the Mandal commission regarding quotas for the SC, ST and other backward classes. I would like to know whether the Government would make special provision for the persons belonging to the other backward classes also so that they become eligible for getting admission in the Academy? Now there is a provision that whosoever completes the scheduled period of flights i.e. 60 hours can get admission to the Academy, the persons belonging to SC/ST and other backward classes may perhaps not be able to possess such qualification; in that case, will the Government relax the qualification for the persons of these categories, so that they may also become eligible for getting admission to the Academy and there may be a balanced representation in this field of flight jobs also ?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have provisions for the persons belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes only and there is no provision for others.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there had been no recruitment of women for the post of pilots so far but it is for the first time that women have been recruited for the post of pilots in the Ministry of Defence and its result has been proved very good. I would like to know as to what is the number of women pilots among the 237 trained pilots. If there is no room for women-Pilots. Would the Government like to provide some reservation for the women pilots.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have separate figures of women pilots here, but I would furnish it to the hon. Minister. As I have submitted that if somebody is selected on merits... (*Interruption*)... There are so many female candidate but the 60 hour training is essential for admission. After fulfilling this essential qualification if they are selected, we would recruit them.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister, I would like to ask a question. The hon. Minister has said that there is a shortage of Commanders, but these air-taxi operators are attracting most of our experienced Commanders from the Indian Airlines. Some of these pilots met me in the air itself. They said that certainly they do not expect the Government of India to give equal salary or equal terms as the private air-taxi operators are giving. Some of the Commanders are being given a salary of Rs. 1 lakh per month.

Certainly we cannot match that. But, there are some small issues which are pending for a long time and they said that if the hon. Minister personally looks into the same, they may be solved.

Minister, you may go outside from time to time we do not mind, provided you take us!

12.00 hrs

The hon. Minister will kindly give his personal attention to some of the pending issues of these Commanders many of which, if solved, will not be attracted in spite of higher wages given by the private taxi operators.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : As far as lady pilots are concerned, their number is 16 at the moment so far.

I think, the hon. Member, Shri Somnath Chatterjee might have met them about a month back; he has not met them very recently.

We have very recently, almost a fortnight back, signed an agreement with them; and this agreement is upto 1996; and we have settled all the outstanding issues.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Then your publicity is not good. You have not published it.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I was looking for an opportunity so that if you ask a question then I will reply to it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

Your publicity is no longer good.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : My point is that after getting 60 hour training, a person gets admission to the Academy. It involves an expenditure of lakhs of rupees. Would the Government make any such provision as may enable the persons belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes for becoming pilots on the Government expenditure?

Mr. Speaker : This question has already been asked.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : But no reply has been given to it.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : The Academy under the Government imparts them training free of cost. But the flying clubs are private.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It means that if people belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes do not attend Private flying clubs they cannot become pilots.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : The Government is responsible for its own institutions only.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

in such fraudulent transactions can be broadly categoris as under:-

[English]

Encashment of Payment Instruments

125. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI
DEVI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the alleged racket involving diversion and illegal encashment of stolen and benami cheques, drafts, dividend warrants and pay orders which run into almost Rs.2000 crore a year, as reported in the 'Times of India' dated November 20, 1993,

(b) if so, the details thereof including the *modus operandi* of the cheque discounting racket;

(c) the details of the public sector banks found involved in such cases recently and the action taken by the Government; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such rackets in future?

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

(b) Reserve Bank of India has received complaints regarding instances of fraudulent encashment of refund orders, dividend warrants and other payment instruments. By and large, the *modus operandi* employed

(a) Opening of fictitious accounts and lodgement/collection of stolen/ pilfered/benami instruments and subsequent withdrawal of the proceeds thereof.

(b) Collection/Lodgement of third party instruments in genuinely opened current accounts and subsequent withdrawal of the proceeds thereof.

(c) Encashment of payment instruments wherein payee names and maturity amounts were chemically altered and the instruments were collected through fictitious accounts.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that instances of such encashment of payment instruments have come to their notice in the following public sector banks recently:-

1. Bank of Baroda
2. Bank of India
3. Central Bank of India
4. State Bank of India
5. State Bank of Saurashtra
6. Syndicate Bank

Reserve Bank of India has reiterated its instructions to the banks to strictly adhere to essential safeguards in the matter of opening/conduct of operative deposit accounts. The banks have also been directed to intro-

duce the practice of obtaining photographs of the depositors/account holders who are authorised to operate the accounts at the time of opening of all new operative accounts with effect from 1st January, 1994. In certain business pockets in Bombay, where the fraudulent encashment of payment instruments was reported to be prevalent, Reserve Bank of India has taken up specific branches for inspection. Banks have also initiated action against the Officials responsible for facilitating opening of new accounts in fictitious names either through active connivance or through non-adherence to prescribed procedure. Complaints have also been lodged with CBI/ police authorities.

[Translation]

Recovery of Coams

126. SHRI CHETAN P. S.
CHAUHAN:
DR. RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan disbursed by the public sector banks during 1992-93;

(b) the amount of this loan recovered so far;

(c) the reasons for not recovering the rest of the amount;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any such policy so that banks do not face any problem in recovering the loans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):
(a) and (b): The Outstanding credit of each Public Sector Banks as at the end of March 1992 and March 1993 is given in the attached Statement. The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for disbursements and corresponding recoveries. However the amount of overdues of public sector banks as at the end of September, 1992 (latest available) was Rs. 21022 crores.

(c) to (e). The Banks provide loans to credit worthy borrowers for taking up economically viable activity. The loans are sanctioned by banks when they are satisfied about the feasibility of the projects to be financed and after working out the cash flow and repayment schedules. However, in the business of banking, certain debts might go bad for various reasons resulting in overdues. Various guidelines have been issued by the RBI to the banks to minimise the amount of overdues and also to improve their recovery performance in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important guidelines are as follows:

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks on the other.
2. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and recovery.

3. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts.
4. Taking corrective action where advances are found to have become sticky.

Recently, 'the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993' has been enacted for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and for matters connected there-with or incidental thereto.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT SHOWING BANK-WISE AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING CREDIT OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS AS AT THE END OF MARCH 1992 - AND MARCH 1993

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Amount of outstanding Credit	
		March 1992	March 1993
1.	State Bank of India	28630	37077
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	1784	2236
3.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	1497	1765
4.	State Bank of Travancore	1415	1906
5.	State Bank of Patiala	1684	2002
6.	State Bank of Mysore	1109	1410
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	875	1046
8.	State Bank of Indore	807	943
9.	Central Bank of India	6292	7096
10.	Punjab National Bank	7479	9104

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Amount of outstanding Credit	
		March 1992	March 1993
11.	Bank of India	6383	7038
12.	Bank of Baroda	6842	9017
13.	Canara Bank	7438	7971
14.	Syndicate Bank	3373	3906
15.	UCO Bank	3386	3662
16.	Union Bank of India	3634	4356
17.	United Bank of India	2715	3042
18.	Indian Overseas Bank	2900	3481
19.	Indian Bank	4823	5205
20.	Dena Bank	1722	2088
21.	Bank of Maharashtra	1832	2074
22.	Allahabad Bank	3055	3895

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Amount of outstanding Credit	
		March 1992	March 1993
23.	Andhra Bank	1811	1951
24.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1419	1676
25.	New Bank of India	1055	1085
26.	Vijaya Bank	1483	1663
27.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1750	2235
28.	Corporation Bank	925	1235

[Translation]

losses incurred by RRBs during 1991-92 and 1992-93 State-wise is at attached.

Regional rural Banks

127. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

(d) The following steps have been taken to improve the performance of the RRBs:-

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks functioning in various parts of the country are incurring losses constantly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of losses incurred by these banks during 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92, State -wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make these banks profit earning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) and (b). A large number of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are incurring losses. The reasons for incurring losses by RRBs can broadly be identified as narrow or negative margin on lending, high fixed overheads, high servicing cost because of a large number of small accounts, and low productivity per employee.

(c) The statement showing extent of

i) with effect from September, 1992, RRBs have been allowed to finance non-target group borrowers to an extent not exceeding 40 percent of their fresh loans;

ii) all sponsor banks have been instructed to pay a minimum of 13.5 percent interest on SLR term deposits and short term deposits of RRBs kept with them;

iii) with effect from April, 1993, all commercial banks have been advised by Reserve Bank of India to revise upward the interest rates on current accounts balance maintained by RRBs from 6.5 percent to 7.5 percent;

iv) Regional Rural Banks have been allowed to draw cent percent refinance upto Rs. 10 lakhs for their loans to small and tiny industrial units with outlay not exceeding Rs. 15 lakhs;

v) Cent per cent refinance is also available to the RRBs for financing of small road transport operators.

STATEMENT

Details of Profit and Loss of Regional Rural Banks, State-wise as at the end of March, 1992 and March 1993

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	(Amount in lakhs of Rupees)	
		Year (1992)	Year (1993)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	- 719.18	- 1113.69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	- 23.02	- 12.98
3.	Assam	- 1061.34	- 1075.03
4.	Bihar	- 3384.74	- 4614.85
5.	Gujarat	- 730.04	- 966.39
6.	Haryana	- 390.40	- 594.63
7.	Himachal Pradesh	- 103.92	- 189.97
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	- 406.92	- 484.91
9.	Karnataka	- 1296.43	- 2091.98
10.	Kerala	- 9.96	- 195.60
11.	Madhya Pradesh	- 2956.47	- 4441.57
12.	Maharashtra	- 1189.32	- 2020.18
13.	Manipur	- 55.35	- 66.15

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	(Amount in lakhs of Rupees)	
		Profit/loss (Amount)	
		Year (1992)	Year (1993)
14.	Meghalaya	- 13.37	+ 12.03
15.	Mizoram	- 62.60	- 57.17
16.	Nagaland	- 15.25	- 15.27
17.	Orissa	- 1975.98	- 2689.59
18.	Punjab	- 57.27	- 31.73
19.	Rajasthan	- 2494.01	- 3081.94
20.	Tamil Nadu	- 456.23	- 627.13
21.	Tripura	- 2027.58	- 1104.86
22.	Uttar Pradesh	- 3834.01	- 3605.84
23.	West Bengal	- 1378.48	- 2255.33
	All India	-24641.87	-31324.76

(Note : Data for 1992-93 is provisional)

New Airports

128. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the National/ International Airports Authority of India for construction of new airports;

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

(c) the names of the places finally selected by the National/International Airports Authority of India for this purpose;

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested the Union Government to construct new airports;

(e) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). During the last six years surveys have been conducted by National Airports Authority at Tuticorin and Salem in Tamil Nadu, Tura in Meghalaya and Nedumbasseri in Kerala.

Preliminary surveys for site selection have also been conducted at the following places:-

- (1) Ajmer in Rajasthan;
 - (2) Bangalore in Karnataka;
 - (3) Darjeeling in West Bengal; and
 - (4) Lengpui in Nagaland;
- (c) At Tuticorin and Salem, sites were

selected and new airports have since been constructed.

At Tura, a site has been selected and an airport has been planned.

At Nedumbasseri, a site has been selected and detailed survey is in progress.

At Banagaloe, a site has been selected South Devanhalli for construction of a new airport.

(d) to (f). A request was received from the Government of Rajasthan for the construction of an airport at Ajmer. Technical team from National Airports Authority had inspected three sites and a site has been found suitable near village Sardana for construction of an airport. The State Government has been requested to acquire land and make it available to National Airports Authority free of cost.

[English]

Tourism Sector

129. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an encouraging response from foreign investors in the field of tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which have requested the Union Government for approval of such investment proposals during the last one year;

(d) the details of the proposals approved so far; and

(e) the plan allocation for tourism during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). With the liberalisation of economic policy 47 proposals involving a foreign investment of Rs. 335.08 crores have been approved in tourism sector.

(c) and (d). No specific proposals for foreign investment in tourism sector have been received in the Department of Tourism from the State Governments.

(e) An allocation of Rs. 272.00 crores has been made in the Eighth Five year Plan for tourism development in the country. Allocation of funds has not been made Statewise.

Companies securities

130. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new issues of securities of almost all the companies are being quoted below par;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into this matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). It would be incorrect to say that the new issues of almost all the companies

are being quoted below par. According to the information furnished by the Bombay Stock Exchange, which is the largest Stock Exchange in the country, most of the shares, which were listed on the Exchange between 1st April, 1993 and 21st October, 1993, quoted above their offer prices as on 2.12.1993.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government see no need to conduct any inquiry into this matter since the initial issue prices of securities and the prices in the stock exchange are determined by the issuers and market forces respectively. In any case, as noted above, most new issues are being quoted at or above the offer price.

Utilisation of World Bank Loan

131. PROF. PREM DHUMAL:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan, received from the World Bank during 1992-93;

(b) the purposes for which this loan was advanced;

(c) whether the entire loan amount has been utilised for the purposes for which it was sanctioned;

(d) if so, the extent of amount utilised;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints to the effect that the

loan amount has been utilised for other purposes;

(f) if so, the details thereof ; and

(g) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) and (b) During 1992-93 projects totaling US\$ 2008 million were approved by the World Bank. These loans/Credits are project tied and given to support different sectors of Indian economy viz. Agriculture, Infrastructure, Energy and Social Sectors. In addition US\$ 500 million was provided as adjustment Credit under SSN.

(c) and (d). Of the total funds provided in 1992-93, utilisation upto 30.9.93 was US\$ 324.1 million and the balance is expected to be utilised by the loan/ credit closing dates.

(e) to (g). No complaints have been received so far, regarding diversion of loan amounts. The funds are disbursed by the World Bank on a reimbursement basis, in accordance with the purposes for which they have been provided. Any deviation would be pointed out at the time of audit.

Air Taxi Operators

132. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

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

(a) whether four major private airlines have offered to pay in hard currency to the Indian Airlines for maintenance and repair works on their aircraft;

(b) whether a meeting between the Indian Airlines and the air taxi operators was held in the month of September, 1993;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the meeting;

(d) whether all the dues from the private airlines have been recovered;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f). So far as Indian Airlines is concerned no amount is outstanding against any air taxi operator on account of maintenance/ repair work.

Export of Garments

133. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the Export of Garments to non-quota countries;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any new policy to increase export of garments to non-quota countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the other incentives being provided or proposed to be provided under the new garment export policy?

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES(SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY)(a) and (b). Export of garments to non-quota countries during the last three years were as shown below:-

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

YEAR	QUANTITY (In Lakh pcs)	VALUE (In Rs. Crores)
1990-91	18.64	1121.52
1991-92	23.88	1683.26
1992-93	25.35	2028.87

Source: (Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi)

wise, as on October 31, 1993;

(c)to(e). Government have announced a new long term Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy for the period 1994-1996 under which 10% of the annual quotas have been earmarked for exporters of non-quota items to quota countries and for exports to non-quota countries under the Non-Quota-Exporters Entitlement(NQE) System.

(b) the outstanding internal and external debt correspondingly as in October 1993,1992,1991, respectively;

(c)the extent of annual interest and service charges payment on the outstanding debt as on October 31, 1993; and

[Translation]

(d) the estimated additional debts likely to be incurred during 1993-94?

'Internal and External Debt'

134. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI. M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Accounts relating to the internal and external debt are finalised on financial year basis. Accordingly, details of internal debt including other liabilities and external debt on Government account outstanding as on 31st March of 1991, 1992,1993 are as under:-

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the internal and external debt source-

(Rs. in crores)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93(RE)
internal Debt and other liabilities of the Central Government	282733	317414	354964
Of which the major components are			
Market Loans	70565	78075	81745
91 Days Treasury Bills	72953	79840	85174
Small Savings	50100	55754	59954
Provident Funds	11670	13927	16717
Special Deposits	33588	39686	47106
Others	43857	50132	64188
*External Debt on Government account at rates of exchange for the relevant years	61494	104158	112525
Multilatera Sources	38429	63787	71950
Bilateral Sources	23065	40371	40575

* Excludes rupee debt liabilities to the former USSR on account of stores/equipment supplied.

(c) interest payment on in the current year 1993-94 (BE) are estimated as follows:-

(Rs. in Crores)

(i) Internal Debt	34354
(ii) External Debt on Govt. account including commitment charges	3946
Total	38000

(d) Additional internal debt and other liabilities and external debt on Government

account estimated to be included as follows:

<i>Net internal debt and other liabilities</i>	<i>BE 1993-94</i>
	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
Market loans	3700
91 days treasury Bills	4314
364 Days treasury Bills	6000
Gold Bond	300
Small Saving	5500
State Provident Funds	1600
Special Deposits of non-Government PFLIC, GIC etc.	8420
Others	1671
Net External debt on government account	5454
Total	36959

[English]

Shopping Centres

135. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether various shopping centres are proposed to be set up on different parts of the country to promote India as a shopping destination of the nineties to attract more international tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have been asked to provide land for these centres;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e). In the regional meetings of State Ministers held recently, the States were advised to identify pieces of land in tourist centres to set up shopping centres by the private sector.

Child Labour

136. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than fifty thousand children are presently employed in glass

and bangles industries in Ferozabad district of Uttar Pradesh and are required to work in close proximity to very high temperature:

(b) if so, whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has opined that constant proximity to high temperature could lead to various diseases and infection of lungs:

(c) if so, whether the glass and bangles industries have not been categorised as hazardous industries in the Child Labour Regulation and Abolition Act, 1986; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the government to declare such industries as hazardous and prohibit employment of children in those industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The 1981 Census does not indicate industry-wise number of child labour. 1991 Census figures pertaining to child labour are not yet available. However, it is a fact that children are working in the glass and bangle industries of Ferozabad.

(b) to (d). Technical Advisory Committee on Child Labour headed by Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research has recommended the inclusion of glass industry in the Schedule of prohibited occupations/ processes under the Act as it is hazardous to the health of the working children. Govt. have accepted the recommendation and issued preliminary notification on 5.10.93 to include, inter-alia, glass industry in the Schedule of prohibited occupations/ processes.

[Translation]

Loan to SC's/ST's/ and Weaker Sections

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

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has directed the nationalised banks to sanction only 10 per cent of their total advances to Scheduled -Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Weaker Sections where as the percentage of the said sections is far more;

(b) if so, the percentage of loan out of the total loan sanctioned to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Weaker Sections During the last three years:

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the loan percentage for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Weaker Sections; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

(a) to (d). In terms of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s guidelines all public sector banks are required to extend atleast 10% of their total credit or 25% of their priority sector advances to weaker sections, including Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes. No separate targets are prescribed for banks lending to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes. However, in the Government's various poverty alleviation programmes separate targets have been prescribed for grant of financial assistance to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes as indicated below:

1.	Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP)	50% of total families assisted and financial investment should be commensurate with the percentage of their physical coverage
2.	Differential Rate of Interest (DRI)	40% of the total DRI Advances.
3.	Self Employment Scheme for Educated unemployed Youth (SEEUY)	30% of the number of the loan sanctioned
4.	Scheme for Urban Micro Enterprises(SUME)	Given weight age in proportion to their population share.
5.	Prime Minister Rojgar Yojna (PMRY)	22.5% of the persons assisted.

Percentage share of priority sector advances by public sector banks to weaker sections out of their total priority sector advances during the years ended March

1991, 1992 and 1993 alongwith percentage share of priority sector advances to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes is given below:

Year ended March	% of priority sector advances to weaker sections to total priority sector advances	% of priority sector advances to SCs/ STs to total priority sector advances.
1991	24.27%	7.78
1992	24.41%	8.41
1993	24.39%	8.51

Indian Airlines

138. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the passengers and cargo, separately, carried by the Indian Airlines on the international flights so far during 1993-94;

(b) the amount of revenue earned therefrom;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines is operating satisfactorily on international routes in competition with the other international carriers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken or proposed to

be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on

the table of the House.

(c) to (e). Indian Airlines is earning surplus over cash cost on all the sectors in which it is operating in competition with other international carriers.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF PASSENGERS AND CARGO ON INTERNATIONAL SECTORS (APRIL '93 TO OCTOBER '93)

S. No.	Sectors	No. of Passengers	Passenger Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)	Cargo Weight (Kg.)	Cargo Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Calcutta - Chittagong	4453	47.24	29556	3.02
2.	Kathmandu - Varanasi	30814	293.79	3000	0.29
3.	Madras - Singapore	17065	919.74	896168	913.82
4.	Madras - Colombo	2702	40.56	9333	1.27
5.	Bombay - Karachi	9019	202.8	141562	29.73
6.	Calcutta - Dacca	26036	202.69	328531	28.53
7.	Calcutta - Bangkok	26870	8/9.3	427912	298.02
8.	Calcutta - Kathmandu	21876	243.45	191338	31.09
9.	Delhi - Kathmandu	43497	799.16	407940	84.87
10.	Trivandrum - Colombo	14476	172.64	15153	1.78

S. No.	Sectors	No. of Passengers	Passenger Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)	Cargo Weight (Kg.)	Cargo Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)
11.	Trivandrum - Male	41565	671.73	682651	112.44
12.	Madras - Colombo	52741	888.76	423006	69.74
13.	Calicut - Sharjah	65881	6588.1	4510	4.77
14.	Delhi - Bangkok	238	22.16	16981	16.17
	Total	357233	11972.12	3577641	1595.54

Handloom Weavers

139. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme to benefit handloom weavers in the country during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details and modalities that have been decided to implement those schemes;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any action plan under the rural development programmes; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

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

(b) Besides the various Plan Schemes of Ministry of Textiles, a scheme for setting up of 3000 Handloom Development Centres, to be implemented in the next four years, starting from 1993-94 has been drawn up. Of these, 500 Centres would be equipped with Quality Dyeing Unit. This is a Central Plan Scheme designed to take care of the basic problems of the handloom weavers relating to supply of hank yarn, improved dyes & chemicals, design development, training and marketing. The scheme is intended to benefit weavers engaged on 7.5 lakh looms and to provide long terms sustained employment to the weavers in the handloom sector. Besides, a scheme has been drawn up to enhance flow of assistance to the handloom sector from the ongoing schemes of Ministry of Rural Development. The components of the scheme include, coverage of loomless weavers under

IRDP, provision of workshed-cum-houses to weavers belonging to SC/ST under JRY, training of handloom weavers under TRYSEM and setting up of common facility centres with assistance from IRDP and JRY.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The action plan drawn up proposes to cover 3.27 lakh weavers under IRDP, 1.20 lakh weavers under JRY, 1.00 lakh weavers under TRYSEM and setting up of 1000 common facility centres. These targets are sought to be achieved over the next three year period beginning from 1993-94.

[English]

Hindustan Travels and Tours Pvt. Ltd.

140. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Travels and Tours Pvt. Ltd. is still functioning as the general sales agents(GSA) for the Air-India;

(b) if so, the period and the regions/ countries for which they have been operating as the GSA;

(c) whether any investigation has been made into the complaints about alleged fraudulent dealings by the Hindustan Travels and Tours Pvt. Ltd. which were also commented upon by the Committee on Public Undertakings in their 53rd Report (6th Lok Sabha);

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Air India terminated its agency agreement with M/s Hindustan Travels & Tours Ltd. in July, 1978. GSA agreement of Air India with M/s Hindustan Travels Ltd. against whom there were allegations of fraudulent business activities was terminated in April 1986, after investigation.

[Translation]

Welfare of Beedi Workers

1266. SHRI ANAND AMIRWAR: Will

the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.4788 on August 27, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding the number of Beedi workers likely to be benefited from the schemes/programmes launched by the Government for the welfare of beedi workers during the current year has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b).

	<i>Estimated number of beneficiaries 93-94</i>
(1) Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers	10.45 lakhs
(2) Health	15.58 lakhs
(3) Education	95,000
(4) Maternity Benefit Scheme	15,000
(5) Housing	8,500

(c) Question does not arise

[English]

Welfare Scheme for the Agricultural Labour in Kerala

1267. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes approved by the Union Government for the agricultural labour in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the agricultural labourers have been benefited by these schemes; and

(c) if not, whether the Government pro-

pose to take any further steps in this regard?

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

[*Translation*]

Funds for Cooperative Spinning Mills in Maharashtra

1268. SHRI GOVINDRAONIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Central Financial Institutions to sanction long term loan for the establishment of the proposed cooperative mills in that State;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether no progress has been made despite assurances made; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) to (d). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) have reported that they have received six applications for setting up spinning mills in the co-operative sector in Maharashtra. IDBI have further stated that in the context of the large spinning capacity already existing, the Financial Institutions have been selective in supporting grass root spinning mills. Only projects set up by promoters having adequate experience in textile industry and envisaging export of yarn are considered for assis-

tance. Keeping in view the poor performance and credit record of existing co-operative spinning mills in Maharashtra and the fact that co-operative spinning mills generally cater to the domestic market, IDBI has conveyed its reservations to the Government of Maharashtra about extending support to new spinning mills in the co-operative sector.

[*English*]

World Bank's Observations on Banking System

1269. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a recent study made on the country's banking system, the World Bank has observed that the loan waiver scheme of the Centre is expected to cost the Government a total of Rs.4800 crore and the scheme has been responsible in a big way for creating a general psychology of non-payment in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of the observations made by the World Bank; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

Export of Cotton

1270 SHRI R.DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up plans to encourage cotton exports during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the annual target for export of cotton in the Eighth Plan; and

(c) the expected contribution of cotton for exports from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). The Cotton exports are determined by factors, such as domestic availability of raw material, trend of prices, with reference to the interest of both cotton growers and domestic textile industry and the interest of decentralised handloom and powerloom sector. In pursuance of the decision of the Cabinet Committee on Exports Strategy the Government releases minimum five lakh bales of cotton for export at the commencement of every cotton season, (September to August). Subject to adjustment being made after the detailed crop estimates are available. No annual target for exports of cotton for the Eighth Plan period has accordingly been fixed.

(c) Out of four lakh bales of staple cotton released for exports during the current season, the allocation of quota for the State of Andhra Pradesh is 15,000 bales of 170 kg. each.

Cut in Statutory Liquidity Ratio

1271. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Reserve Bank of India has announced a cut in the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) recently;

(b) if so, the extent to which the reduc-

tion has been made and the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of the above reduction on the lendable resources of the banks;

(d) whether the industrial sector has opposed the cut in SLR; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) With effect from the fortnight beginning from 16th October '93 upto the level of domestic net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) outstanding as on 17th September '93, the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) has been fixed as 34.75% and for any increase in liabilities above 17th September '93 level the SLR would be 25%. As regards, non-resident liabilities, the SLR required to be maintained continues to be 30% of NDTL as on last Friday of the second preceding fortnight. This has been done in pursuance of the medium term policy objective of reducing the SLR to 25% in the next three years as also to ensure that adequate support is provided by the banking sector to the revival of output.

(c) The reduction in SLR might augment lendable resources of banks by about Rs. 3050 crores.

(d) Reserve Bank of India have no information regarding any opposition from industry to the reduction in SLR.

(e) Does not arise.

LIC Agent

1272. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benami agents have brought disrepute to the Life Insurance Corporation of India as they invariably fail to provide service to the insured as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 9, 1993:

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

(c) whether any investigation has been made to identify such agents;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to associate educated unemployed youths with LIC to give them self-employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMAD) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The appointment of agents is governed by LIC (Agents) Rules, 1972 which, *inter alia*, lays down the basic qualification for the appointment of agents. The spouses of employees working in Govt. and public sector undertakings, including the LIC are not eligible for being appointed as agents. It is not correct to conclude that the spouses of other professionals like doctors, etc. who are appointed as agents are all "Benami" and are not rendering adequate service to the clients. Since such agents are carefully selected after holding an interview by the Development Officers as well as the

Branch Managers and also imparted training from time to time, the LIC reported that most of such agents do render proper service to their clientele. In view of this, no need has arisen for the LIC to investigate and identify such 'benami' agents. However, whenever any specific instance of this nature is brought to the notice of the LIC, the matter is investigated and necessary action including termination of agency where warranted, is taken by the LIC.

(f) Taking insurance agency as a vocation or profession is open to all who have completed 18 years of age and have passed matriculation or equivalent examination in case of agents in urban areas; and a pass in the VIII Standard in case of agents in rural areas. Besides, the LIC have also introduced a Scheme known as "Career Agents Scheme" under which candidates are selected through open examination system and those selected for urban areas are given a stipend for a period of 3 years and those selected for rural areas get a stipend for a period of 2 years. The educational qualification required for urban area is graduation of any recognised university and in rural areas pass in the Matriculation Examination. These measures taken by the LIC, are aimed at promoting self-employment of educated unemployed youth.

New International Terminal at Calcutta Airport

1273. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new international terminal at Calcutta airport has been commissioned;

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

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

(d) whether any agreements have been signed during the current year for more international flights through Calcutta; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c). The new terminal complex at Calcutta airport is scheduled to be completed in June, 1994. The delay has been mainly due to revision of scope of work, removal and relocation of existing structures and interference of local antisocial elements.

(d) and (e). During the current year an agreement has been signed with Kazakh Airways granting traffic rights to Calcutta. British Airways and Taron (Romanian Airline) have also been given additional rights to operate to Calcutta.

Jolly Grant Airfield

1274. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1123 on July 30, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has since released the additional land;

(b) if not, the follow up action taken in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the necessary safeguards and expansion measures are expected to be completed?

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

(b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been reminded to make available the required land, free of cost, to National Airports Authority for execution of the expansion plan.

(c) The upgradation of the airport at Dehradun aerodrome would take about 30 months from the date the land is made available to the National Airports Authority by the State Government.

Black Bond Scheme For Petroleum Sector

1275. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for a Black Bond Scheme for the Petroleum sector was submitted to his Ministry for approval;

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto;

(c) whether the proposal has been approved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to it?

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

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

Air Pact With Korea

1276. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any air pact has been signed between India and Korea; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Air Services Agreement between India and Republic of Korea (South Korea) was signed on 16.3.1992. The agreement provides that the designated airlines of both contracting parties can operate two weekly services each on specified routes.

Jute Export

1277. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total export earning from jute products during the last three years;

(b) whether possibility has been explored to increase the export of jute products; and

(c) if so, the prospect of the export of jute products during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Export earnings from jute products during the last three years was as follows:-

Year	(Rs crores)
1990-91	298.37

Year	(Rs crores)
1991-92	388.03
1992-93	358.10

(Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(b) and (c). Government have fixed a target for the export of jute goods worth Rs. 1,000 crores in the terminal year of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Government have taken a number of measures to increase exports of jute and jute goods including, inter-alia, participating in international fairs, organising buyers-sellers' meets, commissioning of market studies, liaising with importers and end users, serving trade and industry with commercial intelligence and publicity campaigns, funding R&D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products to suit consumer preferences, linking of DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags with export obligation, External Market Assistance Scheme, Loss Sharing Scheme on participation in global tenders, etc.

Loans to Companies Against Shares

1278. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow loans to companies against shares; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b). As per the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) extant guidelines, advances against primary security of shares/debentures can be granted only to :-

- (i) Individuals,
- (ii) stock and share brokers,
- (iii) trusts and endowments, and
- (iv) investment companies,

RBI does not have any proposal at present to amend the existing guidelines

World Bank's Report on Commercial Banks

1279. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has estimated that the overdues in the rural credits portfolio of the commercial banks in India are currently at about 50 per cent of total payments of principal and interest and the important contributory factors have been lack of bank autonomy and pervasive political interference;

(b) if so, the details of the World Bank report in this regard alongwith the suggestions made therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

Import of Rough Diamond and Export of Polished Diamond.

1280. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of rough diamonds imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the total value of polished diamonds exported during the above period;

(c) the major centres of the diamond industry and the number of workers engaged in the industry;

(d) the major source of rough diamonds and the major market's for polished diamonds; and

(e) the target set for the current Five year Plan for the export of polished diamonds?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHEI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)(a) The total value of rough diamonds imported during the last three years is:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. crores</i>
1990-91	3544
1991-92	4678
1992-93	6768

(b) The exports of cut and polished diamonds during the last three years are:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. crores</i>
1990-91	4739
1991-92	6163
1992-93	8316

(c) The major centres of the diamond industry in India are Surat, Navsari, Bhavanagar in Gujarat and Bombay in Maharashtra. The total number of workers engaged in the diamond industry is estimated to be about 6 lakhs.

(d) The major sources of rough diamonds to the diamond industry in India are Antwerp and London. The major markets for cut and polished diamonds are USA, Japan, Belgium and Hong Kong.

(e) Export targets for cut and polished diamonds are fixed every year taking into account the conditions prevailing in markets abroad. The target for the year 1993-94 is Rs. 9378 crores.

Anti Dumping Duties

1281. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether US and EEC have imposed anti dumping duties on Indian products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). USA has imposed anti-dumping duties on imports of steel pipes & tubes; sulfanilic acid; and stainless steel wire rod from India. EEC has imposed anti-dumping duties on imports of Oxalic acid; polyester yarn; and synthetic fibers of polyesters from India.

(c) As anti dumping actions are directed

at the export pricing policies of individual companies, the main role of the government is to see that such actions are carried out in accordance with the multilaterally agreed disciplines on the subject.

Modernisation of NTC Mills

1282. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a new plan for the modernisation of certain sick mills of the National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the mills proposed to be modernised; and

(c) the funds earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). The four Textile Research Associations namely, ATIRA, BTRA, SITRA & NITRA have, on the directions of the Ministry Textiles, prepared fresh modernisation plans for the revival of NTC mills which have not yet been finalised.

[Translation]

Donations by Banks

1283. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3723 on August 20, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding donations by the banks for charity purposes have since been collected;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-

MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given in the statement.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above

STATEMENT

Donations made by Public Sector Banks from 1990-91 onwards

Name of the Bank	(Rs. in thousands)					Remarks
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto 20.8.93)		
1. Andhra Bank	787	180	104	-		
2. Canara Bank	110	249	255	204		
3. Central Bank of India	1012	986	2193	85		Figures for charity
4. Corporation Bank	30	42	48	20		Purposes only
	(1990)					
5. Dena Bank	5	77	159	-		
6. Indian Bank	1608	2092	3595	575		
7. Syndicate Bank	328	475	288	-		
8. Union Bank of India	187	285	251	102		
9. Vijaya Bank	36	11	15	-		

Name of the Bank	(Rs. in thousands)				Remarks
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto 20.8.93)	
10. Allahabad Bank	21	435	100	-	
11. Bank of Baroda	1601	1671	4375	450	
12. Bank of India	1170	2050	5291	-	
	(1990)	(1991)			
13. Bank of Maharashtra	43	354	18	10	
14. Indian Overseas Bank	689	681	637	86	
15. New Bank of India	-	-	-	-	
(Since amalgamated with Punjab National Bank)					
16. Oriental Bank of Commerce	89	663	648	3	
17. Punjab National Bank	455	1880	12547	759	
18. Punjab & Sind Bank	50	-	-	-	
19. United Bank of India	83	94	45	-	
20. UCO Bank	-	10	-	-	

Name of the Bank	(Rs. in thousands)				Remarks
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto 20.8.93)	
21. State Bank of India	16626	18955	20881	972	
22. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	29	40	20	-	
23. State Bank of Hyderabad	1199	1670	1080	-	
24. State bank of Indore	-	145	38	-	
25. State Bank of Mysore	(1990) 213	(1991) 143	(1992) 107	(1993) 126	
26. State Bank of Patiala	19	30	168	100	
27. State Bank of Saurashtra	290	30	425	54	
28. State Bank of Travancore	160	66	169	34	

Note : 1. Figures for State Bank of Indore are for calendar years.

2. Figures for Bank of India for 1990-91 & 1991-92 are for calendar years 1990 & 1991.

3. Figure for Corporation Bank for 1990-91 is for calendar year 1990.

Unemployed Registered with Employment Exchanges

1284. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants registered with the employment exchanges for more than three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons out of them whose names were not sponsored even once against the vacancies during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to fix any time limit for sponsoring the names of those applicants by the employment exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA)(a) and (b). Data regarding the period during which the job-seekers remained on the live register is not maintained. However, the number of job-seekers, not all of whom were necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in the country, State-wise, as on 31st July, 1993 is given in the attached statement.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Number of job-seekers on the live register of employment exchange in the country as on 31st July, 1993.

(In thousands)

*States/Union
Territory*

*Number on live
Register as on
31st July, 1993*

STATES

1. Andhra Pradesh	3038.7
2. Arunachal Pradesh	5.5
3. Assam	1376.0
4. Bihar	3394.9
5. Goa	113.1
6. Gujarat	1021.0
7. Haryana	663.5
8. Himachal Pradesh	482.0

(In thousands)

<i>States/Union Territory</i>	<i>Number on live Register as on 31st July, 1993</i>
9. Jammu & Kashmir	134.2
10. Karnataka	1573.8
11. Kerala	4104.4
12. Madhya Pradesh	1904.0
13. Maharashtra	3419.3
14. Manipur	221.9
15. Meghalaya	26.0
16. Mizoram	38.0
17. Nagaland	20.8
18. Orissa	848.4
19. Punjab	700.3
20. Rajasthan	838.4
21. Sikkim*	
22. Tamil Nadu	3912.8
23. Tripura	187.9
24. Uttar Pradesh	2482.4
25. West Bengal	4703.1
<i>UNION TERRITORIES</i>	
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	18.7
27. Chandigarh	162.4

(In thousands)

<i>States/Union Territory</i>	<i>Number on live Register as on 31st July, 1993</i>
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.2
29. Delhi	906.3
30. Daman & Diu	2.8
31. Lakshadweep	6.9
32. Pondicherry	132.4
Total:	36443.4

- Note:- 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

*[English]***SEBI Rules Regarding Share Brokers**

1285. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 1844 on August 6, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued final rules regarding minimum capital requirement of share brokers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) and (b) SEBI has issued a letter dated 21st October, 1993 to the Stock Exchanges containing capital adequacy norms for stock

brokers and has asked the Stock Exchanges to make necessary provisions in their Bye-laws and Regulations for the purpose. The salient features of the norms are given in the attached statement.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Salient features of the Capital Adequacy Norms for Stock Brokers.

1. Components of capital

Capital adequacy requirements shall consist of the following two components:

(a) Base Minimum Capital:

This capital shall consist of a deposit to be maintained by a member with a stock exchange. The deposit prescribed for members of various stock exchanges is given below:

	<i>Stock Exchange</i>	<i>Deposit(Rs. lakhs)</i>
(i)	Bombay and Calcutta	5.00
(ii)	Ahmedabad and Delhi	3.50
(iii)	Other Recognised Stock Exchanges.	2.00

(b) *Additional or Optional Capital Related to the volume of Business:*

Additional or Optional Capital required of a member shall be such that at any point of time together with the Base Minimum Capital it is not less than 8% of the gross outstanding business of the member in the Exchange. The requirement of 8% may be phased in the following manner:

- (i) The requirement of 3% being enforced from 1.12.1993;
- (ii) The requirement will rise to 5% on 1.6.1994;
- (iii) the full requirement of 8% will be enforced from 1.12.1994;

2. *Calculation of Capital*

The capital of a member shall be computed as follows:-

-Capital+Free Reserves

- less non-allowable assets viz..

- (a) Fixed Assets.
- (b) Pledged Securities;
- (c) Member's Card,
- (d) Non-allowable Securities.
- (e) Bad deliveries,
- (f) Doubtful Debts and Advances*.
- (g) Prepaid Expenses,
- (h) Intangible Assets.
- (i) 30% of Marketable securities

*Explanation:- includes debts/ advances overdue for more than three months or given to associates.

3. *Business Exempt from Capital Requirements:*

Transactions in which a member broker deposits delivery within 48 hours with the Stock Exchange/clearing house/ or a designated depository are exempt from capital adequacy norms.

4. *Monitoring requirements:*

It shall be the responsibility of a member broker to inform the Exchange regarding compliance with additional capital maintained in the business. It shall also be the duty of the member-broker to intimate the Stock Exchange on reaching a gross outstanding position of 10 times his base and additional capital.

5. *Penalties:*

Failure to comply with the capital adequacy norms will invite penalties including fines and suspension from trading. Failure to inform the Stock Exchange on reaching the prescribed limits will also be punishable under the Bye-Laws of the Stock Exchange.

[Translation]

Official Language Act, 1976

1286. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether all officials and sections of his ministry are doing correspondence in Hindi language with the Hindi speaking States as per the Official Language Act, 1976; and

(b) if not, the steps taken to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) and (b). All correspondence in response to letters received in Hindi is being carried out in Hindi. However, percentage of original correspondence in Hindi with States/UTs in 'A' & 'B' regions is 61 (as on 30.9.93)

Efforts are being made to increase the usage of Hindi. This is being facilitated through training in typing and stenography, provision of necessary equipments and operation of incentive schemes. The progress is also reviewed periodically and necessary steps are taken to remove difficulties in the use of Hindi.

[English]

Procurement of Rubber by S. T. C.

1287. SHRI THAYILJOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber procured by the State Trading Corporation during 1992 and 1993 so far;

(b) the price per kilogram paid to the rubber growers;

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation propose to procure more rubber from the open market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) The quantity of rubber procured during 1992 and 1993 so far by the State Trading Corporation is as under:-

(MTs)

Year	RMA-4	RMA-5	Total
1992	6436.400	4373.050	10809.45
1993	NIL,	so far.	

(b) During 1992, the procurement price was as under:-

RMA-4 -Rs. 20.95p. per kg.

RMA-5 -Rs. 20.45p. per kg.

(c) and (d) It is too early to indicate the position regarding procurement of rubber from the open market at present. As and

when the need arises, the procurement will be made at lower limit of the price band on the basis of the existing Bench Mark Price.

[Translation]

Resignation by I. A. and A. I. Pilots

1288. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOUR-

ISM be pleased to state:

[English]

(a) whether the pilots of the Indian Airlines and the Air India are tendering their resignation and joining the private air services;

(b) if so, the number of pilots who left their services from those organisations during 1992 and 1993 so far;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the tendency?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c). During 1992 and 1993 (upto 31.10.93), 5 Air India pilots left the airline; Air India does not have information whether they have joined any private airline. During this period, 110 pilots have left Indian Airlines; many of them have joined Air Taxi operators who offered lucrative remunerations.

(d) Guidelines for air taxi operators have been amended by AIC No. 3 of 1993 to provide that no air taxi operators shall employ anyone already serving any of the national carriers without obtaining a 'No Objection Certificate' from the existing employer.

Indian Airlines has also amended its service regulations requiring the employees to give 6 months' notice for resigning. Other service conditions of pilots like the amount of Bond to be executed have also been amended to prevent further exodus of trained pilots from Indian Airlines. Further Indian Airlines has introduced a Publicity linked payment scheme to improve the remunerations of its pilots.

National Textile Mills

1289. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have directed the National Textile Corporation not to allocate working capital to its 34 sick mills proposed for closures or merger;

(b) if so, the details of directive issued and the names of the mills likely to be affected as a result thereof;

(c) the number of workers likely to be retrenched, unit-wise and the time schedule fixed for their rehabilitation;

(d) the details of funds released to the affected textile workers from the Central fund for their rehabilitation;

(e) the details of the representation received by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY) (a) and (b). Government have advised National Textile Corporation to invest the budgetary support provided to it to meet its requirement of working capital, only in such mills where it is possible to generate cash contribution to reduce losses. It has been clarified that this restriction does not apply to payment of statutory and obligatory dues.

(c) to (f). NTC does not propose to retrench any of its workers. A Voluntary Retirement Scheme is under implementa-

tion in NTC to enable it to rationalise its surplus manpower. An amount of Rs. 258 crores has been released to NTC so far, for payment of ex-gratia etc. to workers rationalised under VRS. A scheme has also been initiated to assist the rationalised workers of NTC to set up powerloom/ reeling units for self employment.

Trade Information Centres

1290. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to set up Trade Information Centre in the States with joint-financing by Industry and States for faster and more effective dissemination of market information;

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands for;

(c) in view of the Globalisation Policy, what special efforts have been made by the Government during the recent past to expand reorient and modernise the infrastructure network essential for promotion of trade and export activities;

(d) the details of incentives provided by the Government during the current year and the proposals under consideration of the Government to boost the exports; and

(e) the details of export policy and the results achieved thereunder so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constant efforts are being made to modernise and improve the working of sea ports, airports, inland container depots, telecommunication power and other transport logistics. Private Sector is being associated to supplement Government's efforts in all these sectors. The State Governments are also being involved in the modernisation of infrastructure. A Scheme known as Export Promotion Industrial Parks Scheme has been evolved which will provide financial assistance to the States for infrastructural developments.

(d) Steps taken by the Government during the current year to increase exports include introduction of the unified market determined exchange rate, revision of Export-Import Policy for 1992-97 giving particular attention to simplification and streamlining of policy and procedures, substantial reduction in import licensing and other discretionary controls, reduction of tariff levels, reduction in the interest rate on export credit etc.

(e) : The Export-Import Policy 1992-97 permits all goods to be exported subject only to a Negative List of Exports. The Policy facilitates access to all export-linked imports through various schemes such as Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Duty Exemption Scheme and Duty Draw Back, under which all crucial inputs and capital goods etc. required for export production are provided at international/near-international prices. As a result of these measures, exports have registered a growth of 20% during April-October, 1993 over the corresponding period last year.

Trivandrum International Airport

1291. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount proposed to be spent for the extension of the runway of the Trivandrum International Airport as a part of its total expansion project;

(b) the amount spent so far;

(c) the target date fixed for the completion of the runway;

(d) whether this runway will have all the facilities of the international standard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c). International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) have plans for expansion of runway at Trivandrum airport. Estimates for the project and schedule for completion of the work will be drawn up after the land is made available to IAAI by the State Government.

(d) and (e) : At present, following facilities have been provided at Trivandrum Airport:-

- (i) High intensity runway edge lights.
- (ii) Threshold lights.
- (iii) Runway end lights;
- (iv) Visual Approach Slope Indicator System.
- (v) Associated runway markings.

It is proposed to install a state of the art Radar and Doppler Very High Omni Range.

Preferential Trade Agreement among SAARC Countries.

1292. SHRI A JAYAMOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of SAARC countries recently agreed to implement the preferential trade agreement to ensure economic development of the member countries; and

(b) if so, the steps initiated by the Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b). The member countries of SAARC signed the framework agreement for the establishment of a South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement at Dhaka in April 1993 to promote and sustain mutual trade and economic cooperation among Contracting States through exchange of concessions. In accordance with agreement Contracting States have now to take the next step of negotiating tariff preferences on a product by product basis. Accordingly the process of exchanging lists of products of export interest and relevant information thereon among member States has been initiated.

The committee on Economic Cooperation in its fourth meeting held at Dhaka on 21-22 November, 1993 urged the member states to complete the process of exchange of lists of items of export interest expeditiously so that tariff preferences could be negotiated.

Seizure of Trawlers by SCICI

1293. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain trawlers were seized by the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India (SCICI);

(b) if so, whether these trawlers have been restored to its original owners;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to rehabilitate the fishing and related sectors?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir. However, trawlers were seized by the Receiver, appointed by the Govt. of India, under the powers conferred in terms of the provisions of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC) (Abolition) Act, 1986.

(b) : Out of 16 trawlers seized by the Receiver two have been restored to their original owners under rehabilitation scheme, while four were auctioned by the Receiver.

(c) : The remaining ten trawlers were not returned to their owners for either of the following reasons:-

(a): Companies did not apply for rehabilitation.

(b): Companies could not fulfil the conditions stipulated under the rehabilitation scheme.

(d) : The Government of India an-

nounced a rehabilitation scheme on 4.4.1991 for the fishing companies assisted by erstwhile SDFC. Further relaxations were made in the scheme by the Govt. in April, 1992 in response to requests from the Industry. The scheme envisages various concessions which include waiver of penal interest, recapitalisation of overdue amounts repayable over the balance life of the vessel, additional financial assistance for meeting increased cost of acquisition of vessels and assistance for repairs and modifications of vessels. On receipt of further representation from deep sea fishing industry, the Govt. of India have constituted a High Level Technical Committee in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to look into the problems of the Industry.

Export of Horticultural products.

1294. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for introduction of a new programme for export of horticultural products under Special Export Enhancement Programme;

(b) if so, the estimated investments to be made in the said programme; and

(c) the outlay in the Seventh and Eighth plan period for the Horticulture sector's export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for investment of about Rs. 545 crores for strengthening infrastructure for horticulture exports. Government is laying

special emphasis on development of horticulture and horticultural exports during the Eighth Plan and, therefore, the outlay for horticulture development during the Eighth Plan has been kept at Rs. 1000 crores as against an expenditure of about Rs. 25 crores for this sector during the Seventh Plan period.

Employment of Landless Labourers

1295. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any evaluation of the schemes implemented for providing employment to the landless labourers;

(b) whether the Government have received any report from the States in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) to (d). There is no such scheme for providing employment exclusively to the landless labourers. Therefore, no evaluation has been made by the government. However, Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) which is being implemented since 1.4.89 throughout the country provides wage employment in rural areas. Though the target groups are the people below the poverty line, the landless labourers definitely stand to benefit from this programme for which a quick study was conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) in 1991-92. On 2nd October, 1993 another new scheme known as Employment Assur-

ance Scheme (EAS) has been launched in 1752 identified backward blocks of 257 districts. This new Scheme is also expected to benefit agricultural labourers in the remote and poorest areas of the Country.

Export of Sesame Seeds.

1296. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the export of sesame seeds; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of sesame seeds during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) export of sesame seeds are allowed without licence. Recent measures which have enhanced the competitiveness of agricultural exports including sesame seed are the introduction of a unified exchange rate and simplification of pre-shipment inspection procedures.

With the objective of meeting international quality standards, Government has banned the use of pesticides such as DDT and BHC in the production of oilseeds. Further, the State Governments and exporters have been advised to launch necessary programmes to educate the farmers against the use of pesticides. Adoption of improved cleaning methods and quality control methods are being encouraged.

The exporters are also being encour-

aged to build up better rapport with the importers in the various markets.

Development of Gomatagiri

1297. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released any amount during 1992-93 for the development of Gomatagiri, a famous tourist place for Jains, in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any request from the State Government for release of funds during 1993-94 for the development of Gomatagiri and for providing facilities to tourists there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (e). The State Government of Karnataka have not submitted any proposal to the Central Department of Tourism seeking financial assistance for development of Gomatagri during 1992-93 and 1993-94.

[*Translation*]

'Profit Centre' of MMTC.

1298. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals

Trading Corporation of India Limited has setup a 'Profit Centre' in their organisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) : In view of the liberalisation of the economy and the consequent need for a greater emphasis on non-canalised trade, reduction of expenditure and maximisation of profits, MMTC has organised itself into several profit centres encompassing a variety of areas. These include existing lines of business like minerals, metals, diamond-gems and jewellery, fertilizer, diversification in new lines of business including Agro Products, Marine Products, Textiles, Leather and Chemicals, Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, and in other areas like Engineering Goods, Meat and Poultry Products, and Building Materials etc. Each profit centre will have sufficient operational independence to take appropriate trading decisions. Further, the profit centres shall perform the functions of exports, imports and domestic marketing for their entire product range.

[*English*]

Silk Projects in Assam

1299. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the districts of Assam where silk projects are being implemented by the Central Silk Board;

(b) whether the Board propose to implement such projects in other districts of the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI, G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) Under the World Bank & Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project, the Central Silk Board is implementing a pilot sericulture project in Jorhat & Sibsagar districts of Assam.

(b) to (d). The State of Assam is one of the 12 non-traditional States selected for implementation of National Sericulture Project. In all these States, the World Bank has approved the implementation of the project in only one or two districts and there is no scope for inclusion of additional districts under this project. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Department, the Central Silk Board continues to extend the necessary Research, Extension, Training & Infrastructural support for overall development of sericulture in the State of Assam.

[English]

Integrated Tourism Development in Kerala

1300. SHRI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals for financial assistance for integrated tourism development plan for Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) whether the Union Government have permitted or propose to permit the invest-

ment by the Non-resident Indians in such projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c). Under the National Action Plan for Tourism, Bekal Beach in the State of Kerala has been identified as Special Tourism Area for intensive development. A Special Tourism Area Development Authority for Bekal has been constituted to identify the various aspects for development of the area.

(d) The Central Department of Tourism has not received any such proposal in this regard.

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

Black Money

1301. SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare attractive offers to black money hoarders so that they can convert the hoardings into white money; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b). The Government is not considering any proposal for conversion of black money into white money at present.

[Translation]

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Textile Mills1302. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills functioning in the country as on October 31, 1993, State-wise;

(b) the number of textile mills closed down during each of the last three years and the number of employees rendered jobless as a result thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps for their rehabilitation; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES(SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) As on 31.10.93, there were 1166 Cotton/ Man-made Fibre Textile Mills, in the Country. A Statement indicating State-wise number of Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills is given in the attached statement-I.

(b) No Mill has been closed under ID Act. Statement of Mills closed for various other reasons during the last three years is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) and (d). Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund(TWRF) has been set up to provide interim relief to the workers rendered jobless due to permanent/ partial closure of a mill.

STATEMENT-I*State-wise Number of Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills in the Country as on 31.10.93*

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Number of Textile Mills (Total)</i>
1.	Andra Pradesh	72
2.	Assam	5
3.	Bihar	9
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	128
6.	Haryana	16
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
9.	Karnataka	11

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Number of Textile Mills (Total)</i>
10.	Kerala	30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	31
12.	Maharashtra	141
13.	Manipur	1
14.	Orissa	14
15.	Punjab	26
16.	Rajasthan	36
17.	Tamil Nadu	501
18.	Uttar Pradesh	55
19.	West Bengal	39
UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	Delhi	3
2.	Pondicherry	9
3.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1
Grand Total		1166

STATEMENT

NO. OF COTTON/MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILE MILLS CLOSED DURING EACH OF THE LAST 3 YEARS AND WORKERS AFFECTED
STATE-WISE ARE GIVEN BELOW:

S. No.	State/UT	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)	No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)	No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1	339	1	116
2.	Bihar	1	83	1	N.A.	-	-
3.	Gujarat	1	1744	4	7650	-	-
4.	Haryana	-	-	2	1824	-	-
5.	Karnataka	1	150	-	-	1	356
6.	Kerala	2	952	1	820	1	2178
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1226	1	5659	-	-
8.	Maharashtra	1	1598	6	5785	-	-
9.	Orissa	-	-	2	2971	-	-
10.	Rajasthan	-	-	1	1196	-	-
11.	Tamil Nadu	10	10155	10	4158	7	1414

None of these
mills are closed
under I.D. Act.

S. No.	State/UT	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)	No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)	No. of Mills	Workers (Oct./Sept.)
12.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	4	5147	-	-
13.	West Bengal	3	4014	2	2368	2	196
	All India	20	19912	35	37917	12	6029

Agricultural Labour*[English]***Virginia Tobacco**

1303. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide old age pension, medical aid and financial assistance for the education of children to the agriculture labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the annual expenditure likely to be incurred for providing these facilities; and

(d) the steps taken for providing such facilities to agriculture labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) to (d). The Government are considering to bring forward a Central Legislation for agricultural workers in which there is a proposal to set up a welfare fund on the pattern of the Kerala Agricultural Workers Welfare Fund. However the details of the proposal are still to be finalised.

1304. SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ceiling limit has been fixed to grow virginia tobacco during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

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

(c) the total quantity of virginia tobacco grown by the farmers of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh during the above period, State-wise; and

(d) the actual quantity marketed in those States during the above period, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a): Yes, Sir. Tobacco Board authorises the crop every year.

(b) to (d). The quantities authorised and marketed in respect of the last three crops are as follows:

State	1991-92 crop		1992-93 crop		1993-94 crop	
	Q. A.	Q.M.	Q. A.	Q.M.	Q. A.	Q. M.
A.P.	125.29	132.38	102.60	125.31	67.71 to be marketed in 1994-95	
Maharashtra	0.55	0.40	0.31	0.31	0.15	
Karnataka	20.00	26.41	21.00	33.24	20.85	12.70 (upto 1.12.93)

Q. A. : Quantity Authorised (Mill. Kg)

Q. M. : Quantity Marketed (Mill. Kg)

The 1993-94 Karnataka crop, for which auction is in progress, is estimated at 34 Mill. kg.

Export of tobacco

1305. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of tobacco exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) The total quantity of tobacco (unmanufactured) exported during 1992-93 was 81, 294 tons. The foreign exchange earned therefrom is US\$ 150.16 Million.

Consumer Products of Industrialised Countries

1306. SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand has been made by the industrialised countries to provide them market access in India for their consumer products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government hereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI

PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b). In the Uruguay Round of negotiations, industrialised countries have made requests on India to provide market access for their consumer goods, particularly textile items, by lowering of tariffs and by removal of import restrictions.

(c) : India has responded that the ability to consider such requests would be contingent on very substantial improvement in market access for Indian textiles and garments in their markets as also on improvement in India's balance-of-payments situation.

Circulation of Counterfeit Currency Notes of U.S. Dollars.

1307. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation of counterfeit currency notes of U.S.dollars are increasing in the country;

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

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check the circulation of such counterfeit notes in the country?

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

[Translation]

Production of Jute

1308. SHRILALBABURAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of jute in 1992-93 is less as compared to its production in 1991-92;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have procured less quantity of jute in 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The production of raw jute declined during the 1992-93 jute season due to reduction in the area under cultivation on account of deficiency of rainfall at the time of sowing and low realisation for raw jute during the previous season.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Trade with Asian Countries

1309. DR.R. MALLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a call from the Government to step up trade ties with ASEAN countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the

response of the Industry thereto;

(c) whether any in-depth analysis has been made of the fall of country's share in World trade and corrective steps taken apart from the above public call;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether high debt service ratio of 32% for the country is becoming a limiting factor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b). No formal call has been given by the Government to step up trade ties with ASEAN countries. However, promotion of trade with various countries, including the ASEAN countries, is a constant endeavor of the Government.

(c) The country's share in world trade has registered an increase from 0.52% in 1991 to 0.58% in January- June 1992.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The debt-service ratio of the country has declined to a level of 30.4% in 1992-93. Government is keeping a close watch on the external debt situation with a view to keeping it within prudent limits.

Welfare Measures for Children of Beedi Workers

1310. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce some welfare measures including education for the children of Beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken

by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA)(a) and (b). The Government are implementing various welfare schemes for beedi workers under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund to provide financial assistance and scholarships to the school/college going children of beedi workers, medical facilities, housing and recreation facilities. The schemes are being implemented in all the beedi producing States including Andhra Pradesh.

Credit in Small Scale Industries

1311. SHRI RABIRAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked the banks to set up specially designated branches to disburse credit to small scale industries in some districts spread over in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that under the Liberalised Branch Licensing Policy, bank have been given freedom to open specialised branches (including small scale industries branches to cater to the needs of small scale industries exclusively) without their prior approval. As specialised branches are expected to take over the business from other local branches, these specialised branches

should normally be opened at centres where the bank has already 10 or more branches and/or there is sufficient potential for adequate business.

Import of Raw Jute

1312. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to allow raw jute import on the Open General License (OGL); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b). Raw jute is freely importable under the Export & Import Policy, 1992-97.

Banks in Private Sector

1313. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK: SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the existing private banks in the country at present;

(b) whether some new licenses for opening of such banks have also been issued recently;

(c) if so, the details of the companies/organisations/individuals which have been given licenses and locations where these banks are proposed to be opened;

(d) whether some of these private banks are likely to operate in collaboration with foreign private banks:

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the existing banks in the country, both in public and private sector, are sufficient to meet the needs of the people; and

(g) if so, the facts thereof?

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

(a) At present there are 28 private sector banks in the country.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have so far not issued any new licence for opening banks in the private sector. However, 'in principle' approval has been issued by RBI to the following 7 applicants:-

<i>Name of party</i>	<i>Proposed Registered Office at</i>
1. Housing Development Finance Corpn. Ltd. (HDFC)	Bombay
2. Unit Trust of India (UTI)	Ahmedabad
3. Industrial Credit and Investment Corpn. of India Ltd. (ICICI)	Baroda
4. M/s. Jayanta Madhab and Associates	Secenderabad
5. The 20th Century Finance Corpn. Ltd.	Panjab
6. M/s. Bennet Coleman and Co. Ltd.	Faridabad
7. M/s. Indus Ind. Enterprises and Finance Ltd. (IEFL)	Pune

(d) and (e). None of the above 7 applicants have indicated that they will operate in collaboration with foreign private banks. However, one of the above applicants viz. M/s. Jayanta Madhab and Associates has indicated its intention to take a foreign technical partner.

(f) and (g). The entry of new private sector banks is being allowed as per the recommendations of the Committee on Financial System with a view to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the financial system.

[Translation]

Export of Mangoes

1314. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of mangoes exported from various States, particularly from Gujarat and the foreign exchange earned therefrom, during the last two years;

(b) the incentives provided to the farm-

ers to increase mango production;

(c) whether the Government have made any plan to increase the export of mangoes particularly from Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED). (a) The total quantity and value of mangoes exported from the country during the last two years is given below:-

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (crores)
1991-92	23104	35.46
1992-93	27000	48.00

As State-wise data on exports is not being maintained, separate figures for exports from Gujarat are not available.

(b) to (d). For stepping up production and exports of mangoes, Government has at the national level taken various steps which inter-alia include:

- (i) Higher outlays in the Horticulture Sector;
- (ii) Reduction in duty on Capital goods and inputs.

Apart from this, Agricultural Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and National Horticulture Board are promoting the use of improved post harvest practices including cool chains. APEDA has also taken steps for improving infrastructure and packaging.

(Export figures for 1991-92: Source DGCI&S and Export figures for 1992-93 (provisional) Returns filed by exporters with APEDA.

[English]

C D Ratio on West Bengal

1315. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Credit Deposit Ratio of public sector banks in West Bengal is below the national average;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED). (a) to (c) : The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of Banks in West Bengal and All India position as at the end of March 1991, 1992 and 1993 were as follows;

Credit Deposit Ratio(%)

	March 1991	March 1992	March 1993
West Bengal	54.5	52.7	52.2
All India	66.2	61.0	60.5

The C:D Ratio of banks in West Bengal is consistent with the trend obtaining at the all India level. In this connection it may be stated that the CD Ratio is not the sole indicator of role being played by banks in the economic development of a particular State/Region. The actual level of credit in relation to locally mobilised deposits in a particular State or region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the State/Region, which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities like irrigation, power, rail, road, transport, basic and technical education, entrepreneurship and availability of required inputs and marketing outlets for agricultural, industrial production etc. Reserve Bank of India had constituted a Task Force to examine the reasons for the low C:D Ratio in West Bengal and to suggest measures for improving the same. The Task Force has since submitted its report. The report of the Task Force covers a wide spectrum of recommendation which, inter-alia, include improvement in horticulture, fisheries both inland and aquaculture, promotion of exports of fruits, popularisation of the system of drip irrigation, exploration of surface water resources for irrigation, creation of storage and processing facilities, identifying small sick units capable of revival and working out a rehabilitation package scheme, promotion of high-tech ventures, increased emphasis on development of rural industries and prompt recovery of bank loans from industry which are closed and/or have no chance of their revival.

Grants to Voluntary Organisations for the Welfare of Workers

1316. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
PATEL:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be

pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Voluntary organisations/labour institutes and centres provided grants for the welfare of the workers in Gujarat during each of the last three years indicating the amount of grants provided to them;

(b) whether the Government have reviewed the working of these organisations/institutes /centres;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) - (a) During the last 3 years, in Gujarat the following amounts have been provided as grant-in-aid to Self Employed Women's Association, Ahmedabad an. NGO for their project 'Organising Women workers in Ahmedabad'.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs.)</i>
1990-91	Rs. 22,525/-
1991-92	Nil
1992-93	Rs. 4,970/-

(b) and (c). The amounts have been released after reviewing the progress as required under the grant-in-aid scheme.

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

Foreign Aid For Development of Bodh Gaya

1317. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND

TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign aid received and the names of the countries from which the aid was received by the Government for the development of Bodh Gaya during the last the three years;

(b) the details of the development works proposed by the Government of Bihar for the utilisation of the aid;

(c) whether the Union Government have any agency to ensure the proper utilisation of the aid; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b). A Loan Agreement was signed on 15th December 1988 with the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of the Government of Japan for financial assistance to the tune of 9.244 billion Japanese Yen for the development of the identified Buddhist Travel Circuit in the States of U. P. and Bihar. So far, claims from the executing agencies for work done in the State of Bihar under the project worth Rs.33.00 crores have been processed by OECF. The main development works under the project are strengthening of National and State Highways, improvement and augmentation of water and electricity supply, setting up of wayside amenities, landscaping, telecommunication etc.

(c) and (d). There are Steering Committees at both the Central and State levels for close monitoring of the progress of the project. Funds are released by the OECF to the executing agencies only after the work is done and reimbursement claims have been examined by them.

Foreign Aid for Development Projects in Gujarat

1318. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign aid released so far by the Union Government to Gujarat for development of various projects during the last three years;

(b) whether the State Governments has utilised the entire aid for the above purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED).

(a) The total Additional Central assistance released so far by the Government of India to Gujarat for various externally aided projects during the last three years is as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount Released (in Rs. Crores)</i>
1990-91	172.89
1991-92	445.41
1992-93	329.68
1993-94 (till date)	97.96

(b) and (c). Release of Additional Cen-

tral assistance is made on the basis of reimbursement claims filed by the State Government, in respect of expenditure incurred on externally aided projects.

Rubber Cultivation in West Bengal

1319. SHRIJITENDRANATHDAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1019 July 30, 1993 and state:

(a) whether any financial assistance has been offered by the Field Officer at Siliguri to assist the new entrepreneurs for taking up rubber cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the extent of assistance provided;

(c) whether the evaluation of the area Grassmere in Jalpaiguri District of West Bengal has been completed for location specific studies for rubber plantation; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the further progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 90.760 has so far been paid to the eligible rubber growers as financial assistance from the Rubber Board's concerned zonal office at Guwahati, Assam under whose administrative control the office of the Field Officers, Siliguri also falls.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. An area of 47 hectares in Nagarkatta in Grassmore has been identified and has been made available by the State Government of West Bengal for undertaking location specific studies. Being a plantation crop having 7 years of gestation period, the evaluation is still in progress. However, the outcome of evaluation so far available indicates that rubber

can be grown successfully in selected areas of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal.

Indo-US Textile Agreement

1321. SHRI MOHANSINGH (DEORIA): Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether before the renewal of the bilateral Textile Agreement, the Government of US had set certain conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the nature of the final Agreement arrived at between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). Negotiations are underway for renewal of the current bilateral Textile Agreement between the USA and India. During the preliminary round of the negotiations, both sides have projected their concerns and interests for the new Agreement. The final outcome of the negotiations can be known only after its conclusion.

Revamping of Employment Exchanges

1322. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in order to meet the needs of liberalisation, the Government propose to revamp and reorient the network of 800 employment exchanges throughout the country;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) the expected time by which such

revamping and reorientation is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.SANGMA): (a) to (c). Functioning of employment exchanges is reviewed from time to time and proposal for improving and streamlining the services are discussed in the Meeting of the Working Group on National Employment Service which is normally held once a year. The Working Group recommends simplification of the procedure for providing better services both to the job-seekers and employers. The next meeting of the Working Group is likely to be held in the first quarter of 1994.

[Translation]

Export and Cultivation of Tea.

1323. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the land in hectares being cultivated at present for tea plantation in Uttar Pradesh and hilly areas out of it, separately;

(b) whether the requirement of Uttar Pradesh is met by the tea produced there and is exported after meeting the requirement of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total consumption of tea at present in Uttar Pradesh;

(e) the total amount of loan and subsidy provided at present therefor; and

(f) the details of any specific plan pre-

pared for development of tea plantation in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Estimated area under tea cultivation in Uttar Pradesh during 1992 was 903 hectares. Tea is cultivated mostly in the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) to (d). It may not be possible to give figures of tea consumption in Uttar Pradesh and exports of tea from the State. Separate figures of tea consumption in Uttar Pradesh are not available. Also it may not be possible to identify share of teas produced in Uttar Pradesh in overall exports of tea as in most cases tea is exported in blended form. However, estimated production of tea in Uttar Pradesh during 1992- was 550 thousand kgs.

(e) Tea Board have given grant in aid of Rs. 19.39 lakhs for developmental activities of tea gardens in Uttar Pradesh.

(f) According to the survey report submitted by the consultants to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, nearly 56,950 hectares of land are considered to be suitable for tea cultivation. These lands are reported to be available in Uttar Pradesh spread over 14 out of 25 districts in the Terai, Garhwal and Kumaon regions. Out of the identified area, it was proposed to take up 3 projects one each in the district of Uttarkashi, Almora and Pauri Garhwal for planting tea in an area of 1400 hectares, but no planting has commenced as yet. In the meanwhile, the soil conservation department of State Government have set up trial plantation in a number of locations covering approximately 25 hectares spread over Nainital, Almora and Pithoragarh districts.

Opening of Duty Free Stores*[English]*

1324. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to permit the opening of such duty free stores in private sector where imported raw material and spare parts would be available and the products manufactured therefrom could be exported;

(b) if so, to what extent this step would help the domestic industries in facing the challenges from foreign market;

(c) whether as a result of the timely purchase of imported raw material and other necessary spare parts, the benefit on account of price rise would be available to the domestic exporters;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have also agreed to permit the private sector to hold direct negotiations with the foreign credit lenders to borrow foreign exchange; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(e) and (f). For commercial external borrowing, the private parties have to hold negotiations directly with the foreign credit lenders, but this is subject to approval by the Govt. For this purpose there is a well-defined policy to accord such approval by the Government.

Drugs Seized at IGIA

1325. SHRI ANAND RATNA
MAURYA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the customs officials recently detected a well organised international conspiracy to smuggle in huge quantities of prohibited drugs at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of persons arrested and the drugs seized;

(c) whether the government have taken international help to unearth the entire conspiracy behind the drug smuggling racket in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to check this type of racketeering at other airports from where imports/exports are made?

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

*[Translation]***Loan to Foreign Countries**

1326. SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which India has provided assistance during the last three years and the details of the works for which the said assistance was given; and

(b) the manner in which these loans are being repaid to us?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED).

(a) During the last three years, India provided grants/assistance or loans/credits to Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Cambodia, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Surinam, Vietnam and also towards UN programme for Southern Africa/ Namibia. Technical assistance on grant basis was also provided to various countries under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme (ITEC) and Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan (SCAAP) programme.

India has been extending credits to friendly developing countries mainly for purchase of capital goods and equipments from India including consultancy services. During the last three years, the grants and credits

to these countries were extended in diverse areas such as tele-communication, railways, health, training, education, horticulture, transport, irrigation, power, industry, dairy development, rural development and management etc.

(b) The credits are repaid in half-yearly instalments over a period of 10-15 years including an initial grace period of two to three years.

Funds for Handloom Sector

1327. SHRIHARIKEWAL PRASAD:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government has provided less amount to States for Development of Handlooms 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the reasons for providing less amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) yes, Sir. State Governments received less funds under Non-Plan Schemes although they received more funds under Plan Schemes during 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92 as can be observed from the table below:

(Rupee IN Lakhs)

Year	Plan	Non-Plan	Total
1991-92	696.27	18613.77	19310.04
1992-93	2095.82	16217.75	18313.03

(b) As there is no provision for Statewise allocation of funds, releases are made to

State Governments on the basis of their proposals under various Handloom Development Schemes being implemented by the Government of India. Since the Janata Cloth Scheme is gradually being phased out in view of the Government Policy, funds released under this Non-Plan Scheme was substantially less in the year 1992-93.

Similarly, release of funds under another Non-Plan Scheme i.e. Special Rebate/MDA on sale of handloom cloths was less during the year 1992-93 for lack of matching contribution by State Governments and due to less claims made by Handloom Agencies.

Refund of Agricultural Loan by Farmers in Bihar

1328. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of agricultural loans upto Rs.10,000/- waived in Bihar under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990;

(b) whether many farmers in the State have not repaid their loans with the result that the amount of interest has gone up considerably;

(c) if so, the reason therefor:

(d) whether the Government propose to recover as much loan amount as possible from drought and flood-affected farmers and to waive the amount of interest outstanding against those who have repaid principal agricultural loan from February to May, 1993; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(DR. ABRAR AHMED).

(a) As per information provided by the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), agricultural loans of the order of Rs. 862.63 crores have been written off by the public sector banks, Cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief(ARDR) Scheme, 1990 in the State of Bihar.

(b) to (e): NABARD has reported that the State Government of Bihar has suspended recoveries of all loans due to flood and drought conditions in the State. Government of India and RBI do not favour any generalised write off of loans and interest in case of natural calamities like drought and flood. However, to meet such natural calamities, RBI and NABARD have issued standing guidelines to banks to provide relief to the affected borrowers. These measures inter alia envisage conversion of short-term production loans into medium-term loans, rescheduling/ postponing of existing term loan instalments, and provision of additional need based crop/investment loans, etc.

Welfare Schemes for the Mine Workers of Gujarat

1329. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any welfare scheme for the mine workers of Gujarat has been prepared by the Government;

(b) if so, the details

(c) whether the Government propose to implement group insurance scheme and to bring them under E.S.I. Act;

(d) whether the Government give compensation to mine workers while succumbed to and injured in mine accidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of compensation provided during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) and (b). Various welfare schemes are under cooperation under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund; Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines, and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund; and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund to extend housing, health, education and recreation etc. facilities to workers working in these mines in all the States including Gujarat.

(c) to (f). There is no proposal at present to take up group insurance scheme for these mine workers or to bring them under the ESI Act. However, for employment related injuries resulting in death/disablement, the mine workers are covered under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Under the Act, compensation is paid by the employer. As the provisions of the W. C. Act are being administered by the respective State Government/U.T. Admns. the details of the compensation provided during the last three years are not available.

[English]

Domestic Tourism

1330. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking steps to promote domestic tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated for promoting domestic tourism during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There are several schemes, such as development of tourism infrastructure, development of tourist transport, assistance for specified tourism areas, development of sports/ adventure tourism, development of attractions for tourism and rural backward areas. campaigns for domestic tourism and assistance to State Governments for marketing and publicity for promotion of tourism under which financial assistance is given to the States.

Financial assistance is rendered to the States by the Central Government in this regard on specific proposals depending upon their merits, inter-se priority and availability of funds. The amount provided during the current financial year for the above mentioned areas of development of domestic tourism is Rs. 20.20 crores.

Unemployed Ph.D. and M. Phil Scholars

1331. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed Ph. D and M. Phil Scholars in the country;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the employment of those persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The number of job-seekers having post-Graduate qualifications (including Ph. D. and M. Phil), not all of whom were necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of the employment Exchanges in the country as on 31st December, 1991 (latest available) was 4.20 lakhs. Separate statistics on Ph. D. and M. Phil scholars are not maintained.

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

[*Translation*]

Branches of SBI in Bihar

1332. SHRI SUKDEV PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the block headquarters in Bihar having less than two branches of the State Bank of India;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more branches of State Bank of India in Bihar;

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

(d) the time by which these branches are proposed to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

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

(b) to (d). Under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allotted 13 urban centers to State Bank of India (SBI). These centres are 1. Bokara 2. Dhanbad 3. Ranchi 4. Jamsedpur 5. Darbhanga 6. Katihar 7. Muzaffarpur 8. Chhapra 9. Patna 10. Arrach 11. Gaya 12. Biharsharif 13. Bhagalpur. State Bank of India has also been allotted 50 semi-urban centres on all India basis. SBI is free to open branches at semi-urban centres, including in the State of Bihar at the places of their choice within the quota allotted to them. No State-wise quota has been allotted to the Bank for the purpose. As regards rural centres, the bank has been allotted 4 licences. Besides, 41 licences issued under Branch licensing policy 1985-90 which could not be utilised by banks for want of adequate infrastructure facilities, were pending with SBI. Although these licences have been treated as lapsed with effect from 1.4.1993, the bank has been advised by RBI to approach them afresh for issue of licences after finalising premises etc. at the centres concerned.

[English]

Pesticide Residue in Agricultural Stuff

1333. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States has found maximum pesticides residue in agricultural stuff imported from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b). Some cases of detention of cashew kernels and spices consignments by the US FDA on account of presence of BHC have come to the Government's notice.

(c) The Commodity Boards, the Export Promotion Councils and the Export Inspection Agencies have been organising educational programmes, disseminating necessary information on the subject, providing analytical and technical support to processors and exporters and taking up programmes through media such as TV and Radio.

Shortage of High Denomination Currency Notes

1334. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of high denomination currency notes;

(b) whether a large number of old and mutilated low denomination currency notes are in circulation;

(c) whether the Government are recirculating the soiled low denomination currency notes to overcome the shortage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) In view of capacity constraints, the existing note printing presses at Dewas and Nashik are unable to fully meet the RBI's requirement of high denomination currency notes.

(b) In view of Government's decision to coinize Re. 1, Rs. 2, and Rs.5 notes in a phased manner, production of fresh notes for these denomination has been reduced and the quality of notes in circulation has, therefore, deteriorated to some extent.

(c) and (d). In view of the shortage, RBI has to put issuable soiled notes back into circulation by salvaging maximum number of reissuable notes and recycling them.

Poverty Alleviation Programme

1335. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany had provided any loan assistance to India for implementation of poverty Alleviation Programme

and other development projects in the country:

(b) if so, the details of the funds provided and the projects for which the loan has been provided:

(c) whether this loan has not so far been utilised:

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) the specific projects on which these funds are now proposed to be utilised and the time schedule fixed therefor ?

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

(b) to (e). Government of Germany commits annually, at the time of Aid India Consortium, financial cooperation funds for development projects including projects

aimed at poverty Alleviation. This amount has been in the range of approx. DM 350-400 million/year for the last few years. Specific agreements for the project are then signed after detailed approval of Government of India and Government of Germany after which drawal of funds takes place. The amounts thus committed are drawn based on the implementation schedule which typically runs over a period between 5-7 years. Therefore, there will always be amounts undrawn/unutilised on any given day. The amounts yet to be drawn on the project so far signed and being implemented with loan assistance from Germany amount to DM 1016.696 million as on 30.9.93. Details of these projects are given in Statement-A . In addition to this, Germans have shown interest in 15 projects with a total German loan of DM 908.6 million for which agreements are yet to be signed. These projects are at various stages of finalisation . The utilisation of this amount will depend on the stage and the complexities of the individual projects for which the amount has been committed. Details of these projects are given at Statement-B.

STATEMENT - A

(Figures in DM Million)

<i>Project</i>	<i>Total Amount</i>	<i>Terminal date</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1. NLC-II	517.00	31.12.94	11.534	Project almost complete. Out of the DM 11.534 M balance DM 7.1 M is not required for the project, for which NLC has proposed alternative projects.
2. KORBA SUPER THERMAL POWER PLANT (STPP)	173.80	30.12.90	34.445	Project complete. The balance funds are for "Ash deposit facility" project which is under consideration with Germans
3. RAMAGUNDAM STPP	145.00	31.12.91	20.407	Project complete. Balance amount is proposed to be used for retrofitting dry ash disposal project. Proposal is under consideration with Germans.
4. NLC-III	520.00	31.12.96	55.050	Project likely to be completed by 31.12.96
5. BREEDING CATTLE	6.00	31.12.93	0.490	Project complete. Balance amount is for minor equipment.

Project	Total Amount	Terminal date	Balance	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
6. M.P. WATER SUPPLY	45.00	31.12.95	45.00	Earlier project was held up due to some issues which have been resolved now. Project expected to be completed by Dec. 95.
7. HEAVY DUTY BREAK DOWN CRANES	31.00	31.12.90	4.052	Project complete. Balance meant for spares.
8. FARAKKA STPP	54.415	31.12.94	27.876	Project likely to be completed by Dec. 94.
9. RAJASTHAN MINOR IRRIGATION	12.300	31.12.95	8.196	Balance amount expected to be utilised by Dec. 95
10. RAMAGUNDAM OPEN CAST MINING	172.388	31.12.95	123.223	Project was delayed due to technical reasons. Now expected to be completed by the extended terminal date i.e. Dec. 95
11. HDFC-1	25.00	31.12.93	4.00	Project likely to be completed by the terminal date.
12. DADRI POWER PROJECT	484.90	31.12.94	96.282	Project expected to be completed by the terminal date

<i>Project</i>	<i>Total Amount</i>	<i>Terminal date</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	2	3	4	5
13. URAN COMBINED CYCLE POWER STATION	310.00	30.9.94	74.151	Project expected to be completed by Sept. 95. Extension in the terminal date has been sought from KFW.
14. RAILWAY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	77.70	31.12.93	77.358	Project expected to be completed by Dec. 93. Only DM 21 Million is required for the project. Alternative proposal has been proposed for the remaining amount.
15. IIFT IRRIGATION ORISSA	55.00	31.12.2000	55.00	Project expected to be completed by the terminal date.
16. FERTILISER II	60.00	31.12.94	60.00	This is a credit line for import of fertilisers. Whole amount is expected to be utilised by De., 94.
17. CREDIT LINE FOR IMPORT OF CAPITAL GOODS	21.00	31.12.94	0.99	Balance amount expected to be utilised shortly.
18. CREDIT LINE TO ICICI	134.60	30.6.96	60.896	Credit line is to finance onlendings of ICICI. Balance amount is expected to be utilised by the terminal date.

Project	Total Amount	Terminal date	Balance	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
19. CREDIT LINE TO IFCI	105.00	31.12.95	43.809	Credit line is to finance onlendings of IFCI. Balance amount is likely to be utilised by the terminal date.
20. CREDIT LINE TO NSIC	10.00	31.12.94	9.305	Credit line to fund onlendings of NSIC. Balance amount is expected to be used by Dec., 94.
21. MODERNISATION OF ROURKELA STEEL PLANT	260.00	31.12.95	204.628	Balance amount under the project is expected to be utilised by the terminal date.
Total			1016.696	

STATEMENT-B

LIST OF PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount (in DM Million)</i>
1.	Chinakuri Pit Mining	65.00
2.	Energy Investment programme	66.40
3.	Rajasthan water supply	40.00
4.	West Bengal water supply	30.00
5.	Nic Expansion	217.70
6.	West Bengal forestry	5.00
7.	NABARD refinancing	10.00
8.	Credit line to SIDBI	35.20
9.	URAN III	150.00
10.	Nic-II	12.00
11.	National Renewal Fund	50.00
12.	Structural Adjustment Loan	110.00
13.	Fertiliser III	60.00
14.	Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant	27.30
15.	NABARD VI	30.00
		908.60

New International Airports

Shri C. S. Ramanathan had recommended for construction of new international airport,

1336. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state:

(b) if so, the locations identified by the Committee in this regard:

(a) whether the Committee headed by

(c) the decision taken by the Union Gov-

ernment thereon; and

(d) the progress made so far in the construction of these airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d). A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Ramanathan was constituted to examine the feasibility of constructing a new airport of international standards near Bangalore.

The committee has recommended a site south of Devanahalli for construction of a new airport. This site is situated 23 kilometers from Yelahanka and 40 kilometers from Bangalore city center.

Various techno-economic factors need to be examined before a final view in the matter can be taken.

Aircraft taken on Wet Lease

1337. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether aircraft were taken on wet lease by the Indian Airlines recently;

(b) if so, the details and the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) No. Sir.

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

Credit for Acquiring Fishing Vessels

1338. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :

will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide credit at cheaper rate of interest for acquiring fishing vessels, setting up of processing facilities and duty free import of equipments to boost export of fishing and fish products;

(b) if so, the type of institutions receiving such facility; and

(c) the number of such institutions in Orissa and the credit provided to them during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED).

(a) No, Sir. However, Government provides interest subsidy on rupee loans extended by SCICI Limited for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels and grant-in-aid for setting up of infrastructural facilities for cold chain and processing of tuna and other fish

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

[Translation]

Trade Relations between India and Israel

1339. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting has been held between India and Israel for promoting trade relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the progress made so far in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Several meetings have been held between India and Israel for promotion of bilateral trade. There has also been an increasing between private sectors of the two countries. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) on economic interaction was also signed between India and Israel on 17th May, 1993. India's trade with Israel has increased from Rs. 317.86 crores during 1991-92 to Rs.660.24 crores during 1992-93.

[Translation]

LIC Branches in Gujarat

1340. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Life Insurance Corporation working in Gujarat as on October 31, 1993, division-wise;

(b) the business transacted, profit earned and capital invested by the Corporation in Gujarat during the last three years; division wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to cover more people of Gujarat under various insurance schemes and to increase the capital investment by the Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) : The requisite information is at Statement-I

(b) The business transacted, during the last three years Division wise, in Gujarat is at Statement-II. Annual surplus valuation is done for the LIC as whole and not State-wise. Net surplus as per valuation for the years 1990-, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was Rs. 1800.10 crores, Rs. 2108.20 crores and Rs. 2368.32 crores (provisional) respectively. The investment are made be the corporate office and not by the Divisions independently. The investments made by the LIC in Gujarat during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are Rs. 226.44 crores, Rs. 258.70 crores and Rs 243.00 crores respectively.

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

STATEMENT-I

Division-wise number of Branches of LIC working in Gujarat as on 31.3.93

<i>Division</i>	<i>No. of Branches</i>
Ahmedabad	29
Gandhi Nagar	25

<i>Division</i>	<i>No. of Branches</i>
Vadodara	16
Rajkot	18
Bhavnagar	10
Surat	21
Nadiad	17
<hr/>	
Total:	136

STATEMENT

BUSINESS TRANACTED BY LICJ DURING THE FINANCIAL YEARS 1990-91,
1991-92 AND 1992-93, DIVISION WISE IN GUJARAT

Division	No. of Policies	Sum Assured (in crores)	Premium Income (in crores)
FOR 1990-91			
Ahmedabad	160320	538.12	128.51
Gandhi Nagar	118941	375.04	78.68
Rajkot	155763	429.30	97.59
Surat	113267	422.54	93.13
Vadodara	112117	352.54	82.14
FOR 1991-92			
Ahmedabad	180690	643.12	158.02
Gandhi Nagar	132021	459.61	99.88
Rajkot	119514	356.03	120.99
Surat	117776	462.12	111.21
Vadodara	128021	456.72	102.67

Division	No. of Policies	Sum Assured (in crores)	Premium Income (in crores)
Division	No. of Policies	Sum Assured (in crores)	Premium Income (in crores)
Bhavnagar (Newly opened)	42859	138.50	102.67
FOR 1992-93			
Ahmedabad	177965	664.67	183.87
Gandhi Nagar	135878	488.16	117.88
Rajkot	124691	403.26	105.78
Surat	117980	472.15	128.82
Vadodara	144461	572.29	123.14
Bhavnagar	45622	162.24	37.40

(included in the figures of
Rajkot Division for 1991-92)

[English]

Modification in Industrial Relations Law

1341. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to bring about a policy shift in the Industrial Relations Law from employment protection to employment generation; and

(b) if so, the precise modifications contemplated to be introduced in the relevant law for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) and (b). Based on the recommendations made by the Ramanujam Committee on 'New Industrial Relations Law' and the deliberations held in various forums, and after taking into consideration the report of Inter-Ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 have been formulated. These proposals are being processed further in consultation with the Ministry of Law. These, inter alia, seek to create an environment conducive to industrial development and growth of employment.

[Translations]

Illegal Business of Foreign Exchange at Indo-Nepal Border

1342. SHRI UPENDRANATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the illegal business of foreign exchange at Indo-Nepal border being run openly in the various cities including Raxaul;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into this matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to prevent such activities in the border area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No such reports have been received by the Government.

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

Foreign Assistance for Development Project in U.P. and Bihar

1343. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval or are likely to accord its approval to foreign assistance for the development of the projects in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

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

(c) the projects on which this amount is proposed to be spent, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) Yes, Sir, Government of India has accorded its approval for foreign assistance, both from Multilateral and Bilateral sources for the development of the projects in Uttar

Pradesh and Bihar. A list of projects and loan amount, statewise approved during the last three years is at Statement-I.

(b) & (c). The list of Pipeline projects, state-wise are at statement-II.

STATEMENT :

LIST OF THE PROJECTS ACCORDED APPROVAL IN LAST THREE YEARS IN THE STATES OF UP & BIHAR

S. No.	Name of the Project & State	Loan Amount	Date of Agreement	Donor Agency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Doon Valley Integrated Watershed (UP)	BCU 22.5 m.	3/12/91	EFC
2.	Shrimp & Fish Culture (UP & Bihar)	US\$ 85 m.	29/1/92	WB
3.	Bihar Plateau Development Project (Bihar)	US\$ 117 m.	17/12/92	WB
4.	UP Sodic Lands Reclamation Project (UP)	US\$ 54.7 m.	24/6/93	WB
5.	Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project (UP)	Yen 13224 m.	3/12/92	OFCF
6.	Anpara Transmission Project (UP)	Yen 19318 m.	13/6/91	OFCF

S. No.	Name of the Project & State	Loan Amount	Date of Agreement	Donor Agency
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
7.	Ispat of Stetic Var Compensation (UP)	F F 96m m.	22/12/92	France
8.	UP Basic Education (UP)	US\$ 165 m.	7/7/93	WB
9.	ICDS-II (UP & Bihar)	US\$ 194 m.	23/3/93	WB
10.	Innovations in Family Welfare Services Project (UP)	US\$ 100 m.	30/9/92	USAID

STATEMENT-II
PIPE LINE PROJECTS FOR THE STATES OF UP & BIHAR

Sl. No.	Name of the Project & State	Donor Agency
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Integreted Watershed Management in Chambal Phase II (UP)	FEC
2.	UP Sub Project VII (UP)	Netherlands
3.	UP Sub Project VIII (UP)	- do -
4.	Surface Water Storage in Bundeikhand (UP)	- do -
5.	UP Forestry Project (UP)	UK
6.	Coal Sector Development Programme (Bihar)	UNDP
7.	Reheating furnaces for Bokaro Steel Plant (Bihar)	France
8.	UP Rural Water Supply & Environmental Sanitation Project (UP)	WB
9.	Ilind UP Urban Development Project (UP)	WB

Sr. No.	Name of the Project & State	Donor Agency
(1)	(2)	(3)
10.	Cataract Blindness Control Project (UP)	WB
11.	Leprosy Control Project (UP & Bihar)	WB
12.	Bridging the gaps in Road network (Bihar)	WB

[English]

Raids on Premises of Share Brokers

1344. DR. VASANT NIHAREETTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many leading share broker's premises in the country have been raided during current year;

(b) if so, the details of the amount seized during these raids from each such broker; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against these share brokers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Details of the persons searched and unaccounted assets seized from them are given in the statement.

Necessary action has been taken in accordance with the provisions of law along with follow-up investigations on the basis of the information gathered and materials raised in course of the searches.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name	Value of unaccounted assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Shri Umesh Chand Agarwal, Delhi	1.55
2.	M/s. Subhalaxmi Mercantile Ltd., Delhi & Bombay.	8.71
3.	Agarwal Group (M/s. Ganapati Exports Ltd., Calcutta)	-
4.	Shri Ratan K. Jasarasaria, Calcutra.	26.67
5.	Shri Brij Mohan Sarda, Calputta.	306.06
6.	Shri Anil Narendra Shah, Ahmedabad.	2.45
7.	Shri Samir Jayantilal Shah, Ahmedabad.	52.51
8.	M/s. Subhash Dalal Financial Consultant Ltd., Baroda & Bombay	89.58
9.	M/s. H.N. Desai Shares & Finance Consultant Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad.	10.45
10.	Rashik Lal G. Shah, Ahmedabad.	30.68
11.	M/s. K.K. Vasa & Co., Ahmedabad	44.3
12.	Shri Rajesh Anobhai Shah, Ahmedabad.	167.28
13.	Shri Chamanlal Lalbhai Group, Ahmedabad.	61.50
14.	M/s. Deep Kumar Trivedi Associates, Bhopal.	-
15.	M/s. Chakravarthy & Co., Hyderabad.	13.61

Sl. No.	Name	Value of unaccounted assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
16.	Shri Bhupen Dalal Group, Bombay.	-
17.	Shri H.K. Dalal, Bombay.	338.82
18.	Shri Hiten P. Dalal, Bombay.	-
19.	Shri Anil N. Shah, Bombay.	0.99
20.	M/s. Shrikant G. Mantri, Bombay.	1.56
		<hr/> 1156.74

Committee of State Excise Ministers

1345. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee of excise Ministers of States has been constituted to review the States' laws, regulations on excise matters;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the recommendations thereof; and

(d) the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHNDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Participation in Strike by Members of Board of Directors of Banks

1346. SHRIGAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Members of the Board of Directors of the banking industry gave a call for and participated in the bank strikes during September, 1993.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against such members.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). The information received from the public sector banks indicates that most of the workmen and officer, Directors on the Boards of these banks participated in the strikes during September, 1993 for which the call was given by their respective Unions/Associations in support, inter-alia, of their demand for pensionary benefits. Banks were advised to impose inter-alia, wage cuts for the day(s) their employees were on strike.

Development of Tourist Centres in Bihar

1347. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent draft plan regarding Bodh Gaya, Nalanda, Rajgir and Vaishali tourist centres to the Government of Bihar;

(b) if so, the main features of the draft plan; and

(c) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). A Loan Agreement was signed on 15th December, 1988 with the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of the Government of Japan for financial assistance to the tune of 9.244 billion Japanese Yen for the development of the identified Buddhist Travel Circuit in the States of UP and Bihar. The main components of the projects in the State of Bihar which cover Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Rajgir and Vaishali are strengthening of Highways, improvement of internal roads, land scaping, telecommuni-

cation, water and electricity supply and setting-up of hotel at Bodhgaya.

Banks in Madhya Pradesh

1348. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the area in square kilometer covered by a bank branch in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether it is quite less than the national average;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d): The information relating to area in square Km's. covered by various bank branches in Madhya Pradesh is not available. However, the average population per bank office (APPBO) in the State as per 1981 census is 12,000 which compares well with the all India APPBO of 11,000. Under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95, 72 urban centres have been identified for opening of branches in the State. Banks have also been permitted to open branches at the semi-urban centres of their choice within the quota allotted to them on all India basis. As regards opening of bank branches at the rural centres, the banks have been advised that their proposal duly recommended by the Directorate of Institutional Finance of the State Government concerned will be considered by Reserve Bank of India on merits.

Cargo lifting from Airports

1349. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit only cargo-lifting from those airports which are situated near some important markets to boost the export of agroproducts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) No. Sir. An Open Sky Policy has been adopted in respect of cargo flights.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal at present to impose any restriction in this regard.

[English]

Export of Cotton

1350. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the prospect of cotton export during 1993-94;

(b) whether the cotton export quota for 1993-94 has been released;

(c) if so, the total bales of cotton allocated by the Cotton Corporation of India for export; and

(d) the quantum of cotton allocated for export by other public sector and co-operative institution?

quota of 5 lakh bales of 170 kgs. each of cotton for the year 1993-94.

(c) total bales of cotton allocated to the Cotton Corporation of India for export is 1.20 lakh bales, 170 kgs. each.

(d) the quantum of cotton allocated for export by other Public Sector and Co-operative Institution is as under:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). In pursuance of the existing Government policy on export of cotton, the Govt. has released an export

	<i>Qty in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each</i>
(i) Bengal Deshi for all including Private Trade.	1.00
(ii) Staple Cotton for Institutions:	
Cotton Corpn. of India	1.20
Maharashtra Federation	0.50
Gujarat Federation	0.40
A.P. Federation	0.10
Andhra Pradesh Federation	0.05
Karnataka Federation	0.50
Tamil Nadu Federation	0.25
West Bengal Federation	0.20
NAFED.	0.50
Punjab Markfed.	0.30

[Translation]

Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

Textiles Mills in U.P. and Bihar

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any more textile mills in Bihar and Jaunpur and Azamgarh districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh:

1351. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of textile mills functioning at present in these areas;

(d) whether textile mills in public sector are being closed down; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As on 31.8.93, there were 9 Cotton/Man-made Fibres Textile Mills in Bihar and 55 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e): the Textile mills in the public sector have been incurring heavy losses since their inception. It is not possible for Government to continue to bear these huge losses indefinitely at the cost of other priority sector. Government have, therefore approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC and BIC textile mills. The key elements of this strategy is selective, modernisation, financial and managerial restructuring and rationalisation of surplus workforce through Voluntary Retirement Scheme. The non-viable activities/sections/units may have to be abandoned to enable these public sector undertakings to turn around on financially viable lines.

Bonus to Central Government Employees

1352. SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal, to raise the limit of salary to grant bonus to the Government employees from Rs.2500 to Rs.3500;

(b) if so, the reasons for not raising the limit finally; and

(c) the time by which the limit is likely to be raised as was done in the case of Railways employees?

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

(b) and (c) the eligibility ceiling of emoluments for payment of bonus to the Central Govt. employees covered under the Productivity Linked Bonus Schemes, other than Railway employees, has been raised to Rs.3500/-. For Productivity Linked Bonus to the Railway employees, the ceiling has been raised to Rs.4500/-. For the employees being granted ad-hoc bonus, the ceiling has been continued as Rs.2500/-. Increase in the ceiling for this category of employees has not been found to be feasible. The decisions were taken in the light of conclusions arrived at on the basis of a mutual agreement between the Official Side and the Staff Side after discussions in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the National Council held in September, 1993.

[English]

SCs/STs Reservation in Cooperative Banks

1353. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of reservation of posts for SCs/STs is applicable to Co-operative Banks also;

(b) if so, the authority which ensures its implementation in these banks; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR ADMED):

(a) to (c). Co-operative Banks are under the administrative control of State Governments concerned. As such the policy relating to their management including the reservations for SC/ST are looked into by the State Government through Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Textile Mills in Rajasthan Referred to BIFR

1354. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Textile Mills in Rajasthan;

(b) the number of sick textile mills and the number of mills closed out of them;

(c) the number of mills out of them which have been referred to BIFR during the last three years and the current year so far;

(d) the number of mills which have been running under BIFR rehabilitation scheme;

(e) the present position of mills which are still closed and which are pending disposal by BIFR; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for revival of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): As on 31.03.1993, there were 34 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in Rajasthan registered with the Office of the Textile Commissioner. Five mills were reported to be closed temporarily in the State as on 31.10.1993.

(c) the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that no textile mill in Rajasthan has been registered with the BIFR during January, 1991 to November, 1993.

(d) to (f). twelve textile mills were registered with the BIFR during the period 1987 to 1990. Out of these, six cases are under revival, four cases were recommended for winding up and two cases were dismissed as non-maintainable.

Setting up of Free Trade Zone in Tamil Nadu

1355. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Tamil Nadu for setting up of a Free Trade Zone between Singapore and India in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been approved by the Union Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the

time by which this zone is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b): No proposal to set up a Free Trade Zone has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu, seeking approval of Government of India.

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

Complaints Received by SEBI

1356. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and nature of complaints received by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) during 1992 and 1993 so far;

(b) the action taken by SEBI on those complaints;

(c) whether a large number of complaints are still unattended; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) the number and nature of complaints received by the Securities and Exchange Board of India during 1992 and 93 so far are given in the statement attached.

(b) SEBI is promptly taking up all complaints with the concerned companies and the intermediaries for their expeditious redressal. The work relating to investor complaints has been fully computerised in SEBI with effect from 1st March, 1993.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

The Number and Nature of Complaints Received By SEBI During 1992 and 1993 so Far

Year	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV	Total
1992	2,18,838	21,502	67,443	17,332	3,25,115
1993 (Till November)	320,888	34,059	1,12,494	19,766	4,87,207
Type I	-	-	-	-	-
Type II	-	-	-	-	-
Type III	-	-	-	-	-
Type IV	-	-	-	-	-

Type I - Non-receipt of refund orders/allotment advice/stock invelt.

Type II - Non-receipt of dividend/interest on shares/debentures/fixed deposits, non-receipt of redemption amount of debentures and maturity amount of fixed deposits.

Type III - Non-receipt of shares/debentures certificates after transfer/transmission/conversion/endorsement/consolidation/splitting.

Type IV - Non-receipt of Annual Reports/rights application form/bonus shares/interest for overdue period in case of delayed refund and other miscellaneous matters.

[Translation]

Maternity Leave Facility

1357. SHRI MUMTAZANSARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discontinue the maternity leave facility on the birth of the third child as reported in 'Jan Satta' dated November 25, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). a proposal to restrict grant of Maternity Benefit to the woman worker only upto two living children is under examination. The details of the proposal are yet to be worked out. As such it is not possible to furnish the details.

[English]

Committee to Streamline Existing Policy/ Procedures in DGS&D

1358. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee has been constituted to streamline the policy/procedures being followed in Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals to serve as a model set up for Government procurements in line with the changes in the economic policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received the recommendations from the Com-

mittee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be received?

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

(b) Department of Supply's Memo dated 14-9-93, setting out the Composition & Terms of reference of the Subject Committee is enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e). as per the Department's aforesaid Memo dated 14.9.93 the Committee is required to submit its recommendations to the Government within four months. The same are awaited.

STATEMENT

No.P.III-24(5)/93
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce
Department of Supply
(Poorti Vibhag)

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi-110011,
Dated: the 14th September, 1993.

MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Review of existing laws and procedures - Setting up of a Review Group regarding.

The new Liberalised Economic Policy of the Government of India among other things lays emphasis on streamlining and simplifying rules and procedures that have been in vogue for quite some time. The

necessity to revise and update the existing set of rules and procedures have also been felt in the Department of Supply for some time. Representation have also been received from time to time from various quarters in this connection for simplification of rules and procedures followed in the DGS&D

as the Central Purchase Organisation of the Government of India.

Keeping in view the above, it has been decided by the Department of Supply, Government of India to constitute a Committee with the following composition:

(i)	DG(S&D) and Ex-officio Addl. Secretary	- Chairman
(ii)	Joint Secretary, Department of Supply	- Member
(iii)	Financial Adviser, Deptt. of Supply	- Member
(iv)	Chief Controller of Accounts, D/o Supply	- Member
(v)	A Rep. from M/o Rlys.	- Member
(vi)	A Rep. from M/O Defence	- Member
(vii)	A Rep. from M/O Urban Development	- Member
(viii)	A Rep. from M/O Home Affairs	- Member
(ix)	A Rep. from Deptt. of Public Enterprises	- Member
(x)	Director(CDN), DGS&D	- Member Secretary

Whenever considered necessary, the Committee may coopt non-official members of concerned Organisation/Associations having necessary experience/knowledge in the relevant field to have the benefit of their views.

Economic Policy of liberalisation, taking also into account the decentralisation of ad-hoc purchases from the DGS&D to the indenting Ministries/Departments.

2. The terms of the reference for the Committee will be:
- (i) To suggest the changes in the Procedure and Policy in the matter of purchase by DGS&D in line with the emerging economic environment on account of the new Economic environment on account of the new

- (ii) In line with the changes indicated under (i) above
- (a) To simplify the existing Manual of Office Procedure for Supplies, Inspection and Disposals of the DGS&D with a view to achieve the aim of efficiency, economy and speed in purchases.

- (b) To suggest improvement in the System and Procedure of financial payment for the purchases by and on behalf of Government with a view to cut down delays and reduce paper work.
 - (iii) Any other, related issues as specifications, inspection Registration, Testing, Reorganisation of the DGS&D etc.
3. The Committee should complete the assigned task within 4 months and submit its recommendations to the Government for consideration.

Sd/-
(A. Ramaswamy) IAS
Director
Tele: 3018486

To

All Members of the Committee.

Copy to:- PS to Secretary(Supply).

Export Potentials of Indian Terry Towels

1359. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian terry towel are in great demand in the international market;
- (b) if so, the total value of the terry towels exported annually from India during the last three years and the particulars of the countries which import the same;

(c) whether a substantial part of the quota allowed to India under the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA) remains unutilised as only a small percentage of the Textiles produced in the country is exported;

(d) if so, the total value of the textiles exported per annum by India presently, and the reasons for lesser export; and

(e) the steps the Government have taken or propose to take to boost the export of Indian textiles particularly terry towels and explore the new markets therefor in view of the high export potentials.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Exports of Terry-Towels from India during the last three years were as given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value (in Rs. Cr.)</i>
1990-91	48.44
1991-92	55.90
1992-93	100.10

Source: The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council

Over 90% of the exports are directed to USA, UK, France, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Russia, Denmark and Greece, taken together. Terry-Towels are under quota restrictions in USA and EEC. During Jan-Oct'93 Quota utilisation in USA was 91% while in EEC, it was 48%. The low utilisation in EEC was due to the fact that quotas were introduced only in 1992.

(e) The Textile Industry was made aware of the considerable potential for ex-

porting Terry Towels and several 100% export oriented units have been established in the recent past. Exporters have been participating in the Heimtextile Exhibition in Frankfurt (Germany) which serves as an exposition for terry towels. The Cotton Textile EPC also disseminates information amongst international importing community about India's capability of manufacturing quality terry-towels.

[Translation]

Regional Rural Banks

1360. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Regional Rural Banks in the country and the total number of officers and employees working therein; and

(b) the total deposits made and loan advanced by these banks during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) there are 196 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the country. As on 31st March, 1993, the number of officers and other employees of RRBs were 29,356 and 40,817, respectively.

(b) the amount of deposits and advances outstanding in the RRBs as at the end of March, 1993 were Rs.6909 crores and Rs.4611 crores, respectively.

[English]

New Labour Policy

1361. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK:

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to bring about changes in the existing labour laws;

(b) whether a new labour policy has been drafted by the Government; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) streamlining of Labour Laws is a continuous process.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Handloom Sector

1362. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme-wise details of the Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes introduced by the Union Government for the development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers during 1991-92 including those schemes in which no financial assistance/grant was provided to Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the scheme-wise details of total funds and assistance provided in each case;

(c) whether any proposals have been submitted by Government of Uttar Pradesh

or related State bodies for 1992-93 in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government have fixed any time limit for receiving such proposals from State Government related State bodies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). The Office of the Development Commissioner of

Handlooms has been implementing various schemes for promotion of handloom sector. However, allocation of fund to the handloom sector is made scheme-wise and not state-wise on the basis of proposals/schemes received from the State Governments. Three new Schemes, namely Margin Money for Destitute Weavers, Project Package and Integrated Handloom Village Development were introduced during 1991-92. Besides, the ongoing Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, and Thrift Fund Scheme were revised during 1991-92. Release to Uttar Pradesh during the year under these Schemes were:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme introduced in 1991-92</i>	<i>Amount released During 1991-92</i>
1.	Scheme for Grant of Margin Money to Destitute Weavers	0.75
2.	Project Package Scheme	-
3.	Integrated Handloom Village Development	-
4.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	28.75

(c) On the basis of proposals submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and

other agencies, the following releases have been made during 1992-93:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme</i>	<i>Amount released During 1992-93.</i>
1.	Scheme for grant of Margin Money to destitute Weavers.	10.10
2.	Project Package Scheme	61.55
3.	Integrated Handloom Village Development	60.00

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme</i>	<i>Amount released During 1992-93.</i>
4. Welfare Package Scheme		
(a)	Thrift Fund Scheme	17.46
(b)	Group Insurance Scheme	4.00
(c)	Health Package Scheme	192.278
5.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	110.50
6.	National Design Collection	1.50
Total:		457.388

(d) The above schemes are on-going Scheme and as such no time limit has been fixed by the Union Government for receiving proposals from State Government.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Handloom Units

1363. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handloom units lying closed in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to reopen them;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in respect of the miserable conditions of these units;

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

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct any study in this regard; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) Government has no access to the data on the number of handloom units lying closed in the country in view of the decentralised nature of this industry.

(b) In order to reach benefits to those weavers who live in utter destitution, Government is implementing, from the year 1991-92, the scheme of Margin Money for Destitute Weavers. The assistance is available for Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies promoted by destitute weavers.

(c) A census of handlooms at the national level covering inter-alia certain data on the socio-economic aspect of handloom weavers was conducted through the State Government during 1987-88.

(d) One of the findings of the Census revealed that an average weaver household earn about Rs.715/- per month. The average income of urban households is Rs.935/- while that of rural households is Rs.678/-. The State-wise distribution of weaver households by monthly earnings is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Distribution of households by monthly earnings from all sources		
		Upto Rs. 200	Rs. 201-500	Rs. 501 and above
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13,672	1,13,934	44,054
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,784	18,995	13,096
3.	Assam	66,360	3,65,234	7,92,362
4.	Bihar	2,243	33,875	31,069
5.	Goa	2	16	26
6.	Gujarat	2,425	12,717	6,211
7.	Haryana	273	2,917	13,771
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3,219	13,657	12,193
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	785	8,213	8,558
10.	Karnataka	3,908	34,010	20,300
11.	Kerala	11,811	18,296	3,464
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1,441	20,747	13,525
13.	Maharashtra	2,701	33,583	15,492
14.	Manipur	4,405	26,995	1,60,738
15.	Meghalaya	0	213	6,186

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Distribution of households by monthly earnings from all sources		
		Upto Rs. 200	Rs. 201-500	Rs. 501 and above
16.	Mizoram	141	6,913	72,728
17.	Nagaland	13,492	14,484	23,053
18.	Orissa	4,993	53,125	28,369
19.	Punjab	206	3,723	3,969
20.	Rajasthan	1,504	16,838	11,506
21.	Tamil Nadu	24,803	1,44,302	92,204
22.	Tripura	8,331	64,129	27,397
23.	Uttar Pradesh	4,289	1,10,921	74,307
24.	West Bengal	31,386	2,02,681	50,140
25.	Delhi	6	1,241	6,138
26.	Pondicherry	168	2,184	942
Total		2,04,348	13,23,943	15,31,798

Industries in Backward Hill Areas

1364. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2831 on August 13, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the study group has been constituted in order to explore methods for enhancing fiscal support for new industrial undertakings in backward districts of other States which are not as a whole classified as backward;

(b) if so, the findings and recommendations thereof; and

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

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

(b) The study Group has yet to finalise its report.

(c) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Overseas Development Assistance for NTC Mills

1365.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3807 on August 20, 1993 and state the response of the Government of U.K. on the proposal for modernisation of NTC mills for funding un-

der their Overseas Development Assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): Government of the United Kingdom have not taken a final decision on the proposal for funding the modernisation of the mills of NTC under their Overseas Development Assistance.

[Translation]

Foreign Loan for Irrigation and Power Projects

1366. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign loan provided to the Government of Gujarat for implementation of irrigation and power projects in the State during the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which the loan is likely to be repaid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

(a) No foreign assistance has been provided to the Government of Gujarat for Irrigation Projects. Japan has, however, provided assistance for Power Projects during the last three years. Details are given in the Statement annexed.

(b) The Japanese ODA carries a rate of interest of 2.6% per annum and is repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years.

STATEMENT

Details of projects for which Japan has committed assistance for power projects during the last three years.

(In Millions Yen)

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Loan Amount</i>	<i>Date of Signing</i>	<i>Closing Date</i>	<i>Undrawn Balance</i>
1. Gandhar Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project (ID-P-63)	13046	27.3.90	27.3.95	3225
2. Gandhar Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project (ID-P-78)	42599	9.1.92	30.3.95	26058
3. Gandhar Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project (ID-P-86)	19538	21.12.92	30.9.95	24482

[English]

International Finance Corporation Projects

1367. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects are going to be set up in the country by the International Finance Corporation (IFC);

(b) if so, the details of such projects including the cost and locations thereof; and

(c) the time bound programme for completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) to (c). The International Finance Corporation is presently considering a number of projects in various sectors including cement, steel, tourism, general manufacturing and capital markets for investment in India. However, the details of the projects would be known after investment decisions are firmed and IFC approaches Government of India for clearance before investment.

Committee on Industrial Sickness and Restructuring

1368. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the founder members of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) have taken strong exception to the report of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Committee on the Report of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring have been received from the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and are under consideration of Government.

Euro Convertible Bonds

1369. SHRI SANATKUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government or the Reserve Bank of India has issued any norms or guidelines for the issue of Euro Convertible Bonds (ECB) by the Indian Companies;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The Indian Companies both in the private and public sector which have issued the ECBs and the monetary value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Government of India have notified a scheme on 12 .11. 1993 for issue of Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs) and Ordinary Shares through the Global Depository Receipt (GDR) Mechanism. According to the Scheme Indian Corporate bodies can raise foreign currency resources by issue of FCCBs/ Ordinary

shares through GDR mechanism subject to the overall ceiling for total foreign equity holding (excepting Foreign Institutional Investor holding) of 51% of the expanded equity Capital of the company after effecting

the issue.

(c) A statement indicating the name of Indian companies who have issued FCCBs and the amount raised by them is annexed.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>		<i>Amount Raised in US \$ million</i>
1.	M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd.	75.00
2.	M/s. The Shipping Credit and investment Company of India Limited	100.00
3.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	140.00
4.	M/s. Gujarat Ambuja Cements Limited	80.00
5.	M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd.	60.50

Loss of Public Sector Banks

1370. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the profit or loss of public sector banks, bank-wise during 1992-93;

(b) the break-up of the loss incurred during 1992-93, bank-wise and various contributing factors and elements;

(c) the total amount of bad losses writ-

ten off during 1992-93, bank-wise and with break-up between individual and corporate borrowers; and

(d) the number of accounts involved in such write off, bank-wise and with break-up by individual and corporate accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b). The profits/losses incurred by public sector banks bank-wise, during 1992-93 are given below:

	<i>Name of the bank</i>	<i>(Rs in crores) Net profit \ Net Loss</i>
1.	State Bank of India	212.04
2.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	10.50
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	17.02

	<i>Name of the bank</i>	<i>(Rs in crores) Net profit \ Net Loss</i>
4.	State Bank of Indore	3.22
5.	State Bank of Patiala	20.12
6.	State Bank of Mysore	4.02
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	5.00
8.	State Bank of Travancore	8.10
9.	Bank of Baroda	8.23
10.	Canara Bank	26.07
11.	Corporation Bank	4.12
12.	Indian Bank	6.51
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	20.50
14.	Punjab National Bank	30.01
15.	Union Bank of India	11.26
16.	Allahabad Bank	(-) 105.89 Loss
17.	Andhra Bank	(-) 141.09 Loss
18.	Bank of India	(-) 331.12 Loss
19.	Bank of Maharashtra	(-) 196.51 Loss
20.	Central Bank of India	(-) 383.31 Loss
21.	Dena Bank	(-) 90.46 Loss
22.	Indian Overseas Bank	(-) 752.74 Loss
23.	New Bank of India	(-) 75.79 Loss
24.	Punjab and Sind Bank	(-) 195.19 Loss

	<i>Name of the bank</i>	<i>(Rs in crores) Net profit \ Net Loss</i>
25.	Syndicate Bank	(-) 670.08 Loss
26.	United Bank of India	(-) 279.36 Loss
27.	UCO Bank	(-) 444.19 Loss
28.	Vijaya Bank	(-) 97.88 Loss

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had introduced prudential norms on income recognition, asset classification and provisioning from the accounting year beginning 1st April, 1992. The adoption of these prudential norms has adversely affected the working results of public sector banks in the year 1992-93.

(c) and (d). In accordance with the statutes governing the public sector banks as also in terms of the practices and usages customary amongst bankers, the banks do not disclose the quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which provisions are made to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors as also the amount of bad debts written off including the number of accounts involved therein.

translation]

Reward to Income Tax Informers

1371. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to reply given to Unstarred Question 2728 on August 13, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding reward to income tax informers has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The process of collection of information is yet to be completed.

[English]

SEBI Code For Advertisements

1372. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has outlined any framework for a code of advertisements to be followed by issuers, mutual funds and portfolio managers as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated August 18, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the manner in which it will safeguard the interests of the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-

MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
 (a) and (b). The Securities and Exchange Board of India had circulated on 18 August, 1993 a Consultative paper laying down a framework for a draft code of advertisement for issuers of capital, mutual funds and portfolio managers to elicit views from market participants and others before its finalisation. The important features of the draft code of advertisement for issuers of capital, mutual funds and portfolio managers are given in the Statement. Subsequently, SEBI has issued on 11 October, 1993 "Guidelines for Issue Advertisement" which proposes a Code for advertising for issuers of capital.

(c) The code of advertisement aims at helping potential investors to make informed decisions and preventing the issue of misleading advertisements.

STATEMENT

Important Features of the Draft Code of Advertisement for Issuers of Capital, Mutual Funds and Portfolio Managers

1. CODE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR ISSUERS

- (a) An issue advertisement shall be truthful, fair and clear and shall not contain any statement which is untrue or misleading.
- (b) An issue advertisement shall not be so designed in content and format which is likely to be misunderstood, or likely to disguise the significance of any statement.
- (c) Advertisements shall not be so designed to exploit the lack of experience of knowledge of the investor.
- (d) An issue advertisements shall not contain statement which promise of guarantee an appreciation of rapid profits particularly when it can not be substantiated.
- (e) An issue advertisement shall not contain language that is inconsistent with the offer document.
- (f) An issue advertisement shall not contain any information other than that appearing in the offer document filed with the Registrar of Companies/Stock Exchange.
- (g) All issue advertisements shall specifically mention atleast the issue particular the risk factors and the names of the Merchant Bankers and the Registrars and Collecting Bankers, associated with the issue.
- (h) No corporate advertisement of the issuer shall be issued between the date of announcement (statutory advertisement) and the closing of the subscription list.
- (i) No advertisement shall be issued stating that the issue has been subscribed or over subscribed during the period the issue is open for subscription, except to the effect that the issue is open or closed.
- (j) No models, celebrities, fictional characters, landmarks or caricatures or the likes shall be displayed on or form part of the offer documents or issue advertisements.
- (k) Financial parameters proposed to

be displayed shall contain data for the last three years and the next three years which must include, inter alia, sales, gross profit, net profit, share capital reserves, earnings per share and the book value.

2. CODE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR MUTUAL FUNDS

- (a) An advertisement shall be truthful, fair and clear and shall not contain any statement, promise or forecast which is untrue or misleading.
- (b) The sales literature may contain only information, the substance of which is included in the funds current advertisements in accordance with this code.
- (c) Advertisements shall not be so framed as to exploit the lack of experience or knowledge of the investors.
- (d) The advertisement shall not contain information, the accuracy of which is to any extent dependent on assumptions.
- (e) The advertisement shall not compare one Fund with another, implicitly or explicitly, unless the comparison is fair and all information relevant to the comparison is included in the advertisement.
- (f) The Funds which advertise yield must use standardised computations such as annual dividend on face value, annual yield on the purchase, price, and annual

compounded rate or return.

- (g) Funds shall indicate in all advertisements, the name of the Settlor, Trustee, Manager and or financial Advisor to the Fund, bringing out clearly their legal status and limited liability of these entities, distinction between each of them, both legally and in terms of their functions, responsibilities and obligations.
- (h) All advertisements shall also make a clear statement to the effect that all Funds and securities investments are subject to market risks, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's objectives will be achieved.
- (i) If however, in any advertisement a Fund guarantees or assures any minimum rate of return or yield to the prospective investor, resources to back such a guarantee shall also be indicated.

3. CODE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

- (a) An advertisement shall be truthful, fair and clear and shall not contain any statement, promise or forecast which is untrue or misleading.
- (b) The sales Literature should contain only information, the details of which is included in the portfolio managers scheme particulars or offer documents.
- (c) Advertisements shall not be so framed as to exploit the lack of experience or knowledge of the investor.

- (d) The advertisement shall not contain information, the accuracy of which is to any extent dependent on assumptions.
- (e) If however, in any advertisement the portfolio managers guarantees or assures any minimum rate of return or yield to the prospective investors, resources to back such a guarantee shall also be indicated.
- (f) The advertisement shall not compare one portfolio manager with another, implicitly or explicitly, unless the comparison is fair and all information relevant to the comparison is included in the advertisement.

Employment of Contract Labour

1373. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2757

on August 13, 1993 regarding employment of contract labour and state:

- (a) whether the information regarding parts (a) and (c) of the question has been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). According to the Ministry of Surface Transport, 105 contract workers, as per details in the Statement are engaged under contracts awarded by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust. These are engaged for conservancy work in the port area, roads and township as per the Government policy to restrict employment in Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for core activities only. According to the Port authorities, these workers are not employed for cleaning and sweeping.

STATEMENT

Employment of Contract Labour.

Nature of work	no. of. Labourers engaged.
1. Conservancy of Bulk Terminal	54
2. Removal of left out cargo	13
3. Conservancy of container	13
4. Conservancy of Hospital	6
5. Conservancy of multi purpose halls and Trainees Hostel	6
6. Conservancy of Admn. Building	13
105	

Export packages

1374. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce has recommended a comprehensive Export package including certain percentage of the proposed Export earnings to the States for the development of infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal formulated/finalised by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the expected implications thereof in boosting the Export; and

(d) the details of infrastructural facilities proposed to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) Yes, Sir. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its first report presented on 10.5.93, *inter alia*, recommended close involvement of State Governments in Export activities and allocation of additional funds to the extent of 5% of the Export earnings from the units located in those States for development of infrastructure for Export production.

(b) Measures taken to involve State Governments in Export promotion activities and grant incentive to them are briefly given below:

(i) The States have been requested to formulate Export policies on the lines of their industrial policy and chalk out time-bound Export plans.

(ii) It has been decided to grant Export

House status to one Export Corporation in each State nominated by the State Governments in relaxation of the minimum Export earnings condition. So far, 5 Corporations nominated by State Governments have been accorded Export House status.

(iii) The Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIP) Scheme has been finalised and circulated among the States. Under the Scheme, the Centre is to extend grant up to 75% of the capital expenditure on infrastructure, ordinarily limited to Rs. 10 crores per park. Besides, for maintainance of facilities grant equivalent to 2% of the export turnover of each unit established in the Industrial Parks will be extended for a period of 5 years.

(iv) Constant Centre State interface is being maintained on all important matters.

(c) and (d). The States are expected to provide infrastructural facilities like power, water, roads (including approach roads to the park), sewerage and drainage, tele-communication and other facilities for the Export Promotion Industrial Parks. Such facilities shall be of high standards to ensure that the units established in the parks are able to function efficiently.

Investment by Italy

1375. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with liberalisation there is a spurt in investment proposals from Italy in Indian (ndustry/joint ventures;

(b) if so, the details of Indo-Italian ongoing joint ventures, technology transfer and business ventures and the proposals received from Italy proposal-wise and the decision taken thereon;

(c) whether Indo-Italian Pact on double taxation has been finalised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other measures proposed to be taken for Indo-Italian Economic Cooperation during the next five years in specified areas of mutual benefits?

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

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

(c) and (d). The revised agreement for avoidance of double taxation was signed on 19-2-1993 which will come into force only upon the exchange of instruments of ratification.

(e) In the recent past no measures as such, have been proposed for Indo-Italian Development Cooperation during the next five years in specified areas on mutual benefit.

[Translation]

Overdrafts by States

1376. PROF. PREMDHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the overdrafts resorted to by the various States as on November 30, 1993 particularly by the States under the President's Rule;

(b) whether the Government propose to release special grants to make up this overdraft; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Five States were in overdraft as on 30.11.1993 as detailed below:

STATES		Amount of overdraft as on 30.11.1993 (Rs. in crores)
1.	Assam	5.87 (9th day)
2.	Himachal Pradesh	30.21 (6th day)
3.	Madhya Pradesh	4.84 (1st day)
4.	Mizoram	18.10 (6th day)
5.	West Bengal	28.17 (3rd day)

(b) The overdrafts of the States indicat-

ed in reply to part (a) above were cleared by

release of States' entitlements by the Ministry of Finance as on 1.12.1993 and, thus, no State was in overdraft as on 1.12.1993. There is, therefore, no question for considering the release of special grants to make up this overdraft.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of Export Promotion Industrial park at Ernakulam, Kerala.

1377. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to establish an Export Promotion Industrial Park at Ernakulam in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala in this regard;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ;

(e) whether any Central assistance has been made for this project ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f). A proposal received from the Government of Kerala regarding setting up of Export Promotion Industrial Park in Ernakulam is under consideration of the Government.

Simplification of Loan Procedure

1378. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a plan to simplify the procedure for the weaker sections to get loan from the public sector and other commercial banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the revised procedure is likely to help the weaker sections; and

(d) the amount of loan provided to these sections during the current year so far, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) to (c). In terms of Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) guidelines, all Indian Banks, including public sector banks are required to extend at least 10% of their total credit or 25% of their total priority sector advances, to weaker sections. The Commercial Banks are required to adhere to the instructions of RBI issued from time to time in the matter of advancing loans to the weaker sections. It has been, inter alia, stipulated in RBI guidelines that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- are to be disposed off within a fortnight and those for over Rs.25,000/- within 8-9 weeks, no third party guarantee of collateral security is to be insisted upon for loan upto Rs.10,000/-, appropriate sanctioning powers should be delegated to the Branch Managers so that

majority of loan applications are sanctioned at branch level itself, and loan proposals from SC/ST applications should not be rejected without valid reasons, and such rejection should be at a level higher than that of Branch Manager. In addition to above, the performance of public sector banks in the matter of extending credit assistance to weaker sections is reviewed by the Board of Directors of the concerned banks, Government as well as RBI periodically and suitable steps are taken to make up the deficiencies noticed.

(d) RBI has prescribed different for-

mat's for different category of loans advanced by banks for collecting relevant information. The process of collection and compilation of detailed data on different aspects is a time consuming process, and therefore, the information relating to different types of loans are not available for the same period on a particular point of time. The latest information relating to each state in respect of loans to weaker section is available for the period ending March 1992. The State wise outstanding amount of all banks extended to weaker sections as at the end of March 92 is given in the Statement.

STATEMENT

State-wise amount of Outstanding Advances by Commercial Banks to Weaker sections at the end of March 1992 (Latest Available)

<i>Name of States</i>	<i>Amount Outstanding (Rs. in crores)</i>
Haryana	301
Himachal Pradesh	80
Jammu & Kashmir	36
Punjab	556
Rajasthan	512
Chandigarh	26
Delhi	94
Assam	149
Arunachal Pradesh	6
Manipur	19
Meghalaya	23

<i>Name of States</i>	<i>Amount Outstanding (Rs. in crores)</i>
Mizoram	12
Nagaland	21
Tripura	26
Bihar	827
Orissa	398
Sikkim	5
West Bengal	636
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3
Madhya Pradesh	761
Uttar Pradesh	1449
Goa	22
Gujarat	472
Maharashtra	780
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.2
Daman & Diu	0.8
Andhra Pradesh	1089
Karnataka	791
Kerala	552
Tamil Nadu	1404
Lakshadweep	1
Pondicherry	23

[*Translation*]**Production of Tea**

1380. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tea produced in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether this production has declined; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) Production of tea in India during the last 3 years has been as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (M.kgs)</i>
1990	720.34
1991	754.19
1992 (Estimated)	703.93

(b) and (c). Production of tea during 1992 has shown a decline on account of unfavourable agro-climatic conditions in different tea growing areas in the country during that year.

Sick Unit's[*English*]

1381. SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

state:

(a) the number of public sector undertakings referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction during the last three years;

(b) the reports of the BIFR on these undertakings;

(c) the number of the public sector sick and the number out of them received so far;

(d) the financial aid provided by the Government sick PSUs; and

(e) the number of PSU's being run by workers societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that references in respect of 140 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been received by them since December, 1991 when PSUs came under the purview of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(b) and (c). Of the 14 references received, 106 were registered as on 30. 11. 1993. Of these 106 cases, 80 have been declared sick, 13 dismissed as non maintainable, orders reserved in respect of 7 cases and 6 cases are yet to be heard.

Of the cases declared sick, orders Under Section 20 (1) have been passed in respect of 3 cases for winding up, notices issued in 7 cases to show cause why the company should not be wound up and draft schemes circulated in respect of 2 cases. The remaining 68 cases are at various stages of hearing in the BIFR.

(d) does not arise as no revival scheme has yet been sanctioned by the BIFR.

(e) No PSU is being run by the Workers' Societies.

Bombay Airport

1382. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether extra porters were allowed to operate at the Bombay airport by the International Airports Authority of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the International Airports Authority's Vigilance Officer has passed severe strictures against the free porters service run by a private Delhi-based agency at Bombay airport;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the services of the agency have been extended;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d). Excess deployment of porters was noticed in the investigations conducted by the Vigilance Department of International Airports Authority of India. The officer responsible for the lapse has been placed under suspension and a departmental inquiry against him is in progress.

(e) and (f). The contract of the agency was valid upto 18.06.93. Alternative arrangements are being made to provide the facility. The delay in making alternative arrangements is due to rejection of earlier tenders for technical reasons. Fresh tenders received are being processed. In the meantime, the agency has been asked to continue to provide porterage service upto 31.12.1993.

Rural and Cottage Industries

1383. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has provided any refinance assistance to set up rural and cottage industries in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided during each of the last three years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance assistance to banks for setting up rural and cottage industries in the rural areas of the country. The details of assistance provided by NABARD during each of the last three years for the above purpose (other than those covered by IRDP) State-wise, are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

STATE-WISE POSITION OF REFINANCE PROVIDED BY NABARD FOR SETTING UP SMALL,
TINY COTTAGE AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES IN RURAL AREAS DURING 1990-91.

Sl. No.	State/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Chandigarh	-	-	-
2.	New Delhi	8.00	6.84	13.59
3.	Haryana	510.00	416.00	624.62
4.	Himachal Pradesh	51.00	125.00	46.89
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	107.00	11.00	94.04
6.	Punjab	145.00	185.09	202.96
7.	Rajasthan	380.00	599.00	786.88
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-	3.90
9.	Assam	162.00	191.01	119.00
10.	Manipur	-	20.00	137.60

Sl. No.	State/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
11.	Meghalaya	5.00	2.00	2.10
12.	Mizoram	-	1.00	7.39
13.	Nagaland	-	8.18	3.00
14.	Tripura	2.00	-	3.00
15.	Andaman & Nicobar Is.			
16.	Bihar	20.00	11.00	243.50
17.	Orissa	56.00	76.00	199.42
18.	Sikkim	-	-	4.00
19.	West Bengal	550.00	827.00	934.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	152.00	111.45	153.65
21.	Uttar Pradesh	425.00	473.00	576.50
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	8.01	12.00
23.	Goa, Daman & Diu	53.00	37.45	49.80

Sl. No	State/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
24.	Gujarat	488.00	903.88	1234.65
25.	Maharashtra	1408.00	1796.00	1456.88
26.	Andhra Pradesh	343.00	347.00	665.08
27.	Karnataka	1132.00	1202.95	1755.45
28.	Kerala	1312.00	1501.00	1802.96
29.	Pondicherry	7.00	23.00	15.00
30.	Tamil Nadu	696.00	1237.00	1673.77
	Total	8038.00	10121.86	12826.43

World Bank Aided Projects

1384. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the report of the Operations Education Division of the World Bank, the Government have failed to follow the Banks guidelines on rehabilitation and resettlement of project outstees and recommended stoppage of funding the projects requiring resettlement of the affected people;

(b) if so, the likely implications in the event of stoppage of funding the projects by the World Bank; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) to (c): There is no report of the Operations Educations Department of the World Bank regarding Governments failure to follow Bank guidelines on rehabilitation and resettlement. There is however, study conducted by the Operations Evaluation Department of the World Bank entitled 'Early Experience with Involuntary Resettlement-Overview'. The study concentrates on case studies, including two from India. These two projects were approved before Bank guidelines on resettlement came into effect. The report does not recommend stoppage of funding of projects requiring resettlement of affected people.

Loan Schemes for Weaker Sections

1385. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any review of the implementation of loan schemes for weaker sections in Gujarat during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

(a) and (b). Government of India and Reseve Bank of India have not conducted any review on the implementation of loan schemes for weaker section exclusively for Gujarat. However, the concerned Ministries of Government of India administering the schemes/programmes conduct a review meeting with representatives of all public sector banks and RBI to review the progress on All India level and wherever necessary corrective steps are initiated. Apart from this, these programmes are reviewed at the State Level by the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) and at the District Level by District Level Consultative Committee (DLCC). The outstanding advances extended by all commercial banks to weaker sections under each segment for the last two years ending March 1990-91 (latest available) in the State of Gujarat was as under:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Segment of weaker sections</i>	<i>Amount outstanding</i>	
	<i>March'90</i>	<i>March'91</i>
IRDP beneficiaries	133	119
DRI beneficiaries	46	34
Small & Marginal farmers etc.	195	171
Artisans, Village & Cottage Industries	37	36
SC/ST beneficiaries	146	149
SEPUP beneficiaries	7	11

Bangalore Airport

1386. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWIA:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA
PRABHA URS:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted an expert committee to convert the Bangalore airport as an international airport;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the committee;

(c) whether the expert committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the recommendations made therein; and

(e) the decision taken by the Union Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) to (e): A Committee under the chairmanship of Shri S. Pamarathan was constituted by the Government to examine the feasibility of constructing a new airport of international standards near Bangalore.

The Committee has recommended a site south of Devanahalli for construction of a new airport. This site is situated 23 kilometers from Yelahanka and 40 kilometers from Bangalore city centre.

Various techno-economic factors need to be considered before a final view in the matter can be taken.

Prosecution Cases by RLC, Dhanbad

1387. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prosecution cases pending in the court of the Regional Labour Commissioner(Central), Dhanbad and since when they are pending;

(b) the number of cases in which punishment has been awarded during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Regional Labour Commissioner(Central) Dhanbad is not functioning as a court. However, out of the prosecution cases filed by Dhanbad region during the last 10 years, 12,596 are still pending in various courts.

(b) 667

(c) the cases are being pursued in the concerned courts for expeditious disposal.

Small Savings Shares to States

1388. SHRI BOLLABLULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have urged the Union Government that they may be allowed to increase their share in small savings;

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

(c) the extent to which the reduction of rates of interest in deposit and lending by the Government has affected the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED).

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestion for increasing the states share could not be agreed to in the context of mounting obligations of the Central Government towards repayment, interest payments and the cost of management of these schemes and the Centre's budgetary constraints.

(c) the small savings collections upto September 1993 have shown an appreciable increase over that during the corresponding period of last year. Loans sanctioned to State Governments this year, upto November 1993, against net small savings collections were Rs.3644.69 crores as against Rs.2523.08 crores sanctioned during the corresponding period last year.

[Translation]

Balance of Trade

1389. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's balance of trade has sharply declined during the first six months of the current year;

(b) if so, the extent thereof indicating the import and export figures, in terms of rupees and foreign exchange during the above period;

(c) the details of foreign trade, import and export figures with respect of different sectors, Sector-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for promoting exports of labour intensive industries like shoe, agro-products and handicrafts.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b):

India's balance of trade during the first six months of the current year i.e. during April-September 93-94, in dollar terms has declined by 83% over the corresponding period last year. The details of imports, exports and balance of trade for the above periods are given below:

<i>In Rupee Terms</i>		<i>(Rs. crores)</i>	
	<i>April-Sept 92</i>	<i>April-Sept 93</i>	
Exports	24404.33	32461.19	
Imports	31888.24	33642.54	
Balance of Trade	-7484.91	-1381.35	
<i>In Dollar Terms</i>		<i>(US\$ Million)</i>	
Exports	8548.68	10351.11	
Imports	11170.71	10791.59	
Balance of Trade	-2622.03	-440.48	

(c) Statement on India's import & Export of Principal commodities, in dollar terms for the period April-August, 93-94, the latest period for which such data are available, is the enclosed statement I and II.

(d) The Government has always encouraged the exports of labour intensive industries in which India has a natural comparative advantage. Steps taken for export promotion comprise measures such as giving weightage to physical export of products

manufactured by small scale industries, handloom and handicrafts etc. in qualifying for export house trading house/star trading house status, making available quality raw material participation in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions abroad, allowing agricultural Export Oriented Units (EOUs) to sell 50% of their products in the Domestic Tariff Area etc. Export promotion is a continuous and on-going process and policies and procedures are evolved in consultation with trade and industry.

Commodities	(US \$ Million)		
	Apr.-Aug. 1992	Apr.-Aug. 1993	
		% Growth	
4. Sugar	0.15	0.02	-
5. Pulp & waste paper	82.01	56.69	-30.9
6. Paper board & mfrs.	50.70	56.34	11.1
7. Newsprint	18.99	38.30	101.7
8. Crude rubber	41.23	44.72	8.5
9. Non-ferrous Metals	162.77	173.47	6.6
10. Metaliferrous ores & metal scrap	339.05	133.68	-60.6
11. Iron & Steel	339.59	270.68	-20.3
12. Petroleum crude & products	2470.64	2532.08	2.5
III. PEARLS, PRECIOUS & SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES	943.48	1229.54	30.3
IV. MACHINERY	1218.56	1570.15	28.9
1. Machine Tools	61.80	65.26	5.6
2. Machinery other than electrical	680.66	759.41	11.6
3. Electrical machinery	332.78	277.65	-16.6
4. Transport Equipment	143.32	467.82	226.4
V. PROJECT GOODS	563.02	453.59	-19.4

Commodities	(US \$ Million)		
	Apr.-Aug. 1992	Apr.-Aug. 1993	% Growth
OTHERS	2491.62	2002.86	-19.6
1. Cashew Nuts	67.02	35.98	-46.3
2. Fruits & Nuts	19.23	16.68	-13.2
3. Wool raw	59.73	46.52	-22.1
4. Silk raw	41.10	29.33	-28.6
5. Synth. & reg. fibres	11.74	10.86	-7.5
6. Pulses	47.46	49.07	3.4
7. Raw Hides & Skins	10.87	9.60	-11.7
8. Leather	30.08	32.36	7.6
9. Coal, coke & briquettes	239.78	172.02	-28.3
10. Non-metallic mn. mfrs.	38.62	32.36	-16.2
11. Other crude minerals	41.87	27.61	-34.1
12. Organic & Inorganic chmls.	689.43	454.97	-34.0

<i>Commodities</i>	<i>(US \$ Million)</i>	
	<i>Apr.-Aug. 1992</i>	<i>Apr.-Aug. 1993</i>
13. Dyeing, tanning matrl.	32.65	32.31
14. Medicinal & Pharma. prds.	110.72	86.07
15. Afffl. resins, etc.	218.67	165.75
16. Chemical products	74.09	58.40
17. Textile yarn, fabrics, etc.	69.15	77.19
18. Manufactures of metals	59.96	65.40
19. Profll. instruments, etc.	203.02	192.29

Source : DGCIS, Calcutta.

STATEMENT - II

EXPORT OF PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES : APRIL - AUGUST, 1993-94

Commodities	(US \$ Million)		% Growth
	Apl.-Aug. 1992	Apl.-Aug. 1993	
I. PLANTATIONS	145.58	184.54	26.8
1. Tea	103.70	136.39	31.5
2. Coffee	41.87	48.15	15.0
II. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS	727.40	1002.92	37.9
1. Cereal	147.01	177.79	20.9
(a) Rice	142.70	176.39	23.6
(b) Wheat	2.05	-	-
(c) Others	2.26	1.40	-37.9
2. Pulses	7.23	5.94	-17.9
3. Tobacco	75.11	62.94	-16.2
(a) Unmanufactured	64.27	47.92	-25.4
(b) Manufactured	10.84	15.03	38.6

	<i>Commodities</i>	<i>(US \$ Million)</i>		
		<i>Apl.-Aug. 1992</i>	<i>Apl.-Aug. 1993</i>	
			<i>% Growth</i>	
4.	Spices	60.70	71.90	18.4
5.	Nuts & Seeds	118.62	167.43	41.2
(a)	Cashew incl. CNSL	106.72	136.40	29.7
(b)	Sesame & Niger seed	11.71	7.24	-38.1
(c)	Groundnut	0.19	21.79	11647.6
6.	Oil Meals	159.18	262.13	64.7
7.	Guergam meal	13.40	19.05	42.2
8.	Caster Oil	12.81	37.22	190.6
9.	Shellac	3.94	11.29	186.3
10	Sugar & Mollasses	16.18	45.32	180.0
11.	Processed Foods	75.83	92.54	22.0
(a)	Fruits & Vegetables	44.85	54.82	22.2
(b)	processed Frits & Juices	17.39	20.16	15.9
(c)	Misc. processed items	13.59	17.56	29.2

<i>Commodities</i>	<i>(US \$ Million)</i>		
	<i>Apr.-Aug. 1992</i>	<i>Apr.-Aug. 1993</i>	
		<i>% Growth</i>	
12. Meat & Meat products	30.73	42.12	37.1
13. Floriculture products	2.27	1.95	-14.1
14. Spirit & Beverages	4.39	5.29	20.5
III. MARINE PRODUCTS	203.20	244.75	20.4
IV. ORES & MINERALS	271.28	354.28	30.6
1. Iron ore	146.02	187.89	28.7
2. Mica	3.04	4.49	47.9
3. Processed Minerals	54.42	73.76	35.6
4. Other ores & Minerals	66.05	84.42	27.8
5. Coal	1.76	3.71	110.9
V. LEATHER & MFRS.	504.41	520.62	3.2
1. Footwear	163.01	177.93	9.1
2. Leather & mfrs.	341.39	342.69	0.4
VI. GEMS & JEWELLERY	1093.46	1507.32	37.8

	<i>Commodities</i>	<i>(US \$ Million)</i>		
		<i>Apr.-Aug. 1992</i>	<i>Apr.-Aug. 1993</i>	
			<i>% Growth</i>	
VII.	SPORTS GOODS	14.66	15.22	3.8
VIII.	CHEMICALS & RELATED PRODUCTS	708.68	913.79	28.9
1.	Basic chemis.. Pharma & Cosmetics	458.41	531.43	15.9
2.	Plastics & Linoleum	50.67	112.75	122.5
3.	Rubber, glass & other products	164.24	232.38	41.5
4.	Residual chemis. & allied products	35.37	37.23	5.2
IX.	ENGINEERING GOODS	845.37	1035.37	22.5
X.	ELECTRONICS GOODS	95.49	112.70	18.0
XI.	PROJECT GOODS	10.63	2.67	-74.9
XII.	TEXTILES	1785.63	1972.62	10.5
1.	Readymade garments	963.91	1046.71	8.6
2.	Cotton, yarn, fabrics, made-ups, etc.	522.59	603.09	15.4
3.	Manmade textiles made-ups, etc.	165.83	192.82	16.3
4.	Natural silk textiles*	57.28	43.00	-24.9

	Commodities	(US \$ Million)		
		Apl.-Aug. 1992	Apl.-Aug. 1993	
			% Growth	
5.	Wool & woolen mfrs.	12.39	19.14	54.5
6.	Coir & coir mfrs.	12.48	16.76	34.3
7.	Jute mfrs.	51.15	51.10	-0.1
XIII.	HANDICRAFTS	105.20	126.65	20.4
XIV.	CARPETS	205.07	210.62	2.7
1.	Hand-made excl. Silk	162.45	164.30	1.1
2.	Mill made excl. Silk	34.79	40.93	17.6
3.	Silk Carpets	7.82	5.40	-
XV	COTTON RAW incl. waste	6.31	148.67	2256.3
XVI	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	193.30	210.04	8.7
XVII	UNCLASSIFIED EXPORTS	67.40	130.26	93.3
	GRAND TOTAL	6983.08	8693.03	24.5

Source : DGI&S, Calcutta.

Reduction in Import Duty

1390. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import duties have been reduced on certain industrial items during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of this step on the revenue collection during the remaining part of the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (c). The notifications issued to reduce the import duty rates on industrial goods during the current financial year are notified in the Official Gazette and all such notifications are laid on the Table of the House. The revenue implication on account of such duty reductions during the remaining part of the financial year is estimated to be about Rs.77 crores

Changes in Customs tariff and central exercise

1391. SHRI SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to accept all the recommendations of the Rekhi Committee;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce drastic changes in the area of Customs Tariff and Central Excise in the light of the recommendations of this Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (d). Recommendations of the Rekhi Committee, contained in Volume-I of their report received in May, 1993 and Volume-II of the Report has been received recently. As the Government decided to take a composite view thereon, final decisions on all recommendations have not been taken yet.

Educational Centres for Child Labour

1392. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the MINISTER OF LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide assistance for the opening and running of educational centres for the child labourers; and

(b) if so, the details of such organisations functioning for the last three years and the amount of the assistance provided to each of these centres, State-wise?

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The Union provides assistance for implementing welfare and rehabilitation projects for Child Labour. Imparting of education is an important and integral component of such projects.

(b) : A Statement is annexed.

STATEMENT

States	Organisation	No. of schools	Amount released in the last 3 years	Project
1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh	1) Centre for Rural Education and Development Action (CREDA)	10	38.55.844	National Child Labour Project (NCLP)
	2) Saghan Kshettri Vikas Samiti (SKVS)	10	35.38.230	NCLP
	3) Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW)	30	68.47.038	NCLP
Madhya Pradesh	1) Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW)	4	3.83.380	Grants in Aid (GIA)
	2) Child Labour Project Society Mandsaur	3	30.81.438	NCLP

States	Organisation	No. of schools	Amount released in the last 3 years			Project
			1	2	3	
Rajasthan	1) Child Labour Project Society Jaipur	20	70.57.324			NCLP
Andhra Pradesh	1) Child Labour Project Society, Jaggampet	1	2.32.608			NCLP
	2) Child labour Project Society Markapur	20	69.41.192			NCLP
Tamil Nadu	1) Women's Voluntary Service of TamilNadu	3	12.08.102			NCLP
	2) Tamil Nadu Rural Reconstruction Movement	4	10.03.555			NCLP
	3) Young Men s Christian Association	3	10.74.686			NCLP
	4) Society for Peoples Education & Economic Change	1	6.86.062			NCLP

States	Organisation	No. of schools	Amount released in the last 3 years		Project
			3	4	
1	2	3	4	5	
	5) Annai Theresa Kalvi Mennetrach Sangam	2	5,81,816	NCLP	
	6) Youths Association Muthuramalingapuram	1	3,70,307	NCLP	
	7) Association of Sarva Seva Farms, Thiruthangal	2	7,95,846	NCLP	
	8) Madurai Multi- purpose Social Service Society	3	19,12,842	NCLP	
	9) Unemployed Young People's Association, Tirunagar	3	16,55,951	NCLP	
	10) Guild of Service Sattur	3	12,13,208	NCLP	
	11) Development Action for Women in Need	2	3,90,924	NCLP	
	12) Congregation of the Sisters of Cross of Chavanod, Tiruchirappalli	2	1,50,132	G/A	

States	Organisation	No. of schools	Amount released in the last 3 years	Project
1	2	3	4	5
	13) Malarohi Trust Vahaikulam	1	3,50,063	GIA
	14) Mother Home orphanage	5	7,10,197	NCLP
Orissa	Ruchika School, Bhubaneswar	10	3,71,220	GIA
Karnataka	Karnataka State Council for Child Welfare	3	2,49,131	GIA
West Bengal	1) Institute of Psychological & Educational Research 2) Vivekananda Education Society, Calcutta	36	18,21,265	GIA
Delhi	Indian Council for Child Welfare	2	2,13,645	GIA

* NCLP : National Child Labour Project - (Provides 100% assistance)

GIA : Grant-in-Aid Scheme - (Provides 75% assistance)

Assistance for Tourism Promotion Project in Maharashtra

1393. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought financial assistance for the Union Government for tourism promotion projects in the State to be taken up during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals sent by the State Government and the amount of financial assistance sought for each project; and

(c) the present status of each of these proposals including the amount of financial assistance sanctioned for each of the approved projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHUKAM NABI AZAD)

(a): No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for Central assistance during 1993-94.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Does not arise.

Foreing Investment in states

1394. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has initiated the discussion on the issue of foreign investment in the States;

(b) if so, the details there of;

(c) whether the Government have told the States to provide the infrastructure to attract the investments from abroad; and

(d) if so, the details of the benefits to be accrued by each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTEEER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

(a) No, Sir. There has been no formal dialogue with State Governments on the issue of foreign direct investment.

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

ADB Lond for proveerty Alleviation Programme

1395. PROF SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have called for beefing up the resources of the Asian Development Bank's soft lending window, the Asian Development Fund, especially ass the region has a large proportion of the population living below the poverty line; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED).

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Asian Development Fund provides loans on concessionary terms to developing member countries with low per capita GNP and limited debt repayment capacity. In the 26th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of ADB, held on 4-6 May, 1993. The Government

made the point that India is also fully eligible for ADF resources and that the country's legitimate claims for access to these funds should be taken up at the time of the mid-term review of ADF-IV. Access to ADF resources would be particularly necessary for enabling the bank to finance the Social Safety Net operations which are necessary to mitigate the hardship of the adjustment process on the more vulnerable and poorer segments of the society.

**Assistance for Development of
Tourism in Gujarat**

1396. SHRI ARAVIND TRIVEDI:
K.D.JESWANI:

Will the MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) The amount of financial assistance given by the Union Government for development of tourism in Gujarat during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) the details of the projects/historical

palaces for which such assistance was provided;

(c) the names of the places, out of the above, in economically backward and tribal areas in Gujarat; and

(d) the details of such proposals pending with the Union Government for financial assistance during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c). The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned Rs.141.58 lakhs in 1991-92 and Rs. 20.90 lacs during 1992-93 for development of tourism in the State of Gujarat. The details of the projects sanctioned are given in the STATEMENT.

(d) The Central Department of Tourism has received two proposals for central assistance during 1993-94. The State Government of Gujarat have not submitted any proposals for 1994-95.

STATEMENT

PROJECT/SCHEMES SANCTIONED DURING 1991-92

<i>SL No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme/Project</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
GUJARAT		
1	Tourist complex at Bhuj	13.08
2	Tourist complex at Shyamlaji	18.27
3	Tourist complex at Ukai Lake	16.27
4	Wayside amenities at Sola	9.00
5	Wayside amenities at Kamrej	6.79

<i>SL No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme/Project</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
6	Wayside amenities at Navasari	6.24
7	Tourist lodge at Bhimnath	11.39
8.	Wayside amenities at Limkhera	6.24
9.	Water sports equipment	10.00
10.	Land Sailing Yachts	2.27
11.	Fairs & Festivals	7.16
12.	Renovation of Holiday Homes	3.62
13.	Renovation of Chorwad	10.00
14.	Renovation of Holiday Homes	23.25
TOTAL		141.58

Bank Loans to Rural Employment Oriented Sections

1397. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy and the norms laid down by the Government for providing financial assistance/loans through banks to the rural employment oriented sections like Khadi Village Industry, Cottage Industry, Agro-industries, pumping sets and agriculture equipment; and

(b) the position of financial assistance proposed to be provided under these heads during the current year and 1994-95, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):
(a) and (b). Indian commercial banks have been advised to lend at least 40%, 10% and 18% of their net bank credit to priority sector, weaker sections and agriculture respectively. They have also been advised to grant a minimum of 1% of their total advances outstanding as at the end of the previous year under DRI Scheme. Commercial banks are required to have Credit Deposit Ratio of at least 60% each in respect of advances granted by their branches located at Rural and Semi-Urban Centres. The banks also participate in Government sponsored programmes like the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the scheme for providing self-employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) and Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) for the educated unemployed youth, and provide loans to eligible beneficiaries to help them take up viable enterprises.

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines for advances to priority sectors, banks provide finance to farmers for various purposes which includes advances for purchasing agricultural equipments and electric equipments like installation of electric motor and pumpsets. If the loan proposal is technically feasible and economically viable the banks provide investment loans repayable in suitable installments. The unit cost of investment for various purposes, the number of units that constitute an economic size

etc. are indicated by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for various types of investments. These norms are taken into account by banks while working out the credit needs of the borrowers. The financing of viable ventures by entrepreneurs in rural areas is an 'on-going' process. The term loans given for minor irrigation scheme and tractors and agricultural equipments by commercial banks as on June, 1992 (latest available) was as under:-

(Amount in crores of Rs.)

(No. of accounts in lakhs)

	Disbursed		Outstanding	
	No. of Accounts	Amount	No. of Accounts	Amount
Minor Irrigation	2.26	260.50	21.58	2070.30
Tractors & Agricultural equipments	1.31	846.41	9.16	3702.13

[English]

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Allocation to Gujarat Under IRDP

1398. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the Government of Gujarat under the Integrated Rural Development Programme during 1992-93;

(b) the amount released and utilised so far and the number of families benefited;

(c) whether the role and performance of the banks under the said scheme in Gujarat has been reviewed; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) and (b): an amount of Rs.20.10 crores was allocated (Centre and State) to Gujarat under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the year 1992-93. Against this, the total release was Rs.21.95 crores during 1992-93 and the utilization was Rs.22.04 crores, benefiting 61842 families. During the current financial year (upto September, 1993) so far an amount of Rs.23.93 crores have been released and the utilization is Rs.13.69 crores, benefiting 34031 families.

(c) and (d): a committee has been appointed by Reserve Bank of India to review all aspects of the implementation of IRD Programme including the role and performance of banks.

[Translation]

Loans to SCs/STs by Public Sector Banks

1349. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any review has been made by the Government and Reserve Bank of India regarding the performance of public sector banks in the matter of providing loan assistance to the beneficiaries of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the irregularities notice during the review, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Reserve Bank of India to check such irregularities?

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) and (b): an amount of Rs.20.10 crores was allocated (Centre and State) to Gujarat under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the year 1992-93. Against this, the total release was Rs.21.95 crores during 1992-93 and the utilization was Rs.22.04 crores, benefiting 61842 families. During the current financial year (upto September, 1993) so far an amount of Rs.23.923 crores have been

released and the utilization is Rs.13.69 crores, benefiting 34031 families.

(c) and (d): a Committee has been appointed by Reserve Bank of India to review all aspects of the implementation of IRD Programme including the role and performance of banks.

[Translation]

Loans to SCs/STs by Public Sector Banks

1399. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review has been made by the Government and Reserve Bank of India regarding the performance of public sector banks in the matter of providing loan assistance to the beneficiaries of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the irregularities notice during the review, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Reserve Bank of India to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) and (b): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had conducted a study in December '90 to evaluate public sector banks' performance in lending to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) beneficiaries with Special reference to the implementation of different Government sponsored programmes and its impact on income and employment generation among SC/ST beneficiaries. The

study was made on an All India basis covering 285 bank branches in 59 districts in 219 States of the country. The main findings/conclusions of the study are as under:

1. The performance of banks in financing SC/ST beneficiaries was generally satisfactory.
2. Overall flow of credit to SC/ST beneficiaries have increased both numberless as well as amontwise.
3. The banks covered under the study had achieved the targets set for them under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). However, the branches could not achieve the target prescribed under Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) and Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP). However, their performance under both the programmes had shown an improving trend.
4. The study had revealed poor repayment/recovery performance in respect of credit advances to SC/ST beneficiaries.
5. A major portion of the finance provided to SC/ST beneficiaries was under DRI, IRDP and other Government sponsored programmes.
6. Loan applications of SC/ST categories were generally considered sympathetically and expeditiously by the bank branches. Loan application of SC/ST category were not rejected on flimsy grounds

at any of the bank branches.

7. Most of the bank branches had participated in specific programmes drawn up by State Agencies like SC/ST Development Corporation etc., for upliftment of SCs/STs.
8. The guidelines/instructions issued by RBI with regard to security norms etc., were generally adhered to by the bank branches.
9. The extent of incremental income generated was not satisfactory. Poor income generation was due to poor maintenance or misutilisation of the assets.

(c) The gist of the findings/conclusions of the study was brought to the notice of the Chief Executives of all public sector banks by RBI and they were advised to pay special attention to those features which needed remedial measures on the part of the banks.

Loan to Co-operative Spinning Mills in Maharashtra

1400. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra requested the Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Financial Corporation of India and other Central Financial Institutions to expedite clearance of long term loans for Cooperative Spinning Mills proposed to be set up in the State;

(b) if so, whether the loans have been provided by the above institutions;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the

last two years and the current year so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a final decision is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). IDBI have reported that they have received six applications for setting up such mills in the co-operative sector in Maharashtra. IDBI have further stated that in the context of the large spinning capacity already existing, the Financial Institutions have been selective in supporting grass root spinning mills. Only projects set up by promoters having adequate experience in textile industry and envisaging export of yarn are considered for assistance. Keeping in view the poor performance and credit record of existing co-operative spinning mills in Maharashtra and the fact that co-operative spinning mills generally cater to the domestic market, IDBI has conveyed its reservations to the Government of Maharashtra about extending support to new spinning mills in the co-operative sector.

[English]

**Development of Tourism in
Singhurdurg and Ratnagiri
Districts of Maharashtra**

1401. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Singhurdurg and Ratnagiri Districts of Maharashtra have been declared as Special Tourism areas for integrated development; and

(b) if so, the facilities being provided by the Union Government for development of tourism there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) only Singhurdurg in Maharashtra has been identified as a Special Tourism Area for intensive development.

(b) the State Government of Maharashtra is yet to constitute the Special Tourism Area Development Authority for Singhurdurg.

[Translation]

**Nationalised Banks in
Uttar Pradesh**

1402. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks functioning in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether this number of adequate leaping in view the large size of the State;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to open more branches of nationalized banks in the State;

(d) if so, locations thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) As at the end of June, 1993, the number of nationalised banks' branches functioning in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh was 2888.

(b) The average population per branch office (APPBO) in Uttar Pradesh for rural and semi-urban areas works out to 14,000 as against the target of achieving an APPBO of 17,000 under Branch Expansion Policy 1985-90 of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). With the opening of branches under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95, the APPBO is likely to come down further.

(c) to (e). RBI has reported that licences for 12 centres issued under Branch Ex-

pansion Programme 1990-95 in Uttar Pradesh are pending with the nationalised banks. The location of these centres are given in the statement. Banks are expected to open branches at these centres upto 31.3.1995. Further, 33 licences issued under Branch Expansion Policy 1985-90 for opening branches in rural areas in the State, were pending at the end of March, 1993 mainly on account of non-availability of infrastructure at the centres concerned. Although it has been decided to treat the licences as lapsed cancelled with effect from 1.4.1993, the banks have been advised to approach RBI afresh for issue of licenses after finalising premises etc. The location of these 33 centres for which licences were pending are also given in the statement.

STATEMENT

Licences issued to Nationalised Banks for opening of branches at Rural centres under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95 and are pending.

Name of the Centre	District	Name of the Centre	District
1. Sarhema	Barabanki	2. Belwa	Basti
3. Dumariadewa	Gonda	4. Khakuma	Pilibhit
5. Ramnagar	Pilibhit	6. Durgaganj Bazar	Pratapgarh
7. Raniganj Dhandupur	Pratapgarh	8. Sangramgarh	Pratapgarh
9. Lalpur	Rampur	10. Sahastradhara	Dehradun
11. Narautha Devidas	Shahjahanpur	12. Rihand Nagar	Shahjahanpur

Rural Licences issued to Nationalised Banks under Branch Expansion Programme 1985-90 and pending as on 31.3.93

Name of the Centre	District	Name of the Centre	District
1. Bansbag	Pithoragarh	2. Kotiabazar	Sidharthnagar
3. Ghasiaribazar	Sidharthnagar	4. Babhni	Sidharthnagar
5. Pursari	Etah	6. Kusumkhara	Farrukhabad
7. Malautha	Hardoi	8. Akhari	Tehri Garhwal

<i>Name of the Centre</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of the Centre</i>	<i>District</i>
9. Maheshpur	Azamgarh	10. Sikora	Azamgarh
11. Ibrahimpatti	Ballia	12. Shespur Khana	Jadpur Saharanpur
13. Ghatela	Saharanpur	14. Nolsawaganj	Saharanpur
15. Gadgaipur	- do -	16. Murpur Kalan	Ghaziabad
17. Umarpur	Ghaziabad	18. Malaon	Gorakhpur
19. Rakahat	Gorakhpur	20. Saital	Gorakhpur
21. Dahna	Ghaziabad	22. Dahna	Ghaziabad
23. Doohri	Ghaziabad	24. Kaniya	Ghaziabad
25. Mankari	Bulandshahr	26. Mandakhar	Allahabad
27. Lahari	Ghaziabad	28. Bhelkha	Allahabad
29. Bankajalapur	Allahabad	30. Pasara	Allahabad
31. Jungle Bahadurah	Gorakhpur	32. Kuchesar Road Champia	Ghaziabad
33. Saidpur	Ghaziabad		

[English]

Banarasi Silk Sarees

1403. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the quality and standard of Silk Banarasi Sarees is continuously deteriorating due to supply of the poor quality of raw materials to the weavers;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to provide the required quantity and quality of the raw materials for the silk saree Industry in Varanasi; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Government has not received any specific complaints to this effect.

(b) and (c). In order to increase availability of quality silk in the State of Uttar Pradesh, Government has recently sanctioned the implementation of five year Purvanchal Sericulture Development Project in Varanasi & Ghazipur Districts of the State at a total cost of Rs. 719 lakh. Further, a pilot sericulture project is also being implemented in the state under the World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project. Under the 'National Silk Yarn Bank' Scheme, the State Handloom Agencies in Uttar Pradesh have been sanctioned Rs. 27.00 lakhs during 1993-94 as first instalment of Capital support with a view to make available quality silk yarn at stable prices to handloom weavers in the state including Banarasi Saree weavers.

Visit to Commonwealth Countries

1404. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether he recently visited some Commonwealth countries;

(b) if so, the names of such countries; and

(c) the outcome of these visits?

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

(b) The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism led a tourism promotion delegation to London, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Madrid, Paris, Luxembourg and Frankfurt from 5.6.93 to 16.6.93. Of these, only London (UK) is in the 'Commonwealth'.

(c) The tourism promotion delegation visited these places in order to meet members of travel trade and industry in the respective countries. This was part of a campaign to reestablish confidence for India as a tourist destination following the events at Ayodhya and Bombay blasts. The effort was to project India as safe and exciting destination and to provide a favourable marketing climate to the travel trade for promoting India as a tourist destination. The visit of this delegation led by the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism helped in the tourism promotion to India and also for attracting foreign investments in tourism sector, from these countries.

[Translation]

Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

NTC Mills in Maharashtra

1405. HRI VILASRAO
N A G N A T H R A O
GUNDEWAR:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills under the National Textile Corporation in Maharashtra;

(b) the mills which are running into losses; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government so as to run those mills in profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) 35 Textile mills are being run by National Textile Corporation in Maharashtra.

(b) 33 of these mills have incurred losses during April- September, 1993.

(c) Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC, including the mills of NTC in Maharashtra. The key elements of this strategy include selective modernisation financial & managerial restructuring & rationalisation of surplus workforce under Voluntary Retirement Scheme. It is expected that NTC, including its mills in Maharashtra, would be able to attain profitability in three years with the successful implementation of the Turn Around Strategy. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has been entrusted with the responsibility of the revival of the mills under NTC (SM) & (MN) Ltd. under the provisions of the Sick Industrial

Air Services in Kanpur

1406. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether air services in Kanpur are regular;

(b) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to regularise the air services in Kanpur?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD). (a) to (c). At present Kanpur is not air linked. Due to inadequate traffic demand, Indian Airlines withdrew its services to Kanpur with effect from 20.05.1992. Due to commercial and operational reasons both Indian Airlines and Vayudoot are not in a position to resume services to Kanpur.

[English]

Loan by RRBs

1407. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recovery of outstanding loans and granting of fresh loans has been declined in the Regional Rural Banks, particularly in Bihar;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) and (b) . There is a decline in the

disbursement of loans as well as in the recovery performance of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Bihar as is evident from the table below:-

		<i>(Rs in crores)</i>	
<i>Loans issued</i>	<i>Loans Recovered</i>	<i>% of recovery to demand</i>	
<i>(April -March)</i>	<i>(July-June)</i>		
1990-91	66.96	67.68	32.73
1991-92	44.93	30.78	14.00
1992-93*	36.07	10.24	13.62

*Data provisional (1992-93 data only in respect of 10 RRBs out of the 22 in the State).

Unsatisfactory recovery performance hampers the ability of the banks to recycle their funds for fresh lending. The banks' capacity to borrow from the higher refinancing agencies also gets restricted. The poor recovery can be attributed to a number of factors such as natural calamity, inadequate supervision over end-use of credit, loan waivers, inadequate support of local administration in recovery efforts and wilful default.

(c) In order to improve the viability of the RRBs, they have been advised among others to ensure the following:

- (i) To utilise the non-public business working day properly, inter-alia, for visiting borrowers especially those from whom repayments are not forthcoming;
- (ii) All overdue advances may be reviewed and claims should be

lodged with DICGC and where legislation has been passed on the lines of Talwar Committee recommendations by enactment of suitable recovery Act for dues of commercial banks/RRB, recovery suits may be filed simultaneously;

- (iii) Wherever Lok Adalats have been set up, their assistance may be sought;
- (iv) Firm action may be initiated against wilful defaulters;
- (v) The recovery position in respect of all loan accounts under Government sponsored schemes should be reviewed regularly in Block Level Bankers Committee (BLBC), District Coordination Committee (DCC) etc. forums and the cooperation of State Government officials sought in the recovery drive/campaigns; and
- (vi) While all efforts may be made for improving the quality of lending, no

efforts be spared to ensure the end use of funds and prompt steps initiated in case of misutilisation of advances.

In addition to the above, the following measures have also been taken to improve the viability of the RRBs in general.

- (i) RRBs have been allowed to finance non target group borrowers to an extent not exceeding 40 per cent of their fresh loans;
- (ii) Sponsor banks have been advised by RBI to pay a minimum of 13.5 per cent interest on all SLR term deposits and other term deposits of RRBs maintained with sponsor banks;
- (iii) With effect from 1.4.93 all commercial banks have been advised by RBI to revise upward the interest rates on current account balances maintained by RRBs with such banks from 6.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent per annum;
- (iv) RRBs have been allowed to draw cent per cent refinance upto Rs. 10 lakhs for their loans to small and tiny industrial units with outlay not exceeding Rs. 15 lakhs.

[*Translation*]

Pending Cases in Labour Courts in Gujarat

1408. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in various labour courts in Gujarat;

(b) the number of cases out of them which are pending for a long time; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for early disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). According to the information available from the Government of Gujarat 1,08,998 cases were pending before the Labour Courts of Gujarat as on 31.7.93. These include 17,806 cases pending for more than five years and 968 cases pending for more than 10 years.

(c) Steps taken for disposal of such cases include expeditious filling up of vacancies of Presiding Officers, setting up of additional Labour Courts and holding of lok Adalats where possible.

[*English*]

Rates of Stamp Duty

1409. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stamps duty rates differ from State to State in India as against nil in the U.S.A. and upto one per cent in the U.K.;

(b) if so, its effect on business operating under a low stamp duty regime abroad;

(c) whether the Government have plans to lower the stamp duty rates to bring 'at par' with those prevailing in rest of the world;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Stamp duty rates do differ from State to State. No comparative study has been made with reference to U.K./U.S.A.

(b) to (e). At present no proposal is under consideration for a general lowering of stamp duty.

Unemployed Handicapped Persons in Gujarat

1410. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handicapped persons registered with employment exchanges in Gujarat as on October 31, 1993;

(b) the number of handicapped persons provided with employment during the last three years;

(c) whether the reservation quota for the Handicapped persons is filled up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The number of handicapped persons, not all of whom were necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of employment exchanges in Gujarat as on 31st December, 1992 (latest available) was 12,911.

(b) The number of handicapped persons placed in jobs by the employment exchanges in Gujarat during 1990, 1991 and 1992 was 507, 367 and 813 respectively.

(c) and (d). Statistics regarding vacancies filled up against the reserved quota is not available. However, four Special Employment Exchanges at Ahmedabad, Baroda, Rajkot and Surat have been functioning to cater to the needs of the handicapped and assist them in getting suitable employment. Special Cells for the handicapped has also been opened at Employment Exchange at Mehsana. Three Special Recruitment Drives have been conducted to fill up the backlog of Group 'C' & 'D' vacancies reserved for handicapped in respect of Central Ministries, Central Public Sector Undertakings, Banks, etc.

Foreign Equity on Indian Private Banks

1411. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign equities in Indian Private Banks and its impact of Indian public sector banks;

(b) whether the Indian public sector banks have made any representations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The existing private sector banks do not have any equity participation by NRIs, Overseas Corporate bodies etc. In terms of the detailed guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for setting up new private sector banks, some of the applicants have

indicated in their applications that they would endeavour to bring in funds from NRIs, Overseas Corporate bodies etc. The matter has been examined and it has been decided that NRI participation in the primary equity of a banking company may be allowed to the extent of 40 per cent. In the case of a foreign banking company or finance company, equity participation may be restricted to 20 per cent. No new bank has, however, been established so far in the private sector with NRI/foreign equity participation.

(b) and (c). No representation has been received so far from Indian Public Sector Banks against NRI foreign equity participation in the proposed new private sector banks.

[English]

Rate of Interest on Borrowings From AFIs

1412. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the rate of interest on borrowing from All India Financial Institutions (AFIs);

(b) whether such reduction is also likely to be implemented by the State level financial institutions;

(c) the ratio of investment by All India Financial Institutions and foreign banks during the last two years;

(d) whether the cut in interest rate is likely to help the foreign banks in gaining advantages over All India Financial Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

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

(a). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that having regard to the declining trends in the rate of inflation and also lowering of deposits/lending rates of commercial banks by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Financial Institutions, since November 19, 1992, have effected downward revisions in interest rates and reduced the minimum lending rate from 17.5% to 15.5% per annum. The present interest band is 15.5% - 18.5% inclusive of interest tax. Within the band, interest rates are charged in accordance with the risk perception and credit worthiness of borrowers.

(b) IDBI Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) which provide assistance to State-level Financial Institutions under their refinance schemes have reduced the rate of interest under the schemes from 15.5% to 15.0% per annum w.e.f September 8, 1993. Consequently State Level Institutions have been advised to charge maximum interest at 18.5% per annum to the ultimate borrowers as against 19.0% charged hitherto.

(c) and (d). The purport of this part of the Question is not clear. Development Financial Institutions in India are engaged in term lending activities. Foreign Banks like other commercial banks are essentially engaged in work capital finance and short term lending.

Indo-Irish Bilateral Agreement

1413. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed any bilat-

eral trade agreement during the visit of Irish President to India in September, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has also been invited to set up Joint-venture and sharing of industrial economic expertise with Irish for Mutual benefit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Irish President referred to opportunities for Indian companies in Ireland and the potential for Indio-Irish collaboration in third countries.

[English]

Establishment of Small Banks

1414. PROF. UMMAREDDY
VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the possibility of encouraging the establishment of small banks with limited number of branches and limited geographical coverage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to establish small banks in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

: (a) to (c) . Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued a set of guidelines in January, 1993 for setting up new private sector banks. These guidelines inter -alia provide that such banks shall be free to open branches at various centres including rural and semi-urban areas.

MoU Between Public Sector Banks and RBI

1415. SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA
SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the public sector banks to sign the Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is likely to promote accountability of the public sector banks to the objectives set out in the Plan and Economy of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)
: (a) and (b). A provision of Rs. 5,700 crores has been made in the Budget for the current year (1993-94) on account of additional share capital to nationalised banks. The nationalised banks are required to enter into agreements with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with regard to among other things, staff productivity, asset management and reduction of non-performing assets before allocation of additional share capital is made.

(c) and (d). RBI have impressed upon the banks the importance of quantifiable performance parameters and evaluation of achievement for ensuring improvement in performance and supervision.

Customs Duty Evasion by Air Taxi Operators

1416. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air taxi operators have imported aircraft's;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the air taxi operators have made full payment of customs duty in this regard;

(d) if not, the amount of customs duty outstanding against each such operator ; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against those operators?

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

Technical Training Facilities

1417. SHRI DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the trades in which technical training facilities have been made available to India during the last year and current year by the donor countries, country-wise under the Colombo Plan;

(b) the details of number of persons selected to receive technical training, trade-wise during the same period; and

(c) the number amongst them selected from Orissa, department wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) The fields in which technical training facilities were made available to India in the year 1992-93 and in the current year by various donor countries under the Colombo Plan are agriculture, industry, infra-structural sectors (including power, coal, railways, ports, roads and road transport and communication), natural resources (including environment and water resources rural development, urban development, education, science and technology, health and population. The donor countries under the Colombo Plan which have provided technical training assistance to India in this period are the UK, Japan, Australia and Thailand. The fields in which each of these countries have provided training places to India and the number of persons trained are indicated in the attached statement.

(b) According to the practice followed, for any particular technical training course, normally those persons who are working in the related fields in the Central Government/ State Governments, Public Sector Undertakings of Central/State Governments or in the project assisted by the concerned donor country in the area are selected. Thus the distribution of trainees sponsored for various technical courses given in the Annexure also indicates the field/tradewise distribution of the trainees.

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

STATEMENT

Techanical Training Facilities Made Available to Govt. of India by Foreign Countries Under Colombo Plan During 1992-93 and 1993-94

Name of Sector	Uk		Japan		Australia		Thailand	
	1992-93	93-94*	1992-93	93-94*	1992-93	93-94*	1992-1993	93-94
1. Agriculturs	31	5	2	4	14	-	1	-
2. Industry	3	-	9	7	-	-	-	-
3. Natural Resources	172	70	2	1	1	-	-	-
4. Rural Development	20	23	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Infrastructurs	250	50	38	16	17	-	-	-
6. Sciences & Technology	30	6	3	6	3	1	-	-
7. Health	66	25	6	2	6	-	-	-
8. Urban Development	26	12	1	-	-	-	-	-
9. Education	60	14	30	30	-	-	-	-
10. Population	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Others	30	-	25	21	-	-	-	1

(Note: * The figures for 1993-94 is upto 30th November, 1993)

Arrearas of Taxes

1418. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the direct tax arrears are mounting year after year and there have been massive revenue losses;

(b) if so, the amount of cumulative arrears of income-tax and corporate tax during 1992-93 and how does the same compare with the preceding three years giving separate figures ;

(c) the causes identified therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to realise the arrears and remedy the causes identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) (a) and (b). The amount of cumulative arrears of income tax and corporation tax (taken together) for the financial year 1992-93, and, the preceding three financial years are as follows:

(Rupees in Crores)

1992-93	1991-92	1990-91	1989-90
5149.33	4219.02	3936.42	4356.26

These figures do not include demands stayed by courtse. Income tax Appellate Tribunal, Settlement Commission, demand not fallen due; and, demands paid but pending verification.

The tax arrears have fluctuated in the last four years and have shown slight increase overall. However, there has been no revenue loss on this account.

(c) Total outstanding tax consists of uncollected taxes in arrears of the past years as well as the uncollected part of the gross demand raised during the year. Since gross demand has been steadily rising over the years, the amount of arrears is bound to show an upward trend.

Some part of the net realisable arrears is kept in abeyance by the Income tax authorities in pending appeals and in cases of genuine hardships installments are granted for collection of arrears.

(d) As regards the steps being taken for realisation of these arrears, high priority is given to the work of reduction of arrear demand and appropriate administrative, legal and other measures are taken to reduce the same. In bigger cases, dossiers are maintained and the position is reviewed regularly. In important cases involving high revenue stakes, special counsels are engaged to defend the Government's stand, wherever considered necessary. Courts are also moved for expeditious hearing and vacation of stays, wherever required. Coercive measures like attachment and sale of property, levy of penalty etc. are also taken by the Department in suitable cases for speedy recovery of arrear demand.

Skilled Workers Export Council

1419. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have con-

stituted the Skilled Workers Export Council for sending skilled workers and other professionals of Indian origin to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.SANGMA): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Sick Industrial units

1420. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI TARIT BARAN
TOPDAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals of sick industrial units received by the BIFR during 1991, 1992 and 1993 so far. State-wise:

(b) the reasons for the sickness of the industrial units referred to Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction during the above period and the total investment made in these units;

(c) the number of such sick units handed over to other companies;

(d) the decision taken in respect of remaining sick units; and

(e) the reasons for inordinate delay in taking decisions for finalising the revival package in respect of huge number of cases pending before BIFR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that 456 references were registered during the period January, 1991 to November, 1993. State-wise break up is given in the statement.

(b) BIFR has reported that companies become sick due to a variety of reasons including managerial inefficiency, lack of pre-project appraisal, non-availability of timely credit, interruption in power supply, changes in the market forces and operations, technological obsolescence, low productivity, lack of modernisation, etc. The accumulated losses and net worth of these 456 companies registered with the BIFR are of the order of Rs 11,908 crores and Rs 3,180 crores respectively.

(c) and (d). Of the 456 references registered with the BIFR from January, 1991 to November, 1993, 181 cases have been finally disposed of. This includes 51 cases put on the revival path, 25 recommended for winding up, proceedings dropped in one case due to net-worth becoming positive and 103 references dismissed as not maintainable. The remaining 275 cases are under process as per the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(e) BIFR has reported that after giving reasonable opportunity to all concerned at the different stages of inquiry and only after getting the consent of all concerned, revival packages are formulated by the Board.

STATEMENT

Statewise break up of references registered during 1991 to November 1993.

<i>S. No</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Ref regd</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	61
2.	Bihar	15
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
4.	Goa, Daman & Diu	1
5.	Gujarat	25
6.	Haryana	13
7.	Himachal Pradesh	8
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
9.	Kerala	29
10.	Karnataka	31
11.	Madhya Pradesh	19
12.	Maharashtra	67
13.	Nagaland	1
14.	Orissa	13
15.	Pondicherry	4
16.	Punjab	12
17.	Rajasthan	18
18.	Tamilnadu	31
19.	Tripura	1
20.	Uttar Pradesh	67

S. No	State	No. of Ref regd
21.	West Bengal	31
22.	Assam	6
Total		456

[English]

Loan for Buying Jewellery

1421. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian overseas Bank has launched a scheme for granting loans for buying jewellery; and

(b) the extent to which it is in consonance with the credit policy of the Government?

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

a) Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has not introduced any new unique schemes for granting Loans for buying Jewellery. It had introduced consumer loans to the working class for purchase of consumer durable since 1960. Similar loans are available to its employees also under Personal Loan Scheme with strict conditions for eligibility. Under the Personal Loan Scheme, loans equivalent to 5 months' gross salary may be sanctioned to eligible borrowers who are well employed subject to several other conditions. Similarly loans upto 5 months' gross salary are sanctioned to the Bank's employees who have completed 3 years of service in the bank and subject to certain other conditions. In the case of employees, it is

out of this eligibility of 5 months' gross salary, a portion not exceeding Rs 25,000 is granted as loan for buying Jewellery at commercial rate with quarterly rests.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the scheme does not contravene guidelines issued by RBI in regard to loans and advances to be made by banks.

[Translation]

Associate Banks of SBI

1422. SHRI RAMBADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of the associate banks of the State Bank of India;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, banks wise;

(c) the names of the associate banks whose condition is very poor; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to improve their condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducts Annual Financial Inspection of all public sector banks including Associate

banks of State Bank of India (SBI). The last such inspection of Associate Banks of SBI was conducted as on 31.3.92.

(b) and (c). As per this inspection the financial position of all Associate Banks of SBI except that of State Bank of Saurashtra has been rated as 'good'. State Bank of Saurashtra which was rated as 'good' earlier downgraded to 'unsatisfactory' because of its exposure in irregular securities transactions.

(d) RBI have advised the bank about the steps required to be taken for improving its financial position.

[English]

Applications with Settlement Commission

1423. SHRI AMARROYPRADHAN: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to

state:

(a) the number of applications filed in the Principal bench and other benches of Settlement Commission (IT & WT) during each of the last three years, bench-wise;

(b) the number of applications admitted in the principal and other benches of said Commission during the above period, year-wise and bench-wise; and

(c) the number of application rejected on merit excluding those which were non-maintainable or were rejected because of admission of another application for the same assessment year by the same applicant during the above period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The information is given in attached statement.

STATEMENT

Branch	No. of Applications filed during			No. of Applications admitted			No. of Application rejected on merit during		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Principal Bench •Delhi	192	168	157	130	46	172	44	16	1
Additional Bench, Bombay	86	227	205	65	77	174	63	38	8
Additional Bench, Calcutta.	121	98	169	61	106	128	2	2	4
Additional Bench, Madras.	56	75	134	97	89	76	48	13	4
Total	455	568	665	353	318	550	157	69	17

Cashew Processing Industry

1424. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cashew industry is facing competition from overseas countries in the international market;

(b) the countries which produce cashew as competitor to India; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of cashew processing industries and for promotion of cashew production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED). (a) and (b). Brazil, Mozambique, Tanzania, China, Indonesia and Kenya are India's major competitors in the international market of cashew kernels.

(c) The Ministry of Agriculture has a number of schemes to increase the production and productivity of real cashew nuts. These include:

- i) Production and supply of quality planting material;
- ii) replantation programme;
- iii) popularising scientific cultivation;
- iv) scheme for plantation in wastelands.

Processor exporters of cashew kernels, to meet the demand for cashew kernels from overseas buyers, have been extended the option of procuring their require-

ment of raw cashewnut either from indigeneous sources or import duty free their entire requirements.

Introduction of unified exchange rate, doing away with compulsory pre-shipment inspection of cashew kernels subject to certain conditions are some of the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of cashew kernels.

Apart from the above, Cashew Export Promotion Council participates in exhibitions abroad and arranges buyer-seller meets to have inter-action with importers in other countries. The cashew Export Promotion Council also sponsors delegations to countries which have potential for improving exports.

Ban on Import of Natural and Synthetic Rubber

1425. SHRI THAYILJOHNANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to stop import of Natural and Synthetic rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government also propose to increase the subsidy on rubber plantation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) . Import of natural rubber is allowed only to such an extent so as to meet the demand-supply gap. The estimated production and consumption of natural rubber during 1993-

94 is 4,40,000 tonnes and 4,51,000 tonnes respectively. In order to meet the demand-supply gap, the Government had allowed the rubber consuming industry to import 10,000 metric tonnes of natural rubber during the lean production period of 1993-94. The actual import as per information available is only 4131 tonnes.

The import of synthetic rubber is allowed under the Open General License (OGL) system.

(c) and (d). The subsidy for new planting and replanting under the Rubber Plantation Development Scheme has been increased from the existing rate of Rs 5,000 per hectare to Rs 8,000 per hectare. The additional financial assistance for the use of poly-bagged plants has also been enhanced from the existing rate of Rs 2700 per hectare to Rs 3,000 per hectare. The revised higher rates are effective from 1993-94 onwards.

Second National Commission on Labour

1426. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second National Commission on Labour as recommended by the Indian Labour Conference held in September, 1992 has been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the main objectives of such commission; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government at present.

Loan Assistance to SSIs

1427. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industrial Development Bank of India has made certain relaxations for refinance facilities in respect of term loan assistance to Small Scale Industries by scheduled and commercial banks in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that its schemes are not drawn with reference to any one particular state. SIDBI has been providing assistance to units in the tiny and SSI sector under its refinance schemes through State Financial Corporations (SFCs), State Industrial Development Corporations (SIDCs), and banks throughout the country including Gujarat.

As a measure of further simplification of procedure for availment of refinance from SIDBI and to facilitate smoother flow of assistance to the small scale sector, SIDBI has raised the ceiling on term loan eligible for refinance under its Automatic Refinance Scheme (ARS) from Rs 10 lakhs to Rs 50 lakhs per unit for scheduled commercial banks with effect from April 1, 1993. SIDBI has also increased the extent of refinance from 75% to 90% of the amount of term loan granted by scheduled commercial banks covered under ARS and Normal Refinance

Scheme (NRS) except in respect of working capital component under Single Window Scheme (SWS), where the extent of refinance is 75% of the cash credit.

Expansion of Jaipur Airport

1428. SHRI GUMAN MALLODHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have allotted land for expansion of airport at Jaipur and has also assured to provide other necessary facilities for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). National Airports Authority (NAA) has acquired 11.24 acres of land on payment of Rs.23.5 lakhs. NAA has decided to extend the runway from 5955 ft. to 7500 ft. Expansion and modification of the Terminal Building has been undertaken by NAA at a cost of Rs 5.90 crores.

Airport at Salem

1429. DR. SHRIMATI K.S.SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for the airport at Salem in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the amount spent so far;

(b) the details of works yet to be completed and reasons for delay in starting operations from the airport; and

(c) the time by which the airport is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) During the last three years (1.4.1990 to 31.3.1993) Rs. 666 lakhs were sanctioned for construction of Salem airport. As against this, Rs 570.60 lakhs have been spent..

(b) and (c). All the major works have been completed. The airport has also been declared operational.

Money Supply

1430. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in money supply with the public between April, 1993 and September, 1993 and how does it compare with the corresponding period of the previous two financial years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to keep the money supply under check?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The increases in money supply (M3) with public between April and September in 1993, 1992 and 1991 are indicated below:

	Absolute (Rs. crores)	percent
(i) April 1 to Sept. 17, 1993	27,594	7.6
(ii) April 1 to Sept. 18, 1992	24,434	7.7
(iii) April 1 to Sept. 20, 1991	19,116	7.2

(b) Rate of growth in M3 in April-September, 1993 is more or less in line with the rates of growth in M3 in April-September, 1992 and 1991. The stance of the monetary policy is to ensure adequate supply of credit to industry, agriculture and exports, taking due care at the same time to prevent the resurgence of inflationary trends.

Flights to Gulf Countries

1431. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and the Air India have come to an agreement to run joint flights to the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether modalities in this regard have been worked out and finalized; and

(d) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. For optimising utilisation of available aircraft capacity, Indian Airlines and Air India have come to an agreement to operate joint venture flights from Calicut to Muscat, Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. A total of 12 flights per week are proposed to be operated with effect from 15th December, 1993 using Indian Airlines' A-320 aircraft and with Air India Flight numbers.

[Translation]

Development of Tourist Centres

1432. SHRI SURENDRAPAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh for the development of historical and religious spots as tourist centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

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

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

Supply of Janata Cloth to Gujarat

1433. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the

Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janata cloth is being provided to the poor section of people all over the country;

(b) if so, the norms fixed for the distribution of Janata cloth to States;

(c) whether the supply of Janata cloth to Gujarat during the last year was inadequate as compared to the actual demand;

(d) if so, the details of the demand of cloth made by Gujarat during the each of the last three years and the actual supply thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to make the Janata cloth available to the needy persons in the rural and remote areas of Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat?

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

(b) Each State producing Janata cloth is allowed to consume the entire production within the State.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Janata cloth produced in Gujarat is sold to the targeted consumers, including those in the rural areas, through Gujarat State Consumer Co-operative Federation, fair price shops and the retail outlets of Gujarat State Handloom Agencies.

[English]

Child Labour

1434. SHRI SANAT KUMAR

MANDAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "US resolution precursor to ban on child labour imports" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated November 13, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof so far as Indian Industries employing child labour are concerned and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to get the bonded child labour freed from the clutches of the carpet loom owners in UP and bring to book the perpetrators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed legislation is neither country specific nor product specific. The exact impact on the various export industries has not been assessed. However, the extent of the impact depends on various factors including the steps taken by the concerned employers, manufacturers and exporters to ensure non-employment of child labour and on involvement of the Non-Governmental Organizations in welfare and rehabilitation activities. Government have stepped up enforcement of provisions pertaining to child labour under various Acts; specially in the carpet-belt.

(c) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 provides for identification and abolition of bonded labourers including child bonded labourers. Wherever children are found to be working under conditions of bondage, the State Governments take appropriate steps, through their enforcement machinery for their release and restoration to parents. Under the Act, State Govts. are

the appropriate authorities for enforcement of the provisions of the Act including penal action against the offenders under Sections 16 to 20. State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to take stringent action in this respect.

International Price Reimbursement Scheme

1435. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to continue International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS); and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) in the engineering goods sector is presently in operation on the basis of a cess levied on primary steel producers. The future pattern of the IPRS is still under consideration of the Government and no final view has yet been taken by the Government.

Strike by Air India Crew

1436. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4881 answered on August 27, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the management of the Air India has taken up the matter with the concerned authorities to evolve the suitable procedure;

(b) if so, the details of procedure finalised to avoid sudden cancellation of flights; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Customs authorities have agreed that they would not delay crew members on matters in which the crew are not involved.

(c) Doesn't arise.

Catering Service on Domestic Flights

1437. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any improvement in the catering service on the domestic flights of the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the additional cost incurred by the Indian Airlines on this account?

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

(b) Additional expenditure incurred by Indian Airlines per passenger is Rs.8.40 in Economy Class and Rs.21.80 in Executive/ Business Class.

Welfare Schemes for Unorganized Sector

1438. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are restructuring the entire programmes under

the welfare schemes for the unorganised sector;

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

(c) the number of such schemes already undertaken if any, by the Government during the current year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). Based on the recommendations of a Task Force set up to suggest modification in the existing welfare schemes for beedi workers and mine workers covered under the respective Welfare Funds, decisions have been taken by the Government to raise the income eligibility limit of the workers, enhance the financial assistance in respective welfare schemes under education, housing and health and to take up some new schemes in the fields of education and recreation. Efforts are being made to extend the revised levels of assistance and the new schemes as soon as possible.

Scholarship Scheme for Children of Workers

1439. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have re-structured the Scholarship Scheme for children of workers covered under the various welfare funds of his Ministry;

(b) if so, whether scholarships have been increased and special awards introduced to encourage schooling of children; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

It has been decided to restructure the schemes relating to education of children of workers covered by the Welfare Funds as follows:-

- (i) At present for children studying in primary classes there are two schemes, one for giving assistance @ Rs.50/- per annum for purchase of one set of dress and under the other for giving assistance ranging from Rs.10/- to 25/- depending upon the class in which the student is studying for purchase of slates/text books/note books. The two schemes have been merged and assistance @ Rs.125/- per annum will be provided to each child.
- (ii) The Committees approved the following rates of scholarships:

	<i>Existing rates</i>	<i>Enhanced rates</i>
Group-I (Classes V & VI)	Rs. 180/-	Rs. 250/- p.a.
Group-II (Classes VII, VIII, IX & X)	Rs. 360/-	Rs. 450/- p.a.

	Existing rates	Enhanced rates
Group-III (Classes XI, XII, I.A., I.Sc. etc.) (All pre-graduation courses where admission is open for students after qualifying Xth Class).	Rs. 600/-	Rs. 700/- p.a.
Group-IV (Graduation and Post - Graduation Degree Courses in Arts, Science & Commerce and Lower Technical Courses, Professional Courses like B.T., L.T., B Ed. & L.L.B. etc.	Rs. 900/-	Rs. 1000/- p.a.
Group-V (M.B.B.S., B.F., B.Sc.(Agri) of other Higher Technical Courses, Research and Doctorate studies).	Rs. 2400/-	Rs. 3000/- p.a.

Ceiling of 10% increase every year in the number of scholarships has been removed. As far as possible, scholarships are to be given to all the school going children. While granting scholarships, reservation of 15% for Scheduled Castes and 7.05 for Scheduled Tribes and overall 50% reserva-

tion for female children is to be kept in mind.

- (iii) For encouraging children of such workers to complete various levels of education, following special awards have been introduced:

	Ist Division (60% above) Rs.	IInd Division (50% above) Rs.	IIIrd Division (below 50%) Rs.
(a) High School	500/-	350/-	250/-
(b) Plus 2/Industrial Trade Certificate (ITI)	750/-	500/-	350/-
(c) Graduation\3 Years Prof. Diploma	1000/-	750/-	500/-
(d) Prof. Degree (BE/ MBBS/B.Arch.etc)	2000/-	1500/-	1000/-

(iv) To encourage female literacy,

female children will, in addition,

get Re.1/- (Rupee one) for everyday of attendance in school beyond primary stage.

Import of Eggs

1440. SHRI C.P.MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) the total quantity of Eggs imported during each of the last three years:

(b) whether the import of eggs has increased in the recent years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a)

	<i>Qty in Nos. of Specific Pathogen Free Eggs</i>
1990-91	19.500
1991-92	41.600
1992-93	1,17,600
	1,78,700

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The import has been allowed in view of the production of various livestock vaccines including poultry vaccines for prevention of various diseases as well as to produce diagnostic agents, reagents & biologicals.

LIC Housing Schemes in Assam

1441. SHRI PROBINDEKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some housing schemes have been started or proposed to be started in Assam by the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which these schemes are likely to be completed?

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

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

{ Translation }

Minimum Wages to the Labourers of Private Sector

1442. SHRI UPENDRANATH VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of labourers have to work for 8 to 12 hours a day in private industries and factories in Delhi and they are not even being paid wages fixed by the Government;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government from the labourers during 1991-92 and 1992-93 regarding non-payment of wages fixed by the Government;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide all facilities admissible under the law, to the labourers working in private factories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, which is the appropriate Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 have informed that most of the labourers were not required to work more than 8 hours a day in private industries and factories in Delhi. The labourers were paid wages as fixed by the Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. However, there had been some complaints pertaining to the less payment of minimum wages or non-payment of wages for overtime work. The Government had launched 993 prosecutions in 1991-92 and 1147 prosecutions in 1992-93 for violation of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(c) and (d). The Government is constantly endeavouring to provide all facilities admissible under the law to the labourers working in private industries and factories in Delhi. The establishments are regularly inspected by the inspectors and the officers of the Labour Department, to ensure that all the admissible facilities are available to the workers. The complaints received from individuals and trade unions are also inquired into, to ensure compliance of the Labour Laws. Necessary legal action is also taken against the defaulting managements.

Banks in Rural Areas

1443. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing branches of public sector banks in the rural areas of the country are inadequate;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review its policy in this regard in order to cover maximum rural areas; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) to (c). The aim of Branch Expansion Policy 1985-90 was to achieve a population coverage of 17,000 (1981 census) per bank office in rural and semi-urban areas in each block so as to eliminate wide spatial gaps in the availability of banking facilities so that a rural branch was available generally within a distance of 10 kms. Considering peculiar features in hilly/tribal areas and sparsely populated regions, the population criterion was relaxed to 10,000 per bank office. With the opening of bank branches in rural areas the average population per bank branch in rural and semi-urban areas has come down to 13,000 by the end of 1989. At present, there is a network of 35313 branches of commercial banks in the rural areas of the country. Nevertheless, there may still be need for a number of additional bank branches in rural areas generally on two counts.

- i. Service are allocated to a bank branch may be found to be unmanageable due to large number of villages allotted, number of constituents to be catered to and long distance/difficult terrain involved in servicing the area.
- ii. The increase in business of a rural branch justifiably warranting an

additional bank branch which could be viable.

Under the Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95 of Reserve Bank of India, it has now been left to the judgment of the individual banks to assess the need for additional bank branches in the respective service areas of their rural branches.

[English]

Construction of Hotels

1444. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals from the Government of Gujarat from construction of new hotels to promote tourism in the State are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

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

Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board

1445. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

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

(a) whether the Sixth Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board held a two day conference to consider new strategies for development of tourism;

(b) if so, whether the conference has suggested that new areas in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Sikkim should be taken for development of tourism in the country;

(c) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d). A meeting of the Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board was held at Rishikesh on 18-19 September, 1993. During the meeting various aspects of development of tourism in the Himalayan region were discussed. Recommendations regarding adoption of safety and rescue measures and environment protection were made.

Export of Pepper

1446. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pepper exported during 1992-93 and foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(b) the extent of loss suffered due to the decline in price of pepper in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) During 1992-93, the export of pepper from India was 25,480MT valued at Rs 83.17 crores.

(b) The average spot price of pepper (MG-1) at New York Market in 1992-93 was US\$ 1.22 per kg as against US\$ 1.42 per kg in 1991-92. Consequently, the average FOB export unit price of pepper from India declined to Rs 32.64 per kg in 1992-93 from Rs 36.08 per kg in 1991-92, which resulted in lower foreign exchange earnings to the extent of Rs 8.8 crores.

Rural Service Criterion form Bank Officers

1447. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDLWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to scrap the mandatory rural service criterion for bank officers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether RBI have opposed the idea of the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). A Review Group set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary-Banking) is presently considering the systems

and procedures of the Department of Economic Affairs which inter-alia includes the functions which could be delegated by the Government to the Banks. Dispensing with the requirement of mandatory rural/semi-urban service for promotions of banks' Officers is one of the items before the Group. Reserve Bank of India is not particularly opposed to such a proposal. Such a recommendation if finally made by the Group, will only delegate powers to the Banks.

[Translation]

Development Activities of IDBI in Rural Areas

1448. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has started any developmental activities in the rural areas of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it has been supporting developmental activities through its various schemes of assistance. With a view to uplifting the under-privileged through creation of opportunities for wage/self-employment, voluntary agencies with good track records are assisted for training target groups comprising physically handicapped, socially disadvantaged, rural poor and women in the rural areas. Details of assistance sanctioned by IDBI to voluntary agencies State-wise is given in the enclosed statement. IDBI also adopted ten

selected blocks on an experimental basis in different parts of the country with a view to undertaking rural industrialisation. IDBI has also provided assistance of Rs 4 crores

towards the corpus fund of Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, an intermediary organisation for rendering assistance to voluntary agencies.

STATEMENT

Details of assistance sanctioned to Voluntary Agencies (State wise)

Rural

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned Rs. in lakhs</i>
Andhra Pradesh	1	4.70
Arunachal Pradesh	2	11.08
Assam	3	12.94
Bihar	2	7.00
Gujarat	3	37.41
Harayana	1	3.00
Jammu & Kashmir	1	7.00
Karnataka	6	38.83
Kerala	2	8.16
Maharashtra	10	79.94
Manipur	4	15.15
Madhya Pradesh	5	19.95
Meghalaya	7	6.26
Mizoram ²	7.00	
Nagaland	3	16.25
Orissa	9	25.33

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned Rs. in lakhs</i>
Rajasthan	1	12.00
Tamilnadu	7	37.85
Tripura	1	5.08
Uttar Pradesh	3	5.95
West Bengal	6	55.76
Total	79	416.67

[English]

National Stock Exchange India

1449. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Stock Exchange India, Bombay has commenced its operations;

(b) if so, the details of the functioning thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

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

(a) No, Sir. The National Stock Exchange of India proposes to commence its first phase of operations in the wholesale debt market segment by February, 1994.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Stock Exchange of India can commence its operations only after various items of preparatory work such

as installation of computer hardware and software and telecommunication systems have been completed.

Export of Tea to Russia and CIS

1450. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have explored the possibility of increasing the export of tea to Russia and the CIS countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) major steps have been initiated by the Government to increase exports of tea to Russia and other CIS countries and these are as follows:

- (1) Agreements of cooperation in the field of trade, economic relations etc. have been signed with a number of countries like, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan,

Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tazikistan and Latvia etc. for boosting exports from India including that of tea.

- (2) An office of Tea Board has been opened at Moscow in September, 1993 to promote exports of Indian tea in the region.
- (3) Apart from interacting with foreign buyers on a regular basis of promoting Indian tea, Tea Board has planned media campaign, is store demonstrations and participation in the trade fairs in Russia and other CIS countries.

As a result, during 1993 (January-September), shipment licenses issued for export of tea to Russia and other CIS countries have been of the order of 72.97 million kgs. valued at Rs 450.91 crores as compared to 25.64 million Kgs, Valued at Rs. 142.32 crores during the corresponding period of 1992.

[*Translation*]

Fake Bank Drafts and Cheques

1451. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI PANKAJ
CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of issuing fake bank drafts and cheques are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last two years;

(c) whether some persons of such racket have also been arrested in Delhi during the last three months;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the material seized from them;

(e) the action taken so far against those persons; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF APRLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):(a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Income Tax Dues

1452. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those first ten persons or institutions against whom maximum income-tax is outstanding as on date alongwith the amount outstanding against each; and

(b) the efforts being made by the Government to recover the outstanding income-tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The latest available information is as on 30.6.1993 and the same is being given in the attached statement.

(b) Apart from action permissible under the Income-tax law for recovery of tax

dues, suitable administrative steps are continuously taken to recover the tax arrears.

Legal actions include levy of penalty for non-payment, issue of garnishee orders to attach bank accounts, debts etc.; drawing up of tax recovery statements by Tax Recovery Officers enabling them to effect recovery by attachment/sale of assets etc. In case where tax refund is due to the assess in respect of any assessment year, the same is adjusted towards demand of other assessment years. In deserving cases the assess is required to pay the arrear demand by way of installments fixed by the Depart-

ment. Since a large part of demand in all these cases is disputed in appeals etc. and are stayed by various Appellate Authorities and courts, steps are taken either to get these order vacated or get the appeals disposed expeditiously.

Administratively progress of recovery is monitored at various levels. The Assessing Officers are also required to send dossier reports in these cases indicating the progress in the recovery of taxes and these reports are reviewed at the level of Commissioner of Income-tax and above.

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Persons/ institutions</i>	<i>Income-tax demand outstanding as on 30.6.1993 (Rs in crores)</i>
1.	State Bank of India	682.82
2.	Shri Harshad S. Mehta	204.50
3.	G.T.C. Industries Limited	186.68
4.	United Bank of India	133.89
5.	Dunlop India Limited	104.07
6.	Bank of Baroda	84.30
7.	Reliance Industries Limited	65.12
8.	Allahabad Bank	55.13
9.	City Bank Limited	47.46
10	Peerless General Finance and Investment Co. Limited	46.38

[English]

Handing Over of Sick Units to Workers Cooperatives

1453. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the progress of sick industrial companies handed over by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to workers cooperatives; and

(b) if so, the extent to which success has been achieved by workers cooperative in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has sanctioned rehabilitation schemes on the basis of workers cooperatives in respect of the following four industrial companies:

- i) Kamani Tubes Ltd.,
- ii) New Central Jute Mills Ltd.,
- iii) Powder Metals & Alloys Ltd.,
- iv) K.M.A. Ltd.,

BIFR has reported that it has been conducting reviews from time to time in order to know the pace and progress of the implementation of the schemes. In respect of Kamani Tubes Ltd., the last review was undertaken in July, 1993 when the company was directed to furnish a four year projection of production and sale turnover. In the case of New Central Jute Mills Ltd., on the

advice of the company to review the scheme, the details of provision of the scheme are being finalised by the operating Agency while in respect of K.M.A. Ltd. the promoters have gone in appeal, in the case of Powder Metals & Alloys Ltd., there has been difficulty in getting funds released from the employees Provident Fund to enable them to mobilise their contribution.

Export of Benarsi Sarees

1454. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of Benarsi sarees is declining continuously during the last three years:

(b) if so, the reasons therefore:

(c) the quantity of these sarees exported during the above period;

(d) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives to enhance the export of these sarees, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). As sarees are mostly consumed by expatriate Indians whose population does not increase significantly, the overseas demand for sarees including Banarasi sarees depends on their consumption pattern and no higher growth is expected in silk saree exports.

(c) Government of India does not maintain separate statistics on export of sarees produced in a particular place.

(d) Government has taken steps to

encourage export of silk goods including Banarasi silk sarees.

(e) In order to encourage export of silk sarees, Government has included sarees of mulberry raw silk and metalised yarn under the advanced licensing scheme with effect from June 28,1993 whereby against the export of these items imports of mulberry raw silk 1.20 kg/kg content and metalised yarn 1.05 kg/kg content in the export product, will be permitted.

[Translation]

LIC Business in Maharashtra

1455 SHRI VILAS RAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:
SHRI DATTA MAGHE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of business transacted by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Maharashtra during each of the last two years;

(b) the number of new policyholders enrolled during this period under various policies, year-wise;

(c) the profit earned by the Corporation during the above period; and

(d) the amount invested in various schemes in Maharashtra out of the amount collected and the details of these schemes?

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

<i>year</i>	<i>Sum Assured (Rs in crores)</i>	
1991-92	4509.01	
1992-93	5088.61	

<i>(b)</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Policies</i>	<i>Sum Assured (Rs in Lakhs)</i>
	1991-92	7,94,211	2,81,358
	1992-93	8,45,280	3,00,897

(c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has no system of working out profits. It evaluates its assets and liabilities and 95% of the surplus shown as a result thereof is distributed amongst its participating policyholders. 5% is passed on to the Government of India as its share of surplus. The Government's share during 1991-92 and 92-93 came to Rs 118.42 and Rs 105.41 Crores respectively.

(d) The LIC earned in Maharashtra, premium income of Rs 967.31 crores and Rs 1291.36 crores in the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively. During these two years, the LIC invested an amount of Rs 499.11 crores and Rs 569.29 crores respectively in Maharashtra. The details of the schemes in which the funds have been invested are given in the statement.

STATEMENT**GROSS INVESTMENT BY THE LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA DURING THE YEARS 1991-92 AND 1992-93**

Category	Investments During	
	1991-92	1992-93
	(Rs. in Crores)	
State Government Securities	12.17	26.01
Land Development Bank Debentures	4.63	4.83
State Electricity Board Bonds	10.00	18.00
State Financial Corporation Bonds and Shares etc.	8.00	5.00
LOANS TO:		
State Governments for Social Housing Schemes	0.32	0.93
Apex Co-op. Housing Finance Society	25.00	25.00
Municipalities Zilla Parishads for Water supply schemes	37.58	18.25
State Electricity Boards	23.24	25.56
Industrial Estates	-	2.60
Corporate Sector		
Shares, Debentures and Loans to Companies (Public, Co-operative and Private Sector)	377.54	436.92
Total :	499.11	569.29

[English]

Janata Cloth

1456. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of Janata cloth is declining; and

(b) if so, the demand of Janata cloth during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and the supply made during the period?

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

*b) The production of janata cloth has been commensurate with the demand for such cloth. The quantity of jananta cloth delivered during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 had been 401.89 million square metres and 341.07 (estimated) million square metres respectively.

[Translation]

Promotion of Savings

1457. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the measures taken by the Government to promote savings during the last two years; and

(b) the further steps being taken by the Government for more savings in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAAR AHMED): (a) and (b) . Due to measures taken by Government small savings collections upto September 1993 during the current year have shown an appreciable increase over the collections during the corresponding period of last years. Small savings collections are under constant review and steps are taken from time to time for improving the collections.

Recovery of Income Tax at One Point

1458. SHRI BHO GENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating any proposal for the recovery of income tax at one point to facilitate the consumers, shopkeepers and to ensure the Government recovery;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, the assesseees are allowed to pay the tax at the various branches of the nationalised banks in the country.

This system is meant for the convenience and the facility of the assesseees (including consumers and shopkeepers). Collection /payment of tax at a single place is likely to create great inconvenience for

the assesses and is not considered desirable.

Viability of Central Cooperative Undertakings

1459. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for making the Central Cooperative Undertakings viable as recommended by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Since the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 do not extend to Cooperatives, the Question of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)'s recommendations for making Cooperative Undertakings viable does not arise.

[English]

Smuggling in Gujarat

1460. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any raids have been conducted to find out the smuggling of silver/ narcotics and gold biscuits in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of such raids conducted in various cities in Gujarat during the last two years and the total value of articles seized; and

(c) the details of the persons found involved in such activities and their possible link-up with international gang?

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

[Translation]

Vacancies of public Representatives in Nationalised Banks

1461. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a). whether some posts of public representatives are lying vacant in nationalised banks:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken /proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) . At present there are 85 vacancies of non-official directors on the boards of 19 nationalised banks. Government have already initiated necessary steps for filling up of the vacancies.

[English]

Bank Branches in Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh

1462. MAJ.GEN. (RETD). BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the branches of public sector and their commercial banks in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, particularly Pauri and Chamoli have been opened within 10 kilometers of each of each village covering 15 to 25 villages as per the norms of the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the ex-servicemen in the above hill districts, which are large in number face great difficulties in drawing their pensions from the banks as these banks are situated in far off places; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to open more bank branches in the above areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED)

:(a) to (c) The aim of Branch Expansion Policy 1985-90 was to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population per bank office in rural / semi-urban areas in each block and to eliminate wide spatial gaps so that a rural branch was available generally within a distance of 10 kms. The population norms had been relaxed to 10,000 in respect of tribal/hilly areas and sparsely populated regions. Subsequently, a new dimension was added to the policy with the adoption of Service Area Approach (SAA) to rural lending under which each bank branch was expected to

cover normally 15 to 25 villages. With the opening of bank branches during 1985-90 plan, the average population per bank office in Uttar Pradesh has come down to 14,000 as against the target of 17,000 and in respect of the Districts of Pauri and Chamoli, the average population per bank office is 6,000 and 7,000 respectively. Any specific problem the ex-servicemen in drawing their pension from the bank branches can be looked into separately.

(d) Under Branch Expansion Programme 1990-95 of Reserve Bank of India, it has been left to the judgement of individual banks to assess the need for additional bank branches in the respective service areas of their rural branches.

Passengers carried by Indian Airlines

1463. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has carried less passengers in the first nine months of 1993 as compared to the corresponding period in 1992;

(b) whether operating costs are still rising in spite of lesser number of flights; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Indian Airlines to improve service and reduce operation costs?

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

(c) The following steps have been taken by Indian Airlines to improve service and to reduce expenditure:-

- (i) Improvement in customer services; both on ground and on board the aircraft.
- (ii) Introduction of schemes like Fly More and Fly Free, Point-to-Point Fares, Domestic Tour Packages, etc.
- (iii) Close monitoring of 'On-Time Performance'.
- (iv) Changes in marketing strategy, including productivity linked incentive for agents.
- (v) Providing convenient scheduled air services.
- (vi) Stepping up fleet utilisation.
- (vii) Increased international operations; and
- (viii) Control of improductive expenditure.

Disinvestment of Shares of Public Sector Undertakings

1464. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose of collection of funds through disinvestment of shares of public sector enterprises;

(b) total amount of funds so far collected as a result of disinvestment and the utilization thereof; and

(c) how much more disinvestment the Government propose to make?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) The major objectives of disinvestment of Government shares in Select Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are to encourage wider public investment and promote greater accountability in the PSUs and to raise for Government non-inflationary resources.

(b) The amounts mobilised through disinvestment of shares during 1991-92 and 1992-93 were Rs 3038 crores and Rs 1912 crores respectively.

(c) In the Union Budget for 1993-94 it was proposed to mobilise a further sum of Rs 3500 crores during the current financial year.

Export of Granites/Ceremics/Tiles

1465. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of granites/tiles/ceremics exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1992-93 and 1993-94 till date;

(b) whether there is tremendous scope for earning of foreign exchange by export of granites/ceremics/tiles in the European and Western markets;

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide soft and cheaper credit facilities, duty concession for import of machinery and to render marketing assistance abroad to lead the market;

(d) whether the Government propose to set-up a Granite Export Promotion Council at the National level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The foreign exchange earned from export of Ceramic Glazed Tiles and granites and products thereof has been as under:-

Item	1992-93	(Value Rs Crores)
		1993-94 (April-Oct)
Ceramic Glazed Tiles	15.40	12.00
Granite and products there of	41.00	26.00

Quantity-wise export details are not available.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) General steps taken include directions to Banks to increase availability of credit to export sector; reduction in interest rate of rupee credit; and reduction in tariff levels on import of machinery. All possible marketing assistance is extended by Indian Missions.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Credit Deposit Ratio

1466. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India have constituted a task force to give suggestions for the improvement of Credit Deposit Ratio;

(b) if so, the details of the members of the above task force;

(c) whether the task force has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had constituted Task Force for some of the States having low Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) to examine the reasons for the same and to suggest measures for its improving. The names of States for which Task Forces were constituted are Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The numbers of these Task Forces were drawn from the Convenor Banks of the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) of the respective States, Government of India, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The Task Forces relating to Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have since submitted their reports

to Reserve Bank of India. The reports of Task Forces have already been sent by RBI to the concerned agencies for taking necessary action on various recommendations contained in these reports. It is expected that the implementation of various recommendations of the Task Forces will lead to the Improvement in the CDR of the States referred to above.

[English]

Export of Agarabathi and Incense Sticks

1468 SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated value of Agarabathi and Incense sticks exported during 1993-94 so far;

(b) the contribution of Karnataka therein;

(c) whether the export of Agarabathi and Incense sticks has declined due to high rate of import and customs duty on raw materials used for the manufacture of Incense sticks;

(d) whether there is any proposal to reduce the import and customs duty on these raw materials to boost export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e): The export of Agarabathi including Incense sticks during April-October 93 is estimated at the level of US \$ 4.6 million in which Karnataka's contribution is around 75%. The export of Agarabathi in dollar terms stands increased by 24.3% and in rupee

terms by 38.7% during the period April-October '93 in comparison to the corresponding period of the last financial year. The exporting community of Agarabathi import raw materials and against the effected exports, the exporters claim the reimbursement of duty draw back.

National Distribution Company for Indian Travel Agents.

1469. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a national distribution company for the Indian travel agents;

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

(c) the time by which the company is proposed to be set up?

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

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

Settlement with I.A. Pilots

1470. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any settlement has recently been reached with pilots of the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of approved /qualified pilots in the country as on November 1, 1993 vis-a-vis demand for them for our

domestic and international flights as at present and at the end of the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the steps being taken to fill the at between the demand and availability of pilots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AN DTOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) : As per the recent agreement signed with the Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA), Flight and Duty Time of pilots has been increased and a revised training pattern introduced. In consideration of these, pilots have been granted additional allowances. Shortage of Pilots in Indian Airlines will be met with the implementation of this agreement.

As on 1.11.1993, Director General of Civil Aviation has issued 9023 Pilots licences. Issuing of licences is not linked with the demand for employment of pilots.

Export Quota of Farm Products

1471. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the abolition of export quota of farm products and minimum export prices to achieve the higher export targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN

AHMED) : (a) to (c) : It is the policy of the Government to allow the export of items of mass consumption in such a manner that it does not compromise with out food security system. With this objective in vice Government prescribes Minimum Export Price (MEP) and /or quantitative ceilings in respect of rice, wheat, coarse grains, sugar, mustard seed and rapeseed.

Formation of Regional Trading Blocs

1472. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RADSHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a growing polarisation of the world trading parameters and formation of regional trading blocs;

(b) if so, the impact of these developments of India's foreign trade as well as its share in the world market;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any strategy to tackle these developments in the international trade including the problems that may arise due to quality and standard certification; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAE MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) : Although the multilateral trading system based on the General Agreement Tariffs and Trade (GATT) remains intact, EEC is moving towards greater integration and a larger membership, NAPTA has been formed with a trade liberalisation programme spanning 10-15 years. APEC covering the Asia Pacific region, is so far a forum for dialogue and consultations on trade liberalisation and

not a trading bloc. India, is not a member of any of these trading blocs.

India's capacity to expand its global exports beyond the present share of less than 0.5% will be affected more by efforts to upgrade the basic competitiveness of prices quality and delivery of our products. Hence the likely impact of formation of regional trading blocs on India's external trade is not expected to be very significant.

India prefers the multilateral to the regional approach. Our efforts have been to strengthen multilateralism during the Uruguay Round as it is believed that non-discriminatory trade offers the greatest promise for equitable expansion of world trade.

Investment Guarantee Pact with Taiwan

1473. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Taiwan and India have negotiated for an investment guarantee pact and a double taxation avoidance agreement in recent past;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement; and

(c) the extent to which India is likely to be benefited by these agreement?

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

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

ESI Dues

1474. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the amount, out of the outstanding ESI dues against employers, which is irrecoverable and the 'effective arrears' as per latest information;

(b) the estimated amount of damages due from defaulting employers apart from the default amount up till March 31, 1992; and

(c) the manner in which it is proposed to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) As on 31.3.93, an amount of Rs 178.56 crores was outstanding on account of ESI dues against various employers. Out of the total dues, an amount of Rs 73.97 crores cannot be recovered immediately because of the Courts' stay on their recovery, liquidation/closure of establishments, BIFR proceedings etc.

(b) Rs 28.50 crores (As on 31.3.93).

(c) Necessary penal and legal action as per the provisions of the ESI Act are already being taken to recover the dues outstanding against the defaulting establishments.

Reduction in Branches of Public Sector Banks

1475. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose

to reduce the number of branches of some public sector banks ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED) : (a) and (b): Under the current liberalised policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks are permitted to swap their stray or unremunerative branches with other banks. The Banks have also been advised that RBI would consider their proposal for closing of loss making branches at urban/metropolitan centres which are generally well-banked. Banks have also been allowed to rationalise their existing branch network in rural areas keeping in view their viability. At rural centres served by two commercial bank branches (excluding Regional Rural Banks), the concerned banks may, by mutual consultation, take a decision for closure of one of the branches. Banks should forward such proposals, duly approved by the concerned District Consultative Committee, to RBI through the State Government for their prior approval.

Maharashtra Cotton Monopoly Scheme

1476 . SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allowed the Maharashtra Government to continue with its Cotton Monopoly Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG.VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b): Yes Sir. the Union Government has extended the Maharashtra Cotton Monopoly Scheme for a further period of one year i.e. from 1.7.93 to 30.6.94 on the existing terms and conditions.

(c) Does not arise.

Coffee Board Employees

1477. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the Golden Handshake Scheme for the employees of the Coffee Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) : Government has received a proposal for implementation of a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of the Coffee Board formulated in the context of certain proposed changes in the present system of marketing of coffee. However, Government has not yet taken a decision in the matter.

Nehru Memorial Pavilion

1478. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam for construction of Nehru Memorial Pavilion in Guwahati ;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government have

sanctioned any amount for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

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

Regional Rural Banks

1479. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks opened in the country during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the number of Regional Rural Banks proposed to be opened during the current financial year, State-wise, alongwith their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) and (b): No new Regional Rural Bank (RRB) has been opened in the country during 1992-93. Government do not have any proposal for establishing RRBs in the country during current financial year.

Advisory Committee on Handloom Sector

1480. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have re-constituted the Advisory Committee which makes its recommendations for modifications in the list of reserved items for handloom sector;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to submit its report?

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

(b) A list of members of the Advisory Committee constituted under Section 4 of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Advisory Committee is likely to submit its report by end of February, 1994.

STATEMENT

1. Secretary (Textiles)
-Chairman
2. Chairman,
All Indian Handloom Fabrics
Marketing Coop.
Society Ltd. J-10/32, Baqrabad,
Varanasi-221001.
3. Shri M.P.Gajaria
Ssecretary General
Indian Cotton Mills Federation, 17,
Amba Deep.
14,Kasturba Gandhi marg, New
Delhi-110001.
4. Shri Dhanpal Tare
President, All India Federation of
Powerloom

- 417 *Written Answers* **AGRAHAYANA 19, 1915 (SAKA)** *Written Answers* 418
- Weaver's Association, 14. Shri A.N Zariwala President,
Ichalkaranji, Maharashtra. Surat Art Silk Cloth Manufacturers
Association,
5. Shri Pragada Kotaiah, MP Resham Bhawan, Lal Darwaja,
171, North Avenue, New Delhi. Surat-395003 (Gurat)
6. Shri D.M. Sadul, MP 15. President, The Assam Coop, Silk
205. Vallabh Bhai Patel House, House Ltd,
New Delhi Pan Bazar, Guwahati-781001.
7. Shri Mauzoor Ahmed Ansari, 16. Shri Thakur Mahendra Kumar
Chairman Singh, MP
Chotanagpur Regional Handloom 215, North Avenue, New Delhi.
Weavers' 17. Prof. R.C. Shekhar,
Coop. Society, Irba, Ranchi- T.A.Pai Management Institute,
835238 (Bihar). manipal-576119.
8. Zamir Ahmed Payam, 18. Shri D. Venkatesham, President
Editor, Kabir Bhumi, Andhra Pradesh Handloom
Mohalla Piprapur, Gorakhpur (U.P) Workers Federation,
No. 4-3-207, Kanda Swami Bagh,
9. Mohd, Shamim Ansari, 19. Textile Commissioner
614, Faithful Ganj, New C.G.O. Building, New Marine
Kanpur (U.P) Drive,
Post Bdx No. 11500, Bombay-
400020.
10. Shri Rattan kaul, 20. Member Secretary,
Everest House, Model Town, Central Silk Board, United
Ghaziabad (U.P.) Mansion.
2nd Floor, 39 Mahatama Gandhi
Raod.
Bangalore-560001.
11. Shri N.H. Ansari, 21. Chairman,
General Secretary, Handloom Export Promotion
All India Weavers Federation, Council,
Gandhi Nagar, Basti-272001 (U.P) Reserch Mansion, 622-Anna Salai,
Post Bag No. 461, Madras-
600006.
12. Shri G. Ramamurthy, President. 22. Managing Director,
A.P. Padmaseela Sanghm. Tamilnadu Handloom Weavers
Skyline Theatre Lane, Coop. Society Ltd.,
Bagheer Bagh, Hyderabad-29
13. Shri Habih-ur-Rehman Nomani, President, All Indian Momin
Conference, Shaheed Lalit Makhan Bhawan,
C-15, Bhai Veer Singh Road. Gole
Market, N. Delhi.

- 350-Pantheon Road, Egmore,
Balasundram Building, Madras -
600008.
23. Director of Handlooms & Textiles,
Government of Uttar Pradesh,
Hathkargha Bhawan,
G.T. Road, Kanpur -208005.
24. Dr. B.P. Sarkar,
Director, Indian Institute of
Handloom Technology
Chowkaghat, Varanasi -221002.
25. Shri T.Nagaiah,
Director, Andhra Pradesh State
Handloom
Weavers Coop. Society Ltd. B-8,
F-4 HIG-I,
Bahilingampalli, Hyderabad-44.
26. Chairman,
West Bengal State Handloom
Weavers Cooperative Society, 45
Biplabi Annukul Chandra Street,
Calcutta - 700072.
27. President,
Sambalpuri Bastralaya Handloom
Cooperative
Society Ltd., A1/PO/Distt.
Baragarh, Orissa.
28. Managing Director,
North Eastern Handloom and
Handicrafts
Development Coporation,
Shillong.
29. Shri P. Shankar,
Chairman and Managing Director,
Tamilnadu Cooperative Industrial
Infrastructural
Development Ltd., 68-Greaves
Road
Madras - 600006.

30. Chairman,
Andhra Pradesh State Handloom
Weavers
Cooperative Society Ltd., Weavers
Bhawan,
House No. 3-5-770, Vittal Vadi,
Hyderabad.
31. Development Commissioner
(Handlooms) - Members
Secretary

Task Force on Leather Exports

1481. SHRIBOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Government have con-
stituted a task force on leather exports; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The Task Force has been set up
primarily with the following objective:

(i) To analyse the factors which
hindered the accelerated growth of
exports in the leather sector; and

(ii) To monitor the achievements
periodically with reference to the
targets.

Export of Pepper to European market

1482. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether pepper is being exported
presently to the European countries;

(b) if so, the total quantity exported during 1992-93;

(c) whether any efforts has been made to explore the European markets for value added export of pepper; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total quantity of pepper exported to EEC countries during 1992-93 was 3755 MTs, valued at Rs 12.57 crores.

(c) and (d): Yes, Sir. A Market Mission on Spice Oil and Oleoresins (including pepper oil and Oleoresins) was sent to Germany, Switzerland, France, UK and Netherlands during 1989 to explore the possibilities and to assess the potential demand for spice oil and oleoresins. The visit was also utilised to study buyers' requirements, quality standards etc. and to establish personal contacts with the buyers in these countries. These personal contacts have been refreshed by Spices Board's regular participation in international fairs in Europe viz, SIAL Fair, Paris, ANUGA Fair, Germany and Food Ingredients, Europe etc.

Losses of Airlines

1483. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether airlines are expected to suffer losses during the current year as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated November 4, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard so as to improve the performance of the airlines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c): The news item referred to mentions probable losses to airlines in the world due to difficulties faced by the global airlines industry.

(d) In 1992-93, Air India has earned profit but Indian Airlines has incurred loss. During the current year, Air India expects to earn profit, but Indian Airlines will still incur loss owing to low passenger load, low fleet utilization and increase in costs. Some of the steps taken by Indian Airlines for improving performance are given below:-

- Monitoring of schedules matching with demand
- Step up fleet utilisation
- Operations to more international sectors
- Economy in aircraft fuel consumption by
- Shortening of routes
- Optimisation of speed schedules/ cruising levels etc.

- Reduction in overtime wherever possible
- As far as possible, reduction in Capital Expenditure and administrative expenses.

[*Translation*]

Misutilisation of Bank Loans

1484. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the records regarding mis-utilisation of bank loans are kept in the banks and the Union Government have issued direction in this regard;

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

(c) whether the bank loans are mis-utilised with the connivance of the bank officers; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by the Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):(a) to (d): The banks keep the record of cases of bank loans and pursue their recovery efforts through individual files. The question of issuing any directions by Government, in this regard does not arise. By and large utilisation of loans for the purposes for which they are advanced is being ensured by the public sector banks through periodical inspection of borrowers' godowns/sitem calling for monthly stock statement and financial data from the borrowers, etc. However, some instances of misutilisation do come to the notice of the

banks from time to time and appropriate action is taken by them to deal with such cases. Further during the annual inspection of public sector banks, whenever instances on non-utilisation of loans for the purpose for which they are granted are notice by the Reserve bank of India (RBI), these are brought to the notice of the concerned banks by RBI for necessary remedial action. In cases where involvement/connivance of bank employees is observed in the misutilisation of loan, appropriate action is taken by the bank against the earning employees, in accordance with laid down rules and procedures.

[*English*]

Strike by Air India Pilots

1485. SHRI MANDRANJAN BHAKTA:
PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

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

(a) the number of days for which the Air India Pilots were on strike during September, 1993;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of flights adversely affected as a result thereof;

(d) the total loss suffered by the Air India due to non-operation of flights;

(e) the action taken against the pilots who took part in the agitation;

(f) the details of the other incidents of strike by the Air India personnel during the last six months; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to settle the disputes and check recurrence of such strike in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):(a) and (b): Pilots of Air India belonging to Indian Pilots Guild has resorted to direct action by reporting sick for a period of 4 days from 3.9.93 to 6.9.93.

(c) and (d) : 41 single flights were affected; the net loss is estimated at rs 358.28 lakhs.

(e) No punitive action has been taken.

(f) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(g) Within the existing policy framework, mechanism is available to avoid strikes etc., through bipartite and tripartite negotiations.

STATEMENT

(a) Air India Cabin Crew Association (AICCA) resorted to stoppage of work on July 27, 1993 in protest against the action of Customs Authorities against members of CabinCrew who operated flight AI 0401 of July 27, 1993. The number of Cabin Crew who has participated in the stoppage of work was about 60.

(b) Operations belonging to the Airport Services Department numbering about 100 people went on a flash striks on July 31, 1993 as they were stopped by Police Officials who took away their Airport ID passes after some altercations.

(c) Air Corporation Employees' Union (ACEU), Bombay a non-recongnised Union in Air India went on one day strike on 9.9.1993 in protest against non-implementation of Pension Scheme by Air India and proposed repeal of Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(d) Air India Cabin Crew Association (AICCA) resorted to direct action on Septemeber 2, 1993 by directing its members not to operate flights with capt. A.R Kermani due to the aforesaid Commander taking objection to filling up of crew baggage declaration from by the Inflight Supervisor on Flight AI-614/111 of August 22, 1993.

(e) Air India Employees Guild (AIEG) representing non technical and technical categories of employees in Air India resorted to work stoppage on October 2, 1993 and November 10, 1993 in the Airport Services Department.

Trade with European Community

1486. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed a trade pact with the European Community;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof including the areas covered thereby; and

(c) the gains likely to be achieved and the progress made in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB KUKHERJEE): (a) No new agreement has yet been signed.

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

Import of Readymade Garments

1487.DR.KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the countries which are importing readymade garments/clothes from India;

(b) whether some new countries have expressed their desire to import Indian textiles;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to export readymade garments and other textiles to those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG.VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d): Textiles and garments are imported from India by almost all countries. The major importing countries of Indian textile goods are EEC Member States, USA, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Bangla Desh, Japan, Switzerland, Australia etc. There is also good prospects for exports to South Africa following the resumption of trade with that country. Government have taken several steps to increase textile and garment exports which include full convertibility of Rupees, allowing import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production, participation in Buyer-seller meets, fairs, exhibitions etc.

Export of Alphanso Mangoes

1488.SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on Alphanso mangoes in Japan and U.S.;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to lift the ban;

(c) whether any efforts are being made to establish a mango processing plant in India;

(d) the total quantity of Alphanso mango exported during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(e) whether any priority has been given to provide floor-space in Air India for export of fruits;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c): Imports of Indian mangoes are not allowed by Japan and USA because of the prevalence of fruit fly disease in India. However, this ban can be conditionally lifted if effective disinfection systems are established in the country. A request has been made to the Japanese Government to set up a vapour heat treatment plant in India. An officer of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority has also been trained by the Japanese Government on the vapour heat treatment system.

(d) The total quantity of mangoes exported from the country year-wise is as below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (MTs)</i>
1990-91	19380
1991-92	23104
1992-93	27000

No separate data is maintained for alphonso mangoes, hence data on the total quantity of Alphonso mangoes exported during each of the last three years country-wise is not available.

(e) to (h): Government has been following an Oper Sky Policy wherein scheduled and non-scheduled airline operators are free to lift the cargo according to their policy. However, airlines including Air India are being requested, from time to time, to provide space for perishable items including fruits on priority basis.

[Translation]

Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

1489. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of frauds/robberies have been increasing in the public sector banks in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of frauds and rob-

beries/dacoities detected during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(c) the amount involved in each such case and the losses incurred result thereof;

(d) whether some bank employees were also found involved in such cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against them; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to minimise such cases in the public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) : The present data reporting system in Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate State-wise information of frauds as desired by the Hon'ble Member. However, total number of frauds and the amount involved therein, as reported by public sector banks to RBI during the years 1991. 1992 and upto June, 1993 is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of fradus</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs in lakhs)</i>
1991	1559	6541.31
1992	1717	14449.10 +F\$ 1500
1993 (upto June)	1048	11206.19

The amounts involved in the cases of frauds do not necessarily represent the actual losses which the banks may have to ultimately suffer. The banks generally have some securities to cover advances made by them and they file civil and criminal suits seeking appropriate reliefs. Banks also take insurance cover.

During the year 1991, there were 2 incidents of robberies in Maharashtra, one at D.N College Extension Counter, Nagpur of Central Bank of India in which an amount of Rs 92,790/- was involved, An amount of Rs 58,000/- was recovered from the robbers.

Six robbers were convicted. In the second incident at Bank of Maharashtra's Mirch Bazar, Nagpur branch, an amount of Rs 114000/- was involved. No amount has been recovered so far. There were no incidents of bank robberies/dacoities in Maharashtra during 1992 and upto June, 1993. No bank employee was found involved in these cases.

(d) and (e) : Available information in respect of employees convicted/warded major/minor penalties for their involvement in fraud cases as reported by RBI is given below:

1991	1992	1993 (upto June)	
No. of employees convicted	82	51	21
No. of employees given major/minor penalties	829	870	358
No. of employees out of (2) dismissed/discharged/removed.	289	283	130

(f) Depending on the risk factor involved, such as location, cash handled, law and order situation, banks have taken several measures strengthen security at their branches like provision of armed guard, installation of alarm systems etc. In order to motivate employees, police and general public to resist robberies/dacoities, a scheme for giving reward is in operation.

As regards measures for prevention and prompt detection of frauds, Reserve Bank of India has issued circulars giving comprehensive guidelines, wherein banks have been advised to strengthen the control mechanism, with a view to eliminate scope for malpractices. Fraud cases are reviewed by RBI, and in ingenious cases, modus operandi and required safeguards are ad-

vised to banks for initiating action to prevent their recurrence.

RBI has also impressed upon the banks for proper training of operational personnel so that they appreciate the implications of laxities in following laid down procedures, and take needed care in actual working.

RBI has set up a special Investigation Cell (SIC) for undertaking investigation and scrutiny into reported cases of major frauds as well as snap inspections covering systems and procedures and control arrangements in identified fraud prone areas.

RBI also issues caution notices for information of Chairman of all commercial banks whenever serious irregularities/fraud-

ulent transactions are observed in the conduct and operation of a borrowal account and advising them to make detailed and imdepth enquires before granting/renewing any facilities to such parties.

Banks have also been impressed to clear arrears in balacing of books and reconciliation of inter-branch and other accounts on a continuous basis so as to prevent frauds in these areas. The steps taken by banks and the improvement is reviewed by the RBI.

[English]

Strikes in Textiles Industry

1490. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of man-days lost in the textile industry due to labour strikes during 1992-93; and

(b) the main reasons for these strikes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) According to available information man-days lost due to strikes in the textile industry (cotton textile, wool, silk, synthetic textile, jute, hemp and mesta textile and textile products) in 1992 was 10.6 million and in 1993 (January-September) was 0.96 million. Information on mandays lost is maintained calender year-wise

(b) Generally, the main causes of strikes are wages and allowances, personnel, bonus, indisciplines, violence etc.

[Translation]

Loan Schemes in Uttar Pradesh

1491. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee for improving loan schemes in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) : The Government of India have not constituted any Committee for improving loan schemes in Uttar Pradesh. However, Reserve Bank of India has constituted a Task Force on Credit Deposits Ratio in Uttar Pradesh in August '92. The Task Force has since submitted its Report

(c) The report of the Task Force referred to above covers a wide spectrum of recommendations which interalia include infrastructural development in areas of power supply, irrigation transport etc., rapid industrialisation of the state, rehabilitation of sick industrial units, revitalisation of Regional Rural Banks, improvement in recovery position and marketing support for industrial products through appropriate net work.

[English]

Loans of Weavers in Gujarat

1492. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the loan provided to weavers in Gujarat so far under the Agricultural and

Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 by the public sector banks and Regional Rural Banks, separately ; and

(b) the amount for which the claims have been submitted by the Government of Gujarat in this regard and the amount actually disbursed so far.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): The Agricultural & Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 formulated by the Government of India envisaged extension of debt relief of the farmers, landless labourers, artisans and weavers in rural areas who were unable to repay their accumulated dues as on 2.10.89 to the public sector banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). It did not envisage extension of loans under the Scheme. State Governments also formulated Schemes for the borrowers of Cooperatives on the lines of the Central Scheme. While Government of India undertook to reimburse in full the debt relief provided under the Scheme by the public sector banks and RRBs, it undertook to bear 50 percent of the debt relief provided by State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and State Land Development Banks (SLDBs)

under the State Government Schemes. The balance 50 per cent of the debt relief was to be met by the State Government. With a view to help relief, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended loans to the SCBs and SLDBs through National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD). In terms of the provisions of ARDR Scheme, implementation thereof was carried out by the RBI for public sector banks and by NABARD for cooperative banks and RRBs. The banks were required to submit their claims to RBI/NABARD after providing the debt relief to the eligible borrowers. No claim was required to be submitted by the Government of Gujarat.

RBI has reported that separate data about the debt relief provided to weavers under the Scheme has not been collected by the public sector banks. However, weavers have been included under the category of rural artisans. Debt relief provided by public sector commercial banks to rural artisans in the State of Gujarat was of the order of Rs 14.35 crores in respect of 78,123 rural artisans.

Details of the relief provided to the weavers of Gujarat by cooperatives and RRBs, claims submitted by them and amounts

		<i>(Rs in crores)</i>	
		<i>Cooperative Banks (SCB & SLDB)</i>	<i>RRBs</i>
I	Total claim submitted to NABARD	351.66	8.55
II	Of which relief provided to weavers	0.19	1.72
Amount sanctioned by NABARD TO SBC & SLDB			
	a) Grant	148.56	6.68
	b) Loan	148.56	-
	c) Total	297.12	6.58

Allocation for Handloom Sector

1493. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made by the Union Government for the Development of Handloom Sector in Gujarat during the Seventh Five Year Plan, yearwise; and

(b) the details of such plan for the Eighth Five Year Plan, yearwise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Allocation of funds to the Handloom Sector is made Schemewise

and not State-wise. It is for the State Governments concerned to submit proposals for assistance under various Plan and non-Plan Schemes. A statement showing releases made during Seventh Plan period year-wise on the basis of proposals and Non-Plan Schemes is enclosed.

(b) The outlay for VIII Plan for handloom sector was initially fixed at Rs. 300 Crores. With the approval of the scheme for setting up Handloom Development Centres the outlay would be further enhanced. The expenditure under Plan Schemes for handloom sector during 1992-93 was Rs. 29.80 Crores. The outlay for 1993-94 under Plan Schemes is Rs. 50.00 Crores. The outlay for 1994-95 has not been finalised.

STATEMENT

SCHEME-WISE CENTRAL RELEASES TO GUJARAT STATE DURING SEVENTH PLAN (1985-86 TO 1989-90)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	Total
(Rs. in Lakhs)							
PLAN							
1.	Primary	-	1.50	1.25	-	9.69	12.44
2.	S.H.D.C.	-	10.00	-	-	6.00	16.00
3.	Apex	-	2.50	-	-	-	2.50
4.	Managerial Subsidy	-	1.00	-	-	5.50	6.50
5.	Modernisation	12.00	2.00	-	-	36.00	50.00
6.	Workshed-Housing	2.90	3.63	-	-	27.00	33.53
7.	Thrift fund Scheme	-	4.00	-	-	-	4.00
8.	Setting up of Enforcement Machinery in the States	-	-	-	10.20	-	10.20
Total		14.90	24.63	1.25	10.20	84.19	135.17

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	Total
NON - PLAN							
1.	Subsidy on Janata Cloth	137.27	195.09	288.31	119.21	378.77	1118.65
2.	Spl. Rebate on Handloom Cloth	18.33	43.04	45.93	63.76	178.42	349.48
	Total	155.60	238.13	334.24	182.97	557.19	1463.13

[*Translation*]**Loan to Gujarat Government**

1494. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan sought by the Government of Gujarat during the last two years along with the purpose for which it was sought;

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned to the Gujarat State Government during the said period;

(c) whether the amount sanctioned to the Government of Gujarat was quite less than demanded; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY (a) The Government of Gujarat sought short term loans of Rs 30 crores each during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 for purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs.

(b) to (d) Keeping in view the budgetary constraints, the Government of India sanctioned short term loans of Rs 14.65 crores and Rs 12.70 crores to Gujarat during the years 1991-92 & 1992-93 respectively.

[*English*]**Rangarajan Committee on Disinvestment**

1495. SHRI MIHAN RAWALE:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK:

Will the Ministry OF FINANCE be pleased refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3422 on August 18, 1993 regarding Rangarajan Committee Report and State:

(a) the date on which the Rangarajan Committee report on disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings was submitted to the Union Government;

(b) whether the examination of report has since been completed by the Government;

(c) if so, the recommendations which have been accepted/ rejected by the Government; and

(d) if not, the time by which the examination of the report is likely to be completed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Report of the Rangarajan Committee of Disinvestment of shares in public Sector Enterprises was received by Government of India on 20th April, 1993.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) : The recommendations of the Committee have far reaching implications which require careful consideration before their acceptance by the Government. Hence, it may not be feasible to indicate the time by which the examination of the Report is likely to be completed.

World Bank Assistance

1496. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:

PROF. PREM DHUMAL:
 SHRI V. SREENIVASA
 PRASAD:
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN
 PANDEYA:
 SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:
 SHRI CHETAN P.S.
 CHAUHAN:
 SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
 SHRI C.P. MUDALA
 GIRIYAPPA:
 DR. RAMESH CHAND
 TOMAR:
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLAYA
 GAVITA:
 SHRI BAPU HARI CHARUE:
 SHRI DHARMANNA
 MONDAYYA SADUL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a World Bank Team has visited India to study in depth the devastation caused by recent earthquake that struck Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the World Bank have provided any kind of assistance to the Government for the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with its terms; and

(d) the extent of foreign assistance received from different countries/international agencies as well for relief and rehabilitation work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):
 (a) to (c) : A World Bank team visited India in November, 1993 to study the possibility

of providing assistance for reconstruction works in the districts affected by the recent earthquake in Maharashtra. The size and type of assistance will be known only after the appraisal of the project.

(d) International organisations and other donor countries have also offered to assist in relief and rehabilitation in the affected districts. In addition to the proposed World Bank assistance Canada, U.S.A., Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, Japan and U.K. have offered assistance by way of grants and in some cases commodity assistance amounting to Rs 83.95 crores. This assistance is being routed through Government. In addition, assistance is also being provided through other sources including Non-Government Organisations.

Diversification of Activities by MMTC

1497. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
 Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for diversification of its activities and entering into joint ventures by the minerals and Metals Trading Corporation:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the sectors in which diversification and joint ventures are envisaged; and

(d) the estimated earning envisaged by the aforesaid diversification and the joint ventures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRABAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (d) Consequent to the decanalisation of import & export of a number of items which were canalised through MMTC, the Company

initiated action for diversification and establishment of joint Ventures with a view to creating a supply base. The sectors chosen for diversification and creation of a supply base through investment in joint ventures are (i) Agro Products, (ii) Marine Products, (iii) Textiles, (iv) leather (v) Chemicals, Drugs and Pharmaceuticals.

In 1992-93, MMTC recorded a turnover of Rs 58.67 crores in these sectors. It is also estimated that MMTC would be able to generate business of Rs 60 crores per annum from two joint ventures already approved after they achieve full production. More joint venture proposals are also under consideration.

Dumping of Steel in India

1498. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report regarding dumping of steel by various foreign countries in India, as appeared in the patriot dated September 2, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the likely impact of this dumping on indigenous steel industry;

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

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to protect the indigenous steel industry from such dumpings and international competitions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: (a) to (e) :

The Patriot dated September 2, 1993 has reported the concern expressed by the confederation of Indian Industry over the dumping of steel and its products in the Indian market by Brazil, some European and East Asian countries.

2. The Indian Customs Tariff Act, 1975, as amended in October 1982 already empowers Government to enforce antidumping duties in those cases in which dumped goods are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed, an authority designated by Government has to make a finding on the existence of dumping and injury to the domestic industry; and a causal link between the dumped goods and the alleged injury to the domestic industry. The Designated Authority, Under the Customs Tariff Act and Custom Tariff Rules, is normally required to initiate investigation only upon receipt of a written request supported by evidence of dumping, injury to the domestic industry and a causal link between the two by or on behalf of the affected domestic industry.

3. The Designated Authority has not yet received a properly documented complaint by the domestic industry regarding dumping of steel and its products in India.

Export of Meat

1499. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of meat permitted for export and the quantity and value actually exported during 1992, 1993 and 1994 and to which countries;

(b) whether the Government propose to stop exporting of meat; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) As per Export and Import

Policy, 1992-97, there is no quantitative restriction for export of meat of buffaloes. Export of meat of sheep and goat is however, subject to quantitative ceilings as notified by DGFT. The ceilings released by DGFT for the year 1992-93 and 1993-94 for export of meat of Indian sheep and goat and actual exports are as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Ceiling released for sheep & goat meat</i>	<i>Actual Exports (in M.T)</i>
1992-95	16,392	13,724
1993-94	40,000	8,393 (upto Sept.93)

Country-wise export of buffalo, sheep and goat meat for the year 1992-93 and 1993-94 (upto September 93) is enclosed statements I and II.

(b) and (c): The Government does not propose to stop export of meat.

STATEMENT - I

Country Wise Export of :Buffalo Meat For April -1992 to March -1993

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M.T)</i>	<i>Value (In Mill)</i>
Malaysia	30289.475	29.39
United Arab Emirates	11982.447	10.50
Jordan	5096.184	4.58
Yamen Arab Republic	2838.371	2.54
Mauritius	2182.886	2.26
Oman	2260.226	2.12
Kuwait	1714.629	1.94
Bahrain	704.845	0.75
Singapore	206.337	0.22

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M.T)</i>	<i>Value (In Mill)</i>
Qatar	119.709	0.10
Brunel	46.039	0.05
Netherlands	45.000	0.05
Saudi Arabia	25.000	0.04
Maldives	36.200	0.03
Isreal	11.627	0.01
Total	57558.975	54.58

Source: Returns Filed by Exporters with Apeda

*Country Wise Export of: Sheep & Goat Meat
For April -92 to March -93*

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M.T)</i>	<i>Value (In Mill)</i>
UAE	8695.110	17.22
Saudi Arabi	3752.643	8.18
Oman	847.527	1.75
Bahrain	429.481	0.95
Total	13724.761	28.10

Source: All India Meat & Livestockj Exporters Association

STATEMENT -II

*Country Wise Export of: Buffalo Meat
For April -1993 to September 1993*

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M.T)</i>	<i>Value(In Mill)</i>
Malaysia	6033.434	5.79
United Arab Emirates	3673.751	3.50

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M. T)</i>	<i>Value (In Mill)</i>
Jorden	2247.891	1.89
Kuwait	1165.889	1.93
Oman	1079.093	0.91
Bahrain	753.455	0.67
Yamen Arab Republic	682.392	0.57
Mauritius	597.230	1.30
Qutar	179.000	0.15
Singapore	124.994	0.11
Shri Lanka	48.000	0.04
Burma	31.994	0.03
Maldives	21.466	0.06
Total	16638.589	16.95

Source : Returns Filed by Exporters with Apeada

*Country Wise Export of : Sheep & Goat Meat
For April -93 to September -93*

<i>Country</i>	<i>Quantity (M. T)</i>	<i>Value (In Mill)</i>
U.A.E	5003.700	9.37
Saudi Arabia	2635.304	6.08
Oman	443.574	0.91
Bahrain	152.992	0.33
Jordan	152.000	0.21
Kuwait	6.300	0.02
Total	8393.800	16.92

Source : All India Meat and Livestock Exporters Association

12.04 hrs.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA (Bankura): Today the Postal Department's workers' strike has entered the fourth day. Please give us an opportunity to speak on this issue. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): The industrial situation in West Bengal is deteriorating day by day. The Labour Minister and the Textile Minister are here.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me make it clear please. We had discussed this Dunkel matter for 11 hours; and probably we had decided that immediately we will take this up after the Question Hour. But I am allowing very brief submissions.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: This is a very important issue. I will take only five minutes. The postal employees are on strike. Four days have passed and the Government has not yet taken any action. The Postal Department has totally collapsed.

In West Bengal, all the jute mills are either locked out or under lock out. Victoria Jute Mill, Kanoria Jute Mill and Angus Jute Mill - all the jute mills are closed. The mill owners are purchasing the jute mills and are cheating the workers like anything. They are not depositing PF dues; they are also not giving ESI dues to the workers with the result that the workers have started their agitation. In Kanoria Jute Mill, the workers have gone on strike. Today, they have started their rail roko movement. In Victoria Jute Mill - you will be surprised to know - that the lock out

rate is high. One worker is missing from 30th November. He was taken away by the police; he is under the police custody. He was beaten up in front of his wife; and after that, he is missing; he is not yet been traced. Apprehension is that the police has killed him inside the lockup.

May I request the Minister to look into this matter? It is a very serious issue and the human lives in West Bengal are not being protected. I want to put it on record. I want that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should react; otherwise, I am going on hunger strike from 15th onwards. I am ready to give my life to protect the human lives. Why has not Bhikari Paswan been traced till date? He had started agitation because he did not receive his PF; he has not received his salary. The workers have not received their dues. More than Rs.150 crore of PF have not been deposited. The Textile Minister is here. NTC amount of Rs.11 crore has not yet been deposited.

They have not deposited those sums. I do not know what the Labour Minister and the Textiles Minister are doing. I am also bringing it to the notice of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs who is here. I want to know what is happening to protection of human rights.

Kindly listen to what I am saying. Otherwise, I will start my Dharna because I want human rights to be protected. More than eighty persons died inside Police lock up in West Bengal. There is no protection of human rights there. I want some response from the hon. Ministers. I also want to take it up with the Home Minister to find out what is happening. Inside the Police lock up they are killing people indiscriminately. They are not going to produce them in the courts. What is this? Where is the rule of law?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What is happening, Sir? We are waiting to speak (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point now, Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point quite force fully.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: So many persons are dying inside the Police lock up.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is she the only person concerned with it?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, you are the protector here. This is the people's court. Please protect the human rights of people. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point, Mamataji.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, this is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I will discuss this matter with you and the Minister. Let others also say something.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I would discuss the matter with you and the Minister also.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Both the Jute mills, Kanoria Jute Mills in my constituency and a few others in West Ben-

gal, are closed and workers are agitated. There is a very serious problem there. I also agree with the problem raised by Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

Sir, you will be surprised to know that a bench of BIFR has made some recommendations and noted with serious concern that although more than six months have elapsed the IFCI and IRBI have neither implemented the scheme nor taken any positive steps to resolve the issue of participation of IFCI and IRBI and provide term loans by these institutions. This is a very unfortunate situation.

MR. SPEAKER: What is it you are reading, gentleman?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: This is the judgment of the BIFR. Both the IFCI and the IDBI were asked to give term loans, but they are not giving. This mill is closed due to lack of working capital. I have already talked to the Labour Minister, who agreed to take up the matter within two days. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: The workers are on strike. What is happening, Sir?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: The problem should not be politicised and criminals should not be allowed to take over the law and order situation. I have talked to the hon. Minister and hope Central Government would play its due role. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mamataji, it is not recorded when you come and speak standing here near the Table.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I have also talked to the Textiles Minister. They have agreed to take some action.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I also want to mention something.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to hear each one of you on one point only. There are other Members who want to speak. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record. Please understand. I have already heard one Member. Now let other Members also speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): At present Tamil Nadu has 69 per cent reservation including 50 per cent for backward classes. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that you cannot speak in the House like this. I have called Shri Narayanan to speak. Let him speak.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, may I take half a minute? We quietly listened to anything that was said against the State Government. *(Interruptions)* The Central Government is not giving loans. Shri Pranab Mukherjee knows that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak if you want. But I cannot allow all the Members of your Party to speak alone.

(Interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER: Please understand I allowed one Member from your Party to make a point. All of you cannot speak. I will allow Shri Somnathji to speak if he wants to

make a point. But I cannot allow all the Members of one Party alone to speak. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I had been associated with the Victoria Jute Mills for a long time.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should understand that we have discussed this Dunkel Text for eleven hours. You would be interested in getting the reply to your points. We are trying to facilitate it. Now you are just forcing your views on us.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, kindly give us an opportunity to speak on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you.

Now Shri Narayanan.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present Tamil Nadu has 60 per cent reservation including 50 per cent for the backward classes. But the Supreme Court said that the total reservation should not exceed 50 per cent. We have great respect for the Supreme Court. At the same time the sentiments of the people have also to be respected. Social, economical and educational progress of the down-trodden people should not be affected. It is the duty of the Government to safeguard the social justice for weaker sections of the society. This being a social problem, if the Tamil Nadu Government makes an attempt to reduce the present level of reservation according to Supreme Court, social tension may definitely mount leading to law and order problem. To avert all these difficulties, constitutional

protection for the reservation is the only way out. The Tamil Nadu Assembly in a special Session on 9th November, 1993 unanimously passed a Resolution urging the Centre to bring forward a Constitutional Amendment to ensure continuation of 69 per cent reservation for admission to educational institutions and for Government jobs in the State. In support of the Resolution, a State-wide hartal was also observed to highlight the State's Reservation Policy.

Now the time has come not only in Tamil Nadu but also in the entire country to amend the Constitution to ensure the weaker sections of the society to enjoy the reservation benefits and there is no alternative except to amend the Constitution if the State Government is to uphold its present reservation policy. On an earlier occasion, during the regime of Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, when such a situation arose, Pandit Nehru solved the situation by amending the Constitution, by inserting a new sub-clause 15(4) under Clause 15 as under:

"Nothing in this article or in clause (2) of article 29 shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of the citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to initiate process to amend the Constitution suitably at the earliest to ensure 69 per cent reservation in Tamil Nadu. I also request all the political parties here to support this cause cutting across the party line.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azmagarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we support it very strongly. It requires a Constitutional Amendment. Therefore, Sir, through you, I request the Government to consult all the

political Parties on this issue. In spite of the fact that decisions had been taken by the House, the Government is doing nothing and the bureaucracy is trying to bring hurdles saying that Constitution is a hurdle. Therefore, the Constitutional Amendment is important.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the context of the question raised by the hon. Member, I would like to say one thing under distress that Mr. V.P. Singh has been absent from this House since long. The Government did implement the Mandal Commission recommendations, but not in toto. Regarding the 50 per cent limit set by the Supreme Court, I want to express my agreement with the hon. Member that it depends on the States; and will entail several difficulties. The movement, for the development of the weaker sections, has carved a niche for itself in the States. The facility has been made available to the people in several States since long and such States are functioning well where these recommendations have been implemented compared to those where these have not been implemented. There is unrest in States where these have not been implemented. Mr. V.P. Singh has been absent for months from this House. His health too is very poor. With distress I want to say that the advertisements being issued for the vacancies in Central Government offices, I do not find even a single case in which the Government has implemented the quota reserved for the backward classes. What I mean is that we see the ulterior motives of the Government in implementing the recommendations. Mr. V.P. Singh's membership is in jeopardy, as he has been out of the House. He will not come even to register his attendance. Through you I would like to urge the Government that the apex court has provided a new

environment regarding the section, which constitutes a vast majority of the population. But the Government is not taking this seriously. He has said that till a youth belonging to the backward section, is not selected for civil services, he will not return to Delhi. As those belonging to the weaker sections are in great hardship, the Government should pay attention to the resolution. vow of V.P. Singh.

Through you I would like to urge the Government to take this seriously. Everything depends on you. Mr. V.P. Singh is an institutions. He has sacrificed a lot for the poor of this nation. Keeping in view his sacrifices, it would really be very unfortunate if the Government is unable even to fulfill a small request of his.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, his health too is very bad. I regret to say that even you had requested the Government to settle this matter urgently. You had also said that you would also discuss this in your chamber. Through you I would like to request the Government to settle this minor issue as early as possible. The feelings of the people should not be hurt further. This matter should not be postponed further. Because when a person has taken this vow in the interest of the vast majority of the people, then you should try to settle this matter quickly, keeping in view the feelings of the masses. Through you I would like to make a submission that this matter would further become worse. It must not be allowed to worsen further.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take up your time. A former Prime Minister of India, a Member of this House, for reasons for implementation of a Government decision he

is away, not for against the Government decision. He says that it is the Government decision. This House has approved it. It should be implemented as soon as possible. Therefore, I earnestly request that as a Presiding Officer - protector of our rights - you kindly also intervene, if necessary. Let the Government implement its decision so that he can come back and a very old demand is met.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to repeat the vow taken by Shri V.P. Singh. After the implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations, an advertisement of Life Insurance Corporation, was issued on 13.11.1993. But in that advertisement, there was no provision for the reservation of backward castes. This advertisement was issued in newspapers. We are not talking baselessly. The Government has certainly made the announcement, but it is not being followed. As a result of this there is dissatisfaction among the backward castes, in the nation, and Mr. V.P. Singh is out of Delhi due to his vow. I would urge you to enforce the declaration made by the Government. Whereas the Government says it is implementing it. But in reality this is not so. In this connection I would like to place the records before you - the published advertisement.

Another thing is that the Supreme Court's ceiling of 50 per cent imposed on reservations, must be removed through constitutional amendment. Regarding the reservation in the States, it should be left to them because the 85 per cent of the populations is covered under the reservation quota and their reservation should not be less than 50 percent. It also includes the reservation for the handicapped persons and the children of the servicemen. It is

being demanded that 10 per cent reservation quota should also be provided for economically weaker sections. In view of all these a constitutional amendment should be made to end the 50 per cent limit, this is what we request.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to support this demand vociferously and want to give this warning to the Government..... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Not now please. Your party has spoken on this. You take up something else.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: My second issue is very serious. In 1978 the Government had taken the decision regarding the re-naming of Baba Saheb Ambedkar University. The Executive Committee of Marthwada University, the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council jointly, passed a resolution regarding the renaming of Marathwada University as Baba Saheb University. Shri Sharad Pawar at that time was the Chief Minister. After this hundreds of youths lost their lives. On the 26th of previous month, Gautam Bagbale, President of Daily Panther, Committed self-immolation. The situation is very tense there. I think that we have celebrated Ambedkar Saheb's Anniversary and in villages all the political parties are taking the name of Ambedkar. But, things have come to such a pass that the youth have to commit self-immolation for the sake of renaming of the Marathwada University.

We want to tell the Government that it is a very serious matter. Mr. Mukul Wasnik,

you also come from there. The present Chief Minister Mr. Sha rad Pawar was also holding the same post at that time. There-fore, that University should be renamed as Baba Saheb Ambedkar University and the Government should give a statement in the House as he was not only the leader of Maharashtra, but also the father of the Constitution. This house will not tolerate an insult to his memory. If we cannot give respect to him, then, we have no right to insult him. If the proposal was not to be implemented, then why was it passed?

Mr. Speaker Sir, I urge that the Maharashtra Government be instructed to rename Marathwada University as Baba Saheb Ambedkar University, without any further delay. Mr Speaker, Sir, I think if you put in a word, it would go a long way.

[*English*]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAJYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, more than seventy-five per cent of the population of my constituency is of tribals. We have got many complex problems. Time and again I have raised those matter in this House and have drawn your attention to them. You have also been kind enough to sympathise with those issues. Almost half of the population of my constituency depends upon the forest produce for their livelihood and the rest of them are starving also. So, this is the state of affairs. The economic and social condition of the people is very miserable. Besides this, there is no drinking water and irrigation water also people face problems throughout the year. There are even no industries at all. So I would request you to give direction to the Government to set up a Special District Development Board for Phulbani, Bolangir and Kalahandi which face chronic problems throughout the year. I hope you will

give a definite direction to the Government in this regard. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost one and half years period is over since the G.I.C held written examination for Development Officers. No appointments have been made, since stay orders were given by various courts. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If such matters would be raised in the Parliament, how will it work?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just as the state Government gives money to MLAs for the completion of small projects, similarly.... (*Interruptions*).... In the previous session. We had made the demand to you, that we also.... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not under-

standing anything, you are simply going on speaking; sit down.

[*English*]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL Hooghly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the jute industry as such is in great difficulties along with other industries. There is a peculiar problem with regard to four jute mills in West Bengal. Of the four, two are in my constituency-North Samnagar Jute Mill and Victoria Jute Mill. The others are Angus and Titaghar Jute Mills. Some time back, one British owner, Mr. R.J. Breatly, with the permission of R.B.I. bought controlling shares in these, four mills. He has siphoned off Rs 171 crore. Out of this about Rs 65 crore belong to the workers in the form of due wages, provident fund and ESI dues etc. After the siphoning of the money by him, the mills are put in serious difficulties. Serious law and order problems have come in. The Victoria Jute Mill was closed last October.

In this connection, I have written to the Prime Minister, to the Textile Minister and to the Labour Minister. The West Bengal Government is very seriously seized of the matter. They have approached the Central Government in this regard and they are trying to find out ways to reopen and run these mills.

KUMARI MAMATA MANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, on this matter nobody is doing anything. Please see that some action is taken. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I would urge upon the Government to look into the matter and order for the extradition of Mr. Breatly who has siphoned off the money and bring him to India and run the mills as

promised by him. His shares should be disinvested so that the dues paid to the workers. The Registrar of companies should take suitable steps under Section 621 in this regard.

12.27 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Coffee Board Employees (Conduct) (Amendment) Rules, 1993 Annual Report and Review on the working of Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta for 1992-93.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Coffee Board Employees (Conduct) (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 141 in Gazette of India dated the 13 the March, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Coffee Act, 1942.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4646/93]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Engineering Export Promotion Council Calcutta, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4647/93]

Memorandum of Understanding between National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd. and Ministry of Textiles for 1993-94 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd. and the Ministry of Textiles for the year 1993-94.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4648/93]
 - (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, for the year 1992-93.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4649/93]
- One hundred forty fifth Report and one hundred forty sixth Report of Law Commission of India etc.**
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission of India:-
- (i) One Hundred forty-fifth on Article 12 of the Constitution and public Sector Undertakings.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4649/ 93]
- (ii) One Hundred and Forty -Sixth Report on Sale of Women and Children-Proposed Section 373-A-Indian Penal Code.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4650/ 93]
- (2) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Haryana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry, 1991 and Bye-elections to the Legislative Assemblies held in 1991.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4651/ 93]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Representation of People Act, 1950:-
- (i) The Registration of Electors (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 303 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 1993.
- (ii) The Registration of Electors (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 817 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4652/ 93]

Notification Under Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992, Review on the working of and Annual Report of Spices Trading Corporation Ltd. Bangalore for 1992-93 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): I beg to lay on the table-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 733(E)(Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1993 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 235 (E) dated the 29th February, 1988 issued under section 20 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 4653/93]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the spices trading Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Spices Trading Corporation Limited Bangalore, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4654/93]
- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of

the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4655/93]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963:-
- (i) The Export (Quality Control and Inspection) (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R 264 in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1993.
- (ii) The Export Inspection Council Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R 311 in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1993.
- (iii) The Export Inspection Council (Director) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R 312 in Gazette of India dated the 26th June 1993.
- (iv) The Export Inspection Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 1477 in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4656/93]
- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963:-
- (i) S.O. 1577 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 576 dated the 25th February, 1978.
- (ii) S.O. 1578 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 1772, dated the 7th June, 1966.
- (iii) S.O. 1579 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 1221(A) dated the 28th March, 1984.
- (iv) S.O. 1580 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 2968 dated the 6th October, 1973.
- (v) S.O. 1581 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 2353 dated the 14th September, 1974.
- (vi) S.O. 1582 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 5577, dated the 25th December, 1971.
- (vii) S.O. 1583 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 4575, dated the 19th December, 1967.
- (viii) S.O. 1584 published in Gazette of

India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 2355, dated the 14th September, 1974.

- (ix) S.O. 1585 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1993 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 2139, dated the 22nd July, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No LT 4657/93]

Notifications Under Income Tax Act, 1961, customs Act 1962 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income -tax Act, 1961:-

(i) The Income-tax (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No S.O. 611 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd September, 1993

(ii) The Income-tax (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 667 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1993.

(iii) The Income-tax (Eighteenth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No S O 736 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1993. [Placed in Library. See No LT-4658/93]

- (2) A copy each of the following Noti-

fications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

(i) S.O. 649 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th August, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of Imports and calculation of stamp duty

(ii) S.O. 650 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th August, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of Exports and calculation of stamp duty

(iii) S.O. 707 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of Swiss Franc into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of Imports and calculation of stamp duty.

(iv) S O 708 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of Swiss Franc and Austrian Shilling into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of exports and calculation of stamp duty.

(v) S.O. 719 (E) Published in Gazette

of India dated the 27th September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imports and calculation of stamp duty.

(vi) S.O. 720 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of exports and calculation of stamp duty.

(vii) S.O. 822 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imports and calculation of stamp duty.

(viii) S.O. 823 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of exports and calculation of stamp duty [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4659/93]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:-

(i) G.S.R. 645 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1993 appointing the officers of the Directorate of Vigilance as Central Excise Officers with all India Jurisdiction.

(ii) G.S.R. 646 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1993 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 53/59-CE dated the 9th May, 1959.

(iii) G.S.R. 652 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 1993 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 197/92-CE dated the 17th November, 1962

(iv) G.S.R. 645 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 1993 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 23/86-CE dated the 10th February, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4660/93]

(4) A copy of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 1993. (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No G.S.R 617 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Securities Contract (Regulation) Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4661/93]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-

- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Underwriters) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 766 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1993.
- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Underwriters) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. L.E.10/93 in Gazette of India dated the 8th October, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4662/93]
- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959:-
- (i) The Kisan Vikas Patra (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 567 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 1993.
- (ii) The Kisan Vikas Patra (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R.588 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1993.
- (iii) The Indira Vikas Patra (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R.589 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4663/93]
- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Bank Act, 1873:-
- (i) The post Office (Monthly Income Account) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No.G.S.R 585 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September 1993.
- (ii) The post Office Time Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No.G.S.R 586 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September 1993.
- (iii) The post Office Recurring Deposit (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No.G.S.R 587 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4664/93]
- (8) A Copy of the Notification No. F. No. 15/2/93-NS.II (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th November, 1993 making certain amendments in Deposit Scheme for Retiring Government Employees, 1989.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4665/93]
- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of undertakings) Act, 1970:-
- (i) The Syndicate Bank Officer Employees (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. 872/0090/PD: IRD(O) in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 1992.

- (ii) Notification NO. 915/S/0090/PD: IRD(O) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1993 containing corrigendum to Notification No. 48 dated the 28th November, 1992 in Hindi version only.
- (iii) The Central Bank of India Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. C0. PRS: LEGAL: 22:93:94 in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 1993.
- (iv) The Punjab National Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. PNB/DAC/1/93 in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1993.
- (v) The Bank of Baroda Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. HO:OSR&IR: 27/107/581 in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4666/93]
- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of undertakings) Act, 1980:-
- (i) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1993 published in Notification No. 666/20 LEGAL/141 in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1993.
- (ii) The Punjab and Sind Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. Adv.3/4/153-93 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1993.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4667/93]
- (11) (i) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 48 of the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for the Year 1992-93.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4668/93]
- (12) A copy each of the following Papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Insurance Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Insurance Company Limited, Calcutta for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4669/93]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working on the Oriental Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi, for the Year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Oriental Insurance ts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4670/93]
- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the United India Insurance Company Limited, Madras, for the Year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the United India Insurance Company Limited, Madras, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Account
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4671/93]
- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the General Insurance Corporation of India Bombay for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the General Insurance Corporation of India, Bombay for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4672/93]
- (e) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Bombay, for the 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Bombay, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4673/93]
- (13) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and transfer of undertakings) Act, 1970:-
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4674/93]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4675/93]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4676/93]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year 1992-93, along with Ac-

- counts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4677/93]
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4678/93]
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4679/93]
- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4680/93]
- (viii) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4681/93]
- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4682/93]
- (x) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4683/93]
- (xi) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4684/93]
- (xii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4685/93]
- (14) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and transfer of undertakings) Act, 1980:-
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4686/93]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4687/93]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the New Bank of India for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4688/93]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4689/93]
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4690/93]
- (15) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Agents) Amendment Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 534 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th August, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4691/93]
- (16) A copy of the Results of the twenty-third Valuation of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Hindi and English versions) as on the 31st March, 1993, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956,
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4692/93]
- (17) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) for the year 1992-93, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon under sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1956:
- (i) State Bank of Hyderabad. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 4693/93]
- (ii) State Bank of Travancore. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 4694/93]
- (18) A copy of the Twenty-Third Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of Life Insurance Corporation of India as at the 31st March, 1993, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4695/93]
- (19) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under proviso to article 280 of the Constitution:-
- (i) S.O. 800 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 1993 containing President's Order regarding appointment of Shri Manu Shroff as Member of the Finance Commission, in Place of Dr. C. Rangarajan with effect from the date on which he assumes office up to the 30th November, 1993.
- (ii) S.O.921 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 1993 containing President's Order extending the terms of the 10th Finance Commission upto the 30th June, 1994.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4696/93]

489 Message from AGRAHAYANA 19, 1915 (SAKA) Advocates (Amendment) Bill 490
Rajya Sabha
Report of Committee on Government Assurances
Re: Implications of the Dunkel Draft Text

12.28 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1992, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th November, 1992, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th December, 1993 with the following amendments:-

Enacting Formula

1. That at page 1, line 1, for the word "Forty-third" the word "Forty-Fourth" be substituted.

Clause-1

2. That at page 1, line 3, for the figure "1992"

the figure "1993" be substituted.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House."

12.29 hrs.

ADVOCATES (AMENDMENT) BILL, AS AMENDED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1992, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

12.29 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

[English]

Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Reports

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar) : Sir, I beg to present Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

12.30 hrs.

MOTION RE: IMPLICATIONS OF THE DUNKEL DRAFT TEXT ON TRADE NEGOTIATIONS-CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may reply now.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I would like to express my gratitude to all the hon. Members who have participated in the debate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, one small clarification. We understand that France has decided not to

sign this agreement. I want to know whether Government of India thinks that it is obliged to sign when other countries are not signing. He at least give an assurance at the very beginning-which will clarify many things-that he will take the consent of Parliament before he finally signs it.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): And also consent of State Legislatures should be taken. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, at the very outset I would like to express my gratitude to all the Members who have participated in the debate and made their contributions and placed their perceptions of the discussions which are going on, which are known as Uruguay round of discussions. So far as the technicalities are concerned, while moving the Motion itself I gave the time schedule as to what would be the scenario. The discussions at the official level for multilateral trade negotiations are likely to be over by 15th December.

After that, it is likely to be completed by the 15th of December at the officials' level.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: "Going to be completed" and "likely to be completed" are different.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am not that expert in English and I will try to put it in my own way.

There is a Committee of Officers to negotiate and this Negotiating Committee's job will be completed by the 15th of December. They will make their recommendations on the Draft for final approval to another Committee which will consist of the Ministers of the various contracting countries. Thereafter, from the 1st of January, 1994 to the 1st of January, 1995 it will be given to

various contracting parties to ratify. Therefore, this is the time schedule which has to be adhered to.

Now, in respect of what approach France has taken, in fact, I checked up when this point was referred to in the House. So far as my information goes, they have agreed and all their differences have been resolved.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Have they agreed under pressure?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I do not know whether it is under pressure or not, but the fact remains that even Korea has agreed. I think some of the Hon. Members might have received the communique issued by their Committee on Agriculture. They raised certain issues that agriculture, particularly rice and certain other agricultural commodities should not be brought within the purview of the GATT discipline, but they too have reconciled to the position that it should be brought within the GATT discipline and we have received that information.

Sir, it is true that we could not have a full-fledged discussion on this issue, but most respectfully I would like to submit that from the side of the administration and particularly from the side of the Commerce Ministry, the first notice we gave for raising a discussion was in May, 1992. Thereafter, a limited discussion could take place through a Private Member's Resolution and it was brought at some point of time almost at the fag end of a particular Session.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It was brought always at the fag end of the Session .

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I do not know that. Of course, I have no knowledge as to how this has happened. The Business

Advisory Committee, where all the parties are represented, can take a view on it, but that is a different story.

In addition to it, when my colleague, in the course of the discussion in the other House, suggested that we would like to have a discussion, with all the major political parties, I took up that discussion requested all the major political parties to have discussions with us and, in fact in the months of April and May, I had the Privilege of having the views of the major political parties. Unfortunately, the Bharatiya Janata Party did not respond to our invitation despite repeated reminders, but except that all other major political parties responded to our invitation and participated in the discussions. It is that we agreed, but none the less, we shared our view points. My point is not whether the Dunkel text is good or bad and I am not here to justify or to certify it.

Sir, I will start from the observation which one hon. Member made on the floor of this very House that we shall have to look into whether the proposals in this round of discussions are going to be beneficial from the point of view of our national interests. Undoubtedly, the national interests of this country should have the overriding priority. Keeping that in view, we shall also have to take into account, as it is a multilateral forum and all 108 contracting countries are participating in it, that no country would like to compromise its own national interests. Therefore, a system should be there in which the national interests of not one, but all the 108 countries can be accommodated.

In that process, one would appreciate that you cannot work out a mechanism where all the parties can have 100% satisfaction. That is the general principle in which all international negotiations are being conducted.

Coming to the scenario which has been raised by some other hon. Members, it is true that when in 1948 GATT was first conceptualised and implemented, its area of operations, jurisdiction or GATT discipline, which is generally called, was limited to trade alone. For the first time, not only trade but services, investments, trade related investment matters, trade related service matter, trade related intellectual property matters are being brought. It has been brought for the discussion and it is also controversial. It is controversial because from the fact it can be established as very highly controversial because no round of discussion has taken so much of time as it has. The discussion started in September, 1986 and today it is December, 1993 and still the discussion is going on. This very fact itself indicates that the various provisions for discussions are not easily acceptable or easily reconcilable. That is why, it has taken so much time and at various stages, it had appeared, it might not go beyond a point and it might collapse. Therefore, on this to take, to my mind, a dispassionate, objective view that what would be the outcome if we accept it, what would be that benefits and what would be the disadvantages. I do not say that there will be no disadvantages. That is not my case.

Even to be very frank, we were not in favour of extending the jurisdiction of GATT. You will recollect the traditional position which we took all along. Unless the pending issues of Tokyo Round of the discussion which was concluded in 1976 are resolved, India pressed hard that there is no need of Ministerial level meeting at all. If you permit, Mr Speaker, even in 1984, when I happened to be the representative of the developing countries, as Chairman of G-24, in the World Bank, in the IMF meeting, I raised this very issue that it was agreed upon in Tokyo Round of discussion that unless these pend-

ing issues are settled including MFA—which has not yet been settled, to which I will come later on—there is no need of Ministerial meeting at all. But the World Bank community decided otherwise. The changes took place so fast, which we could not contemplate. Even in 1984, nobody could contemplate. That a system which not only survived, but very dominantly and only one economy, to my mind—if I remember correctly, I am subjected to correction—which could withstand the pressure of worldwide depression, in the early 1930s, was controlled socialist economy. It has a steady growth of more than six per cent to seven per cent. All other economies, free economy, capitalist economy collapsed in the depression of '30s. But the control economy could survive and registered a steady growth, surviving '30s depression. But that economy, that system itself collapsed after making a dominant presence over a period of seven decades. Therefore, the changes which took place even if you look at the developments which have taken place from the Uruguay Round of discussion in September, 1986 till date, there has been a major shift. Before I come to the points which have been raised by the hon. Members, I would just like to take a little time to give the background in which these negotiations are going on. Even at one point of time, it was thought that the developing countries taken together can take a scenario where they can get maximum advantage out of that.

When the negotiations could not be completed, Dunkel Draft itself is a compromise formula. When the contracting parties could not come to some conclusion, then even the Director General, according to his judgment, what he considered, would be a basis of compromise. He compiled those provisions put up in the Draft which is known as the Dunkel Draft. But after that in Septem-

ber, 1993 under the leadership of the President of Argentina, as many as 37 countries including the major developing countries suggested to the President of USA, prime Minister of England and Prime Minister of Japan that we want the expeditious conclusion of Uruguay round of discussions on the basis of Dunkel text.

Therefore, we shall have to keep in mind that this is the international atmosphere in which we had to conduct our negotiations.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is a very serious matter. Official-level discussions have been going on and they will go on till 15th and we are taking part. In the meantime, there are ministerial level discussions between EEC and USA. Every day we are getting information about that and they are having their own confabulations and they have now come to an arrangement at the ministerial level. We were not consulted. No Third World country was consulted. When Mr. Douglas Hurd had been meeting Mr. Bill Clinton of USA and Mr. Jacques Delors is meeting on behalf of the EEC, the American counterpart, and when they were having ministerial-level discussions to resolve their difference, Third World countries are not consulted. India is not consulted.... That is now being imposed on us and now we have to accept it or reject it. This is the situation. Therefore, at ministerial level, in spite of the best wishes of Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, what will be your leverage there? You will have no leverage.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am just clarifying this particular point which the hon. Member has raised. This is important. There is no formality and nobody prevents us from going and having discussions with our trading partners but we took deliberately this view that our presence at this juncture

would not improve the situation because we will like to appear at the official level of discussions and it will be better for us to press our viewpoints at the formal negotiating table at the official level. But informally, the ministers are discussing. Not only the ministers, even the Heads of Governments are discussing and I myself did when Mr. Peter Sutherland came here. I myself did when the visiting ministers came here. It is not that we did not have informal exchange of views. We tried to do it. When our Foreign Minister and our Finance Minister goes there, they are also having informal discussions. But, of course, the confabulations and discussions and negotiations of rich countries get much publicity, and our confabulations and discussions do not get that much publicity.

I am coming to the point which I was trying to drive at. We had to conduct the negotiations under these circumstances. The question which we shall have to decide is whether it will give us any advantage. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : It has appeared in the newspapers that the negotiating time has been extended for one year more. That means, it will end on 15th December, 1994. Is it a fact?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: This question does not arise. I am telling you that it is likely that the negotiations are going to be completed this December. It is not that there will be fresh negotiations. I would like to make it quite clear that there will be no fresh negotiations. After these negotiations, the ministerial-level meetings are not going to be reopened. The various countries will consider what would be the *modus operandi* of the ratification and, thereafter the countries will have to take it or reject it. That is the fact. It is known.

I have said it at the very beginning itself. If you read my observations when I introduced the Motion, I mentioned it.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is that known as, which is observed after obituary?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : There is nothing new. I do not know whether it is obituary. My point is why we are going for these negotiations. We are going for these negotiations not that what is being available out of this negotiation is going to be totally beneficial to us. But obviously the balance of advantage is going to be in favour if we are to be in the multilateral fora. I will give you just one example. Everybody would appreciate that China's economic power is much more compared to ours. They are much more powerful. Their international trade is about US \$ 130-140 billion; their export is \$ 64-70 billion; they had a trade surplus of \$ 7-8 billions. But just to ensure their export to the extent of U.S. \$ 24 billion to the U.S.A. and to obtain the MFN treatment from the U.S.A., they had to change their Patent Laws because the pressure is much more in bilateral system compared to multilateral system. At least, three distinct advantages we have got in the multilateral system. One, the Most Favoured Nation treatment is extended to the countries automatically if we be part of the MFA. Then, even coming to TRIPS, assuming for the time being that we are outside the GATT. Now, my export nearly to the extent of 33 per cent is towards the EEC; 16-17 per cent towards the U.S.A.; 10-12 per cent towards Japan. About 60 per cent of my export is to these countries. Now, these three countries take a position by forming a group. One group of countries

and two other countries take a position saying that unless you change your Patent Laws, we are going to impose the countervailing duties on your exports, can we afford?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We cannot afford.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Yes, we cannot afford. But they are importing things from China.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Therefore, this is an unequal world. At one point of time in the early 1980s I could look at the other window because 33 per cent of my export was to the rupee-payment area. But that system has collapsed. Therefore, in this scenario, we shall have to look into why China had to change though they are a country which opted out of that in 1949; why they are to stand today in queue in 1986. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijaywada): Do you not accept that China has survived for the last 45 years? It has grown up into such an economic power. Do you not accept it? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we participated in the debate after your assurance. Just now you said that you do not have a close mind. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot have a reply as you want.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am not yielding. It is not fair. I have not interrupted anybody when they made observations. It is not fair. Let me complete my observations.

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Pranab Mukherjee's speech will go on record.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The simple point that I am trying to make is that it is easy to come out of the GATT; it is easy to come out of any international forum but it is difficult to have re-entry. It is for the country to decide because these proposals are not going to be implemented automatically. This point also, I would like to point out. Some of these proposals are to be implemented through legislation. If the Parliament decides at that point of time saying that whatever the Minister says, whatever the official Negotiating Committee says that we are not going to legislate to put into effect some of the provisions of the Agreement, automatically it cannot be put.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What will happen then? The position will be the same.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It will not be put. It may not be there. Even if you refuse to ratify, if the Government tomorrow decides—whatever be the Government, either it is your Government or my Government or Shri George Fernandes's Government—that we may go, then you cannot go. Even if you be a member, by giving notice for six months, you can come out. Therefore, do not make issues on this that the world is going to collapse if you just be a member of it.

We are not going to collapse. We are going to survive. And I am going to point out how we are going to survive. The second

advantage which we will have—the point which I was trying to drive at—is that the type of pressure which will be built up if I try to expand our trade relations through bilateralism, then, even the transition period which is available to us as ten years to change our patent laws would not be available and we will have to go for that as Thailand or many other countries are forced to have it immediately.

Secondly, now you will appreciate that last year and year before last, we were subjected to Special 301. That was a unilateral action. As a consequence of that Special 301, our exporters of certain commodities has to pay duties to the extent of 64 million US dollars. Now if we go to the existing multilateral dispute settlement mechanism, we will have redress to this type of unilateral action. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can note down the points. I will allow you to ask the supplementaries later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Now, Super 301 which has elapsed is again going to be tabled. I do not know what is the view of the administration. But the fact remains that again some lobby is trying to bring it out. In this context, let us examine the various proposals which have been raised, which have been criticised.

So far as subsidy is concerned, one development as a result of the agreement is that—it is even beyond that—the subsidies which were to be provided at the threshold level, earlier they were compartmentalised. For product specific, it was ten per cent. for the developing countries and for non-product specific, it was ten per cent. Now it can be clubbed. That means you can give 20 per

cent and it can be flexible between commodity to commodity and between product specific to non-product specific. Therefore, the type of apprehension that in certain commodities we may have to give higher subsidies and that will be subject to the discipline, would no longer remain because as I mentioned, our subsidy, according to international terms, is negative.

The second point which I would like to impress upon, because perhaps there is a communication gap, is about the agricultural agreement. So far as agricultural agreement I concerned, it is for a period of seven years and for that seven years, the calculation of every contracting party which they have given to the GATT Secretariat, is on the basis of the subsidies which were given in the base year of 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89. Now if it happens—I am assuming the position theoretically, in our country it has not happened even theoretically and if after that if some country has increased its subsidy, then that subsidy will not be taken into account so long this existing agreement continues for a period of seven years from the date of implementation. Assuming that this agreement comes into being from 1st of January, 1995, then till 2002 nobody can raise any question that after the base year you have increased your subsidy, so you are drawing the provisions that you have stepped up your subsidy, that will not be applicable. In respect of this particular agreement at the end of the sixth year, each contracting parties will have the opportunity of re-negotiating the agricultural agreement on the basis of the existing conditions prevailing at that point of time. So far as we are concerned, I have explained it in detail on a number of occasions that we are not going to be affected by this threshold level.

Now I come to the second area of concern about the guaranteed access to the

market. Now even if give access to the market, it is not necessary that you will have the import obligation.

There the question will remain that if we provide access to the market from abroad and if their goods are competitive, then our farmers may be affected. If their goods are competitive and if our farmers are not so competitive, then it will be affected. But there is also the first coverage of BoP. Who is going to decide BoP? I do not know why IMF has been brought. What is the charter of IMF when it was established?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What was the charter of GATT. Mr. Minister?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : The charter of IMF is also to determine the value of the currency so far as the international payment is concerned. So far as the BoP question is concerned, all of you will agree that one of the major ingredients of BoP is the trade deficit. A country which is having trade deficit all the year, except a short gap of 1976-77 when we had a small trade surplus of Rs. 72 crore, all along we had this trade gap even in the improved performance of exports in the last seven months where the trade gap has been reduced. It has been reduced; but nonetheless it remains. Trade gap is there. Trade gap is 560 million dollars. According to our assessment and our experts assessment which we have projected in the Plan document, in real terms the current account deficit as reflected in percentage GDP would be 1.6 per cent, in absolute terms 22 billion US dollars at the price level of 1991-92 till the terminal year of the 8th Plan. Therefore the BoP coverage is going to continue. But assuming that BoP coverage would not be there at some point of time, our tariff binding is there. What is the tariff we have given for agricultural sector? 100 per cent for cereals, 150

per cent for processed foods and 300 per cent for edible oil. Therefore the percentage of tariff protection which we are providing to prevent the import of agricultural commodities even when assuming that India will reach a stage where we will come out of BoP crisis immediately, this type of tariff protection would be able to protect the Indian farmers.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You are swiftly switching between Balance of Payment and Balance of Trade.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am not switching, I am just talking about Balance of Trade as an element.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Your Balance of Trade may be negative, but Balance of payment may be positive.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Then repayment would come.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That is a different matter. Balance of payment may be positive.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: That is true. But it is not coming that way. You calculate it, you know it. You calculate for the next ten years. I am not asking you to go beyond that.

Coming to PDS, I am happy to inform the hon. Members it is true that the particular phraseology which was used in the language, even we shall have to sell the agricultural products at the market price. Our point was - and this issue was raised even when the DG, GATT came here I raised this issue-you are concerned with the product subsidies, you are not concerned with the consumer subsidies. Our PD system is never governed by any national leg-

isolation. Since the early 50s it is the executive order. Neither we are going to have any legislation nor we going to change our PD system, nor are we going to give up our bufferstock arrangement. They have agreed to our concept and interpretation and the necessary textual change has been tabled and I am hopeful that it will be accepted. There is no question of giving up our Public Distribution System, bufferstocking and maintaining the PDS.

In respect of the patenting of seeds, it is true that we shall have to make our own national legislations. In that national legislation we will be able to protect it. So far as the farmer's rights of exchanging, researchers' right, farmers' right of retaining a part of the production for use in subsequent cultivation are concerned, they are outside the purview of the GATT discipline.

13.00 hrs.

It cannot be challenged. Secondly, even if we go for the legislations, at that stage, it is not only the executive, but also the Members of Parliament who will get an opportunity to look into it as to how best interests of the farmers and researchers can be protected.

Coming to the areas of the services and particularly the investment, here, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members, that when trade related investment matters are being discussed, perhaps mind-set is about the Industrial Policies of 1956 or the Industrial Policies of 1948 or FERA of early 1970s. Yes, if you look at the Industrial policy Resolution of 1956, you will find that it is inconsistent. But, in between, we have an Industrial Policy Resolution of 1991 which this House had debated. *(Interruptions)* You may like it or you may not like it; but, that is the Industrial

Policy of the day; it is pursued by the Government. *(Interruptions)* No I am not going into the merit of it. *(Interruptions)*. But the fact is this. *(Interruptions)* Already it is there. *(Interruptions)* Already it is there. *(Interruptions)* At one point of time, we directed the foreign companies to dilute their share from 76 per cent or whatever be the percentage to 26 per cent. And today, in the new policy dispensation, we are allowing 51 per cent equity participation in 30 crore industrial sectors without any approval; and the Reserve Bank can give the clearance automatically. Therefore, you have to look into the provisions which are being made in that context.

The second question which is there, is how to protect the small scale industries. The Text itself is not taking away your right of reservation of the small scale industries. Even in the new Industrial Policy, the reservation has been maintained. The Text does not prevent the national Government to put a condition to the joint venture and which we are actually doing to make export obligation. While it is true that there will be no local content and there will be no phasing out or phased manufacturing programme, but export obligation can be given; and in many cases the export obligation has been put as a condition so that the balancing of foreign exchange earning and foreign exchange spending could be met.

In respect of the services, the latest position which we have adopted and which we have taken... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Will you please repeat what you said about balancing of foreign exchange earning and foreign exchange spending? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So far as the services... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: If you succeed in balancing, then BoP problem is no longer there. You are contradicting your earlier position.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: No I am not contradicting it. These are the enabling provisions. But, what would happen on the ground? That we will have to see.

I may ask Mr. Chatterjee to come and invest in my district from the 24 Parganas. I may also create facilities for him. But, his coming, making the investment and making my district richer depends on him and not on me. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But, it will be only for straw. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In regard to the question of whether we are going to open the banking sector to the insurance sector, the stated position is what is called— I can assure the hon Members of what we have said 'standstill', that means, 'the existing provisions'. (*Interruptions*). The existing provision is that from 1969 when we nationalised the banks, we did not nationalise the foreign banks; and thereafter, we allowed the foreign branches to be opened on a selective basis— sometimes on the basis of reciprocity and sometime otherwise; even if we consider that some branches are to be opened, they were opened. Today, as it is, out of a total of 60,000 bank branches, about 160 are foreign banks. (*Interruptions*) About 11 per cent of the total banking business turn over of the bank is of the foreign banks. Our position is that we are not going to open the banking sector for foreign bankers and it cannot be done automatically, unless you offer (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

Turn over is 11 per cent and profit is 67 per cent (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Maybe. That depends on their efficiency and I am not going into that. (*Interruptions*)

I am not going into that. But I am talking about what it is today. That is a standstill provision.

So far as Life Insurance is concerned, there is no question of providing any access. So far as the marine insurance and air insurance are concerned, we have already opened. The third party insurance is permissible.

The flexibility is the issue on which, I think, we should go on pressing and we should voice our concern. When we are talking of flexibility, we are talking of having a more liberal approach. Recently, you have said that US Labour Secretary is going to impose restrictions on issue of visa about which India has formally protested. Our Ambassador has lodged his protest that when we are talking of opening of more areas, you are putting restrictions on the movement of the skilled persons.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When we go there, it will be immigration from this country. When they come, that will be trade investment.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I would like to have that it should be trade investment and there should be free movement. Therefore, my contention is that by not merely accepting it, this is going to solve all our problems. It can create certain conditions which we can take advantage of. To what extent we will be able to take advantage of it would depend on how strong our economy

is, how we can mobilise the cooperation of others.

Coming to the areas of textiles, what has happened? This is not that we succumbed easily. But the very hard-core fact remains that there are vested interests. I would not like to mention the name of the countries. It would not be proper on my part. But in order to have their short-term interest because they have a little larger quota in continuing the MFA quota system—they are not asking for having a shorter transition period from 10 years.

I myself have shared my anxiety with you. I am repeating it. Still I have my doubt that if 51 per cent integration takes place over a period of ten years, suddenly in the eleventh year, the rest 49 per cent integration will take place. I am not going to buy it. I made it quite clear to my counterparts of different countries and even to Mr. Peter Sutherland.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The whole Dunkel is topsy turly.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : What could we do? We are not the only players. This is going on from 1976. So far as MFA is concerned, it is going on from 1976 for the developing countries have not been able to work out a combined strategy. Who are the partners in this effort? There is only Pakistan. Except that, there is nobody else. There too, there is a dichotomy. Pakistan is a signatory with those 37 countries who want the conclusion of Uruguay Round on the basis of the Dunkel Text.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Clinton will give some cash money. That is why they are doing it.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: About

patenting of drugs and pharmaceutical products, I expressed my concern on earlier occasions also. This is an area where there is a possibility that our prices of medicines and some of the drugs will go up.

AN HON. MEMBER : How much?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : The calculation varies from expert to expert. Somebody says 68 per cent. Somebody says 300 per cent like, say quantum of black-money in this country starting from 25 per cent of GDP to 60 per cent of GDP. Let me not enter into the area of experts. I am not going there. But there will be an increase. But I do feel about it. Here also, we are trying hard. I cannot claim that I will be able to succeed. But we are trying hard. Till today, the information which we have received is that they have not formally tabled the MFA-textile agreement—that transition period should be extended from 10 to 15 years.

But if they table such a proposal, then our counter proposal would be that in respect of other intellectual property matters, transition period should be extended from ten years to fifteen years. That should be calibrated and to the extent integration in textile will take place, to that extent integration in other areas also should take place. I am told that ten per cent of the 500 major drugs which account for nearly 70 per cent sale are presently covered by Patents Act in Europe and USA. So far as the prices, as I mentioned to you, are concerned, they may cause tremendous burden on the public exchequer. But there is one way out for the Government for non-commercial use. We can use the right of getting moderate prices by effective compulsory licensing mechanism. Somebody may say that even importation would be there. It is theoretically impossible. But it may be possible for

smaller countries like any other smaller country. But compare the size of your economy. I am not passing any value judgement. You judge yourself with a size of economy like India and whether importation and patenting by importation is economically viable or not. According to my assessment, it is not economically viable. Therefore, through the route of compulsory licensing mechanism, we will be able to provide beyond ten years period. We shall, of course, have the exclusive marketing right for the period of five years which will be patented after the implementation is done. That will have to be expected.

Now, coming to the areas of certain other matters, particularly one study has been made by OECD which I would like to share with the Members. According to that, the increase in the volume of world trade, at the current price level, would be 270 billion dollars more.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Which year?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It would be in the coming five to six years, after the implementation of this programme and India, even with the present level of export share of 0.5 per cent, would be a beneficiary to the extent of 4.7 billions. Therefore.....
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is absurd.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I do not think so... (*Interruptions*).. Of course, the percentage would be 0.4. You may laugh at that is the fact. (*Interruptions*)... That would additionally of 270 billion dollars. Assuming that my share would not go beyond 0.4 per cent, assuming that I would go on limping for generations to come which I

do not assume or which I do not share, after all we have survived. If you refuse to see, I cannot help. Otherwise, you yourself would not have said all these things. When one simply reads your statement of today and compare your statement of the 17th, one will inevitably come to the conclusion that what we did in 1970 was totally endorsed by you in 1990 and I am sure that what we are doing in 1990, you are going to endorse it after 20 years. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow clarifications on either the other.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, the arguments that the hon. Minister has offered are almost arguments of helplessness and there is not a single one which tells us about our specific advantages.

I am asking three questions. One is that our national laws will have to be changed.

Has our Negotiating Committee ensured that the United States of America will delete Special 301 from their statute book, once the Dunkel Draft is signed?

Secondly, in the background note that was circulated by the Commerce Ministry, on page 13, in para 46, the Ministry has said that certain changes or modifications are being negotiated with relation to the TRIPS document. There were four points in it which include pipeline protection, proper explanation of the term 'micro organism' and things like that. Has there been any positive breakthrough in the negotiations regarding the questions that were asked on the TRIPS Agreement?

The Minister has said in a rather self-contradictory manner...

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave the comments and come out with the question!

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: All right Sir. The last question that I want to ask is in respect of Article 18 of Part IV of the original GATT Agreement which affords certain protection to the developing countries. Now, in the Dunkel Draft, this article is being diluted. I want to know whether the Negotiating Committee has ensured that if the Dunkel Draft is a total package, then Article 18 should be applicable not only to GATT but also to GATT's Agreement on Services and Agreement on Intellectual Property, etc. I want to know whether Article 18 which protects the developing countries like ours will be applicable to the total package or not.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): I want to ask two questions. Earlier in the GATT negotiations, agriculture sector was not included. At that point of time certain developing countries were raising their voice against that. Will India take a stand that agriculture should be out of the purview of GATT?

Regarding the *sui generis* system, we do have ten years' time. I don't know whether it is correct or not, but there is a misconception on the UPOPV Convention of 1991. I am told that developing countries are not in the UPOPV Convention and that only 21 major developed countries are only involved in it. Should we follow the UPOPV Convention? If we are accepting the Dunkel Draft and if we are going to accept the *sui generis* system, will the Government of India seek the opinion of our learned scientists of the ICAR and other Agricultural Universities? Will the Government of India take their advice in formulating a new system of *sui generis*? Of course, we have got 10 years. But I want to know whether Government of

India will do it or not because this is the time to do it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government, is continuously shifting its stand compared to its previous positions. Last time it was said that it would not accept anything that was not in nation's interest. Then Peter Sutherland visited here. After this it was said that we have expressed our concerns and they were appreciated. Today when he began his speech it was said comparative advantages. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not give a new speech.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is not a new speech. We can ask questions about the background of it.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already been given a lot of time.

MR. NITISH KUMAR: He has not discussed anything regarding his concerns. Now, has he any concern left or not? On the whole, the situation is such that he has come to the decision that we would accept it. In such a situation, through you I want 2-3 clarifications. The *sui generis* system, that he is accepting, has no relation with GATT. Patent law is associated with GATT. It will be Governed by UPOPV 1991. In such a situation, you have said that the farmers would be able to retain the seeds and would be able to exchange them. I want to know when the farmers would be able to retain and exchange the seeds among themselves, will there be any need to give royalty to the plant breeders or not. The farmers, previously used to sell it to others. Will now he be

able to sell or not? I want to know it clearly from you.

Another thing is that Agriculture is a State subject. This was said here as well as outside (the House). Under that condition will you take the State Governments into confidence before signing such a crucial agreement abroad? Will you hold talks with them or not?

Thirdly, we do not want to get into any details regarding the unofficial talks held at your level. But, an unanimity was being achieved, that before taking any final decision the Government would strive to arrive at a final decision after consulting political parties, expert groups, specially National Working Group on Patent law and gene campaign and that it would attempt to formulate a strategy, so that we can get maximum advantage for our nation. For this, informal talks were held at your level. Keeping this in view, what is the reaction of the Government on this, what is it doing?'

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister in his concluding part of the statement said that under this new agreement the volume of trade would increase by \$ 270 billion in the next few years and how we would benefit to the extent of \$ 4.7 billion. This is what you said. I would like to know from the Minister, from where did he get this figure. Is it based on some document or any authorised thing? Is it not true that this is based on a document prepared by research group of OECD for its internal debate only, and the names of its authors are Ian Boldin and Dominique Vender Mesbruth? This document was challenged, when those wanting to sell the GATT agreement in their respective nations, used it to mislead the people. After being challenged, the Secretary General of OECD, Ian Claudewell, in a

written submission said, that this document, "was only a pretty theoretical study" is it not true that, it is not based on facts?

If the Government had this information, why is it misleading the august House here? If it did not have the information, it implies that the person holding the talks on your behalf did not present the facts before the Government and why the country is being misled that we are to get 47 billion dollars. In how many years we are going to get this amount; at the same time we are told that it is a pretty theoretical study and the theoretical study states that even after 10 years of its implementation we will get 200 billion dollars and not 270 million dollars. There might be some increase in this amount. Therefore I would like to request the hon. Minister to make clarifications in this regard as so many misconceptions are being spread and a new misconception has appeared in it just now.

Secondly, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as he has said 'stand still' persists in the field of Life Insurance and Banking. For how much period it will remain there, in this reference the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India Shri Mehta told the Wall street Field General two months ago that foreign banks are welcome in India subject to only one condition that they bring sophisticated gadgets with them so that fresh recruitment is not required. He did not speak the last part of the sentence by it bears the same implication. What is the basis of this statement and whether it is not a fact that the biggest Life Insurance Corporations, private companies from America and Canada are preparing to enter India and whether they are negotiating with the Ministry of Finance in this regard. Is it not true? It is not included in the regime but is the Government not allowing the Foreign Banks and Foreign Insurance Companies to come

to India on the basis of the GATT? It is happening in every area.

[Translation]

I would like to ask the hon. Minister one more question. Although there are so many queries, but you have been ringing the bell frequently. My question is regarding the statement made by the hon. Minister on the Multi-Fibre Agreement in which he stated that textile is the only area in which our export is increasing. Regarding the multi-fibre agreement he stated that he would not like to name the country which is causing disturbance here. The main reasons for which we are not getting quota under the multi-fibre agreement is that the countries like Britain, America and France the largest cloth manufacturers have their factories in Hongkong, Singapore and Taiwan and they make contracts with these factories only. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a sort of recycling process. The factories, companies of the white bigwings from the countries like France, Britain, America set up their small factories in Hongkong, Singapore and Taiwan and preserve their quotas for themselves.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Let me clarify the matter, I want that the hon. Minister should reply to my these questions.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I want to ask two specific questions.

Firstly, as indicated by Mr. Nitish Kumar, is it not the right of the farmers to use and produce grains for seed purposes, subject to a formal concurrence from the original bidder? Is not the proposed arrangement precludes sale of even token quantities to once neighbours thus affecting propagation of improved seed varieties?

Secondly, is it not a fact that as soon as we sign the Dunkel's final Draft-even before other provisions apply for each farm product-we have to allow import of 40 per cent of the stipulated 3.3 per cent of Gross Domestic Product output viz. around 1.3 per cent? In a situation of glut, will not this cause havoc to our own agriculture?

MR. SPEAKER: Other Members are also waiting for their turn to ask questions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Because I want an explanation from the hon. Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fernandes, you can ask questions but you don't have to comment on the question also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, I would like to specifically know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the divergent news, the Minister of Agriculture has no objection to patenting of micro-organisms and micro-biological processes stand of the Commerce Ministry. I want a clear clarification from the hon. Commerce Minister on that particular aspect. I would also like to know whether our Government is going to oppose patenting of micro-organisms and micro-biological processes.

Secondly, the hon. Minister has not clarified as to how this average per capita income of our country has been evaluated

by the IMF as Rs 1255. What is the position of the Government in that respect?

And thirdly, he was mentioning about China. China is not there in GATT. How could it sustain itself and develop into a very big and mighty economic force? Today, it might be taking a stand to join GATT. Why not our country, with so much middle class population, think of doing so? We have not only to enter their market but they are also very keen to enter our market to tap this consumer's market. Why not we stick to our stand very stubbornly in order to protect our national interest?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) Sir, ours is a vast country and seventy per cent of our people live in rural areas.

I want to ask the hon. Minister as to what protection the Government is giving for the farmers, specially, the farmers who come from the agricultural belt. What steps are the Government taking to protect the rights of the farmers as far as fertilizer subsidy is concerned?

Secondly, what steps are the Government going to take to make available life-saving drugs at reasonable prices to our poor people?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I have a very simple question to ask viz. about the period of patent. As of today, it is 14 years and it is going to be raised to 20 years as per the Dunkel Draft. I think, it will be to our disadvantage further if it is increased to 20 years from 14 years.

I want to know whether the Government considers desirable to get it reduced even from 20 years to a lesser period. I want

to know whether the Government had negotiated in that regard or not.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, the hon. Minister has said that as far as banking system is concerned, our position will be "standstill".

Mr. George Fernandes has referred to that. But the question remains that if that is good even today, will that "standstill position" be retained? I want to know whether there will be a Clause in the GATT agreement that in this particular area, your own laws will operate.

If we can have this advantage for banking industry, we can have the same advantage for other areas also. So, this has to be very clearly and categorically stated by the Minister that in a particular area we can ignore their agreemental clauses and have our own laws. Otherwise, there is no meaning of this.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): In view of the fact that most of the provisions of the DDT straightway affect the Constitution of India and they are having far-reaching consequences for the State Legislatures, their rights, may I know whether the Government is prepared to assure this House that, before having the concurrence of the Parliament and also the WState Legislatures, that they will not sign any such documents which may jeopardise self-reliance and the economic sovereignty of the country.

There are more than 500 seed companies in our country which are providing seeds across the country. Will the licence of right be available to them as per any convention-1978 Convention or 1991 Convention so that automatically they can multiply and sell seeds to the farmers who require them?

Will the Government assure that in time of crisis in the case of monsoon failure the Government will be at a liberty to procure compulsorily the foodgrains to provide food through the PDSs at a price determined by the Government or the Parliament?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has a research back up. I want to know from him that, in view of the fact that our drug prices are sometimes 500 per cent less than what is obtaining elsewhere where patents are held, what he has to say about it? What his research back up says about the rise in drug prices in the coming years?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) The Minister has given us many clarification. He has also stated that he is seeking many more clarifications at the negotiating table. Will those clarifications be ensured to be incorporated in the agreement; if not what steps will be taken? Has any coordinated effort been made with countries which differ from us like Taiwan, Japan and even Australia on major points, particularly on the issue of agriculture, pharmaceuticals, services. Have we made any coordinated effort to put maximum possible pressure; or if not done yet, are we going to do that? Suppose whatever clarification we seek or amendment or whatever it is- nothing is available. Is India free to reject it or not or are our hands bound?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) Most of the countries in the world are threatened by Special 301 - Japan Taiwan and Brazil. Stringent action was taken by these countries by Special 301. Can we raise this issue in the GATT about this if 301 will be there?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a large number of clarifications have been sought. Firstly, I would like

to clarify one point. I mentioned in the course of my reply that some of the provisions of the multilateral negotiations will not be operative automatically. For that, legislation at the national Parliament will have to be brought; and the legislation will have to be amended according to the accepted principle. It is applicable to USA; it is also applicable to India; it is also applicable to any other contracting party. Otherwise, it will not be applicable.

I mentioned about unilateral provisions on the floor of this very House when under Special 301 we were designated as a priority country; I mentioned that this was the unilateral action.

Through the dispute settlement mechanism under multilateral fora we will ensure that no country is in a position to take unilateral action. Unilateral action, if they take, they will violate the GATT discipline. The second question is about Article 18 (*Interruptions*)

Will you allow me to continue or will you go on speaking? Then there is no need to seek clarifications.

MR. SPEAKER: One by one, please.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am just clarifying. The second question is about Article 18A of GATT. When this arrangement comes the old GATT goes. That I have mentioned. When this arrangement comes, there will be three separate agreements. When this arrangement comes, the old GATT goes, the old concept goes because the earlier GATT was for a limited purpose of trade. We have extended the areas substantially.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: That means that the developing nations will

no more be getting the special and differential treatment.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The MFNE will get and so within the multilateral fora through the bilateral arrangement you get something. For example, take GSP. It is not mandatory. But GSP is being provided by the countries themselves. The USA withdrew the GSP in respect of certain commodities and imposed duties. So, those facilities and flexibilities will continue.

The ~~the~~ next question was why agriculture has been brought within GATT. Why it has been brought and how it has been brought, I have explained it in detail. It is foolhardy today to say that it should not have been there.

So far as *sue generis* is concerned, we will have to take it. There is no standard formula applicable to it and here we shall have to work out the legislation and so far as the micro-organism is concerned, the stated position of India is that we are not going to assent for micro-organism.

In respect of the farmers' rights, I have mentioned it umpteen number of times either the exchange, or use, or limited sale — not commercial, of course, you cannot sell — which is not for commercial purposes will be fully protected.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): For what purpose is it done? What about royalty?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: If you sell for exchange, it is protected.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The hon. Minister says 'limited sale'. What is 'limited sale'? It may be explained.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am saying 'exchange'. Rather, it is this way: What is prohibited is the commercial sale. But that is the prevalent practice.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the royalty have to be paid or not.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The royalty will not have to be paid I am telling this very thing.

[*English*]

Sometimes, for the use of cultivation the farmers retain a part of their product, for exchange.

I am telling you that for retaining, for the next generation of cultivation, or exchange for higher rates — sometimes we do exchange for higher rate — for these activities there is no question of paying any royalty. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The point is complicated. You have to allow it to be explained. You cannot confuse the minister like this. I will explain it to you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPT (Midnapore): May I say one thing? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If the matter is complicated, let us discuss it in a fashion that we can understand it. If you want to know what is 'limited sale' it can be explained. I produce the seed and I sell it to the seller of the seed. It may not be allowed. I produce the seed and I sell it to the farmer, who wants to use it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That

is not permitted. Let the Minister say that.
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If my explanation is not correct, then the Minister can explain it.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I have used the word 'exchange'. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is barter. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: My dear Sir, please wait. What does 'exchange' mean? Exchange may be in kind or exchange may be in cash. I have used the word 'exchange'. Let us not complicate the issue by further interpreting it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister complete his reply. I will allow you again to ask one question. You cannot confuse the country by just confusing yourself.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Sir, we cannot allow the Minister to confuse the country
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to ask one question after the Minister's reply. Now, you have to sit down.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I can assure this House that we are very much interested in protecting the interests of the farmers. The farmers' interests will be fully protected. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Kindly allow me to seek one clarification. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you have to seek any

further clarification, I will allow one or two questions to be asked later on. But I will not allow you to interrupt the Minister when he is explaining. I will also allow Indrajitji to seek one clarification later on.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, they have come to a decision to stage a walk-out to gain political mileage. This is unfair. (*Interruptions*) We understand their feelings. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You need not advise us. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Charles, please sit down.

I will allow Shri Nitish Kumar and Shri Indrajit Gupta to ask one question each after the Minister completes his speech.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I would seek one clarification and it would not take half a minute for the Minister to clarify. What you are saying is about seeds, exchange of seeds and how the farmers can part with the seeds. Does this apply also to all the special kinds of seeds - hybrid seeds, high yielding seeds, and not the normal or ordinary seeds which the farmer has been using? What you are saying applies to the ordinary seeds. What about the new varieties of hybrid seeds and high yielding seeds, which are being developed or at times in which he is interested in it?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as high yielding varieties are concerned, he will have to pay the royalty for the first time. (*Interruptions*) I would most respectfully like to know from the hon. Member one thing. When you buy new variety of seeds, which

is not available here, is it not that the price which you pay include the royalty. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : From whom will you buy?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: But, thereaftewr, when you use it for the next generation of cultivation or when you use it for that part have you that right? What is prevented....

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): You do not know. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am sorry. I admit that I am Mr. no one. You are Mr. expert, I admit. I do not know. But, unfortunately you have to seek clarifications from an ignorant person like me. Therefore, let us not go to that aspect. What I understand is that he knows everything and I know nothing. (*Interruptions*)

But, assuming that the fact is what is prevented in the text and if we accept the text that there will not be the commercial sale. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That will be against the national interests.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: You are looking after National Interest and as if we are not, leave this issue.

[*English*]

You are the only those who accidentally sit on that side as the champion of the national interests for the last forty years. I assume it. But, my point is different. My

point is that the traditional practice of the farmer which is going on for ages is not going to be affected in any way. Two issues were raised-whether the traditional practice of the farmers of retaining a part of the product for the next generation of cultivation for exchange would be jeopardized or not. The answer is 'No'. In respect of the patenting of the seeds.....

MR. SPEAKER: I have also a question. There is a difference between exchange and sale. Please will whether it is sale or exchange.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : The exact word is used 'for the exchange'. But, definitely we can have the foot-note and we can have the clarification and I can seek the.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The exact word which is being used is ' replanting and exchange of the projected seed variety is permissible'. The farmer is not permitted to undertake commercial sale of branded seeds. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What is the difference between commercial sale and non-commercial sale? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Therefore, exchange is for branded and protected seed. He cannot sell it commercially. But, he can retain a part of it for the next generation of cultivation. He can exchange it with the other farmers for getting other varieties of seeds for his own use.

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Shri Nitish Kumar.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker,

Sir, just now the hon. Minister told about the hybrid seed. The hybrid seeds cannot be used by retaining it for a long period. Each year it will be used for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two kinds of hybrid seeds. They are produced every year and it can be produced from generation to generation.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: That is all right. The measure of the hybrid seed and that of ours is 5 per cent. Our concern is not so much with the hybrid seed as it is with the composite variety or with the traditional improved variety. The farmers in this country meet the two-third requirement of the seeds by selling it and by exchanging it and the two thirds of the seeds including the commercial sellings and retained by the farmers to which the Government is making a reference. The one-third requirement of the seeds is met by the State seeds Corporation and National Seeds Corporation. Even two-thirds of the seeds constitute 4 lakh tons of market trade and this is the bone of contention. The moment the farmers are not allowed to go in for commercial sale of seeds, the multinational plants producer will enter our seed sector.

And our concern is the same. The farmers will not be permitted to trade in seeds and there will arise the question of royalty.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you trying to protect it or not?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: This is against the interest of farmers therefore, we cannot accept it.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I

have already clarified that so far as the interests of the farmers are concerned, they are fully protected. There is no question of dilating. Simply the agitation of these gentlemen sitting on the Opposition benches, does not indicate that they are the only protectors of the farmer's interest. I can assure the House that the farmer's interest will be protected. This is nothing but a political gimmick (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is a very very serious matter. He may ridicule us but national interest is involved. Almost all sections of the House are agitated on this very very vital issue. He has not even clarified the points. This is against the country's interest, against the national interest and we cannot be sitting here and watching our national interests being jeopardised.... (Interruptions)

13.51 hrs.

At this stage Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, they may go but I would like to clarify one point.. (Interruptions)

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Sir,..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. I will take action against you if you behave like that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LALL BABU RAI (Chhapra): Sir,..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now you are going beyond certain limits.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am warning this Member who has behaved improperly here without any reasons, without any rhyme...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You move Breach of Privilege motion; I will take action against him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, this is unbecoming of a Member of Parliament to throw papers on others in the House like this. Please stop this. (Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I would like to clarify on epoint. The hon. Members went on agitating. Because they wanted to agitate, they agitated. I have nothing to comment on that. They may consider themselves as the only champions of the farmers but the important point which is to be noted here is that in case of all new seed varieties which are developed by our National and State Agricultural Research Universities and laboratories, can be multiplied and sold without giving any royalty and without any restriction and can be publicly funded and researched for public use. Therefore, if a situation and a scenario arises and if, at some point of time somebody raises this objection that it may cause some difficulties, this protection is simply available and our agricultural scientists are competent enough to utilise it and to develop new varieties.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Sir, not a single question put by me has been answered. The question asked was whether you have coordinated your efforts with those who are apprehending like us.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, am sorry, I forgot to reply to that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What about State Governments? You are ignoring them completely.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Sir, the second thing is whatever modifications you seek and whatever clarifications you seek to be incorporated, if they are not accepted, are you free to reject it or not?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, so far as the clarification which he sought, have already mentioned that it has been accepted and the text of the Draft itself has been changed. Our PDS system will be fully protected. As regards the tariff binding of the agricultural product to protect our farmers, I have given you the schedule. These are all the amendments which we have put and which have been adopted.

In respect of coordination with other countries, constantly that coordination is going on. But what can I do if the information of the hon. Member is not correct? They told that France is opposing. My information is that they have already agreed. They told that Korea is opposing. But Korea has already agreed.

Therefore, if there is no basis for the information which they are giving, I cannot respond to it.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: One by one they are collapsing.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It is for them to decide whether they will collapse or they will stand. I cannot decide their policy. In respect of the constitutionality and other angles, I am not a constitutional expert. So far as these aspects are concerned, they

are gone into. There is nothing preventing Government of India as regards its legislative competence or its constitutional competence to go on a denter into this agreement. It is not for the first time that we are going in for an international arrangement like this. On earlier occasions we had been there when we had entered into international agreements.

So far as agricultural policy is concerned, evee P.D.S is the Government of India policy though agriculture is the State Subject. Though agriculture is the State subject, the minimum support price is the policy of the Government of India. Therefore, you cannot simply say that something is within the State list and, therefore, the legislative competence of the Government of India does not extend to cover that while entering into international agreements.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I did not go even that far. I said that in all propriety, in a country where there is a federal structure, before going in for such an agreement, which will have an impact on the rights of the States and the State Governments specially in respect of subjects which ar ein the State list, should not the States be properly consulted and their consent taken? That has not been done. No reply was given to the letter writtern last year by the Chief Minister of West Bengal to the Prime Minister saying that nothing should be conclusively agreed to without consulting the States. They have refused to do that. I protest on this aspect.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I mentioned about it earlier. Of course, I did not consult the State Government because it was not considered necessary. But definitely I consulted all the political parties. And that is not a single State Government in this

country whihc does not belong to a particular political party.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: But the question is... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed another Member to speak. Please let him also ask the question. You are not the only Member in the House.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Sir, my point is on this issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why this is being done? I have permitted another Member. He is also a Member.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani) : Shri Bhogendra Jhaji, you got your chance twice. Let others alos ask questions. (*Interruptions*)*

MR.SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHUPENDER SINGH HOODA (Rohtak): Through you I would like to seek some information regarding seeds from the hon. Minister. The multinational companies will come to India and supply their seeds in bulk. The seeds will be high yielding which have weak anti-disease genes. Suppose any virus also comes with the seeds, will the farmers be entitled toget compensations from these multi-national companies.

[*English*]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, I cannot reply to that type of clarification. But

this is a contractual obligation. When you buy something, there must be a provision in the contract for some compensation if it is not upto the standard.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Sir, with your permission I want to ask a question to the Minister. If nothing of the modifications or amendments or whatever we seek here is accepted, will India agree to reject the Draft?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you need an explanation of this kind from the Minister?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Yes sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Not necessary.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen of the clock.

15.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at seven minutes past Fifteen of the Clock

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Matters under Rule 377. Shri Kalia Perumal.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to correct railway track from Villupuram to Cuddalore to Broad gauge**

[English]

SHRI P.P. KALAPERUMAL

(Cuddalore): Sir, a 1000 mega watt thermal power project in Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu has been reviewed and the development plan has been completed. This project would require four million tonnew to five million tonnes of coal or lignite per annum and this has to be brought from Orissa by rail-road to Cuddalore through Madras and Villupuram. The present trach from Madras to Villupuram is already being connected to broad gauge. But trach from Villupuram to Cuddalore is connected to meter gauge and it is now inevitable to connect this tract to broad gauge.

Hence I urge upon the Central Government to connect the track from Villupuram to Cuddalore to broad gauge.

- (ii) **Need to protect Chilka Lake from siting and shrinking.**

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): The fast decline of marine yield in the Chilka Lake in Orissa has posed a serious problem for a large number of people living in the nearby villages. Spread over about 1,000 Sq.Km, Chilka, the largest brackish water lake in Asia, has been gradually shrinking.

According to an estimate, the total annual yield of marine produce from Chilka was 10,000 metric tonnes in 1980-81. This cam edown to 7,000 metric tonnes in 1984-85. Now in 1992-93. the yield is 2,000 metric tonnes only.

About 50,000 traditional fishermen and more than one lakh other people surrounding 192 villages depend solely on this lake for their livelihood. If the lake goes onshrinking at this rate, the fish catch will gradually decline. Apart from this, the rapid deforestation in the catchment areas of the lake and land grabbing activities around it also are the causes of decline in the marine

yield. The lake has been receiving an estimated 130 lakh tonnes of silt annually. The soil carried away by the rain water to the lake, the Magarmuk channel, the only mouth connecting to the Bay of Bengal, is narrowing everyday with the heavy sand deposits brought by northerly currents. As a result, 1.5 Sq. Km of wet lands are buried every year thus shrinking the spread area and the depth of the lake waters and finally reducing the salinity level.

Unless immediate steps are taken to draw a master plan and desilt the lake, the marine yield will further decline. The people depending on the lake will lose their only source of income in the coming years. As such, I urge the Central Government to allocate fund for some such scheme and protect Chilik lake from silting and shrinking at the earliest.

(iii) **Need to give Central University status to Allahabad University**

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Allahabad University has been playing a leading role in the field of Education for the last 110 years. This University has produced great personalities in India and abroad in the field of politics, education, administration, art, music and literature. At one time the students produced by this University were holding top posts in the country but due to the paucity of resources it is constantly losing its standard. There is sharp decline in its standard of reading-studying and other educational activities which is a matter of great concern. As a result of this decline, youth of North India are lagging behind in playing an important role in various fields. The Central Government can make improvement in this reputed University by taking it in its own hand.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to give Central University status to Allahabad University to enable it like other Central Universities to play an important role in the field of education.

(iv) **Need for construction of a railway overbridge at Medukkachery in Ottappalam Parliamentary Constituency in Kerala**

[English]

SHRI S. SIVARAMAN (Ottappalam): The people of Trichur and Palakkad districts in Kerala have been demanding for a railway overbridge at Medukkachery in Ottappalam Parliamentary Constituency for quite a number of years. This area is thickly populated and a Medical College Hospital is also situated in this area. Due to high traffic, the railway overbridge is absolutely necessary in the said area. The State Government had already sent this proposal. But the work has not yet begun.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Railways to take urgent steps to start the railway overbridge as early as possible.

(v) **Need to constitute a separate Ministry for proper development of costal areas.**

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur): The coastal areas of this country are most vital to the economic development of the country. However, these areas have not been given due attention.

Even China developed her economic zones in the coastal regions as they are vital links to the outside world for trade. We find all port management inefficient and unplanned, fisheries trade underdeveloped.

no coordinated measures to protect land from sea erosion. Raws like construction activity within 500 m line causing great harassment to people.

I would thus request the Central Government to constitute a separate Ministry for coastal areas. This Ministry be given the following areas:-

(a) Fisheries-by amalgamating MPEDA, Deep Sea Fishery (Ministry of Food Processing) and Department of Fisheries.

(b) Encroachment from sea (Sea erosion — now under Ministry for Water Resources).

(c) Ports

(d) Ocean Development

(e) Shipping

Alternatively the Ministry for Surface Transport be converted as Ministry for coastal areas which will look after the Intetgrated development of coastal areas as also save tremendous amount of money and increase exports.

(vi) **Need to take steps for development of tourism in Sunderbans in West Bengal**

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, while nature has been bounteous to the Sunderbans in West Bengal for its flora an dfauna and renowned "Tiger Project", the ara is ridden with utter poverty. There is no small or even tiny industry located here and the people have to fend for themselves mainly with fishing and wood-cutting. This hardly sustains their families. Of course, there is a tremendous potential for development of tourism here

which will not only enable the Government to earn foreign exchange but also provide some sort of relief to these afflicted people. Surprisingly uptil now no infrastructure for development of tourism in the Sunderbans has been conceived at the Central level.

I urge upon the Central Government to take some urgent measures for promotion of tourism here, namely, the construction of a helipad in the Sunderbans for the ferrying of tourists from Dum Dum Airport by helicopter; setting up of tourist huts with a restaurant to cater to the taste of the foreign and Indian tourists and launching upon projects for the utilisation of tidal waves for poer generation and Biosphere Research Centre; introduction of mini-buses for taking round th etourists to the famed Tiger Project and other places of scenic beauty and other ancillary measures aimed at tourist attraction. Sir, this will go a long way in reguvenating this Nature's for lorn bounteous land and ameliorate the living conditions of its inhabitants.

15.17hrs.

TRANSPLANTATION OF HUMAN
ORGANS BILL -Contd

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar on the 28th August, 1993.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla, do you want to say something?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, about this Bill that has been moved to provide for the

regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of human organs, the matter was referred to the Rajya Sabha as a view was expressed that the scope of the Bill has to be re-examined. The Rajya Sabha, after consideration with the Members there, came to the view that they have already passed the Bill and therefore they do not want to re-examine it until the Lok Sabha has given its point of view on it. When the matter was communicated to the hon. Speaker, he suggested that we may form only a Select committee of this House with a direction to give its report within six to seven days so that we can pass this Bill during this very Session itself. The Committee could take into account the various suggestions that have been received and if some people want to tender their evidence, they could also be given an opportunity to do so. So, I would request you to take this matter up tomorrow. By that time, we consult the leaders of the Opposition parties and get the names for the formation of the Select Committee. They will move the motion for the fresh Select Committee to be formed. We can now take up the matter next to this one.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This item is deferred till tomorrow. Now, we take up the next item.

15.20 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF THE STATE BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE-1993

STATE BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House shall take up item Numbers 13 and 14 together.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

"That this House disapproves of the State Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No.33 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 15th October, 1993".

Mr. Chairman, Sir, although I do not want to raise too many issues yet to make on some of the particular circumstances under which our constitutional makers empowered the President of India to make law through promulgating an ordinance and the way this article is being misused by the Government.

For all practical purposes it is the right of Parliament to enact law on all subjects but by-passing this right the Government makes law through ordinance and then comes to the Parliament to put its stamp on it. In this way this right of making law through ordinance by the President is being clearly misused by the Government. Therefore, the Government in consultation with all the political parties should fix the criteria under which the Government can promulgate ordinance. Some restrictions should be imposed on the use of this article of the Constitution. I think it is a clear example of the misuse of Constitution.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second thing I would like to say that the Dunkel Draft is being discussed in Parliament for last 3 years and today the Commerce Minister has given reply that negotiation at officer's level would be done before 15th and the Government of India has to sign it within next 5-6 months. All the negotiating countries require to get many laws passed by their respective Parliaments in consonance with

this draft but I regret to say that even before signing Dunkel Draft the Government is keeping the people in dark and bringing about many fundamental changes and trying to get all these laws passed which would be required after signing the draft.

Through this ordinance a new chapter of Institutional changes in a major banking Institute i.e State Bank of India, has been opened. At present it is the biggest Bank in the Government Sector and it is the first attempt for its privatisation. At present State Bank of India has 98.23 per cent of RBI share and public share is only 1.77 per cent, but now according to this new law public share will increase to 68.93 per cent and RBI's share will gradually be decreased. In this way the Government is taking initiative for the privatisation of Banks. It is a direction towards privatisation.

Recently the Government has given a reply in Rajya Sabha that about 10,000 branches of Indian Banks are running into loss and the Government is considering for their closure from now itself. Employment opportunities in Banks have been constantly reduced during last 10-12 years. Banking sector is the biggest source of employment in the country and educated persons were getting employment in this sector. If you go through the figures of last 12 years you will find that 12 years back about 10 lakh employees were working in Banking sector and the number of employees at present is also 10 lakh.

The Government is trying to close about 10,000 branches of Banks on the pretext that they are running in loss. On the one hand the Government is giving new licences for opening banks in private sector and on the other it is trying to handover

nationalised banks to the private sector. This ordinance was promulgated and through it equity shares of State Bank of India worth Rs. 1000 crores have been floated. In this way the State Bank of India would go into private hands and the control of RBI will be ended over it. When the Banks were nationalised two reasons were given. Firstly it was said at that time that it was being done to enable the Banks to cope up with the challenges being faced by the poor public of this country. The Government had social responsibilities which were not being fulfilled by the Banks of private sector. These banks used to provide employment opportunities and other facilities to the general public and the people living below poverty line and the Reserve Bank of India used to monitor the working of State Bank of India. The Government is gradually withdrawing from its social responsibilities. With this intention the Government has brought this ordinance. As a warning I would like to point out that earlier there were certain restrictions on the entry of foreign Banks and the Government had restricted their entry to India. At that time assurance was given by the Government in the House that the foreign Banks would be allowed to open their branches in big cities only. But after the formulation of new economic policy many branches of foreign banks have been opened in the country and the results thereof can be seen in securities scam. A large sum of money of this country has been taken away by these foreign banks to their countries. The privatisation of Banks and unchecked entry of foreign banks have been the acts of betrayal with the poor public and unemployed youth of this country. The hon. Minister should State the clear cut policy of the Government on handing over nationalised Banks to private sector. The Government should give a clear cut assurance about it in the House. With these words I give stress on the Statutory Resolution.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955, be taken into consideration."

In pursuance of the recommendations made by the committee of Financial system (Narasimham Committee) the Reserve Bank of India has formulated a new set of norms to identify the source of income and made a provision in respect of capital sufficiency of risky assets. These norms were laid according to current international policy to strengthen the base of financial accounts. After adoption of these norms all nationalised banks including the State Bank of India will have to make their capital base strong in next three years. All the banks will have to ensure that their capital must reach upto the value of 8 per cent of risky assets by March 31, 1996. The foreign Banks have to fulfill these norms by March 31, 1994.

For the infrastructural facilities of Banking system it is essential to fulfill the norms prescribed for capital sufficiency. It is essential for their international credit also because the Banks spread all over the world are following these norms which are prescribed by the committee on Banking Regulation and Supervision practice appointed by Bank of International settlements.

It is expected from the Branches of state Bank of India operating in international market that they should acquire capital sufficiency ratio of 8 per cent by March 31, 1994. For this purpose, it is expected from the State Bank of India that it would mobilise

huge resources from market. Therefore this Bank is starting right cum Public issue very shortly.

In order to ensure the implementation of guidelines issued by the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and to attract foreign small investors as much as possible and also taking into consideration the market preference it had become essential to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955. Since the Parliament was adjourned at that time and the said amendments were necessitated immediately, the President promulgated the Ordinance on October, 15, 1993. This Bill will replace the said ordinance.

In the proposed amendments the provisions to reduce the value of shares of Bank from Rs. 100 to Rs. 10 to remove the limit of 200 shares for individual shareholders and to lift the ban imposed on their right of vote by increasing it from 1 per cent to 10 per cent are also included. There are proposals in the amendments to provide better services to the shareholders and for avoiding repetition of works and to get rid from the maintenance of registers of Branches in local headquarters and to keep only one Central register of the Central office and keeping that register in computer floppy or discs. Following the cancellation of the Branch register certain result oriented other amendments are proposed to be included in different provisions of the act.

With these words, I recommend the consideration of this Bill before the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the State Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No.33

Resolution Re:

of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 15th October, 1993"

"That the Bill further to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955, be taken into consideration."

Both these items will be discussed together next time. We now go to the Private Member's Business.

15.34 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Twenty Sixth Report

[English]

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL
(Cuddalore): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th December, 1993."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th December, 1993."

The motion was adopted.

5.35 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: UNIFORM CIVIL
CODE-CONTD

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before further dis-

ussion on the Resolution regarding Uniform Civil Code moved by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan is resumed, I would like to mention that 3 hours and 46 minutes have already been taken on this Resolution, thus exhausting the time allotted for its discussion. The House has to now extend time for further discussion on the Resolution. Is it the pleasure of the House that time for this Resolution be further extended by one hour?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the House agrees. The time is extended by one hour. Who is going to speak now?

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA
(Jadaupur): Sir, I would like to speak on this Resolution of Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Rita Verma was on her legs. She is not present here now. But you have already spoken on this Resolution.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Actually, I had been on my legs. I was just about to speak. But then, the time was over. After that, I could not be present. Therefore, I am requesting you to allow me to speak today.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Sir, there is a Private Members' Resolution. My name is Asim Bala.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may send your name. Shrimati Bhattacharya, as a special case. I am allowing; ordinarily, we do not allow like this.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I must thank you for this indulgence. Actually, I have been waiting to seepak on this Resolution for quite a long time and I have been waiting to speak on it precisely be-

cause I want to oppose this Resolution totally.

The Resolution moved by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan says:

"This House urges upon the Government that in order to achieve the objectives enshrined in Article 44 of the Constitution and to promote feelings of unity and brotherhood amongst all citizens of the country, a Commission be constituted for framing an uniform civil code".

I am not opposing this Resolution on the ground that I am not aware of Article 44 of the Constitution. I am aware of Article 44 of the Constitution which says:

"The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India."

This has been given as a part of the Directive Principles of our Constitution; and therefore, it is a very special clause. I am aware of this and yet, I am opposing the Resolution.

In the Resolution, it has been said that this is being proposed to promote feelings of unity and brotherhood among all citizens of the country. I am not opposing this Resolution because I oppose unity and brotherhood among the citizens of this country. I am fully aware of the need to promote unity and brotherhood among the citizens of this country. Then, why am I opposing this Resolution? This is what I would like to clarify in a few words before this House. I am opposing this because of the manner in which this Resolution has been brought forward before the House. The wording in

which it has been presented makes us suspect that as a matter of fact this Resolution is not meant to promote unity and brotherhood among the citizens of the country, but further to secure the deterioration of whatever feelings of unity and brotherhood we have in this country now.

This concern for communal harmony that had been stated in this Resolution was not demonstrated in October 1990 at the time when *Rath Yatra* was undertaken from Somnath in Gujarat to Ayodhya. This concern for communal harmony was not voiced on the 6th December 1992 or during the riots that followed. Now, it is being suggested that simply by establishing a Commission for promoting a uniform civil code all these poision which has been poure into our body politic over the past few years may be all at once exercised. Uniform civil code is presented as some kind of an immediate panacea which can restore our body politic and our social framework from the communal posion which it has absorbed during the last few years.

This is precisely what I am debating here. In fact, I think, that the proposal that has been made here is a prescription for a further deterioration of relations among the different communities.

Let us consider for a moment why is this provision included within our Constitution not as one of the clauses of the Constitution but merely as a Directive Principle. In order to understand this, we have to go back to the moment when the Constituent Assembly had been sitting, when the debate on the Constitution had been going on and the kind of controversies like this question of uniform civil code had unleashed.

It may be remembered that this demand for uniform civil code was initially

[Smt. Malini Bhattacharya]

raised by the All-India Women's Conference at a time when we had not even attained our independence. They had raised this demand on the understanding that this would promote a certain degree of unity among our countrymen who were being misled, who were being injected with communal feelings by our colonial rulers.

However, the turn of events was quite different. It was found that fundamentalists on all sides were very much opposed to the idea of a uniform civil code. At the same time, another debate was also going on. This debate was regarding the report that had been given by the B.N. Rao Committee on the Hindu Code Bill. When this debate came into the Parliament side-by-side with the debate on uniform civil code and when the fundamentalists on one side found that there was not sufficient support for them, when they found that the Hindu Code Bill did not have much opposition either in the nation or within the Parliament, they began to turn the entire issue towards a communal channel by saying: if it is good for Hindus, then it is good for Muslims. We will accept it if it is a law for all.

Mrs. Sumitra Mahajan in her statement has made much of the words that were spoken by the Law Minister, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, at that time. However, she has missed out the vital points from Baba Saheb Ambedkar's speech. I would like to remind the House of what Baba Saheb Ambedkar had said about the way in which the Hindu fundamentalists were trying to give a communal turn to this whole issue of the Hindu Code Bill. He had said:

"Now, I must say, I am very surprised to see some of those who until yesterday were the greatest

opponents of this Code and the greatest champions of the archaic Hindu law, as it exists today, should come forward and say that they are now for an all-India civil code.

There is a proverb that the leopard does not change its spots and I cannot believe that these leopards which have been pouncing on the Bill, that is, the Hindu Code Bill, every time I come before the House, have now suddenly so reformed their mentality as to become revolutionary enough to want a new code altogether."

Subsequently, Baba Saheb Ambedkar made an offer. He said, well, we can have a uniform civil code. It has taken us five years to draft the Hindu code. But we can have a uniform civil code in half-an-hour.

Take the example of the Indian Succession Act. All that would be necessary to make it universal and civil, that is applicable to all persons is to add the words contained in Clause 2 of the Act, namely, it shall not apply to Hindus be deleted. Of course, Hindu Succession Act is separate. Now, this is the point on which the debate of uniform civil code became stoned because the inclusion of the Hindus within the Indian Succession Act was something which the Hindu fundamentalists would never have accepted and it is precisely on the question of succession that we find that just as there are certain areas in which we have certain very retrograde clauses in some of the personal laws, similarly in the Hindu personal law and in the succession laws also, we have a lot that is retrograde; we have a lot that promotes inequality between men and women. Therefore, Sir, from here, I would like to come back to the arguments that were given by Mrs. Sumitra Mahajan and I have

called Baba Saheb Ambedkar because what she has said reminded me on that very same day of what Baba Saheb Ambedkar has said. Actually, we find that in her speech, she has been pleading for a uniform civil code but throughout her entire argument, the single trend of argument that goes on is that she is trying to pinpoint certain lacunae within the personal law of one particular community, that is, the Muslim community and she keeps totally out of her purview the kind of inequalities, the kind of injustice to women which is embedded in the other personal laws including the Hindu laws. This is why I feel that it is not the desire to promote unity and brotherhood that lies behind this particular Resolution but it is rather some kind of a motivation to further create a situation in which by posing a threat of a uniform civil code, the insecure position of the minorities may be further engrained in their minds. Particularly after the recent incidents, we know that one particular minority community, that is, the Muslim community go about with fear of their lives. They are asking this question that while they are citizens of India, why is it not possible to protect their own places of worship. So, under these circumstances, to raise this bogey of uniform civil code, I think, is to bring up this issue at a very dangerous point and from a very wrong perspective all together. This is why I am opposing this Resolution.

15.49 hrs.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*]

I would also put it before the House certain points which have been made by Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar. He has spoken at length and he has pointed this communal element that is embedded within the Resolution that is before the House. On this, I am in agreement with him. However, the cat

was out of the bag when Mr. Aiyar came to talk about the Muslim Women Act.

We find him absolutely twisting himself into knots to maintain his secular position and at the same time trying to defend the Muslim Women's Act which was passed in the year 1986. In Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar's argument, we find him criticising the judgment of justice Chandrachud on Shah Bano case in respect of Clause 125 of the Indian Penal Code. The question involved was whether a Muslim lady who did not have any other means of subsistence should be reduced to become a vagrant or whether some alimony should be allowed to her under Section 125 of the IPC. Justice Chandrachud had given the judgement that she was fully entitled to get the alimony. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar says that the controversy created in the nation over this issue was totally due to the kind of judgment that Justice Chandrachud had delivered. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar maintains that the Judge has not kept himself confined to the issue in question, but he has also said something about Islam and Islamic Personal Law. And this, according to him, created the entire controversy. Then Shri Aiyar, the staunch knight-errant in support of women who are divorced, says that under Section 125, they are allowed to get a mere pittance and so the whole question is not whether Shah Bano should get this pittance or not, but the whole question is to enhance the amount of alimony. He says that Section 125 of the Indian Penal Code is actually obsolete because it allows so very little for Indian divorced women as alimony. Now, we are absolutely in agreement with Shri Aiyar on this point and we also say that Section 125 needs to be amended and a reasonable amount of alimony should be allowed to divorced women. As the House may be aware, one of our Members Shrimati Suseela Gopalan brought a Private Members' Bill to suitably

[Smt. Malini Bhattacharya]

amend the Section so that women who are totally dependent on their husbands can get some economic justice when they are divorced. They may get at least a minimum livelihood and not the pittance that is allowed at present under Section 125. We agree with Shri Aiyar that an amendment is absolutely necessary. If he and his Government are so concerned with the pitiable condition of divorced women, then why did they not bring the required amendment to Section 125 at that stage? Instead, they stopped a certain section of the Indian women from getting whatever little pittance that they were getting according to the court order by that Section 125. While Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar pleads for higher and reasonable amount of compensation for divorced women, but in the case of Shah Bano supports the Muslim Women's Act which does not allow any alimony or any compensation whatsoever!

I do not understand Shri Aiyar's argument at all. I think that it is an argument which tries to hide the discomfort that he himself has been feeling. I have no doubt about his sympathy for such women but the discomfort that he may have been feeling about the Muslim Women Act was very much evident in his speech.

I would like to put it here that as a matter of fact when a judgement in the Shah Bano's case was passed and when Muslim Women Bill was debated in the Parliament, the Point that had been raised by us was precisely this. We had sought that the spirit of the Constitution has to be understood. What had been the spirit when the builders of our Constitution in their wisdom had introduced a Uniform Civil Code as a part of the Directive Principles? The spirit of that had been not to impinge upon or not to hurt the

sentiments of any particular community; not to homogenise the Indian culture which consists of many different cultural practices, many different family customs. Article 44 did not seek to impinge or hurt this. It did not seek to move towards the homogenisation of Indian society. It had sought for uniformity and not homogenisation.

We find that these personal laws basically deal with matters pertaining to family, marriage, guardianship, division of property, succession, etc. These are the main things which are included in the personal laws. We have found from our experience that cutting across communities, in almost all the families, because of the gender structure in our country, the woman is in a more disadvantaged position than the man. It is mostly the inequality of women which the guardians of our Constitution had sought to remove when they thought of a Uniform Civil Code.

We feel that this purpose can be best served not by imposing one Civil Code from the top. Sumitra ji has said at the end of her speech that it need not be the Hindu Law. But, then we find in other part of her speech she has spoken in a manner which suggests that the Hindu Law has purged itself of all its defects. Not only has she not mentioned the existing defects within the Hindu Law but further she has said in her speech that the Hindu Law, as it exists now, is the most progressive law that we have.

16.00 hrs.

Therefore, the idea that comes to our mind is this. What is being suggested is that all Personal Laws should be modelled after Hindu Law. This is an attempt at homogenisation of a culture which is essentially heterogeneous, the richness of which consists precisely in this heterogene-

ity. This is what we are opposed to. But at the same time, We feel that the kind of inequality towards women that we find in most of the Personal Laws have to be removed from within the Personal Laws. So, what we are fighting for is not a Uniform Code, but we are fighting for equality in the eyes of law for both men and women. These lacunae that are there, have to be rectified not only within the general system of law but they should also be rectified within the Personal Laws.

I will just say, in conclusion, one point. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan had mentioned again and again in her speech the question of polygamy which is allowed within Muslim Personal Law. I would like to say that as far as I am concerned, I think a great majority of the people of my country, cutting across communities, feel that the system of polygamy is humiliating to women and it should not continue and yet may I point out certain facts to you, Sir? Hindu Code Bill does not allow polygamy and yet we find that statistics tell us that among Hindus who are not allowed to be polygamers, there is more of polygamy. One wife is married, she is left, she is deserted; second wife is taken; and then you see, what happens is that, after some time, the second wife is also left. Then, by quoting the Code, it is said that because she is not a legally married wife, she cannot be given any compensation or alimony. She cannot have any rights whatsoever from her husband. So, you see. It is not a question of Hindu or Muslim, it is a question of the inequitable position that women have in our society which is reflected in the actual situation. The law may be there but in spite of the law, the deviations from the law, the violations of the law tell us a different story about the actual situation, the actual position of women, in our country. Sir, we are not among those who say that these are personal matter, these are family

matter, these are matters belonging to certain religious beliefs and therefore, the State should not intervene in these. We think and this is also embedded in Article 25 of the Constitution that is, the right to freely practise any religion of one's choice is subject to certain conditions; public order, morality and so on. So, this freedom is conditional viz. it is not an absolute freedom. The custom of sati which, in spite of 150-year-old law, is being practised in some parts of the country. Now, certainly, here the state has to intervene and the State must intervene. However, the intervention of the State is not something which should be done with a bias against one community and this is precisely what this particular Resolution is seeking to do.

This is precisely why we oppose this Resolution. We think rather at this point what the Government should do is to have a committee to look into the Personal Laws. I have heard that the Law Ministry has already been looking into the different laws, and the lacunae that are there in those laws. This may be pointed out; this may be rectified.

We find that from within the Muslim Community now there are certain very strong and bogus sections who have given *Fatwa* against this very arbitrary system of what is known as 'Talaq'. There is an opinion within the Islamic community against this system of *talaq*. So, it is not as if the religious communities are static; it is not as if they are absolutely rigid in their opinions. There are various currents of opinions within this. This is what the Government has to pick up. It has to be in touch with the people who are working at the grass-root level, people who are able to raise consciousness among the women of the community. Even at that stage when the Muslim Women Bill was being debated, we found that a large number of

[Smt. Malini Bhattacharya]

Muslim women themselves came out and said that the Bill would be derogatory to their interest; but the Government did not listen to them. As a matter of fact, although it is seen as an appeasement to the minority community, it was nothing of the kind. As a matter of fact, who benefitted from it? No one, Not the Muslim women; well somewhat less that half of the Muslim community, not the guardians of the women, not the guardians of the poor Muslim women, who are divorced by their husbands who are sent back to their families without any alibi; they did not benefit. Therefore, the question of appeasement does not arise here at all. I think this question of appeasement which was raised by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan in her speech was entirely motivated. Therefore, from all these points, I think that this Resolution was brought at a particular point just a few months after the demolition of the Babri Masjid, just a few months after a nation-wide riots that were taking place, when the riot victims were still left to be compensated; without any compensation, without any relief; at that time, to bring this Bill is simply to create a further sense of fear, a further sense of insecurity in the minds of the minority community.

Therefore, I would only oppose this Resolution; at the same time, I would say that what we demand is equality for women within the law, even within personal law; and that has to come from within the community, that has to come through the discussions, through opinion building and through our national consensus. Thank you.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, we are debating this Resolution in the absence of the Mover of the Resolution. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan belongs to BJP. She is absent today when

her Resolution is before the House. Her absence is not on account of any personal reason that is either in the opposition or something of that sort.

Why I say this is because I am inclined to support the Resolution. I am in agreement with the spirit of the Resolution. There are reasons for me also to oppose the Resolution. Therefore, I oppose the Resolution.

The Mover of the Resolution is absent today because of the collective decision of her party to boycott the proceedings of the House; that too, why? What for? To put pressure for the conditional release of their leaders who have been arrested in Uttar Pradesh, in connection with the grave charges of demolition of the mosque at Ayodhya, one year back! This is the background, the scenario in which this Resolution is being debated.

This Resolution was brought forward by Shrimati Mahajan. Therefore; the intention of the mover, certainly, cannot be good. It is not meant to promote communal harmony. Rather, on the contrary, it is to promote communal hatred.

I agree with the hon. lady Member who participated in the debate just now, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya, by and large, and her viewpoints. Article 44 of the Constitution of India, which is under Part IV, Directive Principles of State Policy, provides for a uniform civil code. This was also debated in the Constituent Assembly in 1948 and 1949 and these provisions in Article 44 together with the other provisions in this Chapter of Directive Principles of State Policy are not justifiable. No timeframe has also been provided for. Those of which ought to be, what should be, and that the nation should strive in that direction are mentioned there. We should strive. We make preparation and we

direct so that all those Directive Principles are all put to action, to take concrete steps.

It was also made very clear by many participants in that debate in the Constituent Assembly — including Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Shri K.M. Munshi and also Shri Krishnaswami — that it cannot be done under coercion. It has to be done with the consent of all the concerned people.

That is why, in that background also I would like to make a reference to the *Shaha Bano* case with which also Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya has dealt. Many hon. Members from that side also were here at that point of time when we discussed it here. We were also in the Treasury Benches. We were not inclined to support that. But, unfortunately, an overwhelming opinion in the concerned community was to the contrary. Having regard to that overwhelming opinion, etc., in respect of the society within their community — though many people did not like it — that was allowed to prevail. No doubt, there is need for reforms not only within the Muslim community but also in the Hindu society and Hindu community. A lot has got to be done to reform our community. Superstitions are there, dowry deaths are there; there are so many things. We have enacted a law to prevent dowry deaths and for all these things.

Law is, in fact, necessary. But only law does not make the change and does not bring in the desired result. Of course, it helps. Certainly, law does help and it has got to be there. It has a frightening aspect. At the same time, people know how to out law. Something more needs to be done in all these areas. Therefore as I have said earlier, I am in agreement with the spirit of this Resolution. As far as possible, we should have Uniform Civil Code and Uniform Personal Law. But there is some confusion in

Uniform Civil Code. There are certain Acts which are common. Take Negotiable Instruments Act, Transfer of Property Act and other Acts. We do not have different codes for different communities. But even the Constitution gives guarantee of freedom to tribes and to communities to have Personal Law. As referred to earlier by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya, polygamy is not allowed in Hindu society, in Hindu community according to our law. But in practice, in different tribes, different communities, and in small tribes, custom recognises polygamy. As a matter of fact, in pre-independent days and further earlier days, in some spheres, it was a matter of aristocracy or something like that. That is going on now. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): It is there in Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: It is there in West Bengal also. Every where in certain royal families, it is there. West Bengal and Orissa are side by side and they are in Eastern India.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That much of geography, he knows.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not reply to them. Kindly address to the Chair.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: In Private Members' Business, such things should be allowed.

What I say is that even there is a provision in the Constitution to give guarantee of freedom in respect of personal law to different communities.

In respect of language, I would like to give one instance. Hindi is our Rashtra Bhasha, lingua franca. Three-language formula also is provided. But, even Hindi in

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

cannot impose. Sir, as you know, that provision is there. We have to strive, we have to thrive and we have to create a climate so that people accept it more and more day by day. We cannot just impose it. When there were attempts to impose Hindi, we had seen the disastrous consequences. In a country of our size, of our dimension, a country of continental dimensions with many races, religions, languages and cultures - we had a composite culture - we cannot impose it. We can look at our nationhood, which is based on a composite culture. And in that composite culture, there are Mohammadian community, Muslim community and others. I think, we are either second or third largest Islamic country in the whole world.

As far as my knowledge goes we are the second largest country. That is also not a small thing. We are the second largest Islamic country in the world with such a huge Muslim population. They have also contributed over the centuries...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are we an Islamic country? We are a secular State.

SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Thank you. It is true that we are a secular country. That is why, in respect of language, as I said earlier, it has to be only with the consent of all and it cannot be imposed on. In different communities polygamy is going on and there is some sort of guarantee in respect of personal law. Personal law means marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance. In these areas in a developed country we have to see that women are not exploited. Because of certain inherent weakness that community should not be exploited. However, that is going on. Therefore, I am inclined to feel that it is time that progressive elements in every society, in Muslim society

have to come forward to create that sort of atmosphere. The women are also gradually organizing themselves to agitate for all these things. There was a beginning made when the Shah Bano's case was there. That has got to be further taken note of. In that way, we can do this.

In the Constitution in Chapter IV under the Directive Principles of State Policy there is some time frame with regard to universalization of primary education upto the age group of 14 is to be achieved. We have not been able to achieve even that.

As far reservations are concerned, there was a time frame of 10-20 years. But, rightly we are extending it. The founding fathers of the Constitution wanted it to be achieved in 10-20 years. However, we could not achieve this and that is also being extended because we want to fight out all sorts of inequality. We should strive towards a society based on equality.

Lastly, I would say that the intention is not clear as to whether it is politically motivated or not. Today her very absence goes to justify her Resolution to be opposed. While opposing this Resolution, I again feel that we all have to address ourselves to this problem. All progressive elements regardless of communities, parties etc. have to come forward together to create such a climate, such an atmosphere wherein it could be possible. As I said earlier, it cannot be done under coercion and under compulsion but with the consent of all concerned.

SHRISUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very serious issue which we are discussing. Article 44 of the Constitution calls upon us to evolve a uniform civil code and also article 14 calls upon us to guarantee equality before law and equal protection before law. So, both these

provisions are complementary. But having instituted this provision in the Constitution, the founding fathers also made provisions for discrimination, in the sense that though there is equal protection before law and equality before law, there is a provision for discrimination. But this is a conscious discrimination based on intelligible differentia which should have nexus with the statute. This provision has been made by the combined wisdom of the founding fathers for one precise reason, that is, keeping in view the conditions of the Indian society. The Indian society is not a homogenous society. In fact, the Indian culture is characterised by unity in diversity and keeping this fact in view and also keeping in view the diverse nature of the population and the various practices followed in this country, the provision for discrimination was made so that we could make laws for the Backward Classes. The recent decision of Mandal Commission could be possible because of this particular provision. This point needs to be highlighted. When you are wanting a uniform civil code, there is nothing wrong in that. The Directive Principles state that. But it should be related to the social conditions of the Indian society. Different sections of the society must be allowed to develop to the standard where law could be applicable because there is no point in making laws which cannot be followed. The dowry law is there for the last so many years but the practice of dowry is widely prevalent in all sections of the Hindu society in this country. So, it is not that laws only can engineer social change; the society must be developed. There has to be a social movement so that the society is prepared to accept that law. For example, when the Hindu Code Bill was enacted in 1956, there was hardly any objection or opposition to that. Because of the social movement launched by Mahatma Jyoti Phule, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi over a period of time, the society was pre-

pared to accept that. When it came to the question of reservations for the Backward Classes of the society, though there was opposition but it was minimal because the country accepted it. Even in the Hindu Code Bill, I want to ask Madam Sumitraji one question that are you, the Hindus, prepared to accept a uniform Hindu Civil Code? You are not, because though the Hindu Code Bill is there but many clauses are flouted every day. For example, Section 2 of the Hindu Code Bill prohibits marriage between the second cousins. But in Maharashtra this is a practice. In Andhra Pradesh also it is a practice. That is why in section 2 itself a provision has been made that though the Hindus have to follow certain practices according to law, but they are exempted where the customs or the culture prevalent in the society is such that different practices can be followed. I can quote one personal example.

When in my marriage itself, when I insisted that I would marry by signing the register, according to the civil code, my father-in-law refused to marry his daughter to me saying if I had to marry according to uniform civil code the marriage had to be in a particular fashion and if I was not prepared for it, he would not accept. This is the practice.

Take the case of dowry. It is widely prevalent today. There are bride-burnings. The practice Sati is going on. When you see these cases, you again go to Muslim code. You must wonder, Sir, that thousands of years ago some revolutionary provision was made in that law. It was the first law where it was stated that the girl has to give assent to a marriage. Imagine that it was thousands of years ago. But, even today, in an Indian society, in a Hindu society it is not permitted.

The second factor Sumitraji had object-

[Sh. Sudhir Sawant]

ed to was polygamy. We must now consider the historical evolution of this law in Muslim code. Thousands of years ago when Prophet Mohammad engineered a revolution in that part of the world, there was the wide practice of having harems. The Prophet was himself against polygamy. But keeping in view the situation and social condition, State permitted four marriages. But there also he kept a condition.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time allotted for this issue is over. It can be extended with the consent of the House.

MANY HON. MEMBERS: All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude soon, because Mamataji wants to speak and the hon. Minister will also speak.

[*English*]

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: So, at that point of time, the provision of four marriages was kept keeping in view the social conditions at that time. But there also a rider was kept. The provision existing in the code says that any Muslim can marry twice or thrice provided he can treat everyone equitably, which is well nigh impossible in the society. Thus, if the true essence of that law is to be read, then I would request the present day leaders of that community also to look into this matter.

That is why taking all the views into account, I would appeal that every community must be ensured of security because minority complex develops in a position where minorities are threatened. And that is why if we have to support the moderate and

progressive forces in every community, then what is required is that a situation of security for all communities must be created in this country. We know what had happened in the past 2-3 years. We know which community is threatened of which community and what kind of politics are going on in this country.

I would appeal to all political parties now that along with the political agenda which they have, they could undertake a social agenda where a social movement could be launched; wherein all communities are educated and all communities are working with that particular standard where Article 44 of the Constitution, the Directive Principles can be given full effect to and we could have a uniform civil code. But this cannot be done with force. It is a social matter. It is not a legal matter. Hence it calls for social answers. It requires social movements.

At this point of time, I would appeal to everyone to realise this and not to insist on creating rift in this community in the Indian society but to take all actions which will unite this society so that we can develop a strong and vibrant India of 21st century.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Anyone who has some knowledge of uniform civil code, likes it and nobody can impose it. Ours is a secular country and people belonging to different castes, classes and communities live here. Therefore, we cannot, make caste discrimination with anybody. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, the mover of this Bill is absent. Her party has boycotted the House following the arrest of Shri Advani. I would like to submit that we should create consciousness among the people for this Bill. People of all religions should sit together under one roof and con-

sider it. There is no better option. If there is any code for religion, we cannot meddle with it.

There are so many laws in our country. But merely the formulation of law does not serve the purpose. There are Anti -Dowry Act, Anti Sati Act in our country but dowry is often given frequently in rural and urban areas. This Act is not being implemented properly therefore it is increasing day by day. I, therefore, wish to submit that one day when we understand the feelings of others and sit together to enact a uniform civil code, the uniform civil code will certainly take shape a material. At first, it is necessary to educate the minority community of our country because they are very backward also in this respect. The 15 point Programme of the Government is not being implemented in many States and work is not done for the minorities. The Government should examine as to what has been accomplished in and what has been left in 15 Point Programme. It should be probed as to which States are implementing it and which are not. Despite our being in politics if we cannot educate people and are unable to provide them facilities, our such politics cannot be held as good politics.

There are so many backward castes in our country and among them there are people who belong to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Today casteist politics has cropped up among them. People from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar who go to West Bengal use to talk about cast and creed there. But there is no caste war in West Bengal. We are proud of it that people belonging to all religions live together there. Today political leaders are flaring it up for the sake of their vote bank. Therefore, the present situation has emerged in our country. I would like to submit one thing that women must get their rights. The Government should take proper steps for this.

Irrespective of religion, there is a right to have uniform Civil code which is mentioned in the Article 44 of our Constitution. But the intention of the Bill introduced by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan of BJP is to show that only BJP fights for the interest of Hindu religion. Our Hindu religion is very vast. If some of us worship Goddess Durga, some other worship Goddess Kali, some worship Lord Shiva, some Lord Rama. Virtually our religion gives equal importance to all religions. I, therefore, want to submit that these people which that Hindu religion should be disintegrated into small parts and the Hindus, the Muslims, the Sikhs, the Christians of our country should be divided on the lines of religion. But we do not want so. Of course, I support this Bill but I want that the woman should be given their rights. Since time is short, therefore, I would not like to take much time. Ms. Taslema has written a book in Bangladesh and the Fundamentalists have threatened her life. But this is not good. If a journalist wants to write something he should be given full liberty.

I, therefore, would like to request each of the hon. Member of Parliament that our voice should reach Bangladesh also because Bangladesh is our friendly country. If a person in the country has written something there, she must avail of the freedom to do so. She must be given full protection and we are against the fundamentalists there who have threatened her life. In our country everybody can write freely. We cannot snatch any body's freedom. I want to state that the democracy, freedom, rights, human values in our country must prosper. If we can do so our outlook will automatically change and with the change of our outlook consciousness will be created among ourselves. However, I believe that a day will come in our country when people from all corners will sit together and formulate a uniform Civil code.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank all the hon. Members who have spoken in great detail on this important issue.

Before I make comments, I would like to just remind the House, what is the mandate of article 44:

"The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India."

You will kindly see the words used in this article—the State shall endeavour to secure. So, the founding fathers were very clear that it is not possible to straight away push through a common civil code and gave a mandate that the State shall endeavour to secure a uniform civil code. If you kindly go a little further in the debate of the Constituent Assembly, while some of the hon. Members who came from the Muslim community moved the amendment to the original provision that was in the shape of article 35—now article 44—Dr. Ambedkar himself explained the spirit behind article 44. That is why, we must always bear in mind that what the founding fathers intended should not be twisted by anyone. We should adhere to those because we fought our freedom movement together as one country, one nation in which people of all religions participated. Hindus contributed but Muslims' contribution is much more, if you go into the sacrifices made by the Muslim leaders. That is why, India has such a vast majority of Muslim population only next to Hindus. So, it was joint effort by every Indian, irrespective of religion with the result this country secured its freedom and then gave to itself the

Constitution of India. Any assurance given at the time of framing the Constitution must be relevant for all time to come, for generations to come.

I would briefly observed what Dr. Ambedkar said:

"I should like to point out that all that the State is claiming in this matter is power to legislate."

Then, asking them to withdraw their amendments, he gave a very important statement which I quote:

"My second observation is to give them an assurance. I quite realise their feelings." These are the words this hon. Parliament must always bear in mind. Among the founding fathers, no less a person than Dr. Ambedkar says:

"Second observation is to give them an assurance. I quite realise their feelings in the matter. But I think, they have read rather too much in article 35 which merely proposes that the State shall endeavour to secure a civil code for the citizens of the country. It does not say that after the Code is framed, the State shall enforce it upon all citizens, merely because they are citizens. It is perfectly possible that the future Parliament may make a provision by way of making a beginning. That code shall apply only to those who make a declaration that they are prepared to be bound by it so that in the initial state, the application of the Code may be purely voluntary."

I must emphasise on this statement. All

our leaders who came after the Constitution has come into force, beginning with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was the Prime Minister for years and years, said this.

He always maintained that nothing will be done in this country against any community in the matter of their personal law against their wishes. I repeat that it was subsequently in 1967 when Mrs. Gandhi said the something in a meeting opposite Red Fort when it was brought to her notice that a misgiving is being spread that personal laws of minorities will be changed against their wishes. She declared and I remember because I was present in the meeting that nothing will be done against any minority in the matter of their personal law without the initiative coming from them. It is an established assurance in this country that when the question of personal law comes, the minority must come forward if they want a change. Why is it so? In practically 90 per cent of laws, there is uniformity. There are only small areas of marriage, maintenance, divorce adoption and succession. These areas regarding marriage, maintenance, divorce, succession and adoption are different in several communities. Hindus have got a different way of marriage, as an hon. Member said. Muslims have Nikah, according to their personal law namely, the Koranic injunction. Christians have another system. Parsees another system. This marriage matter is connected with their religion. That is why, we say that if they want any change, the initiative must come in these areas. We do not consult these communities in matters other than personal laws. If we want to amend any general law like the Evidence Act, or transfer of Property Act we do not consult these communities. But when it comes to religion, as Dr. Ambedkar said "I quite realise their feelings in this matter" This is a very important matter i, e., feelings in the matter of religion. Every community

has a feeling in the matter of religion. So has every Muslim and I cannot appreciate this feeling of the BJP hon. lady Member that when "It comes to minorities, you discriminate and try to steamroll them by your own majority." This is where their feelings are hurt. Otherwise, what Shri Syed Shahabuddin has said is very relevant. I have discussed with Muslim personal law Boards. They are very eager to codify that law. We made that effort. We decide in the Parliament. I do not mind. But I know that we did bring the law on Muslim maintenance earlier. (*Interruptions*). You may not like it. What has happened? You are not informed properly. What is the Muslim lady getting today? She is getting lakhs of rupees by way of maintenance. Some of the courts have given more than lakhs of rupees in money. I will give you those judgments. (*Interruptions*). Yes. They are getting now according to the principles of their necessity. They are getting much more better treatment. You do not listen to me. That is the difficulty. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, you can see those judgments.

That is why, I say that what Shri Syed Shahabuddin has said is very relevant. What happened to Hindus recently in 50s? You know what an opposition Pandit Nehru had to meet when he codified Hindu law in 1955, 1956 and when all these Acts, the Hindu Marriage Act, the Hindu succession Act and the Adoption Act were framed. There was lot of opposition from Hindu fundamentalists. But he was brave enough to have these laws passed and it was very controversial to have codification of Hindu law. What was the state of affair in Hindu society before the adoption of these Hindu laws? We were divided in various branches of Manu Smriti and what not? We consolidated the Hindus under the Hindu law. We have consolidated the Christians and Chris-

[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

tian laws and Parsees and parsee laws. When can you have a uniform Civil Code? We should adopt better things from all religions. That exercise should be done in consultation with all concerned sections of the society because we are a composite society. Right now a Hindu hon. Member pointed out several setbacks in our matrimonial laws.

Similar is the case with the Muslims. We are a composite society. We want a solution of this problem by mutual discussion and dialogue. That is where I will again refer to Article 44 of the Constitution which says that the State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code. The word "secure" means securing it by discussion and negotiation. It is not that we should not care for the emotions and sentiments of one community or the other. We have to consult everybody. I have done a lot of exercise on this. But I would again declare that nothing will be done against the interests of the Personal Laws of the minorities in this country so long as the Congress is in power. That is my declaration. I make it with full responsibility when the BJP friends are not here. The Muslim community is the second largest community of which we are proud; the heritage of Muslims is so hygienic and so perfect. If they correctly understand it, there are several things to learn. They have a right of property to their girls even today. Whereas, in the Hindu community, we are not giving anything until she becomes a widow. What are we giving to our daughters? What do we give to our wives? Until we are alive, they are getting nothing out of the property. But the moment a girl is born in the Muslim community, she gets a right in the property. We must make a comparison in the Law of Succession. The Muslim Succession Law is much better. I

can speak on several topics with relative comparison of various laws. We are doing that exercise. I am in touch with the Muslim Personal Law Board. I think it is pertinent to read what Shri Syed Shahabuddin read on that day. I am very happy that he has done a lot of work in this regard.

Sir, the question of emancipation of women is a totally different thing. Either it is the Hindu women or Muslim or Christian women or the Parsi women, they are a class by themselves. For the emancipation of women, nobody will oppose this. Efforts should be made to improve their condition under Section 125. You can make it more than Rs 500/- I think the discussion in this House has brought the Law Commission Report which says that it should be increased from Rs 500/- to Rs 2000/- I think we will have no difficulty in giving that also. But the question is we must understand with what spirit we bring forth this discussion on Uniform Civil Code. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: You also supported them in 1991. Can you deny it (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): While on one hand, the hon. Minister is claiming to be an intelligent person he is saying on the other a lot of futile things. Our Hindu laws stand already amended. He is speaking as if all the religions stand divided into water tight compartments. The Bar Council had shown black flags to Gandhiji and our motherland had to face one partition of the country in 1947. Now we do not want to have another partition of this land. This matter should, therefore, be discussed with all the concerned and a Uniform Civil Code should be evolved with people's consensus. You can bring amendments, or

delete or add anything to it but there should be a Uniform Civil Code for the entire country which is an integrated entity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do not you express your views on the discussion?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I want to correct the record. He said about me . My whole family has participated in Freedom Movement . He is not aware of that . Now I come to my point . I have a point to make . I am speaking on this cannot say a word of sympathy for our nig minorities . This is what I am repeating . We must keep in view the feelings of the other minorities .We are not prepared to do that . That os our difficulty. Let us respect each other's feelings and we should not road-roll them. We have to justify it by having a full time dialogue and by persuasion. Wherever changes have come they are changes either because of the movement of women themselves. Even in India, they are talking of many women organisations. Fortunately or unfortunately, we do not have that type of strong women movement in the country. A movement should start within the Muslim women. And the feeling of the Muslim women is that they what this type of amendment in their own marriage laws. What has been done after the Shariat law? There is only consolidation done under one Act. No codification of law has taken place and without codification, you cannot really do it on the interpretation of quranic law by one individual or one institution. The difficulty is that codification is not there and the codification must start. That is where I would appreciate the contribution made by Shri Syed Shahabuddin. First of all, he is prepared to talk to us. As the moment codification is done, we can compare the staturte given by the Hindus, the Muslims, the Christians. And in the meantime, if you say, "O.K. this is the model law which is acceptable to Muslims, Chris-

tians, parsis and Hinuds", there is no difficulty in translating it. The difficulty is that it is a delicate thing which is connected with religion. Once it is connected with the religion, you have to go by dialogue only. Therefore, while everyone supports that the country must have a uniform civil code, the speed must be such that it does not hurt anyone. And we must talk to the minorities and the way by which they can also contribute certain things in the proposed uniform civil code. For that we need a dialogue. The Government has been making efforts. We do not go in that spirit to condemn the minority and then becoming the best Hindu. That is not the way by which we have been doing it. We respect each other and by respecting each other, we get respected. Their intention seems to be that except the way of Hinduism of their own, every other Hindu or every other Muslim is wrong. We do not do things in that spirit. We do not accept it. For us every Indian is equal and his religion is a blessed one to him. He must contribute for the development of common civil code in his own way. Once that is done , there is no difficulty to bring a uniform civil code in the country. I agree that the debate must start in the country for the emancipation of women sects because women are discriminated and they deserve a better treatment. I personally feel that it could be done inside the uniform civil code. I thank all the Members again and I wish that in view of my explanation given, there is no urgency of this.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan is the mover of this proposal. She has written that she will be absent and so, further discussion on this proposal should be postponed. But there is no such rule that the discussion should be postponed due to absence. The proposal before the House is

[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

ing such a situation.

[English]

The question is:

"This House urges upon the Government that in order to achieve the objectives enshrined in article 44 of the Constitution and to promote feelings of unity and brotherhood amongst all citizens of the country, a Commission be constituted for framing an uniform civil code."

The motion was negatived

16.58 hrs .

RESOLUTION RE: EXPLORATION OF
OIL AND GAS IN EASTERN REGION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up item Number 2.

Dr. Asim Bala to speak.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): I beg to move:

"This House expresses its grave concern over the continuous neglect of the work of oil and gas exploration in the eastern region of the country, particularly in the State of West Bengal, and urges upon the Government to take effective steps to accelerate the exploration and drilling work in the region in order to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oil and gas."

Under the Ministry of Petroleum, there

are 13 public sector undertakings, and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is one of the gigantic undertakings under which lot of work is being done in the country. Under the Ministry, there are four subsidiaries and other organisations and ONGC Videsh Limited is one of them.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, the estimated domestic demand for crude oil during the year 1993-94 is 52.48 MT. For petroleum products, the demand is estimated at 62.48 MT and the demand for natural gas is estimated at 50.44 MMSCMD. The above demand is met through indigenous production as well as through imports. During the coming years, the demand for petroleum products is expected to grow from 57 MT in 1990 to 79 MT in 1996-97; and to around 102 MT in 2001-2002.

Sir, in this respect, I would like to mention as to what is the present indigenous production in our country. The production of crude oil during 1989-90 was of the order of 34 MT; during 1991-92, it was to the tune of 30.35 MT. The target for the production of crude oil during the year 1992-93 was of the order of 28.50 MT; but, the cumulative production of crude oil during the period from April 1992 to January 1993 was only to the extent of 22.96 MT. In its Annual Report, the Ministry of Petroleum reported under the head 'Production' that ONGC produced only 18.555 MT of crude oil during April to December 1992, as against the target of 25.544 MT.

In our country, there is so much shortage of crude and petroleum products and that is why, we are importing oil. During 1992-93, the import of crude oil was estimated at 29.42 MT; the import of petroleum products was estimated at 10.5 MT. The gross foreign exchange incurred on these

imports was estimated at Rs.16,250 crore. You could easily realise the present situation and the amount of funds we are diverting or spending for the import of oil. It is one of the vital sectors, and vital elements which is very essential for the development of our country.

Sir, keeping this in view, I would like to mention here that it is a matter of great concern that ONGC's management have shown a discriminatory attitude towards West Bengal basin. It instead of mobilising additional inputs in the form of new rigs and seismic prospecting for delineation and exploitation of oil deposits in the country has adopted a strategy of systematic withdrawal of the same, very surreptitiously and on untenable technical grounds. In West Bengal, particularly the role of ONGC has become even more murkier because of the way it has been dealing with the discovery of oil from Oligocene sand package in Ichapur-1 located in Nadia district of West Bengal, which is my constituency.

17.03 hrs:

(SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA)
[in the Chair]

Far from exploring and exploiting this national wealth, ONGC has been found to be more keen on not exploiting the oil resources.

As per our information it appears that during electrologging, the producing zone at around 4,350 meter depth had showed a hydrocarbon saturation of about 69 per cent giving a clear indication of the presence of recoverable hydrocarbon deposit. But now ONGC Management has attempted to mislead the nation and scientific community with a cooked up theory. It is purposefully done to stall further exploration in the area.

I am going to say something about how good is the discovery of crude. An analytical report of this oil is carried out and it was found as one of the best crude in the world which would have less refining cost than others. I would like to mention here that M/s.CEP Total of France evaluated Ranaghat - Krishnagar area where the Ichapur well is situated as a potential hydrocarbon generating area. ONGC should map up several surface geo-chemical regions in the Bengal Basin. But it is very sad that ONGC being an authority in this field of oil exploration did not attempt any logical follow up programme for there 1st one decade. Whether it is a coincidental lapse or a deep rooted conspiracy we have to assess. It is very much shocking now for our countrymen that the ONGC management has decided just the opposite and tried the withdrawal of rig from Ichapur-1 which is under my Parliamentary constituency. ONGC has ordered for withdrawal with effect from 4.11.1993.

It is also very much shocking that the exploration process of oil potential in Bengal Basin areas has been derailed for some mysterious reasons which we do not know at all.

I would like to mention another point here. In Introduction of Chapter 1 the Annual Report of the Ministry of Petroleum, for the year 1992-93 in Para 1.17 on page 2 it is clearly written that during the period April to December 1992, oil and gas were discovered in 13 places. For the first time there is an indication of oil in a well in West Bengal, clearly written in this report. The same report under its "Other discoveries" section mentioned for the first time that oil indication has been found in the Ichapur area of West Bengal. It is unfortunate to note that in the case of Ichapur Well-1, the oligocene producing zone was damaged during drilling as a consequence of which

[Dr. Asim Bala]

the well bore radius became 22"- 24" instead of 12"-14". Why? It is due to the pressure of oil. For the information of the House I would mention here about the other areas also. For instance, ONGC has not worked out the details.

In the Golf Green Well No.1, the targeted depth was 6,000 metres and the drilled depth was 5,800 metres. It Penetrated 40 metres, thick oil bearing carbonate rock between 5430 and 5470 metres. This information was evident from wireline logging carried out by Schlumberger & Company in March 1991. Soon after the receipt of the report by ONGC, the isolation casing lowered in that Well got severely damaged beyond repair. No effort was made to evaluate the potentiality of the horizon despite that horizon subsequently produced oil on testing.

In the same manner, in Bodra Oil Well No.11 in the South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, the targeted depth was 5,500 metres and the drilled depth was 4,950 metres. ONGC have abandoned this also. It has abandoned the Diamond Harbour Well No. 1 also, in the South Parganas district. There is a possibility of getting oil, if we have a test for it or if we go into more detailed testing.

From these evidences I bring the interpretation part of the testing analysis. It is mentioned in the testing that flash point indicates that Gasoline content is higher in the crude. Gasoline, i.e. solvent, MS, Hexane, etc. It is also mentioned that the concerned crude is a very good type of crude which may entail lesser refining cost compared to other crude. It is one of the best crude in the world.

It further said in their interpretation analysis that the test result does not include the following points....

In West Bengal, a lot of places have been picked up for testing and for drilling; and there are possibilities for getting oil also. But, the Government has suddenly withdrawn the efforts for more testing or for more drilling or for that matter other operations.

In the eastern region, a lot of gas is available in Tripura. Our country is suffering due to shortage of cooking gas. We can make some pipeline to bring that gas from Tripura through the West Bengal sector. But the Government is not interested. I do not know why this Government is not interested in it. But in Russia they are taking gas 1,000 Kms away from their original place of operation. It is very sad for the eastern region as well as for the people of West Bengal.

It is very clear that not only the employees and staff but also the people of West Bengal would resist the conspiracy of the Central Government or of the ONGC. They will always resist the withdrawal intention. So, I request the Government not to withdraw from the Ichapur oil-well.

We have heard that the Government is trying to hand over these things to the private companies. Whatever negotiations are there, already some private organisation for operating in the field of refining. There is nothing secret in it.

Ministry had also mentioned in its report that Messrs Reliance Industries Ltd. are working in the West Coast in Gujarat, Messrs International Petroleum of Switzerland in Gujarat, Messrs Ashok Leyland-Gotco of

USA in Orissa and Messrs Essar in West Coast, Gujarat. It is our doubt that the ONGC authorities are trying to hand it over to the private organisation. But under these circumstances, the people of West Bengal will not allow the private organisation to work. We want that the Government should take positive steps. With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"This House expresses its grave concern over the continues neglect of the work of oil and gas exploration in the eastern region of the country, particularly in the State of West Bengal, and urges upon the Government to take effective steps to accelerate the exploration and drilling work in the region in order to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oil and gas."

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Madam, in oil and natural gas, India is not self-sufficient. I do not know when we are going to be self-sufficient in this sector. I think, the Minister also cannot give an exact date or a year in which we are going to be self-sufficient. It is a very crucial sector. All our activities are depending on this sector. Every year our import is increasing. This year, it is 29.24 thousand MT. So, the scale of import is increasing every year. We are spending crores and crores of rupees on import. Now, the only way in front of us is to exploit the natural resources which are abundantly available in our country. There is no other way because the country cannot afford to spend crores and crores of rupees every year. Instead of that. For better development of the country and to save our economy, we have to see whether we have enough natural resources or not.

The working of the ONGC should be streamlined; I don't want to go into its de-

tails. More exploration and surveys should be conducted in different parts of the country where it is available whether it is West Bengal, Kerala or MP. The State should not be the criteria. The criteria should be the availability of sources and without proper indication of sources, Government cannot or should not invest money. That is the first point which I want to make. If there is a source, then you have to spend money; otherwise, it is a national waste. I have got some information about what is happening in the eastern region. The information can be divided into two heads- fiscal and physical. Under fiscal information, Rs 3500 crores are being spent on surveys, exploration and development works in the eastern regions. Three quarters of West Bengal have been offered for exploration and substantial portion of outlay on exploration and development during the Eighth Five Year Plan has been provided for the eastern region. In spite of all this, the result is discouraging. If you look at the physical head, as per the geological survey and the seismic survey, more than 60,00 square kilometers have been covered and approximately, more than 50 wells have been drilled but the result is discouraging. My point is instead of wasting money and continuing explorative work in certain areas where there is no sign of sources of oil and natural gas, we should avoid such a waste. There must be some indication about sources for exploration. I think we have to divide into two categories. Firstly, we have to think over how we can streamline the existing sources, how we can modify our oil wells and solve the problems which they are facing. Secondly, we have to concentrate on those areas where there are abundant natural resources available. As regards the first part, look at Assam. Most of the oil wells, as per our information, are not functioning. Some are partially defunct. More emphasis should be given to the wells which are

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithala]

working also. Inadequacy of proper financial support, poor financial investment and mismanagement are certain reasons for improper functioning of the wells of that area. So, I think the Minister and the Government should give more emphasis and should adopt certain corrective measures so far as Assam is concerned. We know about the gas which we are producing. In Bombay High and other places, flaring gas is a big problem. We face this problem everywhere. There was a proposal for recycling of the flared-up gas. Serious attention should be given by the Government for recycling of this flared-up gas so that we will be able to save a large quantity of gas and utilise it for our domestic consumption.

Regarding South, time and again, Members of Southern States are demanding about exploratory work. There are certain indications that natural resources are available in that part of the country, for example in Cochin, Cauvery Basin, Krishna Godavari Basins and so on. These are the areas where there are confirmed reports about abundant natural resources. If the criteria of the Government is to invest more money for surveys and exploratory work in those places where there are natural resources, I am sure that these three or four areas will give good results. For example take the case of Cochin. Four years back, some exploratory work was undertaken in this area. Some foreign company was engaged in the work. But one fine morning, we came to know that the work was stopped and the contract was revoked. Now, no work is going on there. In the Northern part of Kerala, in the offshore of Kasaragod, there are confirmed reports about natural resources. If the Government is going to undertake a geological survey or any other

survey in that part, it will certainly get confirmed reports about the availability of oil. Same is the case with Cauvery and Krishna Godavari Basins. So, I request that more attention should be paid to these areas also.

We are talking much about the Southern Gas Grid. I think Oman has cleared our project. The sea route is also cleared. By 1998, this project will be implemented and gas will reach the northern part of Gujarat. If the Southern gas Grid is to become a reality, it is very necessary that the required infrastructural facilities should be made available. If this preliminary work is not started right now, the much awaited Southern Gas Grid will not be a reality and it will remain only on paper. So, I request the hon. Minister to give special attention to this important issue.

Madam, I do not intend to take much time of the House. The important point to keep in mind is to realise that this is a crucial sector which helps all the other developmental activities. That is why, it should be given more attention. All the available natural resources should be tapped. I may again emphasise that money should be invested in those areas where there are sources. Of course, we do know that in certain North Eastern States, there are confirmed reports that there are abundant resources of oil. If that is so, the Government should give more attention to this. I want to say a few words about the functioning of the ONGC. I know that the hon. Minister is taking certain corrective measures.

A lot of discussions were held in this House itself. ONGC is facing certain problems. Financial constraint is one of the problems which the ONGC is facing at present. I request the hon. Minister to take corrective step so that the day-to-day functioning of ONGC could be improved. I think

in the days to come the ONGC can perform very well if all these lacunae were removed.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Madam, Chairperson, Dr. Asim Bala has moved a resolution which needs careful scrutiny and examination for the purpose of saving our country from importing oil. Madam, the role of oil, in a developing country like ours, is so much that we have to depend on the import of oil. It is a fact that our economic sovereignty is being surrendered to the imperialist forces as because we are not self-sufficient in oil production. We have to spend a huge amount of foreign exchange which is so much valuable for our country because we have to purchase a good deal of petroleum products from other countries. During the Gulf war we found ourselves so much helpless that we had to go from country in to country search of oil. Our industries depend on the foreign supply of oil. We have to surrender our economic sovereignty to the world Bank and International Monetary Fund. As we cannot afford to purchase such a huge quantity of oil and we cannot afford to spend so much foreign exchange on its import, we have to borrow loans from the IMF and World bank. On the basis of these loans they are in a position to motivate the policies of our Government. Madam, as because we are indebted to the IMF and the World Bank, we have been forced to open our doors to the foreign multinationals to invest in our industries. The Central Government has gone to the extent of asking the foreign firms to explore the possibilities and potentials of oil in our country.

We had fallen victim to the greedy class of foreign firms which had been engaged in our country for exploring petroleum products.

Madam, we are in possession of so

much petroleum products in our country which the common people, the Indians, are not made aware of them. If we can explore the potentialities of oil in our own country, if we can invest a good sum of money for oil exploration, then it is possible for us to fulfil the need of our own country. The experts say that in the eastern region of our country, there is a vast deposit of oil and natural gas. It had been pointed out by the experts that in the near future, if suitable steps are taken, oil exploration activity is conducted properly and if due regard is given to the expert opinion, then, we will be able to find 2859 crore metric tonnes of oil in our country, whereas, our country needs, annually, only 642 lakh metric tonnes of petroleum products. Our experts have found that there was an oil well in Itchchapur in the district of Nadia in West Bengal viz. Well No. 1, which was dug out and sufficient oil of high quality was found there. But, suitable measures have not been taken by the Government to explore the possibilities of further oil deposits in those areas. It is being avoided on one or pretext or the other. Sometimes, the Government had said that oil found in the eastern region of the country viz. Itchchapur, was of low quality; sometimes, they say that under the North and South 24 -Parganas district of West Bengal, oil once deposited had now been shifted to Bangladesh; sometimes, they say that oil found in those districts are not commercially viable, and sometimes, they say that the amount to be expended for the purpose of oil exploration would be much more than what we can spend for importing oil from outside. Not only this, madam, one tanker full of oil which was found in Nadia district viz. Well No. 1 was sent to Haldia for examination. The oil was sent, it was examined, it was found to be of a high quality and it was found out to be highly commercially viable. In spite of that, no Report was sent to the Parliament. It had been pointed out by the experts that four oil

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

wells were to be dug out but one oil well had since been dug out. It had been pointed out that the machinery required for extracting oil from underground was not suitable and they say that the Government official had said that the machinery required for such purposes are to be imported.

For this purpose, valuable foreign exchange has to be spent for uncertain results. I think the Government should do well if it can adopt suitable measures for digging out the wells identified to be full of oil, which have given a clear signal for our future oil finding.

Even the machinery which is being used in the districts of Nadia and Maldah of West Bengal is going to be sent to Assam. In this regard, a letter has already been sent to the hon. Minister Capt. Satish Kumar Sharma on 2.1.93. but that letter has not yet been replied to. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to kindly look into the letter which was sent from West Bengal from the officials of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

In Boril, some oil wells have been found where digging is going on, but it is necessary that suitable machinery are to be imported for exploring the oil deposits in our eastern region. It may be that some vast amount has to be spent for this purpose; but if we spend this amount in purchasing machinery from outside to explore oil in our country in the eastern region, then the results which can be achieved would further our causes of economic development.

It is a fact that there are some vested interests in our country; they are misleading Government. This caucus is trying to conceal the fact that the eastern region of our country is full of vast resources of oil; and if those resources are exploited and if those

resources are practically used for the furtherance of the self-sufficiency in respect of oil, then our country would prosper. We need not depend on the supply of oil from other countries. So, I think that in the near future, if we can suitably strike oil deposits in the areas which have been identified by the experts to be full of oil, then we think that our Government will do a good job; and the caucus or the conspiring units which are misleading the Government, their intention is to compel the Government to import oil from other countries. This aspect is to be looked into. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to give his personal attention to this matter very carefully so that the prospects of oil finding in the eastern region of our country are exploited fully.

Further, we would ask the Government to look into the matter. One expert from West Bengal reported to the Government that they have already found a good quality of petroleum product in the eastern region.

In Diamond Harbour some high quality petroleum products were found and they were also examined. But on some flimsy pretext those oil findings or prospects have not been properly examined. I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister to kindly see that the eastern region is not deprived of the opportunities which we have got.

I would conclude by saying that not only the eastern region but different parts of our country are full of oil resources and experts have been on record that the western region as also the northern region and the Himalayan region are full of oil. Those resources have not been fully exploited. They have not even been examined. These aspects should be examined and if the hon. Minister gives some careful thought to the possibilities and potentialities available it would be better for us. Then we need not depend on foreign

countries and take loans in the form of foreign exchange etc.

I hope that the hon. Minister would personally look into the matter and try his level best to solve the oil problem facing our country.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): I wholeheartedly support the Resolution moved by Dr. Asim Bala regarding exploration of oil and gas in the eastern region.

I am supporting him because I also want to say that the State of West Bengal should be revived economically. Whatever he has said, I think, is correct and there are some apprehensions in the minds of the people in West Bengal that the eastern region is neglected, especially, West Bengal. That is why my request to the hon. Minister is to look into these problems personally and to intervene in the matter.

I would like to remind the hon. Minister that 13 points have already been discovered for oil exploration in the eastern region. If he constitutes a task force or an expert committee for the eastern region to go into this matter in detail and to take some concrete action the State of West Bengal can prosper economically, especially in those areas which are potentially rich in oil and gas because the State of West Bengal is deteriorating day by day from the point of view of industrial development.

About four or five days ago I went to Haldia to attend some meeting. At that time I met the people from the Haldia refinery of the Indian oil corporation. I talked to some of the workers and also some high officials. They told me that the expansion of all the units of the IOC, except that of the Haldia refinery has been allowed. Only Haldia

refinery expansion has not been agreed to. I do not know the reason. I heard that a proposal for a project for expansion of the Haldia refinery costing Rs 1100 crore has been pending with the IOC, the Ministry and the Planning Commission. I understand that the hon. Minister is very much for the expansion but the Planning Commission is not able to give the money for it. I request that the hon. Minister may kindly look into it personally and see that the Haldia refinery is allowed to expand.

Haldia is an industrial growth centre and its also the heart of Bengal. If Haldia refinery is revived, West Bengal will be revived economically. If the expansion of that refinery takes place I believe that the ancillary industries would also be revived and so many unemployed youth will also get employment. That will also induce other industrialists to come to the eastern region and set up some industries. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to ensure that the expansion of the Haldia Refinery takes place.

I personally request the Minister, whenever he finds time, to visit Haldia and when he talks to the people he will understand the sentiments of the people. They had personally requested me to express their views to the Minister.

Golf Green Well Oil No.1 is in my constituency. It is targeted depth was 6000 metres and its drilled depth was 5800 metres. Bodra Oil Well No.11 is in South 24 Parganas. Its targeted depth was 5500 metres and its drilled depth was 4050 metres. Diamond Harbour Well Oil No. 1 is in South 24 Parganas. Its targeted depth was 5500 metres and its drilled depth was 5555 metres. I do not know whether there is any discrimination or not. But the feelings are there. I must appreciate the truth. The fact of the matter is that whenever there were differ-

[Km. Mamta Banerjee]

ence in our Party, I had always stood by the people. I know the feelings and the sentiments of the people. This is a very important area. I personally request the Minister to visit these thirteen places in Bengal wherever oil and gas have been discovered.

Tripura is also having potentialities. But I do not know whether they have an opportunity or not. The Eastern Region is being neglected from every side. West Bengal is an important State. Bihar is also an important State. Orissa is also an important State. Tripura is a small State.

I once again request the Minister to visit Golf Green Well, Bodra Oil Well and Diamond Harbour Well. As you are aware, unemployment is too high in West Bengal - 52 lakhs. I do not know the exact figure of uneducated unemployed youth. You will be surprised to know that in West Bengal, more than 110 big industries were closed and more than 23000 small industries were closed and hence the workers are on a hunger strike. So, the situation in West Bengal is very grim. This is the only area where we can develop the State and survive economically.

I request the Minister to visit all these thirteen places, especially Haldia, because if Haldia revives, then our State will be revived. So, our interest is involved. I know that the Minister is an effective Minister. Sir, if you think, you can do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, may I request you to request the Minister, through the Chair?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: With this personal request, I conclude. I must congratulate the Minister because he has

been doing good work. Please look after our interests also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Raiganj): Madam Chairman, our country is rich in natural resources. Not only the eastern region, but the entire country is rich in these resources. From our early childhood to this day, we have been told in our geography text books that in the entire eastern region. Particularly in Bihar, West Bengal, Assam and Orissa we have rich mineral deposits. In these areas there is great quantity of natural gas and rich oil reserves. But this is a matter of regret that the Government of India has never paid proper attention towards this issue. I, therefore, welcome the resolution moved here by Shri Asim Bala and would like to submit that there should be a discussion on this issue. In respect of West Bengal, I would like to say that 45 places were identified there. As the hon. Minister has stated, out of the 45 places identified for the purpose of oil exploration, the ONGC have already undertaken drilling operations at 41 locations and has incurred thereon an infectious expenditure to the tune of crores of rupees as they have failed to find oil at these places. Drilling work at these places has been completed and in respect of the remaining 4 locations we have come to know from the hon. Minister that the drilling operations at these 4 places is in progress. But since I belong to that State, I can say atleast this much about my constituency that ONGC had undertaken drilling operations at 3 places namely Itaha, Kardangi and Manaura there and wasted crores of rupees on the construction of roads, residential units and link roads to connect these places with the National Highway. Even the drilling operation which was started there, was left incomplete on the plea that the oil found in these areas was not

going to be commercially viable. How is it so that without completing the drilling operation they came to this conclusion that the oil found in these areas was not going to be commercially viable. Does the Geological Survey of India have any criteria to determine the commercial viability of oil even before the completion of drilling operation?

I belong to the area situated near the Bangladesh border. I have already told that crores of rupees were wasted on drilling at 3 places in my Constituency and the work was later on stopped. On the other hand, at a nearby location in the Thakur Gaon subdivision, a large quantity of oil is likely to be found. So far as West Bengal is concerned, one of the scientists of that State has claimed that there are large reserves of oil in that State and he has thrown a challenge to the ONGC in this regard. Through the chair person, I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this situation and like to know as to why the ONGC is not going to take up that challenge. In case of failure on their part, doubts will certainly be expressed there that there is a conspiracy at work at the high levels in the ONGC, which is creating hinderances in the way of achieving self-reliance in the field of meeting oil requirement of the country. In fact, oil and natural gas is available at all these places whether it is West Bengal, Assam or Tripura. Just now, an hon. Member was saying that there is bright possibility of finding oil in the entire eastern and northern mountain ranges and entire coastal areas of the south, but hitherto no survey has been conducted in this regard. If the exploration of oil in these areas is undertaken in a proper way, we can achieve self reliance in our economy.

Just now, Mamata Ji was saying that Haldia Petrochemicals belongs not only to West Bengal, but also to the entire country. Because of that, project alone, we can say with pride that we occupy a respectable position in the field of oil production. With our new policy, which is being discussed here, we have come to the point of selling away our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you going to conclude your speech now or want to continue it us next time?

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: I will continue it next time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alright, you may continue it next time.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): When I will speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I called your name, but you were not here. You can also speak next time.

[English]

Now the House stand adjourned to re-assemble on Saturday, the 11th December, 1993 at 11 a.m.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, the 11 the December, 1993/ Agrahayana 20, 1915 (Saka)